

# Californians and Their Government

## September 2020

### Time Trends – Likely Voters

#### Methodology Note:

Findings for September 2020 are based on a survey of 1,704 California adult residents, with 75 percent interviewed on cell phones (1,254 interviews) and 25 percent interviewed on landline telephones (450 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 September 4-13, 2020.

The September 2020 sampling error for the 1,168 likely voters, taking design effects from weighting into consideration, is  $\pm 4.3$  percent. 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](mailto:surveys@ppic.org)

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q1. 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
Sep 2020	60%	37%	0%	3%	1163
May 2020	64%	31%	0%	6%	1043
Feb 2020	52%	39%	0%	9%	1043
Jan 2020	49%	42%	0%	9%	960
Nov 2019	48%	45%	0%	7%	1001
Sep 2019	43%	44%	0%	13%	1020
Jul 2019	47%	39%	0%	14%	1070
May 2019	47%	37%	0%	16%	1111
Mar 2019	45%	36%	14%	6%	1108
Jan 2019	43%	29%	21%	8%	1144

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q2. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of  
 the way that Governor Newsom is handling the  
 coronavirus outbreak?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	62%	35%	2%	1164
May 2020	69%	28%	3%	1041

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q3. 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
Sep 2020	45%	43%	12%	1157
May 2020	50%	39%	11%	1044
Feb 2020	49%	43%	8%	1042
Jan 2020	45%	45%	9%	961
Nov 2019	39%	51%	10%	1002
Sep 2019	38%	51%	11%	1025
Jul 2019	40%	48%	12%	1074
May 2019	34%	53%	13%	1116
Mar 2019	42%	45%	13%	1102
Jan 2019	46%	43%	11%	1147
Dec 2018	43%	47%	10%	1084
Nov 2018	44%	48%	8%	1090
Oct 2018	43%	48%	10%	985
Sep 2018	44%	46%	10%	957
Jul 2018	46%	46%	8%	1014
May 2018	42%	48%	10%	895
Apr 2018	42%	49%	9%	864
Mar 2018	45%	46%	8%	924
Jan 2018	50%	41%	9%	1036
Dec 2017	46%	44%	10%	1065
Nov 2017	45%	45%	10%	1083
Sep 2017	44%	47%	9%	1098
Jul 2017	45%	42%	13%	1088
May 2017	41%	46%	12%	1012
Apr 2017	44%	45%	11%	1033
Mar 2017	48%	41%	11%	1057
Jan 2017	50%	38%	11%	1101
Dec 2016	45%	44%	11%	1115
Oct 2016	43%	43%	14%	1016
Sep 2016	42%	48%	9%	1050
Jul 2016	42%	48%	10%	1045
May 2016	38%	49%	13%	982
Apr 2016	40%	51%	9%	993
Mar 2016	38%	50%	12%	1029
Jan 2016	41%	48%	11%	1034
Dec 2015	38%	48%	14%	1100
Sep 2015	39%	47%	15%	1056
Jul 2015	32%	54%	13%	1055
Jun 2015	30%	52%	18%	1043
Apr 2015	36%	55%	9%	1061
Mar 2015	39%	50%	11%	1059
Jan 2015	41%	47%	13%	1003

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends(cont.)**

Q3. 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
Dec 2014	39%	51%	10%	1046
Oct 2014	37%	51%	13%	969
Sep 2014	32%	54%	14%	901
Jul 2014	31%	56%	13%	972
May 2014	36%	54%	11%	1027
Apr 2014	29%	56%	15%	1074
Mar 2014	32%	57%	12%	1084
Jan 2014	33%	57%	10%	1145
Dec 2013	32%	56%	12%	1077
Sep 2013	32%	57%	10%	1095
Jul 2013	33%	55%	12%	1272
May 2013	29%	59%	12%	1125
Apr 2013	29%	64%	7%	1129
Mar 2013	25%	61%	14%	1130
Jan 2013	31%	55%	14%	1115
Dec 2012	26%	61%	13%	1434
Oct 2012	21%	68%	11%	1329
Sep 2012	22%	68%	10%	1325
Aug 2012	21%	69%	10%	1560
May 2012	17%	71%	11%	1248
Apr 2012	15%	73%	12%	1199
Mar 2012	21%	66%	14%	1162
Jan 2012	17%	71%	12%	1297
Dec 2011	16%	69%	15%	1293
Nov 2011	17%	70%	13%	1634
Sep 2011	17%	71%	12%	1363
Jul 2011	15%	74%	11%	1639
Jun 2011	17%	72%	11%	1404
Apr 2011	14%	74%	12%	1644
Mar 2011	16%	70%	14%	1360
Feb 2011	20%	63%	17%	1558
Jan 2011	18%	68%	14%	1390
Nov 2010	9%	82%	9%	1673
Oct 2010	10%	86%	3%	1238
Sep 2010	11%	85%	4%	1214
Jul 2010	10%	82%	8%	1462
May 2010	11%	80%	8%	1247
Apr 2010	11%	79%	9%	1540
Mar 2010	9%	85%	6%	1235
Jan 2010	12%	80%	7%	1299
Dec 2009	10%	83%	7%	1077
Nov 2009	10%	80%	10%	1630

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends(cont.)**

Q3. 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
Sep 2009	16%	76%	8%	1339
Jul 2009	10%	84%	6%	1563
May 2009	12%	80%	8%	1213
Apr 2009	16%	74%	10%	1596
Mar 2009	11%	80%	10%	1136
Feb 2009	14%	75%	10%	1564
Jan 2009	15%	76%	9%	1387
Nov 2008	20%	69%	11%	1633
Oct 2008	22%	70%	8%	1280
Sep 2008	16%	76%	9%	1277
Aug 2008	20%	74%	6%	1183
May 2008	23%	65%	12%	1224
Apr 2008	22%	66%	12%	1517
Mar 2008	25%	64%	11%	1219
Jan 2008	27%	61%	12%	1226
Dec 2007	35%	54%	10%	1146
Oct 2007	32%	54%	14%	1574
Sep 2007	29%	59%	11%	1158
Jun 2007	35%	47%	18%	1106
May 2007	36%	51%	14%	1127
Apr 2007	35%	51%	14%	1510
Mar 2007	39%	47%	14%	1233
Jan 2007	37%	49%	14%	1274
Oct 2006	26%	61%	13%	1188
Sep 2006	32%	55%	13%	1207
Aug 2006	27%	61%	12%	1105
May 2006	23%	61%	15%	1093
Mar 2006	23%	65%	12%	1002
Jan 2006	25%	63%	12%	1256
Jan 2006	23%	60%	17%	1443
Oct 2005	21%	65%	14%	1161
Sep 2005	28%	60%	12%	1111
Aug 2005	23%	64%	13%	1052
May 2005	24%	63%	12%	1237
Jan 2005	33%	57%	11%	1230
Oct 2004	40%	46%	14%	1210
Sep 2004	37%	51%	12%	1191
Aug 2004	37%	52%	11%	1183
Jun 2004	38%	51%	11%	1346
May 2004	35%	52%	13%	1098
Jan 2004	34%	50%	16%	977
Aug 2003	22%	68%	10%	1067

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends(cont.)**

Q3. 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
Jun 2003	29%	58%	13%	1032
Feb 2003	29%	55%	16%	1071
Sep 2002	40%	45%	15%	1029
Jan 2002	46%	43%	11%	967
Dec 2001	50%	36%	14%	939
Jan 2001	56%	32%	12%	1085
Sep 2000	56%	34%	11%	1089

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q4. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of  
the job that the state legislators representing  
your assembly and senate districts are doing at  
this time?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	48%	41%	11%	1159
Feb 2020	52%	39%	10%	1043
Sep 2019	41%	45%	14%	1020
Mar 2019	48%	40%	12%	1100
Sep 2018	48%	39%	14%	952
Mar 2018	46%	44%	10%	929
Mar 2017	52%	38%	11%	1057
Sep 2016	49%	40%	11%	1050
Jan 2016	45%	44%	11%	1036
Sep 2015	47%	38%	15%	1060
Jan 2015	48%	37%	15%	1007
Oct 2014	38%	50%	12%	970
May 2014	43%	44%	13%	1032
Jan 2014	45%	45%	10%	1142
Sep 2013	40%	49%	12%	1096
May 2013	38%	49%	13%	1124
Jan 2013	39%	42%	20%	1113
Sep 2012	35%	50%	16%	1321
Jan 2012	32%	55%	14%	1300
Sep 2011	31%	57%	12%	1356
Mar 2011	34%	50%	16%	1362
Sep 2010	30%	63%	7%	1215
Mar 2010	27%	58%	15%	1231
Dec 2009	25%	63%	12%	1076
Sep 2009	30%	57%	13%	1338
Mar 2009	29%	57%	15%	1135
Sep 2008	35%	52%	13%	1279
Mar 2008	43%	42%	15%	1218
Dec 2007	50%	39%	11%	1146
Sep 2007	39%	45%	15%	1158
Mar 2007	46%	39%	15%	1234
Sep 2006	44%	41%	15%	1209
May 2006	41%	45%	12%	1097
Oct 2005	38%	43%	13%	1162
Aug 2005	39%	44%	12%	1054
May 2005	48%	37%	11%	637
Oct 2004	47%	35%	18%	1206
Dec 2001	61%	28%	11%	945

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding



**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - 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
Sep 2020	48%	48%	3%	1156
May 2020	56%	41%	3%	1039
Jan 2020	49%	49%	3%	966
Sep 2019	41%	54%	5%	1026
Jan 2019	51%	45%	3%	1149
Dec 2018	50%	46%	4%	1079
Sep 2018	50%	47%	3%	957
Jan 2018	54%	43%	3%	1039
Dec 2017	49%	47%	4%	1062
Sep 2017	51%	45%	4%	1103
Mar 2017	53%	43%	4%	1066
Jan 2017	58%	38%	4%	1102
Oct 2016	50%	45%	5%	1021
Sep 2016	45%	52%	3%	1051
May 2016	45%	51%	4%	986
Mar 2016	45%	50%	5%	1032
Jan 2016	49%	47%	4%	1037
Dec 2015	44%	50%	6%	1106
Sep 2015	43%	52%	6%	1062
Jun 2015	40%	52%	8%	1042
Mar 2015	49%	47%	5%	1057
Jan 2015	49%	45%	5%	1009
Dec 2014	47%	48%	5%	1055
Oct 2014	40%	54%	6%	970
Sep 2014	43%	52%	6%	913
May 2014	44%	50%	6%	1035
Mar 2014	41%	53%	6%	1085
Jan 2014	47%	48%	5%	1143
Dec 2013	41%	55%	4%	1077
Sep 2013	40%	54%	6%	1100
Jun 2013	39%	53%	9%	1433
May 2013	41%	54%	4%	1121
Mar 2013	37%	57%	6%	1132
Jan 2013	45%	49%	6%	1115
Dec 2012	39%	56%	5%	1430
Oct 2012	34%	60%	6%	1330
Sep 2012	29%	66%	5%	1325
May 2012	27%	68%	5%	1246
Mar 2012	32%	59%	9%	1161
Jan 2012	29%	66%	5%	1297
Dec 2011	24%	68%	8%	1294
Sep 2011	25%	69%	7%	1359

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
Likely Voters - 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
Jun 2011	22%	68%	9%	1485
Jun 2011	27%	66%	7%	1401
Mar 2011	27%	63%	10%	1361
Feb 2011	32%	56%	12%	1566
Jan 2011	32%	61%	7%	1393
Oct 2010	12%	77%	11%	1227
Sep 2010	13%	77%	9%	1210
Jul 2010	8%	86%	5%	1462
May 2010	13%	82%	5%	1249
Mar 2010	13%	83%	4%	1234
Jan 2010	15%	80%	5%	1299
Dec 2009	11%	82%	7%	1075
Nov 2009	12%	83%	5%	1626
Sep 2009	18%	77%	6%	1340
Jul 2009	9%	87%	5%	1569
Jun 2009	16%	74%	9%	1500
May 2009	17%	76%	7%	1216
Mar 2009	17%	77%	7%	1135
Feb 2009	13%	80%	7%	1564
Jan 2009	16%	78%	6%	1387
Nov 2008	24%	66%	10%	1635
Oct 2008	20%	70%	10%	1274
Sep 2008	21%	67%	11%	1282
Aug 2008	24%	68%	8%	1179
Jun 2008	22%	69%	9%	1412
May 2008	24%	67%	9%	1220
Mar 2008	24%	66%	9%	1215
Jan 2008	35%	55%	10%	1224
Dec 2007	38%	50%	13%	1146
Sep 2007	41%	51%	9%	1154
Jun 2007	44%	47%	9%	1104
May 2007	47%	45%	7%	1122
Mar 2007	44%	48%	8%	1233
Jan 2007	55%	38%	7%	1271
Oct 2006	44%	47%	10%	1183
Sep 2006	45%	46%	9%	1208
Aug 2006	42%	49%	9%	1102
Jul 2006	45%	48%	7%	1346
May 2006	34%	59%	8%	1096
Mar 2006	36%	55%	9%	1007
Feb 2006	34%	58%	8%	1232
Jan 2006	36%	57%	7%	1252
Jan 2006	28%	64%	8%	1447

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - 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
Oct 2005	29%	62%	10%	1156
Sep 2005	27%	64%	9%	1108
Aug 2005	34%	58%	8%	1055
Jul 2005	39%	50%	11%	1461
May 2005	37%	56%	7%	1238
Apr 2005	34%	56%	10%	1472
Jan 2005	48%	42%	10%	1229
Oct 2004	47%	43%	11%	1210
Sep 2004	47%	42%	12%	1197
Aug 2004	46%	43%	11%	1179
Jul 2004	47%	42%	12%	1447
Jun 2004	46%	43%	11%	1342
May 2004	48%	41%	11%	1100
Feb 2004	32%	54%	15%	1006
Jan 2004	44%	40%	16%	972
Nov 2003	31%	55%	14%	1183
Oct 2003	18%	74%	8%	1128
Sep 2003	17%	75%	8%	1143
Aug 2003	17%	74%	9%	1065
Jul 2003	25%	66%	9%	1153
Jun 2003	22%	68%	10%	1033
Feb 2003	22%	69%	9%	1070
Nov 2002	45%	47%	8%	914
Oct 2002	40%	50%	10%	1048
Sep 2002	48%	43%	8%	1035
Aug 2002	37%	53%	10%	966
Feb 2002	50%	42%	7%	948
Jan 2002	55%	38%	7%	968
Dec 2001	55%	36%	9%	945
Jan 2001	63%	29%	8%	1092
Oct 2000	56%	34%	9%	1088
Aug 2000	63%	30%	8%	1011
Feb 2000	64%	28%	8%	1007
Jan 2000	66%	27%	7%	977
Dec 1999	60%	34%	6%	907
Sep 1999	59%	35%	6%	906
Jan 1999	66%	28%	7%	1049
Oct 1998	63%	30%	7%	1103
Sep 1998	58%	35%	7%	1046
May 1998	56%	36%	9%	936
Apr 1998	55%	37%	8%	990

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**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q6. Would you say that California is in an economic recession, or not? IF YES ASK: Do you think it is in a serious, a moderate, or a mild recession?

	yes, serious recession	yes, moderate recession	yes, mild recession	(VOL) yes, don't know	no, not in an economic recession	(VOL) don't know
Sep 2020	34%	32%	10%	1%	20%	4%
May 2020	38%	23%	8%	3%	24%	4%
Dec 2013	22%	31%	10%	34%	0%	3%
Oct 2012	43%	28%	8%	18%	0%	1%
Sep 2012	48%	27%	9%	15%	0%	1%
May 2012	48%	28%	7%	15%	0%	2%
Mar 2012	48%	29%	7%	14%	0%	2%
Jan 2012	51%	32%	6%	10%	0%	1%
Dec 2011	53%	29%	4%	12%	0%	2%
Sep 2011	53%	31%	5%	9%	0%	2%
Jun 2011	54%	30%	6%	9%	0%	1%
Mar 2011	58%	24%	6%	9%	0%	4%
Jan 2011	57%	27%	5%	10%	0%	2%
Oct 2010	61%	25%	4%	8%	0%	1%
Sep 2010	59%	27%	5%	7%	0%	1%
May 2010	59%	28%	5%	7%	0%	1%
Mar 2010	64%	24%	5%	6%	0%	2%
Jan 2010	67%	24%	4%	5%	0%	1%
Dec 2009	67%	22%	4%	5%	0%	2%
Sep 2009	60%	31%	3%	5%	0%	1%
May 2009	60%	31%	4%	3%	0%	2%
Mar 2009	70%	22%	3%	3%	0%	1%
Jan 2009	62%	25%	4%	6%	0%	3%
Oct 2008	39%	30%	9%	19%	0%	3%
Aug 2008	30%	35%	10%	20%	0%	5%
Mar 2008	24%	32%	14%	24%	0%	6%

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends(cont.)**

	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	1164
May 2020	1040
Dec 2013	1078
Oct 2012	1331
Sep 2012	1331
May 2012	1256
Mar 2012	1167
Jan 2012	1304
Dec 2011	1296
Sep 2011	1362
Jun 2011	1408
Mar 2011	1370
Jan 2011	1399
Oct 2010	1238
Sep 2010	1217
May 2010	1250
Mar 2010	1236
Jan 2010	1301
Dec 2009	1078
Sep 2009	1342
May 2009	1220
Mar 2009	1138
Jan 2009	1388
Oct 2008	1280
Aug 2008	1186
Mar 2008	1223

(cont.)

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q9. If the November 3rd presidential election were being held today, would you vote for...?						
	Joe Biden and Kamala Harris	Donald Trump and Mike Pence	Jo Jorgensen and Spike Cohen	Howie Hawkins and Angela Walker	(VOL) someone else (specify)	(VOL) would not vote for president
Sep 2020	60%	31%	3%	2%	0%	1%
May 2020	57%	33%	--	--	4%	2%

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends(cont.)**

Q9. If the November 3rd presidential election were being held today, would you vote for...?		
	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	2%	1154
May 2020	3%	1032

(cont.)

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
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Q11. How closely are you following the news about candidates for the 2020 presidential election—very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

	very closely	fairly closely	not too closely	not at all closely	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	53%	34%	9%	3%	0%	1167
Jul 2020	35%	43%	20%	2%	0%	1032
May 2020	44%	36%	14%	5%	0%	1048
Apr 2020	40%	43%	15%	3%	0%	1094
Feb 2020	44%	39%	12%	4%	0%	1049
Jan 2020	38%	44%	13%	4%	0%	972
Nov 2019	40%	39%	16%	5%	0%	1015
Sep 2019	38%	39%	15%	8%	0%	1029
Jul 2019	37%	33%	20%	10%	0%	1085
May 2019	28%	41%	22%	9%	0%	1120
Oct 2018	28%	40%	21%	10%	1%	988
Sep 2018	21%	41%	27%	11%	0%	962
Jul 2018	17%	42%	28%	13%	0%	1019
May 2018	19%	39%	30%	11%	1%	900
Apr 2018	18%	36%	32%	13%	1%	862
Mar 2018	14%	34%	35%	16%	0%	931
Jan 2018	7%	23%	39%	30%	0%	1041
Dec 2017	7%	18%	45%	29%	1%	1070
Oct 2016	60%	32%	6%	1%	0%	1024
Sep 2016	61%	33%	5%	1%	0%	1053
Jul 2016	53%	38%	7%	2%	0%	1055
May 2016	55%	34%	9%	3%	0%	990
Apr 2016	57%	35%	6%	1%	0%	997
Mar 2016	52%	37%	9%	2%	1%	1039
Jan 2016	45%	37%	14%	3%	0%	1043
Oct 2014	18%	34%	34%	13%	1%	974
Sep 2014	12%	40%	28%	19%	0%	915
Jul 2014	11%	42%	31%	15%	1%	983
May 2014	8%	31%	41%	19%	1%	1037
Apr 2014	9%	23%	40%	27%	1%	1077
Mar 2014	7%	23%	39%	29%	2%	1089
Jan 2014	7%	21%	50%	21%	0%	1151
Dec 2013	5%	17%	40%	37%	1%	1080
Oct 2012	58%	35%	6%	1%	0%	1335
Sep 2012	53%	37%	9%	1%	0%	1331
Aug 2012	40%	44%	12%	3%	0%	1568
May 2012	42%	44%	12%	2%	0%	1255
Apr 2012	43%	42%	12%	3%	0%	1206
Mar 2012	41%	42%	14%	2%	0%	1167
Jan 2012	36%	49%	13%	3%	0%	1305
Dec 2011	40%	42%	14%	3%	0%	1298
Oct 2010	39%	50%	9%	2%	0%	1238

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends(cont.)**

Q11. How closely are you following the news about candidates for the 2020 presidential election—very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

	very closely	fairly closely	not too closely	not at all closely	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2010	30%	51%	16%	2%	0%	1219
Jul 2010	22%	48%	23%	7%	0%	1466
May 2010	21%	46%	27%	6%	0%	1251
Mar 2010	17%	46%	28%	8%	0%	1238
Jan 2010	11%	34%	42%	12%	1%	1302
Dec 2009	10%	33%	36%	20%	1%	1078
Nov 2008	62%	30%	5%	2%	1%	1640
Oct 2008	54%	37%	7%	2%	0%	1282
Sep 2008	52%	39%	7%	1%	0%	1283
Aug 2008	39%	49%	10%	2%	1%	1184
Jul 2008	42%	44%	12%	2%	0%	1456
May 2008	47%	43%	7%	2%	0%	1229
Mar 2008	50%	42%	7%	1%	0%	1222
Jan 2008	44%	44%	10%	2%	0%	1233
Dec 2007	26%	52%	19%	3%	0%	1153
Sep 2007	29%	54%	14%	3%	0%	1164
Jul 2007	30%	49%	17%	4%	0%	1416
Jun 2007	21%	52%	23%	4%	0%	1115
May 2007	30%	48%	17%	5%	0%	1130
Mar 2007	25%	44%	25%	6%	0%	1239
Oct 2006	19%	55%	20%	5%	0%	1191
Sep 2006	17%	57%	20%	6%	0%	1213
Aug 2006	15%	49%	28%	8%	1%	1106
Jul 2006	19%	49%	24%	7%	0%	1353
May 2006	18%	50%	24%	6%	1%	1093
Apr 2006	16%	44%	29%	11%	0%	1267
Mar 2006	13%	39%	34%	14%	0%	1008
Oct 2004	61%	34%	4%	1%	1%	1217
Sep 2004	51%	39%	8%	3%	0%	1204
Aug 2004	48%	41%	9%	2%	0%	1188
Feb 2004	33%	47%	14%	6%	0%	1015
Jan 2004	22%	40%	25%	13%	0%	982
Sep 2003	49%	43%	6%	1%	0%	1149
Aug 2003	45%	44%	8%	2%	0%	1068
Oct 2002	22%	53%	20%	4%	0%	1051
Sep 2002	28%	52%	16%	4%	0%	1036
Aug 2002	22%	54%	19%	4%	0%	974
Feb 2002	13%	43%	35%	9%	0%	958
Jan 2002	12%	39%	33%	15%	1%	976
Jan 2001	72%	21%	5%	2%	0%	1095
Oct 2000	56%	34%	8%	2%	0%	1090
Sep 2000	48%	39%	10%	3%	0%	1095
Aug 2000	41%	44%	11%	4%	0%	1014



**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends(cont.)**

Q11. How closely are you following the news about candidates for the 2020 presidential election—very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

	very closely	fairly closely	not too closely	not at all closely	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Feb 2000	21%	55%	20%	4%	0%	1014
Jan 2000	14%	51%	29%	6%	0%	985
Dec 1999	16%	52%	26%	5%	0%	910
Sep 1999	20%	57%	20%	3%	0%	914
Jan 1999	19%	59%	19%	3%	0%	1054
Oct 1998	13%	50%	30%	7%	0%	1111
Sep 1998	9%	45%	35%	11%	1%	1046
May 1998	13%	49%	32%	7%	0%	952
Apr 1998	9%	43%	39%	9%	0%	993

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

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Q12. How interested, if at all, are you in the upcoming presidential debates: very interested, somewhat interested, not so interested or not at all interested?

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	very interested	somewhat interested	not so interested	not at all interested	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	57%	28%	8%	6%	0%	1166
Sep 2016	62%	28%	6%	4%	0%	1053

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Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q13. If the 2020 election for U.S. House of Representatives were being held today, would you vote for [ROTATE] [1] the Republican candidate [OR] [2] the Democratic candidate in your district?

	Republican/ lean Republican	Democrat/ lean Democrat	(VOL) other	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	33%	60%	0%	7%	1152
May 2020	34%	59%	0%	8%	1028
Oct 2018	37%	55%	0%	8%	973
Sep 2018	37%	54%	0%	9%	949
May 2018	38%	52%	0%	10%	891
Mar 2018	39%	53%	0%	8%	917
Oct 2014	41%	48%	0%	11%	954
Oct 2006	36%	48%	5%	11%	1184
Oct 2000	41%	47%	2%	11%	1089
Sep 2000	41%	47%	2%	10%	1091

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q14. Would you prefer to elect a representative to Congress who  
 [ROTATE] [1] has experience in politics, [OR] [2] is new to  
 politics?

	has experience in politics	is new to politics	(VOL) both	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	50%	36%	5%	10%	1134
Sep 2018	46%	36%	4%	14%	931
Mar 2018	52%	36%	0%	12%	913

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q19. How much confidence do you have in the system in which votes are cast and counted in California elections—a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little?

	great deal	quite a lot	some	very little	(VOL) none	(VOL) don't know
Sep 2020	40%	20%	19%	19%	2%	1%
Sep 2019	22%	20%	28%	27%	3%	2%
Sep 2017	24%	23%	27%	24%	1%	2%
Oct 2008	24%	27%	31%	15%	1%	1%
Oct 2004	29%	29%	28%	11%	1%	1%

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends(cont.)**

	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	1166
Sep 2019	1030
Sep 2017	1103
Oct 2008	1282
Oct 2004	1218

(cont.)

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

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Q20. How concerned are you that it is too hard for eligible people to vote in California elections? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?

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	very concerned	somewhat concerned	not too concerned	not at all concerned	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	29%	25%	20%	24%	1%	1164
Sep 2019	21%	21%	24%	32%	2%	1029
Sep 2017	18%	22%	24%	37%	1%	1100

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Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q21. How concerned are you that it is too easy for people who are not eligible to vote in California elections? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?

	very concerned	somewhat concerned	not too concerned	not at all concerned	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	33%	17%	16%	33%	1%	1165
Sep 2019	38%	19%	18%	24%	2%	1029
Sep 2017	34%	16%	18%	30%	1%	1100

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q22. 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
Sep 2020	32%	67%	2%	1159
May 2020	33%	65%	2%	1036
Feb 2020	35%	63%	2%	1043
Jan 2020	38%	61%	1%	970
Nov 2019	39%	59%	2%	1009
Sep 2019	35%	62%	2%	1022
Jul 2019	38%	60%	1%	1080
May 2019	38%	60%	2%	1117
Mar 2019	34%	64%	2%	1104
Jan 2019	36%	62%	2%	1145
Dec 2018	36%	61%	3%	1083
Oct 2018	39%	58%	3%	981
Sep 2018	37%	61%	2%	958
Jul 2018	34%	64%	2%	1012
May 2018	38%	58%	4%	889
Mar 2018	37%	61%	2%	920
Jan 2018	32%	67%	1%	1038
Dec 2017	34%	63%	3%	1058
Sep 2017	31%	66%	3%	1095
Jul 2017	34%	63%	3%	1085
May 2017	33%	63%	3%	1013
Mar 2017	35%	62%	3%	1058
Jan 2017	34%	55%	11%	1094

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding



**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q22a. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of  
 the way that President Trump is handling the  
 coronavirus outbreak?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	32%	67%	2%	1160
May 2020	34%	65%	2%	1039

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q23. 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 2020	21%	75%	3%	1155
May 2020	31%	65%	4%	1034
Feb 2020	32%	63%	5%	1039
Jan 2020	30%	66%	4%	960
Nov 2019	21%	74%	4%	1006
Sep 2019	24%	71%	5%	1015
Jul 2019	17%	79%	4%	1080
May 2019	22%	73%	5%	1107
Mar 2019	29%	67%	5%	1102
Jan 2019	23%	72%	5%	1146
Dec 2018	20%	74%	6%	1086
Oct 2018	20%	75%	6%	983
Sep 2018	20%	74%	7%	958
Jul 2018	14%	83%	3%	1015
May 2018	18%	78%	5%	891
Mar 2018	22%	74%	4%	925
Jan 2018	15%	81%	3%	1040
Dec 2017	15%	80%	4%	1068
Sep 2017	18%	79%	3%	1098
Jul 2017	17%	78%	5%	1091
May 2017	19%	76%	5%	1017
Mar 2017	27%	68%	6%	1059
Jan 2017	25%	68%	7%	1098
Oct 2016	17%	77%	6%	1024
Sep 2016	16%	81%	3%	1054
Jul 2016	17%	80%	3%	1051
May 2016	15%	82%	3%	985
Mar 2016	14%	83%	2%	1038
Jan 2016	19%	78%	3%	1040
Dec 2015	14%	81%	5%	1111
Sep 2015	17%	79%	4%	1065
Jul 2015	17%	78%	6%	1057
Jun 2015	20%	74%	6%	1045
Mar 2015	16%	80%	4%	1057
Jan 2015	24%	71%	5%	1008
Oct 2014	16%	79%	5%	970
Sep 2014	16%	80%	5%	907
Jul 2014	15%	83%	2%	976
May 2014	14%	82%	4%	1034
Mar 2014	9%	87%	4%	1091
Jan 2014	15%	82%	3%	1150
Dec 2013	10%	86%	4%	1078
Sep 2013	18%	79%	3%	1086

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends(cont.)**

Q23. 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
Jul 2013	18%	77%	4%	1268
May 2013	19%	77%	5%	1124
Mar 2013	16%	81%	3%	1132
Jan 2013	21%	73%	6%	1113
Oct 2012	15%	81%	4%	1332
Sep 2012	17%	78%	5%	1325
Aug 2012	15%	81%	4%	1562
May 2012	16%	78%	5%	1252
Mar 2012	17%	79%	4%	1163
Jan 2012	14%	82%	4%	1300
Dec 2011	9%	88%	3%	1293
Sep 2011	15%	79%	6%	1360
Jul 2011	17%	78%	5%	1638
Mar 2011	22%	69%	9%	1365
Oct 2010	26%	71%	3%	1233
Sep 2010	21%	74%	5%	1214
May 2010	26%	68%	6%	1250
Mar 2010	14%	82%	4%	1231
Jan 2010	29%	65%	6%	1296
Dec 2009	29%	66%	5%	1076
Sep 2009	34%	60%	6%	1338
May 2009	39%	53%	7%	1216
Mar 2009	35%	58%	7%	1134
Jan 2009	30%	64%	6%	1389
Oct 2008	18%	78%	4%	1281
Sep 2008	26%	67%	7%	1280
Aug 2008	22%	72%	6%	1180
Mar 2008	30%	63%	7%	1220
Dec 2007	23%	72%	5%	1147
Sep 2007	28%	66%	6%	1160
Jun 2007	30%	62%	9%	1106
Jan 2007	37%	51%	12%	1276
Sep 2006	31%	63%	6%	1207
Mar 2006	31%	62%	7%	1004
Oct 2005	37%	55%	8%	1164

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q24. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of  
the way that Dianne Feinstein is handling her  
job as U.S. senator?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	46%	45%	9%	1160
Feb 2020	50%	43%	7%	1045
Sep 2019	44%	47%	9%	1023
Mar 2019	48%	45%	7%	1107
Sep 2018	53%	42%	6%	957
Mar 2018	54%	41%	4%	929
Sep 2017	54%	38%	7%	1099
Mar 2017	51%	39%	10%	1062
Jan 2016	56%	39%	5%	1037
Sep 2015	53%	37%	9%	1063
Jan 2015	54%	38%	9%	1005
Sep 2014	55%	40%	6%	911
Jan 2014	49%	45%	6%	1147
Sep 2013	51%	42%	8%	1100
Jan 2013	55%	35%	10%	1113
Sep 2012	50%	43%	7%	1323
Jan 2012	47%	42%	11%	1302
Sep 2011	48%	44%	8%	1358
Mar 2011	51%	42%	7%	1364
Sep 2010	49%	44%	7%	1210
May 2010	53%	39%	8%	1248
Jan 2010	50%	41%	9%	1297
Sep 2009	53%	37%	10%	1337
Mar 2009	54%	37%	9%	1136
Sep 2008	51%	41%	8%	1279
Mar 2008	49%	38%	13%	1217
Sep 2007	52%	38%	10%	1161
Mar 2007	59%	31%	10%	1233
Sep 2006	53%	35%	11%	1210
Mar 2006	56%	34%	10%	1006
Oct 2005	55%	33%	13%	1162
May 2005	56%	31%	12%	1239
Oct 2004	58%	28%	14%	1214
Feb 2004	57%	31%	12%	1008
Sep 2003	57%	29%	14%	1146
Oct 2002	54%	30%	16%	1050
Feb 2002	58%	31%	11%	957
Feb 2000	59%	29%	12%	1007
Dec 1999	57%	34%	9%	907

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q25. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of  
 the way that Kamala Harris is handling her job  
 as U.S. senator?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	56%	38%	6%	1162
Feb 2020	54%	36%	11%	1044
Sep 2019	43%	46%	11%	1024
Mar 2019	48%	38%	14%	1103
Sep 2018	55%	31%	14%	958
Mar 2018	45%	39%	16%	924
Sep 2017	47%	30%	23%	1093
Mar 2017	49%	26%	25%	1062

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q26. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of  
 the way your own representative to the U.S.  
 House of Representatives in Congress is  
 handling his or her job?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	56%	32%	12%	1157
Feb 2020	57%	34%	9%	1044
Sep 2019	51%	38%	11%	1021
Mar 2019	51%	37%	11%	1104
Sep 2018	56%	34%	10%	956
Mar 2018	53%	39%	9%	928
Mar 2017	49%	38%	13%	1061
Sep 2016	47%	44%	9%	1054
Jan 2016	51%	40%	8%	1035
Sep 2015	51%	38%	11%	1063
Jan 2015	51%	37%	11%	1003
Oct 2014	47%	44%	9%	970
May 2014	48%	39%	13%	1033
Jan 2014	48%	42%	10%	1147
Sep 2013	47%	38%	15%	1098
May 2013	50%	40%	10%	1122
Jan 2013	52%	31%	17%	1112
Sep 2012	48%	36%	16%	1323
Jan 2012	47%	41%	12%	1301
Sep 2011	49%	41%	10%	1357
Mar 2011	50%	37%	13%	1363
Sep 2010	47%	42%	11%	1215
Mar 2010	44%	42%	15%	1232
Dec 2009	49%	40%	11%	1075
Sep 2009	57%	30%	13%	1336
Mar 2009	55%	31%	14%	1136
Sep 2008	52%	33%	15%	1279
Mar 2008	52%	32%	16%	1218
Dec 2007	51%	40%	9%	1148
Sep 2007	54%	32%	14%	1159
Mar 2007	59%	25%	16%	1229
Sep 2006	60%	25%	15%	1208
Mar 2006	59%	25%	16%	1007
Oct 2005	57%	26%	17%	1162

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q27. How concerned, if at all, are you that you will get the coronavirus and require hospitalization?  
 Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or at all concerned?

	very concerned	somewhat concerned	not too concerned	not at all concerned	(VOL) have already been hospitalized due to coronavirus	(VOL) don't know
Sep 2020	26%	33%	22%	19%	0%	0%
May 2020	21%	35%	25%	18%	0%	0%

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends(cont.)**

	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	1167
May 2020	1046

(cont.)

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q28. Thinking about the restrictions on public activity because of the coronavirus outbreak in your area, do you think there should be [ROTATE] [1] more restrictions right now [OR] [2] fewer restrictions right now [OR [3] about the same?

	more restrictions right now	fewer restrictions right now	about the same number of restrictions right now	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	28%	29%	42%	1%	1163
May 2020	20%	32%	47%	1%	1043

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding



**PPIC Statewide Survey  
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 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q29. Which comes closer to your view about  
 where the U.S. stands in the coronavirus  
 outbreak: [ROTATE] [1] the worst is behind us  
 [OR] [2] the worst is yet to come?

	the worst is behind us	the worst is yet to come	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	47%	47%	6%	1163
May 2020	46%	46%	8%	1044

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q30. 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
Sep 2020	31%	60%	9%	1153
May 2020	20%	73%	7%	1042
Nov 2019	50%	40%	10%	1004
Oct 2018	53%	39%	9%	984
May 2017	43%	46%	11%	1014
Jan 2017	54%	38%	8%	1101
Oct 2016	44%	39%	16%	1017
Mar 2016	45%	47%	9%	1032
Sep 2015	43%	50%	7%	1060
Mar 2015	50%	42%	8%	1050
Mar 2014	40%	51%	8%	1084
Dec 2013	38%	55%	7%	1074
Oct 2012	42%	48%	10%	1328
Sep 2011	20%	74%	6%	1357
Sep 2010	30%	63%	7%	1208
Dec 2009	26%	67%	7%	1076
May 2009	25%	70%	5%	1219
Jan 2009	17%	78%	5%	1388
Aug 2008	19%	74%	6%	1182
Mar 2008	13%	82%	4%	1222
Jun 2007	39%	54%	7%	1110
Jan 2007	47%	45%	8%	1274
Oct 2006	49%	42%	9%	1187
Sep 2005	30%	62%	8%	1117
Jan 2005	48%	43%	8%	1231
Sep 2004	47%	41%	12%	1200
Sep 2003	46%	44%	9%	1142

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q31. 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
Sep 2020	14%	41%	31%	12%	1%	1158
May 2020	13%	44%	32%	12%	0%	1035
May 2019	10%	43%	32%	15%	0%	1111
May 2017	11%	40%	35%	13%	1%	1008
Dec 2013	7%	44%	34%	14%	0%	1071
Dec 2011	8%	32%	39%	20%	0%	1287
Dec 2009	9%	38%	36%	18%	1%	1063

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q33. These days, do you feel [ROTATE  
 RESPONSE OPTIONS] [1] (optimistic) or [2]  
 (pessimistic) that Americans of different political  
 views can still come together and work out their  
 differences?

	optimistic	pessimistic	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	41%	57%	2%	1164
Feb 2020	44%	54%	2%	1043
Jan 2019	48%	49%	3%	1154
Sep 2017	55%	44%	1%	1101

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q35. What is your opinion with regard to race relations in the United States today? Would you say things are [ROTATE 1 AND 2] [1] (better), [2] (worse); or about the same than they were a year ago?

	better	worse	about the same	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	8%	61%	30%	1%	1165
Jan 2019	19%	47%	33%	1%	1151
Sep 2017	11%	52%	37%	1%	1102

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q37. Do you think the police in your community treat all racial and ethnic groups fairly almost always, most of the time, only some of the time, or almost never?						
	almost always	most of the time	only some of the time	almost never	(VOL) always	(VOL) never
Sep 2020	26%	28%	30%	10%	4%	1%
Feb 2020	31%	29%	23%	6%	3%	2%
May 2019	33%	32%	20%	7%	3%	1%

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends(cont.)**

Q37. Do you think the police in your community treat all racial and ethnic groups fairly almost always, most of the time, only some of the time, or almost never?		
	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	2%	1163
Feb 2020	6%	1043
May 2019	5%	1119

(cont.)

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - September 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q37a. Should the state government be doing more to reduce the gap between the rich and the poor in California, or is this something that the state government should not be doing?				
	should do more	should not do more	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Sep 2020	56%	41%	3%	1158
Sep 2018	53%	43%	4%	956
May 2017	52%	41%	7%	1008

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding