

# University of Southern California/Los Angeles Times Frequency Questionnaire

October 27-November 3, 2009  
1500 Registered Voters

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Q.2 What language do you feel most comfortable speaking, Spanish or English?

	<b>Total</b>
English/ingles .....	96
Spanish/espanol.....	4
(ref:LANGDUMMY)	

Q.4 First of all, are you registered to vote in the state of California?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes .....	100
No.....	-
(ref:NRV)	

**[300 Respondents]**

Q.6 [ASK ONLY OF UNAFFILIATED VOTERS FROM THE FILE] As you may know, voters who 'decline to state' a political party are eligible to vote in either the Democratic or Republican primary elections in California. Do you generally vote in either the Democratic or Republican primary elections or do you not generally vote in either party's primary election?

	<b>Total</b>
Vote in Democratic primary .....	29
Vote in Republican primary .....	11
Do not vote in either the Republican or the Democratic primary .....	51
(Don't know/refused) .....	8
(ref:UNAFFLVT2)	

Q.7 I know it's a long way off, but what are the chances of your voting in the California Primary for Governor and other offices in 2010: are you almost certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or don't you think you will vote?

	<b>Total</b>
Almost certain.....	77
Probably .....	13
50-50 .....	7
Will not vote.....	3
(Don't know) .....	1
(Refused).....	-
(ref:CP10)	

Q.8 And now, 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?

	<b>Total</b>
Right direction .....	35
Wrong track .....	55
(Don't know/refused) .....	9
<b>Right - Wrong.....</b>	<b>-20</b>
(ref:DIRECT)	

Q.9 And now, 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?

	<b>Total</b>
Right direction .....	14
Wrong track .....	79
(Don't know/refused) .....	7
<b>Right - Wrong.....</b>	<b>-65</b>
(ref:DIRECT2)	

Q.10 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
10 Barack Obama as President of the United States							
Total .....	37	24	9	25	6	60	34
11 Arnold Schwarzenegger as Governor of California							
Total .....	8	25	27	35	5	33	62
12 Barbara Boxer as U.S. Senator							
Total .....	18	26	9	27	21	43	36
13 The California State Legislature							
Total .....	3	17	22	44	14	20	66
14 Dianne Feinstein as U.S. Senator							
Total .....	20	29	11	24	16	48	35
(ref:JOBRA1)							

Q.15 Now, I am going to read you a list of names. For each, I would like you to tell me your impression of that person as of today: do you feel very favorable toward them, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable toward that person -- or haven't you heard enough about them to say?

	Very Fav	Very Unfav	ID	Total Fav	Total Unfav	Fav - Unfav
15 Barack Obama						
Total .....	41	23	99	65	33	32
16 Arnold Schwarzenegger						
Total .....	9	30	99	41	57	-16
17 Barbara Boxer						
Total .....	16	26	88	49	36	13
18 Jerry Brown						
Total .....	13	14	76	44	27	17
19 Gavin Newsom						
Total .....	8	17	58	27	26	1
20 Chuck DeVore						
Total .....	1	2	19	6	4	2
21 Carly Fiorina						
Total .....	1	6	29	9	12	-3
22 Meg Whitman						
Total .....	4	7	38	17	14	3
23 Steve Poizner						
Total .....	1	2	26	11	7	4

	Very Fav	Very Unfav	ID	Total Fav	Total Unfav	Fav - Unfav
24 Tom Campbell						
Total .....	4	2	34	17	8	8
25 Loretta Sanchez						
Total .....	5	7	37	18	12	5
(ref:THERM)						

Q.26 Now I am going to read a list of emotions and then the names of some political figures. Please tell me for each of the political figures, which emotion comes most to mind. You may use the same, or different emotions for each political figure: Anger, Disappointment, Anxiety, Hope or Pride?

	Anger	Disappointment	Anxiety	Hope	Pride	DK/Ref
26 Barack Obama						
Total .....	8	18	12	43	17	2
27 Arnold Schwarzenegger						
Total .....	13	45	12	21	6	3
28 The California State Legislature						
Total .....	21	40	15	15	1	7
(ref:ADJECT)						

**[499 Respondents]**

Q.29 (ASK ONLY OF REGISTERED REPUBLICAN VOTERS ON FILE AND UNAFFILIATED VOTERS WHO SAY THEY VOTE IN REPUBLICAN PRIMARIES IN UNAFFLVT2) I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the Republican primary for senator next year, if the Republican primary election for senator was held today and the candidates were businesswoman Carly Fiorina and California State Assemblyman Chuck DeVore, for whom would you vote?

	<b>Total</b>
Carly Fiorina .....	19
Lean Carly Fiorina .....	8
Chuck DeVore .....	17
Lean Chuck DeVore .....	10
(Other candidate) .....	2
Lean (Other candidate) .....	0
(Undecided) .....	40
(Refused).....	4
<b>Total Carly Fiorina .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Total Chuck DeVore .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Total (Other candidate) .....</b>	<b>2</b>
(ref:SENPR10R)	

**[499 Respondents]**

Q.31 (ASK ONLY OF REGISTERED REPUBLICAN VOTERS ON FILE AND UNAFFILIATED VOTERS WHO SAY THEY VOTE IN REPUBLICAN PRIMARIES IN UNAFFLVT2) I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the Republican primary for governor next year, if the Republican primary election for governor was held today and the candidates were businesswoman Meg Whitman, former Congressman Tom Campbell and California State Insurance Commissioner Steve Poizner, for whom would you vote?

	<b>Total</b>
Meg Whitman .....	32
Lean Meg Whitman .....	3
Tom Campbell .....	24
Lean Tom Campbell .....	3
Steve Poizner .....	9
Lean Steve Poizner .....	1
(Other candidate) .....	2
Lean (Other candidate) .....	-
(Undecided) .....	23
(Refused).....	3
<b>Total Meg Whitman .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Total Tom Campbell .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Total Steve Poizner .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Total (Other candidate) .....</b>	<b>2</b>
(ref:GOVPRIMR)	

**[320 Respondents]**

Q.33 (ASK ONLY OF REGISTERED DEMOCRATIC VOTERS ON FILE AND UNAFFILIATED VOTERS WHO SAY THEY VOTE IN DEMOCRATIC PRIMARIES IN UNAFFLVT2) As you may have heard, San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom dropped out of the race to become the Democratic candidate for governor on Friday, leaving former Governor Jerry Brown as the only major political figure seeking the Democratic nomination. Are you satisfied with Brown as the only major figure seeking the nomination or do you think it is important for Democratic voters to have additional choices in who to nominate to be the Democratic candidate for Governor?<sup>1</sup>

	<b>Total</b>
Very satisfied.....	16
Somewhat satisfied .....	16
Need additional choices .....	65
(Don't know/refused) .....	3
(ref:DEMSAT)	

**[596 Respondents]**

Q.34 Now let me read you two statements some people might make about Jerry Brown and I want you to tell me which statement comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.<sup>2</sup>

Some people say as a former governor, attorney general and mayor, Brown has the experience and knowledge to lead California during these difficult times.

Other people say Jerry Brown is a career politician whose ideas are old and now more than ever California needs fresh thinking and new faces.

	<b>Total</b>
Has the experience to lead strongly .....	28
Has the experience to lead not so strongly .....	19
Career politician with old ideas not so strongly .....	12
Career politician with old ideas strongly .....	32
(Both).....	2
(Neither) .....	2
Don't know/refused).....	6
<b>Total Has Experience .....</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Total Career Politician .....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Experience - Politician .....</b>	<b>3</b>
(ref:BROWN1)	

<sup>1</sup> This question was asked only of respondents that are eligible to vote in the Democratic primary who were contacted from October 31-November 3, replacing questions that asked about a potential match-up between Jerry Brown and Gavin Newsom after Newsom announced that he would not be running on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

<sup>2</sup> This question was asked only of respondents who were contacted from October 31-November 3 replacing questions that asked about a potential match-up between Jerry Brown and Gavin Newsom after Newsom announced that he would not be running on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

**[750 Respondents]**

Q.35 (SPLIT A) Now, thinking about the election for US Senate in 2010, do you want a senator who will mostly support President Obama's policies, or do you want a senator who will mostly oppose President Obama's policies?

	<b>Total</b>
Support Obama strongly .....	48
Support Obama not so strongly.....	11
Oppose Obama not so strongly.....	7
Oppose Obama strongly .....	28
(Don't know/Refused) .....	6
<b>Total Support Obama .....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Total Oppose Obama .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Support - Oppose .....</b>	<b>24</b>
(ref:SENTYPE)	

**[750 Respondents]**

Q.36 (SPLIT B) When thinking about the candidates for governor, is it more important to you that a candidate for governor has a background working in business or is it more important to you that a candidate for governor has a background in government?

	<b>Total</b>
Background in business .....	41
Background in government .....	41
(Both).....	9
(Neither) .....	6
(Don't know/Refused) .....	3
<b>Business - Government .....</b>	<b>1</b>
(ref:GOVTYPE)	

Q.37 Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. After I read each pair, please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.

	1st Stmt Strng	1st Not Strng	2nd Not Strng	2nd Stmt Strng	DK/ Ref	Total 1st Stmt	Total 2nd Stmt	1st - 2nd
37 I believe that the candidates for governor will be able to bring about real change to California.								
OR								
I do not believe that the candidates for governor will be able to bring about real change to California.								
Total .....	25	20	17	30	8	45	47	-2

38 California is suffering through a lot of problems right now, but as the overall economy improves throughout the country, things in California will return to normal.

OR  
California's problems are part of a long-term decline that's not going to turn around just because the national economy gets better.

Total .....	26	17	14	41	2	44	54	-10
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(ref:CAPAIRS)

**[812 Respondents]**

Q.39 [IF LONG TERM DECLINE IN CAPAIRS 02] And which of the following, in your opinion, is the biggest cause of these long-term problems:

	Total
State government over-spending .....	37
Special interests exert too much power over state government .....	24
Immigration is out of control .....	17
Schools underfunded .....	9
<b>[32 Respondents]</b>	
(SPLIT A) Taxes are too high.....	8
<b>[26 Respondents]</b>	
(SPLIT B) Some groups aren't paying their fair share in taxes .....	7
(Don't know/Refused) .....	6

(ref:LTPROBS)



Q.40 As you may know, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have recommended that individuals get vaccinated against the H1N1 flu virus, or Swine Flu. Have you, personally, been vaccinated against the Swine Flu?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes: Have been vaccinated.....	5
No: Tried but could not find the vaccine .....	12
No: But plan to get the vaccine .....	28
No: And have no plans to get the vaccine.....	52
(Don't know/refused) .....	3
(ref:SWINE1)	

Q.41 Regardless of whether or not you, personally, have had the H1N1, or Swine Flu, vaccine -- from what you've heard, do you think that the vaccine is probably safe for most people, or do you think there is a strong chance that the vaccine is unsafe?

	<b>Total</b>
Vaccine is safe for most people .....	70
Strong chance the vaccine is unsafe.....	17
(Safe for some, unsafe for others).....	4
(Don't know/refused) .....	8
(ref:SWINE2)	

Q.42 Public health officials say the main symptoms of the H1N1 virus, or Swine Flu, are fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills, and fatigue. Regardless of whether you have had a formal medical diagnosis, do you think that you or a member of your immediate family has had the H1N1 flu within the past four weeks?

	<b>Total</b>
Definitely Yes .....	5
Probably Yes .....	5
Probably No.....	9
Definitely No .....	79
(Not sure) .....	2
(Don't know/refused) .....	0
<b>Total Yes .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Total No .....</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>Yes - No .....</b>	<b>-78</b>
(ref:SWINE3)	

Q.43 Do you think that same-sex couples should be allowed to become legally married in the state of California?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes .....	51
No.....	43
(Don't know/refused) .....	5
(ref:GAYMARR)	

Q.44 Regardless of whether you approve or disapprove of same-sex marriage, do you think it is an issue that Californians should vote on again in 2010, or would you prefer to see the issue left alone and off the ballot for a few years?

	<b>Total</b>
Vote again in 2010 .....	41
Leave it alone and off the ballot for a few years.....	56
(Don't know/refused) .....	4
(ref:GAYMARR2)	

Q.45 As you may know, over the last several years Congress has debated how to change the nation's immigration system.

Do you think the system should be changed to allow some people who have come to this country illegally to become citizens, if they have clean records and pay a fine and meet other requirements such as having a job?

Or should it be changed to emphasize stronger enforcement of border controls and deport people who are here illegally?

	<b>Total</b>
Allow people to become citizens .....	54
Emphasize border controls and deport people here illegally.....	39
(Don't know/refused) .....	7
(ref:IMMIG)	

Q.46 In your opinion, do you think that the California State Legislature should need a fifty percent majority to pass the state budget, or a two-thirds, sixty-six percent supermajority?

	<b>Total</b>
Fifty percent majority .....	37
Two-thirds, supermajority .....	54
(Don't know/refused) .....	9
(ref:SLBUDG)	

Q.47 Well, as you probably know, to pass the state budget in California, two-thirds of state legislators must vote in favor of it. Now I am going to read you two statements about that law and want you to tell me which statement you agree with more.

Some people say that this is necessary to keep the majority in check so that they cannot ram through their agenda.

Other people say that this gives too much power to the minority, creating gridlock and allowing a small number of legislators to vote down the will of the majority.

Which statement do you agree with more, even if neither is exactly right?

	<b>Total</b>
First statement strongly .....	26
First statement somewhat .....	27
Second statement somewhat .....	17
Second statement strongly .....	19
(Both).....	1
(Neither) .....	4
(Don't know/Refused) .....	7
<b>Total First</b> .....	<b>53</b>
<b>Total Second</b> .....	<b>35</b>
<b>First - Second</b> .....	<b>18</b>
(ref:SLBUDGB)	

Q.48 In your opinion, do you think that you should need a fifty percent majority to approve tax increases in the state legislature, or a two-thirds, sixty-six percent supermajority?

	<b>Total</b>
Fifty percent majority .....	28
Two-thirds, supermajority .....	66
(Neither) .....	1
(Don't know/refused) .....	5
(ref:SLTAXAP)	

**[750 Respondents]**

Q.49 (SPLIT A) Now let me ask you something different. As you may know, California is facing a record budget deficit and there have been many proposals on how best to deal with this crisis. One of these proposals would broaden the state sales tax to cover services provided by lawyers, engineers and other professionals whose sales are not currently taxed. Now let me read you what some people who support and oppose this plan have to say about it.

Supporters say that broadening California's sales tax could bring as much as \$45 billion in needed revenue to the state annually, and would be more fair than the current practice of taxing the sale of goods but not most services.

Opponents say that this move would endanger jobs by double-taxing businesses, sending companies to cheaper states and it would hurt working families by taxing home repair services and entertainment.

Based on what you have heard, would you favor or oppose this type of change to California's sales tax system?

	<b>Total</b>
Strongly Favor .....	10
Somewhat Favor .....	16
Somewhat Oppose .....	21
Strongly Oppose.....	45
(Don't know/refused) .....	9
<b>Total Favor .....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Total Oppose .....</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Favor - Oppose .....</b>	<b>-40</b>
(ref:SALETAX)	

**[750 Respondents]**

Q.50 (SPLIT B) Now let me ask you something different. As you may know, California is facing a record budget deficit and there have been many proposals on how best to deal with this crisis. One of these proposals would make the state's income tax system flatter by reducing the number of tax brackets from six, as is the current system, to two or three. Now let me read you what some people who support and oppose this plan have to say about it.

Supporters say the move would help stop California's budget from spiraling into large deficits by making state revenues less dependent on the variable incomes of the very wealthy.

Opponents say the change does little more than provide a tax cut for the wealthy while raising taxes on many middle-class California families.

Based on what you have heard, would you favor or oppose this proposal to reshape California's tax system?

	<b>Total</b>
Favor strongly.....	13
Favor somewhat.....	20
Oppose somewhat .....	22
Oppose strongly .....	26
(Don't know/refused) .....	19
<b>Total Favor .....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Total Oppose .....</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Favor - Oppose .....</b>	<b>-15</b>
(ref:FLATTAX)	

Q.51 As you may know, some have proposed changing the property tax system by keeping Proposition 13's limits on property taxes for homes, but allowing property assessments to rise for businesses. Do you think that...

Proposition 13 should be overturned, eliminating limits on property taxes for homes and businesses  
OR

Proposition 13 should be altered to eliminate limits on property taxes for businesses  
OR

Proposition 13 should be kept as it currently is, limiting property taxes for homes and businesses?

	<b>Total</b>
Proposition 13 should be overturned, eliminating limits on property taxes for homes and businesses .....	13
Proposition 13 should be altered to eliminate limits on property taxes for businesses .....	17
Proposition 13 should be kept as it currently is, limiting property taxes for homes and businesses .....	62
(Don't know/Refused) .....	9
(ref:PROP13)	

Q.52 I'm going to read you a list of ways in which the economic recession has impacted people. For each one, please tell me if it has impacted you or your family directly in the last year or so, if it has impacted someone you know well, such as a friend, neighbor, or coworker, or if it has not impacted you or anyone you know well.

	<b>Dir Impct</b>	<b>Indir Impct</b>	<b>No Impct</b>	<b>DK/ Ref</b>
<b>[750 Respondents]</b>				
52 (SPLIT A) Loss of a job				
Total .....	36	36	28	0
<b>[750 Respondents]</b>				
53 (SPLIT B) Reduced wages or hours at work				
Total .....	47	28	25	1
<b>[750 Respondents]</b>				
54 (SPLIT A) Home foreclosed				
Total .....	10	26	64	1
<b>[750 Respondents]</b>				
55 (SPLIT B) Investments down 25 percent or more				
Total .....	57	16	24	3
56 Lost health insurance coverage				
Total .....	23	19	57	1
<b>[750 Respondents]</b>				
57 (SPLIT B) Delayed retirement				
Total .....	24	20	54	2
<b>[750 Respondents]</b>				
58 (SPLIT A) Fallen behind on mortgage payments				
Total .....	16	32	50	1
<b>[750 Respondents]</b>				
59 (SPLIT B) Delayed or cancelled a doctor visit, filling a prescription or a medical procedure due to cost				
Total .....	27	12	61	0

	Dir Impct	Indir Impct	No Impct	DK/ Ref
<b>[750 Respondents]</b>				
60 (SPLIT A) Delayed a major purchase such as a car, a TV or a kitchen appliance				
Total .....	43	13	42	2
(ref:ECONIMPC)				

Q.61 Finally, I would like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes. What is the last year of schooling that you have completed?

	<b>Total</b>
1 - 11th grade .....	4
High school graduate .....	14
Non-college post H.S. ....	1
Some college.....	32
College graduate.....	30
Post-graduate school .....	19
(Don't know/refused) .....	0
(ref:EDUC)	

Q.62 Are you a member of a labor union?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes: Respondent belongs .....	4
Household member .....	9
No member belongs .....	74
(Don't know/refused) .....	1
Yes: Private Sector.....	3
Yes: Public Sector .....	9
<b>Total Respondent Member .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total Union.....</b>	<b>25</b>
(ref:UNION)	

Q.63 Are you married, single, separated, divorced, or widowed?

	<b>Total</b>
Married .....	59
Single .....	24
Separated/divorced .....	10
Widowed.....	7
(Don't know/Refused) .....	1
(ref:MARITAL)	

Q.66 Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat or what?

	<b>Total</b>
Strong Democrat .....	26
Weak Democrat.....	18
Lean Democrat.....	10
Independent .....	8
Lean Republican .....	8
Weak Republican .....	11
Strong Republican.....	17
(Don't know/Refused) .....	2
(ref:PTYID1)	

Q.67 Thinking in political terms, would you say that you are Conservative, Moderate or Liberal?

	<b>Total</b>
Liberal.....	26
Moderate .....	35
Conservative .....	35
(Don't know/refused) .....	4
(ref:IDEO1)	

**[178 Respondents]**

Q.68 [ASK IN CELL SAMPLE ONLY] Now, thinking about your telephone use, is there at least one telephone INSIDE your home that is currently working and is not a cell phone?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes .....	24
No.....	76
(DK/Refused).....	-
(ref:LANDLINE)	

**[1365 Respondents]**

Q.69 [DO NOT ASK IF NO IN LANDLINE] Of all the personal telephone calls that you receive, do you get...?

	<b>Total</b>
All or almost all calls on a cell phone .....	18
Some on a cell phone and some on a regular home phone .....	34
All or almost all calls on a regular home phone.....	47
(DK/Refused).....	1
(ref:DUALUSE)	

Phone Use

	<b>Total</b>
Cell only.....	9
Cell mostly.....	16
Dual users .....	31
Landline mostly .....	43
Landline unknown .....	1
(ref:PHONE USE)	



Q.70 Typically speaking, how often to you attend church or religious services -- more than once a week, once a week, monthly or less, or never?

	<b>Total</b>
More than once a week .....	7
Once a week .....	24
Monthly or less .....	32
Never .....	34
(Don't know/refused) .....	2
(ref:RELIG1)	

Q.71 And what is your religion?

	<b>Total</b>
Protestant .....	37
Catholic .....	24
Jewish .....	4
Muslim .....	0
Other .....	22
(Don't know/Refused) .....	13
(ref:RELIG2)	

**[548 Respondents]**

Q.72 [IF PROTESTANT IN RELIG2] Do you consider yourself an evangelical or "born again" Christian?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes .....	48
No .....	48
(Don't know/Refused) .....	4
(ref:RELIG3)	

Q.75 What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

	<b>Total</b>
White .....	70
African-American or Black .....	5
Hispanic or Latino .....	16
Native American .....	1
Asian .....	5
(Other) .....	2
(Don't know/Refused) .....	2
(ref:RACETHN)	

Q.75 Last year, that is in 2008, what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes? Just stop me when I get to the right category.

	<b>Total</b>
Less than \$10,000 .....	3
\$10,000 to under \$20,000 .....	6
\$20,000 to under \$30,000 .....	8
\$30,000 to under \$50,000 .....	14
\$50,000 to under \$75,000 .....	15
\$75,000 to under \$100,000 .....	14
\$100,000 or more .....	24
(Refused) .....	10
(Don't know) .....	6
(ref:INCOME)	

Q.76 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?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes .....	55
No.....	45
(ref:LATFLW)	

Q.5 In what year were you born?

	<b>Total</b>
18-24 .....	11
25-29 .....	7
30-34 .....	7
35-39 .....	8
40-44 .....	9
45-49 .....	9
50-54 .....	7
55-59 .....	9
60-64 .....	7
Over 64.....	22
(No answer).....	4
(ref:AGE)	

Q.3 Sex of respondent

	<b>Total</b>
Male.....	47
Female .....	53
(ref:GENDER)	