



REASON-RUPE

Public Opinion Survey

CALIFORNIA OCTOBER 2012 TOPLINE RESULTS

The Reason-Rupe October California 2012 Poll was conducted October 11th-15th 2012 of both mobile (229) and landline (467) phones among 696 adults living in the continental United States, margin of error +/- 3.8%. 106 of these respondents do not have a landline phone. 508 respondents were identified as likely voters, based on those who are registered to vote and say they definitely or will probably vote as well as those who have already voted. The margin of error for likely voters is +/-5.1%. The survey was conducted by Princeton Survey Research International. Interviews were done in English and Spanish by Princeton Data Source, LLC. Statistical results are weighted to correct known demographic discrepancies.

| | | |
|---|---|---------------|
| 1 | If the 2012 presidential election were held today and the candidates were Barack Obama, the Democrat; Mitt Romney, the Republican, Gary Johnson, the Libertarian, and Jill Stein of the Green Party, for whom would you vote? | Likely Voters |
| | Barack Obama, the Democrat | 51% |
| | Mitt Romney, the Republican | 35% |
| | Gary Johnson, the Libertarian | 2% |
| | Jill Stein of the Green Party | 1% |
| | Vote for someone else (VOL.) | 1% |
| | Would not vote (VOL.) | 1% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 9% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 2 | {Among Undecided Voters} As of today do you lean more towards Obama, Romney, Johnson, or Stein? | |
| | Obama | 23% |
| | Romney | 24% |
| | Johnson | 3% |
| | Neither/Other (VOL.) | 11% |
| | Would not vote (VOL.) | 6% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 34% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 3 | Presidential Race Combining Q1 and Q2 | |
| | Obama/Lean Obama | 53% |
| | Romney/Lean Romney | 38% |
| | Johnson/Lean Johnson | 2% |
| | Stein/Lean Stein | 1% |
| | Neither/Other/Wouldn't vote | 2% |
| | Undesignated | 4% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 4 | If the election for U.S. Senator were held today, would you vote for ... | |
| | Dianne Feinstein, the Democrat | 56% |
| | Elizabeth Emken, the Republican | 32% |
| | (VOL. DO NOT READ) Vote for someone else | <1% |
| | (VOL. DO NOT READ) Would not vote | 1% |
| | (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused | 10% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 5 | {Among Undecided Voters} As of today do you lean more towards Feinstein or Emken? | |
| | Feinstein | 31% |
| | Emken | 9% |
| | Neither/Other (VOL.) | 14% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 46% |
| | Total | 100% |

| | | |
|----|--|------|
| 6 | U.S. Senate Race Combining Q4 and Q5 | |
| | Feinstein/ Lean Feinstein | 60% |
| | Emken/ Lean Emken | 34% |
| | Neither/Other/Wouldn't vote | 2% |
| | Undesignated | 5% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 7 | Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president? | |
| | Approve | 55% |
| | Disapprove | 40% |
| | Don't Know/Refused | 5% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 8 | Overall, do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Barack Obama? | |
| | Favorable | 59% |
| | Unfavorable | 38% |
| | Cant rate (VOL.) | 2% |
| | Refused (VOL.) | 1% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 9 | Overall, do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney? | |
| | Favorable | 42% |
| | Unfavorable | 49% |
| | Never heard of (VOL.) | 2% |
| | Can't rate (VOL.) | 5% |
| | Refused (VOL.) | 2% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 10 | Do you approve or disapprove of the way Jerry Brown is handling his job as governor? | |
| | Approve | 42% |
| | Disapprove | 44% |
| | Don't Know/Refused | 14% |
| | Total | 100% |

- 11 Proposition 30 is called the “Temporary Taxes to Fund Education, Guaranteed Local Public Safety Funding Initiative.” It increases personal income taxes on households making more than \$250,000 a year for seven years and increases sales taxes by a quarter percent on all Californians for four years. This would raise about \$6 billion in annual tax revenue and would allocate it primarily toward K-12 education and community colleges. If the election were today, would you vote yes or no on Prop. 30?
- | | |
|--------------------|------|
| Yes | 50% |
| No | 46% |
| Don’t Know/Refused | 4% |
| Total | 100% |
- 12 Suppose these tax increases in Proposition 30 are approved but do not end up eliminating California’s budget deficit, what would you like the legislature to do next:
- | | |
|---|------|
| Cut spending levels to balance the budget | 74% |
| Borrow money | 4% |
| Raise additional taxes? | 15% |
| Don’t Know/Refused | 7% |
| Total | 100% |
- 13 Proposition 32 is called the “Political Contributions by Payroll Deduction, Contributions to Candidates Initiative” and it prohibits unions, corporations, and government contractors from donating to political candidates and from deducting money from workers’ paychecks to use for political purposes. If the election were today, would you vote yes or no on Prop. 32?
- | | |
|--------------------|------|
| Yes | 45% |
| No | 48% |
| Don’t Know/Refused | 6% |
| Total | 100% |
- 14 Proposition 38 is called the “Tax for Education and Early Childhood Programs” and it raises personal income taxes on most Californians for 12 years to raise about \$10 billion a year for K-12 schools, early childhood programs, and to repay some state debt. If the election were today, would you vote yes or no on Prop. 38?
- | | |
|--------------------|------|
| Yes | 42% |
| No | 52% |
| Don’t Know/Refused | 6% |
| Total | 100% |
- 15 Now thinking about the coming election for president, US Senator, and other offices... Do you plan to vote in the election, have you already voted, or don’t you plan to vote?
- | | |
|---------------|-----|
| Plan to vote | 93% |
| Already Voted | 7% |

| | | | |
|----|--|--|--------|
| 16 | What are the chances you will vote in the election? Will you... | | |
| | Definitely Vote | | 96% |
| | Probably Vote | | 4% |
| 17 | Generally speaking, would you say California is on the right track, or is it on the wrong track? | | |
| | Right track | | 34% |
| | Wrong track | | 58% |
| | Don't Know/Refused | | 8% |
| | Total | | 100% |
| 18 | Between 2000 and 2010, state government spending increased 42 percent per person, adjusted for inflation. Would you say the increase in state government spending... | | |
| | Improved the quality of life in California | | 14% |
| | Decreased the quality of life | | 52% |
| | Had no impact on the quality of life | | 28% |
| | Don't know/Refused | | 5% |
| | Total | | 100% |
| 19 | Would you favor or oppose the state government returning its spending levels to what it spent per person in the year 2000, after adjusting for inflation? | | |
| | Favor | | 56% |
| | Oppose | | 25% |
| | Don't know/Refused | | 19% |
| | Total | | 100% |
| 20 | The state budget calls for spending \$131 billion this fiscal year. For every dollar the California state government spends, about how many cents do you think are wasted? | | |
| | Mean | | \$0.49 |
| | Median | | \$0.50 |
| 21 | To help balance the state budget, would you favor or oppose reducing the number of state government employees? | | |
| | Favor | | 62% |
| | Oppose | | 33% |
| | Don't know/Refused | | 5% |
| | Total | | 100% |

| | | |
|----|---|------|
| 22 | Some states, including Nevada, Texas and Florida, do not collect any state income taxes. Those states also have less revenue to spend on government programs. Would you favor or oppose eliminating California's state income tax? | |
| | Favor | 36% |
| | Oppose | 58% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 6% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 23 | If the state legislature did not pass any new laws or regulations for the next 12 months, would that help California's economy, hurt the economy, or make no difference on the economy? | |
| | Help | 24% |
| | Hurt | 27% |
| | Make no difference | 38% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 11% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 24 | Generally speaking, do you think the laws and regulations passed by the state legislature make it more likely that businesses will create jobs in California or more likely that businesses will move jobs to other states? | |
| | Will create jobs in California | 24% |
| | Will move jobs to other states | 65% |
| | Don't Know/Refused | 10% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 25 | The average state prison guard gets around \$104,000 a year in base salary and benefits, not including overtime. In your opinion, would you say California's correctional officers are overpaid, underpaid, or paid about the right amount? | |
| | Overpaid | 53% |
| | Underpaid | 6% |
| | Paid about the right amount | 38% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 3% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 26 | As you may know, many governments are partnering with private companies to fund, build and expand highways, airports and other infrastructure projects that government might not be able to afford otherwise. Do you favor or oppose these public-private partnerships? | |
| | Favor | 64% |
| | Oppose | 29% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 7% |
| | Total | 100% |

| | | |
|----|--|------|
| 27 | If the highways in your area were expanded, would you prefer to pay for the new lanes or new highways by... | |
| | Raising taxes | 37% |
| | Paying tolls when you drive on them | 50% |
| | Don't Know/Refused | 13% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 28 | As you may know, San Francisco International Airport uses private airport screeners instead of TSA, Transportation Security Administration, screeners. Would you favor or oppose allowing more airports to use private security screeners? | |
| | Favor | 59% |
| | Oppose | 30% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 12% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 29 | Due to the state budget situation, the Legislative Analysts' Office has recommended allowing private companies to operate some state parks. Would you favor or oppose allowing private companies to manage some state parks? | |
| | Favor | 59% |
| | Oppose | 37% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 4% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 30 | Have you ever seriously considered moving out of California? | |
| | Yes | 46% |
| | No | 54% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 31 | Do you think government employees receive better, worse, or the same in retirement benefits than workers with similar jobs in the private sector? | |
| | Better | 67% |
| | Worse | 11% |
| | Same | 14% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 8% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 32 | In your opinion, do you think taxpayers should or should not get to vote on increases to government employees' pension and benefits? | |
| | Should get to vote | 74% |
| | Should not get to vote | 22% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 4% |
| | Total | 100% |

33 As you may know, government employees will typically get guaranteed pension payments during retirement, while private sector workers will typically get payments from 401(k)-style accounts based on the amount they saved for retirement and investment returns. For new government employees who have not been promised pension benefits, would you (favor) or (oppose) shifting them from guaranteed pensions to 401(k)-style accounts?

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Favor | 69% |
| Oppose | 24% |
| Don't know/Refused | 7% |
| Total | 100% |

34 How old should government employees be before they are eligible to begin receiving lifetime retirement benefits?

| | |
|--------|----|
| Mean | 62 |
| Median | 65 |

35 Do you think public sector unions –those representing state and local government workers—have done more to (HELP the state and local economy) or (HURT the state and local economy), or have they not made much of a difference?

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Help | 17% |
| Hurt | 42% |
| Not made much difference | 35% |
| Don't know/Refused | 6% |
| Total | 100% |

36 When public sector unions negotiate pay and benefits with elected officials, do public sector unions have too much power, too little power, or the right amount of power in negotiating their contracts?

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| Too much power | 53% |
| Too little power | 15% |
| Right amount of power | 24% |
| Don't know/Refused | 8% |
| Total | 100% |

As you may know, a growing number of cities and towns in California do not have enough money to pay their bills and face bankruptcy as a result. I'd like to ask you about several policies that can help local governments improve their finances. Please say whether you favor or oppose the following policies in your city or town.

37 Do you favor or oppose this policy in your city or town? Selling government assets like golf courses, convention centers, and parking lots to private companies.

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Favor | 63% |
| Oppose | 33% |
| Don't know/Refused | 4% |
| Total | 100% |

| | | |
|----|---|------|
| 38 | Do you favor or oppose this policy in your city or town? Outsourcing services like trash collection, road maintenance, and park management to private companies. | |
| | Favor | 60% |
| | Oppose | 36% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 4% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 39 | Do you favor or oppose this policy in your city or town? Requiring city or town employees to contribute more toward their pensions and health care benefits. | |
| | Favor | 77% |
| | Oppose | 20% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 3% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 40 | Do you favor or oppose this policy in your city or town? Reducing spending on programs such as social services, police, and fire protection. | |
| | Favor | 28% |
| | Oppose | 69% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 3% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 41 | Do you favor or oppose this policy in your city or town? Raising taxes. | |
| | Favor | 25% |
| | Oppose | 71% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 4% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 42 | Do you think California could cut the number of administrators at public colleges and universities without harming the quality of education for students, or would reducing the number of administrators hurt the quality of education? | |
| | Could cut without harming quality of education | 51% |
| | Reducing would hurt the quality of education | 42% |
| | Don't Know/Refused | 7% |
| | Total | 100% |
| | Please tell me if you would favor or oppose each of the following proposals that have been made to improve the state's college and universities. | |
| 43 | Requiring faculty to teach one additional class per school year | |
| | Favor | 71% |
| | Oppose | 22% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 7% |
| | Total | 100% |

| | | |
|----|---|------|
| 44 | Requiring full course offerings during summer terms | |
| | Favor | 75% |
| | Oppose | 20% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 6% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 45 | Consolidating low enrollment academic programs | |
| | Favor | 69% |
| | Oppose | 22% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 10% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 46 | Replacing low enrollment in-person classes with online classes | |
| | Favor | 64% |
| | Oppose | 32% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 4% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 47 | Do you think California's public university regents and trustees are doing enough, or not enough, to control rising tuition costs? | |
| | Doing enough | 11% |
| | Not doing enough | 81% |
| | Don't Know/Refused | 8% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 48 | Do you think California's public colleges and universities could or could not accommodate a significantly higher number of students without lowering quality or raising fees? | |
| | Could accommodate | 47% |
| | Could not accommodate | 42% |
| | Don't Know/Refused | 11% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 49 | In your view, do you think California's public university professors present topics in the classroom in a politically balanced way, or do they show a political bias? | |
| | Politically balanced | 24% |
| | Show a political bias | 53% |
| | Don't Know/Refused | 23% |
| | Total | 100% |

| | | |
|----|--|------|
| 50 | Do you think there is generally a (liberal) bias, (conservative) bias, or some other kind of bias? | |
| | Liberal bias | 68% |
| | Conservative bias | 8% |
| | Some other kind of bias | 20% |
| | Don't Know/Refused | 4% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 51 | I am going to read you two statements. After I read both statements, please tell me which comes closer to your own opinion. You might agree to some extent with both, but we want to know which one is closer to your own views. | |
| | Please tell me which comes closer to your own opinion... | |
| | We need a strong government to handle today's complex economic problems | 45% |
| | People would be better able to handle today's problems within a free market with less government involvement. | 51% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 4% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 52 | Please tell me which comes closer to your own opinion... | |
| | The government should be doing more to regulate businesses | 36% |
| | Too often, government regulation of businesses does more harm than good | 59% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 5% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 53 | Some people think the government should promote traditional values in our society. Others think the government should not favor any particular set of values. Which comes closer to your own view? | |
| | Government should promote traditional values | 41% |
| | Government should not favor any particular set of values | 54% |
| | Don't Know/Refused | 5% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 54 | Thinking about your overall political philosophy, would you describe yourself as... | |
| | Conservative | 31% |
| | Moderate | 25% |
| | Liberal | 15% |
| | Libertarian | 4% |
| | Progressive | 7% |
| | Something else? | 15% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 3% |
| | Total | 100% |

| | | |
|----|--|------|
| 55 | In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, Independent, or what? | |
| | Republican | 26% |
| | Democrat | 44% |
| | Independent | 24% |
| | Other | 5% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 1% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 56 | {Among Non-Partisans} Do you lean more towards the Republican Party or the Democratic Party? | |
| | Republican | 41% |
| | Democratic | 42% |
| | Independent/Don't lean to either party (VOL.) | 9% |
| | Other party (VOL.) | 3% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 6% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 57 | Party Identification Combined | |
| | Republican/Lean Republican | 38% |
| | Democratic/Lean Democratic | 56% |
| | Independent/Other/None | 4% |
| | Undesignated | 2% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 58 | GENDER | |
| | Male | 50% |
| | Female | 50% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 59 | Age | |
| | 18-24 | 11% |
| | 25-34 | 16% |
| | 35-44 | 16% |
| | 45-54 | 19% |
| | 55-64 | 18% |
| | 65+ | 19% |
| | Total | 100% |

| | | |
|----|--|------|
| 60 | What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received? | |
| | < High School | 4% |
| | High School | 21% |
| | Some College | 32% |
| | College | 28% |
| | Post-Grad | 14% |
| | Don't Know | 1% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 61 | Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or some other Spanish background? | |
| | Yes | 18% |
| | No | 81% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 1% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 62 | What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian, or some other race? | |
| | White | 72% |
| | Black or African-American | 8% |
| | Asian or Pacific Islander | 9% |
| | Mixed race | 3% |
| | Native American/American Indian | 2% |
| | Other (SPECIFY) | 3% |
| | Don't know/Refused | 1% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 63 | Race/Ethnicity | |
| | White Non-Hispanic | 60% |
| | African-American Non-Hispanic | 8% |
| | Latino | 19% |
| | Other Non-Hispanic | 13% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 64 | Were you born in the United States, on the island of Puerto Rico, or in another country? | |
| | U.S. | 73% |
| | Another country | 27% |
| | Total | 100% |

| | | |
|----|--|------|
| 65 | What is your household income category? Please stop me when I reach your category. | |
| | Less than \$30,000 per year | 19% |
| | More than \$30,000 but less than \$45,000 | 13% |
| | More than \$45,000 but less than \$60,000 | 11% |
| | More than \$60,000 but less than \$75,000 | 12% |
| | More than \$75,000 but less than \$90,000 | 7% |
| | More than \$90,000 but less than \$110,000 | 10% |
| | More than \$110,000 but less than \$150,000 | 6% |
| | More than \$150,000 but less than \$250,000 | 10% |
| | More than \$250,000 | 4% |
| | Don't Know/Refused | 9% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 66 | Which of the following best describes your current employment status? | |
| | Employed Full Time | 38% |
| | Employed Part Time | 13% |
| | Small Business Owner (Self-Employed) | 9% |
| | Taking Care of Home and Family (Homemaker) | 6% |
| | Retired | 22% |
| | Student | 3% |
| | Unemployed | 6% |
| | [VOL. DO NOT READ] Disabled | 3% |
| | Don't know/Refused | <1% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 67 | {Among Employed Full/Part Time} Are you employed by local, state, or the federal government? | |
| | Yes | 16% |
| | No | 82% |
| | Don't Know/Refused | 2% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 68 | Employment Summary | |
| | Public sector | 8% |
| | Private sector | 43% |
| | Self-employed | 9% |
| | Not employed | 39% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 69 | Are you, or is anyone in your family a current or retired member of a union? | |
| | Yes, self or family current or retired union member | 27% |
| | No | 72% |
| | Don't Know/Refused | <1% |
| | Total | 100% |

| | | |
|----|-------------------|------|
| 70 | California Region | |
| | LA County | 23% |
| | Bay Area | 19% |
| | Rest of State | 57% |
| | Total | 100% |
| 71 | Community Type | |
| | Rural | 4% |
| | Suburban | 52% |
| | Urban | 44% |
| | Total | 100% |