

USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences/Los Angeles Times

Frequency Questionnaire

April 7-17, 2011

1400 Registered Voters (1503 Unweighted)

952 White Voters (849 Unweighted)

280 Latino Voters (483 Unweighted)

Q.2 Is this respondent the name on the file?

	Total	White	Latino
Yes person on file.....	100	100	100
No, someone not on the file	-	-	-
(ref:NOF)			

Q.3 What language do you feel most comfortable speaking, English or Spanish?

	Total	White	Latino
English/ingles	91	99	56
Spanish/espanol.....	9	1	44
(ref:LANGDUMMY)			

Q.5 First of all, are you registered to vote at this address?

	Total	White	Latino
Yes	100	100	100
No.....	-	-	-
(ref:SCREEN1)			

Q.6 I know it's a long way off, but what are the chances of your voting in the election for President, U.S. Senate, Congress and other offices in November of 2012 -- are you almost certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or don't you think you will vote?

	Total	White	Latino
Almost certain.....	87	91	76
Probably	7	6	11
50-50	4	2	9
Won't vote.....	1	0	2
(Don't know)	1	1	2
(Refused).....	0	0	0
(ref:WILLVOTE)			

[241 Respondents]

Q.7 (IN LATINO SAMPLE) Do you consider yourself, or your family ancestry to be of Hispanic or Latino origin or descent?

	Total	White	Latino
Yes	100	100	100
No.....	-	-	-
(Don't know)	-	-	-
(Refused).....	-	-	-
(ref:LATINO)			

[700 Respondents]

Q.8 (SPLIT A) Generally speaking, do you think that things in this country are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

	Total	White	Latino
Right direction	23	20	22
Wrong track	66	69	67
(Don't know)	10	10	10
(Refused).....	1	1	1
Right - Wrong.....	-43	-49	-45
(ref:DIRECT)			

[700 Respondents]

Q.9 (SPLIT B) Generally speaking, do you think that things in the state of California are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

	Total	White	Latino
Right direction	19	18	21
Wrong track	70	73	64
(Don't know)	11	9	15
(Refused).....	0	0	0
Right - Wrong.....	-51	-56	-42
(ref:DIRECT2)			

Q.10 Which of the following words best describes your emotions about the way things are going in California: angry, disappointed, optimistic, hopeful, or uncertain?

	Total	White	Latino
Disappointed	34	36	30
Hopeful	19	18	22
Uncertain	17	17	15
Angry	17	18	12
Optimistic.....	11	9	15
(All)	2	1	2
(None)	1	0	1
(Don't know)	1	0	2
(Refused).....	0	-	-
(ref:EMOTION)			

Q.11 Do you approve or disapprove of the job being done by:

	Strng App	Smwt App	Smwt Disap	Strng Disap	DK/ Ref	Total App	Total Disap	App - Disap
13 Jerry Brown as governor								
Total	18	26	15	18	23	44	33	11
White	18	26	14	20	22	43	35	9
Latino.....	21	22	19	13	26	43	31	11
14 The California state legislature								
Total	5	16	24	40	15	21	64	-43
White	2	15	24	45	15	17	68	-51
Latino.....	16	13	27	25	19	29	52	-22
(ref:JOBRA1)								

Q.28 Now let me read you some short pairs of statements about Jerry Brown. After each pair, please tell me which statement you agree with more.

	1st Stmt Much	1st Stmt Smwt	2nd Stmt Smwt	2nd Stmt Much	Both	Neither	DK/Ref	Total 1st Stmt	Total 2nd Stmt	1st - 2nd
28 Jerry Brown has a record of experience that will help get California back on track.										
Jerry Brown represents the past and does not have the right ideas for California's future.										
Total	28	22	17	20	1	5	8	49	37	12
White	27	21	17	22	1	6	6	48	39	9
Latino.....	26	23	20	14	1	4	12	49	34	15

(ref:BROWNPAIRS)

Q.30 Now let's talk about something a little different. Thinking about California's economy, do you believe the state economy has already bottomed out and is starting to improve, is at the bottom but is not yet getting any better, or has the economy not yet bottomed out and will still get worse?

	Total	White	Latino
Already bottomed out and starting to improve.....	29	29	29
At the bottom but not yet improving.....	28	27	30
Not bottomed out yet and will still get worse	39	40	40
(Don't know)	4	4	2
(Refused).....	0	-	0

(ref:ECONOMY)

Q.31 Now I am going to read you some short pairs of statements about the California economy. After I read each pair, please tell me which statement you agree with more.

	1st Stmt Much	1st Stmt Smwt	2nd Stmt Smwt	2nd Stmt Much	Both	Nei- ther	DK/ Ref	Total 1st Stmt	Total 2nd Stmt	1st - 2nd
31 California's jobs and business climate provides opportunity for entrepreneurship and promotes innovation.										
California's jobs and business climate gets in the way of businesses starting, growing and creating jobs.										
Total	17	20	23	26	1	4	9	37	50	-12
White	18	20	23	27	1	4	8	38	50	-12
Latino.....	16	22	23	24	1	3	10	38	47	-9

32 The best thing for California's future is to protect spending on education and health care, even if that means higher taxes.

The best thing for California's future is to cut taxes, even if that means large cuts to education and health care.

Total	32	24	11	20	1	8	4	56	31	25
White	32	23	11	21	1	8	4	55	32	23
Latino.....	32	25	10	22	1	6	4	57	32	25

(ref:ECONPAIRS)

Q.33 Now let me ask you something a little different. How closely have you been following the debate about the California state budget -- very closely, somewhat closely, or not closely at all?

	Total	White	Latino
Very closely	18	19	13
Somewhat closely	57	58	53
Not closely at all	25	22	32
(Don't know)	1	0	2
(Refused).....	-	-	-

(ref:BUDGAWARE)

Q.34 And thinking back over the last three years or so, would you say the California state budget is bigger than it was three years ago, smaller than it was three years ago, or has it stayed about the same?

	Total	White	Latino
Much bigger.....	26	27	24
Somewhat bigger	22	24	15
Stayed the same	22	22	25
Somewhat smaller	11	10	14
Much smaller	5	3	9
(Don't know)	14	14	13
(Refused).....	0	-	-
Total Bigger	48	51	39
Total Smaller	16	13	23
Bigger - Smaller	32	38	16

(ref:BUDGINC)

Q.35 In your own view, which of the following is MOST responsible for California's current budget deficit?

	Total	White	Latino
State leaders having been wasteful and have not spent wisely in recent years	41	41	42
The national recession	20	21	21
Not enough help for the struggling middle class and working people	13	10	18
The state's business climate and jobs policies are bad for business	9	11	8
(Other)	2	2	2
(All)	11	12	5
(None)	1	1	0
(Don't know)	2	2	3
(Refused).....	0	0	-

(ref:BUDGRES)

Q.36 As you may know, California has a total annual budget of around 85 billion dollars. This year, the state faced a budget deficit of more than 26 billion dollars, which the governor and state legislature recently reduced to 14 billion dollars by cutting funding for many state services. To close the rest of the budget deficit, which approach do you favor -- cutting spending, increasing taxes, or a combination of cutting spending and increasing taxes?

	Total	White	Latino
Cutting spending	33	35	29
Increasing taxes	9	11	5
Combination of cutting spending and increasing taxes with	53	50	60
(None)	2	2	2
(Don't know)	2	2	3
(Refused).....	0	0	0

(ref:THEME)

[740 Respondents]

Q.37 (IF PUNCH 3 IN THEME) Now let me ask you, in order to close the rest of the budget deficit, would you prefer that the deficit reductions come more from spending cuts, more from tax increases, or an equal amount from both tax increases and spending cuts?

	Total	White	Latino
More from spending cuts	18	18	20
More from tax increases	14	17	11
An equal amount	63	62	65
(Don't know)	4	3	3
(Refused).....	0	0	0
(ref:THEME2)			

Q.38 Now let me ask you, from what you know, do you favor or oppose the budget plan recently proposed by Jerry Brown?

	Total	White	Latino
Strongly favor	11	11	8
Somewhat favor	22	22	24
Somewhat oppose.....	12	11	12
Strongly oppose	14	16	10
(Don't know)	40	39	45
(Refused).....	0	0	0
Total Favor	33	33	32
Total Oppose	26	27	22
Favor - Oppose	7	6	10
(ref:VOTE1)			

Q.39 The budget proposed by Jerry Brown closes the 26 billion dollar deficit by cutting around 12 billion dollars in spending and increasing taxes or extending recent tax increases to raise more than 14 billion dollars in revenue. The plan includes major cuts to almost every sector of government including health care, public safety, welfare services and higher education, but not K through 12 education. It cuts salaries for most state employees, and it shifts some responsibilities from the state to local government. Brown has proposed letting voters decide on the tax part of the budget in a special election, which would restore recent increases in the sales tax, income tax, and vehicle license fees that will have expired on June 30.

After hearing this information, do you favor or oppose this budget plan proposed by Jerry Brown?

	Total	White	Latino
Strongly favor	20	20	17
Somewhat favor	33	33	34
Somewhat oppose.....	17	17	18
Strongly oppose	21	21	22
(Don't know)	9	9	10
(Refused).....	0	0	0
Total Favor	52	53	51
Total Oppose	38	38	39
Favor - Oppose	14	15	12
(ref:VOTEINF)			

Q.40 Now I'd like to read you some proposals to help balance the state budget. Some of these have already been passed by the state legislature, while others are being proposed by Jerry Brown and others. After I read each one, please tell me whether or you favor or oppose that proposal.

	Strng Fav	Smwt Fav	Smwt Opp	Strng Opp	DK/ Ref	Total Fav	Total Opp	Fav - Opp
40 Cut spending on higher education, including an increase in community college fees of 10 dollars per unit.								
Total	19	23	16	38	4	42	54	-12
White	20	26	16	33	4	47	50	-3
Latino.....	15	13	16	52	4	28	68	-40
41 Limit health care for low-income children, eliminate adult day care for the elderly, and reduce welfare benefits.								
Total	11	16	23	43	7	26	67	-40
White	11	18	25	39	8	28	64	-36
Latino.....	12	8	22	55	3	19	77	-58
42 Shift responsibility for foster care and mental health programs from the state to local government, and transfer non-violent inmates from state prisons to county jails.								
Total	18	29	16	22	15	47	38	9
White	17	29	18	21	15	46	39	7
Latino.....	23	30	14	22	11	52	36	16
43 Put a cap on state spending so it could not increase by more than the cost of living each year.								
Total	51	29	9	7	4	80	15	65
White	52	29	9	6	4	81	15	66
Latino.....	51	28	8	8	5	79	16	63
44 Eliminate perks for public employees like state cars and cell phones.								
Total	57	21	11	8	4	78	19	59
White	59	22	10	5	3	81	16	66
Latino.....	49	19	14	13	5	68	27	42

(ref:CUTSSUPPORT)

Q.55 Now let me read you a little more information about the state budget. California is required to have a balanced budget each year. In order to close the budget deficit, Jerry Brown and the state legislature have already agreed on ways to reduce it by 11 billion dollars. However, there is not yet agreement on how to close the rest of budget gap.

Now I am going to read you a series of proposals that some people are making for how to close the rest of the budget deficit. After I read each one, please tell me whether you favor or oppose that proposal.

	Strng Fav	Smwt Fav	Smwt Opp	Strng Opp	DK/ Ref	Total Fav	Total Opp	Fav - Opp
55 Hold a special election after June 30th in which voters would decide whether to renew increases in income tax, sales tax and vehicle license fees that recently expired.								
Total	34	27	13	23	5	60	35	25
White	35	27	12	22	3	62	34	28
Latino.....	32	22	15	25	7	53	40	14

56 Pass a bill in the state legislature before June 30th to increase the income tax and extend the current rates for the sales tax and vehicle license fee that were raised in 2009 and are set to expire.								
Total	19	23	19	34	5	42	53	-12
White	21	23	19	32	5	44	51	-8
Latino.....	13	20	22	40	6	33	62	-29

57 Pass an "all-cuts" budget, in which Jerry Brown and the legislature would have to cut another 14 billion dollars, some of which would come from K through 12 schools.								
Total	12	13	19	52	4	25	71	-47
White	14	14	19	50	4	27	69	-41
Latino.....	8	8	21	57	5	16	78	-62

(ref:REVENUE)

Q.58 Now let me read you two more statements about the state budget, and please tell me which one you agree with more.

I'd prefer renewing the tax rate increase in order to protect K through 12 education, even if it means my taxes don't go down.

I'd prefer passing an all-cuts budget so my taxes don't go up, even if it means significant cuts to K through 12 education.

	Total	White	Latino
Tax rate increase MUCH.....	37	36	34
Tax rate increase SOMEWHAT	26	25	29
All-cuts budget SOMEWHAT	11	12	9
All-cuts budget MUCH.....	19	20	20
(Both).....	0	0	0
(Neither)	4	5	5
(Don't know)	3	3	3
Total Tax rate	63	61	63
Total All-cuts.....	30	31	29
Tax rate - All-cuts	33	30	34
(ref:ALLCUTSPAIR)			

Q.59 As you may know, during his campaign last year Jerry Brown promised that he would not raise taxes without the approval of the voters. So far, he has not been able to get the state legislature to agree to hold a special election on taxes. One of the proposals he may now be considering to close the budget deficit is to increase the income tax and extend the current rates for the sales tax and vehicle license fee without voter approval by passing a bill in the state legislature.

Some people say Brown should do whatever it takes to balance the state budget, regardless of what he promised in the campaign.

Other people say that Brown won office by promising not to raise taxes without voter approval, and he should not break his promise.

After hearing this, if Brown were to propose increasing the income tax and extending the current rates for the sales tax and vehicle license fee without voter approval, would it would make you more likely to support the budget plan recently proposed by Jerry Brown, less likely, or would it make no difference in your support for the budget plan recently proposed by Jerry Brown?

	Total	White	Latino
Much more likely	13	13	14
Somewhat more likely	9	8	11
Somewhat less likely	12	11	13
Much less likely	28	29	27
No difference	34	35	27
(Don't know)	4	4	8
(Refused).....	0	0	0
Total More likely	21	21	25
Total Less likely.....	40	40	40
More - Less	-18	-19	-15
(ref:PROMISE)			

Q.60 Now let me read you some short pairs of statements about the budget plan proposed by Jerry Brown. After each pair, please tell me which statement you agree with more.

	1st Stmt Much	1st Stmt Smwt	2nd Stmt Smwt	2nd Stmt Much	Both	Nei-ther	DK/ Ref	Total 1st Stmt	Total 2nd Stmt	1st - 2nd
60 Overall, this budget proposal will help regular Californians.										
Overall, this budget proposal will hurt regular Californians.										
Total	19	24	22	19	1	3	12	43	41	1
White	20	21	23	19	1	4	12	42	42	0
Latino.....	16	27	21	19	1	4	11	43	41	2

61 Overall, this budget proposal will strengthen California's economy in the long run.

Overall, this budget proposal will weaken California's economy in the long run.

	1st Stmt Much	1st Stmt Smwt	2nd Stmt Smwt	2nd Stmt Much	Both	Neither	DK/Ref	Total 1st Stmt	Total 2nd Stmt	1st - 2nd
Total	19	28	19	18	1	3	13	46	36	10
White	19	28	18	17	1	3	13	47	36	11
Latino.....	17	28	19	20	1	2	14	45	39	6

62 This budget proposal represents new ideas and the right kind of change.

This budget proposal is really no different than what has already been tried in the past.

Total	17	21	26	19	1	4	13	38	45	-7
White	18	21	26	19	1	4	12	39	44	-6
Latino.....	14	22	31	15	1	3	13	36	47	-10

63 When it comes to the budget, Jerry Brown is being an honest and straightforward leader about the tough decisions we need to make.

When it comes to the budget, Jerry Brown is just another politician pushing his own agenda and protecting his political allies.

Total	26	24	16	22	1	3	8	50	38	12
White	28	23	15	22	1	3	8	51	38	14
Latino.....	17	24	22	20	2	2	13	41	42	-1

(ref:BUDGPAIRS)

Q.71 Finally, I would like to ask you some questions for statistical purposes. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat or what?

	Total	White	Latino
Strong Democrat	23	21	26
Weak Democrat.....	20	16	38
Lean Democrat.....	11	11	9
Independent	9	8	7
Lean Republican	9	10	5
Weak Republican	12	14	6
Strong Republican.....	15	19	4
(Don't know/Refused).....	2	1	5

(ref:PTYID1)

Q.74 Thinking in political terms, would you say that you are Conservative, Moderate or Liberal?

	Total	White	Latino
Liberal.....	24	23	23
Moderate	35	36	32
Conservative	36	36	40
(Don't know)	4	4	3
(Refuse).....	1	0	2
(ref:IDEO1)			

Phone Use

	Total	White	Latino
Cell Only.....	10	9	10
Cell Mostly.....	28	27	30
Dual User	27	29	24
Landline Mostly	21	24	16
Landline Only	12	11	18
Landline Unknown.....	2	1	2
Cell Mostly (from cell sample).....	5	4	7
Cell Mostly (from landline sample).....	23	23	23
(ref:PHONE USE)			

Q.78 In what year were you born?

	Total	White	Latino
18-24	12	10	17
25-29	5	5	5
30-34	7	8	6
35-39	7	6	8
40-44	8	8	9
45-49	10	9	14
50-54	9	9	8
55-59	9	10	8
60-64	9	9	8
Over 64.....	22	26	13
(No answer).....	2	1	3
(ref:AGE)			

Q.79 What is the last year of schooling that you have completed?

	Total	White	Latino
1 - 11th grade	7	2	25
High school graduate	14	11	22
Non-college post H.S.	1	1	3
Some college.....	28	29	24
College graduate	28	33	16
Post graduate school.....	20	23	6
(Doctor of Philosophy or Ph.D).....	1	1	0
(Medical Doctor or MD)	0	0	-
(Master of Arts or MA)	4	6	1
(Master of Business Administration or MBA).....	3	4	1
(Juris Doctor or JD)	1	1	0
(Doctor of Dental Surgery or DDS).....	0	0	-
(Master of Public Health).....	0	0	-
(Other Post Grad Degree)	2	2	0
(Don't know)	1	1	1
(Refuse).....	2	1	4
(ref:EDUC)			

Q.80 Are you a member of a labor union?

	Total	White	Latino
Yes: Respondent belongs	12	12	11
Household member	7	7	7
No member belongs	78	80	77
(Don't know)	2	1	3
(Refuse).....	1	0	2
Yes: Private Sector.....	6	6	7
Yes: Public Sector	12	13	11
Total Union.....	19	19	18
(ref:UNION)			

Q.81 Are you married, single, separated, divorced, or widowed?

	Total	White	Latino
Married	57	59	56
Single	26	24	26
Separated/divorced	7	8	9
Widowed.....	7	8	4
(Don't know)	0	0	0
(Refuse).....	2	0	4
(ref:MARITAL)			

Q.82 Do you have any children 18 years of age or younger living at home?

	Total	White	Latino
Yes	30	25	44
No.....	68	75	52
(Don't know)	0	0	1
(Refused).....	2	0	4
(ref:KIDS)			

[1168 Respondents]

Q.83 (IF VOTED IN 2008) In the 2008 election for president, did you vote for Democrat Barack Obama or Republican John McCain?

	Total	White	Latino
Barack Obama	57	50	77
John McCain	33	40	12
(Ralph Nader).....	1	1	1
(Bob Barr).....	0	0	-
(Other).....	5	5	1
(Don't know).....	1	1	2
(Refused).....	3	2	6
 Obama - McCain	 24	 10	 65
(ref:VOTE2008)			

Q.84 I'm going to read you a list of economic experiences some people have recently had. For each one, please tell me if you have directly experienced this in the last year, if your family has directly experienced this in the last year, or if someone you know well, like a friend, neighbor or co-worker, has experienced this or if no one you know well has experienced it.

	Impct You	Impct Fam ily	Impct Some one	No Impct	DK/ Ref	Impct You Fam	Total Impct
84 Loss of a job							
Total	12	22	28	34	3	34	62
White	10	22	30	37	1	32	62
Latino.....	17	28	23	27	4	45	68
85 Reduced wages or hours at work							
Total	21	23	20	31	5	44	64
White	20	21	22	34	3	41	63
Latino.....	26	30	16	24	5	55	71
86 Fallen behind on mortgage payments or home was foreclosed on							
Total	6	12	26	52	4	18	44
White	4	11	28	55	3	15	43
Latino.....	12	18	23	42	6	29	52
87 Had to postpone making a major purchase							
Total	30	13	13	39	5	43	56
White	30	14	15	39	3	43	58
Latino.....	29	15	10	40	5	44	54
88 Rejoined the job market and began to look for work again							
Total	14	20	23	40	5	33	56
White	12	19	23	43	3	31	54
Latino.....	21	24	18	31	6	45	63

(ref:FINANCE)

Q.89 Typically speaking, how often to you attend church or religious services -- more than once a week, once a week, monthly or less, or never?

	Total	White	Latino
More than once a week	10	9	12
Once a week	27	25	34
Monthly or less	28	29	29
Never	32	35	20
(Don't know)	1	1	1
(Refuse).....	3	1	4
Weekly	37	34	46

(ref:RELIG1)

Q.90 What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

	Total	White	Latino
White	68	100	13
African-American or Black.....	5	0	1
Hispanic or Latino.....	20	4	100
Native American	2	1	1
Asian	5	0	1
(Other)	2	-	1
(Don't know)	0	-	0
(Refuse).....	3	-	3
(Will not identify).....	-	-	-
(Multi-Racial)	1	-	1

(ref:RACETHN3)

Q.93 Were you born in the U.S. or another country?

	Total	White	Latino
The U.S.	79	93	37
Another country	19	6	59
(Don't know)	0	-	0
(Refused).....	3	0	4

(ref:BORNUS)

[1099 Respondents]

Q.94 (IF BORN IN US IN BORNUS) Were either of your parents born in another country, or were both parents born in the U.S.?

	Total	White	Latino
Father born in another country	5	4	9
Mother born in another country	3	3	4
Both born in another country	9	4	47
Both parents born in the U.S.	83	89	38
(Don't know)	0	0	1
(Refused).....	0	0	1

(ref:PARENTBORN)

Q.95 It is possible that a reporter for the Los Angeles Times may do a news story based on some of these topics and may want to ask a few follow-up questions of some of the people we spoke to tonight. Would you be willing to allow a reporter to have your responses on the questions and then possibly call you for a brief interview?

	Total	White	Latino
Yes	54	56	50
No.....	46	44	50

(ref:LATFLW)

Q.4 Sex of respondent

	Total	White	Latino
Male.....	47	45	47
Female	53	55	53

(ref:GENDER)