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PPIC Statewide Survey: Californians and Their Economic Well-Being

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Key Findings

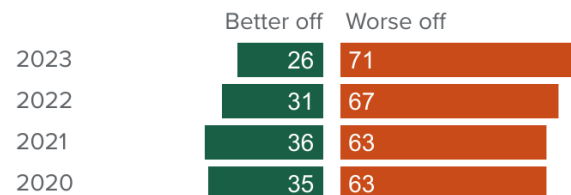
Jobs, the economy, and inflation have been the most important issue for Californians throughout this year—even amid job creation, relatively low unemployment rates, and a slowing pace of inflation. Clearly, concerns about higher interest rates and consumer prices are still having an impact. Lower-income Californians continue to grapple with high housing costs, while upper-income Californians are experiencing more turbulence in the financial markets. A divided Congress and declining state revenues are creating new uncertainties about programs and services that aim to expand economic opportunity in California.

This is the 25th year of the PPIC Statewide Survey. These are among the key findings of the *Californians and their Economic Well-Being* survey that was conducted from October 3 to October 19:

- **Majorities of Californians think the state is headed in the wrong direction and predict bad economic times for the state economy in the next 12 months.** About half or fewer approve of the governor and the state legislature on their handling of jobs and the economy. Roughly one in four say the availability of well-paying jobs is a big problem in their region, including three in ten lower-income Californians. About one in four lower-income residents say that the lack of well-paying jobs in their region is making them seriously consider moving out of the state.

- **Most Californians are satisfied with their household's financial situation, but half of lower-income residents are not satisfied.** Majorities across income groups say that their personal finances today are about the same as they were a year ago. One in three residents think the “American Dream”—if you work hard, you will get ahead—still holds true. Seven in ten agree that when children in California today grow up, they will be worse off than their parents.

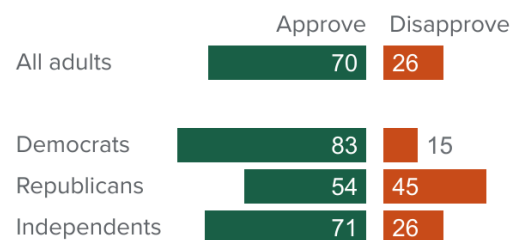
Most Californians think children today will be worse off financially than their parents



- **Three in ten Californians—including a majority of lower-income residents—report reducing meals or cutting back on food to save money.** Nearly one in five say that they have had difficulties paying their rent or mortgage, including four in ten lower-income residents. The majority have an unfavorable opinion of artificial intelligence (AI). Three in ten say they worry about their job being eliminated by AI, including more than four in ten lower-income residents.

- **Three in ten residents worry every day or almost every day about housing costs and retirement savings.** About one in four worry this often about paying bills and debts. Higher shares of lower-income residents worry this often about housing costs, retirement savings, bills, and debts. One in three parents worry every day or almost every day about saving for their child's college education.

Most Californians approve of labor unions



- **One in three employed residents are very satisfied—and half are somewhat satisfied—with their jobs.** Eight in ten say their jobs offer at least a fair amount of security, and majorities say that their jobs offer opportunities for growth and advancement. Lower-income employed residents report lower job satisfaction, less job security, and fewer opportunities for growth and advancement.

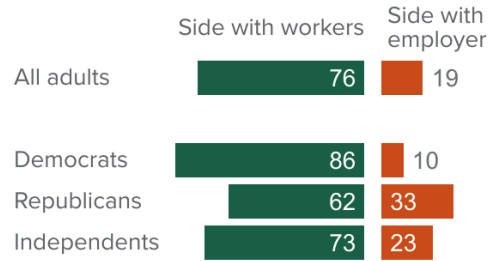
➤ **Seven in ten Californians approve of labor unions and one in three want them to have more influence.**

Overwhelming majorities sympathize with film and television actors in their labor dispute with studios, including majorities of voters across partisan groups.

➤ **Overwhelming majorities favor increased government funding for child care programs and expansion of the earned income tax credit.**

Majorities also favor government policies to reduce higher education costs, including making tuition free at two-year and four-year colleges and eliminating college debt. Nearly eight in ten are in favor of the government offering a public health care option, with partisans divided. Similarly overwhelming majorities—including strong majorities across political parties—support increased government funding for job training programs.

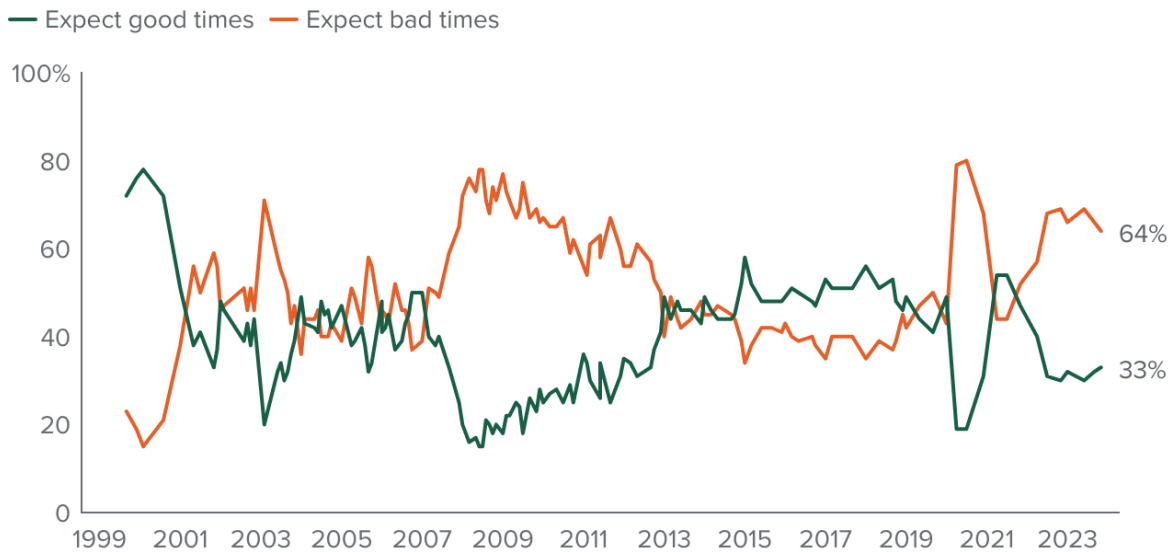
Most Californians side with television and film actors in their labor dispute



California's Economy

Nearly two in three Californians expect bad times in the next 12 months. Sixty-nine percent were pessimistic last November and strong majorities have expected bad times in periodic surveys since last July. Today, overwhelming shares of Republicans (89%) and independents (70%) are pessimistic, while Democrats are divided (51% good times, 47% bad times). A majority of Californians across regions and demographic groups—with the exception of African Americans—expect bad times, but there are some differences. The share expecting bad times across regions is highest in Orange/San Diego (70%), followed by those in the Inland Empire (67%), the Central Valley (65%), Los Angeles (62%), and the San Francisco Bay Area (59%). Two in three Latinos (67%) and whites (67%) and 55 percent of Asian Americans are pessimistic, while a slim majority of African Americans (53%) expect good times. College graduates (56%) are much less likely than those with less education (69%) to expect bad economic times in the next 12 months, while views are similar across income groups.

Six in ten Californians expect bad economic times in the next 12 months

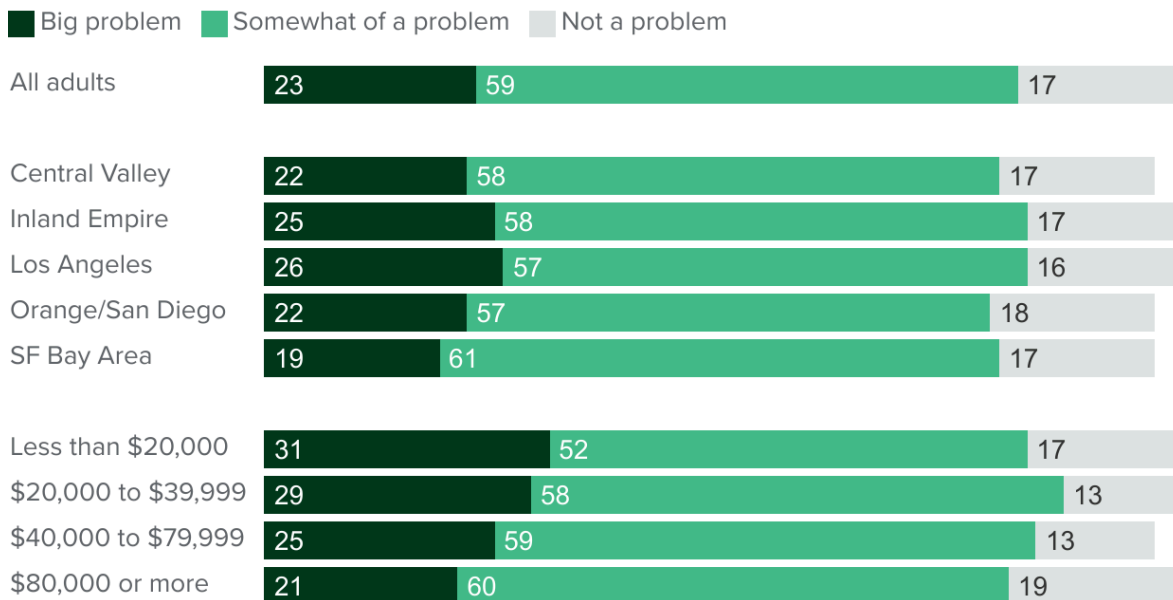


SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Surveys, 1999–2023.

Eight in ten Californians view the availability of well-paying jobs in their part of California as a big problem (23%) or somewhat of a problem (59%). Findings have been similar in the each of our well-being surveys (2022: 24% big problem, 55% somewhat of a problem; 2021: 22% big problem, 57% somewhat of a problem; 2020: 27% big problem, 61% somewhat of a problem). Today, about eight in ten across parties (81% Democrats, 82% Republicans, 83% independents) and regions view the availability of well-paying jobs as a problem. Overwhelming majorities across demographic groups see the availability of well-paying jobs as a problem, although those with household incomes under \$40,000 are more likely than those with incomes of \$80,000 or more to call it a big problem.

When we look at the oversample of Californians with incomes under \$40,000, we see a notable partisan divide: Republicans (48%) are more likely than independents (38%) and Democrats (23%) to say the availability of well-paying jobs is a big problem. Additionally, lower-income women (35%) are more likely than men (24%) to hold this view.

Most Californians view the availability of well-paying jobs as a problem



SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

When asked if the lack of well-paying jobs has made them seriously consider moving away from their part of California, 28 percent of Californians say yes (7% elsewhere in the state, 21% outside of the state). Findings have been similar each time we have asked this question (28% November 2022, 26% [November 2021](#), 32% [December 2020](#)). Republicans and independents are much more likely than Democrats to say they have considered moving, while the shares are similar across regions. And, while views are similar across racial/ethnic groups, the prevalence of this view declines with rising age and income. Among those who say they

have seriously considered moving from their part of the state, most say they are considering moving out of the state rather than within it.

Among lower-income Californians, younger adults (49%) are more likely than those 35 and older (32%) to say they have considered moving. Lower-income Californians who never attended college (31%) are less likely than those who have (43%) to say this.

Nearly three in ten Californians say the lack of well-paying jobs has made them consider moving

	Yes, elsewhere in California	Yes, outside of California	No
All adults	7	21	71
Likely voters	5	21	73
Democrats	6	14	79
Republicans	4	34	62
Independents	8	24	67
Central Valley	7	21	72
Inland Empire	3	26	69
Los Angeles	8	22	69
Orange/San Diego	5	26	68
SF Bay Area	10	15	74
Men	10	19	70
Women	5	23	71
African Americans	8	18	70
Asian Americans	6	21	73
Latinos	9	19	71
Whites	6	24	69
Less than \$20,000	9	27	63
\$20,000 to \$39,999	11	26	63
\$40,000 to \$79,999	6	23	71
\$80,000 or more	7	19	73

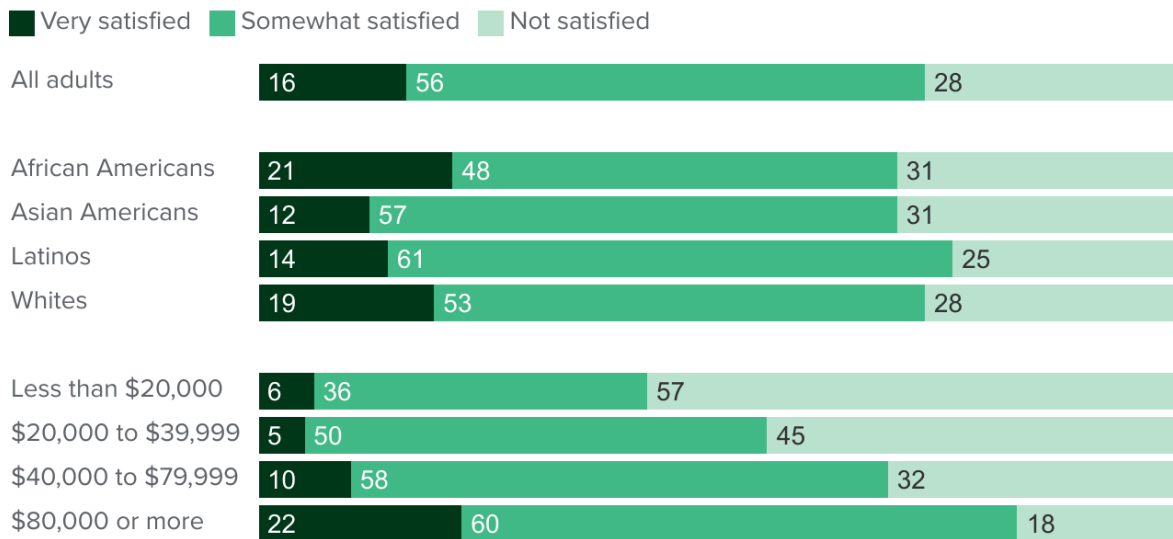
SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

Personal Finances

Despite persistent inflation, most Californians are very (16%) or somewhat (56%) satisfied with their household financial situation; nearly three in ten are not satisfied (28%). Satisfaction levels were similar in November 2022 (19% very, 54% somewhat) and November 2021 (21% very, 57% somewhat). Views today vary by income, with lower-income Californians much more likely to be not satisfied with their household's finances. Among partisans, Democrats (82%) are most likely to be satisfied, followed by independents (73%) and Republicans (61%). Men and women hold similar views, and satisfaction levels are similar across regions and age and racial/ethnic groups.

When looking at the oversample of lower-income Californians, notable differences emerge. Californians with incomes of \$20,000 or under (42%) are less satisfied than those making \$20,000 to \$40,000 (55%). Additionally, lower-income homeowners (60%) are more satisfied than renters (45%), and Latinos (62%) are more likely than other racial/ethnic groups (40%), to express satisfaction. It is also noteworthy that while partisans hold similar views overall, there is a partisan divide among the lower-income sample: Democrats (63%) are far more likely than independents (45%) and Republicans (36%) to be satisfied.

Most Californians are satisfied with their household's finances

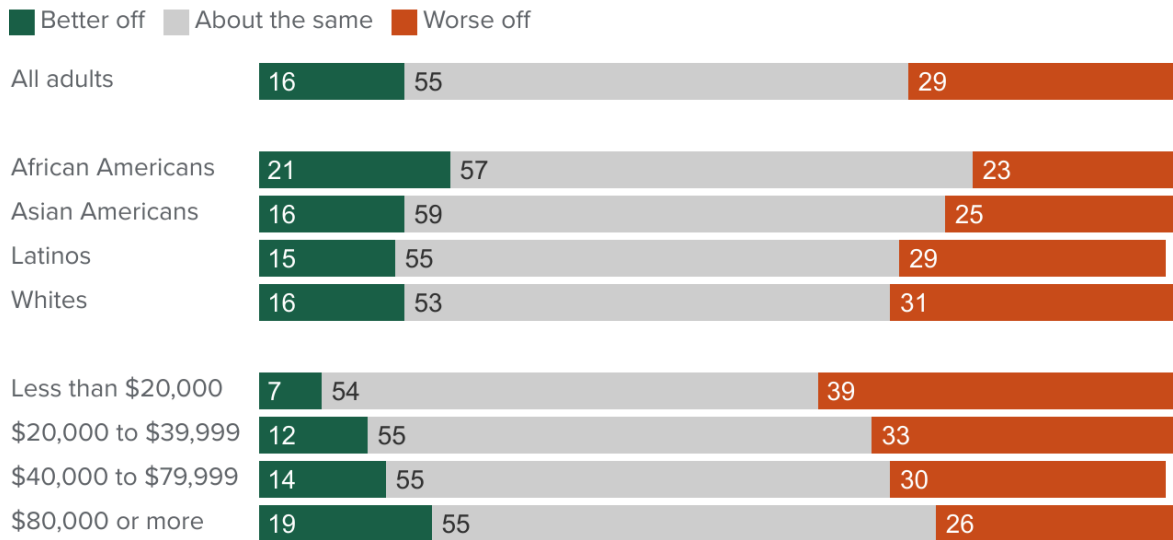


SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

A majority of Californians (55%) say their personal finances are about the same as they were a year ago, while one in six say they are better off and three in ten say they are worse off than a year ago. A similar 54 percent said their finances were about the same last November, while about six in ten held this view in November 2021 (62%) and December 2020 (59%). Today, about half or more across parties, regions, and demographic groups say their finances are about the same, but some groups are more likely than others to say they are worse off. Republicans (42%) and independents (37%) are twice as likely as Democrats (18%) to hold this negative view. Additionally, the share saying they are worse off declines with rising income.

Among Californians with incomes under \$40,000, college graduates (28%) are less likely than those with less education (37%) to say their personal finances are worse off, and whites are more likely than Latinos and other racial/ethnic groups to say this. Half of Republicans (53%) say they are worse off, compared to about four in ten independents (38%) and one in four Democrats (27%).

About half of Californians say their personal finances are about the same as a year ago



SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

A record-high 71 percent of Californians think that when children today in California grow up, they will be worse off financially than their parents. Shares with this perception have risen in recent years (67% November 2022, 63% November 2021, 63% December 2020), while this view was much less prevalent in [December 2018](#) (50%) and [December 2014](#) (55%). Today, lower-income residents are less likely to hold this negative view than those with higher incomes. While Republicans are more likely than independents and Democrats to say this, this perception is similarly prevalent across regions. Men and women hold similar views; across racial/ethnic groups, whites are most likely and African Americans are least likely to hold this negative view. The share saying children will be worse off than their parents increases with rising education levels but is similar across age groups. Notably, adults with children 18 or younger in the house (63%) are much less likely than others (75%) to hold this negative view.

Among Californians with incomes under \$40,000, the view that children will be worse off than their parents is more prevalent among college graduates (76%) than among those without a degree (62%), and women (67%) are slightly more likely than men (60%) to hold this view. Lower-income Californians with children 18 or younger in the home (48%) are much less likely than those without children in their home (70%) to say children will be worse off than their parents.

An overwhelming majority of Californians think that when today's children grow up, they will be worse off than their parents

	Better off	Worse off	About the same/don't know
All adults	26	71	3
Likely voters	22	76	2
Democrats	32	66	2
Republicans	10	89	2
Independents	19	79	2
Central Valley	24	70	6
Inland Empire	32	65	4
Los Angeles	29	69	1
Orange/San Diego	25	72	3
SF Bay Area	26	71	2
Men	28	71	1
Women	24	71	5
African Americans	37	60	2
Asian Americans	27	69	4
Latinos	36	61	4
Whites	16	82	2
Less than \$20,000	35	61	3
\$20,000 to \$39,999	31	67	2
\$40,000 to \$79,999	23	74	3
\$80,000 or more	24	74	2

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

Economic Security

We asked about Californians' experiences with various financial difficulties in the last year. Three in ten Californians report that they or someone in their household has had to cut back on food to save money over the past year. About one in five said they had to put off seeing a doctor (19%), were unable to pay a monthly bill (18%), or had difficulty paying their rent or mortgage (17%) over the past year. These findings are similar to last November.

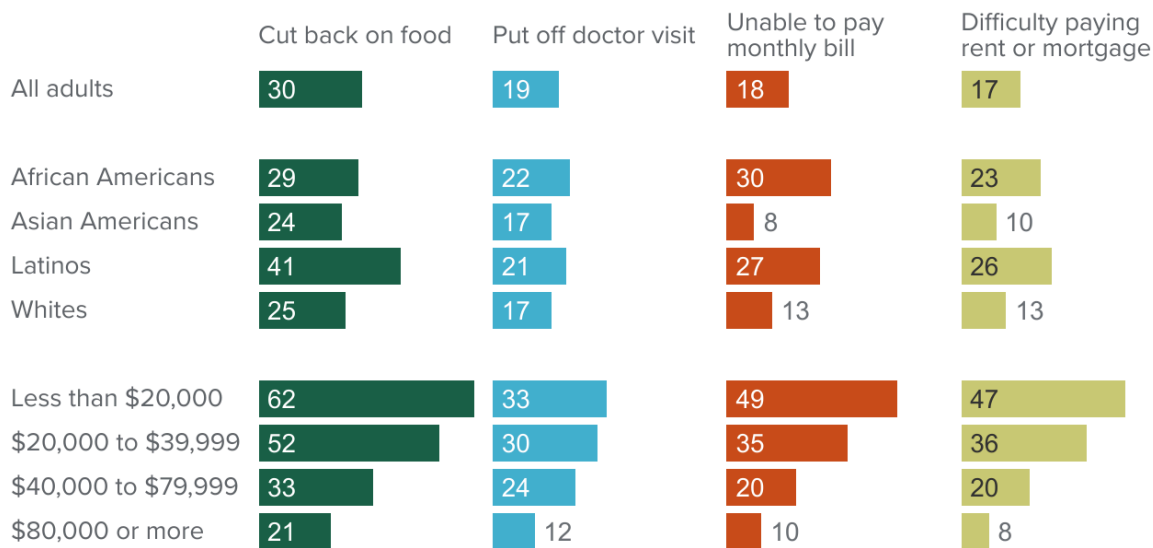
Among households earning less than \$20,000, six in ten report cutting back on food, about half say they have been unable to pay a monthly bill or had difficulty paying their rent or mortgage, and one in three say

they have put off going to the doctor; fewer adults with higher incomes report experiencing these financial difficulties. Renters (31%) are far more likely than homeowners (9%) to say they have had difficulty paying for housing.

Across racial/ethnic groups, Latinos and African Americans are more likely to report being unable to pay a monthly bill and having difficulty paying rent or mortgage than Asian Americans and whites. Latinos are also more likely than other groups to have had to cut back on food. Residents in the San Francisco Bay Area are the least likely across regions to report facing any of these financial insecurities.

Three in ten Californians have cut back on food, while fewer have faced other types of financial difficulties

% happened to me or someone in my household



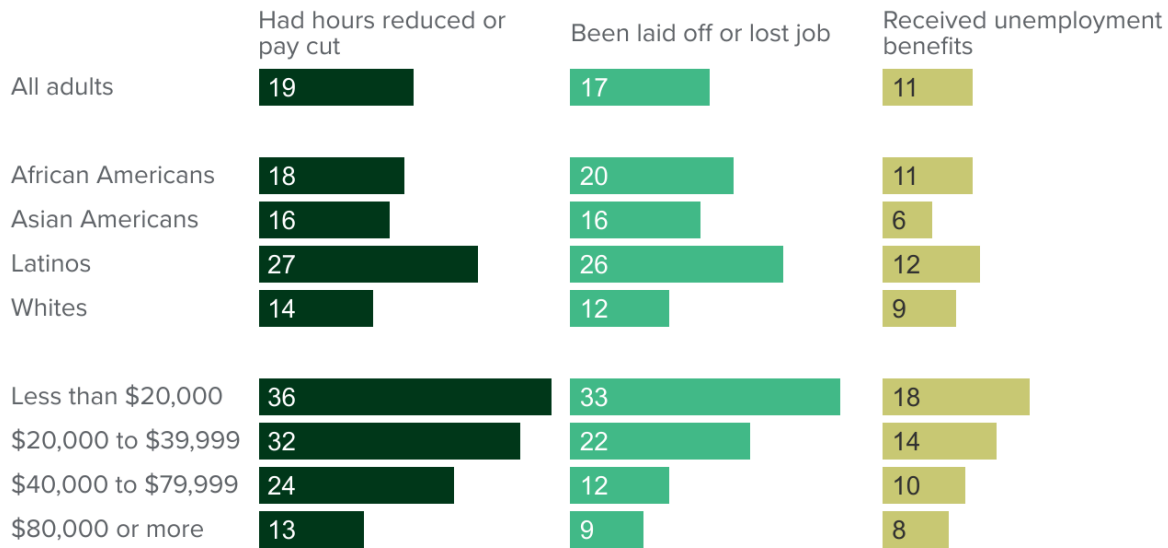
SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,394 likely voters).

About two in ten or fewer Californians say they or someone in their household have had hours or pay reduced (19%), lost a job (17%), or received unemployment benefits (11%). These shares were similar a year ago. Across income groups, reports of these economic hardships increase as household income declines. Conversely, as age increases, reports of these financial insecurities decrease.

Latinos are more likely than other racial/ethnic groups to report reduced hours or pay and losing a job, while Asian Americans are the least likely to say they received unemployment benefits. Across regions, similar shares of Californians report losing a job and receiving unemployment benefits; residents in the Central Valley and Los Angeles are slightly more likely to report a cut in pay or hours.

One in five Californians report reduced work hours or pay; a similar share report a lost job in their household

% happened to me or someone in my household



SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,394 likely voters).

Recently, artificial intelligence (AI) and its economic and personal impacts have attracted a lot of attention. Nearly nine in ten (88%) Californians have heard or read at least a little about AI, and 56 percent have an unfavorable view. However, most Californians are not worried about their job being eliminated by new technology such as automation, robots, or AI.

About three in ten employed Californians say they are worried about their job being eliminated by new technology, but only 6 percent say they are very worried. Employed residents of Los Angeles (36%) are more likely than residents elsewhere to say this, while those in the Central Valley are the least likely (20%). Concern about losing a job to new technology is similar across most demographic groups. However, across income groups, half of Californians earning less than \$20,000 are worried about this, compared to about a quarter of those making over \$80,000.

Most Californians are not worried about their job being eliminated by new technology like AI

	Very worried	Somewhat worried	Not too worried	Not at all worried
All employed adults	6	23	40	31
Likely voters	5	21	43	31
Democrats	4	21	43	32
Republicans	9	12	35	44
Independents	8	24	47	20
Central Valley	5	15	43	34
Inland Empire	5	23	34	37
Los Angeles	10	26	36	28
Orange/San Diego	7	24	45	24
SF Bay Area	3	23	39	35
Men	6	23	40	31
Women	6	22	40	31
African Americans	10	26	35	30
Asian Americans	4	28	49	19
Latinos	9	23	37	30
Whites	4	21	39	36
Less than \$20,000	14	36	21	28
\$20,000 to \$39,999	17	26	26	31
\$40,000 to \$79,999	7	21	41	31
\$80,000 or more	4	23	43	30

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

NOTES: Among employed adults only. *Small sample size for African Americans.

Financial Worries

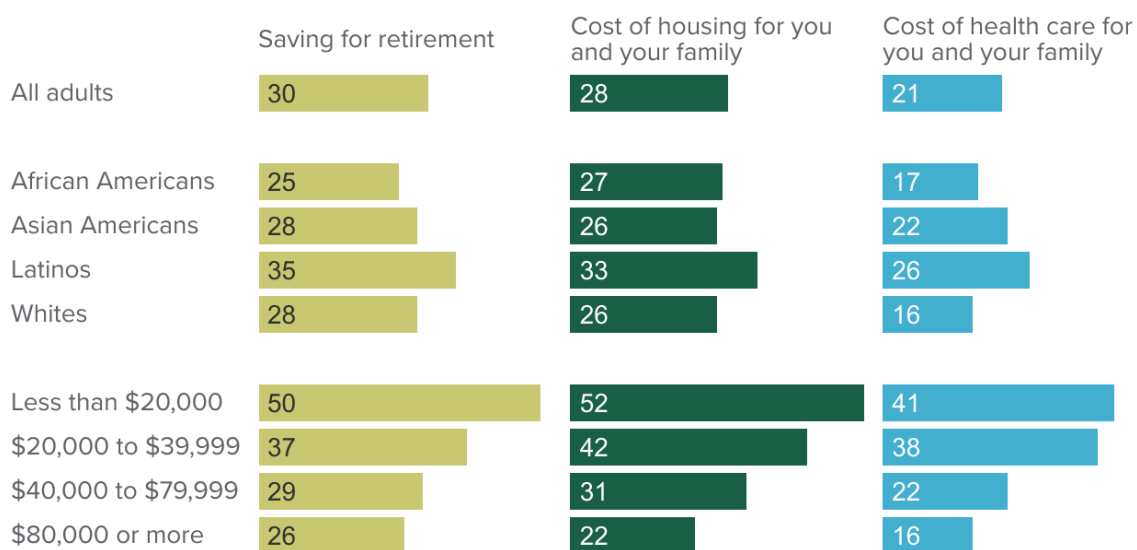
About three in ten Californians worry every day or almost every day about saving for their retirement or the cost of housing for them and their families, while about two in ten worry this often about the cost of health care for them and their families. Across racial/ethnic groups, Latinos are somewhat more likely than African Americans, Asian Americans, and whites to have these financial worries.

Californians with a high school education only are more likely than others with higher levels of education to say they worry about saving for retirement and the cost of housing. Residents in the Inland Empire are more likely to worry about the cost of health care and housing for them and their families compared to residents elsewhere in the state.

These financial worries increase as income decreases, with half of residents who make \$20,000 or less saying they worry about saving for retirement or the cost of housing. Renters (46%) are far more likely than homeowners (18%) to worry about the cost of housing at least almost every day. Adults over 55 are somewhat less likely to have these financial worries.

Californians are more likely to worry about housing and retirement than about health care costs

% worry every day or almost every day



SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

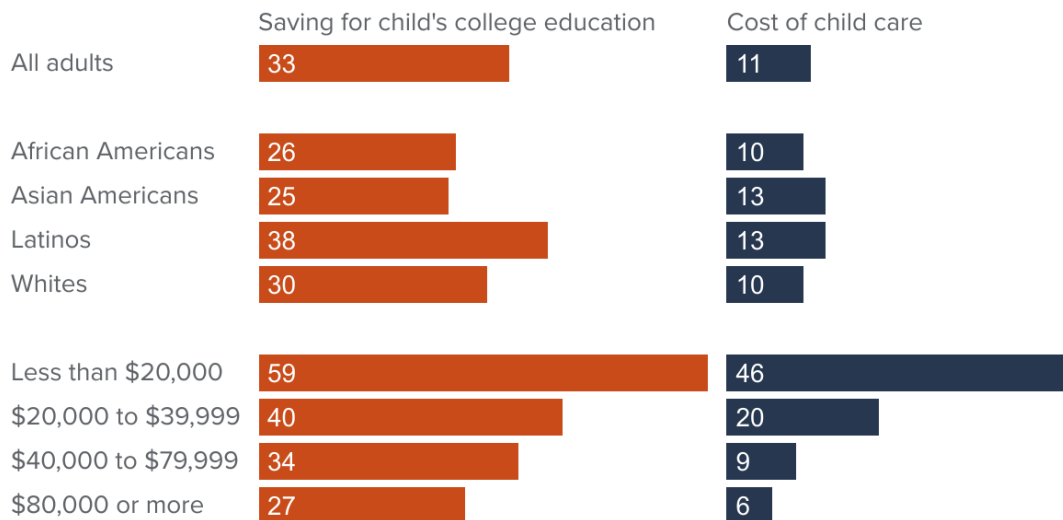
Parents of children 18 or younger are much more likely to worry about saving for their child’s college education (33%) than about the cost of child care (11%). Notably, parents of younger children are more likely than parents overall to worry about the cost of child care. Parents who earn \$20,000 or less are far more likely to worry about these costs, with about half or more reporting that they worry about it every day or almost every day.

Latino parents are more likely than other racial/ethnic groups to worry about saving for their child’s college education. Women are much more likely than men to worry about this. Parents with only a high school education are somewhat more likely to be worried compared to those with more education.

Parents in the Central Valley (17%) and Orange/San Diego (17%) are most likely across regions to worry about the cost of child care, while parents in Orange/San Diego (41%) and the Inland Empire (38%) are most likely to report worrying about saving for their child’s college education.

Parents worry more about saving for their child's college education than about the cost of child care

% worry every day or almost every day



SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

NOTES: Among parents of children 18 or younger.

About a quarter of Californians report worrying every day (12%) or almost every day (11%) about paying their bills or about the amount of debt they have (13% every day, 11% almost every day), while 14 percent worry that they or someone in their family will lose their job (8% every day, 6% almost every day). Across income groups, Californians earning less than \$20,000 are most likely to report being worried about their debt and paying bills.

African Americans and Latinos are more likely than Asian Americans and whites to worry about paying their bills and about their debt. About a quarter of those age 18 to 34 and three in ten age 35 to 54 say they worry about their debt and paying their bills, while those 55 and over report lower levels of concern. San Francisco Bay Area residents are less concerned than residents elsewhere about their debt and bills. There is little variation in concern over job loss across other demographic groups and across regions.

About one in four Californians worry about their debt and paying their bills, while fewer worry about losing their job

% worry every day or almost every day

	The amount of debt you have	Paying your bills	You or someone in your family losing their job
All adults	24	23	14
Likely voters	21	18	13
Democrats	21	19	12
Republicans	26	19	11
Independents	24	27	14
Central Valley	27	26	14
Inland Empire	28	31	11
Los Angeles	22	23	14
Orange/San Diego	31	28	14
SF Bay Area	17	13	14
Men	23	21	11
Women	26	25	15
African Americans	26	27	15
Asian Americans	17	14	12
Latinos	31	30	16
Whites	21	20	12
Less than \$20,000	40	50	31
\$20,000 to \$39,999	32	40	19
\$40,000 to \$79,999	31	27	13
\$80,000 or more	18	14	11

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

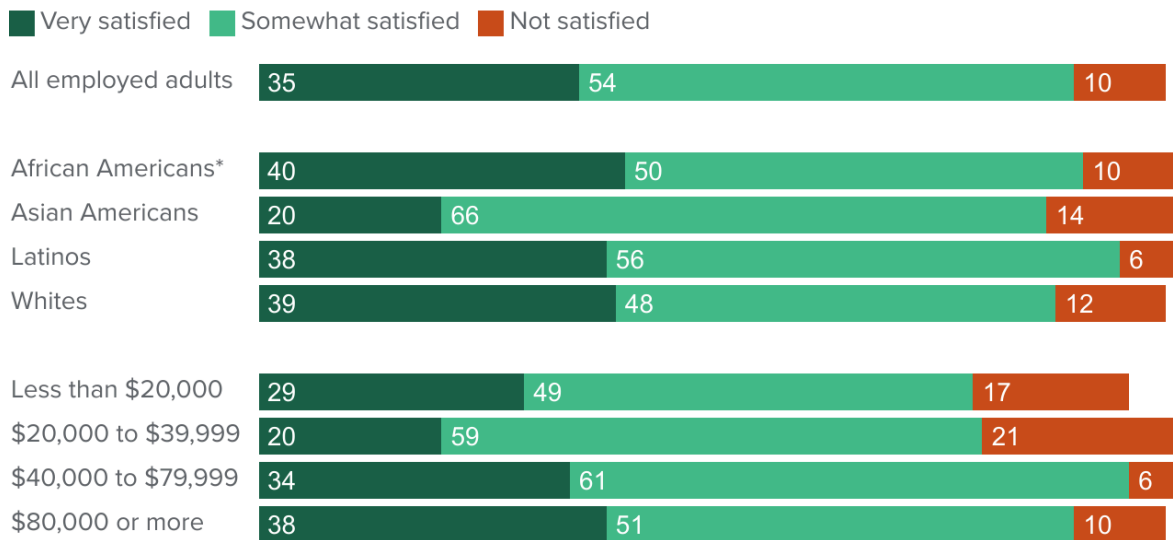
Job Conditions

A majority of employed adults across the state are at least somewhat satisfied with their job, including 35 percent who are very satisfied; one in ten say they are not satisfied. Most have expressed satisfaction since December 2020, the first time PPIC asked this question. Today, the shares saying they are very satisfied vary across partisan, demographic, and regional groups, and peaks at about half only among Inland Empire residents (51%). Among racial/ethnic groups, about four in ten African Americans, whites, and Latinos are

very satisfied, compared to two in ten Asian Americans. Adults with incomes under \$40,000 are less likely to hold this view.

Among employed adults with incomes under \$40,000, a majority express satisfaction with their job; interestingly, those with incomes under \$20,000 are more likely to say they are very satisfied (29% vs. 20% \$20,000 to \$40,000).

Most employed adults are at least somewhat satisfied with their job



SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

NOTES: Among employed adults only. *Small sample size for African Americans.

Eight in ten employed Californians say they have a least a fair amount of job security, including strong majorities across demographic, regional, and partisan groups who say this. However, there is one exception among income groups: just about half of adults earning less than \$20,000 say they have a fair amount of job security (49%).

A majority of working Californians say their job offers opportunities for growth and advancement, while about four in ten say their job does not. Men (61%) are somewhat more likely than women (53%) to say their job offers growth and advancement opportunities. Majorities among working African Americans, whites, and Latinos hold this view, while a majority of working Asian Americans report that their job does not offer these opportunities. Lower-income Californians are much less likely than those with higher incomes to say their job offers opportunities for growth and advancement, as are those 55 and older compared to younger Californians.

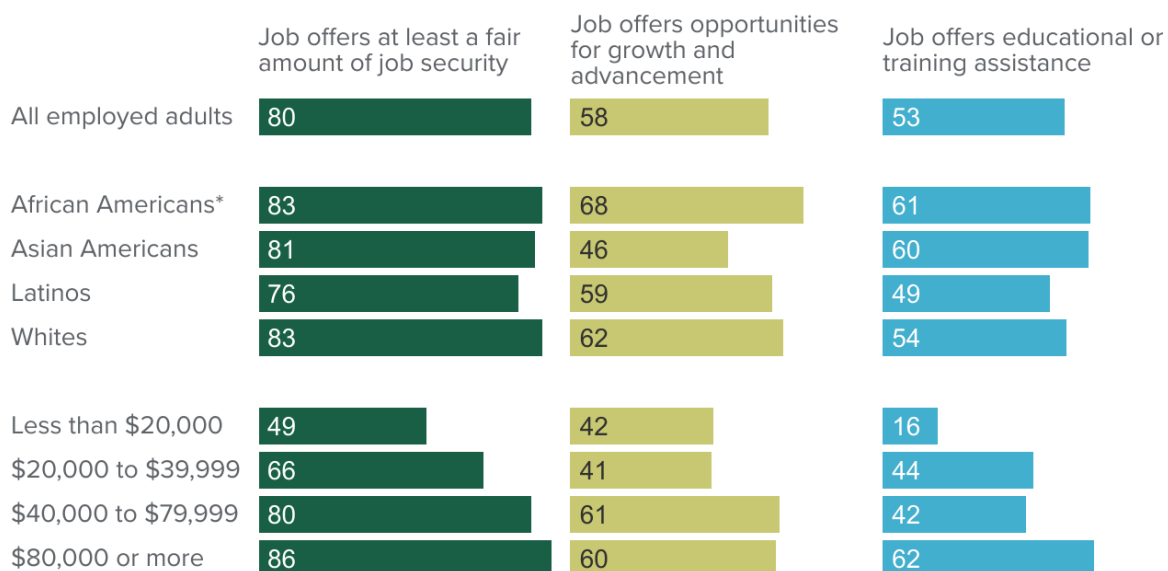
A slim majority of California workers say their job offers educational or training assistance; shares holding this view vary across demographic, regional, and partisan groups. Majorities of African Americans, Asian Americans, and whites say their jobs offer assistance, compared to about half of Latinos. Less-educated and lower-income adults are the least likely to say this— in fact, just 16 percent of employed adults making less than \$20,000 feel that their current job provides educational or training assistance. Majorities in the San

Francisco Bay Area, Orange/San Diego, and Inland Empire say they have this type of assistance at work, compared to half or fewer in other regions.

Overwhelming majorities of employed adults say they have stable and predictable pay (84%) and stable and predictable hours (80%) at work. Experiences are different for lower-income working Californians. More than four in ten adults making less than \$20,000 say they do not have predictable pay hours at work (44%). This group is also the only one across all demographic groups to say their job does not provide health care coverage (76%), paid sick leave (61%), or retirement savings (70%).

Majorities of employed adults say their job offers growth opportunities and educational or training assistance; half say it provides job security

% yes



SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

NOTES: Among employed adults only. *Small sample size for African Americans.

About six in ten adults earning less than \$40,000 say they do not have job security; the shares saying this vary demographically and regionally. A solid majority of lower-income Californians say that their job does not provide educational or training assistance, with shares varying across demographic and regional groups. And fewer than two in three report having stable and predictable pay at work, with solid majorities across demographic and regional groups saying this. Full-time employed adults in this subgroup are more likely than part-time workers to report a lack of job security, assistance, and stable pay at work.

Seven in ten adults approve of labor unions, while about a quarter (26%) disapprove. Majorities across party groups approve, as do solid majorities across demographic and regional groups. About one in three Californians say they or someone in their family is a union member.

Most Californians approve of labor unions

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know
All adults	70	26	4
Likely voters	72	27	1
Democrats	83	15	2
Republicans	54	45	2
Independents	71	26	3
Central Valley	66	26	7
Inland Empire	70	27	3
Los Angeles	70	29	1
Orange/San Diego	60	34	6
SF Bay Area	80	18	2
Men	68	30	2
Women	72	23	5
African Americans	84	14	1
Asian Americans	73	25	2
Latinos	67	28	5
Whites	70	27	3
Less than \$20,000	72	26	2
\$20,000 to \$39,999	74	25	1
\$40,000 to \$79,999	68	27	5
\$80,000 or more	72	25	2

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

About one in three adults say they would like to see labor unions in the US have more influence than they have today (34%); 22 percent say they should have less influence, and four in ten say labor unions should have the same amount of influence as they do today (41%). A plurality of Democrats (47%) say labor unions should have more influence, compared to far fewer Republicans (15%) and independents (35%). Views on this issue vary across demographic and regional groups.

With SAG-AFTRA (Screen Actors Guild – American Federation and Radio Artists) and AMPTP (Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers) still in talks to end the actors strike, the PPIC Statewide Survey asked which side Californians empathize with more. An overwhelming share say they side with the actors (76%) and two in ten say they side with the film studios (19%); few say they sympathize with both equally or

with neither side (1% each). Solid majorities across party lines and seven in ten across demographic and regional groups say they side with the actors.

A plurality of Californians think labor unions should have the same amount of influence as they have today

	More influence than they have today	The same as today	Less influence than they have today	Don't know
All adults	34	41	22	3
Likely voters	36	36	26	2
Democrats	47	39	12	2
Republicans	15	37	45	3
Independents	35	39	25	1
Central Valley	32	41	23	5
Inland Empire	29	43	22	5
Los Angeles	38	38	22	1
Orange/San Diego	25	45	29	1
SF Bay Area	39	41	16	3
Men	34	39	25	2
Women	33	44	19	4
African Americans	43	39	16	2
Asian Americans	33	46	18	3
Latinos	33	43	20	4
Whites	34	39	25	2
Less than \$20,000	34	40	26	1
\$20,000 to \$39,999	35	42	21	2
\$40,000 to \$79,999	32	46	19	3
\$80,000 or more	35	41	23	2

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

Worker Policies

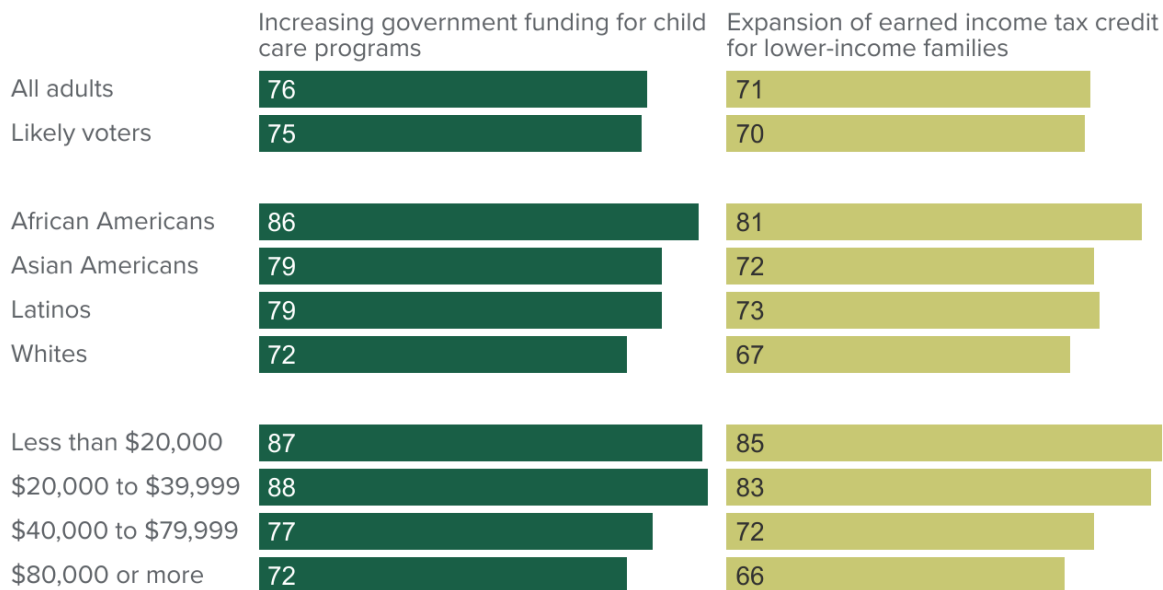
About three in four adults and likely voters favor increased government funding so that child care programs are available for more lower-income working parents, while about a quarter or fewer adults and likely voters

are opposed. More than seven in ten Californians have been in favor of this since December 2020, the first time PPIC asked this question. Today, most Democrats (89%) and independents (75%) are in favor, compared to about half of Republicans (51% favor, 48% oppose). Seven in ten or more across demographic and regional groups are in favor of increasing government funding for child care programs. About eight in ten or more African Americans, Latinos, and Asian Americans are in favor, compared to about seven in ten white adults. Across income groups, adults with incomes under \$40,000 are more likely than those with higher incomes to say this. Across regions, three-quarters or more are in favor, with support highest in the San Francisco Bay Area and lowest in Orange/San Diego.

When it comes to expanding eligibility for and increasing the earned income tax credit for lower-income working Californians, about seven in ten adults and likely voters are in favor (28% of adults and likely voters are opposed). A similar share have been in favor since December 2020, the first time PPIC asked this question. Today, strong majorities of Democrats (85%) and independents (66%) are in favor, while Republicans are divided (49% favor, 50% oppose). Strong majorities across demographic and regional groups are in favor. Among racial/ethnic groups, African Americans are most likely and whites are least likely to express support. Support increases as income declines. Across regions, eight in ten or more residents in the San Francisco Bay Area and Los Angeles support expanding the credit, compared to fewer in other parts of California. More than eight in ten Californians earning less than \$40,000 favor both increased funding for child care and expanding the earned income tax credit.

Overwhelming majorities favor increasing government funding for child care programs and expanding the earned income tax credit

% favor



SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

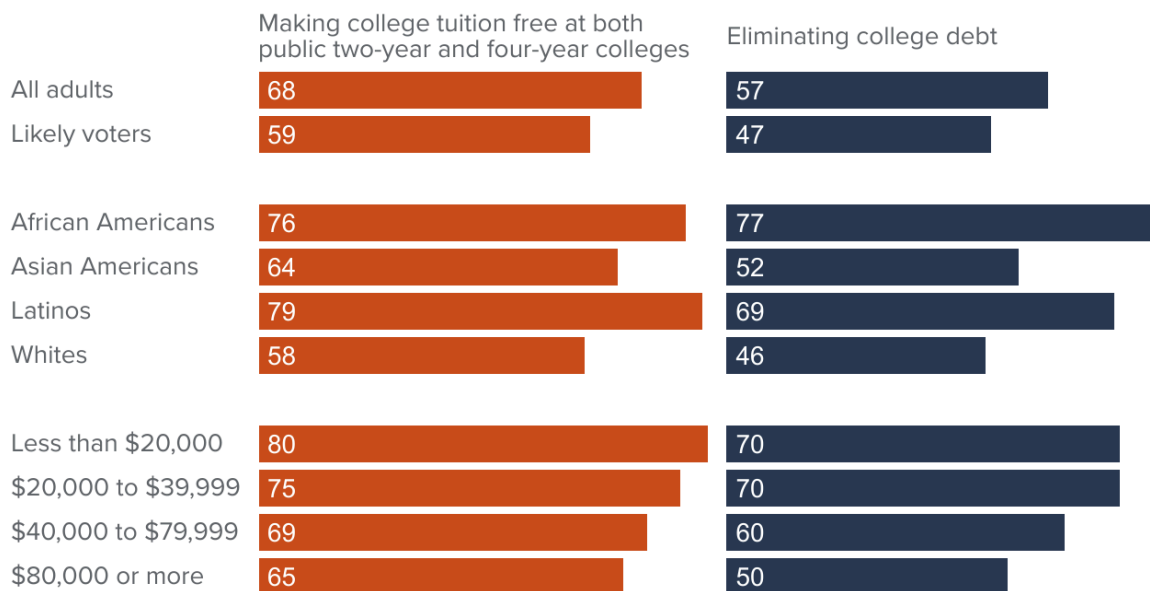
Roughly two in three adults and about six in ten likely voters favor a government policy to make tuition free at both public two-year and four-year colleges; about three in ten adults and four in ten likely voters oppose

this idea. About two-thirds have been in favor since December 2020. Today, solid majorities of Democrats (78%) and independents (62%) support free tuition, while a solid majority of Republicans are opposed (60%). Majorities across demographic and regional groups are in favor. Among racial/ethnic groups, over seven in ten Latinos and African Americans, over six in ten Asian Americans, and 58 percent of whites say they are in favor of free tuition. Support increases as education and income decline. Across income groups, adults with incomes under \$20,000 are most likely to favor this idea. About six in ten or more across regions are in favor.

When asked whether they would favor or oppose a government policy to eliminate college debt, a majority of adults express support, while likely voters are more divided (47% favor, 52% oppose). Support was similar last November (60%) but has declined since December 2020, when 65 percent were in favor. Today, partisans are divided on this issue: nearly seven in ten Democrats (69%) favor eliminating college debt, while three in four Republicans (75%) are opposed, and independents are divided (49% favor, 49% oppose). Support varies across demographic groups, with adults under 55 more likely than older adults, women more likely than men, and lower-income adults more likely than those with higher incomes to favor a debt elimination policy. Shares in favor vary among racial/ethnic groups, with African Americans most likely and whites least likely to be in favor. Majorities across most regions are in favor, with the exception of Orange/San Diego, where residents are divided.

Majorities favor government policies to reduce higher education costs

% favor



SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

About eight in ten adults and likely voters favor increased government funding for job training programs so that more workers have the skills they need for today’s jobs; nearly two in ten are opposed. Findings have been similar since December 2020. Majorities across partisan, regional, and demographic groups are in favor of increased funding for job training, and support is similar across income groups.

Overwhelming majorities of adults and likely voters favor the government offering a health insurance plan similar to Medicare that adults can purchase instead of private insurance (21% adults and 25% likely voters are opposed). Eight in ten or more Democrats and independents are in favor, while Republicans are divided. Overwhelming majorities across demographic and regional groups favor a public health care option.

Overwhelming majorities favor increased funding for job training and a public health care option

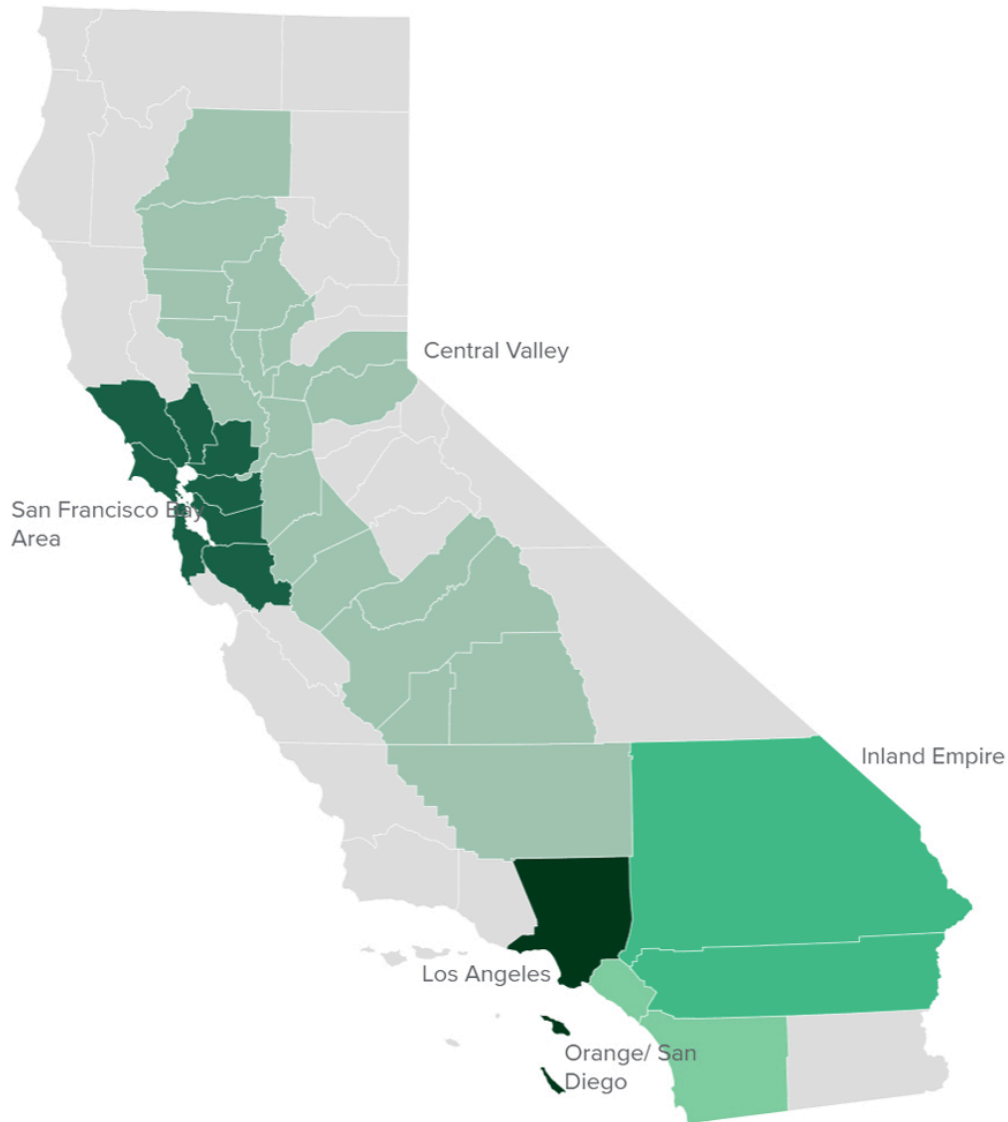
% favor

	Increasing government funding for job training programs	Government offering a public health care option
All adults	81	78
Likely voters	82	73
Democrats	90	89
Republicans	67	49
Independents	84	80
Central Valley	80	73
Inland Empire	86	78
Los Angeles	82	80
Orange/San Diego	78	74
SF Bay Area	82	83
Men	78	76
Women	84	79
African Americans	90	85
Asian Americans	87	80
Latinos	83	82
Whites	76	73
Less than \$20,000	86	81
\$20,000 to \$39,999	84	82
\$40,000 to \$79,999	80	78
\$80,000 or more	80	77

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3–19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters).

Regional Map

This map highlights the five geographic regions for which we present results; these regions account for approximately 90 percent of the state population. Residents of other geographic areas (in gray) 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.



Methodology

This is the 25th year of the PPIC Statewide Survey. Coauthors of this report include survey director Mark Baldassare, who holds the Miller Chair in Public Policy; associate survey director and research fellow Dean Bonner, who was project manager for this survey; and survey analysts Lauren Mora and Deja Thomas. The Californians and Their Economic Well-Being survey is supported with funding from the Arjay and Frances F. Miller Foundation and the James Irvine Foundation. The PPIC Statewide Survey invites input, comments, and

suggestions from policy and public opinion experts and from its own advisory committee, but survey methods, questions, and content are determined solely by PPIC's survey team.

Findings in this report are based on a survey of 2,250 California adult residents. The median time to complete the survey was 19 minutes. Interviews were conducted from October 3–19, 2023.

The survey was conducted by Ipsos, using its online KnowledgePanel, in English, Spanish, Chinese (simplified or traditional), Vietnamese, and Korean according to respondents' preferences. We chose these languages because Spanish is the dominant language among non-English-speaking adults in California, followed in prevalence by the three Asian languages. KnowledgePanel members are recruited through probability-based sampling and include both those with internet access and those without. KnowledgePanel provides internet access for those who do not have it and, if needed, a device to access the internet when they join the panel. KnowledgePanel members are primarily recruited using address-based sampling (ABS) methodology, which improves population coverage, particularly for hard-to-reach populations such as young adults and minority groups. ABS-recruited Latinos are supplemented with a dual-frame random digit dialing (RDD) sampling methodology that targets telephone exchanges associated with areas with a higher concentration of Latinos to provide the capability to conduct representative online surveys with Latinos, including those who speak only Spanish. KnowledgePanel's recruitment was originally based on a national RDD frame and switched to the primarily ABS-based methodology in 2009. KnowledgePanel includes households with landlines and cell phones, including those with cellphones only and those without phones. ABS allows probability-based sampling of addresses from the US Postal Service's Delivery Sequence File (DSF). The DSF-based sampling frame used for address selection is enhanced with a series of refinements—such as the appendage of various ancillary data to each address from commercial and government data sources—to facilitate complex stratification plans. Taking advantage of such refinements, quarterly samples are selected using a stratified sampling methodology that aims to retain the representativeness of the panel. KnowledgePanel recruits new panel members throughout the year to offset panel attrition.

To qualify for the survey, a panel member must be age 18 or older and reside in California. A general population sample of Californians was selected using Ipsos's PPS (probability proportional to size) sampling procedure to select study-specific samples. Briefly, to select such samples, the panel is first weighted to population benchmarks and those panel weights are used as the measure of size for a PPS sample selection that yields a fully representative sample. An oversample of panelists with household income under \$40,000 augmented the general population sample. A total of 2,316 respondents completed the survey out of 7,108 panelists who were sampled, for a response rate of 33 percent. To ensure the highest data quality, we flagged respondents who sped through the survey, which we defined as completing the survey in one-fourth of the overall median time (less than 4.8 minutes). We also flagged respondents if their self-reported age or gender did not match the data stored in their profile. A total of 66 cases were removed after this review process, resulting in 2,250 total qualified and valid cases.

Accent on Languages, Inc., translated new survey questions into Spanish, with assistance from Renatta DeFever. Ipsos translated all survey questions into Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean.

Ipsos uses the US Census Bureau's 2017–2021 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. 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 sample of Californians is first weighted using an initial sampling or base weight that corrects for any differences in the probability of selecting various segments of the KnowledgePanel sample. This base weight is further adjusted using an iterative proportional fitting (raking) procedure that aligns sample demographics to population benchmarks from the 2017–2021 ACS data as well as party registration benchmarks from the California Secretary of State’s voter registration file.

The sampling error, taking design effects from weighting into consideration, is ± 3.3 percent at the 95 percent confidence level for the total unweighted sample of 2,250 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 1,840 registered voters, the sampling error is ± 3.5 percent; for the 1,395 likely voters, it is ± 4.0 percent. The sampling error for the oversample of 1,024 lower-income Californians is ± 5 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 present results for non-Hispanic whites, who account for 40 percent of the state’s adult population, and also for Latinos, who account for 36 percent 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 16 percent of the state’s adult population, and non-Hispanic African Americans, who comprise about 5 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.

Sample sizes and margins of error for each subgroup are presented in the table below.

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 national surveys conducted by Gallup, Ipsos, and Pew Research Center. Numerous questions were adapted from the Public Religion Research Institute’s (PRRI) California Workers Survey dated August 2018 and national surveys by the

Pew Research Center. Additional details about our methodology can be found at www.ppic.org/wp-content/uploads/SurveyMethodology.pdf and are available upon request through surveys@ppic.org.

Unweighted N-size and margin of error

Group	Unweighted N-size	Margin of error
All adults	2,250	3.3%
Likely voters	1,395	4%
Employed adults	1,080	4.3%
Democrats	953	5%
Republicans	395	7.4%
No Party Preference/ Independents	492	6.7%
Central Valley	479	7.5%
Inland Empire	303	9.4%
Los Angeles	554	6.7%
Orange/San Diego	314	7.9%
SF Bay Area	382	7.6%
Men	1,040	4.7%
Women	1,210	4.5%
African Americans	195	11.1%
Asian Americans	199	8.9%
Latinos	775	6%
Whites	1,013	4.6%
Less than \$20,000	417	8.1%
\$20,000 to less than \$40,000	592	6.4%
\$40,000 to \$79,999	341	7.2%
\$80,000 or more	853	4.6%

Additional 44 rows not shown.

SOURCE: SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, November 2023. Survey was fielded from October 3-19, 2023 (n=2,250 adults, n=1,395 likely voters, n=1,080 employed adults).

NOTES: "Lower income adults" includes only respondents with annual household incomes lower than \$40,000.

Questions and Responses

October 3–October 19, 2023

2,250 California adult residents

English, Spanish, Chinese (simplified and traditional), Vietnamese, and Korean

Margin of error $\pm 3.3\%$ at 95% confidence level for total sample

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Governor Newsom is handling the issues of jobs and the economy?

51% approve
46% disapprove
3% don't know

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that the California Legislature is handling the issue of jobs and the economy?

45% approve
52% disapprove
3% don't know

3. How much of the time can you trust the state government to do what is right when it comes to handling the issue of jobs and the economy? [rotate order top to bottom]

5% just about always
36% most of the time
58% only some of the time
1% don't know

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

41% right direction
57% wrong direction
2% don't know

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

33% good times
64% bad times
3% don't know

6. How much of a problem is the availability of well-paying jobs in your part of California today? Is it a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not a problem?

23% big problem
59% somewhat of a problem
17% not a problem
2% don't know

7. Does the lack of well-paying jobs make you and your family seriously consider moving away from the part of California you live in now? (if yes, ask: "Are you considering moving elsewhere in California or outside of the state?")

7% yes, seriously considered moving to another part of California
21% yes, seriously considered moving outside of California
71% no, have not seriously considered moving
1% don't know

8. Now thinking about your own personal finances, would you say you and your family are financially better off, worse off, or just about the same as you were a year ago?

16% better off
29% worse off
55% about the same
– don't know

9. How would you describe your household's financial situation today? Would you say you are very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, or not satisfied with your situation?

16% very satisfied
56% somewhat satisfied
28% not satisfied
– don't know

10. On another topic, do you think the American Dream—that if you work hard you'll get ahead—still holds true, never held true, or once held true but does not anymore?

32% still holds true
15% never held true
52% once held true but does not anymore
1% don't know

11. Do you think the American Dream is easier to achieve in California than elsewhere in the US or harder to achieve?

9% easier to achieve
61% harder to achieve
28% about the same
1% don't know

12. When children today in California grow up, do you think they will be better off or worse off financially than their parents?

26% better off
71% worse off
– about the same
3% don't know

Now, please indicate whether you or anyone in your household has done or experienced any of the following in the last 12 months...

[rotate questions 13 to 21]

13. Been laid off or lost their job?

6% yes, happened to me
6% yes, happened to someone in my household
3% yes, happened to me and someone in my household

85% did not happen to anyone in my household
– don't know

14. Had work hours reduced or pay cut?

9% yes, happened to me
5% yes, happened to someone in my household
5% yes, happened to me and someone in my household
81% did not happen to anyone in my household
– don't know

15. Put off seeing a doctor or purchasing medication for financial reasons?

10% yes, happened to me
5% yes, happened to someone in my household
4% yes, happened to me and someone in my household
81% did not happen to anyone in my household
– don't know

16. Was not able to pay a monthly bill?

9% yes, happened to me
4% yes, happened to someone in my household
5% yes, happened to me and someone in my household
82% did not happen to anyone in my household
– don't know

17. Received benefits from the CalFresh program also known as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or food stamps?

8% yes, happened to me
7% yes, happened to someone in my household
3% yes, happened to me and someone in my household
82% did not happen to anyone in my household
– don't know

18. Reduced meals or cut back on food to save money?

14% yes, happened to me
3% yes, happened to someone in my household
13% yes, happened to me and someone in my household
69% did not happen to anyone in my household
– don't know

19. Received unemployment benefits?

4% yes, happened to me
5% yes, happened to someone in my household
2% yes, happened to me and someone in my household

90% did not happen to anyone in my household
– don't know

20. Received food from a food bank or pantry?

8% yes, happened to me
4% yes, happened to someone in my household
5% yes, happened to me and someone in my household
83% did not happen to anyone in my household
– don't know

21. Had difficulty paying rent or mortgage?

9% yes, happened to me
4% yes, happened to someone in my household
4% yes, happened to me and someone in my household
82% did not happen to anyone in my household
– don't know

Next, how often, if ever, do you worry about each of the following?

[rotate questions 22 to 29]

22. You or someone in your family losing their job?

8% every day
6% almost every day
30% sometimes
26% rarely
31% never
– don't know

23. The cost of health care for you and your family?

11% every day
10% almost every day
39% sometimes
19% rarely
21% never
– don't know

24. The cost of housing for you and your family?

13% every day
15% almost every day
36% sometimes
15% rarely
21% never
– don't know

25. Paying your bills?

- 12% every day
- 11% almost every day
- 27% sometimes
- 23% rarely
- 26% never
- don't know

26. [parents of children 18 or younger only] The cost of child care?

- 7% every day
- 4% almost every day
- 24% sometimes
- 17% rarely
- 47% never
- don't know

27. The amount of debt you have?

- 13% every day
- 11% almost every day
- 26% sometimes
- 21% rarely
- 29% never
- don't know

28. [parents of children 18 or younger only] Being able to save enough for your children's college education?

- 17% every day
- 16% almost every day
- 35% sometimes
- 17% rarely
- 15% never
- don't know

29. Being able to save enough for your retirement?

- 16% every day
- 14% almost every day
- 36% sometimes
- 15% rarely
- 18% never
- don't know

30. [employed adults only] Overall, would you say you are very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, or not satisfied with your job?

35% very satisfied
54% somewhat satisfied
10% not satisfied
– don't know

Please answer yes or no about each of the following in regards to your current job...

[rotate questions 31 to 36]

31. [employed adults only] Would you say that you have stable and predictable pay at work?

84% yes
16% no
– don't know

32. [employed adults only] Would you say that you have stable and predictable hours at work?

80% yes
20% no
– don't know

33. [employed adults only] Would you say that your job offers opportunities for growth and advancement?

58% yes
42% no
– don't know

34. [employed adults only] Would you say that you have at least a fair amount of job security?

80% yes
19% no
– don't know

35. [employed adults only] Would you say that you can voice your concerns at work without fear of negative consequences?

71% yes
29% no
– don't know

36. [employed adults only] Would you say that the decisions made at work take into account your views and concerns?

59% yes
41% no
– don't know

37. And thinking about opportunities for career advancement, would you say that having a family and raising children has an impact on a person's ability to advance in their career?

70% yes
29% no
1% don't know

38. [employed adults only] Which describes your current employment or work situation?

61% working outside the home [*skip to q40*]
14% working from home/remotely [*ask q39*]
21% mix of some work from home, and some outside home/at workplace [*ask q39*]
4% something else [*skip to q40*]
– don't know

39. [those working remotely some or all of the time only] Did you start working from home as a result of the coronavirus pandemic and lockdowns?

66% yes
34% no
– don't know

40. [employed adults only] If you had the choice, for the next year, would you prefer to:

38% work outside the home/at your workplace full-time
29% work from home or remotely full time
33% mix some days working remotely, some days at the workplace
– don't know

41. [employed adults only] Regardless of your current work arrangement, would you say that, for the most part, the responsibilities of your job:

42% can be done from home
58% cannot be done from home
– don't know

42. How much have you heard or read about AI?

33% a lot
55% a little
12% nothing at all
– don't know

43. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of AI or artificial intelligence?

39% favorable
56% unfavorable
5% don't know

44. [employed adults only] How worried are you about your job being eliminated as a result of new technology, automation, robots, or artificial intelligence, or are you not at all worried?

6% very worried
23% somewhat worried
40% not too worried
31% not at all worried
– don't know

45. [employed adults only] Next, does your workplace offer a membership in or affiliation with a union, occupation association, worker center, or other type of group that represents workers?

31% yes
69% no
– don't know

46. [employed adults only] Are you or is anyone in your immediate family a member of a labor union? (If yes, ask: "Is that person you or someone else in your family?")

14% yes, myself
16% yes, another person in my family
4% yes, myself and another person in my family
66% no
– don't know

47. Do you approve or disapprove of labor unions?

70% approve
26% disapprove
4% don't know

Next, here is a list of recent U.S. labor disputes. For each, please indicate which side you sympathize with more. How about...

[rotate questions 48 and 49]

48. Television and film actors or the television and film studios

76% side with workers
19% side with employers
1% both equally (volunteered)
1% neither (volunteered)
3% don't know

49. Television and film writers or the television and film studios

78% side with workers
18% side with employers
– both equally (volunteered)

1% neither (volunteered)
3% don't know

50. Would you, personally, like to see labor unions in the United States have—rotate [1] [more influence than they have today], the same amount as today [OR] [2] less influence than they have today]? ROTATE 1 and 2 and keep “the same amount as today” in the middle.

34% more influence than they have today
41% the same amount as today
22% less influence than they have today
3% don't know

And thinking about the benefits offered at your current job...

51. [employed adults only] Does your current job provide health coverage?

76% yes
24% no
– don't know

52. [employed adults only] Does your current job provide paid sick leave?

79% yes
21% no
– don't know

53. [employed adults only] Does your current job provide retirement savings?

73% yes
27% no
– don't know

53a. [employed adults only] Does your current job provide educational or training assistance?

53% yes
47% no
– don't know

Next, please read these two statements and say if you completely agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or completely disagree with each one.

[rotate questions 54 and 55]

54. It is important for workers to organize so that employers do not take advantage of them.

46% completely agree
39% somewhat agree
10% somewhat disagree

4% completely disagree
1% don't know

55. Voting gives people like me some say in what the government does.

30% completely agree
48% somewhat agree
12% somewhat disagree
9% completely disagree
– don't know

On another topic,

Do you favor or oppose each of these policies that could improve the economic wellbeing of Californians?

[rotate questions 56 to 64]

56. Do you favor or oppose a government policy to make college tuition free at both public two-year and four-year colleges?

68% favor
31% oppose
1% don't know

57. Would you favor or oppose a government policy to eliminate college debt?

57% favor
42% oppose
1% don't know

58. Do you favor or oppose increasing government funding so that child care programs are available for more lower-income working parents?

76% favor
23% oppose
1% don't know

59. Do you favor or oppose increasing government funding or job training programs so that more workers have the skills they need for today's jobs?

81% favor
18% oppose
1% don't know

60. Would you favor or oppose the government offering a health insurance plan, similar to Medicare, that Americans can choose to purchase instead of private insurance?

78% favor
21% oppose

2% don't know

61. Do you favor or oppose the government expanding the eligibility and payments of the earned income tax credit for lower-income working families and individuals?

71% favor

28% oppose

2% don't know

62. Would you favor or oppose the federal government providing a guaranteed income, sometimes called a "Universal Basic Income," of about \$1,000 a month for all adult citizens, whether or not they work?

46% favor

52% oppose

2% don't know

63. Do you favor or oppose a policy that would expand local government's authority to enact rent control on residential property?

62% favor

36% oppose

2% don't know

64. Do you favor or oppose a policy that would increase the current minimum wage from \$15 per hour to \$16 in 2024 and subsequently by \$1 each year until it reaches \$18?

70% favor

29% oppose

2% don't know

On another topic,

65. How big of a problem is racism in the US today? Is it a big problem, somewhat of a problem, a small problem, or not a problem at all?

37% big problem

42% somewhat of a problem

14% small problem

6% not a problem at all

– don't know

66. Was there a time in the last twelve months when you felt you were treated unfairly at your place of work because of your racial or ethnic background?

10% yes

90% no

– don't know

67. How much do you think that racial and ethnic discrimination contributes to economic inequality in this country?

28% a great deal
40% a fair amount
22% not too much
8% not at all
1% don't know

Next, we are interested in how people are spending their time these days. For each of the types of activities that people get involved in please indicate whether you feel very involved, somewhat involved, or not really involved in that activity these days.

68. First, how about working on local issues and neighborhood problems? Are you ...

3% very involved
25% somewhat involved
73% not involved
– don't know

69. How about volunteer work and charity work for which you are not paid? Are you ...

9% very involved
25% somewhat involved
66% not involved
– don't know

Next,

70. How important would you say religion is in your own life? Is it...

30% very important
26% fairly important
44% not important
– don't know

On another topic,

71. How often do you watch local news on television?

24% every day
19% a few times a week
8% once a week
21% less than once a week
28% never
– don't know

72. How often do you read the local newspaper?

9% every day
6% a few times a week
6% once a week
19% less than once a week
60% never
– don't know

73. Some people are registered to vote and others are not. Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote in California?

77% yes [ask q73a]
23% no [skip to 74b]

73a. Are you registered as a Democrat, a Republican, another party, or are you registered as a decline-to-state or independent voter?

47% Democrat [ask q74]
23% Republican [skip to q74a]
2% another party (specify) [skip to q75]
28% decline-to-state/independent [skip to 74b]

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

50% strong
49% not very strong
1% don't know

[skip to q75]

74a. Would you call yourself a strong Republican or not a very strong Republican?

52% strong
48% not very strong
– don't know

[skip to q75]

74b. Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or Democratic Party?

20% Republican Party
32% Democratic Party
39% neither (volunteered)
10% don't know

75. [likely voters only] As you may know, California now has a top-two primary system for statewide races in which voters can cast ballots for any candidate, regardless of party, and the two candidates receiving the most votes—regardless of party—will advance to the general election. If the June primary for US Senator were being held today, and these were the candidates, who would you vote for? [randomize list]

21% Adam Schiff, a Democrat, Congressman
 18% Katie Porter, a Democrat, Congresswoman
 9% Barbara Lee, a Democrat, Congresswoman
 6% Eric Early, a Republican, Attorney/Business
 5% James P. Bradley, a Republican, Chief Financial Officer
 2% Sarah Liew, a Republican, Chief Executive Officer
 2% Barack Obama Mandela, a Republican
 2% Jonathan Reiss, a Republican, Business Owner
 2% Jessica Resendez, a Democrat
 1% Paul Kevin Anderson, green party
 1% Dana Bobbit, an independent
 1% Joshua Bocanegra, a Democrat
 1% Jeremy Fennell, a Democrat
 1% Roxanne Lawler, a Republican
 1% Katie O'Neal Roedersheimer, an independent
 1% John Joseph Pappenheim, a Republican
 1% Raji Rab , a Democrat, Aviator/Educator/Entrepreneur
 1% Lexi Reese, a Democrat
 1% John David Rose, a Democrat
 1% Frank Ferreira, a Democrat
 – Akinyemi Agbede , a Democrat, Mathematician
 – Carson Franklin Jr. , a Democrat
 – Dian Foxington, a Democrat
 – Denard Ingram, a Democrat
 – Fepbrina Keivaulqe Autiameineire, other
 – Jehu Thomas De Gerold Hand, a Republican
 – Denice Gary Pandol, a Republican
 – Jehu Thomas De Gerold Hand, a Republican
 – Zakaira Mohamed Kortam, a Republican
 12% Someone else (*please specify*)
 – would not vote for U.S. Senator (*volunteered*)
 8% don't know

76. [Republican likely voters only] If the 2024 Republican primary for president were being held today, and these were the candidates, who would you vote for? [randomize list]

53% Donald Trump, former President
 12% Ron DeSantis, Florida Governor
 9% Nikki Haley, former South Carolina Governor
 6% Mike Pence, former Vice President
 5% Vivek Ramaswamy, entrepreneur and author
 4% Chris Christie, former Governor of New Jersey
 3% Tim Scott, US Senator
 1% Glen Youngkin, Virginia Governor

- Doug Burgum, North Dakota Governor
 - Larry Elder, talk show host
 - Will Hurd, former Texas Congressman
 - Asa Hutchinson, businessman and former Arkansas Governor
- 4% someone else (*please specify*)
- neither/would not vote for GOP Primary (*volunteered*)
- 1% don't know

77. [likely voters only] If the 2024 presidential election were being held today, and these were the candidates, who would you vote for?

- 60% Joe Biden
29% Donald Trump
9% someone else (*please specify*)
1% neither/would not vote for President (*volunteered*)
12% don't know

78. [likely voters only] How closely are you following the news about candidates for the 2024 presidential election?

- 25% very closely
37% fairly closely
31% not too closely
7% not at all closely
– don't know

79. Would you consider yourself to be politically: [rotate order top to bottom]

- 13% very liberal
19% somewhat liberal
43% middle-of-the-road
16% somewhat conservative
8% very conservative
– don't know

77. Generally speaking, how much interest would you say you have in politics?

- 14% a great deal
32% a fair amount
34% only a little
20% none
– don't know

[d1–d18 demographic questions]

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