

# Californians and Their Government

## October 2020

### Time Trends – Likely Voters

#### Methodology Note:

Findings for October 2020 are based on a survey of 1,701 California adult residents, with 75 percent interviewed on cell phones (1,226 interviews) and 25 percent interviewed on landline telephones (475 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 October 9-18, 2020.

The October 2020 sampling error for the 1,185 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 - October 2020  
 Likely Voters - 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
Oct 2020	57%	39%	0%	4%	1179
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  
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Q2a. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Governor Newsom is handling the coronavirus outbreak?

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	approve	disapprove	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	59%	37%	4%	1183
Sep 2020	62%	35%	2%	1164
May 2020	69%	28%	3%	1041

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Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - October 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
Oct 2020	45%	42%	14%	1177
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
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

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
Californians and Their Government - October 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 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
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

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

Q4. 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 2020	50%	46%	4%	1180
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
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

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
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 Likely Voters - Time Trends(cont.)**

Q4. 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
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
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



**PPIC Statewide Survey  
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 Likely Voters - Time Trends(cont.)**

Q4. 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
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

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
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Q5. Some people think that California is divided into economic groups, the haves and have-nots, while others think it is not divided that way. Do you think that California is divided into haves and have-nots, or do you think that California is not divided that way?

	divided into haves and have-nots	not divided that way	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	67%	30%	3%	1176
Nov 2019	64%	32%	4%	1002
Dec 2018	68%	28%	4%	1081
Dec 2015	68%	28%	4%	1104
Dec 2014	67%	31%	2%	1046
Dec 2013	67%	30%	3%	1075
Dec 2011	61%	35%	4%	1291
Sep 2002	60%	37%	3%	1032
Jan 1999	57%	40%	3%	1051

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
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Q6.If you had to choose, which of these groups are you in -- the  
 haves or have-nots?

	haves	have-nots	[VOL] neither	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	55%	32%	10%	3%	1169
Nov 2019	49%	34%	11%	5%	988
Dec 2018	50%	36%	10%	5%	1064
Dec 2015	50%	34%	12%	5%	1095
Dec 2014	49%	35%	13%	4%	1033
Dec 2013	52%	34%	11%	3%	1057
Dec 2011	46%	40%	9%	5%	1282
Sep 2002	69%	23%	0%	8%	1021
Jan 1999	65%	28%	0%	7%	1041

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
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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	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	58%	32%	3%	2%	0%	1%	4%	1162
Sep 2020	60%	31%	3%	2%	0%	1%	2%	1154
May 2020	57%	33%	4%	2%	0%	0%	3%	1032

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
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Q10. 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
Oct 2020	58%	34%	6%	2%	0%	1184
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
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

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

Q10. 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
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
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  
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Q11. Thinking about the presidential election that will be held this November, are you more enthusiastic about voting than usual, or less enthusiastic?

	more enthusiastic	less enthusiastic	(VOL) same/neither	(VOL) can't vote	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	72%	20%	7%	0%	1%	1182
Oct 2016	49%	40%	10%	0%	1%	1022
Oct 2012	61%	27%	11%	0%	1%	1335
Sep 2008	65%	20%	14%	0%	1%	1284

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
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Q12. 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
Oct 2020	37%	58%	0%	5%	1169
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  
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Q13. What is your preference for the outcome of this year's congressional elections: [ROTATE] [1] a Congress controlled by Republicans [OR] [2] a Congress controlled by Democrats?

	controlled by Republicans	controlled by Democrats	(VOL) neither	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	33%	60%	4%	3%	1175
Oct 2016	35%	55%	5%	4%	1023
Dec 2015	36%	49%	10%	5%	1100
Sep 2014	40%	50%	0%	10%	899
Dec 2013	39%	49%	8%	4%	1066
Oct 2012	39%	52%	5%	4%	1323
Sep 2012	38%	52%	7%	3%	1321
May 2012	40%	47%	8%	4%	1240
Mar 2012	35%	50%	7%	8%	1156
Oct 2010	43%	45%	7%	5%	1228
Oct 2006	37%	55%	0%	8%	1185

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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

Q14. If the election were being held today,  
 would you vote yes or no on Proposition 15?

	yes	no	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	49%	45%	6%	1178
Sep 2020	51%	40%	9%	1164

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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

Q15. How important to you is the outcome of the vote on Proposition 15—is it very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

	very important	somewhat important	not too important	not at all important	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	44%	36%	13%	4%	2%	1179
Sep 2020	45%	36%	11%	3%	4%	1167

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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

Q16. If the election were being held today,  
 would you vote yes or no on Proposition 16?

	yes	no	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	37%	50%	12%	1173
Sep 2020	31%	47%	22%	1155

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
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Q17. How important to you is the outcome of the vote on Proposition 16—is it very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

	very important	somewhat important	not too important	not at all important	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	40%	39%	12%	6%	4%	1176
Sep 2020	34%	39%	13%	6%	8%	1167

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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

Q18. Generally speaking, would you say you are very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, or not satisfied with the way the initiative process is working in California today?

	very satisfied	somewhat satisfied	not satisfied	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	12%	48%	32%	8%	1177
Sep 2016	12%	49%	33%	7%	1052
Dec 2015	11%	51%	31%	7%	1109
Sep 2014	12%	54%	31%	3%	353
Mar 2013	7%	55%	33%	4%	1132
Sep 2012	12%	48%	35%	5%	1329
Sep 2011	15%	47%	35%	3%	1363
Oct 2010	6%	46%	43%	4%	1235
Oct 2008	9%	55%	32%	4%	1283
Aug 2006	10%	61%	27%	2%	1108
Aug 2005	9%	60%	26%	4%	1056
Aug 2004	12%	58%	26%	4%	1185
Oct 2000	10%	57%	28%	5%	1090

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
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Q19. Overall, how much would you say that the initiative process  
 in California today is controlled by special interests—a lot, some,  
 or not at all?

	a lot	some	not at all	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	63%	30%	2%	5%	1179
Sep 2016	64%	29%	4%	3%	1053
Dec 2015	66%	28%	3%	4%	1113
Sep 2014	65%	27%	5%	4%	915
May 2013	63%	32%	4%	1%	1128
Sep 2012	68%	27%	2%	3%	1329
Sep 2011	70%	24%	4%	2%	1361
Sep 2005	65%	32%	1%	2%	623
Jan 2001	59%	35%	3%	3%	1095

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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

Q20. There are too many propositions on the state ballot—(Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree?)

	strongly agree	somewhat agree	somewhat disagree	strongly disagree	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	25%	30%	28%	15%	2%	1182
Sep 2016	24%	33%	25%	15%	4%	1052
Dec 2015	33%	28%	26%	8%	4%	1110
May 2013	39%	28%	20%	10%	4%	554
Sep 2008	30%	29%	26%	12%	3%	1279
Sep 2006	29%	29%	25%	13%	4%	1212
Sep 2005	33%	28%	24%	13%	3%	1117
Aug 2004	30%	30%	25%	11%	4%	1186

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding



**PPIC Statewide Survey  
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Q21. The ballot wording for citizens' initiatives is often too complicated and confusing for voters to understand what happens if the initiative passes—(Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree?)

	strongly agree	somewhat agree	somewhat disagree	strongly disagree	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	45%	37%	11%	5%	3%	1180
Sep 2016	43%	36%	13%	6%	2%	1054
May 2013	52%	31%	9%	6%	2%	575
Sep 2008	55%	29%	8%	6%	2%	1282
Sep 2006	52%	27%	13%	6%	1%	1212
Sep 2005	53%	29%	11%	5%	2%	1118
Aug 2004	48%	32%	10%	8%	2%	1188
Oct 1998	48%	34%	10%	5%	3%	1111

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
 Californians and Their Government - October 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
Oct 2020	34%	64%	3%	1179
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 - October 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
Oct 2020	32%	67%	1%	1179
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 - October 2020  
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q23. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Speaker  
 of the House Nancy Pelosi is handling her job?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) never heard of her/ have not heard enough to have an opinion	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	46%	50%	2%	2%	1177
Jan 2020	52%	45%	2%	1%	970
Jan 2019	50%	46%	2%	3%	1151
Sep 2009	44%	48%	0%	8%	1339
Mar 2009	43%	47%	0%	10%	1137
Sep 2008	38%	52%	0%	11%	1278
Mar 2008	43%	45%	0%	12%	1216
Sep 2007	44%	45%	0%	11%	1158
Jun 2007	43%	42%	0%	15%	1111
Mar 2007	53%	31%	0%	16%	1234

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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

Q24. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way the  
 House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy is handling his job?

	approve	disapprove	(VOL) never heard of him/ have not heard enough to have an opinion	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	31%	46%	15%	7%	1174
Jan 2020	30%	45%	15%	10%	965
Jan 2019	28%	36%	25%	11%	1150

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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

Q25. 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
Oct 2020	26%	70%	3%	1177
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
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

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

Q25. 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
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  
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 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q26. Do you think things in the United States  
 are generally going in the right direction or the  
 wrong direction?

	right direction	wrong direction	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	25%	72%	3%	1178
Nov 2019	34%	63%	4%	998
Jan 2019	29%	68%	3%	1144
Oct 2018	38%	56%	6%	981
Dec 2017	27%	67%	7%	1061
May 2017	28%	64%	7%	1010
Jan 2017	37%	57%	6%	1101
Oct 2016	40%	55%	5%	1020
Mar 2016	34%	63%	3%	1034
Sep 2015	35%	61%	4%	1059
Mar 2015	34%	61%	5%	1054
Mar 2014	35%	61%	5%	1084
Dec 2013	32%	63%	4%	1075
Jan 2013	47%	49%	4%	1114
Oct 2012	42%	55%	3%	1332
Sep 2011	24%	72%	4%	1355
Oct 2010	35%	60%	5%	1229
Dec 2009	39%	56%	5%	1078
May 2009	52%	43%	5%	1217
Jan 2009	31%	64%	5%	1386
Aug 2008	22%	73%	5%	1180
Mar 2008	21%	75%	4%	1219
Jun 2007	26%	68%	6%	1107
Jan 2007	33%	63%	4%	1271
Oct 2006	31%	62%	6%	1188
Sep 2005	35%	60%	5%	1117
Jan 2005	43%	52%	4%	1233
Sep 2004	41%	56%	3%	1200
Sep 2003	43%	52%	5%	1146

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding



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

Q29. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable  
 impression of the Democratic Party?

	favorable	unfavorable	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	51%	47%	2%	1180
Nov 2019	46%	50%	3%	1007
Oct 2018	41%	54%	5%	976
Dec 2017	44%	53%	4%	1060
Oct 2016	50%	47%	3%	1021
May 2016	42%	54%	4%	984
Dec 2015	47%	49%	4%	1099
Oct 2014	44%	50%	6%	964
Dec 2013	47%	50%	3%	1072
Mar 2013	53%	44%	3%	1132
Oct 2012	53%	44%	3%	1327
Sep 2011	44%	50%	6%	1350
Oct 2010	44%	51%	6%	1230
Mar 2010	41%	53%	6%	1222

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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

Q30. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable  
 impression of the Republican Party?

	favorable	unfavorable	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	33%	64%	3%	1179
Nov 2019	34%	62%	4%	1004
Oct 2018	31%	65%	4%	976
Dec 2017	26%	71%	3%	1066
Oct 2016	24%	72%	4%	1017
May 2016	23%	75%	3%	980
Dec 2015	33%	64%	4%	1096
Oct 2014	30%	64%	6%	960
Dec 2013	32%	65%	4%	1073
Mar 2013	34%	62%	4%	1131
Oct 2012	38%	58%	4%	1324
Sep 2011	30%	63%	7%	1357
Oct 2010	31%	62%	7%	1225
Mar 2010	31%	62%	7%	1220

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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

Q31. In your view, do the Republican and Democratic parties do an adequate job representing the American people, or do they do such a poor job that a third major party is needed?

	adequate job	third party is needed	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	29%	63%	8%	1154
Nov 2019	32%	57%	11%	973
Oct 2018	29%	61%	10%	951
Dec 2017	27%	64%	9%	1048
Oct 2016	28%	62%	10%	1003
Dec 2015	31%	58%	10%	1088
Oct 2014	24%	63%	13%	954
Dec 2013	32%	56%	12%	1053
Mar 2013	32%	59%	9%	1121
Oct 2012	42%	52%	7%	1310
Sep 2011	33%	57%	9%	1327
Oct 2010	34%	56%	10%	1215
Mar 2010	34%	55%	10%	1217
Sep 2008	41%	52%	7%	1265
Oct 2006	34%	56%	9%	1187
Sep 2004	48%	46%	6%	1196

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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

Q33. As you may know, the 1973 Supreme Court case Roe v. Wade established a woman's constitutional right to have an abortion. Would you like to see the Supreme Court overturn the Roe v. Wade decision, or not?

	yes, overturn Roe versus Wade	no, not overturn Roe versus Wade	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	17%	79%	4%	1170
Sep 2019	23%	73%	4%	1015
Sep 2018	19%	76%	5%	951
Jan 2017	21%	77%	2%	1092
Feb 2009	26%	72%	3%	1561
Jun 2007	23%	73%	4%	1104
Jan 2006	18%	77%	4%	1445
Aug 2005	21%	74%	5%	1053

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey  
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Q34. As you may know, a health reform bill was signed into law in 2010, known commonly as the Affordable Care Act or Obamacare. Given what you know about the health reform law, do you have a [ROTATE] [1] generally favorable [or] [2] generally unfavorable opinion of it?

	generally favorable	generally unfavorable	(VOL) don't know	Unweighted n
Oct 2020	61%	36%	3%	1180
Sep 2019	54%	41%	4%	1022
Mar 2019	55%	40%	5%	1105
Oct 2018	53%	43%	4%	986
May 2018	45%	45%	10%	892
Sep 2017	58%	38%	4%	1101
May 2017	49%	46%	5%	1014
Jan 2017	53%	40%	7%	1098
Dec 2015	49%	46%	5%	1106
Mar 2015	48%	47%	4%	1060
Jan 2015	48%	46%	6%	1006
Dec 2014	45%	47%	8%	1055
Oct 2014	46%	46%	7%	972
Sep 2014	45%	49%	6%	911
May 2014	47%	48%	6%	1033
Mar 2014	44%	50%	7%	1087
Jan 2014	45%	49%	6%	1143
Dec 2013	42%	51%	7%	1076

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding