PPIC Economic Policy Center

California's economy is poised to undergo a profound transformation, driven by dynamics that are rewriting the future of work. The response to these shifts will determine the strength of the state's economy—and whether new economic opportunities will reach all Californians.

California is a powerhouse of innovation and wealth-building, with great potential to succeed in the face of new challenges. And yet, while not unique to our state or even the nation, the contrast of vast wealth alongside high poverty is particularly striking in the Golden State.

Building an economy that improves the prospects of individuals, communities, and the state as a whole means ensuring that all Californians have a chance to succeed.

With significant changes expected in the state’s population and climate—and pressures from rapid technological change—California needs to develop meaningful, lasting, forward-looking economic policies.

A credible, independent, and trusted broker

The PPIC Economic Policy Center connects nonpartisan, objective research to real-world challenges. We deliver timely, credible, and actionable information in a variety of accessible and compelling ways. And we bring stakeholders to the table, providing space for productive conversations.

The center’s mission: inspiring practical policy solutions that promote a robust, resilient economy, improving the prospects of workers, families, and businesses statewide.

The PPIC Economic Policy Center offers trusted information in three key areas

Tracking trends

We create a common set of facts and facilitate a broad understanding about current economic trends and future possibilities.

Evaluating policies

We analyze California’s labor market to identify policies that support prosperity, for both workers and businesses.

Removing barriers

We investigate labor market barriers to economic advancement and provide pragmatic policy solutions.

We need your support

The center benefits from a broad base of supporters who appreciate the need for independent, high-quality research and analysis that improves understanding of California’s economic landscape.

Your contributions support a range of activities, including:

- Named research fellowships and internship programs.
- Original, pathbreaking research on topics from the changing demographics of California's workforce to the job impacts of climate change and AI.
- Meetings and events that explore challenges and solutions from both state and regional perspectives.
- Consistent, robust engagement with elected leaders in Sacramento and across the state, bringing data and research to inform their real-time decision-making.