

Californians and Their Government

May 2020

Time Trends – All Respondents

Methodology Note:

Findings for May 2020 are based on a survey of 1,706 California adult residents, with 75 percent interviewed on cell phones (1,278 interviews) and 25 percent interviewed on landline telephones (428 interviews). Live landline and cell phone interviews were conducted in English and Spanish according to the respondents' preferences. Interviews took an average of 19 minutes to complete. Interviewing took place on weekend days and weekday nights May 17-26, 2020.

The sampling error for May 2020, taking design effects from weighting into consideration, is ± 3.5 percent at the 95 percent confidence level for the total unweighted sample of 1,706 adults. This means that 95 times out of 100, the results will be within 3.5 percentage points of what they would be if all adults in California were interviewed. Sampling error is only one type of error to which surveys are subject. Results may also be affected by factors such as question wording, question order, and survey timing.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this survey, please contact surveys@ppic.org

**PPIC Statewide Survey
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 All Adults - Time Trends**

Q2. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Gavin Newsom is handling his job as governor of California?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) have not heard enough to have an opinion	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
May 2020	65%	26%	0%	9%	1693
Feb 2020	53%	33%	0%	14%	1687
Jan 2020	51%	34%	0%	15%	1683
Nov 2019	48%	33%	0%	18%	1679
Sep 2019	44%	32%	0%	24%	1683
Jul 2019	45%	31%	0%	25%	1679
May 2019	45%	29%	0%	26%	1691
Mar 2019	45%	26%	16%	13%	1699
Jan 2019	44%	23%	23%	10%	1684

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q4. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of
 the way that the California Legislature is
 handling its job?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
May 2020	56%	32%	13%	1695
Feb 2020	51%	37%	11%	1687
Jan 2020	47%	40%	14%	1683
Nov 2019	44%	41%	15%	1682
Sep 2019	43%	40%	17%	1691
Jul 2019	42%	41%	17%	1687
May 2019	39%	44%	17%	1701
Mar 2019	46%	37%	17%	1692
Jan 2019	49%	37%	14%	1689
Dec 2018	47%	39%	15%	1685
Nov 2018	46%	38%	16%	1694
Oct 2018	45%	37%	18%	1691
Sep 2018	46%	37%	17%	1690
Jul 2018	46%	38%	15%	1703
May 2018	44%	38%	18%	1692
Apr 2018	46%	40%	14%	1697
Mar 2018	46%	38%	16%	1690
Jan 2018	51%	33%	16%	1694
Dec 2017	49%	36%	15%	1697
Nov 2017	48%	36%	16%	1690
Sep 2017	49%	39%	12%	1726
Jul 2017	50%	34%	17%	1697
May 2017	46%	38%	15%	1691
Apr 2017	49%	36%	15%	1696
Mar 2017	51%	33%	16%	1685
Jan 2017	57%	30%	13%	1686
Dec 2016	49%	38%	13%	1697
Oct 2016	46%	33%	20%	1684
Sep 2016	47%	37%	16%	1690
Jul 2016	45%	40%	15%	1687
May 2016	43%	37%	20%	1690
Apr 2016	48%	38%	14%	1694
Mar 2016	44%	39%	18%	1692
Jan 2016	46%	39%	15%	1692
Dec 2015	41%	40%	19%	1678
Sep 2015	45%	38%	17%	1691
Jul 2015	39%	45%	16%	1688
Jun 2015	37%	43%	20%	1694
Apr 2015	42%	43%	15%	1695
Mar 2015	45%	39%	16%	1693
Jan 2015	49%	36%	15%	1689
Dec 2014	41%	42%	17%	1681
Oct 2014	41%	42%	17%	1686
Sep 2014	37%	42%	20%	1673
Jul 2014	38%	46%	16%	1683
May 2014	40%	44%	16%	1684
Apr 2014	40%	44%	17%	1693
Mar 2014	36%	45%	19%	1685
Jan 2014	42%	44%	14%	1698
Dec 2013	38%	43%	19%	1688
Sep 2013	38%	45%	17%	1693
Jul 2013	36%	45%	19%	2096

**PPIC Statewide Survey
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 All Adults - Time Trends(cont.)**

Q4. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of
 the way that the California Legislature is
 handling its job?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
May 2013	35%	50%	16%	1697
Apr 2013	31%	53%	15%	1699
Mar 2013	34%	49%	17%	1689
Jan 2013	41%	42%	17%	1700
Dec 2012	34%	51%	15%	1992
Oct 2012	28%	55%	17%	1995
Sep 2012	30%	53%	17%	1989
Aug 2012	29%	54%	17%	2480
May 2012	25%	57%	18%	1990
Apr 2012	25%	58%	16%	1992
Mar 2012	25%	54%	21%	1989
Jan 2012	28%	56%	16%	1988
Dec 2011	25%	55%	20%	1987
Nov 2011	25%	55%	19%	2490
Sep 2011	26%	56%	18%	1998
Jul 2011	23%	59%	18%	2496
Jun 2011	23%	58%	19%	1998
Apr 2011	21%	60%	19%	2487
Mar 2011	24%	54%	21%	1982
Feb 2011	24%	52%	24%	2483
Jan 2011	26%	55%	19%	1990
Nov 2010	14%	72%	14%	2486
Oct 2010	16%	77%	7%	1989
Sep 2010	16%	75%	9%	1990
Jul 2010	15%	68%	17%	2487
May 2010	16%	72%	12%	1993
Apr 2010	16%	69%	14%	2493
Mar 2010	14%	72%	14%	1996
Jan 2010	18%	71%	11%	1989
Dec 2009	17%	70%	13%	2000
Nov 2009	18%	68%	15%	2491
Sep 2009	21%	68%	11%	1998
Jul 2009	17%	71%	11%	2484
May 2009	21%	65%	14%	1994
Apr 2009	23%	63%	14%	2493
Mar 2009	18%	68%	14%	1995
Feb 2009	21%	65%	14%	2494
Jan 2009	21%	67%	12%	1994
Nov 2008	24%	60%	16%	2482
Oct 2008	25%	63%	12%	1996
Sep 2008	21%	67%	11%	1990
Aug 2008	26%	63%	11%	1991
May 2008	26%	57%	17%	1991
Apr 2008	26%	58%	16%	2495
Mar 2008	30%	55%	15%	1988
Jan 2008	34%	53%	13%	1988
Dec 2007	41%	47%	12%	1992
Oct 2007	33%	50%	17%	2490
Sep 2007	34%	51%	15%	1988
Jun 2007	39%	40%	21%	1987
May 2007	37%	44%	19%	1994
Apr 2007	38%	44%	18%	2483

**PPIC Statewide Survey
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 All Adults - Time Trends(cont.)**

Q4. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of
 the way that the California Legislature is
 handling its job?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Mar 2007	41%	42%	17%	1989
Jan 2007	40%	44%	15%	2006
Oct 2006	30%	52%	18%	1993
Sep 2006	34%	50%	16%	1994
Aug 2006	31%	53%	16%	1995
May 2006	26%	54%	20%	1988
Mar 2006	25%	59%	16%	1988
Jan 2006	29%	57%	14%	2000
Jan 2006	24%	54%	22%	2481
Oct 2005	25%	56%	19%	1993
Sep 2005	32%	53%	15%	1992
Aug 2005	27%	56%	17%	1993
May 2005	26%	58%	16%	1992
Jan 2005	37%	50%	13%	1993
Oct 2004	43%	41%	16%	2005
Sep 2004	40%	46%	14%	1988
Aug 2004	42%	45%	13%	1990
Jun 2004	40%	44%	16%	2498
May 2004	40%	43%	17%	1986
Jan 2004	36%	45%	19%	1981
Aug 2003	28%	58%	14%	1979
Jun 2003	39%	44%	17%	1976
Feb 2003	36%	45%	19%	1967
Sep 2002	45%	36%	18%	1967
Jan 2002	49%	35%	16%	1942
Dec 2001	53%	29%	18%	1952
Jul 2001	45%	38%	18%	1966
Jan 2001	58%	27%	15%	1960
Sep 2000	56%	31%	12%	1980

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
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 All Adults - Time Trends**

Q5. Do you think things in California are
 generally going in the right direction or the
 wrong direction?

	right direction	wrong direction	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
May 2020	58%	37%	5%	1691
Jan 2020	50%	46%	4%	1695
Sep 2019	46%	48%	6%	1696
Jan 2019	55%	40%	5%	1699
Dec 2018	54%	41%	5%	1688
Sep 2018	51%	43%	6%	1694
Jan 2018	57%	38%	6%	1700
Dec 2017	53%	41%	6%	1695
Sep 2017	54%	42%	5%	1732
Mar 2017	55%	39%	6%	1699
Jan 2017	58%	35%	7%	1695
Oct 2016	54%	39%	7%	1699
Sep 2016	52%	42%	6%	1697
May 2016	51%	43%	6%	1697
Mar 2016	50%	43%	8%	1700
Jan 2016	54%	41%	5%	1696
Dec 2015	51%	43%	6%	1690
Sep 2015	48%	46%	6%	1701
Jun 2015	45%	46%	8%	1694
Mar 2015	50%	41%	8%	1691
Jan 2015	57%	36%	8%	1699
Dec 2014	50%	42%	8%	1699
Oct 2014	47%	46%	7%	1690
Sep 2014	43%	48%	8%	1685
May 2014	45%	48%	7%	1693
Mar 2014	45%	48%	7%	1693
Jan 2014	53%	41%	6%	1697
Dec 2013	45%	46%	8%	1694
Sep 2013	43%	48%	9%	1697
Jun 2013	45%	42%	13%	2463
May 2013	46%	48%	7%	1692
Mar 2013	44%	48%	8%	1697
Jan 2013	51%	40%	9%	1701
Dec 2012	44%	50%	6%	1984
Oct 2012	39%	53%	8%	1998
Sep 2012	33%	60%	7%	1991
May 2012	30%	63%	7%	1990
Mar 2012	34%	56%	10%	1987
Jan 2012	37%	57%	6%	1988
Dec 2011	30%	61%	9%	1993
Sep 2011	30%	61%	8%	1993
Jun 2011	28%	60%	12%	2483
Jun 2011	29%	61%	10%	1993
Mar 2011	31%	59%	11%	1985
Feb 2011	34%	55%	12%	2486
Jan 2011	38%	54%	8%	1992
Oct 2010	16%	73%	12%	1977
Sep 2010	20%	69%	11%	1981
Jul 2010	15%	79%	6%	2489
May 2010	18%	77%	6%	1996
Mar 2010	19%	76%	4%	1997
Jan 2010	19%	74%	7%	1993

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 All Adults - Time Trends(cont.)**

Q5. Do you think things in California are
 generally going in the right direction or the
 wrong direction?

	right direction	wrong direction	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2009	19%	75%	6%	1999
Nov 2009	17%	76%	7%	2488
Sep 2009	22%	72%	6%	2001
Jul 2009	14%	79%	6%	2493
Jun 2009	19%	70%	11%	2490
May 2009	24%	68%	8%	1997
Mar 2009	22%	71%	7%	1995
Feb 2009	18%	75%	7%	2494
Jan 2009	18%	75%	7%	1993
Nov 2008	23%	66%	11%	2493
Oct 2008	20%	71%	10%	1987
Sep 2008	21%	68%	11%	1999
Aug 2008	23%	68%	9%	1990
Jun 2008	22%	69%	9%	2484
May 2008	24%	65%	11%	1986
Mar 2008	26%	63%	11%	1992
Jan 2008	36%	54%	10%	1989
Dec 2007	36%	52%	11%	1991
Sep 2007	41%	50%	9%	1983
Jun 2007	44%	46%	10%	1981
May 2007	46%	46%	8%	1986
Mar 2007	45%	47%	9%	1986
Jan 2007	55%	37%	8%	2003
Oct 2006	44%	46%	10%	1991
Sep 2006	45%	45%	10%	1996
Aug 2006	42%	47%	11%	1993
Jul 2006	42%	47%	11%	2489
May 2006	35%	57%	8%	1997
Mar 2006	35%	56%	9%	1994
Feb 2006	32%	58%	10%	1990
Jan 2006	37%	56%	7%	1995
Jan 2006	29%	60%	11%	2492
Oct 2005	30%	60%	10%	1987
Sep 2005	31%	60%	9%	1991
Aug 2005	34%	57%	9%	1995
Jul 2005	38%	51%	12%	2488
May 2005	35%	57%	8%	1993
Apr 2005	35%	53%	11%	2491
Jan 2005	46%	41%	13%	1994
Oct 2004	44%	44%	11%	2003
Sep 2004	47%	40%	13%	1990
Aug 2004	44%	42%	13%	1985
Jul 2004	43%	43%	14%	2491
Jun 2004	44%	44%	13%	2484
May 2004	43%	44%	14%	1991
Feb 2004	35%	51%	14%	1970
Jan 2004	43%	40%	17%	1975
Nov 2003	32%	52%	15%	1984
Oct 2003	22%	67%	11%	1979
Sep 2003	24%	67%	9%	1971
Aug 2003	22%	66%	12%	1979
Jul 2003	31%	57%	12%	1978
Jun 2003	30%	57%	13%	1978

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Q5. Do you think things in California are
 generally going in the right direction or the
 wrong direction?

	right direction	wrong direction	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Feb 2003	28%	60%	11%	1967
Nov 2002	49%	41%	10%	1966
Oct 2002	46%	45%	10%	1960
Sep 2002	54%	37%	9%	1971
Aug 2002	44%	48%	9%	1971
Feb 2002	56%	36%	9%	2016
Jan 2002	59%	32%	9%	1942
Dec 2001	58%	33%	9%	1966
Nov 2001	60%	29%	11%	1966
Jul 2001	44%	47%	9%	1986
May 2001	44%	48%	8%	1981
Jan 2001	62%	29%	9%	1973
Oct 2000	59%	32%	9%	1978
Aug 2000	62%	30%	8%	1972
Feb 2000	65%	27%	8%	2021
Jan 2000	66%	26%	8%	1979
Dec 1999	62%	31%	7%	1985
Sep 1999	61%	34%	5%	1988
Jan 1999	63%	28%	9%	1964
Oct 1998	62%	30%	8%	1992
Sep 1998	57%	34%	8%	1995
May 1998	56%	34%	9%	1983
Apr 1998	55%	36%	9%	1972

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q6. Would you say that California is in an economic recession, or not?

	yes, serious recession	yes, moderate recession	yes, mild recession	(VOL) yes, don't know	no, not in an economic recession	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
May 2020	34%	25%	9%	3%	24%	5%	1696
Dec 2013	22%	33%	11%	0%	30%	4%	1697
Oct 2012	40%	32%	8%	0%	18%	2%	2000
Sep 2012	42%	27%	10%	0%	18%	3%	2000
May 2012	41%	32%	8%	0%	16%	2%	2001
Mar 2012	41%	31%	9%	0%	16%	2%	2000
Jan 2012	43%	34%	9%	0%	13%	2%	1999
Dec 2011	43%	31%	8%	0%	14%	4%	1999
Sep 2011	50%	32%	7%	0%	10%	2%	2000
Jun 2011	47%	34%	7%	0%	10%	2%	2003
Mar 2011	47%	28%	8%	0%	12%	5%	1997
Jan 2011	48%	31%	7%	0%	12%	2%	2002
Oct 2010	54%	28%	5%	0%	10%	2%	1997
Sep 2010	52%	29%	8%	0%	8%	2%	1999
May 2010	55%	28%	7%	0%	9%	1%	2002
Mar 2010	59%	25%	7%	0%	7%	2%	2000
Jan 2010	62%	24%	5%	0%	8%	2%	1999
Dec 2009	60%	26%	5%	0%	7%	2%	2003
Sep 2009	57%	31%	5%	0%	6%	1%	2005
May 2009	53%	32%	5%	0%	7%	3%	2003
Mar 2009	63%	26%	4%	0%	5%	2%	2004
Jan 2009	59%	26%	5%	0%	7%	3%	1997
Oct 2008	39%	30%	10%	0%	17%	4%	1997
Aug 2008	34%	32%	12%	0%	17%	5%	2001
Mar 2008	26%	32%	14%	0%	22%	6%	2002

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q12. How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in excellent shape, good shape, only fair shape, or poor shape financially?

	excellent	good	only fair	poor	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
May 2020	9%	36%	37%	18%	0%	1686
May 2019	8%	35%	38%	18%	1%	1699
May 2017	7%	33%	40%	19%	0%	1689
Dec 2013	5%	34%	40%	20%	1%	1689
Dec 2011	6%	27%	41%	25%	1%	1984
Dec 2009	6%	29%	39%	25%	1%	1984

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q13. And, thinking about your own personal finances. Would you say that you and your family are financially better off, worse off, or just about the same as a year ago?

	better off	worse off	same	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
May 2020	16%	29%	54%	0%	1692
Nov 2019	23%	22%	54%	1%	1706
Dec 2013	22%	24%	54%	1%	1697
Dec 2011	15%	35%	49%	1%	1998
Dec 2009	9%	53%	36%	1%	2000
Sep 2002	30%	23%	45%	1%	1976
Dec 2001	21%	25%	53%	1%	1971
Jan 2001	38%	14%	48%	0%	1978
Sep 2000	42%	10%	47%	0%	1993
Sep 1999	36%	12%	52%	0%	2001
Jan 1999	31%	14%	55%	1%	1971
Oct 1998	35%	11%	53%	1%	2003
Sep 1998	33%	12%	54%	1%	1998
May 1998	36%	13%	50%	0%	2002
Apr 1998	37%	12%	51%	0%	1982

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q22. Do you think the state budget situation in California—that is, the balance between government spending and revenues—is a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not a problem for the people of California today?

	big problem	somewhat of a problem	not a problem	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
May 2020	46%	38%	10%	6%	1698
Jan 2020	42%	37%	14%	6%	1705
May 2019	45%	36%	12%	7%	1700
Jan 2019	40%	38%	18%	4%	1701
Jan 2018	43%	35%	15%	7%	1701
May 2017	43%	37%	13%	7%	1702
Jan 2017	37%	45%	13%	5%	1698
May 2016	44%	37%	13%	6%	1702
Mar 2016	48%	36%	11%	5%	1705
Jan 2016	42%	40%	14%	5%	1697
Dec 2015	45%	36%	11%	8%	1697
Jun 2015	47%	36%	12%	5%	1702
Mar 2015	45%	36%	11%	8%	1699
Jan 2015	46%	39%	11%	4%	1703
Dec 2014	51%	39%	8%	3%	1695
Oct 2014	54%	33%	7%	6%	1698
Sep 2014	55%	32%	7%	6%	1695
May 2014	52%	38%	5%	4%	1698
Jan 2014	50%	40%	7%	3%	1704
Sep 2013	58%	33%	5%	4%	1700
May 2013	61%	30%	6%	2%	1703
Mar 2013	65%	27%	5%	2%	1701
Jan 2013	63%	28%	6%	3%	1703
Dec 2012	68%	26%	4%	2%	1997
Oct 2012	70%	25%	2%	2%	2005
Sep 2012	69%	24%	2%	4%	1998
May 2012	69%	23%	3%	5%	2002
Apr 2012	71%	22%	3%	3%	2004
Mar 2012	67%	24%	5%	4%	2000
Jan 2012	64%	30%	4%	2%	2001
Dec 2011	69%	24%	3%	4%	2001
Sep 2011	68%	27%	2%	3%	1999
Jun 2011	70%	24%	4%	2%	2004
Mar 2011	68%	24%	4%	3%	1999
Jan 2011	68%	26%	3%	3%	2002
Sep 2010	80%	17%	2%	2%	2002
May 2010	81%	15%	1%	3%	2001
Mar 2010	77%	19%	2%	2%	2001
Jan 2010	75%	21%	2%	2%	2000
Dec 2009	78%	18%	2%	2%	1999
Sep 2009	78%	18%	2%	2%	2002
May 2009	74%	22%	2%	3%	2004
Mar 2009	75%	20%	2%	3%	2001
Jan 2009	75%	20%	2%	2%	2000
Oct 2008	74%	22%	2%	2%	2003
Sep 2008	78%	19%	1%	2%	2001
Aug 2008	73%	21%	4%	2%	1999
May 2008	67%	27%	4%	3%	2000
Mar 2008	68%	26%	3%	4%	1998

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Q22. Do you think the state budget situation in California—that is, the balance between government spending and revenues—is a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not a problem for the people of California today?

	big problem	somewhat of a problem	not a problem	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Jan 2008	64%	30%	3%	3%	1997
May 2007	44%	43%	6%	6%	1996
Jan 2007	45%	42%	7%	6%	2011
May 2006	58%	31%	5%	6%	1998
Jan 2006	61%	30%	4%	4%	2002

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q24. Do you think that tax increases should be included in the
governor's budget plan?

	yes	no	(VOL) it did include taxes	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
May 2020	32%	60%	0%	7%	1696
May 2010	46%	49%	0%	5%	817
Jan 2010	40%	56%	0%	4%	1997
May 2008	48%	46%	0%	6%	1495
Jan 2008	46%	50%	0%	4%	1995
Dec 2007	30%	65%	0%	5%	1997
May 2005	46%	47%	0%	7%	1998
Jan 2005	49%	45%	0%	5%	1995
May 2004	50%	43%	0%	7%	1995
Jan 2004	42%	51%	0%	7%	499
Aug 2003	44%	50%	1%	6%	1980

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
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Q25. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of
 the way that Donald Trump is handling his job
 as president?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
May 2020	35%	62%	3%	1682
Feb 2020	35%	63%	2%	1685
Jan 2020	31%	66%	3%	1690
Nov 2019	33%	63%	4%	1689
Sep 2019	30%	66%	4%	1680
Jul 2019	32%	62%	5%	1692
May 2019	34%	61%	4%	1696
Mar 2019	29%	67%	4%	1691
Jan 2019	30%	67%	3%	1688
Dec 2018	32%	63%	5%	1678
Oct 2018	29%	64%	7%	1685
Sep 2018	30%	66%	5%	1689
Jul 2018	29%	66%	5%	1689
May 2018	30%	63%	7%	1682
Mar 2018	30%	65%	5%	1688
Jan 2018	26%	71%	3%	1695
Dec 2017	28%	68%	5%	1687
Sep 2017	27%	69%	4%	1721
Jul 2017	25%	71%	4%	1696
May 2017	27%	67%	6%	1690
Mar 2017	31%	61%	7%	1685
Jan 2017	30%	58%	12%	1678

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q27. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of
 the way the U.S. Congress is handling its job?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
May 2020	38%	55%	7%	1683
Feb 2020	38%	56%	6%	1688
Jan 2020	38%	55%	7%	1684
Nov 2019	28%	64%	8%	1690
Sep 2019	33%	58%	9%	1680
Jul 2019	25%	65%	9%	1696
May 2019	30%	63%	7%	1690
Mar 2019	36%	56%	8%	1690
Jan 2019	34%	59%	7%	1690
Dec 2018	29%	62%	9%	1686
Oct 2018	25%	64%	11%	1689
Sep 2018	28%	61%	10%	1694
Jul 2018	20%	71%	9%	1697
May 2018	24%	66%	10%	1684
Mar 2018	29%	65%	6%	1697
Jan 2018	21%	72%	7%	1698
Dec 2017	22%	70%	8%	1700
Sep 2017	24%	70%	6%	1726
Jul 2017	24%	68%	8%	1702
May 2017	26%	66%	8%	1695
Mar 2017	36%	55%	9%	1692
Jan 2017	33%	58%	9%	1689
Oct 2016	31%	59%	10%	1703
Sep 2016	29%	65%	6%	1699
Jul 2016	28%	66%	6%	1696
May 2016	28%	67%	6%	1696
Mar 2016	24%	70%	6%	1706
Jan 2016	32%	63%	5%	1694
Dec 2015	26%	67%	7%	1697
Sep 2015	32%	62%	7%	1702
Jul 2015	29%	63%	9%	1690
Jun 2015	27%	68%	5%	1701
Mar 2015	24%	69%	7%	1694
Jan 2015	38%	55%	7%	1700
Oct 2014	24%	68%	8%	1689
Sep 2014	24%	66%	10%	1682
Jul 2014	22%	72%	6%	1690
May 2014	24%	69%	7%	1697
Mar 2014	19%	74%	7%	1695
Jan 2014	26%	69%	5%	1702
Dec 2013	18%	76%	6%	1693
Sep 2013	28%	65%	8%	1682
Jul 2013	30%	62%	7%	2092
May 2013	31%	62%	6%	1696
Mar 2013	29%	67%	4%	1696
Jan 2013	34%	59%	7%	1700
Oct 2012	26%	67%	7%	2000
Sep 2012	27%	67%	7%	1989
Aug 2012	27%	66%	7%	2485
May 2012	22%	69%	8%	1993
Mar 2012	24%	68%	8%	1992
Jan 2012	25%	69%	5%	1993
Dec 2011	20%	75%	5%	1988

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Q27. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of
 the way the U.S. Congress is handling its job?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2011	27%	64%	9%	1996
Jul 2011	25%	65%	10%	2495
Mar 2011	30%	58%	12%	1988
Oct 2010	31%	64%	5%	1988
Sep 2010	26%	66%	8%	1990
May 2010	31%	61%	8%	1997
Mar 2010	24%	68%	8%	1992
Jan 2010	36%	55%	9%	1991
Dec 2009	38%	54%	8%	1994
Sep 2009	39%	54%	7%	2000
May 2009	47%	43%	10%	1998
Mar 2009	43%	47%	10%	1993
Jan 2009	37%	56%	7%	1997
Oct 2008	23%	71%	6%	1993
Sep 2008	29%	63%	9%	1991
Aug 2008	27%	64%	9%	1990
Mar 2008	33%	55%	12%	1992
Dec 2007	31%	62%	7%	1992
Sep 2007	33%	57%	10%	1990
Jun 2007	33%	54%	13%	1989
Jan 2007	42%	44%	13%	2006
Sep 2006	37%	54%	9%	1994
Mar 2006	35%	54%	11%	1992
Oct 2005	42%	46%	11%	1996

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Q29. Turning to economic conditions, do you think that during the next 12 months the United States will have good times financially or bad times?

	good times	bad times	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
May 2020	23%	70%	6%	1693
Nov 2019	47%	43%	10%	1692
Oct 2018	48%	42%	10%	1695
May 2017	39%	50%	11%	1697
Jan 2017	52%	39%	8%	1692
Oct 2016	46%	39%	15%	1693
Mar 2016	48%	42%	10%	1702
Sep 2015	48%	45%	7%	1695
Mar 2015	53%	41%	6%	1686
Mar 2014	45%	48%	7%	1689
Dec 2013	43%	48%	9%	1693
Oct 2012	45%	46%	10%	1997
Sep 2011	29%	65%	6%	1995
Sep 2010	35%	58%	7%	1985
Dec 2009	35%	58%	8%	1999
May 2009	33%	61%	6%	2001
Jan 2009	24%	71%	5%	1995
Aug 2008	23%	70%	7%	1992
Mar 2008	18%	76%	5%	1998
Jun 2007	39%	53%	8%	1993
Jan 2007	47%	46%	8%	2006
Oct 2006	44%	46%	9%	1996
Sep 2005	30%	63%	7%	2002
Jan 2005	48%	43%	9%	1996
Sep 2004	47%	41%	12%	1996
Sep 2003	47%	42%	11%	1974

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q30. How much of the time do you think you can trust the federal government in Washington today to do what is right—just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

	just about always	most of the time	only some of the time	(VOL) none of the time	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
May 2020	6%	18%	64%	9%	2%	1695
Jan 2020	5%	19%	66%	8%	2%	1700
May 2018	6%	18%	62%	11%	3%	1693
Mar 2017	7%	22%	62%	7%	2%	1701
Oct 2016	7%	26%	55%	9%	2%	1699
Jun 2015	8%	19%	65%	7%	1%	1697
May 2014	5%	21%	64%	8%	1%	1698
Dec 2013	6%	18%	65%	10%	2%	1696
Oct 2012	7%	24%	63%	5%	1%	1999
Dec 2011	6%	14%	69%	10%	1%	1998
Oct 2010	5%	25%	60%	9%	2%	1992
May 2009	6%	30%	56%	6%	2%	2000
Oct 2008	4%	18%	66%	11%	2%	1999
Mar 2008	5%	22%	64%	7%	2%	1994
Sep 2007	4%	19%	67%	8%	2%	1996
Mar 2007	5%	23%	64%	5%	2%	1999
Oct 2006	5%	21%	62%	10%	2%	1997
Oct 2005	6%	23%	59%	9%	3%	1997
Jan 2005	6%	26%	59%	7%	1%	1999
Feb 2004	5%	25%	57%	10%	3%	1985
Feb 2003	7%	31%	56%	3%	2%	1982
Dec 2002	7%	30%	57%	5%	1%	1975
Aug 2002	7%	30%	58%	4%	1%	1979
Jan 2002	7%	39%	52%	1%	1%	1954
Oct 2000	4%	29%	62%	4%	1%	1980
Jan 2000	7%	26%	62%	5%	1%	1986
Dec 1999	6%	26%	63%	5%	1%	1992
Sep 1998	5%	28%	63%	4%	0%	1998
May 1998	3%	21%	59%	16%	1%	2001
Apr 1998	3%	23%	62%	12%	0%	1980

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q35. What do you think about being able to afford the cost of your health care, including the cost of insurance and your out-of-pocket expenses, over the next few years?

	very worried	somewhat worried	not so worried	not worried at all	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
May 2020	28%	38%	16%	19%	1%	1698
Sep 2019	38%	32%	12%	18%	1%	1702

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding