The Many States of California: How Likely Voters in California’s June Presidential Primary View the Issues

– a survey conducted on behalf of the –
USC Schwarzenegger Institute for State and Global Policy

by
The Field Poll

May 2016
Total registered voters: 17,268,833*

- Democrats: 7,537,312 (43.7%)
- Republicans: 4,752,293 (27.5%)
- No party preference/others: 4,979,228 (28.8%)

* Source: California Secretary of State
TOP 10 ISSUES WHEN CONSIDERING WHOM TO SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT

- Jobs/the economy: 74%
- Education/public schools: 67%
- Health care: 66%
- Terrorist threat/protecting the homeland: 64%
- Social Security: 63%
- Ensuring clean air/water: 62%
- Supreme Court appointments: 57%
- Keeping U.S. out of war: 54%
- Equal pay for women: 53%
- Immigration: 49%

% Rating this among their most important issues
TOP 10 ISSUES WHEN CONSIDERING WHOM TO SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT

Statewide: Democratic presidential primary voters

% Rating this among their most important issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>% Rating</th>
<th>Difference from all other CA voters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jobs/the economy</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education/public schools</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>+18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring clean air/water</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>+32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>+12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equal pay for women</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>+36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping US out of war</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>+31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income inequality</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>+43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate change</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>+43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College affordability</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>+38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Circled items are those where the ratings of likely voters in this subgroup are significantly higher than the ratings of all other likely voters in California.
TOP 10 ISSUES WHEN CONSIDERING WHOM TO SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>% Rating this among their most important issues</th>
<th>Difference from all other CA voters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terrorist threat/protecting the homeland</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>+26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobs/the economy</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>+4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing the deficit/size of government</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>+41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supreme Court appointments</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>+6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>+13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education/public schools</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing taxes</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>+26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade policies</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>+12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Circed items are those where the ratings of likely voters in this subgroup are significantly higher than the ratings of all other likely voters in California.
WHERE LIKELY VOTERS WHO CONSIDER AN ISSUE TO BE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT STAND ON THE ISSUE (1)

% Rating this among their most important issues

Health care
- Expand the Affordable Care Act to get more people insured: 42%
- Scale back or repeal the law: 21%

Immigration
- Create a pathway to citizenship for the undocumented: 26%
- Stop illegal immigration/secur the border: 22%

Note: Differences between the subtotal and the two answer categories beneath it equal the proportion with no opinion.
WHERE LIKELY VOTERS WHO CONSIDER AN ISSUE TO BE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT STAND ON THE ISSUE (2)

% Rating this among their most important issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gun laws</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Impose greater restrictions on gun ownership</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Protect 2nd Amendment right to bear arms</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy policies</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- End dependence on fossil fuels/promote clean energy alternatives</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Expand development of all energy sources, including oil and gas</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Differences between the subtotal and the two answer categories beneath it equal the proportion with no opinion.
WHICH QUALITY IN A U.S. SENATOR IS MORE IMPORTANT?

- 68% Working with other lawmakers to get laws passed, even if it means making some compromises
- 28% Holding true to one's beliefs, even if it means not compromising with other lawmakers
- 4% No opinion
Los Angeles County

Total reg. voters: 4,741,655*
- Democrats: 2,395,739 (50.5%)
- Republicans: 946,456 (20.0%)
- No party pref./others: 1,399,460 (29.5%)

* Source: California Secretary of State
TOP 10 ISSUES WHEN CONSIDERING WHOM TO SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>% Rating this among their most important issues</th>
<th>Difference from all other CA voters</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jobs/the economy</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>+6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>+8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education/public schools</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring clean air/water</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>+9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrorist threat/protecting the homeland</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>+3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>+1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equal pay for women</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>+12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping U.S. out of war</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>+8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supreme Court appointments</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race relations</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>+11</td>
</tr>
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Note: Circled items are those where the ratings of likely voters in this subgroup are significantly higher than the ratings of all other likely voters in California.
WHERE LIKELY VOTERS WHO CONSIDER AN ISSUE TO BE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT STAND ON THE ISSUE (1)

% Rating this among their most important issues

Health care
- Expand the Affordable Care Act to get more people insured: 50%
- Scale back or repeal the law: 14%

Immigration
- Create a pathway to citizenship for the undocumented: 28%
- Stop illegal immigration/secure the border: 19%

Note: Differences between the subtotal and the two answer categories beneath it equal the proportion with no opinion.
WHERE LIKELY VOTERS WHO CONSIDER AN ISSUE TO BE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT STAND ON THE ISSUE (2)

% Rating this among their most important issues

- **Gun laws**
  - Protect 2nd Amendment right to bear arms: 9%
  - Impose greater restrictions on gun ownership: 36%
  - Gun laws: 46%

- **Energy policies**
  - Expand development of all energy sources, including oil and gas: 12%
  - End dependence on fossil fuels/promote clean energy alternatives: 31%
  - Energy policies: 44%

Note: Differences between the subtotal and the two answer categories beneath it equal the proportion with no opinion.
Los Angeles County: Likely voters

WHICH QUALITY IN A U.S. SENATOR IS MORE IMPORTANT?

- 69% Working with other lawmakers to get laws passed, even if it means making some compromises
- 28% Holding true to one's beliefs, even if it means not compromising with other lawmakers
- 3% No opinion

USC Schwarzenegger Institute – The Field Poll
San Francisco Bay Area

Total reg. voters: 3,564,517*
- Democrats: 1,830,568 (51.4%)
- Republicans: 635,470 (17.8%)
- No party pref./others: 1,098,479 (30.8%)

* Source: California Secretary of State
TOP 10 ISSUES WHEN CONSIDERING WHOM TO SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT

% Rating this among their most important issues

Jobs/the economy: 68%
Education/public schools: 68%
Health care: 67%
Ensuring clean air/water: 66%
Keeping U.S. out of war: 55%
Supreme Court appointments: 55%
Social Security: 54%
Climate change: 53%
Equal pay for women: 53%
Income inequality: 52%

Note: Circled items are those where the ratings of likely voters in this subgroup are significantly higher than the ratings of all other likely voters in California.
WHERE LIKELY VOTERS WHO CONSIDER AN ISSUE TO BE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT STAND ON THE ISSUE (1)

% Rating this among their most important issues

**Health care**
- Expand the Affordable Care Act to get more people insured: 53%
- Scale back or repeal the law: 12%
- **Total for Health care**: 67%

**Immigration**
- Create a pathway to citizenship for the undocumented: 29%
- Stop illegal immigration/secure the border: 13%
- **Total for Immigration**: 44%

Note: Differences between the subtotal and the two answer categories beneath it equal the proportion with no opinion.
WHERE LIKELY VOTERS WHO CONSIDER AN ISSUE TO BE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT STAND ON THE ISSUE (2)

% Rating this among their most important issues

- **Gun laws**
  - Protect 2nd Amendment right to bear arms: 8%
  - Impose greater restrictions on gun ownership: 37%
  - 45% overall

- **Energy policies**
  - End dependence on fossil fuels/promote clean energy alternatives: 43%
  - Expand development of all energy sources, including oil and gas: 6%
  - 50% overall

Note: Differences between the subtotal and the two answer categories beneath it equal the proportion with no opinion.
WHICH QUALITY IN A U.S. SENATOR IS MORE IMPORTANT?

- 78% Working with other lawmakers to get laws passed, even if it means making some compromises
- 20% Holding true to one's beliefs, even if it means not compromising with other lawmakers
- 2% No opinion

San Francisco Bay Area: Likely voters
South Coast

Total reg. voters: 2,777,901*

- Democrats: 945,044 (34.0%)
- Republicans: 1,011,724 (36.4%)
- No party pref./others: 821,133 (29.6%)

* Source: California Secretary of State
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<th>% Rating this among their most important issues</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jobs/the economy</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrorist threat/protecting the homeland</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>+3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supreme Court appointments</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>+6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education/public schools</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing the deficit/size of government</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>+11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping U.S. out of war</td>
<td>53%</td>
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WHERE LIKELY VOTERS WHO CONSIDER AN ISSUE TO BE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT STAND ON THE ISSUE (1)

% Rating this among their most important issues

**Health care**
- Expand the Affordable Care Act to get more people insured: 31%
- Scale back or repeal the law: 35%
- **Total Health care**: 66%

**Immigration**
- Create a pathway to citizenship for the undocumented: 24%
- Stop illegal immigration/secure the border: 28%
- **Total Immigration**: 52%

Note: Differences between the subtotal and the two answer categories beneath it equal the proportion with no opinion.
WHERE LIKELY VOTERS WHO CONSIDER AN ISSUE TO BE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT STAND ON THE ISSUE (2)

% Rating this among their most important issues

- **Gun laws**
  - Impose greater restrictions on gun ownership: 23%
  - Protect 2nd Amendment right to bear arms: 20%
  - **Total for gun laws**: 44%

- **Energy policies**
  - End dependence on fossil fuels/promote clean energy alternatives: 26%
  - Expand development of all energy sources, including oil and gas: 18%
  - **Total for energy policies**: 44%

Note: Differences between the subtotal and the two answer categories beneath it equal the proportion with no opinion.
WHICH QUALITY IN A U.S. SENATOR IS MORE IMPORTANT?

- 65% Working with other lawmakers to get laws passed, even if it means making some compromises
- 30% Holding true to one's beliefs, even if it means not compromising with other lawmakers
- 5% No opinion

South Coast: Likely voters
Central Valley

Total reg. voters: 2,916,575*

- Democrats: 1,100,593 (37.7%)
- Republicans: 1,058,300 (36.3%)
- No party pref./others: 757,682 (26.0%)

* Source: California Secretary of State
**TOP 10 ISSUES WHEN CONSIDERING WHOM TO SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT**

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<th>Issue</th>
<th>% Rating this among their most important issues</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jobs/the economy</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrorist threat/protecting the homeland</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>+8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>+4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>+5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education/public schools</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>+1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring clean air/water</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing the deficit/size of government</td>
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<td>-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>+5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gun laws</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>+9</td>
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WHERE LIKELY VOTERS WHO CONSIDER AN ISSUE TO BE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT STAND ON THE ISSUE (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Central Valley</th>
<th>Los Angeles</th>
<th>SF Bay Area</th>
<th>South Coast</th>
<th>Inland Emp.</th>
<th>Statewide</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health care</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expand the Affordable Care Act to get more people insured</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scale back or repeal the law</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create a pathway to citizenship for the undocumented</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop illegal immigration/secure the border</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Differences between the subtotal and the two answer categories beneath it equal the proportion with no opinion.
WHERE LIKELY VOTERS WHO CONSIDER AN ISSUE TO BE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT STAND ON THE ISSUE (2)

**Gun laws**
- Protect 2nd Amendment right to bear arms: 35%
- Impose greater restrictions on gun ownership: 19%
- % Rating this among their most important issues: 54%

**Energy policies**
- End dependence on fossil fuels/promote clean energy alternatives: 26%
- Expand development of all energy sources, including oil and gas: 14%
- % Rating this among their most important issues: 42%

Note: Differences between the subtotal and the two answer categories beneath it equal the proportion with no opinion.
WHICH QUALITY IN A U.S. SENATOR IS MORE IMPORTANT?

- 56% Working with other lawmakers to get laws passed, even if it means making some compromises
- 40% Holding true to one's beliefs, even if it means not compromising with other lawmakers
- 4% No opinion

Central Valley: Likely voters
Inland Empire

Total reg. voters: 1,624,321*

- Democrats: 600,376 (37.0%)
- Republicans: 586,331 (36.1%)
- No party pref./others: 437,614 (26.9%)

* Source: California Secretary of State
TOP 10 ISSUES WHEN CONSIDERING WHOM TO SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT

% Rating this among their most important issues

- Jobs/the economy: 81%
- Terrorist threat/protecting the homeland: 77%
- Education/public schools: 73%
- Social Security: 66%
- Immigration: 65%
- Health care: 61%
- Reducing the deficit/size of government: 60%
- Supreme Court appointments: 60%
- Keeping U.S. out of war: 57%
- Gun laws: 55%

Difference from all other CA voters

- Jobs/the economy: +7
- Terrorist threat/protecting the homeland: +14
- Education/public schools: +7
- Social Security: +3
- Immigration: +17
- Health care: -5
- Reducing the deficit/size of government: +12
- Supreme Court appointments: +3
- Keeping U.S. out of war: +3
- Gun laws: +9

Note: Circled items are those where the ratings of likely voters in this subgroup are significantly higher than the ratings of all other likely voters in California.
WHERE LIKELY VOTERS WHO CONSIDER AN ISSUE TO BE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT STAND ON THE ISSUE (1)

**Health care**
- Expand the Affordable Care Act to get more people insured: 35%
- Scale back or repeal the law: 24%
- Total: 61%

**Immigration**
- Create a pathway to citizenship for the undocumented: 26%
- Stop illegal immigration/secure the border: 40%
- Total: 65%

Note: Differences between the subtotal and the two answer categories beneath it equal the proportion with no opinion.
WHERE LIKELY VOTERS WHO CONSIDER AN ISSUE TO BE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT STAND ON THE ISSUE (2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Inland Empire</th>
<th>Los Angeles</th>
<th>SF Bay Area</th>
<th>South Coast</th>
<th>Central Val.</th>
<th>Inland Empire</th>
<th>Statewide</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protect 2nd Amendment right to bear arms</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expand development of all energy sources, including oil and gas</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End dependence on fossil fuels/promote clean energy alternatives</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impose greater restrictions on gun ownership</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rating this among their most important issues</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>55%</td>
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WHICH QUALITY IN A U.S. SENATOR IS MORE IMPORTANT?

- Working with other lawmakers to get laws passed, even if it means making some compromises: 64%
- Holding true to one's beliefs, even if it means not compromising with other lawmakers: 33%
- No opinion: 3%