

University of Southern California/Los Angeles Times Frequency Questionnaire

October 27-November 3, 2009
1500 Registered Voters

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

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

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

	Total
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?

	Total
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?

	Total
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?

	Total
Right direction	35
Wrong track	55
(Don't know/refused)	9
Right - Wrong	-20
(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?

	Total
Right direction	14
Wrong track	79
(Don't know/refused)	7
Right - Wrong	-65
(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:JOBTRAT)							

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?

	Total
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
Total Carly Fiorina	27
Total Chuck DeVore	27
Total (Other candidate)	2
(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?

	Total
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
Total Meg Whitman	35
Total Tom Campbell	27
Total Steve Poizner	10
Total (Other candidate)	2
(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?

	Total
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.

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.

	Total
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
Total Has Experience	47
Total Career Politician	44
Experience - Politician	3
(ref:BROWN1)	

[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?

	Total
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
Total Support Obama	59
Total Oppose Obama	35
Support - Oppose	24
(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?

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

Q.39 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
(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
Immigration is out of control	17
[32 Respondents]	
(SPLIT A) Taxes are too high.....	8
[26 Respondents]	
(SPLIT B) Some groups aren't paying their fair share in taxes	7
Schools underfunded	9
Special interests exert too much power over state government	24
State government over-spending	37
(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?

	Total
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?

	Total
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?

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

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

	Total
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?

	Total
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?

	Total
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?

	Total
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?

	Total
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
Total First	53
Total Second	35
First - Second	18
(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?

	Total
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?

	Total
Strongly Favor	10
Somewhat Favor	16
Somewhat Oppose	21
Strongly Oppose.....	45
(Don't know/refused)	9
Total Favor	26
Total Oppose	65
Favor - Oppose	-40
(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?

	Total
Favor strongly.....	13
Favor somewhat.....	20
Oppose somewhat	22
Oppose strongly	26
(Don't know/refused)	19
Total Favor	33
Total Oppose	48
Favor - Oppose	-15
(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?

	Total
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.

	Dir Impct	Indir Impct	No Impct	DK/ Ref
[750 Respondents]				
52 (SPLIT A) Loss of a job				
Total	36	36	28	0
[750 Respondents]				
53 (SPLIT B) Reduced wages or hours at work				
Total	47	28	25	1
[750 Respondents]				
54 (SPLIT A) Home foreclosed				
Total	10	26	64	1
[750 Respondents]				
55 (SPLIT B) Investments down 25 percent or more				
Total	57	16	24	3
56 Lost health insurance coverage				
Total	23	19	57	1
[750 Respondents]				
57 (SPLIT B) Delayed retirement				
Total	24	20	54	2
[750 Respondents]				
58 (SPLIT A) Fallen behind on mortgage payments				
Total	16	32	50	1
[750 Respondents]				
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
[750 Respondents]				
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?

	Total
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?

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

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

	Total
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?

	Total
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?

	Total
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?

	Total
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...?

	Total
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

	Total
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?

	Total
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?

	Total
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?

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

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

	Total
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.

	Total
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?

	Total
Yes	55
No.....	45
(ref:LATFLW)	

Q.5 In what year were you born?

	Total
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

	Total
Male.....	47
Female	53
(ref:GENDER)	