

## Los Angeles Times Poll

### Study #439/Exit Poll California Primary Election March 7, 2000

The Times Poll interviewed 4,106 voters (including 1,707 Democrats and 1,468 Republicans) as they left their polling places across the state on March 7. The margin of sampling error for the entire sample is plus or minus 2 percentage points. For subgroups the error margin may vary.

### GUIDE TO COLUMN HEADINGS

All	All voters
Gore	Voted for Al Gore for president
Brad	Voted for Bill Bradley for president
Bush	Voted for George W. Bush for president
McC	Voted for John McCain for president
DEM	Registered Democrats
Ind	Registered independents ("declined-to-state")
REP	Registered Republicans

### Notes

- All answer frequencies are given in percentages.
- "-" indicates less than 0.5%.
- Totals may exceed 100% in questions where more than one response was accepted.
- Questions not displayed are used for classification purposes.

### E. In the primary election for president, did you just vote for:

	<u>All</u>	<u>Dem</u>	IND	<u>Rep</u>
Bill Bradley (D)	9	16	7	2
Al Gore (D)	35	63	26	4
Another Democrat	_	1	_	_
George W. Bush (R)	28	4	21	59
Alan Keyes (R)	2	1	4	5
John McCain (R)	23	14	40	29
Another Republican	1	_	1	1
Another party's candidat	te 2	1	1	_

### The Delegate Selection Vote: \*

	<u>Dem</u>
Bill Bradley	18
Al Gore	81
Another Democrat	1
	<u>Rep</u>
George W. Bush	61
John McCain	35
Another Republican	4

<sup>\*</sup> Votes cast by registered Democrats/Republicans for presidential candidates of their own party.

### $\boldsymbol{F}\!.$ In the primary election for U.S. senator, did you just vote for:

	<u>All</u>	<u>Gore</u>	Brad	Bush	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dem</u>	Ind	<u>Rep</u>
Dianne Feinstein (D)	51	90	<b>76</b>	9	47	83	52	16
Another Democrat	3	5	6	1	1	5	3	1
Tom Campbell (R)	23	2	9	47	30	6	16	45
Ray Haynes (R)	9	1	1	22	6	1	16	19
Bill Horn (R)	6	1	2	14	6	2	4	11
Another Republican	3	1	_	7	7	1	3	7
Another party's candidate	e 5	_	6	_	3	2	6	1

## G. How did you just vote on Proposition 1A (gambling on tribal lands)?

	<u>All</u>	<u>Gore</u>	Brad	<u>Bush</u>	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>
Voted yes	65	<b>76</b>	68	50	65	72	<b>67</b>	54
Voted no	35	24	32	50	35	28	33	46

### H. How did you just vote on Proposition 22 (limit on marriages)?

	<u>All</u>	<u>Gore</u>	Brad	<u>Bush</u>	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dem</u>	Ind	<u>Rep</u>
Voted yes	61	42	38	90	57	43	58	80
Voted no	39	58	62	10	43	57	42	20

### I. How did you just vote on Proposition 26 (school bond vote)?

	<u>All</u>	<u>Gore</u>	Brad	<u>Bush</u>	McC	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>
Voted yes	49	71	65	27	45	67	48	30
Voted no	51	29	35	73	55	33	52	<b>70</b>

## $\boldsymbol{J}.$ If you voted for president today, did you support your presidential candidate mostly:

	<u>All</u>	<u>Gore</u>	Brad	<u>Bush</u>	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>
Because you like him								
and his policies	75	<b>78</b>	<b>71</b>	83	65	73	64	82
Because he is the best								
of a bad lot	20	20	22	16	24	21	25	15
To send a protest message	e 5	2	7	1	11	6	11	3

## **K.** What did you most like about your choice for president? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO REPLIES)

	$\underline{ALL}$	<u>Gore</u>	$\underline{BRAD}$	$\underline{Bush}$	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>
He has honesty								
and integrity	33	18	41	37	47	27	40	42
He has experience	26	46	15	19	14	35	23	17
He has strong qualities								
of leadership	22	19	13	30	24	19	23	28
He cares about people								
like me	16	28	18	7	10	24	7	9
He can win in November	10	12	5	12	8	9	11	11
He is more liberal than								
the other candidates	9	16	21	_	2	15	7	1
He is a true conservative	9	1	2	22	4	2	6	17
He is not associated								
with Bill Clinton	9	1	7	21	9	3	9	16
He has new ideas	7	7	15	4	7	9	7	5
He can bring								
needed change	7	4	7	6	13	5	5	8
He is not a typical								
politician	6	2	11	2	12	5	11	6
None of the above	7	7	5	4	10	8	10	5

### L. If my presidential candidate wins the nomination:

	<u>All</u>	<u>Gore</u>	Brad	<u>Bush</u>	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>
I will definitely vote								
for him in November	86	91	83	94	73	85	<b>78</b>	91
I might vote for someone								
else in November	14	9	<b>17</b>	6	27	15	22	9

## M. When did you make up your mind about how you would vote for your presidential candidate?

	<u>All</u>	<u>Gore</u>	Brad	<u>Bush</u>	McC	<u>Dem</u>	Ind	<u>Rep</u>
Weekend or since (Net)	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>15</u>
Today	8	9	8	5	10	8	14	7
Over the weekend	8	7	12	7	8	7	12	8
Earlier (Net)	<u>84</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>85</u>
Last week	13	10	12	14	18	14	14	13
Before that in February	<b>17</b>	12	18	19	24	14	23	20
In January	15	9	17	14	23	12	10	17
Before the new year	39	53	33	41	17	45	27	35

## N. Which issues, if any, were most important to you in deciding how you would vote for president today? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO REPLIES)

	ALL	<u>Gore</u>	BRAD	<u>Bush</u>	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dem</u>	Ind	<u>Rep</u>
Education	32	44	37	26	21	39	33	23
Economy/Jobs	26	35	19	24	20	28	28	24
Taxes/Tax cuts	24	11	8	47	24	12	20	40
Abortion	12	13	13	15	4	12	13	14
Health care	11	16	20	5	8	16	9	5
Gun control	11	13	15	9	7	14	9	8
Crime/Drugs	9	7	9	10	10	7	6	11
Social Security/Medicare	9	13	7	7	10	10	4	8
The budget surplus	8	6	7	7	14	7	10	9
World affairs	8	4	9	10	14	6	8	12
Environment	8	13	7	3	6	12	9	3
Campaign finance reform	6	2	9	1	17	6	8	5
Foreign trade	2	1	3	2	2	1	2	2
None of the above	9	4	12	8	13	7	11	10

## $\textbf{O. Which of these things, if any, had a major influence on your vote for president today? (ACCEPTED MULTIPLE REPLIES)$

	<u>All</u>	<u>Gore</u>	Brad	<u>Bush</u>	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dем</u>	Ind	<u>Rep</u>
Candidate's proposal								
on education	27	40	32	24	13	34	20	19
Candidate's proposal								
on health care	25	39	39	16	14	34	18	14
The candidate debates	24	25	22	21	30	24	21	26
Candidate's tax cut								
proposals	22	10	11	41	20	12	11	35
Candidate's position								
on abortion	22	28	25	24	9	25	15	23
Candidate's deep faith in								
& commitment to God	17	9	6	32	9	9	15	27
Candidate's proposal to								
reform campaign finance	14	9	23	6	28	15	17	11
Negative campaigning								
by the other candidates	14	9	12	14	22	12	11	15
Candidate's proposal to								
ban further off-shore								
oil drilling	5	9	10	2	2	9	2	2
The endorsement of								
your local newspaper	4	8	4	2	3	6	6	2
None of the above	24	24	25	19	29	25	30	22

# **P.** If you voted for U.S. senator today, which of these things, if any, had a major influence on your vote? (ACCEPTED MULTIPLE REPLIES)

,	All	Gore	BRAD	<u>Bush</u>	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dем</u>	Ind	REP
Candidate has honesty								
and integrity	34	34	30	38	34	32	29	36
Candidate will be a strong	g							
voice for California	29	39	28	20	29	36	30	20
Candidate's experience	29	40	34	18	27	38	29	19
Candidate's position								
on gun control	26	34	29	20	22	32	20	21
Candidate's stand								
on abortion	24	27	31	23	18	28	24	20
Candidate shares the								
same views as I do	24	26	21	25	18	25	16	24
Candidate's position								
on taxes	19	13	14	28	17	13	20	25
Candidate's position								
on the environment	18	28	22	7	18	27	15	8
Candidate is a true								
conservative	11	3	5	24	7	4	9	20
Candidate is moderate								
on most of the issues	10	11	15	6	14	11	8	7
Candidate's stand								
on defense spending	9	7	8	12	9	7	4	12
None of the above	15	11	16	18	16	12	19	19

## Q. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling his job as president?

	$\underline{ALL}$	<u>Gore</u>	<u>Brad</u>	<u>Bush</u>	McC	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>
Approve (Net)	<u>57</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>25</u>
Strongly approve	29	58	35	3	22	51	21	7
Somewhat approve	27	33	39	13	35	33	37	17
Disapprove (Net)	<u>43</u>	9	<u> 26</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>75</u>
Somewhat disapprove	14	7	15	17	18	10	15	18
Strongly disapprove	30	2	11	67	25	6	27	58

### R. Do you think things in California are generally:

	$\underline{ALL}$	<u>Gore</u>	Brad	Bush	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dem</u>	IND	REP
Going in the right								
direction	<b>67</b>	85	80	47	69	80	70	52
Seriously off on the								
wrong track	33	15	20	53	31	20	30	48

## S. Which one of the following statements comes closest to the way you feel about President Clinton:

- "I like Clinton as a person and I also like most of his policies,"
- "I like Clinton as a person, but I don't like most of his policies,"
- "I don't like Clinton as a person, but I like most of his policies,"
- "I don't like Clinton as a person and I also don't like most of his policies"?

	<u>All</u>	<u>Gore</u>	<u>Brad</u>	<u>Bush</u>	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	REF
Like Clinton (Net)	<u>33</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>11</u>
Like him and policies	28	56	30	5	19	49	17	7
Like him/Dislike policies	s <b>5</b>	4	5	6	6	4	11	4
Dislike Clinton (Net)	<u>67</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>89</u>
Dislike him/Like policies	33	37	57	14	44	40	42	23
Dislike him and policies	34	3	8	75	31	7	30	66

#### **ALTERNATIVE BREAK:**

	20
Like policies (Net) <u>61</u> <u>94</u> <u>86</u> <u>19</u> <u>63</u> <u>89</u> <u>58</u>	<u>30</u>
Like him and policies 28 56 30 5 19 49 17	7
Dislike him/Like policies 33 37 57 14 44 40 42	23
Dislike policies (Net) 39 6 14 81 37 11 42	<u>70</u>
Like him/Dislike policies 5 4 5 6 6 4 11	4
Dislike him and policies 34 3 8 75 31 7 30	66

### T. Do you think California's economy these days is doing:

	<u>All</u>	<u>Gore</u>	Brad	<u>Bush</u>	McC	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>
Well (Net)	<u>92</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>93</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>93</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>93</u>	<u>90</u>
Very well	38	44	43	27	45	45	43	29
Fairly well	54	51	51	63	48	50	50	61
Badly (Net)	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>10</u>
Fairly badly	6	4	5	8	6	4	6	8
Very badly	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	2
Fairly well Badly (Net) Fairly badly	8	<u>5</u>	7	<u>11</u>	7	<u>5</u>	7	10

## $U_{\boldsymbol{\cdot}}$ Financially speaking, are you better off, worse off or about the same as you were four years ago?

	ALL	<u>Gore</u>	BRAD	BUSH	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dem</u>	IND	<u>Rep</u>
Better off	50	61	50	36	55	58	52	42
Worse off	12	8	11	15	14	8	18	15
About the same	38	31	39	49	31	34	30	43

V. It is estimated that there will be more than a trillion dollar budget surplus over the next ten years, not including funds collected for Social Security. What should we do with this surplus:

Use most of the money to strengthen Social Security and Medicare and a small portion for a tax cut, or

Use most of the surplus for a tax cut?

	<u>All</u>	<u>Gore</u>	Brad	<u>Bush</u>	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>
Most for Social Security								
and Medicare	71	87	84	43	80	86	72	54
Most for tax cut	29	13	16	57	20	14	28	46

### W. Which comes closest to your view on abortion:

- "Should always be legal,"
- "Should be legal most of the time,"
- "Should be made illegal, except in cases of rape, incest and to save the life of the mother,"
- "Should be made illegal without any exceptions"?

	$\underline{ALL}$	<u>Gore</u>	BRAD	<u>Bush</u>	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dем</u>	Ind	REP
Legal (Net)	<u>61</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>43</u>
Always legal	42	59	60	19	45	<b>56</b>	49	25
Legal most of the time	20	18	20	16	25	20	18	18
Illegal (Net)	<u>39</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>57</u>
Illegal with exceptions	29	18	15	50	25	19	28	42
Illegal with no exceptions	9	5	5	15	5	5	5	15

X. As you may know, California now has an open or 'blanket' primary. However, only the votes of members of the Democratic or Republican parties count for choosing the presidential nominees of those parties. Do you think:

Everyone's vote should count whether they belong to their candidate's party or not, or

Only Democrats' votes should count for choosing the Democratic party's nominee, and only Republicans' votes should count for choosing the Republican nominee?

	<u>All</u>	<u>Gore</u>	Brad	<u>Bush</u>	<u>McC</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>
Everyone's vote								
should count	<b>70</b>	<b>79</b>	75	47	82	<b>79</b>	81	55
Only party members'								
votes should count	30	21	25	53	18	21	19	45

### HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED

This Los Angeles Times poll is one of a series of surveys undertaken to sample the opinions of voters as they participate in key elections. This particular exit poll was conducted during the California open primary.

The sampling frame for this exit poll is all voters in the state. Four thousand one hundred six voters were interviewed on March 7, 2000, as they left 75 polling places across the state. The sample included 1,707 Democratic and 1,468 Republican voters. Precincts were chosen based on the pattern of turnout in past statewide elections. The survey was a self-administered confidential questionnaire and was offered in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese. Interviews at the precinct level were conducted by Davis Research of Calabasas, California.

The entire sample of primary election voters has a margin of error of two percentage points. For some subgroups the error margin may be somewhat higher. Because the survey does not include absentee voters or those who declined to participate when approached, actual returns and demographic estimates by the interviewers were used to slightly adjust the sample. In addition, surveys of this kind may be subject to errors not associated with sampling methods but resulting instead from the practical difficulties involved in conducting any survey of public opinion.

Susan Pinkus directs the Los Angeles Times Poll under the general supervision of Karen Wada, managing editor/projects. Jill Darling Richardson and Elizabeth Armet are the assistant directors, Roger Richardson is the field director, Claudia Vaughn is the data management supervisor and Ray Enslow is the publications coordinator.

Further information regarding this study is available by writing to the Los Angeles Times Poll, 202 West First St., Los Angeles, California 90012, or by calling (213) 237-2027. Poll data can also be found on the World Wide Web. Visit us at <a href="http://www.latimes.com/timespoll">http://www.latimes.com/timespoll</a>.

This report conforms to the standards of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls and the American Association for Public Opinion Research.

[DEMOGRAPHIC TABLES BEGIN ON NEXT PAGE]

The column at left should be read vertically. For example: 56% of all voters were men and 44% were women.

The columns at right should be read horizontally. For example: Of all men who voted for president, 8% voted for Bill Bradley, 30% for George W. Bush, 30% for Al Gore and 26% for John McCain.

		PRESIDENT				U.S. S		BALLOT PROPOSITI					
% of all		DDADIEV			M. CAIN			1		2		2	
voters	TOTALS	BRADLEY	ROSH	GORE	McCAIN	FEINSTEIN	CAMPBELL	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
100%	All voters	9	28	35	23	51	23	65	35	61	39	49	51
	SEX												
56%	Men	8	30	30	26	46	27	65	35	61	39	47	53
44%	Women	11	27	38	20	58	18	63	37	57	43	51	49
	AGE												
5% 61%	18-29 30-44	9 9	29 30	33 34	21 21	47 50	20 22	67 63	33 37	58 56	42 44	52 51	48 49
16%	45-64	11	26	31	27	52	26	66	34	63	37	45	55
18%	65 or older	7	28	35	28	55	24	66	34	68	32	46	54
	RACE/ETHNICITY									'			
81%	White	9	31	27	27	49	26	61	39	58	42	48	52
7% 7%	Black Latino	10 8	7 21	76 57	3 10	72 66	5 8	83 74	17 26	62 65	38 35	62 61	38 39
4%	Asian	7	34	43	14	44	26	57	43	59	41	46	54
	EDUCATION					1						ļ	
16%	High school diploma or less	10	35	35	17	50	22	67	33	75	25	53	47
26% 29%	Some college College degree	8 6	29 33	33 33	25 22	50 48	22 23	67 62	33 38	64 61	36 39	49 44	51 56
29%	Postgraduate study	13	21	34	27	57	24	62	38	45	55	53	47
	PARTY REGISTRATION												
46%	Democratic	16	4	63	14	83	6	72	28	43	57	67	33
9%	Independent	7	21	26	40	52	16	67	33	58	42	48	52
41%	Republican	2	59	4	29	16	45	54	46	80	20	30	70
2.40/	SEX AND PARTY	1 5	_	60	1.6	l 00	7	72	27	10	EO	60	22
24% 21%	Democratic men Democratic women	15 18	5 4	62 64	16 11	80 87	7 5	73 72	27 28	42 42	58 58	68 66	32 34
24%	Republican men	1	60	2	30	12	49	55	45	82	18	29	71
17%	Republican women	2	57	7	28	21	38	53	47	77	23	32	68
0.004	POLITICAL IDEOLOGY	4.7	_	0.0	4.4				0.5				0.7
33% 11%	Liberal Very liberal	17 15	5 3	60 65	14 11	86 89	4 2	75 85	25 15	29 24	71 76	73 77	27 23
22%	Somewhat liberal	19	5	58	16	85	5	69	31	31	69	71	29
25%	Moderate	8	17	36	36	60	19	68	32	57	43	51	49
42% 28%	Conservative Somewhat conservative	3 4	56 47	11 14	23 29	17 22	41 44	53 59	47 41	84 81	16 19	29 35	71 65
13%	Very conservative	2	72	6	9	8	34	40	60	92	8	17	83
	PARTY AND IDEOLOGY					1				I			
21%	Liberal Democrat	20	2	66	10	91	2	75	25	26	74	76	24
18% 10%	Moderate Democrat Moderate Republican	12 3	7 34	59 13	19 46	74 38	11 35	69 62	31 38	61 56	39 44	56 45	44 55
25%	Conservative Republican	- -	69	13	23	7	49	51	36 49	90	10	24	76
	ANNUAL FAMILY INCOME												
8%	Less than \$20,000	13	19	41	19	53	10	73	27	60	40	64	36
18%	\$20,000 to \$39,999	9	26	40	20	54	17	68	32	62	38	56	44
18% 56%	\$40,000 to \$59,999 \$60,000 or more	9 9	31 30	34 31	19 26	50 51	22 27	67 61	33 39	60 57	40 43	49 45	51 55
3370	RELIGION	J	30	31	20		-1	31		"	.5	'0	-
45%	Protestant	6	41	26	21	40	28	57	43	75	25	42	58
26%	Catholic	9	23	37	26	56	24	72	28	59	41	50	50
6%	Jewish	15	7	49	26	78	12	72	28	24	76	66	34
0.004	UNION MEMBERSHIP	•	00	4.4	0.4		40	0.5	0.5	l =0	40	I = 0	
30% 70%	Union household Not a union household	9 9	22 32	41 31	24 23	57 49	19 24	65 64	35 36	58 60	42 40	56 46	44 54
. 370	REGION		J-	J.			= '	J.			. •	'	• •
25%	Los Angeles County	11	18	46	22	63	16	65	35	58	42	50	50
31%	The rest of Southern California	7	34	29	24	48	22	71	29	62	38	46	54
14% 30%	The Bay Area The rest of Northern California	10 9	21 33	50 26	15 26	60 45	19 30	69 56	31 44	49 63	51 37	62 48	38 52
JU /0	THE TOSE OF NOTHIGHT CAMPUILLA	9	55	20	20	1 40	30	50	77	1 03	31	40	JZ

Notes: "-" indicates less than 0.5%. Numbers may not total 100% where some voter groups or candidates are not shown.

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