

San Joaquin Valley Public Opinion Survey

Institute for Leadership and Public Policy



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College of Social Sciences

Dr. Jeff Cummins
Dr. Annabella España-Nájera
Dr. Lisa Bryant

**It is on great occasions only, and after time has been given
for cool and deliberative reflection, that the real voice of the
people can be known**

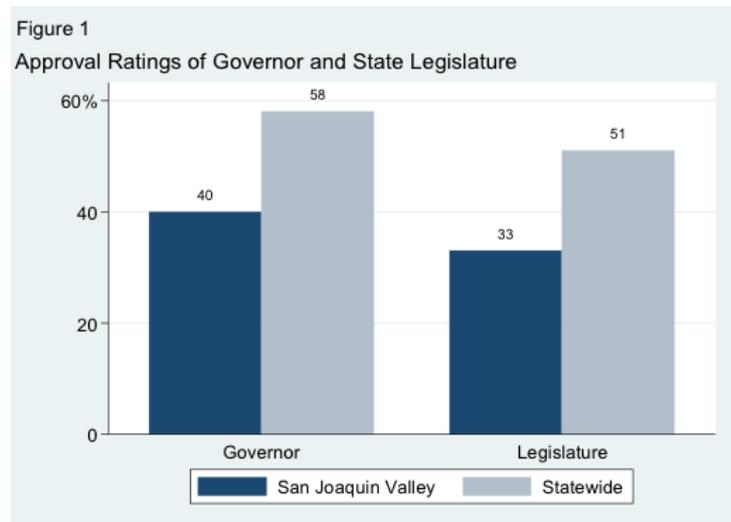
—George Washington

Approval Ratings of State and Local Government

Approval ratings of state elected officials are substantially lower in the San Joaquin Valley compared to the state overall

Adults in the San Joaquin Valley are more dissatisfied with the job performance of state elected officials than adults statewide. Just 40 percent of adults in the Valley approve of the job that Governor Jerry Brown is doing (see Figure 1). This is 18 percent lower than adults statewide based on a March 2017 Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) poll.

Much of Governor Brown's support in the Valley comes from Latinos (46 percent) and non-white, non-Latinos (43 percent), which includes blacks and Asians. Only 29 percent of whites in the San Joaquin Valley approve of the governor's performance. Among registered voters, 59 percent of Democrats, 17 percent of Republicans, and 42 percent of Independents, or those who express no party preference, approve of the governor's job.



For approval ratings of the state legislature, there is a similar gap (18 percent) between the percentage in the Valley that approve of the governor's handling of his job and the percentage statewide that approves (March 2017 PPIC Poll). Thirty-three percent of Valley residents are satisfied with the performance of the state legislature, compared with 51 percent of adults statewide. Again, much of the support for the state legislature comes from Latinos (40 percent approval) and non-white, non-Latinos (41 percent approval). Just 20 percent of whites approve of the state legislature's performance. Forty-seven percent of Democrats, 16 percent of Republicans, and 33 percent of Independents approve of the job the state legislature is doing.

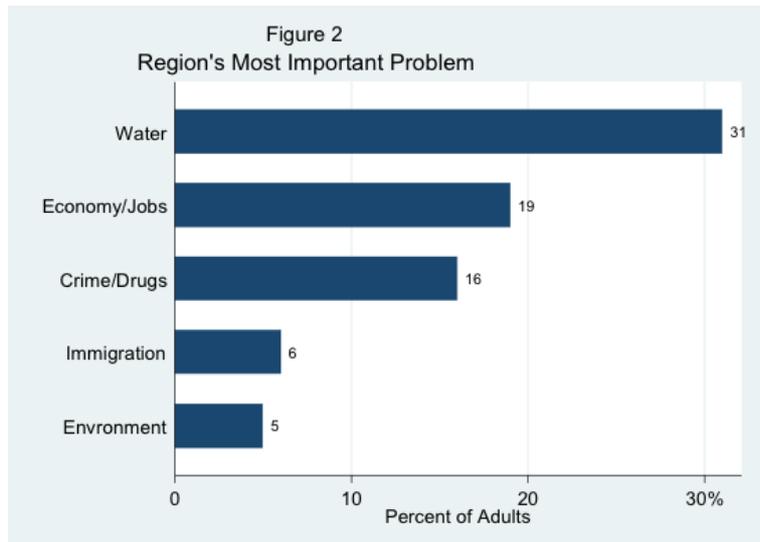
Valley adults are much more satisfied with their local government, which includes their city council and county board of supervisors. A solid majority (56 percent) of respondents approve of the job that their local government is doing. Seven in 10 non-white, non-Latinos, about 6 out of 10 whites, and nearly half (47 percent) of Latinos approve of the performance of local government. Approval ratings are relatively similar across political parties. Fifty-eight percent of Democrats, 64 percent of Republicans, and 51 percent of Independents are satisfied with their local governments.

Policy Priorities

Water is top issue for San Joaquin Valley

With the recent drought in California, it is not that surprising that water is the top issue for the San Joaquin Valley. Thirty-one percent of adults identified water as the most important problem facing the region. The economy and jobs were the second most important problem at 19 percent, followed by crime and drugs at 16 percent, and immigration at 6 percent. The environment, including air quality, pollution, and global warming, came in fifth at 5 percent.

Among those affiliated with different political parties, there was little variation in identification of the most important problem. Democrats, Republicans, and Independents all said water is the most important problem facing the region, although the percentage was substantially higher for Republicans (49 percent). With the exception of Democrats, the order of priorities for Republicans and Independents was the same. For



Democrats, crime and drugs was the second most important problem instead of the economy and jobs.

Table 1
Most Important Problem for Region (Top 5 Issues)

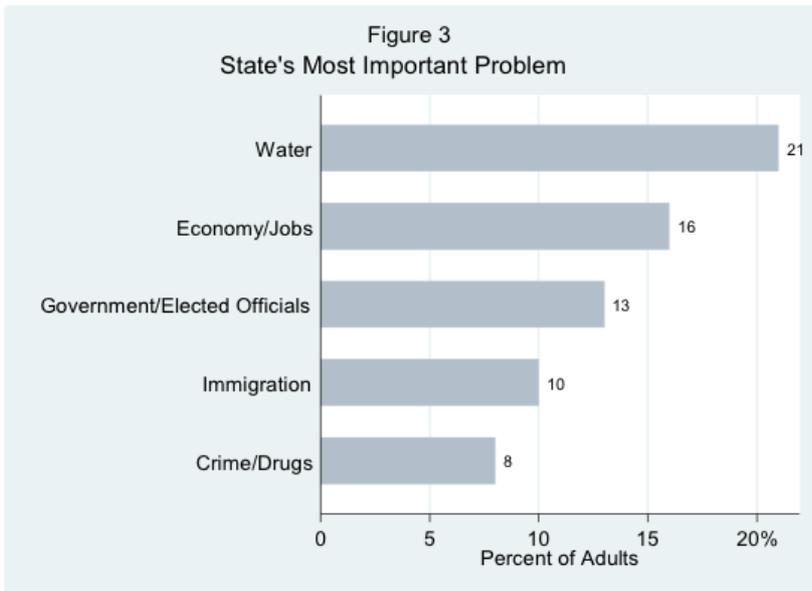
	All (%)	Trump Supporter		Party ID			Race/Ethnicity		
		Yes	No	Dem	Rep	Ind.	White	Latino	Other
Water	31	46	24	24	49	31	52	15	35
Economy/Jobs	19	17	20	14	20	21	13	23	24
Crime/Drugs	16	8	19	17	11	16	9	20	16
Immigration	6	8	6	5	5	8	5	9	1
Environment	5	3	5	5	3	7	3	6	2

Note: Trump supporter is respondent that indicated that he/she voted for Donald Trump or would have voted for Donald Trump if she/he had voted in the election. Other for race/ethnicity includes blacks and Asians. Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding.

With regard to racial and ethnic groups, the priorities were the same for whites and non-white, non-Latinos. The most important problem for Latinos, however, was the economy and jobs instead of water. Latinos identified crime and drugs as the second most important problem.

Again, both Trump supporters and non-Trump supporters were on the same page regarding the region’s priorities, although Trump supporters were more likely to identify water as the most important problem. Non-Trump supporters were also much more likely to identify crime and drugs as a problem than non-Trump supporters.

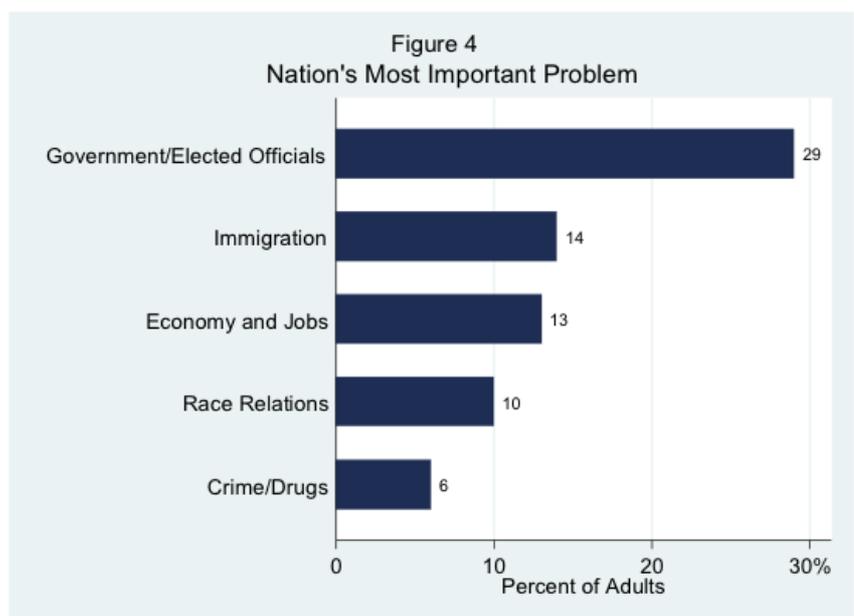
According to the survey results, the policy priorities for the state are very similar to those for the region. Valley residents identified water as the most important problem facing the state (21 percent), followed by the economy and jobs at 16 percent (see Figure 3). However, the third ranking issue, government and elected officials, is where the top issues for the region and the state begin to diverge. Thirteen percent of respondents said government and elected



officials are the most important problem facing the state. This issue spanned the political spectrum as some respondents pointed to President Trump, a Republican, as the problem, while others pointed to Governor Brown, a Democrat. Immigration was the fourth ranking issue for Valley adults at the regional and state level. However, crime and drugs came in fifth at 8 percent in the state’s top 5

issues, whereas it was third in the region’s top 5.

The Valley’s policy priorities for the nation as a whole vary considerably when compared with those of the region and state. Water drops out of the Top 5 issues altogether and government and elected officials become the top ranked issue with 29 percent of adults designating it as the nation’s most important problem. Immigration is the second most important problem at 14 percent, with the economy and jobs a close third (13 percent). Race relations (10 percent) and crime and drugs (6 percent) round out the top 5 issues facing the country according to Valley residents.

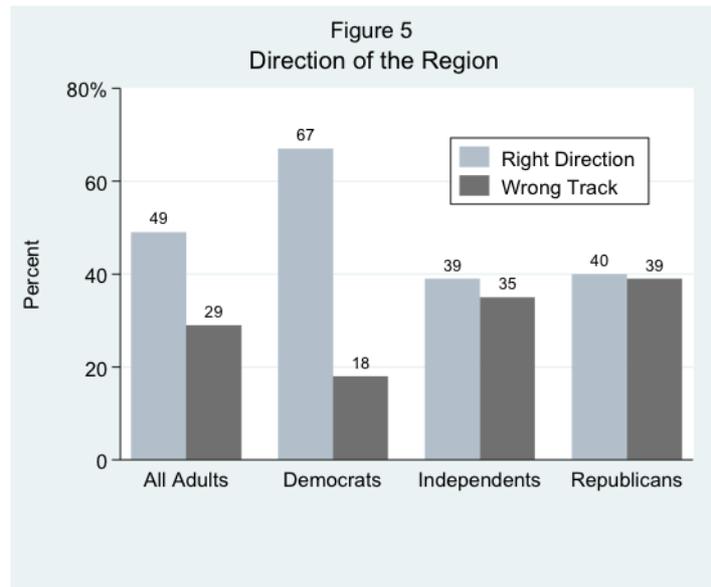


Political and Economic Outlook

About half say the Valley is moving in the right direction; however, a majority are less optimistic about the impact of the Trump administration on the region

The political and economic outlook for the region is generally positive with a higher percentage of respondents indicating the region is moving in the right direction. Close to a majority (49 percent) said the Valley is moving in the right direction, while 29 percent stated it is off on the wrong track.

There is considerable variation among different demographic groups and among those who identify with different parties. Democrats were the most optimistic with 67 percent saying that the region is heading in the right direction. On the other hand, only 39 percent of Independents and 40 percent of Republicans felt the same way.



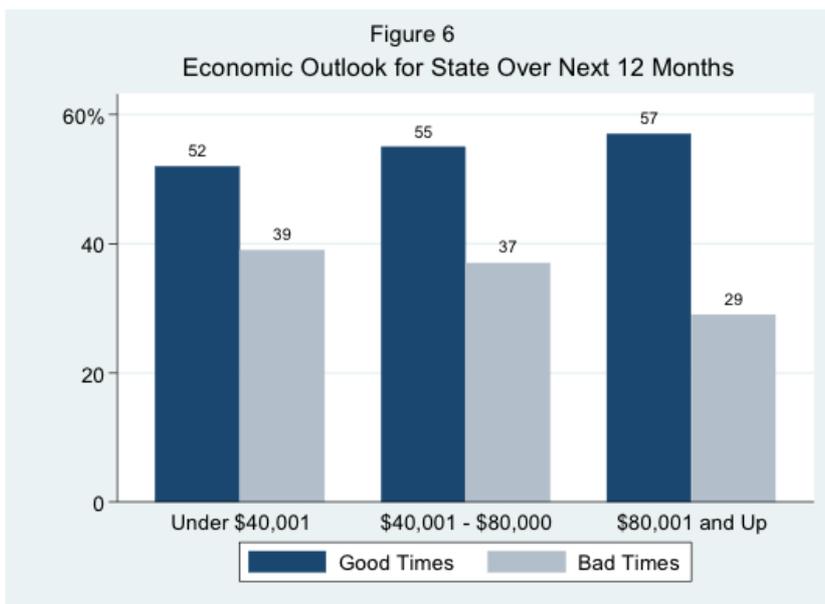
Among racial and ethnic groups, non-white, non-Latinos were the most positive about the direction of the region. Six in 10 (64 percent) felt the Valley was heading in the right direction, while half of Latinos (55 percent) and 1 in 3 (36 percent) whites agreed.

Survey respondents were less optimistic about the future impact of the Trump administration on the San Joaquin Valley. A majority (52 percent) of adults said that Trump will get the region off on the wrong track. Whites were more optimistic than Latinos or non-white, non-Latinos. Six in 10 whites stated that he would move the Valley in the right direction, while only 21 percent of Latinos and 42 percent of non-white, non-Latinos felt the same way.

As expected, 74 percent of Republicans believe Trump will move the region in the right direction, while 38 percent of Independents and 16 percent of Democrats said likewise.

Slight majority believe good times are ahead for the California economy over the next 12 months

Survey respondents were fairly optimistic about the state of the economy over the next 12 months. Over half (52 percent) said that good times, rather than bad times, are ahead for the California economy. This economic optimism rose with household income levels. For respondents with family income at \$40,000 or below, 52 percent anticipated that the state economy would have good times over the next year. Among Valley adults with family income above \$40,000 but at or below \$80,000, 55 percent said that the economy would have good times. For respondents with family income above \$80,000, economic optimism rose to 57 percent.



There was little variation in economic optimism among different racial and ethnic groups. Across all racial and ethnic groups, about half expected good times over the next year (51 percent of whites; 52 percent of Latinos; and 53 percent of non-white, non-Latinos). However, the results did differ among those identified with different parties.

About half of Democrats (53 percent) and Independents (50 percent) think good times are in store for the state economy. Nearly 7 in 10 Republicans (65 percent) expect good times.

The Affordable Care Act (Obamacare)

Nearly half of Valley adults oppose the repeal of Obamacare

Overall 47 percent of respondents in our survey oppose the repeal of Obamacare, 29 percent support repealing some provisions, and 17 percent would like “all provisions” repealed. This opposition and support varies widely by party identification, race and ethnicity, and by whether someone is a Trump supporter. (Note: Our survey was completed prior to the passage of the American Health Care Act of 2017 in the House of Representatives on May 4, 2017.)

As expected, the largest segment of respondents who support the complete repeal of Obamacare came from Trump supporters. Seventy-five percent of Trump supporters indicated that some or all provisions of Obamacare should be repealed. However, 18 percent of Trump supporters, or nearly 1 in 5, oppose repeal of Obamacare. For non-Trump supporters, the percentage that opposes repeal jumps to 59 percent.

Support for repeal among Republicans closely aligns with that of Trump supporters. Again, 75 percent of Republicans support repealing some or all of Obamacare, while 19 percent oppose repeal altogether. On the other hand, 62 percent of Democrats oppose repeal and a majority (52 percent) of Independents also oppose repeal.

The strongest opposition to repeal of Obamacare among racial and ethnic groups comes from non-white groups. Fifty-seven percent of Latinos oppose repeal, while 59 percent of non-white, non-Latinos, which includes blacks and Asians, also do not want Obamacare repealed. Among white respondents, 64 percent support repealing some or all provisions of Obamacare, while 1 out of 4 (26 percent) opposes the repeal.

Table 2
Support for Repeal of Obamacare

	All (%)	Trump Supporter		Party ID			Race/Ethnicity		
		Yes	No	Dem	Rep	Ind.	White	Latino	Other
Repeal All Provisions	17	40	7	5	45	8	28	12	7
Repeal Some Provisions	29	35	26	27	30	34	36	23	31
Oppose Repeal	47	18	59	62	19	52	26	57	59
Don't Know	8	7	8	5	6	6	10	7	4

Note: Trump supporter is respondent that indicated that he/she voted for Donald Trump or would have voted for Donald Trump if she/he had voted in the election. Other for race/ethnicity includes blacks and Asians. Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Over 40 percent believe someone in their household will lose health insurance under repeal of Obamacare

One major reason that Congressional Republicans failed in their initial efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA) was due to the release of the Congressional Budget Office estimate that up to 24 million people could lose their health insurance coverage under the proposed replacement legislation. News reports have also documented that the San Joaquin Valley would be hit hard by a repeal of Obamacare because tens of thousands in the region either gained coverage from the expansion of Medi-Cal or by purchasing policies through Covered California, the state’s health insurance exchange. Forty-two percent of respondents in the survey report that someone in their household would lose health insurance coverage if Obamacare was repealed. Most Trump supporters (85 percent) do not fear the loss of health insurance, while 55 percent of non-Trump supporters do.

Among party identifiers, 60 percent of Democrats think someone in their household will lose insurance if the Affordable Care Act is repealed, while only 16 percent of Republicans report concern about someone in their household losing coverage. Less than half of Independents (41 percent) believe someone could lose health insurance coverage in their household.

Many Latinos and other minority groups have benefitted under Obamacare and this is reflected in the survey results. More than half of Latinos (56 percent) think someone in their household would lose health insurance under Obamacare repeal. Nearly half (48%) of non-white, non-Latino respondents (other) believe that they or someone in their household could lose insurance if the ACA was repealed. In contrast, only 19 percent of whites fear the loss of coverage with repeal.

Table 3
Someone in Household Would Lose Health Insurance if Obamacare Was Repealed

	All (%)	Trump Supporter		Party ID			Race/Ethnicity		
		Yes	No	Dem	Rep	Ind.	White	Latino	Other
Yes	42	12	55	60	16	41	19	56	48
No	55	85	42	37	81	58	78	41	52
Don't Know	2	2	2	3	3	1	3	2	0

Note: Trump supporter is respondent that indicated that he/she voted for Donald Trump or would have voted for Donald Trump if she/he had voted in the election. Other for race/ethnicity includes blacks and Asians. Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Immigration

Nearly half of Valley adults are worried about deportations

The survey results show that 46 percent of adults in the region worry that they, a family member, or a close friend could be deported. Fifty-three percent of adults in the Valley, however, are not concerned that more deportations could affect them or someone they know. The Migration Policy Institute estimates that California has 3 million undocumented immigrants residing in the state and that 12 percent, or 356,000 of them, live in the San Joaquin Valley.

Latinos disproportionately report the highest levels of concern. Sixty-eight percent said that they worry “a lot” or “some” that they or someone they know could be deported. This percentage is considerably higher than the 47 percent of Latinos nationally that expressed concern in a Pew Research Center survey in January. Non-white, non-Latino groups, including blacks and Asians, report higher levels of concern about deportations (33 percent) than whites (21 percent).

Not surprisingly, Trump supporters are not worried about deportations (90 percent said “not much” or “not at all”). In contrast, a significant majority of non-Trump supporters are concerned about deportations (63 percent). There are also clear differences across party lines. A majority of both Democrats (63 percent) and Independents (54 percent) are concerned that they or someone they know could be deported, while most Republicans, 83 percent, are not concerned.

Among those who reported voting in the 2016 presidential election, 33 percent said they worry about deportations. On the other hand, 72 percent of non-voters worry that they, a family member, or a close friend could be deported.

Table 4
Percentage Who Worry about More Deportations

	All (%)	Trump Supporter		Party ID			Voted in Presidential Election		Race/Ethnicity		
		Yes	No	Dem	Rep	Ind.	Yes	No	White	Latino	Other
A lot	31	4	43	44	8	30	19	53	9	49	20
Some	15	5	20	19	8	17	14	19	12	19	13
Not much	12	12	11	14	13	10	12	7	9	11	17
Not at all	41	78	25	22	70	44	54	21	69	20	48
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	2

Note: Trump supporter is respondent that indicated that he/she voted for Donald Trump or would have voted for Donald Trump if she/he had voted in the election. Other for race/ethnicity includes blacks and Asians. Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding.

A majority in the San Joaquin Valley think that more deportations will have a negative impact on the region’s economy

The survey also found that a large majority of adults, 63 percent, think that more deportations will have a negative impact on the region’s economy. In contrast, 19 percent of respondents think that more deportations will have a positive effect, and 11 percent think deportations will have no impact. These views likely reflect the concern that more deportations could hurt the agricultural sector of the Valley economy. The U.S. Department of Labor estimates that about 56 percent of California’s hired crop workers are undocumented.

Among all racial and ethnic groups, either a plurality or a majority believe that more deportations would negatively impact the economy. Forty-five percent of white respondents, 75 percent of Latinos, and 63 percent of non-white, non-Latinos think that more deportations will have negative consequences. An almost equal percentage of white respondents (26 percent) and non-white, non-Latino respondents (27 percent), or about 1 out of 4, think more deportations will be good for the region’s economy.

With regard to party identification, Democrats are almost unanimous in thinking that more deportations will negatively impact the region (80 percent), while Republicans are divided on the issue. Thirty-four percent of Republicans think that the impact will be negative, while 29 percent think more deportations will have no impact on the region. Twenty-eight percent of Republicans think more deportations will be good.

Trump supporters are also divided. A slight plurality of respondents, 38 percent, think that increasing deportations will be positive for the Valley, 27 percent think the impact of more deportations will be negative, and 24 percent think that deportations will have no effect.

Table 5
Impact of More Deportations on the Economy of the Region

	All (%)	Trump Supporter		Party ID			Voted in Presidential Election		Race/Ethnicity		
		No	Yes	Dem	Rep	Ind.	Yes	No	White	Latino	Other
Positive	19	10	38	12	28	19	24	8	26	12	27
Negative	63	79	27	80	34	68	53	81	45	75	63
No impact	11	5	24	4	29	4	14	6	20	8	2
Don't know	8	5	12	4	9	9	9	5	9	6	9

Note: Trump supporter is respondent that indicated that he/she voted for Donald Trump or would have voted for Donald Trump if she/he had voted in the election. Other for race/ethnicity includes blacks and Asians. Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Water

1 in 5 adults in Valley say access to clean drinking water is a problem

With regard to water, our survey of the San Joaquin Valley found that 21 percent of adults say that access to clean drinking water is a problem “sometimes” or “always.” The survey was conducted in late March just before Governor Jerry Brown declared the emergency drought status for the state over, but left in place the order for Fresno, Kings, and Tulare counties. Portions of these counties will continue to receive emergency drinking water because wells that tap into groundwater have run dry.

Among party identifiers, Democrats and Independents were more likely than Republicans to identify access to drinking water as a problem. Twenty-five percent of Democrats and 18 percent of Independents said it was a problem at least “sometimes,” while only 9 percent of Republicans indicated it is a problem.

Latino respondents were the most likely racial and ethnic group to say that it is a problem (25 percent), followed by whites (18 percent), and non-white, non-Latinos, which includes blacks and Asians (16 percent).

The results varied significantly according to whether the respondent was a Trump supporter or not. Only 10 percent of Trump supporters identified access to clean drinking water as a problem, while 26 percent of non-Trump supporters did.

Table 6
Reliable Access to Clean Drinking Water is a Problem

	All (%)	Trump Supporter		Party ID			Race/Ethnicity		
		Yes	No	Dem	Rep	Ind.	White	Latino	Other
Never	78	89	73	74	90	81	81	75	84
Sometimes	16	6	21	18	6	13	12	20	13
Always	5	4	5	7	3	5	6	5	3
Don't Know	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0

Note: Trump supporter is respondent that indicated that he/she voted for Donald Trump or would have voted for Donald Trump if she/he had voted in the election. Other for race/ethnicity includes blacks and Asians. Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Many in Valley are concerned about an adequate water supply in the future

The survey results also show that many in the Valley are concerned about the region having an adequate water supply in the future. Seventy-five percent of respondents said that they are either “very concerned” or “somewhat concerned” about the future water supply. This high level of concern was reported even after respondents were reminded that a significant amount of rainfall had occurred in the past year.

The high level of concern is relatively similar among different respondent characteristics. Trump supporters were just as likely to be concerned about the future water supply for the region as non-Trump supporters. Overall, 75 percent of both groups expressed concern about the water supply, with a slightly higher percentage of Trump supporters indicating that they are “very concerned” (39 percent).

For party identifiers, 76 percent of Democrats and 74 percent of Independents were very or somewhat concerned about the region’s water supply, while 66 percent of Republicans said they were concerned. In terms of intensity, Independents appear to be the most concerned, as 46 percent of them said they are very concerned about the water supply.

Again, among different racial and ethnic groups, the overall level of concern is similar, although there is some variation in the intensity of concern. Non-white, non-Latinos expressed the highest level of concern at 79 percent. Seventy-seven percent of whites indicated some concern for the water supply, with 45 percent indicating that they are “very concerned.” Seventy-two percent of Latinos said that they were at least somewhat concerned about the water supply.

Table 7
Concern about an Adequate Water Supply in the Future

	All (%)	Trump Supporter		Party ID			Race/Ethnicity		
		Yes	No	Dem	Rep	Ind.	White	Latino	Other
Very Concerned	37	39	36	31	36	46	45	32	35
Somewhat Concerned	38	36	39	45	30	38	32	40	44
Not at All Concerned	24	25	24	23	34	15	23	26	22
Don't Know	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0

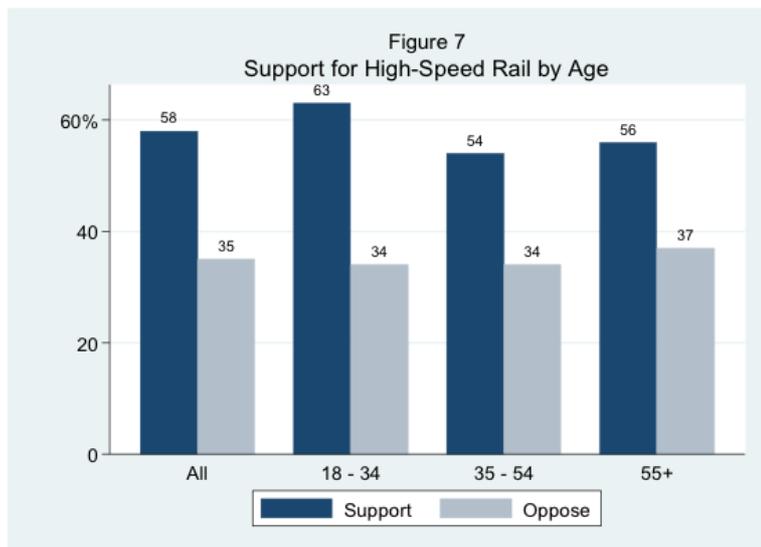
Note: Trump supporter is respondent that indicated that he/she voted for Donald Trump or would have voted for Donald Trump if she/he had voted in the election. Other for race/ethnicity includes blacks and Asians. Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding.

High-Speed Rail

A majority in the San Joaquin Valley support construction of high-speed rail

The high-speed rail (HSR) line, currently under construction in the Fresno area, will eventually link the San Francisco Bay Area to Los Angeles through the San Joaquin Valley. According to our survey, a majority of respondents (58 percent) support construction of the high-speed rail project. Thirty-five percent of adults in the Valley are opposed to completion of the project.

Support for HSR varies somewhat by age. Support is highest (see Figure 7) among the youngest age group (18 to 34) at 63 percent, while it drops to 54 percent for those aged 35 to 54 and to 56 percent for those 55 and older.



As we might expect, there are clear differences across party lines. A sizeable majority of

Democrats (74 percent) support construction of high-speed rail, along with a majority of Independents (59 percent). However, a majority of Republicans (58 percent) do not support construction of the high-speed rail project in the Valley. Significant differences can also be found among Trump supporters and non-Trump supporters. A majority of non-Trump supporters, 68 percent, are in favor of building high-speed rail, while an almost equal number of Trump supporters, 62 percent, oppose continuing construction on the project.

Table 8
Percentage who Support High-Speed Rail

	All (%)	Trump Supporter		Party Registration			Voted in Presidential Election		Race/Ethnicity		
		Yes	No	Dem	Rep	Ind.	Yes	No	White	Latino	Other
Support	58	33	68	74	35	59	47	74	29	76	60
Oppose	35	62	23	21	58	33	46	18	64	15	36
Don't know	7	5	9	5	7	8	7	8	7	9	4

Note: Trump supporter is respondent that indicated that he/she voted for Donald Trump or would have voted for Donald Trump if she/he had voted in the election. Other for race/ethnicity includes blacks and Asians. Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Among those who voted in the 2016 presidential election, there is a very marked split in their views of the high-speed rail project. Forty-seven percent of voters support the completion of the project, while 46 percent oppose it. In contrast, non-voters are much more supportive of high-speed rail, with 74 percent of them in favor of it. This finding is consistent with a recent statewide poll by the Public Policy Institute of California (March) that showed support for high-speed rail was lower among likely voters compared to all adults.

Across racial and ethnic groups, non-white groups are the most supportive of the high-speed rail project. Seventy-six percent of Latinos and 60 percent of non-white, non-Latinos support construction of the project. In contrast, a majority of whites (64 percent) oppose the construction of the high-speed train through the Valley.

Many in the Valley would use high-speed rail for business and pleasure

When asked about how they would use the high-speed rail if it was completed, 66 percent of respondents in the San Joaquin Valley said they would use it for business, pleasure, or both. A plurality of adults, 35 percent, indicated that they would use the train for pleasure, while 28 percent said that they would use it for both business and pleasure. Surprisingly, only 3 percent responded that they would use the train mostly for business. In contrast, 30 percent said that they would not use the high-speed rail at all if it was completed.

The survey also reveals that slightly over half of Trump supporters, 52 percent, do not plan to use high-speed rail once it is completed. On the other hand, 75 percent of non-Trump supporters in the Valley, or 3 out of 4, indicated that they would use the train for business, pleasure, or both.

Among party identifiers, Democrats and Independents are the groups most likely to say that they would use high-speed rail. Eighty-three percent of Democrats and 68 percent of Independents responded that they would use the train for business, pleasure, or both. In comparison, half of Republicans said that they would use high-speed rail in one or more of these ways.

Although strong majorities of both voters and non-voters indicated that they would use the train for business, pleasure, or both, the potential usage rate is much higher among non-voters than voters (79 percent compared to 60 percent).

Table 9
Future Use of High-Speed Rail

	All (%)	Trump Supporter		Party Registration			Voted in Presidential Election		Race/Ethnicity		
		Yes	No	Dem	Rep	Ind.	Yes	No	White	Latino	Other
Business	3	1	4	2	5	4	3	4	2	4	3
Pleasure	35	23	40	34	25	47	35	38	28	43	27
Both	28	21	31	47	20	17	22	37	11	34	50
Wouldn't Use	30	52	20	16	47	27	38	17	55	15	21
Don't know	4	3	4	2	4	5	3	5	4	4	0

Note: Trump supporter is respondent that indicated that he/she voted for Donald Trump or would have voted for Donald Trump if she/he had voted in the election. Other for race/ethnicity includes blacks and Asians. Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding.

With regard to racial and ethnic groups, potential usage of high-speed rail was highest among non-white groups. About 80 percent of both Latinos and non-white, non-Latinos said that they would use the train for business, pleasure, or both. In contrast, just 41 percent of whites stated that they would use high-speed rail for one or more of these purposes.

QUESTIONNAIRE AND RESULTS

March 13-26, 2017

N=541

Weighted by age, education, race/ethnicity, gender

Margin of error $\pm 4.2\%$ at 95% confidence level

1. What would you say is the most important problem facing the State of California today?

21%	water
16	economy
13	government
10	immigration
8	crime
5	education
4	infrastructure
3	environment
3	homelessness
3	healthcare/health
2	race relations
<1	energy/energy prices
<1	terrorism
5	other
6	don't know

2. Thinking about the San Joaquin Valley in particular, what would you say is the most important problem facing our region today?

31%	water
19	economy
16	crime
6	immigration
5	environment
4	infrastructure
2	government
2	homelessness
1	healthcare/health
1	education
<1	race relations
<1	terrorism
2	other
9	don't know

3. What do you think is the best thing about living in the San Joaquin Valley?

16%	good location
14	fresh produce
13	small town atmosphere/living
11	cost of living/affordable to live
9	wages
8	weather
6	access to national parks
4	affordable housing
3	good schools
2	less traffic
7	other
7	don't know

4. Thinking about the country as a whole, what do you think is the most important problem facing the country today?

29%	government
14	immigration
13	economy
10	race relations
6	crime
6	healthcare/health
5	foreign policy
2	homelessness
1	education
1	water
<1	environment
<1	infrastructure
6	other
5	don't know

5. Turning to the economic conditions in California, do you think that during the next 12 months we will have good times financially or bad times?

52%	good times
36	bad times
13	don't know

6. Do you approve or disapprove of the job California's Governor Jerry Brown is doing?

40%	approve
34	disapprove
27	don't know

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the State legislature is doing?

33%	approve
36	disapprove
31	don't know

8. Do you approve or disapprove of the job your local government is doing?

56%	approve
26	disapprove
18	don't know

9. Thinking about political parties, do you consider yourself a:

37%	Democrat
25	Independent
24	Republican
6	third party
8	don't know/refuse to answer

10. Do you consider yourself a:

- 33% conservative
- 40 moderate
- 18 liberal
- 9 don't know/refuse to answer

11. Do you feel that things in the San Joaquin Valley are:

- 49% moving in the right direction
- 29 off on the wrong track
- 21 don't know/refuse to answer

12. President Trump is now in office, thinking about the impact on the Valley, do you think he will keep us moving in the right direction or do you think he will get us off on the wrong track?

- 37% moving in the right direction
- 52 off on the wrong track
- 11 don't know/refuse to answer

13. As you may know, California is currently constructing a high-speed rail linking Los Angeles to the San Joaquin Valley and the San Francisco Bay Area. The first phase of construction has already started in Fresno and the project is expected to be done in the next decade. Do you support or oppose continuing construction on the high-speed rail project?

- 58% support
- 35 oppose
- 7 don't know/refuse to answer

14. If the project were to be completed, how would you use the train? Do you think you would use it mostly for business, mostly pleasure, both business and pleasure or do you think you would not use the train?

- 3% business
- 35 pleasure
- 28 business and pleasure
- 30 I would not use it
- 4 don't know/refuse to answer

15. Thinking about immigration, how much do you worry that yourself, a family member or a close friend could be deported? Do you worry a lot, some, not much or not at all?

- 31% a lot
- 15 some
- 12 not much
- 41 not at all
- 1 don't know/refuse to answer

16. Do you think that more deportations have a positive impact, negative impact or no impact on the economy of the region?

- 19% positive
- 63 negative
- 11 no impact
- 8 don't know/refuse to answer

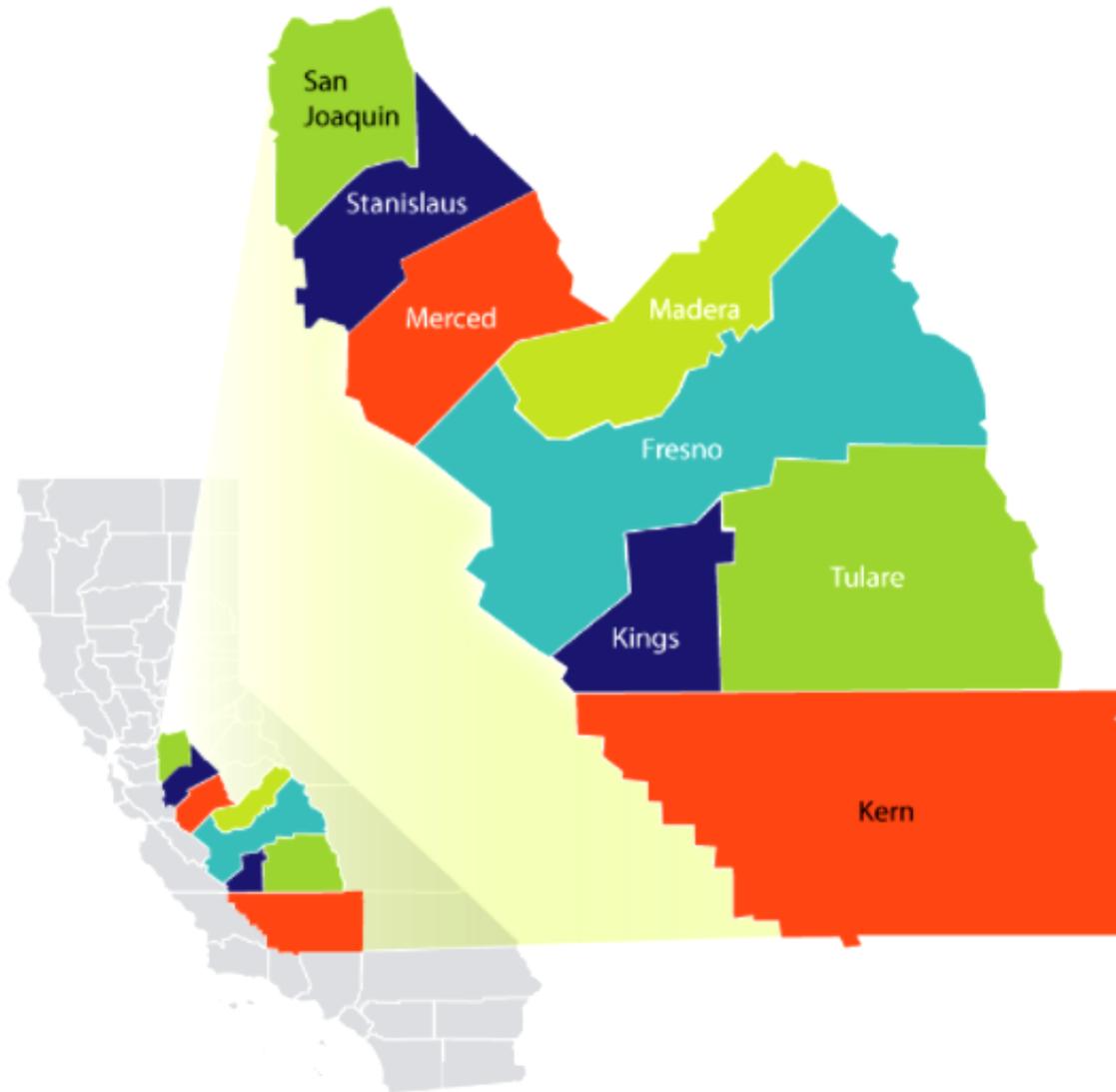
17. How often is reliable access to clean drinking water a problem for you, is it never a problem, sometimes a problem or is it always a problem?

- 78% never
- 16 sometimes
- 5 always
- 1 don't know/refuse to answer

18. Over the past 5 years, California has been in a drought, but has received a significant amount of rainfall over the past year. How concerned are you about this region having an adequate water supply in the future?

- 37% very concerned
- 38 somewhat concerned
- 24 not at all concerned
- 1 don't know/refuse to answer

Map of San Joaquin Valley



Map Credit: California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley

Methodology of Survey

The findings in this report are based on a survey of a random sample of adults from the San Joaquin Valley, which includes eight counties: Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare. A total of 541 adults were interviewed in Spanish or English. Eighty percent of interviews were conducted in English, while 20 percent were conducted in Spanish, based on the respondent's preference. Sixty-two percent were interviewed on landlines and 38 percent were interviewed on cell phones. Interviews took on average 13.6 minutes to complete. Interviewing took place on weekday nights and Sunday evenings, from March 13-26, 2017. Using a Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) system, we dialed 15,319 unique numbers. Up to 5 attempts were made to reach each randomly selected number on different days during the interview period. Based on the American Association for Public Opinion Research's (AAPOR) Standard Definitions, Version 9 (2016), we had a response rate of 3.9% (RR1) and a cooperation rate of 32.7% (CR1). Dr. Annabella España-Nájera translated the survey questions into Spanish.

The final sample was weighted by age, gender, education, and race/ethnicity to match the characteristics of the San Joaquin Valley adult population. The Institute used the U.S Census Bureau's 2015 American Community Survey population estimates to compare regional demographics to the characteristics of the survey sample in order to assure representativeness. The margin of error for the survey is ± 4.2 percent at the 95 percent confidence level for the unweighted sample of 541 adults. That is, we are 95 percent confident the results will reflect the population's responses ± 4.2 percentage points, if all adults in the San Joaquin Valley were interviewed. There are other possible sources of error beyond sampling variability, such as question wording, question sequencing, and survey timing.

Additional information about our methodology is available upon request from Dr. Lisa Bryant at lbryant@mail.fresnostate.edu or 559.278.7612.

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About the Institute for Leadership and Public Policy

Under the College of Social Sciences, the new Institute for Leadership and Public Policy is dedicated to conducting policy-relevant research and offering student training and career development to inspire public leadership in the San Joaquin Valley. Financial support for the Institute has been provided by a generous gift from PG&E and Chevron.

For more information, contact Dr. Jeff Cummins at 559.278.6693, Co-Director of the Institute for Leadership and Public Policy; or Co-Director Dr. Annabella España-Nájera at 559.278.3020; or Dr. Lisa Bryant, Survey Director, at 559.278.7612 or 559.512.0124.