



# Californians & Their Government

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**PPIC**

PUBLIC POLICY  
INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA

The PPIC Statewide Survey provides a voice for the public and likely voters—informing policymakers, encouraging discussion, and raising awareness on critical issues of the day.

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# News Release

EMBARGOED: Do not publish or broadcast until 9:00 p.m. PDT on Wednesday, October 24, 2018.

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## PPIC STATEWIDE SURVEY: CALIFORNIANS AND THEIR GOVERNMENT

# Newsom, Feinstein Lead—Gas Tax Repeal, Rent Control Lag

## DEMOCRATS MORE LIKELY THAN REPUBLICANS TO BE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT VOTING FOR CONGRESS

SAN FRANCISCO, October 24, 2018—In the closing weeks of the fall campaign, Gavin Newsom holds an 11 point lead among likely voters in the governor’s race and Dianne Feinstein is ahead by 16 points in the US Senate election. Two closely watched ballot measures—one to repeal the recent gas tax increase and another to expand local authority to enact rent control—are trailing.

These are among the key findings of a statewide survey released today by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC).

Democrat Newsom leads Republican John Cox among likely voters 49 percent to 38 percent, with 10 percent undecided. A large majority of Democratic likely voters (83%) favor Newsom, and a similar majority of Republicans (82%) support Cox. Independents are divided (43% Cox, 38% Newsom). Across racial/ethnic groups, white likely voters are divided (45% Newsom, 45% Cox), while Latinos favor Newsom (65% to 23%). Likely voters in other racial/ethnic groups prefer Newsom by 25 points. (Sample sizes for Asian American and African American likely voters are too small for separate analysis.)

Most likely voters (68%) say they are following news about the candidates at least fairly closely. And most (60%) are satisfied with their choices of candidates in this race, with satisfaction higher among Democrats and Newsom supporters.

## US Senate: Feinstein Ahead by Double Digits

Senator Dianne Feinstein, seeking her fifth US Senate term, leads fellow Democrat Kevin de León 43 percent to 27 percent, with a quarter of likely voters (23%) saying they will not vote in this race and 8 percent undecided. Democratic likely voters favor Feinstein three to one (66% to 22%). Half of Republicans (51%) and 22 percent of independents say they will not vote in the US Senate election. When those who say they would not vote are excluded, Feinstein leads by 20 points (55% to 35%).

Feinstein leads among white likely voters (41% to 27%), Latino likely voters (45% to 34%), and likely voters in other racial/ethnic groups (50% to 19%). Feinstein leads by 27 points among women (50% to 23%), while men are divided (35% Feinstein, 31% de León). Likely voters age 45 and older prefer Feinstein (47% to 26%), while those age 18 to 44 are divided (34% Feinstein, 30% de León). About half of likely voters (53%) are satisfied with their choice of candidates in this race between two Democrats. A strong majority of Democrats (79%) are satisfied, compared to 40 percent of independents and 28 percent of Republicans.

“Gavin Newsom and Dianne Feinstein continue to hold significant leads over their challengers as the governor’s and Senate races enter the final stretch,” said Mark Baldassare, PPIC president and CEO.

## Gas Tax Repeal: 41 Percent Would Vote for Proposition 6

Proposition 6 would repeal the fuel taxes and vehicle fees enacted last year. When read the ballot title and label of the measure, 48 percent of likely voters would vote no, compared to 41 percent who would vote yes and 11 percent who are undecided. Findings were similar in September (52% no, 39% yes, 8% undecided). Today, a slim majority of Republican likely voters (53%) and about half of independents (49%) would vote yes, while fewer Democrats (28%) would do so. Regionally, support for repeal is highest in Orange/San Diego (52%) and lowest in the Central Valley and the San Francisco Bay Area (36% each). Fewer than half across all demographic groups say they support the measure.

Asked about the importance of the outcome of the vote on Proposition 6, 46 percent of likely voters say it is very important to them (35% somewhat important). Among those who favor repealing the gas tax increase, 57 percent say the outcome is very important. Among those who would vote no, 43 percent say the outcome is very important.

If Proposition 6 passes, revenue from fuel and license fee increases that is now expected to fund transportation infrastructure projects would be eliminated. When likely voters are asked about traffic congestion on freeways and major roads, most (66%) say it is a big problem in their region.

## Rent Control: Proposition 10 Loses Ground

Proposition 10 would expand the authority of local governments to enact rent control. When read the ballot title and label of this measure, 60 percent of likely voters would vote no, while 25 percent would vote yes and 15 percent are undecided. Opposition to Proposition 10 has increased since September (48% no, 36% yes, 16% undecided). Today, majorities across parties would vote no on the measure. Across all regions, less than a third of likely voters say they will vote yes. Although renters are more likely than homeowners to support Proposition 10 (34% to 22%), majorities in both groups would vote no if the election were held today. Indeed, majorities across all demographic groups would vote no.

When they are asked about the importance of Proposition 10, 46 percent of likely voters say the outcome of the vote is very important to them. Those who would vote yes are about as likely as those who would vote no to say that the outcome of the vote is very important.

When likely voters are asked more generally about housing affordability, 66 percent say it is a big problem in their part of the state. Those who say they would vote yes on Proposition 10 are more likely than opponents to say that housing affordability is a big problem (73% to 62%).

“While most say that housing affordability is a problem, Proposition 10 trails,” Baldassare said. “Only half say the outcome of this ballot measure is very important to them.”

## Congress: Majority Favor Democratic Candidates for House

As both parties focus on which one will control Congress, half of California likely voters say they are extremely enthusiastic (25%) or very enthusiastic (28%) about voting in congressional races this year. Democratic likely voters (67%) are more apt to say they are very or extremely enthusiastic than Republicans (45%) and independents (42%) are.

If the election for the House of Representatives were held today, a majority of likely voters (55%) say they would vote for or lean toward the Democratic candidate, and 37 percent would vote for or lean toward the Republican. Partisan likely voters support the candidate from their own party, while independents are divided. In districts held by a Democratic representative, likely voters prefer the Democratic candidate by a 30 point margin (60% to 30%). In districts held by a Republican, likely voters prefer the Republican candidate by 15 points (55% to 40%). In the 11 districts deemed competitive by the [Cook Political Report](#), likely voters are divided (49% Republican candidate, 44% Democratic candidate). Nine of these seats are now held by Republicans. (For more information, see page 22 of the PPIC survey report.)

The PPIC survey asks if it is more important that candidates for Congress work with the Trump administration or push back. Likely voters are divided: 45 percent prefer working with the administration and 48 percent prefer pushing back.

## Few Approve of Congress or the Senate Vote to Confirm Kavanaugh

When California likely voters are asked about their current leaders, half (50%) approve of Governor Jerry Brown; his approval ratings were similar in September 2017 (55%). The state legislature's approval rating among likely voters is 43 percent. President Trump's approval rating—39 percent among likely voters today—was similar when he took office in January 2017 (34%). Just 20 percent of California likely voters approve of the way Congress is doing its job. Asked about the US Senate's vote to confirm Brett Kavanaugh's appointment to the Supreme Court, a majority of likely voters (56%) disapprove.

## Most Have Bad Impression of Major Parties

Asked for their impressions of the major political parties, fewer than half of likely voters have a favorable view of the Democratic Party (41%) and fewer than a third have a favorable impression of the Republican Party (31%). Notably, the favorability of the Democratic Party was somewhat higher in October 2016 (50%) before the last statewide election, while the favorability of the Republican Party was somewhat lower (24%). One finding has changed little: most likely voters say the parties do such a poor job that a third major party is needed (61% today, 62% October 2016).

Baldassare said: "As likely voters ponder who they should elect to represent them in Washington, views about the major political parties and Congress are in negative territory."

As the election nears, likely voters are conflicted about the state of the nation. About half are feeling optimistic about the economy—47 percent expect good economic times in California in the next year, and 53 percent expect good economic times in the nation. In contrast, just 38 percent say that things in the United States are generally going in the right direction.

## ACA Gets Favorable Marks, Border Wall Does Not

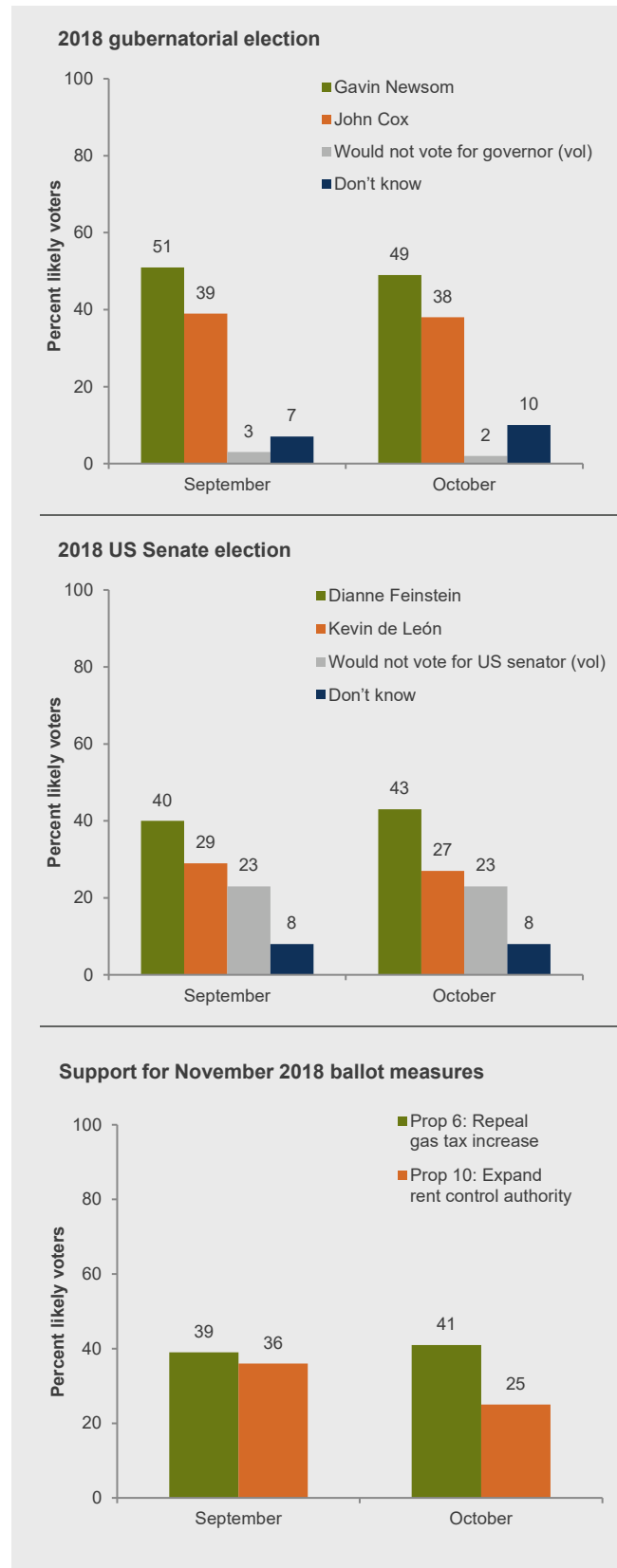
The survey asks likely voters about three key national issues:

- **Majority view Affordable Care Act favorably:** 53 percent of likely voters hold a generally favorable view of the health reform law and 43 percent view it unfavorably. A solid majority (59%) say it is the responsibility of the federal government to make sure all Americans have health care coverage. Likely voters are divided on whether health insurance should be provided through a single national insurance system (28%) or through a mix of private insurance and government programs (27%).  
Baldassare summed up: "Most California likely voters think that the federal government should be responsible for providing health coverage for all, while less than a third favor a single-payer system."
- **Two-thirds oppose building a border wall:** 65 percent of likely voters oppose building a wall along the entire border with Mexico. As the US Department of Justice pursues a lawsuit against California over three immigration laws the state enacted, the survey asks whether California should make its own policies to protect the rights of undocumented immigrants. A slim majority of likely voters (52%) say it should and 44 percent say no.
- **Most want stricter gun laws:** A majority of likely voters (59%) say laws covering the sale of guns should be stricter, while 18 percent say laws should be less strict and 22 percent favor keeping gun laws the way they are.

# 2018 California Election

## Key Findings

- In the closing weeks of the governor’s race, Gavin Newsom has an 11 point lead over John Cox. Six in ten likely voters are satisfied with their choices of candidates, with Democrats slightly more likely to be satisfied than Republicans. *(page 7)*
- In the US Senate election, Senator Dianne Feinstein has a 16 point lead over Kevin de León. One in four likely voters—including half of Republicans—volunteer that they would not vote in this race. Half of likely voters are satisfied with their choices of candidates, with Democrats far more likely than Republicans to be satisfied. *(page 8)*
- Half of likely voters are extremely or very enthusiastic about voting in congressional races this year. Fifty-five percent of likely voters say they would vote for the Democratic candidate in their House of Representatives election. When it comes to candidates for Congress, likely voters are divided on whether it’s more important to work with (45%) or push back against (48%) the Trump administration. *(page 9)*
- Forty-one percent of likely voters would vote yes on Proposition 6 (repeal gas tax increase) and 48 percent would vote no. Forty-six percent of likely voters say the outcome of the vote on Proposition 6 is very important, with yes voters 14 points more likely than no voters to say this. *(page 10)*
- Twenty-five percent of likely voters would vote yes on Proposition 10 (expand rent control authority) and 60 percent would vote no. Forty-six percent of likely voters say the outcome of the vote on Proposition 10 is very important, with yes and no voters similarly likely to say this. *(page 11)*



## Gubernatorial Election

In the closing weeks of the governor’s race, nearly seven in ten likely voters are following news about the candidates very (28%) or fairly (40%) closely. Attention to news is higher than in September (21% very, 41% fairly) but is lower than in October 2010 (39% very, 50% fairly)—when California had partisan primaries and an open gubernatorial election featuring Jerry Brown and Meg Whitman.

In the gubernatorial election, Democrat Gavin Newsom has an 11 point lead over Republican John Cox (49% to 38%) among likely voters, with 10 percent undecided. Newsom held a similar lead in September (51% to 39%) but had a larger lead in July (55% to 31%). Today, 83 percent of Democrats support Newsom and 82 percent of Republicans support Cox. Independents are divided (43% Cox, 38% Newsom) with 14 percent undecided.

Newsom leads Cox by 42 points among Latino likely voters (65% to 23%), while white likely voters are divided (45% Newsom, 45% Cox). Likely voters in other racial/ethnic groups prefer Newsom by 25 points. (Sample sizes for Asian American and African American likely voters are too small for separate analysis.) Across regions, Newsom has majority support among likely voters in Los Angeles (55%) and the San Francisco Bay Area (54%), while Cox leads in the Inland Empire (50% Cox, 41% Newsom). Likely voters are divided in the Central Valley (45% Cox, 44% Newsom) and Orange/San Diego (44% Cox, 49% Newsom). Women favor Newsom over Cox by 26 points (56% to 30%), while men are divided (48% Cox, 42% Newsom). Newsom leads Cox among likely voters age 18 to 44 (48% to 39%), those age 45 and older (50% to 38%), those without a college degree (47% to 39%), and college graduates (53% to 37%).

**“If the November 6 election for governor were being held today, would you vote for John Cox, a Republican, or Gavin Newsom, a Democrat?”**

Likely voters only	All likely voters	Party			Race/Ethnicity		
		Dem	Rep	Ind	Latinos	Whites	Other groups
Gavin Newsom, a Democrat	49%	83%	11%	38%	65%	45%	52%
John Cox, a Republican	38	7	82	43	23	45	27
Would not vote for governor (volunteered)	2	1	1	5	1	2	4
Don't know	10	10	6	14	11	7	17

Six in ten likely voters (60%) are satisfied with their choices of candidates in the election for governor, while one in three are not satisfied (32%)—similar to the September PPIC survey (59% satisfied, 32% not satisfied). Satisfaction was slightly lower in October 2014 (52%) and much lower in October 2010 (42%). Today, satisfaction is slightly higher among Democrats (69%) and Newsom supporters (72%) than among Republicans (62%) and Cox supporters (55%). Independent likely voters are divided. Satisfaction is highest among likely voters in the Central Valley (64%), followed by Los Angeles (59%), the San Francisco Bay Area (59%), Orange/San Diego (58%), and the Inland Empire (53%). At least half of likely voters across age, education, income, and racial/ethnic groups are satisfied with their choices of candidates.

**“In general, would you say you are satisfied or not satisfied with your choices of candidates in the election for governor on November 6?”**

Likely voters only	All likely voters	Party			Race/Ethnicity		
		Dem	Rep	Ind	Latinos	Whites	Other groups
Satisfied	60%	69%	62%	47%	59%	62%	56%
Not satisfied	32	24	30	43	30	31	35
Don't know	8	6	8	10	11	7	9



## US Senate Election

In the US Senate election, Dianne Feinstein—who is seeking her fifth full term as US Senator—leads fellow Democrat Kevin de León by 16 points (43% to 27%) among likely voters, with 23 percent reporting that they will not vote for US senator and 8 percent undecided. Feinstein held a similar lead in the September PPIC survey (40% to 29%) but had a larger lead in the July PPIC survey (46% to 24%). Today, Feinstein is favored over de León among Democrats by a three-to-one margin. Half of Republicans and one in five independents say they would not vote for US senator. Feinstein leads de León by 20 points (55% to 35%) when we exclude the 23 percent who volunteer they would not vote for either candidate.

Feinstein is favored over de León among likely voters in the Central Valley (40% to 27%), Los Angeles (49% to 26%), Orange/San Diego (40% to 30%), and the San Francisco Bay Area (46% to 27%), while those in the Inland Empire (36% Feinstein, 30% de León) are divided. Feinstein leads de León among white likely voters (41% to 27%), Latinos (45% to 34%), and those in other racial/ethnic groups (50% to 19%). Feinstein leads de León by 27 points among women (50% to 23%), while men are divided (35% Feinstein, 31% de León). Likely voters age 45 and older favor Feinstein over de León by 21 points (47% to 26%), while those age 18 to 44 are divided (34% Feinstein, 30% de León). Newsom’s supporters favor Feinstein over de León (63% to 28%), while half of Cox’s supporters (50%) say they will not vote in the US Senate election between two Democrats.

**“If the November 6 election for the US Senate were being held today, would you vote for Dianne Feinstein, a Democrat, or Kevin de León, a Democrat?”**

Likely voters only	All likely voters	Party			Race/Ethnicity		
		Dem	Rep	Ind	Latinos	Whites	Other groups
Dianne Feinstein, a Democrat	43%	66%	14%	39%	45%	41%	50%
Kevin de León, a Democrat	27	22	28	31	34	27	19
Would not vote for US senator (volunteered)	23	5	51	22	11	26	20
Don't know	8	7	7	8	10	6	12

Half of likely voters (53%) are satisfied with their choices of candidates in the US Senate election—similar to our findings in September (55%). Satisfaction today is similar to that in October 2016 (51%), shortly before Senator Kamala Harris defeated fellow Democrat Loretta Sanchez, but is slightly lower than in October 2010 (62%), shortly before Senator Barbara Boxer defeated Republican Carly Fiorina. (We did not survey Feinstein’s 2012 reelection bid). Today, a strong majority of Democrats (79%) are satisfied, compared to four in ten independents (40%) and three in ten Republicans (28%). Satisfaction is highest in Los Angeles (55%). More than half across education and racial/ethnic groups say they are satisfied. Among those who are satisfied, Feinstein leads de León by 34 points (59% to 25%). Among those who are not satisfied, 40 percent say they would not vote for US senator (22% would vote for Feinstein, 32% for de León).

**“In general, would you say you are satisfied or not satisfied with your choices of candidates in the election for US Senate on November 6?”**

Likely voters only	All likely voters	Party			Race/Ethnicity		
		Dem	Rep	Ind	Latinos	Whites	Other groups
Satisfied	53%	79%	28%	40%	64%	51%	54%
Not satisfied	39	14	64	51	26	44	31
Don't know	8	8	8	9	10	5	14



## Congressional Elections

Whether or not Democrats take control of the US Congress is a major plotline in the 2018 election. Half of likely voters (53%) say they are extremely (25%) or very enthusiastic (28%) about voting in congressional races this year—similar to our findings in May (46%). According to an October CNN poll, registered voters nationwide (33% extremely, 22% very) are somewhat more likely than registered voters in our survey (21% extremely, 24% very) to be enthusiastic. Among California likely voters, Democrats (67%) are more likely than Republicans (45%) and independents (42%) to be at least very enthusiastic about voting in races for Congress this year.

If the 2018 election for the US House of Representatives were held today, a majority of likely voters (55%) would vote for or lean toward the Democratic candidate, while 37 percent would vote for or lean toward the Republican candidate. The Democratic candidate was preferred by similar margins in our September survey (54% to 37%) and our May survey (52% to 38%). Findings among registered voters (57% Democratic candidate, 35% Republican candidate) are similar to nationwide findings in an October ABC News/ Washington Post poll (53% Democratic candidate, 42% Republican candidate). Most partisan likely voters would support their own party, while independents are more divided. Democratic candidates are preferred by a 30 point margin (60% to 30%) in Democratic-held districts, while Republican candidates are preferred by a 15 point margin (55% to 40%) in Republican-held districts. In the 11 California districts deemed competitive by the [Cook Political Report](#), likely voters are divided (49% Republican candidate, 44% Democratic candidate). (Nine of these seats are currently held by Republicans; for more information see page 22). The Democratic candidate is preferred by large margins in Los Angeles (62% to 30%) and the San Francisco Bay Area (60% to 28%), and by narrower margins in Orange/San Diego (53% to 42%). The Republican candidate is preferred by narrower margins in the Inland Empire (50% to 45%); those in the Central Valley (47% Democratic candidate, 46% Republican candidate) are divided.

**“If the 2018 election for US House of Representatives were being held today, would you vote for the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate in your district? (If other/unsure: As of today, do you lean more toward the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate?)”**

Likely voters only	All likely voters	Party			Race/Ethnicity			Competitive House districts
		Dem	Rep	Ind	Latinos	Whites	Other groups	
Republican/Lean Republican	37%	4%	89%	36%	19%	45%	27%	49%
Democratic/Lean Democratic	55	91	8	44	74	49	57	44
Don't know	8	4	3	20	7	6	16	7

Californians are divided on whether candidates for US Congress should work with the Trump administration (45%) or push back against the Trump administration (48%). Partisan likely voters are divided, and half of independents prefer working with Trump. Latinos are more likely to prefer pushing back while whites are more likely to prefer working with the administration. At least half in the Central Valley (50%), Inland Empire (61%), and Orange/San Diego (51%) say work with, while majorities in Los Angeles (52%) and the San Francisco Bay Area (56%) say push back.

**“Which of the following is more important to you in candidates for US Congress—that they work with the Trump administration or that they push back against the Trump administration?”**

Likely voters only	All likely voters	Party			Race/Ethnicity			Competitive House districts
		Dem	Rep	Ind	Latinos	Whites	Other groups	
Work with the Trump administration	45%	18%	85%	51%	28%	52%	35%	59%
Push back against the Trump administration	48	76	11	41	63	42	56	37
Both (volunteered)	2	3	–	1	3	1	4	2
Don't know	5	4	3	8	6	5	5	2

## Proposition 6: Repealing the Gas Tax Increase

In November, Californians will vote on Proposition 6, which would repeal recently enacted fuel taxes and vehicle fees passed by the legislature in April 2017. When read the Proposition 6 ballot title and label, 48 percent of likely voters would vote no; 41 percent would vote yes and 11 percent are undecided. Findings were similar in September (52% no, 39% yes, 8% undecided). Today, a slight majority of Republican likely voters (53%) and nearly half of independents would vote yes on Proposition 6, while fewer Democrats (28%) would do so. Regionally, support is highest in Orange/San Diego (52%) and lowest in the Central Valley and the San Francisco Bay Area (36% each). Indeed, fewer than half of likely voters across all demographic groups say they would vote yes on Proposition 6.

**“Proposition 6 is called the ‘Eliminates Certain Road Repair and Transportation Funding. Requires Certain Fuel Taxes and Vehicle Fees be Approved by the Electorate. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.’ If the election were held today, would you vote yes or no on Proposition 6?”\***

<i>Likely voters only</i>		Yes	No	Don't know
All likely voters		41%	48%	11%
Party	Democrats	28	59	12
	Republicans	53	35	12
	Independents	49	43	8
Region	Central Valley	36	56	9
	Inland Empire	43	42	15
	Los Angeles	41	48	11
	Orange/San Diego	52	38	10
	San Francisco Bay Area	36	51	13

*\*For complete text of proposition question, see p. 24.*

Forty-six percent of likely voters say that the outcome of Proposition 6 is very important to them, while a further 35 percent say it is somewhat important. A slight majority of Republican likely voters (53%) say the outcome of Proposition 6 is very important to them while fewer Democratic (44%) and independent (41%) likely voters feel the same. Among those who would vote yes on Proposition 6, 57 percent say the outcome is very important; among those who would vote no, 43 percent say the outcome is very important.

**“How important to you is the outcome of the vote on Proposition 6?”**

<i>Likely voters only</i>	All likely voters	Party			Vote on Proposition 6	
		Dem	Rep	Ind	Yes	No
Very important	46%	44%	53%	41%	57%	43%
Somewhat important	35	38	32	38	33	40
Not too important	10	11	6	12	10	12
Not at all important	2	2	1	3	–	3
Don't know	7	5	8	6	–	1

If Proposition 6 passes, it would eliminate the revenue from the recent increases in fuel tax and vehicle fees which are currently expected to fund transportation infrastructure projects. When asked about traffic congestion on freeways and major roads in their region, a solid majority of likely voters (66%) say it is a big problem (23% somewhat of a problem, 10% not a problem). More than six in ten likely voters across parties, and both supporters and opponents of Proposition 6 say traffic congestion is a big problem.

## Proposition 10: Expanding Rent Control Authority

Proposition 10 would expand the authority of local governments to enact rent control. When read the Proposition 10 ballot title and label, 60 percent of likely voters would vote no, 25 percent would vote yes, and 15 percent are undecided. Opposition to Proposition 10 has increased since September, when 48 percent of likely voters said they would vote no and 36 percent said they would vote yes. Today, majorities across parties would vote no on the measure. Across all regions, fewer than a third of likely voters say they will vote yes on Proposition 10. Though likely voters who rent are more likely than those who own to support Proposition 10 (34% to 22%), majorities in both groups would vote no if the election were held today. Indeed, majorities across all demographic groups would vote no on Proposition 10.

**“Proposition 10 is called the ‘Expands Local Governments’ Authority to Enact Rent Control on Residential Property. Initiative Statute.’ If the election were held today, would you vote yes or no on Proposition 10?”\***

<i>Likely voters only</i>		Yes	No	Don't know
All likely voters		25%	60%	15%
Party	Democrats	28	54	18
	Republicans	15	72	12
	Independents	28	61	11
Region	Central Valley	24	62	14
	Inland Empire	29	57	14
	Los Angeles	22	65	13
	Orange/San Diego	24	63	12
	San Francisco Bay Area	31	53	15
Home ownership	Own	22	63	15
	Rent	34	53	14

\*For complete text of proposition question, see p. 25.

Forty-six percent of likely voters say that the outcome of the vote on Proposition 10 is very important to them, while a further 35 percent say it is somewhat important. Republican likely voters are slightly more likely than Democrats to say the outcome of Proposition 10 is very important to them. The proportion saying it is very important is similar among those who would vote yes and those who would vote no.

**“How important to you is the outcome of the vote on Proposition 10?”**

<i>Likely voters only</i>	All likely voters	Party			Vote on Proposition 10	
		Dem	Rep	Ind	Yes	No
Very important	46%	45%	52%	46%	49%	48%
Somewhat important	35	37	29	34	42	34
Not too important	11	11	7	11	7	14
Not at all important	2	1	4	4	2	2
Don't know	7	6	8	6	–	2

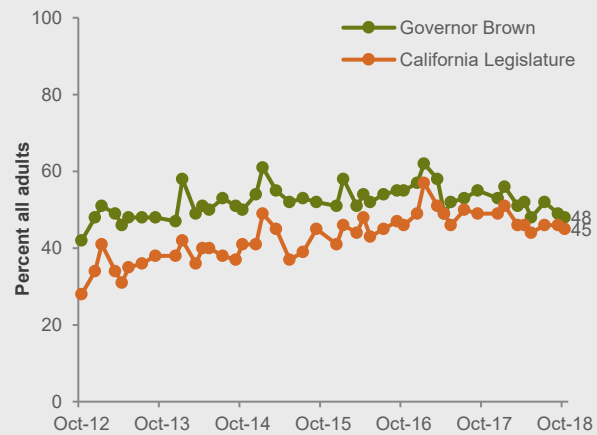
When asked about housing affordability in their part of the state, 66 percent of likely voters say it is a big problem (23% somewhat of a problem, 8% not a problem). Democratic (76%) and independent (63%) likely voters are more likely than Republican likely voters (55%) to say it is a big problem. Notably, those who say they would vote yes on Proposition 10 are more likely than opponents of Proposition 10 to say housing affordability is a big problem (73% to 62%).

# State and National Issues

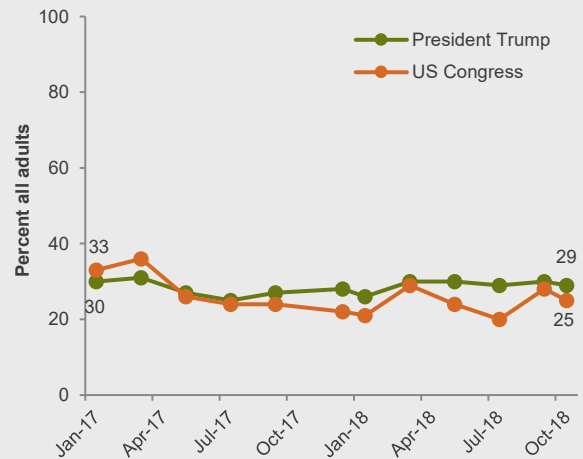
## Key Findings

- Forty-eight percent of Californians approve of Governor Brown’s job performance, while 45 percent approve of the state legislature. These ratings were similar a year ago. *(page 13)*
- Twenty-nine percent of Californians approve of President Trump, while 25 percent approve of the US Congress. Majorities of Californians disapprove of the US Senate vote to confirm Brett Kavanaugh. *(page 14)*
- About half of Californians expect good economic times in the state (48%) and the nation (48%) over the next 12 months. Thirty-six percent say the US is heading in the right direction. *(page 15)*
- Fifty-four percent of Californians would rather have a bigger government providing more services than a smaller government providing fewer services (39%). Sixty-four percent of Californians think gun laws should be stricter. *(page 16)*
- Fifty-eight percent of California adults favor state and local governments making their own policies to protect undocumented immigrants. Three in four oppose the border wall. *(page 17)*
- Six in ten Californians have a favorable opinion of the Affordable Care Act. Two in three think it is the responsibility of the government to provide health care coverage for all Americans, but Californians are divided on single payer versus a mix of public and private programs. *(page 18)*
- Forty-six percent of Californians view the Democratic Party favorably, while 29 percent have a favorable impression of the Republican Party. Fifty-five percent of adults say that a third major party is needed. *(page 19)*

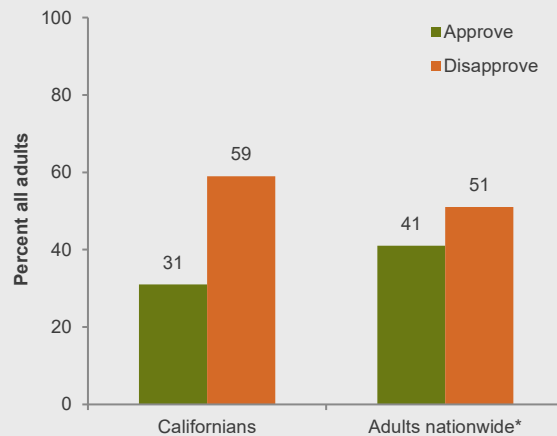
Approval ratings of state elected officials



Approval ratings of federal elected officials



Approval of Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to the US Supreme Court



\*October 2018, ABC News-Washington Post poll

## Approval Ratings of State Elected Officials

With the gubernatorial election approaching, how do Californians view the current officeholder? Governor Jerry Brown’s approval rating stands at 48 percent among California adults and 50 percent among likely voters. The governor’s approval ratings were in similar in September (49% adults, 53% likely voters) and slightly higher last November (55% adults, 56% likely voters). Today, the approval rating stands at 68 percent among Democrats, 43 percent among independents, and 15 percent among Republicans. Majorities in the San Francisco Bay Area (58%)—but fewer elsewhere—approve. Latinos (60%) more often approve than African Americans (44%), whites (44%), and Asian Americans (40%).

**“Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Jerry Brown is handling his job as governor of California?”**

		Approve	Disapprove	Don't know
All adults		48%	31%	20%
Likely voters		50	42	9
Party	Democrats	68	17	15
	Republicans	15	78	7
	Independents	43	41	16
Region	Central Valley	46	35	19
	Inland Empire	37	40	23
	Los Angeles	49	28	23
	Orange/San Diego	43	37	19
	San Francisco Bay Area	58	22	20

With 100 state assembly and senate seats on the November ballot, the California Legislature’s approval rating is at 45 percent among all adults and 43 percent among likely voters. Approval of the legislature was similar in September (46% adults, 44% likely voters) and last November (48% adults, 45% likely voters). Today, 61 percent of Democrats, 40 percent of independents, and 14 percent of Republicans approve. About half of adults in Los Angeles (50%) and the San Francisco Bay Area (49%)—but fewer elsewhere—approve. Latinos (55%) and Asian Americans (51%) are more likely than African Americans (41%) and whites (38%) to approve.

**“Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the California legislature is handling its job?”**

		Approve	Disapprove	Don't know
All adults		45%	37%	18%
Likely voters		43	48	10
Party	Democrats	61	25	14
	Republicans	14	79	8
	Independents	40	47	13
Region	Central Valley	43	40	17
	Inland Empire	39	42	19
	Los Angeles	50	32	18
	Orange/San Diego	40	46	13
	San Francisco Bay Area	49	30	21

## Approval Ratings of Federal Elected Officials

With the midterm election drawing closer, 29 percent of California adults and 39 percent of likely voters approve of the way that Donald Trump is handling his job as president. The president’s approval rating was similar in September (30% adults, 37% likely voters) and it was similar when he entered office in January 2017 (30% adults, 34% likely voters). Today, 78 percent of Republicans, 38 percent of independents, and 8 percent of Democrats approve. The president’s approval rating is below 40 percent across the state’s major regions. Across racial/ethnic groups, whites (43%) are more likely than African Americans (20%), Asian Americans (18%), and Latinos (17%) to approve. According to a recent Gallup weekly tracking poll, 44 percent of adults nationwide approve of President Trump.

### “Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Donald Trump is handling his job as president?”

		Approve	Disapprove	Don't know
All adults		29%	64%	7%
Likely voters		39	58	3
Party	Democrats	8	90	2
	Republicans	78	21	1
	Independents	38	56	6
Region	Central Valley	33	61	6
	Inland Empire	30	65	5
	Los Angeles	25	68	7
	Orange/San Diego	38	55	7
	San Francisco Bay Area	22	69	9

A quarter of California adults (25%) and 20 percent of likely voters approve of the US Congress. Approval was similar in September (28% adults, 20% likely voters) and in October 2016 (31% adults, 17% likely voters). Majorities disapprove across parties, regions, and racial/ethnic groups. Congress’s approval was at 21 percent in an October national Gallup poll. Relatedly, majorities of Californians (59% adults, 56% likely voters) disapprove of the US Senate vote to confirm Brett Kavanaugh’s appointment to the US Supreme Court—with deep partisan divisions.

### “Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the US Congress is handling its job?”

		Approve	Disapprove	Don't know
All adults		25%	64%	11%
Likely voters		20	75	6
Party	Democrats	11	84	4
	Republicans	40	52	9
	Independents	25	71	4
Region	Central Valley	25	61	14
	Inland Empire	31	56	13
	Los Angeles	24	66	10
	Orange/San Diego	28	63	10
	San Francisco Bay Area	22	65	14

## Overall Mood

As the fall election campaigns enter the home stretch, about half of Californians expect good economic times for the state (48% adults, 47% likely voters) and the nation (48% adults, 53% likely voters). Democrats are more likely to expect good economic times in the state (52%) than in the nation (36%), and Republicans are more likely to expect good economic times in the nation (73%) than in the state (34%), while positive expectations among independents are similar for the nation (47%) and the state (44%). In October 2016, expectations for good economic times were similar for the state (47% adults, 46% likely voters) but likely voters had less positive expectations for the nation (46% adults, 44% likely voters).

**“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	Don't know
All adults		48%	42%	10%
Likely voters		53	39	9
Party	Democrats	36	56	8
	Republicans	73	21	6
	Independents	47	46	7
Region	Central Valley	49	41	10
	Inland Empire	48	46	6
	Los Angeles	42	49	9
	Orange/San Diego	58	35	8
San Francisco Bay Area		49	38	12

By contrast, fewer than four in ten Californians (36% adults, 38% likely voters) say that things in the United States are generally going in the right direction. The belief that things in the United States are going in the right direction is more prevalent today than it was last December (29% adults, 27% likely voters); it was similar in October 2016 (43% adults, 40% likely voters). Today, majorities of Republicans (66%) but far fewer independents (40%) and Democrats (16%) say that things in the US are going in the right direction. Fewer than half across regions and racial/ethnic groups (42% whites, 37% Asian Americans, 30% Latinos, 25% African Americans) hold this positive view.

**“Do you think things in the United States are generally going in the right direction or the wrong direction?”**

		Right direction	Wrong direction	Don't know
All adults		36%	57%	7%
Likely voters		38	56	6
Party	Democrats	16	80	5
	Republicans	66	29	5
	Independents	40	57	3
Region	Central Valley	34	58	8
	Inland Empire	39	51	10
	Los Angeles	32	60	8
	Orange/San Diego	47	49	4
San Francisco Bay Area		35	60	4



## Role of Government

Asked about the size of government they would prefer, 54 percent of Californians prefer bigger government and more services, while 39 percent prefer smaller government and fewer services. Likely voters are more likely to prefer smaller government (53%). Similar majorities of Californians favored bigger government in May 2017 (54%) and March 2016 (57%).

Today, partisans are divided on this question, with 66 percent of Democrats preferring bigger government and 83 percent of Republicans favoring smaller government; just over half of independents favor smaller government. Preference for bigger government is highest in the Inland Empire (63%), followed by Los Angeles (57%), the San Francisco Bay Area (56%), the Central Valley (51%), and Orange/San Diego (48%). Three in four Latinos (74%) and African Americans (73%) prefer bigger government, compared to fewer whites (41%) and Asian Americans (45%). Californians age 18 to 34 (59%) and age 35 to 54 (57%), those with just a high school diploma (69%), and those with lower income (67%) prefer a bigger government with more services. Women (59%) are more likely than men (49%) to prefer bigger government providing more services.

**“If you had to choose, would you rather have a smaller government providing fewer services, or a bigger government providing more services?”**

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Smaller government	39%	26%	83%	52%	53%
Bigger government	54	66	15	41	41
Don't know	6	7	2	7	6

Most Californians (64%) and likely voters (59%) continue to think that the laws covering the sale of guns should be made stricter. The belief that gun laws should be stricter was somewhat higher among adults in March (73%), shortly after the tragic high school shooting in Parkland, Florida. Californians are just as likely as adults nationwide in an October Gallup poll to say laws should be stricter (61% more strict, 30% kept as they are now, 8% less strict).

An overwhelming majority of Democrats want gun laws to be more strict, as do about half of independents, while a plurality of Republicans prefer gun laws be kept as they are now. Majorities across regions prefer stricter gun laws; this preference is highest in Los Angeles (73%) and the San Francisco Bay Area (69%), followed by Orange/San Diego (62%), the Inland Empire (58%), and the Central Valley (54%). Preference for stricter gun laws is higher among Latinos (78%) and African Americans (73%) than among Asian Americans (62%) and whites (54%). Women (73%) are much more likely than men (55%) to prefer stricter gun laws.

**“In general, do you think laws covering the sale of guns should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?”**

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
More strict	64%	82%	31%	49%	59%
Less strict	13	4	29	19	18
Kept as they are now	21	12	38	32	22
Don't know	2	2	2	1	2

## Immigration Policy

With a looming post-election battle over President Trump’s signature campaign promise of building a wall along the border with Mexico, a strong majority of Californians (74%) continue to be opposed to the idea. At least two in three Californians have opposed building a wall along the entire border with Mexico each of the six times we’ve asked this question since May 2016. There is a stark partisan divide: 90 percent of Democrats and 71 percent of independents are opposed, while two in three Republicans are in favor.

Majorities across regions and demographic groups are opposed. Across regions, opposition is highest in the San Francisco Bay Area (80%), followed by Los Angeles (78%), the Inland Empire (73%), the Central Valley (71%), and Orange/San Diego (64%). Latinos (88%), Asian Americans (86%), and African Americans (77%) are more likely than whites (60%) to be opposed. Opposition to the wall is lower among older adults and those with higher household incomes.

Two in three likely voters (65%) are opposed to building a wall along the entire border with Mexico, as are 56 percent of likely voters in competitive congressional districts.

**“All in all, would you favor or oppose building a wall along the entire border with Mexico?”**

	All adults	Party			Race/Ethnicity			
		Dem	Rep	Ind	African Americans	Asian Americans	Latinos	Whites
Favor	24%	8%	66%	26%	22%	10%	10%	37%
Oppose	74	90	32	71	77	86	88	60
Don't know	2	1	2	3	1	4	2	2

With the US Department of Justice suing California over three immigration-related laws, how do Californians feel about state and local governments making their own policies and taking action—separate from the federal government—to protect the legal rights of undocumented immigrants in California? A majority of Californians (58%) are in favor. Majorities have favored state and local action each of the four times we have asked this question since January 2017.

Three in four Democrats favor state and local action, while seven in ten Republicans oppose it and independents are divided. Latinos, Asian Americans, and African Americans are more likely than whites to be in favor. Majorities of adults in Los Angeles (63%), the San Francisco Bay Area (61%), the Central Valley (58%), and the Inland Empire (56%) are in favor, while those in Orange/San Diego (46% favor, 45% oppose) are divided. Support for these policies is lower among older adults.

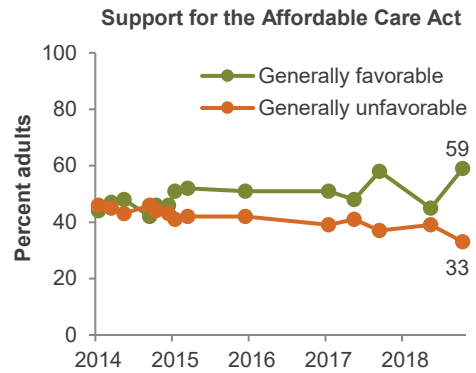
Likely voters (52% favor, 44% oppose) are divided over state and local governments taking action, including those in competitive congressional districts (51% favor, 47% oppose).

**“Do you favor or oppose the California state and local governments making their own policies and taking actions, separate from the federal government, to protect the legal rights of undocumented immigrants in California?”**

	All adults	Party			Race/Ethnicity			
		Dem	Rep	Ind	African Americans	Asian Americans	Latinos	Whites
Favor	58%	76%	26%	49%	56%	60%	70%	49%
Oppose	36	19	71	45	33	29	25	46
Don't know	6	5	3	5	11	11	5	5

## Health Care Policy

Covered California, California’s health insurance exchange, began open enrollment on October 15 and nationwide open enrollment for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) begins November 1. How do Californians feel about the ACA? A record-high 59 percent have a generally favorable view, while 33 percent have an unfavorable one. Opinions of the ACA were less favorable in May (45%), but similar in September 2017 (58%) when Republicans in Congress were attempting to repeal the law. According to an October Kaiser Family Foundation survey, adults nationwide are less likely to favor the health reform law (49% favorable, 42% unfavorable).



Strong majorities of Democrats view the ACA favorably and strong majorities of Republicans view it unfavorably; a slim majority of independents view it favorably. Favorable opinions of the ACA are most prevalent in the San Francisco Bay Area (69%) and Los Angeles (61%), followed by Orange/San Diego (59%), the Central Valley (54%), and the Inland Empire (54%). African Americans (79%) are the most positive about the ACA, followed by Latinos (66%), Asian Americans (61%), and whites (51%). Favorable opinions are higher among women (64%) than men (55%) and less common among older adults.

**“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 generally favorable or generally unfavorable opinion of it?”**

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Favorable	59%	80%	24%	54%	53%
Unfavorable	33	17	72	40	43
Don't know	8	4	4	6	4

*\*December 2013 to May 2018 trend wording was "As you may know, a health reform bill was signed into law in 2010."*

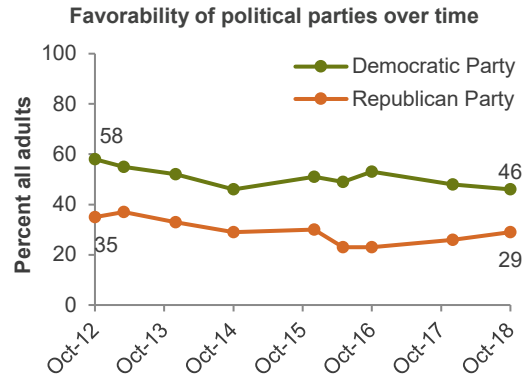
A solid majority of Californians and likely voters say that it is the responsibility of the federal government to make sure all Americans have health care coverage. Overwhelming majorities of Democrats say it is the government’s responsibility, as do six in ten independents; just one in four Republicans say this. Majorities across regions and demographic groups say it is the government’s responsibility. Californians are divided on whether health insurance should be provided via a single national health insurance system or through a mix of private insurance and government programs.

**“Do you think it is the responsibility of the federal government to make sure all Americans have health care coverage, or is that not the responsibility of the federal government? (If a responsibility: Should health insurance be provided through a single national health insurance system run by the government or continue to be provided through a mix of private insurance companies and government programs?)”**

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Responsibility of government	65%	86%	28%	60%	59%
<i>Single payer</i>	34	45	11	36	28
<i>Mix of private and government</i>	26	35	16	20	27
<i>Don't know</i>	5	6	1	4	4
Not responsibility of government	31	14	70	36	38
Don't know	4	1	3	4	3

## Party Perceptions

With the 2018 midterm election fast approaching, how do Californians feel about the two major political parties? Today, 46 percent of adults and 41 percent of likely voters have a favorable impression of the Democratic Party; 29 percent of adults and 31 percent of likely voters have a favorable impression of the Republican Party. Notably, the Democratic Party’s favorability was somewhat higher in October 2016 (53% all adults, 50% likely voters), while Republican Party favorability was slightly lower before the last statewide election (23% all adults, 24% likely voters).



Today, 72 percent of Democrats have a favorable view of the Democratic Party and 69 percent of Republicans have a favorable view of the Republican Party. Slightly more than half of independents have an unfavorable view of the Democratic Party (52%), while a solid majority (62%) view the Republican Party unfavorably. Women (50%) are somewhat more likely than men (42%) to have a favorable impression of the Democratic Party, while a third or fewer of both men and women view the Republican Party favorably. Across racial/ethnic groups, Latinos (60%) and African Americans (56%) are more likely than Asian Americans (45%) and whites (37%) to have a favorable view of the Democratic Party. Notably, across all regions and demographic groups, fewer than four in ten adults have a favorable impression of the Republican Party. In an October CNN poll, 46 percent of registered voters nationwide had a favorable view of the Democratic Party while 40 percent had a favorable view of the Republican Party. Today, 22 percent of Californians and 26 percent of likely voters have an unfavorable view of both parties.

### “Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of the...?”

		All adults	Party			Likely voters
			Dem	Rep	Ind	
Democratic Party	Favorable	46%	72%	11%	40%	41%
	Unfavorable	41	24	86	52	54
	Don't know	12	4	3	8	5
Republican Party	Favorable	29	10	69	29	31
	Unfavorable	61	85	29	62	65
	Don't know	11	5	2	9	4

A majority of Californians (55%) and likely voters (61%) say that the Republican and Democratic parties do such a poor job that a third major party is needed. Majorities of adults have seen a third party as needed in December 2017 (60%) and in periodic PPIC Statewide Surveys since 2014. Today, majorities of Republicans (53%) and Democrats (56%) and three in four independents (75%) say a third party is needed.

### “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?”

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Adequate job	32%	33%	34%	18%	29%
Third party is needed	55	56	53	75	61
Don't know	13	12	13	7	10

# Regional Map



# Methodology

The PPIC Statewide Survey is directed by Mark Baldassare, president and CEO and survey director at the Public Policy Institute of California, with assistance from survey research associate Alyssa Dykman, project manager for this survey, associate survey director Dean Bonner, and survey research associate Lunna Lopes. The Californians and Their Government series is supported with funding from the James Irvine Foundation and the PPIC Donor Circle. The PPIC Statewide Survey invites input, comments, and suggestions from policy and public opinion experts and from its own advisory committee members, but survey methods, questions, and content are determined solely by PPIC's survey team.

Findings in this report are based on a survey of 1,704 California adult residents, including 1,193 interviewed on cell phones and 511 interviewed on landline telephones. Interviews took an average of 18 minutes to complete. Interviewing took place on weekend days and weekday nights from October 12–21, 2018.

Cell phone interviews were conducted using a computer-generated random sample of cell phone numbers. All cell phone numbers with California area codes were eligible for selection. Once a cell phone user was reached, it was verified that this person was age 18 or older, a resident of California, and in a safe place to continue the survey (e.g., not driving). Cell phone respondents were offered a small reimbursement to help defray the cost of the call. Cell phone interviews were conducted with adults who have cell phone service only and with those who have both cell phone and landline service in the household.

Landline interviews were conducted using a computer-generated random sample of telephone numbers that ensured that both listed and unlisted numbers were called. All landline telephone exchanges in California were eligible for selection. Once a household was reached, an adult respondent (age 18 or older) was randomly chosen for interviewing using the "last birthday method" to avoid biases in age and gender.

For both cell phones and landlines, telephone numbers were called as many as eight times. When no contact with an individual was made, calls to a number were limited to six. Also, to increase our ability to interview Asian American adults, we made up to three additional calls to phone numbers estimated by Survey Sampling International as likely to be associated with Asian American individuals.

Live landline and cell phone interviews were conducted by Abt Associates in English and Spanish, according to respondents' preferences. Accent on Languages, Inc., translated new survey questions into Spanish, with assistance from Renatta DeFever.

Abt Associates uses the US Census Bureau's 2012–2016 American Community Survey's (ACS) Public Use Microdata Series for California (with regional coding information from the University of Minnesota's Integrated Public Use Microdata Series for California) to compare certain demographic characteristics of the survey sample—region, age, gender, race/ethnicity, and education—with the characteristics of California's adult population. The survey sample was closely comparable to the ACS figures. To estimate landline and cell phone service in California, Abt Associates used 2016 state-level estimates released by the National Center for Health Statistics—which used data from the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) and the ACS. The estimates for California were then compared against landline and cell phone service reported in this survey. We also used voter registration data from the California Secretary of State to compare the party registration of registered voters in our sample to party registration statewide. The landline and cell phone samples were then integrated using a frame integration weight, while sample balancing adjusted for differences across regional, age, gender, race/ethnicity, education, telephone service, and party registration groups.

The sampling error, taking design effects from weighting into consideration, is  $\pm 3.3$  percent at the 95 percent confidence level for the total unweighted sample of 1,704 adults. This means that 95 times out of 100, the results will be within 3.3 percentage points of what they would be if all adults in California were interviewed. The sampling error for unweighted subgroups is larger: for the 1,352 registered voters, the sampling error is  $\pm 3.6$  percent; for the 989 likely voters, it is  $\pm 4.2$  percent; for the 176 likely voters in competitive congressional districts, it is  $\pm 10.2$  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.

We present results for five geographic regions, accounting for approximately 90 percent of the state population. “Central Valley” includes Butte, Colusa, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Shasta, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare, Yolo, and Yuba Counties. “San Francisco Bay Area” includes Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma Counties. “Los Angeles” refers to Los Angeles County, “Inland Empire” refers to Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, and “Orange/San Diego” refers to Orange and San Diego Counties. Residents of other geographic areas are included in the results reported for all adults, registered voters, and likely voters, but sample sizes for these less populous areas are not large enough to report separately. We also present results for congressional districts currently held by Democrats or Republicans, based on residential zip code and party of the local US House member. We analyze the results of those who live in competitive house districts as determined by the [Cook Political Report’s 2018 House Race Ratings](#) updated October 17, 2018. These districts are 4, 7, 10, 16, 21, 25, 39, 45, 48, 49, and 50; a map of California’s congressional districts can be [found here](#).

We present results for non-Hispanic whites, who account for 42 percent of the state’s adult population, and also for Latinos, who account for about a third of the state’s adult population and constitute one of the fastest-growing voter groups. We also present results for non-Hispanic Asian Americans, who make up about 15 percent of the state’s adult population, and non-Hispanic African Americans, who comprise about 6 percent. Results for other racial/ethnic groups—such as Native Americans—are included in the results reported for all adults, registered voters, and likely voters, but sample sizes are not large enough for separate analysis. Results for African American and Asian American likely voters are combined with those of other racial/ethnic groups because sample sizes for African American and Asian American likely voters are too small for separate analysis. We compare the opinions of those who report they are registered Democrats, registered Republicans, and decline-to-state or independent voters; the results for those who say they are registered to vote in other parties are not large enough for separate analysis. We also analyze the responses of likely voters—so designated per their responses to survey questions about voter registration, previous election participation, intentions to vote this year, attention to election news, and current interest in politics.

The percentages presented in the report tables and in the questionnaire may not add to 100 due to rounding.

We compare current PPIC Statewide Survey results to those in our earlier surveys and to those in national surveys by ABC/Washington Post, CNN, Gallup, and Kaiser Family Foundation. Additional details about our methodology can be found at [www.ppic.org/wp-content/uploads/SurveyMethodology.pdf](http://www.ppic.org/wp-content/uploads/SurveyMethodology.pdf) and are available upon request through [surveys@ppic.org](mailto:surveys@ppic.org).



# Questionnaire and Results

## CALIFORNIANS AND THEIR GOVERNMENT

October 12–21, 2018

1,704 California Adult Residents:

English, Spanish

MARGIN OF ERROR ±3.3% AT 95% CONFIDENCE LEVEL FOR TOTAL SAMPLE  
 PERCENTAGES MAY NOT ADD TO 100 DUE TO ROUNDING

**1. First, overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Jerry Brown is handling his job as governor of California?**

48% approve  
 31 disapprove  
 20 don't know

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

45% approve  
 37 disapprove  
 18 don't know

**3. Turning to economic conditions in California, do you think that during the next 12 months we will have good times financially or bad times?**

48% good times  
 39 bad times  
 12 don't know

**4. Next, some people are registered to vote and others are not. Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote in California?**

67% yes *[ask q4a]*  
 33 no *[skip to q5b]*

**4a. Are you registered as a Democrat, a Republican, another party, or are you registered as a decline-to-state or independent voter?**

45% Democrat *[ask q5]*  
 26 Republican *[skip to q5a]*  
 5 another party *(specify) [skip to q6]*  
 25 independent *[skip to q5b]*

**5. Would you call yourself a strong Democrat or not a very strong Democrat?**

64% strong  
 33 not very strong  
 3 don't know

*[skip to q6]*

**5a. Would you call yourself a strong Republican or not a very strong Republican?**

63% strong  
 36 not very strong  
 2 don't know

*[skip to q6]*

**5b. Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or Democratic Party?**

20% Republican Party  
 41 Democratic Party  
 27 neither *(volunteered)*  
 12 don't know

**6. *[likely voters only]* If the November 6 election for governor were being held today, would you vote for *[rotate]* [1] John Cox, a Republican, *[or]* [2] Gavin Newsom, a Democrat?**

49% Gavin Newsom, a Democrat  
 38 John Cox, a Republican  
 2 neither/would not vote for governor *(volunteered)*  
 10 don't know

7. *[likely voters only]* How closely are you following news about candidates for the 2018 governor’s election—very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

- 28% very closely
- 40 fairly closely
- 21 not too closely
- 10 not at all closely
- 1 don’t know

8. *[likely voters only]* In general, would you say you are satisfied or not satisfied with your choices of candidates in the election for governor on November 6?

- 60% satisfied
- 32 not satisfied
- 8 don’t know

9. *[likely voters only]* If the November 6 election for the US Senate were being held today, would you vote for *[rotate]* [1] Kevin De León, a Democrat, *[or]* [2] Dianne Feinstein, a Democrat?

- 43% Dianne Feinstein, a Democrat
- 27 Kevin de León, a Democrat
- 23 neither/would not vote for US Senator *(volunteered)*
- 8 don’t know

10. *[likely voters only]* In general, would you say you are satisfied or not satisfied with your choices of candidates in the election for US Senate on November 6?

- 53% satisfied
- 39 not satisfied
- 8 don’t know

Changing topics,

11. *[likely voters only]* If the 2018 election for US House of Representatives were being held today, would you vote for *[rotate]* [1] the Republican candidate *[or]* [2] the Democratic candidate in your district? *[If other/don’t know: As of today, do you lean more toward* *[read in same order as above]* [1] the Republican candidate *[or]* [2] the Democratic candidate?

- 37% Rep/lean Rep
- 55 Dem/lean Dem
- 8 don’t know

12. *[likely voters only]* Which of the following is more important to you in candidates for US Congress—*[rotate]* [1] that they work with the Trump Administration *[or]* [2] that they push back against the Trump Administration?

- 45% work with the Trump Administration
- 48 push back against the Trump Administration
- 2 both *(volunteered)*
- 5 don’t know

13. *[likely voters only]* How enthusiastic would you say you are about voting for Congress this year—extremely enthusiastic, very enthusiastic, somewhat enthusiastic, not too enthusiastic, or not at all enthusiastic?

- 25% extremely enthusiastic
- 28 very enthusiastic
- 28 somewhat enthusiastic
- 10 not too enthusiastic
- 8 not at all enthusiastic
- 1 don’t know

Next, we have a few questions to ask you about some of the propositions on the November ballot.

14. *[likely voters only]* Proposition 6 is called the “Eliminates Certain Road Repair and Transportation Funding. Requires Certain Fuel Taxes and Vehicle Fees be Approved by the Electorate. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.” It repeals a 2017 transportation law’s taxes and fees designated for road repairs and public transportation. The fiscal impact is reduced ongoing revenues of \$5.1 billion from state fuel and vehicle taxes that mainly would have paid for highway and road maintenance and repairs, as well as transit programs. If the election were held today, would you vote yes or no on Proposition 6?

- 41% yes
- 48 no
- 11 don’t know

15. *[likely voters only]* How important to you is the outcome of the vote on Proposition 6—is it very important, somewhat important, no too important, or not at all important?

- 46% very important
- 35 somewhat important
- 10 not too important
- 2 not at all important
- 7 don't know

16. *[likely voters only]* Proposition 10 is called the “Expands Local Governments’ Authority to Enact Rent Control on Residential Property. Initiative Statute.” It repeals state law that currently restricts the scope of rent-control policies that cities and other local jurisdictions may impose on residential property. The fiscal impact is potential net reduction in state and local revenues of tens of millions of dollars per year in the long term. Depending on actions by local communities, revenue losses could be less or considerably more. If the election were held today, would you vote yes or no on Proposition 10?

- 25% yes
- 60 no
- 15 don't know

17. *[likely voters only]* How important to you is the outcome of the vote on Proposition 10—is it very important, somewhat important, no too important, or not at all important?

- 46% very important
- 35 somewhat important
- 11 not too important
- 2 not at all important
- 7 don't know

Next,

18. *[likely voters only]* Would you say traffic congestion on freeways and major roads is a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not a problem in your region of California?

- 66% big problem
- 23 somewhat of a problem
- 10 not a problem
- 1 don't know

19. *[likely voters only]* How much of a problem is housing affordability in your part of California? Is it a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not a problem?

- 66% big problem
- 23 somewhat of a problem
- 8 not a problem
- 2 don't know

On another topic,

20. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

- 29% approve
- 64 disapprove
- 7 don't know

21. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way the US Congress is handling its job?

- 25% approve
- 64 disapprove
- 11 don't know

Next,

21a. Do you approve or disapprove of the US Senate’s vote to confirm Trump’s nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the US Supreme Court?

- 31% approve
- 59 disapprove
- 11 don't know

Changing topics,

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

- 36% right direction
- 57 wrong direction
- 7 don't know

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

- 48% good times
- 42 bad times
- 10 don't know

Next,

**24. If you had to choose, would you rather have a smaller government providing fewer services, or a bigger government providing more services?**

- 39% smaller government, fewer services
- 54 bigger government, more services
- 6 don't know

**25. In general, do you think laws covering the sale of guns should be more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?**

- 64% more strict
- 13 less strict
- 21 kept as they are now
- 2 don't know

Changing topics,

**26. All in all, would you favor or oppose building a wall along the entire border with Mexico?**

- 24% favor
- 74 oppose
- 2 don't know

**27. Do you favor or oppose the California state and local governments making their own policies and taking actions, separate from the federal government, to protect the legal rights of undocumented immigrants in California?**

- 58% favor
- 36 oppose
- 6 don't know

Next,

**28. 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?**

- 59% generally favorable
- 33 generally unfavorable
- 8 don't know

**29. Do you think it is the responsibility of the federal government to make sure all Americans have health care coverage, or is that not the responsibility of the federal government?**

*(If "is responsibility of the government," ask: Should health insurance [rotate] 1. Be provided through a single national health insurance system run by the government [or] 2. Continue to be provided through a mix of private insurance companies and government programs?)*

- 65% health care coverage is the responsibility of the federal government
- 34 and insurance should be provided through a single national health insurance system run by the government
- 26 and insurance should continue to be provided through a mix of private insurance companies and government programs
- 5 and don't know
- 31 health care coverage is not the responsibility of the federal government
- 4 don't know

On another topic,

*[rotate questions 30 and 31]*

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

- 46% favorable
- 41 unfavorable
- 12 don't know

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

- 29% favorable
- 61 unfavorable
- 11 don't know

**32. 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?**

- 32% adequate job
- 55 third party is needed
- 13 don't know

**33. Next, would you consider yourself to be politically:**

*[read list, rotate order top to bottom]*

- 16% very liberal
- 21 somewhat liberal
- 28 middle-of-the-road
- 20 somewhat conservative
- 12 very conservative
- 4 don't know

**34. Generally speaking, how much interest would you say you have in politics—a great deal, a fair amount, only a little, or none?**

- 24% great deal
- 34 fair amount
- 32 only a little
- 10 none
- don't know

**35. *[likely voters only]* Thinking about the November 6 election, are you more enthusiastic about voting than usual, or less enthusiastic?**

- 69% more enthusiastic
- 18 less enthusiastic
- 11 same/neither (*volunteered*)
- can't vote (*volunteered*)
- 1 don't know

*[d1-d16 demographic questions]*

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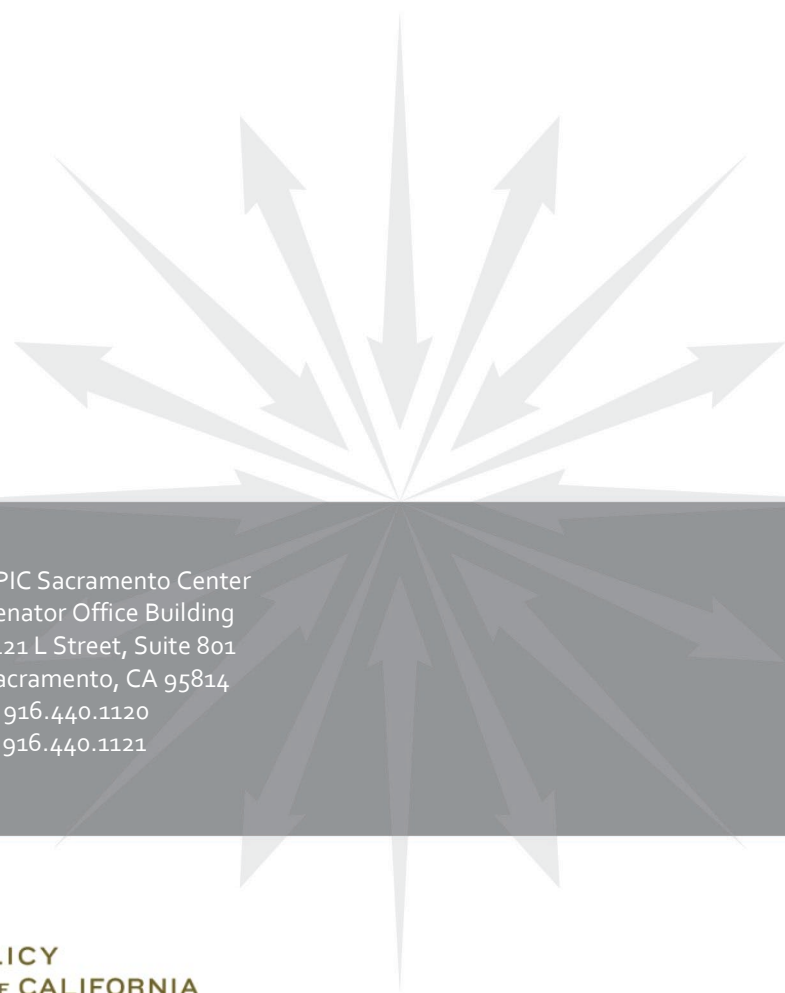
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