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Dems remain ahead in California

Raleigh, N.C. – The contests for Senate and Governor in California have tightened over the final week of the campaign, although the Democratic candidates still retain the lead in both races. Barbara Boxer is up 50-46 on Carly Fiorina for the Senate, while Jerry Brown is ahead of Meg Whitman by a 51-46 margin for Governor.

Boxer leads despite posting atrocious approval numbers in this final poll at 40% of voters happy with her job performance and 50% displeased. Fortunately for her Californians aren't real enamored with Fiorina either- only 42% rate her favorably to 44% with a negative opinion. Boxer's position right now might be a lot more perilous if she had drawn a stronger opponent.

The formula for winning as a Republican in a deep blue state is to get about 20% of the Democratic vote to cross over and to rack up a large advantage with independents. Fiorina is winning only 12% of Democrats and actually trails Boxer by a 50-46 margin with independents. She'll have to outperform her poll numbers on both of those measures Tuesday to have a chance at winning.

The story is pretty similar in the race for Governor. Meg Whitman is winning only 13% of the Democratic vote and trails Jerry Brown by the same 50-46 margin with independents that Fiorina has against Boxer. Despite her profligate spending California voters never warmed up to Whitman- 50% of them express an unfavorable opinion about her to just 38% who say that they like her.

Proposition 19, which would legalize marijuana in California, appears to be headed for defeat. 51% of voters say they will oppose it to only 44% who plan to cast a yes vote. There appeared to be solid support for this measure over the summer but its popularity has faded as the election has moved closer.

“The California races have tightened over the final week of the campaign but Barbara Boxer and Jerry Brown are both over the magic 50% line,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “The odds of an upset in one or both of these races are better than they were a week ago but remain pretty small.”

PPP surveyed 882 likely California voters from October 29th to 31st. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.3%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



California Survey Results

Q1 The candidates for U.S. Senate are Republican Carly Fiorina and Democrat Barbara Boxer. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Carly Fiorina 46%
Barbara Boxer..... 50%
Undecided..... 3%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Barbara Boxer's job performance?

Approve 40%
Disapprove..... 50%
Not sure..... 10%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Carly Fiorina?

Favorable 42% *Not sure* 15%
Unfavorable..... 44%

Q4 The candidates for Governor are Republican Meg Whitman and Democrat Jerry Brown. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Meg Whitman..... 46%
Jerry Brown..... 51%
Undecided..... 3%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jerry Brown?

Favorable 42% *Not sure* 9%
Unfavorable..... 49%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Meg Whitman?

Favorable 38% *Not sure* 12%
Unfavorable..... 50%

Q7 Proposition 19 would legalize marijuana under California but not federal law. It would permit local governments to regulate and tax commercial production, distribution, and sale of marijuana. Will you vote yes or no on Proposition 19?

Yes..... 44%
No..... 51%
Undecided..... 5%

Q8 Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?

Approve 45%
Disapprove..... 47%
Not sure..... 8%

Q9 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Dianne Feinstein's job performance?

Approve 43%
Disapprove..... 42%
Not sure..... 15%

Q10 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's job performance?

Approve 24%
Disapprove..... 67%
Not sure..... 9%

Q11 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 41%
Barack Obama..... 53%
Someone else/Don't remember 6%

Q12 Do you identify yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 21%
Moderate..... 42%
Conservative..... 37%





Q13 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 50%

Man..... 50%

Q14 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat 44%

Republican..... 37%

Independent/Other..... 18%

Q15 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If Asian, press 4. If other, press 5.

Hispanic..... 23%

White 62%

African-American 7%

Asian..... 5%

Other..... 3%

Q16 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29..... 12%

30 to 45..... 31%

46 to 65..... 35%

Older than 65..... 22%

Q17 Have you already cast your ballot for this year's election?

Yes..... 42%

No..... 58%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Fiorina/Boxer				
Carly Fiorina	46%	92%	11%	52%
Barbara Boxer	50%	7%	86%	29%
Undecided	3%	1%	4%	19%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Boxer Approval				
Approve	40%	6%	69%	14%
Disapprove	50%	92%	15%	69%
Not sure	10%	2%	16%	17%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Fiorina Favorability				
Favorable	42%	80%	10%	47%
Unfavorable	44%	9%	72%	35%
Not sure	15%	11%	18%	18%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Whitman/Brown				
Meg Whitman	46%	89%	12%	51%
Jerry Brown	51%	10%	86%	29%
Undecided	3%	2%	2%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Brown Favorability				
Favorable	42%	10%	71%	17%
Unfavorable	49%	87%	16%	69%
Not sure	9%	4%	13%	13%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Whitman Favorability				
Favorable	38%	72%	12%	39%
Unfavorable	50%	17%	76%	42%
Not sure	12%	12%	12%	20%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Prop 19				
Yes	44%	26%	59%	33%
No	51%	71%	35%	55%
Undecided	5%	3%	6%	12%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	45%	6%	80%	12%
Disapprove	47%	90%	9%	73%
Not sure	8%	3%	11%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Feinstein Approval				
Approve	43%	18%	66%	25%
Disapprove	42%	72%	16%	55%
Not sure	15%	11%	18%	20%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Schwarzenegger Approval				
Approve	24%	28%	20%	20%
Disapprove	67%	62%	71%	72%
Not sure	9%	10%	9%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Fiorina/Boxer				
Carly Fiorina	46%	9%	33%	82%
Barbara Boxer	50%	87%	65%	13%
Undecided	3%	4%	2%	5%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Boxer Approval				
Approve	40%	76%	48%	11%
Disapprove	50%	14%	38%	84%
Not sure	10%	11%	14%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Fiorina Favorability				
Favorable	42%	9%	28%	75%
Unfavorable	44%	77%	55%	12%
Not sure	15%	14%	17%	13%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Whitman/Brown				
Meg Whitman	46%	9%	35%	78%
Jerry Brown	51%	89%	64%	16%
Undecided	3%	2%	1%	6%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Brown Favorability				
Favorable	42%	78%	51%	13%
Unfavorable	49%	12%	39%	81%
Not sure	9%	11%	11%	6%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Whitman Favorability				
Favorable	38%	10%	26%	67%
Unfavorable	50%	83%	60%	19%
Not sure	12%	6%	14%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Prop 19				
Yes	44%	71%	49%	23%
No	51%	25%	47%	71%
Undecided	5%	4%	5%	6%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	45%	81%	57%	12%
Disapprove	47%	12%	32%	83%
Not sure	8%	7%	11%	5%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Feinstein Approval				
Approve	43%	69%	53%	17%
Disapprove	42%	15%	30%	70%
Not sure	15%	16%	17%	13%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Schwarzenegger Approval				
Approve	24%	16%	29%	21%
Disapprove	67%	73%	62%	70%
Not sure	9%	10%	9%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Fiorina/Boxer			
Carly Fiorina	46%	43%	50%
Barbara Boxer	50%	53%	47%
Undecided	3%	4%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Boxer Approval			
Approve	40%	44%	36%
Disapprove	50%	45%	55%
Not sure	10%	11%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Fiorina Favorability			
Favorable	42%	37%	46%
Unfavorable	44%	48%	39%
Not sure	15%	14%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Whitman/Brown			
Meg Whitman	46%	42%	49%
Jerry Brown	51%	54%	48%
Undecided	3%	4%	2%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Brown Favorability			
Favorable	42%	47%	38%
Unfavorable	49%	44%	53%
Not sure	9%	9%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Whitman Favorability			
Favorable	38%	34%	42%
Unfavorable	50%	52%	47%
Not sure	12%	14%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Prop 19			
Yes	44%	41%	46%
No	51%	53%	50%
Undecided	5%	6%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	45%	51%	40%
Disapprove	47%	41%	53%
Not sure	8%	8%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Feinstein Approval			
Approve	43%	48%	38%
Disapprove	42%	35%	48%
Not sure	15%	17%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Schwarzenegger Approval			
Approve	24%	24%	23%
Disapprove	67%	68%	66%
Not sure	9%	8%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Fiorina/Boxer				
Carly Fiorina	46%	12%	88%	46%
Barbara Boxer	50%	84%	10%	50%
Undecided	3%	4%	3%	4%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Boxer Approval				
Approve	40%	71%	9%	30%
Disapprove	50%	17%	88%	52%
Not sure	10%	13%	3%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Fiorina Favorability				
Favorable	42%	11%	79%	37%
Unfavorable	44%	72%	10%	46%
Not sure	15%	17%	12%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Whitman/Brown				
Meg Whitman	46%	13%	85%	46%
Jerry Brown	51%	85%	11%	50%
Undecided	3%	2%	4%	4%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Brown Favorability				
Favorable	42%	74%	11%	32%
Unfavorable	49%	16%	85%	53%
Not sure	9%	10%	4%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Whitman Favorability				
Favorable	38%	14%	72%	28%
Unfavorable	50%	75%	17%	54%
Not sure	12%	11%	11%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Prop 19				
Yes	44%	55%	25%	54%
No	51%	39%	71%	42%
Undecided	5%	6%	4%	4%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	45%	77%	11%	40%
Disapprove	47%	14%	85%	48%
Not sure	8%	9%	4%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Feinstein Approval				
Approve	43%	68%	20%	31%
Disapprove	42%	17%	68%	46%
Not sure	15%	15%	12%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Schwarzenegger Approval				
Approve	24%	16%	29%	28%
Disapprove	67%	74%	63%	61%
Not sure	9%	10%	8%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Fiorina/Boxer						
Carly Fiorina	46%	38%	53%	16%	44%	49%
Barbara Boxer	50%	57%	44%	79%	49%	48%
Undecided	3%	5%	3%	5%	7%	3%

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Boxer Approval						
Approve	40%	45%	35%	68%	38%	38%
Disapprove	50%	43%	57%	16%	47%	53%
Not sure	10%	12%	8%	16%	16%	9%

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Fiorina Favorability						
Favorable	42%	34%	47%	14%	39%	43%
Unfavorable	44%	45%	42%	67%	36%	32%
Not sure	15%	21%	11%	19%	25%	25%

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Whitman/Brown						
Meg Whitman	46%	34%	53%	19%	49%	48%
Jerry Brown	51%	60%	45%	81%	44%	51%
Undecided	3%	6%	2%	-	7%	1%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Brown Favorability						
Favorable	42%	50%	39%	61%	26%	35%
Unfavorable	49%	40%	54%	25%	51%	54%
Not sure	9%	10%	7%	14%	23%	11%

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Whitman Favorability						
Favorable	38%	30%	43%	17%	43%	35%
Unfavorable	50%	53%	47%	67%	38%	48%
Not sure	12%	17%	9%	17%	19%	17%

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Prop 19						
Yes	44%	42%	45%	51%	29%	31%
No	51%	52%	50%	43%	64%	61%
Undecided	5%	6%	5%	5%	7%	7%

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Obama Approval						
Approve	45%	53%	38%	83%	46%	49%
Disapprove	47%	40%	55%	9%	39%	42%
Not sure	8%	8%	7%	9%	15%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Feinstein Approval						
Approve	43%	42%	44%	44%	45%	34%
Disapprove	42%	38%	44%	32%	38%	48%
Not sure	15%	21%	12%	24%	18%	18%

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Schwarzenegger Approval						
Approve	24%	17%	26%	15%	31%	28%
Disapprove	67%	78%	63%	79%	62%	61%
Not sure	9%	6%	11%	6%	8%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Fiorina/Boxer					
Carly Fiorina	46%	34%	46%	48%	52%
Barbara Boxer	50%	58%	51%	49%	46%
Undecided	3%	8%	4%	3%	2%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Boxer Approval					
Approve	40%	42%	41%	39%	40%
Disapprove	50%	41%	47%	53%	54%
Not sure	10%	17%	12%	8%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Fiorina Favorability					
Favorable	42%	31%	36%	45%	50%
Unfavorable	44%	46%	47%	44%	37%
Not sure	15%	23%	17%	11%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Whitman/Brown					
Meg Whitman	46%	33%	43%	48%	53%
Jerry Brown	51%	63%	53%	50%	44%
Undecided	3%	4%	4%	2%	2%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Brown Favorability					
Favorable	42%	52%	40%	43%	40%
Unfavorable	49%	35%	48%	50%	54%
Not sure	9%	13%	13%	7%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Whitman Favorability					
Favorable	38%	28%	31%	41%	48%
Unfavorable	50%	64%	52%	50%	37%
Not sure	12%	8%	17%	8%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Prop 19					
Yes	44%	60%	44%	45%	32%
No	51%	36%	51%	51%	62%
Undecided	5%	4%	5%	4%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	45%	57%	48%	44%	38%
Disapprove	47%	30%	45%	50%	53%
Not sure	8%	14%	7%	6%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Feinstein Approval					
Approve	43%	41%	37%	42%	53%
Disapprove	42%	36%	41%	46%	38%
Not sure	15%	22%	22%	12%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Schwarzenegger Approval					
Approve	24%	27%	21%	20%	32%
Disapprove	67%	64%	73%	72%	54%
Not sure	9%	9%	6%	9%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Fiorina/Boxer			
Carly Fiorina	46%	47%	46%
Barbara Boxer	50%	50%	50%
Undecided	3%	2%	4%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Boxer Approval			
Approve	40%	43%	38%
Disapprove	50%	50%	50%
Not sure	10%	7%	12%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Fiorina Favorability			
Favorable	42%	42%	41%
Unfavorable	44%	44%	44%
Not sure	15%	14%	16%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Whitman/Brown			
Meg Whitman	46%	45%	46%
Jerry Brown	51%	53%	50%
Undecided	3%	2%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Brown Favorability			
Favorable	42%	46%	40%
Unfavorable	49%	48%	49%
Not sure	9%	6%	11%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Whitman Favorability			
Favorable	38%	40%	37%
Unfavorable	50%	49%	50%
Not sure	12%	12%	13%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Prop 19			
Yes	44%	44%	43%
No	51%	52%	51%
Undecided	5%	3%	6%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Obama Approval			
Approve	45%	46%	45%
Disapprove	47%	49%	46%
Not sure	8%	5%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Feinstein Approval			
Approve	43%	48%	39%
Disapprove	42%	40%	43%
Not sure	15%	12%	18%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Schwarzenegger Approval			
Approve	24%	25%	23%
Disapprove	67%	69%	66%
Not sure	9%	6%	11%

