USC Dornsife/Los Angeles Times California Poll

METHODOLOGY AND TOPLINE (UAS 114)
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SURVEY METHODS

This USC Dornsife/Los Angeles Times Poll is the result of a collaboration between researchers in the *Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics* and in the *Center for Economic and Social Research* in the Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern California, in partnership with the Los Angeles Times.

The poll was conducted online among 1,504 California adults from October 27 through Nov 6, 2017. The survey was conducted in English and Spanish. The poll's margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percentage points for all eligible and plus or minus 4 percentage points among registered voters. Results are among registered voters, unless otherwise indicated. The results were weighted to account for sample design, and to match distributions for race, gender, education, region, income, and household size from the American Community Survey. All tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting.

Respondents are members of the Understanding America Study, a probability-based panel of adults recruited from among all households in the United States, with internet-connected tablets provided to individuals who were not already online. Recruitment of the UAS CA panel is ongoing, so additional sample was purchased from GfK Knowledge Panel and collected through the UAS. The samples were combined and weighted using design weights from both samples. Detailed UAS sampling and recruiting protocols, recruitment-cohort response rates, weighting protocol, panel management protocols, and microdata files* (including nonresponse and paradata) are available online at https://uasdata.usc.edu. *Poll microdata files are available for download after a brief embargo; release dates are provided online.

This document and reports of prior Dornsife/LAT California polls available at bit.ly/USCpolldata.

For questions about this survey, contact Jill Darling, UAS Survey Director, at jilldarl@usc.edu. Detailed contact information for Unruh and CESR UAS are provided on the last page of this report.

Unweighted sample sizes for key subgroups, and margin of sampling error, accounting for design effects		
	N	MOSE
All	1504	3
All registered voters (RV)	1296	4
Gubernatorial primary voters	1070	4
Senate race voters	949	4
Democrat	599	5
Republican	346	7
Independent	316	7
White non-Hispanic RV	734	5
Hispanic RV	277	8
White non-Hispanic	792	5
Hispanic	366	7
Los Angeles RV	422*	6
Bay Area RV	260†	9
Central Valley RV	204	9
Inland Empire RV	119	12
Coastal RV	362	7
Inland RV	930	4

*The UAS includes a probability sample of Los Angeles county residents recruited from among all households in the county. The survey's design weights account for this sample, so that regions are proportional to California population in our analysis.
† Typo in sample size corrected from original release

USC Dornsife/Los Angeles Times Polls are funded by the USC Dornsife College of Arts, Letters and Sciences.

QUESTION TEXT AND TOPLINE RESULTS

1/2. What is the most important problem facing California today? Is there another problem that is almost as important? (Results are shown among all Californians)

Percent who mentioned a problem relating to:	Most important	Almost As important
High cost of living/Housing availability and cost/Rents	22	12
Jobs/economy	10	8
Taxes and fees	9	6
Problems related to immigrants or illegal immigration	7	8
Problems with Donald Trump/Trump Administration	5	3
Fires/natural disasters/earthquakes	5	3
Drought, or other water-related problems	4	4
Health care, health insurance costs	4	6
The California government, problems with CA elected officials	4	2
Protecting the environment, pollution, global warming	3	7
Homelessness	3	6
Transportation/traffic	3	4
Crime/Gangs/Drugs	2	3
Liberals/Democrats/Socialists	2	2
Racism/intolerance/hatred/inequality	2	2
Public education	1	5
Overcrowding/population	1	2
State spending, reducing the budget deficit	1	1
poverty/income inequality	1	2
Infrastructure	1	1
All other (less than 1% mentioned)	10	14

3. Generally speaking, do you think that things in California are going in the right direction or do you feel things have gotten seriously off on the wrong track?

	Regis	All
Right Direction	44.3	43.6
Wrong Track	55.7	56.4

We are interested in how you feel about various people in the news. For each person, please indicate if you have a favorable or unfavorable impression, or if you have not heard enough about them to say.

[randomize order of names, and flip order of favorable and unfavorable]
4. What is your impression of _____?
Tested: Xavier Becerra, Jerry Brown, Kevin de Leon, Kevin Faulconer, Dianne Feinstein, Eric Garcetti, Kamala Harris, Kevin McCarthy, Nancy Pelosi, Adam Schiff, Tom Steyer, Donald Trump

1. Very favorable
2. Favorable
3. Unfavorable
4. Very unfavorable
5. Neither favorable nor unfavorable
6. Haven't heard enough about them to say

Favorability RatingSummary: 6-category and (4-category),plus difference between *favorable* and *unfavorable*

	VryFav	Fav	(Total Fav)	Unfav	VryUnfav	(Total Unfav)
Brown	14.6	25.7	40.3	12.5	21.4	33.9
Feinstein	10.4	23.9	34.3	12.8	17.1	29.9
Pelosi	8.3	19.6	27.9	11.0	22.5	33.5
Harris	17.8	17.8	35.6	7.7	12.1	19.9
Trump	9.3	10.7	19.9	13.7	50.9	64.6
Faulconer	1.0	4.0	5.0	3.6	3.0	6.6
Garcetti	6.8	14.4	21.1	7.7	6.8	14.5
de Leon	2.2	5.7	7.9	4.1	7.2	11.3
Schiff	5.5	7.3	12.8	4.0	6.4	10.5
Steyer	6.4	7.4	13.7	4.1	8.1	12.2
McCarthy	2.6	5.3	8.0	6.2	7.2	13.4
Becerra	2.8	8.1	10.9	4.4	9.3	13.7

	Neither	HHeard	(Fav-UnFav)
Brown	16.9	8.8	6.4
Feinstein	16.7	19.1	4.4
Pelosi	20.2	18.4	-5.7
Harris	16.3	28.2	15.8
Trump	11.8	3.6	-44.7
Faulconer	16.2	72.2	-1.6
Garcetti	17.3	47.1	6.7
de Leon	16.2	64.6	-3.4
Schiff	15.3	61.4	2.3
Steyer	14.6	59.5	1.6
McCarthy	19.2	59.5	-5.4
Becerra	14.0	61.4	-2.8

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[randomize question order and flip order of approve/disapprove]

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the job being done by _____?

Tested: Donald Trump as President of the United States, Jerry Brown as Governor of California, Dianne Feinstein as U.S., Senator from California, Kamala Harris as U.S. Senator from California, The United States Congress

1. Approve strongly
2. Approve somewhat
3. Neither approve nor disapprove
4. Disapprove somewhat
5. Disapprove strongly
6. Haven't heard enough about them to say

Job Approval Ratings Summary - 6-category and (4-category) plus difference between *approve* and *disapprove*

	AppStr	AppSom	(Apprv)	DissSom	DissStr	(DisApv)	Neither
Trump	11.1	11.2	22.3	8.8	57.5	66.2	8.3
Brown	19.6	25.0	44.6	11.8	23.1	34.9	14.4
Feinstein	13.8	23.9	37.7	10.0	20.2	30.2	19.3
Harris	21.0	17.1	38.1	8.3	12.7	21.0	20.2
U.S. Congress	1.1	10.0	11.1	28.6	32.7	61.3	21.5

	HHeard	(Ap-Dis)
Trump	3.2	-44.0
Brown	6.1	9.7
Feinstein	12.8	7.6
Harris	20.8	17.2
U.S. Congress	6.1	-50.2

As you may know, this is California Governor Jerry Brown's last term. California voters will elect a new Governor next year. In the open primary in June, voters select their candidate from among the list of candidates from all parties. In the general election in November, voters will choose between the two candidates who got the most votes in the primary.

[randomize order of candidates]

6. If the primary election to select the candidates for California Governor were held today, would you vote for: (select any candidate from the list)

Tested: California State Treasurer John Chiang (Democrat), California State Superintendent of Public Instruction Delaine Eastin (Democrat), California Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom (Democrat), Former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa (Democrat), California State Assemblyman Travis Allen (Republican), Businessman and Lawyer John Cox (Republican) Other candidate [write in], Wouldn't vote.

Would not vote	21.5
Among voters:	
Chiang	12.0
Eastin	4.1
Newsom	31.1
Villaraigosa	20.7
Allen	15.0
Cox	11.4
Other	5.7

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[Rotate order of answers]
7. Would you rather see the next California governor mostly [carry on Jerry Brown's policies] OR [mostly change to policies that are different from Jerry Brown's]?

Continue   50.4
Change   49.6

[rotate order of candidates in text, and use matching order in answer values]
8. If the election for California State Senate were held today and the candidates were [U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein], and [State Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de Leon], would you vote for:

Would not vote   31.4

Among Voters:
De Leon   31.4
Feinstein   58.2
Other Candidate   10.3

[Rotate order of candidates in text, and use matching order in answer values]
9. If the election for California State Senate were held today, and the candidates were [U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein], [State Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de Leon], and [Businessman Tom Steyer], would you vote for...

Would not vote   31.1

Among Voters:
De Leon   24.0
Feinstein   49.7
Steyer   17.2
Other Candidate   9.2

[Flip order of agree/disagree]
10. In general, do you agree or disagree with the policies of the Trump administration?
Answer value text: Disagree with all of his policies; Disagree with most of his policies; Neither agree nor disagree, Agree with most of his policies; Agree with all of his policies; Haven't heard enough about it to say

Disagree with all   36.9
Disagree with most   24.3
Neither   8.0
Agree with most   20.9
Agree with all   4.9
Haven't heard enough   4.9

Aggregated:
Disagree (all/most)   61.3
Agree (all/most)   25.8
Agree – Disagree   -35.5

[If R disagrees with all/most, or hadn't heard enough to say]

11. Should your member of Congress work with Trump wherever possible, or should they never work with Trump?

Whenever possible	46.7
Never	53.3

The next questions ask about people you know, and some issues that have been in the news.

12. Do you personally know anyone who is not a citizen of the U.S. and who is living in the country on an expired visa, or who came into the country without a visa?
Answer value text: Yes, No , I think so but I'm not sure, I don't think so but I'm not sure

Yes	27.1
No	44.0
Probably Yes	15.4
Probably No	13.4

[Q13 intentionally omitted]

For the next questions, please choose the statement that completes the sentence in a way that is closest to how you feel.

[rotate order of statements in each question, and randomize order of the 3 questions]

14. People who come to the United States without a visa, or who continue living in the U.S. after their visa expires…

Strengthen the economy	60.4
Take jobs away from Americans	39.6

Increase crime in American cities	35.9
Help revitalize American cities	64.1

Come to the U.S….	
because they want a handout	20.5
because they want to work	79.5

We are also interested in finding out what Californians think about various laws and policies in California

15. Should California's leadership (e.g. Governor, Attorney General, and mayors) cooperate, or not cooperate, with Trump's immigration policies?
Answer value text: Completely cooperate with Trump's immigration policy, Mostly cooperate with Trump's immigration policy, Mostly not cooperate with Trump's immigration policy, Completely not cooperate with Trump's immigration policy.

	Regis	All
Completely cooperate	21.4	18.4
Mostly cooperate	18.5	18.7
Mostly not cooperate	27.1	27.8
Completely not cooperate	33.0	35.0

16. How much, if anything, have you heard or read about a new law that says California police and sheriffs will not hand over undocumented immigrants to U.S. immigration agents, unless the person has committed a serious crime?

	Regis	All
A lot	19.3	18.1
Some	43.4	42.5
Not much	22.2	23.6
Nothing	15.1	15.7

[rotate order of favor/oppose]

17. Do you favor or oppose the new law that says California police and sheriffs will not hand over undocumented immigrants to U.S. immigration agents, unless the person has committed a serious crime?
Answer value text: Oppose strongly; Oppose somewhat; neither favor nor oppose; Favor somewhat; Favor strongly

	Regis	All	Heard
Oppose Strongly	19.5	17.9	23.1
Oppose Strongly	10.2	10.8	10.1
Neither	17.7	18.6	8.7
Favor Somewhat	21.4	21.3	21.2
Favor Strongly	31.2	31.4	36.9
Aggregated:			
Oppose	29.7	28.7	33.2
Favor	52.6	52.7	58.1
Favor – Oppose	22.9	24.0	24.9

[rotate order of statements]

18. The state legislature also passed a law to repair California's roads and bridges over the next 10 years. To pay for the repairs, gas taxes will rise by 12 cents for gasoline and 20 cents for diesel. Registration fees will also rise. If a vote were being held today to cancel or keep this law, how would you vote?
Answer value text: [Vote to keep the law to repair roads and bridges and pay with higher gas taxes / registration fees] OR [Vote to cancel the law to repair roads and bridges and pay with higher gas taxes/ registration fees]

	Regis	All
Keep	45.8	47.2
Cancel	54.2	52.8

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19. From what you know, do you favor or oppose the decision by Colin Kaepernick and other athletes to protest by kneeling during the national anthem before sporting events?
Answer value text: Oppose strongly; Oppose somewhat; Neither favor nor oppose; Favor somewhat; Favor strongly; Haven't heard enough about it to say

	Regis	All
Oppose Strongly	33.1	29.9
Oppose Somewhat	8.1	8.4
Neither	17.9	19.3
Favor Somewhat	9.3	9.8
Favor Strongly	24.1	23.3
Haven't heard enough	7.5	9.3
aggregated:		
Oppose	41.2	38.2
Favor	33.4	33.1
Favor – Oppose	-7.8	-5.1

[flip order of furthered/distracted in the text, and match order in answer values]
20. Regardless of how you feel about the protests, do you believe the protests have [furthered the dialogue about issues of policing and race], or, [distracted from making progress on issues of policing and race]?
Answer value text: Furthered dialogue – feel strongly about it , Furthered dialogue – do not feel strongly, Neither furthered the dialogue nor distracted, Distracted from progress– do not feel strongly about it, Distracted from progress – feel strongly about it

	Regis	All
Further Dialogue - Strongly	20.2	19.0
Further Dialogue - Some	16.1	14.9
Neither	25.2	29.4
Distract - Some	13.4	13.4
Distract – Strongly	25.1	23.2
aggregated:		
Furthered	36.3	33.9
Distracted	38.5	36.7
Furthered – Distracted	-2.2	-2.8

21. Do you agree or disagree with the way President Trump has handled the issue of NFL protests?
Answer value text: Disagree strongly; Disagree somewhat; Neither agree nor disagree; Agree somewhat; Agree strongly; Haven't heard enough about it to say

	Regis	All
Disagree Strongly	48.3	45.3
Disagree Somewhat	12.0	12.0
Neither	12.2	13.2
Agree Somewhat	8.6	7.9
Agree Strongly	10.7	10.0
Haven't heard enough	8.2	11.6
aggregated:		
Disagree	60.3	57.3
Agree	19.3	17.9
Agree – Disagree	-41.0	-39.4

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Survey toplines and crosstabs available from
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Register and access data files: *https://uasdata.usc.edu*