

Results of SurveyUSA Election Poll #17127

Geography: California

Data Collected: 09/19/2010 - 09/21/2010

Release Date: 09/22/2010

Percentages

Movement to Democrats in California Governor and US Senate Contests: Democrat Jerry Brown, running for Governor, and Democrat Barbara Boxer, seeking reelection as a U.S. Senator, today 09/22/10 finish ahead of their Republican opponents for the first time in 2 months of SurveyUSA tracking, according to new polling commissioned by KABC-TV Los Angeles, KPIX-TV San Francisco, KGTV-TV San Diego, and KFSN-TV Fresno. In the race for the open **Governor's** seat, Brown today edges Republican Meg Whitman 46% to 43%, a result within the survey's theoretical margin of sampling error, but a result that reflects a [10-point swing](#) to the Democrat over the past 3 weeks. Brown has gained strength and Whitman has lost strength among young and old, men and women, and in all regions of the state. A similar swing and similar movement in the **US Senate** race benefits incumbent Democrat Barbara Boxer, who today edges Republican Carly Fiorina 49% to 43%, Boxer's first lead in 2 months of SurveyUSA polling and an [8-point swing](#) to the Democrat over the past 3 weeks. Boxer, like Brown, has gained as Fiorina has fallen among both men and women, young and old, and throughout the state. By contrast, two other statewide contests in California polled at the same time show little or no movement, suggesting that the changes in the governor and US Senate contest are real rather than the result of random sample variation. For **Lieutenant Governor**, Democrat Gavin Newsom today is nominally atop incumbent Republican Abel Maldonado, 44% to 41%. Compared to 3 weeks ago, [Newsom is flat; Maldonado is up a nominal 2 points](#). In 6 weeks of SurveyUSA polling, Newsom has never polled below 43% or above 44%; Maldonado has never polled below 39% or above 42%. Support for **Proposition 19**, which would legalize marijuana and allow for its regulation and taxation, also remains essentially unchanged over the past 3 weeks. Today, 47% vote "Yes" on 19, 42% vote "No." Opposition to 19 is above 50% among conservatives, Republicans, tea party supporters, pro-life voters, and the oldest voters. Support is above 50% among men, younger voters, liberals, Democrats, pro-choice voters, higher-income voters, and in the Bay Area.

Filtering: SurveyUSA interviewed 1,000 California adults 09/19/10 through 09/21/10. Of them, 850 were registered to vote. Of the registered voters, 610 were determined by SurveyUSA to be likely to vote in the 11/02/10 general election. Early voting begins in 12 days, on 10/04/10.

1 [Candidate names rotated]
If the election for California Governor were today, who would you vote for? Republican Meg Whitman? Democrat Jerry Brown? Or another candidate?

610 Likely Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Opinion Of Tea Party			College Grad		Abortion		Own a Gun?		Income		
Credibility Interval: +/-4 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian/O	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	Favora	Unfavor	Neutral	Yes	No	Pro-life	Pro-cho	Yes	No	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K
Whitman (R)	43%	47%	39%	35%	46%	41%	48%	42%	44%	47%	27%	38%	39%	78%	14%	49%	77%	40%	11%	79%	12%	52%	43%	44%	66%	30%	56%	35%	42%	42%	44%
Brown (D)	46%	44%	49%	54%	45%	46%	42%	48%	45%	44%	66%	49%	46%	12%	77%	38%	13%	50%	78%	11%	80%	37%	48%	44%	23%	61%	35%	54%	45%	46%	49%
Other	8%	7%	9%	7%	6%	10%	7%	7%	9%	7%	2%	10%	10%	9%	5%	11%	8%	7%	8%	8%	5%	9%	7%	9%	8%	7%	7%	8%	11%	9%	5%
Undecided	3%	2%	3%	4%	3%	3%	2%	3%	2%	2%	5%	3%	5%	2%	4%	2%	2%	3%	3%	1%	4%	2%	2%	3%	3%	2%	3%	3%	2%	3%	3%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	50%	50%	19%	32%	29%	21%	51%	49%	61%	6%	20%	14%	33%	43%	23%	29%	42%	22%	33%	41%	20%	60%	40%	36%	59%	33%	61%	21%	33%	46%

1 [Candidate names rotated]
If the election for California Governor were today, who would you vote for? Republican Meg Whitman? Democrat Jerry Brown? Or another candidate?

610 Likely Voters	All	Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-4 pct points		Central	Greater	Inland	Bay Are
Whitman (R)	43%	55%	43%	45%	33%
Brown (D)	46%	32%	45%	44%	61%
Other	8%	9%	9%	9%	4%
Undecided	3%	4%	3%	3%	2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	20%	36%	17%	26%

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Sponsors:

All SurveyUSA clients in California

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2 [Candidate names rotated] California will also elect a United States Senator. If the election for United States Senator from California were today, who would you vote for? Republican Carly Fiorina? Democrat Barbara Boxer? Or another candidate?

610 Likely Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Opinion Of Tea Party			College Grad		Abortion		Own a Gun?		Income			
		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian/O	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Moder	Liberal	Favora	Unfavor	Neutral	Yes	No	Pro-life	Pro-cho	Yes	No	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K	
Credibility Interval: +/-4 pct points																																
Fiorina (R)	43%	49%	38%	32%	45%	43%	52%	40%	47%	49%	25%	36%	37%	84%	12%	47%	85%	37%	9%	89%	8%	47%	43%	44%	68%	28%	59%	34%	47%	40%	43%	
Boxer (D)	49%	45%	53%	58%	49%	48%	41%	52%	45%	45%	68%	52%	51%	10%	81%	43%	10%	53%	85%	7%	84%	41%	50%	46%	23%	65%	34%	58%	42%	52%	50%	
Other	6%	4%	7%	7%	4%	8%	5%	5%	7%	5%	0%	9%	9%	5%	5%	9%	4%	8%	4%	4%	6%	9%	4%	8%	8%	5%	6%	8%	7%	4%		
Undecided	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%	1%	1%	3%	1%	1%	7%	3%	2%	1%	3%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	3%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%		
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	50%	50%	19%	32%	29%	21%	51%	49%	61%	6%	20%	14%	33%	43%	23%	29%	42%	22%	33%	41%	20%	60%	40%	36%	59%	33%	61%	21%	33%	46%	

2 [Candidate names rotated] California will also elect a United States Senator. If the election for United States Senator from California were today, who would you vote for? Republican Carly Fiorina? Democrat Barbara Boxer? Or another candidate?

610 Likely Voters	All	Region			
		Central	Greater	Inland	Bay Are
Credibility Interval: +/-4 pct points					
Fiorina (R)	43%	58%	42%	53%	28%
Boxer (D)	49%	32%	49%	43%	64%
Other	6%	8%	7%	2%	5%
Undecided	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	20%	36%	17%	26%

3 [Candidate names rotated] California will also elect a Lieutenant Governor. If the election for Lieutenant Governor were today, who would you vote for? Republican Abel Maldonado? Democrat Gavin Newsom? Or another candidate?

610 Likely Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Opinion Of Tea Party			College Grad		Abortion		Own a Gun?		Income		
		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian/O	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Moder	Liberal	Favora	Unfavor	Neutral	Yes	No	Pro-life	Pro-cho	Yes	No	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K
Credibility Interval: +/-4 pct points																															
Maldonado (R)	41%	44%	38%	33%	41%	40%	50%	38%	44%	42%	22%	47%	37%	73%	16%	44%	71%	37%	14%	73%	12%	46%	39%	44%	64%	27%	52%	34%	44%	43%	38%
Newsom (D)	44%	43%	46%	52%	44%	45%	37%	47%	42%	44%	65%	42%	43%	11%	73%	38%	11%	49%	77%	10%	77%	38%	46%	41%	18%	60%	33%	52%	39%	43%	48%
Other	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	13%	10%	11%	12%	12%	8%	8%	14%	12%	8%	17%	16%	11%	5%	15%	8%	11%	11%	12%	14%	10%	13%	10%	14%	11%	10%
Undecided	3%	2%	5%	5%	4%	3%	2%	4%	3%	3%	5%	4%	6%	4%	4%	1%	3%	3%	3%	2%	3%	5%	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	4%	3%	
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	50%	50%	19%	32%	29%	21%	51%	49%	61%	6%	20%	14%	33%	43%	23%	29%	42%	22%	33%	41%	20%	60%	40%	36%	59%	33%	61%	21%	33%	46%

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3 [Candidate names rotated]
California will also elect a Lieutenant Governor. If the election for Lieutenant Governor were today, who would you vote for? Republican Abel Maldonado? Democrat Gavin Newsom? Or another candidate?

610 Likely Voters	All	Region			
		Central	Greater	Inland	Bay Are
Credibility Interval: +/-4 pct points					
Maldonado (R)	41%	57%	42%	42%	27%
Newsom (D)	44%	28%	42%	42%	61%
Other	11%	13%	11%	15%	8%
Undecided	3%	2%	5%	2%	4%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	20%	36%	17%	26%

4 California voters may also vote on several propositions. On Proposition 19, which would change California law to legalize marijuana and allow it to be regulated and taxed, are you ... Certain to vote yes? Certain to vote no? Or not certain? {Not Certain voters were asked: At this hour, on Proposition 19, do you ... lean toward yes? lean toward no, or do you not lean? }

610 Likely Voters Incl. Leaners	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Opinion Of Tea Party			College Grad		Abortion		Own a Gun?		Income						
		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian/O	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Moder	Liberal	Favora	Unfavor	Neutral	Yes	No	Pro-life	Pro-cho	Yes	No	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K				
Credibility Interval: +/-4 pct points																																			
Certain Yes	47%	51%	43%	62%	45%	48%	34%	51%	42%	49%	41%	48%	39%	29%	59%	49%	27%	49%	71%	33%	62%	43%	47%	46%	29%	58%	49%	47%	43%	44%	53%				
Certain No	42%	41%	44%	29%	43%	43%	52%	38%	47%	40%	45%	44%	47%	60%	31%	40%	64%	39%	18%	58%	28%	42%	42%	43%	62%	30%	42%	42%	46%	44%	38%				
Not Certain	11%	8%	14%	9%	12%	9%	14%	11%	11%	11%	14%	8%	15%	12%	10%	11%	9%	12%	11%	9%	10%	15%	11%	11%	9%	12%	9%	11%	11%	12%	9%				
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%			
Composition of Likely Voters Incl. Le	100%	50%	50%	19%	32%	29%	21%	51%	49%	61%	6%	20%	14%	33%	43%	23%	29%	42%	22%	33%	41%	20%	60%	40%	36%	59%	33%	61%	21%	33%	46%				

4 California voters may also vote on several propositions. On Proposition 19, which would change California law to legalize marijuana and allow it to be regulated and taxed, are you ... Certain to vote yes? Certain to vote no? Or not certain? {Not Certain voters were asked: At this hour, on Proposition 19, do you ... lean toward yes? lean toward no, or do you not lean? }

610 Likely Voters Incl. Leaners	All	Region			
		Central	Greater	Inland	Bay Are
Credibility Interval: +/-4 pct points					
Certain Yes	47%	43%	45%	44%	54%
Certain No	42%	47%	43%	46%	36%
Not Certain	11%	11%	12%	10%	10%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Likely Voters Incl. Le	100%	20%	36%	17%	26%

: KABC-TV Los Angeles, KFSN-TV Fresno, KGTV-TV San Diego, KPIX-TV San Francisco

Statement of Methodology: About the Poll: This poll was conducted by telephone in the voice of a professional announcer. Respondent households were selected at random, using Random Digit Dialed (RDD) sample provided by Survey Sampling, of Fairfield CT. All respondents heard the questions asked identically. The pollster's report includes the geography that was surveyed; the date(s) interviews were conducted, the number of respondents who answered each question and the theoretical margin of sampling error for each question. Where necessary, respondents were weighted using the most recent US Census estimates for age, gender, ethnic origin and region, to align the sample to the population. In theory, one can say with 95% certainty that the results would not vary by more than the stated margin of sampling error, in one direction or the other, had the entire universe of respondents with home telephones been interviewed with complete accuracy. There are other possible sources of error in all surveys that may be more serious than sampling error. These include: the difficulty of interviewing respondents who do not have a home telephone; the refusal by some with home telephones to be interviewed; the order in which questions are asked; the wording of questions; the way and extent to which data are weighted; and the manner in which specialized populations, such as likely voters, are determined. It is difficult to quantify the errors that may result from these and other factors. Research methodology, questionnaire design and fieldwork for this survey were completed by SurveyUSA of Clifton, NJ. This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.