

INDEPENDENT CENTER VOICE

Survey Toplines — California — 6th Congressional District

District Benchmark Survey · 2026 Election Cycle

Methodology

Survey of 741 Likely 2026 General Voters in CA-06; margin of error ± 3.59 percentage points; field date: 07/13-16/2026.

All percentages are weighted to the study's demographic and partisan quota targets. Each figure is the Total % of the stated base, rounded to whole numbers, so responses may not sum to 100%. Multiple-response questions (e.g., top-three issue selection and racial identification) and per-candidate blocks may sum to more than 100. Aggregate rows (e.g., TOTAL DEMOCRAT) are sums of the categories that follow and are shaded for reference. Question codes in brackets match the analysis report and banner books. This study utilizes a multi-frame, probability-based sampling design combining live telephone calls and Short Message Service (SMS) outreach. To correct for non-response bias, the final sample was adjusted against U.S. Census Bureau and national voter databases to ensure accurate representation across core demographics, specifically gender, geographic region, age, race and ethnicity, political affiliation, educational attainment, household income, and population density, ensuring statistically valid generalizability.

Q1. How likely are you to vote in the November 2026 midterm elections? [Screener 3]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Very likely	94%
Somewhat likely	6%

Q2. Thinking about the upcoming election this November, which of the following best describes the MAIN reason you are motivated to turn out and vote? [Screener 4]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
There is a specific candidate running who I really like and want to support.	8%
I am primarily voting to oppose a specific candidate and make sure they do not win.	11%
I always vote because I see it as my civic duty, regardless of who is on the ballot.	65%
I am motivated to vote because of a specific issue or policy that is deeply important to me.	13%
I never usually vote, but I am thinking that I will this year	1%
Unsure	2%

Q3. In politics today, and regardless of how you are registered, do you consider yourself to be a...

[Party ID]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL DEMOCRAT	39%
Strong Democrat	31%
Not so strong Democrat	9%
TOTAL INDEPENDENT	29%
Independent leaning Democrat	12%
Independent	10%
Independent leaning Republican	7%
TOTAL REPUBLICAN	30%
Not so strong Republican	6%

Response	%
Strong Republican	24%
Other	1%
Unsure	1%

Q4. Your gender identification? [Gender]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Female	52%
Male	48%
Other	0%

Q5. In which county do you currently reside? [County]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Placer	29%
Sacramento	64%
Yolo	7%

Q6. What is your race or ethnicity? [Race]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
White or Caucasian	63%
Black or African American	10%
Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin	23%
Asian or Pacific Islander	12%
Native American or American Indian	5%
Other	5%

Q7. Which of the following categories best describes your age? [AgeRange]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
18 to 24	6%
25 to 34	13%
35 to 44	17%
45 to 54	17%
55 to 64	17%
65 or older	30%

Q8. What is the highest level of formal education that you have completed? [Education]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
High School or Less	22%
Some college, Associate degree, or technical school	32%
4-year college graduate (Bachelor's degree) or higher	46%

Q9. We want to classify households into broad income groups only. Would you estimate your total annual household income to be...? [Income]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Less than \$30,000	7%
\$30,000 to \$54,999	10%
\$55,000 to \$100,000	24%
More than \$100,000	47%
Prefer not to answer	12%

Q10. If the election were held today, for whom would you vote? [Congressional ballot]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Kevin Kiley, the Independent	35%
Richard Pan, the Democrat	39%
I would not vote	1%
Unsure	26%

Q11. And would you say you are definitely supporting them, or just somewhat? [Strength of support (by candidate)]

Base: Among each candidate's current supporters

Response	%
Kevin Kiley — Definitely supporting	70%
Kevin Kiley — Somewhat supporting	20%
Kevin Kiley — Unsure / could still change my mind	10%
Richard Pan — Definitely supporting	63%
Richard Pan — Somewhat supporting	31%
Richard Pan — Unsure / could still change my mind	6%

Q12. At this time next year, do you think that you will personally be better or worse off than you are today? [GSPS]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL BETTER OFF	46%
Much better off	13%
Somewhat better off	34%
TOTAL WORSE OFF	20%
Somewhat worse off	14%
Much worse off	6%
Unsure	33%

Q13. At this time next year, do you think America will be better or worse off than it is today? [GSAS]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL BETTER OFF	30%

Response	%
Much better off	12%
Somewhat better off	18%
TOTAL WORSE OFF	40%
Somewhat worse off	23%
Much worse off	16%
Unsure	30%

Q14. Please select and rank the top three most pressing issues in America today from the list below, where 1 is the most pressing, 2 is the second most pressing, and 3 is the third most pressing. [Most pressing issue]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Economy	34%
Government	21%
Immigration	14%
Health Care	12%
Social Issues	8%
International concerns	4%
Environment	4%
Education	2%

Q15. Regarding the economy, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTEC]

Base: Most Pressing On Economy Issue

Response	%
Jobs	13%
Unemployment	5%
Taxes	16%
Food prices/inflation	64%
Other	2%

Q16. Regarding social issues, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTSI]

Base: Most Pressing On Social Issue

Response	%
Crime	28%
Equality	19%
Civil liberties	46%
Abortion	6%

Q17. Regarding education, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTED]

Base: Most Pressing On Education Issue

Response	%
School choice	41%

Response	%
Student loans	25%
Testing standards	6%
Other	27%

Q18. Regarding the environment, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTEV]

Base: Most Pressing On Environment Issue

Response	%
Climate change	80%
EPA	3%
Energy regulations	16%
Other	0%

Q19. Regarding international issues, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTIN]

Base: Most Pressing On International Issue

Response	%
Trade	10%
Foreign policy	15%
Global affairs conflicts	75%

Q20. Regarding health care, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTHC]

Base: Most Pressing On Health Care Issue

Response	%
Medicare	21%
Medicaid	3%
Affordable Care Act	11%
Cost of health care	61%
Other	4%

Q21. Regarding the government, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTGA]

Base: Most Pressing On Government Issue

Response	%
Political extremism	57%
Polarization	19%
The role of elected officials	22%
Other	2%

Q22. Regarding immigration, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTIM]

Base: Most Pressing On Immigration Issue

Response	%
Legalization & citizenship	41%

Response	%
Border security	46%
Refugee resettlement	2%
Other	11%

Q23. Do you approve or disapprove of the job President Donald Trump is doing? [STA]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL APPROVE	35%
Strongly approve	23%
Somewhat approve	12%
TOTAL DISAPPROVE	62%
Somewhat disapprove	5%
Strongly disapprove	57%
Unsure	3%

Q24. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the U.S. Congress is doing? [GSCA]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL APPROVE	18%
Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	16%
TOTAL DISAPPROVE	76%
Somewhat disapprove	24%
Strongly disapprove	52%
Unsure	7%

Q25. When it comes to your political philosophy, where would you place yourself on the following scale? [PSY]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
0 - Very liberal / Progressive	14%
1	3%
2	8%
3	11%
4	7%
5 - Moderate / Centrist	21%
6	4%
7	6%
8	10%
9	5%
10 - Staunch / Strong conservative	12%

Q26. In the perfect world, where on the following scale, would you like to see America's elected officials stand politically? [PSEO]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
0 - Strongly along Democratic lines	14%
1	1%
2	6%
3	11%
4	8%
5 - Centrist / Independent	26%
6	5%
7	9%
8	5%
9	2%
10 - Strongly along Republican lines	13%

Q27. You will now read a list of political officials and entities in the United States. After each, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the subject, please note that. [Favorability — Donald Trump]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	35%
Very favorable	23%
Somewhat favorable	13%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	63%
Somewhat unfavorable	4%
Very unfavorable	59%
Never heard of	0%
Unsure	2%

Q28. You will now read a list of political officials and entities in the United States. After each, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the subject, please note that. [Favorability — The Republican party]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	37%
Very favorable	18%
Somewhat favorable	19%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	58%
Somewhat unfavorable	12%
Very unfavorable	46%
Never heard of	0%
Unsure	5%

Q29. You will now read a list of political officials and entities in the United States. After each, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the subject, please note that. [Favorability — The Democratic party]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	44%
Very favorable	18%
Somewhat favorable	26%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	51%
Somewhat unfavorable	15%
Very unfavorable	36%
Never heard of	0%
Unsure	5%

Q30. You will now read a list of political officials and entities in the United States. After each, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the subject, please note that. [Favorability — A politician willing to work with both sides of the aisle]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	83%
Very favorable	48%
Somewhat favorable	35%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	10%
Somewhat unfavorable	5%
Very unfavorable	5%
Never heard of	2%
Unsure	5%

Q31. You will now read a list of political officials and entities in the United States. After each, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the subject, please note that. [Favorability — A bipartisan candidate]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	58%
Very favorable	17%
Somewhat favorable	41%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	14%
Somewhat unfavorable	10%
Very unfavorable	5%
Never heard of	7%
Unsure	21%

Q32. You will now read a list of political officials and entities in the United States. After each, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the subject, please note that. [Favorability — A non-partisan candidate]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	47%
Very favorable	11%
Somewhat favorable	36%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	17%
Somewhat unfavorable	13%
Very unfavorable	5%
Never heard of	7%
Unsure	28%

Q33. You will now read a list of political officials and entities in the United States. After each, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the subject, please note that. [Favorability — A politically Independent candidate]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	61%
Very favorable	12%
Somewhat favorable	49%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	15%
Somewhat unfavorable	10%
Very unfavorable	5%
Never heard of	4%
Unsure	21%

Q34. Please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of this person. [Favorability — Kevin Kiley (Independent)]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	41%
Very favorable	20%
Somewhat favorable	21%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	29%
Somewhat unfavorable	8%
Very unfavorable	21%
Never heard of	11%
Unsure	20%

Q35. Please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of this person. [Favorability — Richard Pan (Democrat)]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	41%

Response	%
Very favorable	16%
Somewhat favorable	24%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	29%
Somewhat unfavorable	8%
Very unfavorable	21%
Never heard of	13%
Unsure	18%

Q36. Overall, how would you rate the current health of American democracy? [MSOH]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL HEALTHY	20%
Very healthy	6%
Somewhat healthy	14%
TOTAL UNHEALTHY	77%
Somewhat unhealthy	25%
Very unhealthy	52%
Unsure	3%

Q37. How do you think federally elected officials in Washington, DC are doing at their job? [MSEO]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
They're doing fine	3%
We can do better	94%
Unsure	3%

Q38. Thinking about your role as a voter in the upcoming 2026 elections, which of the following best describes how you intend to use your vote to ensure the continued health of our democracy? [MSRV]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
I will vote for candidates who will go to Washington to work and vote with Republicans to advance a conservative agenda and ensure that Democratic policies do not pass.	23%
I will vote for candidates who will go to Washington to work and vote with Democrats to advance a progressive agenda and ensure that Republican policies do not pass.	28%
I will look past party labels to vote for candidates who prioritize bipartisan cooperation and seek to modernize the system to make it more accountable and stable for the people.	36%
I do not believe that my choice of candidate has a significant impact on the long-term health of our democracy.	7%
Unsure / Other	6%

Q39. Regardless of your past voting history or political affiliation, which of the following do you find to be the most compelling reason to support an independent candidate? [GSTI]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
The "Problem Solver" Argument: Independent-minded leaders are free to look at problems from many angles and find the best solution, rather than being forced to view every issue through a single partisan lens.	22%
The "Competition" Argument: In every other aspect of American life, choice and competition yield better results, ending the two-party duopoly would force politicians to work harder to earn our support.	9%
The "Gridlock" Argument: Because they don't answer to party leadership, Independents are uniquely positioned to bridge the divide, de-escalate anger, and force the two sides to work together.	6%
The "People over Party" Argument: Political parties have become too focused on special interests and self-preservation, an Independent is beholden only to their constituents, not a national party agenda.	29%
The "Revolution" Argument: The two-party establishment is fundamentally corrupt and beyond repair, electing Independents is a revolution that will strip power from party elites and completely overhaul the system.	10%
None of these / Other	13%
Unsure	12%

Q40. Which of the following statements or priorities would you most need to hear from an independent candidate running for office to seriously consider supporting their candidacy? [GSTL]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
A clear commitment to work across the aisle with both parties to bring the best ideas to the forefront and get things done.	15%
A promise to listen to regular people and be beholden strictly to local voters and constituents, not national political parties or special interests.	17%
A focus on lowering the toxic political rhetoric, reducing partisan division, and restoring common sense and sanity to government.	22%
A concrete plan to immediately lower the daily cost of living, combat inflation, and rein in wasteful government spending.	23%
A common-sense commitment to strictly enforce border security and fix the immigration system without playing political games.	9%
None of these / Other	7%
Unsure	7%

Q41. Which of the following statements comes closer to your own opinion about independent candidates running for elected office, even if neither is exactly right? [GSSA]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Independent candidates offer a new, fresh perspective to move the country forward, free from partisan gridlock and beholden only to the voters	39%
Independent candidates just pull votes away from a major-party candidate, ultimately helping the side that the voter least wanted to win.	40%
Unsure	21%

Q42. Which of the following statements comes closer to your own view about the role independent candidates could play in our political system, even if neither is exactly right? [GSSI]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Electing a few independent candidates could provide a necessary, stabilizing voice, acting as the adult in the room to lower the temperature and bring both sides together to get things done.	71%
The current system is not broken, and the two major parties remain the most effective and stable way to pass laws and represent the country.	8%
Unsure	21%

Q43. Which of the following candidates would you prefer to represent your district in the U.S. House of Representatives, even if neither is exactly perfect? [GSSZ]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
A candidate who goes to Washington to caucus, vote, and work on legislative committees exclusively within one political party, giving them more institutional power to pass legislation.	25%
A candidate who does not caucus with either major political party, so that they can independently evaluate every single bill that crosses their desk based entirely on what is best for the people of their district.	59%
Unsure	16%

Q44. Thinking for a moment about your social, economic, and political views...Do you consider yourself to be... [Ideology]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL LIBERAL	40%
Very Liberal	19%
Somewhat Liberal	21%
Moderate	19%
TOTAL CONSERVATIVE	36%
Somewhat Conservative	19%
Very Conservative	17%
Libertarian	1%
Unsure	4%

Q45. Do you consider yourself to be lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning?

[LGBTQ+]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Yes	10%
No	85%
Unsure	1%
Prefer not to answer	5%

Q46. What would best describe your marital status? [Marital Status]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Single or never married	25%
Married	53%
Separated	1%
Divorced	14%
Widowed	4%
Other	2%

Q47. Do you have children currently living in your household? [Children]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Yes	35%
No	61%
Refused	4%

Q48. Would you best describe the neighborhood or area you live in as... [Neighborhood]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Urban	16%
Suburban	77%
Rural	3%
Unsure	4%

Q49. Do you invest into an IRA or 401k? [401K]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Yes	72%
No	28%

Q50. Please describe your current occupational status. [Occupation]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Employed (Government)	18%
Employed (Private Sector)	32%
Small Business Owner	6%
Student	4%
Homemaker	3%
Retired	29%
Unemployed	3%
Other	4%
Unsure	1%

Q51. Do you currently own (outright/pay mortgage) your residence? [Homeowner]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Own (outright/pay mortgage)	68%
I do not own my residence (rent/other)	32%

Q52. Method [InterviewMethod]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Phone	2%
Text	98%