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Tabulations from an April Survey of Likely Voters in California about the COVID-19 Pandemic

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Publication Date

2020-05-01



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**Tabulations from an April 2020 Survey
of California Registered Voters
about the COVID-19 Pandemic**

by the
Berkeley IGS Poll
Institute of Governmental Studies
University of California, Berkeley

April 16-20, 2020

Introduction

The statistical tabulations in this volume are based on a *Berkeley IGS Poll* completed by the Institute of Governmental Studies (IGS) at the University of California, Berkeley. The poll was administered online in English and Spanish April 16-20, 2020 among 8,800 registered voters statewide.

The survey was administered by distributing email invitations to a random sample of the state's registered voters whose email address was listed on the state's voter registration rolls. The sample was provided to IGS by Political Data, Inc., a leading supplier of registered voter lists in California. In an attempt to improve the representativeness of non-English speaking Latinos, the sample was augmented with additional listings of foreign-born Latinos. Once the questionnaire and email invitations had been finalized, they were translated into Spanish and reviewed for cultural appropriateness. Each email invited voters to participate in a non-partisan survey conducted by IGS and provided a link to the IGS website where the survey was housed. Reminder emails were distributed to non-responding voters and an opt out link was provided for voters not wishing to participate and not wanting to receive future emails from IGS about the survey.

To protect the anonymity of survey respondents, voters' email addresses and all other personally identifiable information were purged from the data file and replaced with a unique and anonymous identification number during data processing. At the conclusion of the data processing phase, post-stratification weights were applied to align the sample to population characteristics of the state's overall registered voter population.

The sampling error associated with the results from the survey are difficult to calculate precisely due to the effects of the post-stratification weighting. Nevertheless, it is likely that the results from the overall sample of registered voters are subject to an approximate sampling error of approximately +/- 3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. Results based on subgroups of this population would be subject to larger margins of sampling error.

About the Institute of Governmental Studies

The Institute of Governmental Studies (IGS) is an interdisciplinary organized research unit that pursues a vigorous program of research, education, publication and public service. A component of the University of California (UC) system's flagship Berkeley campus, IGS is the oldest organized research unit in the UC system and the oldest public policy research center in the state. The co-directors of the Institute of Governmental Studies are Professor Eric Schickler and Associate Professor Cristina Mora.

IGS conducts periodic surveys of public opinion in California on matters of politics and public policy through its *Berkeley IGS Poll*. The poll, which is disseminated widely, seeks to provide a broad measure of contemporary public opinion, and to generate data for subsequent scholarly analysis. The director of the *Berkeley IGS Poll* is Mark DiCamillo. For a complete listing of stories issued by the *Berkeley IGS Poll* go to <https://igs.berkeley.edu/igs-poll/berkeley-igs-poll>.

COVID-19 IGS Survey Results

Table 1: Rated Effectiveness of Preventative Measures by Trump Approval

	Total	Approve strongly	Approve somewhat	Neither	Disapprove somewhat	Disapprove strongly
Staying home as much as possible						
extremely effective	0.801	0.573	0.697	0.760	0.839	0.902
somewhat effective	0.158	0.303	0.249	0.173	0.148	0.088
not effective at all	0.030	0.100	0.047	0.033	0.007	0.006
not sure	0.011	0.023	0.006	0.034	0.007	0.005
Washing hands regularly						
extremely effective	0.838	0.795	0.807	0.845	0.854	0.855
somewhat effective	0.152	0.183	0.189	0.134	0.135	0.138
not effective at all	0.004	0.013	0.002	0.006	0.001	0.002
not sure	0.007	0.009	0.002	0.015	0.010	0.005
Wearing a mask						
extremely effective	0.431	0.337	0.429	0.486	0.453	0.454
somewhat effective	0.480	0.488	0.478	0.392	0.476	0.490
not effective at all	0.064	0.144	0.070	0.076	0.046	0.035
not sure	0.025	0.032	0.024	0.045	0.026	0.021
Wearing gloves						
extremely effective	0.310	0.271	0.322	0.391	0.312	0.311
somewhat effective	0.506	0.464	0.496	0.409	0.531	0.531
not effective at all	0.149	0.223	0.162	0.156	0.130	0.123
not sure	0.035	0.042	0.020	0.044	0.027	0.035
Taking vitamins						
extremely effective	0.194	0.258	0.235	0.314	0.228	0.144
somewhat effective	0.377	0.412	0.414	0.414	0.382	0.352
not effective at all	0.297	0.213	0.244	0.145	0.262	0.360
not sure	0.133	0.118	0.108	0.127	0.128	0.144
Eating a healthy diet						
extremely effective	0.352	0.413	0.356	0.478	0.369	0.311
somewhat effective	0.423	0.400	0.433	0.331	0.408	0.444
not effective at all	0.157	0.136	0.151	0.111	0.143	0.174
not sure	0.068	0.051	0.060	0.080	0.080	0.071
Staying 6 feet away from other people						
extremely effective	0.576	0.478	0.511	0.548	0.579	0.626
somewhat effective	0.367	0.408	0.425	0.350	0.368	0.343
not effective at all	0.036	0.089	0.042	0.063	0.018	0.016
not sure	0.021	0.025	0.022	0.040	0.035	0.015
Disinfecting packages and bags						
extremely effective	0.339	0.286	0.340	0.465	0.424	0.329
somewhat effective	0.487	0.458	0.488	0.397	0.445	0.516
not effective at all	0.109	0.183	0.124	0.072	0.075	0.090
not sure	0.064	0.073	0.048	0.066	0.056	0.066

Table 2: Level of Concern about Negative Outcomes by Trump Approval

	Total	Approve strongly	Approve somewhat	Neither	Disapprove somewhat	Disapprove strongly
You might spread the coronavirus to other people without knowing that you have it						
very concerned	0.476	0.238	0.360	0.525	0.492	0.575
somewhat concerned	0.290	0.279	0.311	0.265	0.309	0.290
not too concerned	0.154	0.278	0.232	0.126	0.128	0.103
not at all concerned	0.080	0.205	0.096	0.084	0.071	0.033
You will get the coronavirus and require hospitalization						
very concerned	0.329	0.166	0.302	0.396	0.337	0.383
somewhat concerned	0.321	0.258	0.287	0.243	0.321	0.359
not too concerned	0.253	0.344	0.296	0.236	0.242	0.216
not at all concerned	0.097	0.232	0.115	0.124	0.100	0.042

Table 3: Trust in Information from Institutions by Trump Approval

	Total	Approve strongly	Approve somewhat	Neither	Disapprove somewhat	Disapprove strongly
National government leaders						
completely trust	0.060	0.145	0.081	0.109	0.051	0.021
somewhat trust	0.357	0.556	0.592	0.517	0.449	0.207
somewhat distrust	0.317	0.203	0.246	0.264	0.374	0.368
completely distrust	0.266	0.096	0.081	0.110	0.126	0.404
State and local leaders						
completely trust	0.236	0.072	0.100	0.197	0.204	0.331
somewhat trust	0.532	0.363	0.557	0.531	0.606	0.575
somewhat distrust	0.153	0.303	0.243	0.203	0.153	0.076
completely distrust	0.079	0.262	0.100	0.070	0.038	0.019
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)						
completely trust	0.409	0.191	0.306	0.378	0.476	0.500
somewhat trust	0.459	0.504	0.546	0.494	0.432	0.426
somewhat distrust	0.092	0.181	0.100	0.097	0.074	0.061
completely distrust	0.040	0.124	0.048	0.030	0.018	0.014
State and local public health agencies						
completely trust	0.353	0.119	0.193	0.265	0.333	0.480
somewhat trust	0.512	0.504	0.614	0.587	0.587	0.475
somewhat distrust	0.093	0.240	0.152	0.107	0.058	0.033
completely distrust	0.042	0.138	0.041	0.041	0.022	0.012
World Health Organization (WHO)						
completely trust	0.314	0.037	0.129	0.238	0.320	0.456
somewhat trust	0.393	0.127	0.375	0.530	0.491	0.459
somewhat distrust	0.129	0.210	0.266	0.149	0.138	0.070
completely distrust	0.164	0.625	0.230	0.083	0.050	0.015
Scientific experts						
completely trust	0.559	0.177	0.336	0.390	0.591	0.752
somewhat trust	0.364	0.558	0.587	0.501	0.377	0.234
somewhat distrust	0.055	0.179	0.063	0.081	0.027	0.011
completely distrust	0.022	0.086	0.014	0.028	0.005	0.003

Table 3: Trust in Information from Institutions by Trump Approval (*continued*)

	Total	Approve strongly	Approve somewhat	Neither	Disapprove somewhat	Disapprove strongly
My personal physician/health care provider						
completely trust	0.499	0.452	0.407	0.346	0.430	0.564
somewhat trust	0.451	0.464	0.542	0.570	0.517	0.404
somewhat distrust	0.038	0.063	0.044	0.057	0.036	0.026
completely distrust	0.012	0.022	0.007	0.027	0.017	0.006
Television news						
completely trust	0.045	0.019	0.033	0.057	0.063	0.051
somewhat trust	0.443	0.228	0.373	0.455	0.448	0.531
somewhat distrust	0.306	0.281	0.341	0.286	0.347	0.304
completely distrust	0.207	0.472	0.252	0.202	0.142	0.114
Social media						
completely trust	0.010	0.010	0.013	0.035	0.010	0.006
somewhat trust	0.175	0.135	0.195	0.308	0.245	0.158
somewhat distrust	0.417	0.342	0.411	0.372	0.458	0.444
completely distrust	0.398	0.513	0.381	0.284	0.288	0.392
Newspaper, including online						
completely trust	0.070	0.018	0.037	0.039	0.064	0.099
somewhat trust	0.531	0.195	0.414	0.503	0.564	0.671
somewhat distrust	0.258	0.357	0.353	0.341	0.292	0.190
completely distrust	0.141	0.430	0.196	0.117	0.080	0.040
Friends or family						
completely trust	0.117	0.140	0.127	0.131	0.122	0.105
somewhat trust	0.579	0.594	0.590	0.570	0.538	0.579
somewhat distrust	0.253	0.203	0.237	0.222	0.292	0.272
completely distrust	0.050	0.063	0.047	0.077	0.048	0.044
Community organizations, including faith-based organization or church						
completely trust	0.073	0.129	0.081	0.091	0.089	0.046
somewhat trust	0.409	0.526	0.524	0.486	0.441	0.332
somewhat distrust	0.308	0.222	0.263	0.251	0.285	0.358
completely distrust	0.210	0.124	0.132	0.172	0.185	0.263

Table 4: Support for Nationwide Shelter-in-Place Order by Trump Approval

	Total	Approve strongly	Approve somewhat	Neither	Disapprove somewhat	Disapprove strongly
Favor strongly	0.561	0.230	0.376	0.457	0.520	0.735
Favor somewhat	0.256	0.265	0.329	0.337	0.348	0.214
Oppose somewhat	0.106	0.241	0.187	0.153	0.093	0.039
Oppose strongly	0.076	0.263	0.108	0.053	0.039	0.011

Table 5: Concern about Length of Shelter-in-Place (SIP) by Trump Approval

	Total	Approve strongly	Approve some- what	Neither	Disapprove some- what	Disapprove strongly
More concerned about health effects of ending SIP too soon	0.693	0.223	0.476	0.549	0.714	0.912
More concerned about economic effects of ending SIP too late	0.297	0.776	0.513	0.394	0.262	0.083
Don't know	0.010	0.002	0.011	0.057	0.024	0.005