



# LOS ANGELES TIMES POLL

## Study #413/Exit Poll

### California Primary Election

#### June 2, 1998

The Times Poll/CNN interviewed 5,143 voters as they left 99 polling places across California June 2. The margin of sampling error for all voters is plus or minus 2 percentage points. For subgroups the error margin may vary.

#### GUIDE TO COLUMN HEADINGS

ALL	All voters
DEM	Registered Democrats
IND	Registered independents (declined-to-state)
REP	Registered Republicans
WHT	Whites
BLK	Blacks
LAT	Latinos
ASN	Asians

#### 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. Totals may be less than 100% where some candidates, voter groups or answer categories are not shown.
- Questions not displayed are used for classification purposes.

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

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Al Checchi (D)	13	16	13	7	9	17	30	14
Gray Davis (D)	35	52	42	13	30	53	36	36
Jane Harman (D)	12	18	15	5	11	17	11	10
Dan Lungren (R)	34	9	21	70	43	9	17	39
Other candidate	6	5	9	5	7	4	6	1

#### F. In the primary election for U.S. senator, did you just vote for:

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Barbara Boxer (D)	44	73	51	10	35	78	57	34
Matt Fong (R)	22	10	22	39	26	8	11	50
Darrell Issa (R)	19	5	13	36	24	3	11	9
Other candidate	15	12	14	15	15	11	21	7

#### G. In the primary election for attorney general, did you just vote for:

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Charles M. Calderon (D)	12	20	16	2	7	15	34	12
Bill Lockyer (D)	24	39	22	5	19	40	24	23
Lynn Schenk (D)	13	18	17	4	10	22	11	17
Mike Capizzi (R)	15	5	12	27	19	3	8	21
Dave Stirling (R)	29	9	22	57	37	9	13	25
Other candidate	7	9	11	5	8	11	10	2

#### H. How did you just vote on Proposition 226 (Union dues)?

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Voted yes	47	28	45	72	55	31	25	48
Voted no	53	72	55	28	45	69	75	52

#### I. How did you just vote on Proposition 227 (Bilingual education)?

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Voted yes	61	47	59	77	67	48	37	57
Voted no	39	53	41	23	33	52	63	43

#### J. Is this the first time you have voted in an election in California? (IF NOT) Is this the first time you have voted in a primary election in California?

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
This is the first time I have voted in California	4	4	9	3	3	5	12	8
I have voted in California before, but this is the first time in a primary	9	10	18	4	6	13	17	12
I have voted in a California primary before	87	86	73	93	91	82	71	80

#### K. As you may know, this is California's first blanket or open primary in which voters may vote for any candidate running for office regardless of party affiliation. Do you think: (ACCEPTED ALL THAT APPLY)

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
The open primary allows me to vote for a candidate of my choice even if he or she is not in my party	60	59	59	61	62	58	56	53
The open primary is fairer because all voters can vote in candidate races	31	32	33	29	30	35	34	37
In a primary, only Democrats should vote for Democrats, etc.	14	15	12	16	15	16	10	11
Ballot was too confusing/ List of names too long	8	9	8	8	8	10	8	9
None of the above	4	3	7	3	3	5	4	5

#### L. Which races or ballot initiatives, if any, particularly motivated you to turn out to vote today? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO RESPONSES)

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Governor's race	40	47	34	34	38	47	42	40
Prop. 227 (Bilingual education)	27	26	28	28	27	18	39	36
Prop. 226 (Union dues for political contributions)	21	22	21	21	21	24	24	16
U.S. Senate race	13	11	11	15	14	8	10	11
Prop. 223 (School spending limits on administration)	9	9	7	8	8	7	10	12
Other races or initiatives	4	4	4	4	4	5	3	6
Interested in everything on ballot	26	22	28	30	28	25	17	13
Nothing in particular	9	9	16	9	10	10	7	14

#### M. How long ago did you finally decide how you would vote for governor today?

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Today/Yesterday	16	18	22	12	15	20	18	21
Over the weekend or last week	21	21	21	19	21	16	21	27
Before last week	63	61	57	69	64	64	61	52

	CHECCHI VOTERS	DAVIS VOTERS	HARMAN VOTERS	LUNGREN VOTERS
Today	13	9	15	6
Yesterday	5	7	12	5
Over the weekend	8	9	11	6
During last week	14	14	15	11
Earlier in May	27	27	21	21
Earlier in April	15	10	12	11
Earlier in March	8	9	6	11
Before then	10	15	8	29

**N. If you voted for governor today, what did you most like about your gubernatorial choice? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO RESPONSES)**

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Has the experience to be governor	38	41	38	36	40	37	32	34
Has strong leadership qualities	23	20	15	28	24	19	21	28
Best alternative of all candidates running for governor	19	18	25	20	22	15	12	14
Has a clear vision for California's future	17	16	21	16	15	16	22	23
Has honesty and integrity	14	12	11	19	16	8	12	20
Cares about people like me	13	18	14	8	10	24	22	13
Can win in November	7	7	6	9	8	6	6	9
Has new ideas	6	7	7	4	6	6	7	6
Not beholden to special interests	6	6	5	6	7	5	6	3
Used own money for campaign	3	3	4	2	2	3	4	1
None of the above	7	5	7	7	6	9	3	3

	CHECCHI VOTERS	DAVIS VOTERS	HARMAN VOTERS	LUNGREN VOTERS
Has the experience to be governor	14	60	18	36
Has strong leadership qualities	25	15	30	29
Best alternative of all candidates running for governor	9	18	22	22
Has a clear vision for California's future	19	15	21	16
Has honesty and integrity	10	10	14	21
Cares about people like me	23	15	17	7
Can win in November	3	7	5	10
Has new ideas	16	2	10	3
Not beholden to special interests	13	4	5	4
Used own money for campaign	11	2	2	1
None of the above	7	5	10	6

**O. If you voted for governor today, which of these things, if any, had a major influence on your vote? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO RESPONSES)**

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Lungren's experience as attorney general	25	7	16	49	30	8	14	28
My candidate's position on crime	24	19	18	30	26	16	23	26
My candidate's position on education	22	27	20	16	19	25	31	24
Davis' experience as lieutenant governor	22	33	27	9	19	36	23	24
My candidate has more years of experience in elected office	11	13	11	9	11	14	8	13
Negative campaigning by the other candidates	10	12	13	9	12	7	5	7
Checchi's experience as a successful businessman	6	8	6	5	5	7	16	6
Harman's mix of political and business experience	5	7	7	2	5	5	4	5
Harman is a woman	4	6	5	1	4	5	3	4
None of the above	12	10	16	12	13	13	9	5

	CHECCHI VOTERS	DAVIS VOTERS	HARMAN VOTERS	LUNGREN VOTERS
Lungren's experience as attorney general	3	1	1	67
My candidate's position on crime	23	15	20	35
My candidate's position on education	36	22	31	14
Davis' experience as lieutenant governor	2	62	2	1
My candidate has more years of experience in elected office	3	19	5	9
Negative campaigning by the other candidates	5	13	16	7
Checchi's experience as a successful businessman	51	-	1	-
Harman's mix of political and business experience	2	1	36	-
Harman is a woman	1	1	27	-
None of the above	11	8	11	10

**P. If you voted for governor today, which issues, if any, were most important to you in deciding how to vote? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO RESPONSES)**

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Education	43	50	39	35	41	40	56	43
Crime	28	25	26	33	29	23	28	35
Taxes	23	19	21	28	23	23	19	30
The economy and jobs	15	16	18	12	14	19	16	14
Illegal immigration	11	7	8	16	12	5	6	11
Morality/Family issues	11	6	14	17	12	7	8	3
Health care	10	15	9	5	10	10	9	10
The state budget	7	7	7	8	8	7	6	10
The environment	5	6	5	2	6	1	4	3
Abortion	5	4	4	7	7	2	2	2
Race relations	4	6	7	1	2	14	6	6
None of the above	7	7	11	7	7	11	5	5

	CHECCHI VOTERS	DAVIS VOTERS	HARMAN VOTERS	LUNGREN VOTERS
Education	51	50	53	31
Crime	27	24	26	37
Taxes	22	17	19	31
The economy and jobs	17	18	14	11
Illegal immigration	10	7	4	16
Morality/Family issues	7	5	8	19
Health care	11	11	20	4
The state budget	6	10	4	7
The environment	2	7	6	2
Abortion	2	3	7	7
Race relations	6	7	5	1
None of the above	5	9	5	6

**Q. As of today, what is your impression of Al Checchi?**

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Favorable	33	37	37	27	28	46	52	34
Unfavorable	67	63	63	73	72	54	48	66

	CHECCHI VOTERS	DAVIS VOTERS	HARMAN VOTERS	LUNGREN VOTERS
Favorable	95	23	24	22
Unfavorable	5	77	76	78

**R. As of today, what is your impression of Gray Davis?**

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Favorable	67	81	77	49	63	82	73	79
Unfavorable	33	19	23	51	37	18	27	21

	CHECCHI VOTERS	DAVIS VOTERS	HARMAN VOTERS	LUNGREN VOTERS
Favorable	49	98	66	42
Unfavorable	51	2	34	58

**S. As of today, what is your impression of Jane Harman?**

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Favorable	46	60	47	30	44	57	47	48
Unfavorable	54	40	53	70	56	43	53	52

	CHECCHI VOTERS	DAVIS VOTERS	HARMAN VOTERS	LUNGREN VOTERS
Favorable	46	51	97	23
Unfavorable	54	49	3	77

**T. As of today, what is your impression of Dan Lungren?**

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Favorable	62	40	48	87	68	35	47	72
Unfavorable	38	60	52	13	32	65	53	28

	CHECCHI VOTERS	DAVIS VOTERS	HARMAN VOTERS	LUNGREN VOTERS
Favorable	43	38	36	97
Unfavorable	57	62	64	3

**U. Thinking of Prop. 227, the bilingual education initiative, which of the following statements do you agree with most? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO RESPONSES)**

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
If you live in America, you should speak English	49	39	46	63	56	43	20	49
Bilingual education is not effective	41	30	40	55	48	23	20	40
Prop. 227 discriminates against non-English speaking students	16	24	17	8	11	24	36	17
Prop. 227 is a one size fits all solution/Takes authority away from local school districts	12	14	18	7	11	12	13	8
Prop. 227 is poorly written	10	14	14	6	10	11	18	4
Bilingual education works	7	10	2	3	5	8	15	11
Prop. 227 hurts English speaking children	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	4
Children should be allowed to speak in their native language	3	5	4	1	2	6	9	7
Governor Wilson supports 227	3	2	2	4	3	4	3	2
President Clinton opposes 227	3	5	-	2	2	5	7	2
Prop. 227 costs too much	2	2	-	2	2	4	2	6
None of the above	5	5	7	3	4	6	6	5

	PROPOSITION 227 VOTERS	
	YES	NO
If you live in America, you should speak English	65	25
Bilingual education is not effective	57	16
Prop. 227 discriminates against non-English speaking students	6	32
Prop. 227 is a one size fits all solution/Takes authority away from local school districts	4	24
Prop. 227 is poorly written	4	20
Bilingual education works	3	13
Prop. 227 hurts English speaking children	4	4
Children should be allowed to speak in their native language	2	6
Governor Wilson supports 227	3	3
President Clinton opposes 227	3	4
Prop. 227 costs too much	1	3
None of the above	3	7

**V. Do you think things in California are generally:**

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Going in the right direction	66	65	65	70	70	50	61	76
Seriously off on the wrong track	34	35	35	30	30	50	39	24

**W. As you may know, there have been Republican governors in California for the past 16 years. Do you think Republicans should continue to hold the office another four years or do you think it is time for a change to the Democratic party?**

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Republicans	44	11	32	85	54	12	20	57
Time for a change	56	89	68	15	46	88	80	43

**BB. Do you think labor unions have:**

	ALL	DEM	IND	REP	WHT	BLK	LAT	ASN
Too much influence	48	31	41	69	55	28	33	47
Too little influence	19	27	22	8	16	30	24	16
Just the right amount of influence	33	42	37	23	29	42	43	37

[Demographic tables start on page 4]

Read the column on the left *vertically*. For example, of all those who voted, 52% were men and 48% were women.

Read the tables on the right *horizontally*. For example, of all male voters, 12% voted for Al Checchi for governor, 34% voted for Gray Davis, 10% voted for Jane Harman and 37% voted for Dan Lungren (the vote for other gubernatorial candidates is not shown).

% of all voters	Governor				
	Checchi	Davis	Harman	Lungren	
<b>SEX</b>					
52%	Male	12%	34	10	37
48%	Female	14%	33	15	33
<b>AGE</b>					
8%	18 to 29	19%	28	14	27
38%	30 to 49	13%	33	14	33
30%	50 to 64	11%	34	13	36
24%	65 or older	11%	39	7	40
<b>RACE/ETHNICITY</b>					
69%	Whites	9%	30	11	43
14%	Blacks	17%	53	17	9
12%	Latinos	30%	36	11	17
3%	Asians	14%	36	10	39
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
20%	High school graduate or less	20%	35	9	31
27%	Some college	11%	32	11	39
28%	College graduate	10%	33	12	38
25%	Postgraduate study	9%	38	17	30
<b>PARTY REGISTRATION</b>					
48%	Democrats	16%	52	18	9
6%	Independents	13%	42	15	21
40%	Republicans	7%	13	5	70
<b>SEX AND PARTY</b>					
25%	Democratic men	14%	56	15	11
26%	Democratic women	18%	49	20	9
25%	Republican men	9%	12	3	70
19%	Republican women	6%	10	6	74
<b>POLITICAL IDEOLOGY</b>					
20%	Liberals	14%	49	21	7
43%	Moderates	13%	44	15	23
37%	Conservatives	10%	15	5	65
<b>PARTY AND IDEOLOGY</b>					
13%	Liberal Democrats	14%	53	23	4
29%	Other Democrats	17%	52	15	12
12%	Other Republicans	11%	21	10	53
24%	Conservative Republicans	6%	6	2	81
<b>ANNUAL FAMILY INCOME</b>					
10%	Less than \$20,000	23%	36	9	24
20%	\$20,000 to \$39,999	15%	37	12	32
22%	\$40,000 to \$59,999	12%	34	12	35
16%	\$60,000 to \$74,999	11%	33	11	38
32%	\$75,000 or more	9%	33	15	37
<b>RELIGION</b>					
50%	Non-Catholic Christian	11%	29	11	44
24%	Roman Catholic	18%	38	10	30
5%	Jewish	11%	46	19	19
<b>UNION MEMBERSHIP</b>					
23%	Union member	13%	48	11	23
12%	Union member in household	10%	36	13	35
65%	Non-union household	13%	29	13	39
<b>REGIONS</b>					
25%	Los Angeles County	18%	36	11	30
32%	Rest of Southern California	13%	29	11	43
14%	Bay Area	12%	44	17	17
29%	Rest of Northern California	10%	37	12	35

% of all voters	U.S. Senator			Ballot Propositions				
	Boxer	Fong	Issa	226		227		
				Yes	No	Yes	No	
<b>SEX</b>								
52%	Male	39%	26	20	50%	50	64%	36
48	Female	48%	19	18	45%	55	57%	43
<b>AGE</b>								
8%	18 to 29	48%	17	15	40%	60	50%	50
38	30 to 49	44%	21	19	45%	55	59%	41
30	50 to 64	44%	21	20	49%	51	61%	39
24	65 or older	41%	27	19	55%	45	66%	34
<b>RACE/ETHNICITY</b>								
69%	Whites	35%	26	24	55%	45	67%	33
14	Blacks	78%	8	3	31%	69	48%	52
12	Latinos	57%	11	11	25%	75	37%	63
3	Asians	34%	50	9	48%	52	57%	43
<b>EDUCATION</b>								
20%	High school graduate or less	47%	19	15	39%	61	56%	44
27	Some college	40%	21	21	47%	53	65%	35
28	College graduate	41%	24	19	53%	47	63%	37
25	Postgraduate study	48%	25	18	50%	50	57%	43
<b>PARTY REGISTRATION</b>								
48%	Democrats	73%	10	5	28%	72	47%	53
6	Independents	51%	22	13	45%	55	59%	41
40	Republicans	10%	39	36	72%	28	77%	23
<b>SEX AND PARTY</b>								
25%	Democratic men	71%	12	5	28%	72	48%	52
26	Democratic women	71%	9	6	27%	73	48%	52
25	Republican men	7%	43	37	74%	26	81%	19
19	Republican women	11%	36	37	71%	29	72%	28
<b>POLITICAL IDEOLOGY</b>								
20%	Liberals	78%	8	3	23%	77	36%	64
43	Moderates	52%	20	12	40%	60	59%	41
37	Conservatives	15%	32	36	71%	29	77%	23
<b>PARTY AND IDEOLOGY</b>								
13%	Liberal Democrats	83%	5	2	19%	81	35%	65
29	Other Democrats	66%	13	7	32%	68	55%	45
12	Other Republicans	19%	40	23	59%	41	68%	32
24	Conservative Republicans	3%	39	45	80%	20	82%	18
<b>ANNUAL FAMILY INCOME</b>								
10%	Less than \$20,000	50%	16	14	41%	59	49%	51
20	\$20,000 to \$39,999	47%	21	16	42%	58	56%	44
22	\$40,000 to \$59,999	45%	18	20	48%	52	61%	39
16	\$60,000 to \$74,999	40%	23	21	50%	50	65%	35
32	\$75,000 or more	42%	27	19	51%	49	64%	36
<b>RELIGION</b>								
50%	Non-Catholic Christian	35%	26	24	56%	44	66%	34
24	Roman Catholic	47%	21	16	41%	59	54%	46
5	Jewish	69%	12	9	37%	63	55%	45
<b>UNION MEMBERSHIP</b>								
23%	Union member	56%	16	12	33%	67	51%	49
12	Union member in household	43%	24	17	41%	59	57%	43
65	Non-union household	39%	24	22	55%	45	65%	35
<b>REGIONS</b>								
25%	Los Angeles County	51%	18	16	47%	53	57%	43
32	Rest of Southern California	37%	22	26	53%	47	68%	32
14	Bay Area	59%	20	7	37%	63	49%	51
29	Rest of Northern California	39%	26	18	48%	52	59%	41

### HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED

The Times Poll interviewed 5,143 voters as they left 99 polling places across California during voting hours on June 2. Precincts were chosen based on the pattern of turnout in past statewide elections. The survey was by confidential questionnaire in English and Spanish.

The margin of sampling error for percentages based on the entire sample is plus or minus two 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 adjust the sample slightly. Interviews at the precinct level were conducted by Davis Research of Calabasas.



[RETURN TO LIST OF STAT SHEETS](#)