

Californians and Their Economic Well-Being November 2022

Time Trends – California Adults Earning Less Than \$40,000 Only

Methodology Note:

Findings for November 2022 are based on a survey of 2,307 California adult residents, conducted online using the Ipsos KnowledgePanel. Interviews were conducted in English, Spanish, Chinese (simplified or traditional), Vietnamese, and Korean according to the respondents' preferences. The median time to complete the survey was 17 minutes. Interviewing took place from October 7–21, 2022.

The November 2022 sampling error for the 1,036 California adults earning less than \$40,000 annually, taking design effects from weighting into consideration, is ± 5.2 percent. Sampling error is only one type of error to which surveys are subject. Results may also be affected by factors such as question wording, question order, and survey timing.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this survey, please contact surveys@ppic.org

Note:

For questions related to the citizen's initiative process and potential reforms (Q66-Q71), please refer to the Public Time Trends–Likely Voters document.

**PPIC Statewide Survey
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Q1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way
 that Governor Newsom is handling the issue of
 jobs and the economy?

	Approve	Disapprove	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	58%	40%	2%	1013
Nov 2021	64%	35%	1%	1010
Dec 2020	58%	39%	3%	986

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way
 that the California Legislature is handling the
 issue of jobs and the economy?

	Approve	Disapprove	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	51%	47%	2%	1014
Nov 2021	56%	43%	1%	1009
Dec 2020	51%	45%	4%	990

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Q3. How much of the time can you trust the state government to do what is right when it comes to handling the issue of jobs and the economy?						
	Just about always	Most of the time	Only some of the time	None	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	7%	38%	53%	0%	1%	1020
Nov 2021	10%	37%	53%	0%	0%	1012
Dec 2020	7%	40%	51%	0%	2%	994

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Q4. Turning to economic conditions in California, do you think that during the next 12 months we will have good times financially or bad times?

	Good times	Bad times	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	35%	64%	1%	1024
Nov 2021	43%	56%	1%	1012
Dec 2020	32%	67%	2%	997

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Q5. Looking ahead, in California will we have
 mostly good times during the next five years or
 will we have mostly periods of widespread
 unemployment or depression?

	Good times	Periods of depression or unemployment	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	34%	65%	2%	1027
Nov 2021	41%	58%	1%	1012
Dec 2020	35%	64%	1%	997

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Q6. How much of a problem is the availability of well-paying jobs
 in your part of California today? Is it a big problem, somewhat of
 a problem, or not a problem?

	Big problem	Somewhat of a problem	Not a problem	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	32%	53%	14%	1%	1028
Nov 2021	27%	55%	17%	0%	1014
Dec 2020	31%	59%	8%	2%	998

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Q7. Does the lack of well-paying jobs make you and your family seriously consider moving away from the part of California you live now?(comb)

	Yes, elsewhere in California	Yes, outside of the state	Yes, other	No	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	7%	26%	1%	65%	1%	1022
Nov 2021	8%	23%	0%	68%	0%	1013
Dec 2020	8%	27%	0%	64%	2%	993

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Q8. Now thinking about your own personal finances, would you say that you and your family are financially better off, worse off, or just about the same as you were a year ago?

	Better off	Worse off	About the same	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	9%	38%	53%	0%	1026
Nov 2021	13%	29%	58%	0%	1013
Dec 2020	12%	34%	54%	1%	999

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q9. Now looking ahead, do you think a year from now that you
and your family will be better off, worse off, or just about the
same as now?

	Better off	Worse off	About the same	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	18%	25%	55%	1%	1028
Nov 2021	24%	20%	56%	0%	1014
Dec 2020	22%	21%	55%	1%	998

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Q14. When children today in California grow up, do you think they will be better off or worse off financially than their parents?

	Better off	Worse off	About the same	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	37%	61%	0%	2%	1026
Nov 2021	42%	56%	0%	1%	1011
Dec 2020	43%	54%	0%	3%	998

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Q15. Do you think the gap between the rich and the poor in your part of California is getting larger, getting smaller, or has it stayed the same?

	Getting larger	Getting smaller	Stayed the same	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	65%	9%	24%	1%	1026
Nov 2021	63%	7%	29%	0%	1012
Dec 2020	58%	9%	31%	1%	999

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Q16. Looking ahead to the year 2030, do you think the gap between the rich and the poor in your part of California will be larger, be smaller, or will be the same?

	Be larger	Be smaller	Will be the same	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	59%	13%	26%	1%	1028
Nov 2021	56%	11%	32%	2%	1014
Dec 2020	57%	11%	30%	2%	996

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q17. Now, please indicate whether you or anyone in your household has done or experienced any of the following in the last 12 months...Been laid off or lost their job?

	Yes, happened to me	Yes, happened to someone in my household	Yes, happened to me and someone in my household	Did not happen to anyone in my household	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	14%	9%	2%	75%	1027
Nov 2021	17%	9%	3%	71%	1009
Dec 2020	18%	11%	6%	65%	992

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Q18. Now, please indicate whether you or anyone in your household has done or experienced any of the following in the last 12 months...Had work hours reduced or pay cut?

	Yes, happened to me	Yes, happened to someone in my household	Yes, happened to me and someone in my household	Did not happen to anyone in my household	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	19%	7%	8%	66%	1026
Nov 2021	20%	11%	5%	64%	1012
Dec 2020	22%	10%	11%	57%	994

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Q19. Now, please indicate whether you or anyone in your household has done or experienced any of the following in the last 12 months...Put off seeing a doctor or purchasing medication for financial reasons?

	Yes, happened to me	Yes, happened to someone in my household	Yes, happened to me and someone in my household	Did not happen to anyone in my household	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	20%	9%	4%	67%	1028
Nov 2021	21%	5%	3%	71%	1011
Dec 2020	20%	4%	7%	69%	993

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Q20. Now, please indicate whether you or anyone in your household has done or experienced any of the following in the last 12 months...Was not able to pay a monthly bill?

	Yes, happened to me	Yes, happened to someone in my household	Yes, happened to me and someone in my household	Did not happen to anyone in my household	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	28%	7%	7%	57%	1027
Nov 2021	24%	7%	3%	66%	1011
Dec 2020	20%	7%	9%	65%	995

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Q21. Now, please indicate whether you or anyone in your household has done or experienced any of the following in the last 12 months...Received food stamps?

	Yes, happened to me	Yes, happened to someone in my household	Yes, happened to me and someone in my household	Did not happen to anyone in my household	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	31%	9%	8%	52%	1027
Nov 2021	30%	6%	6%	58%	1012
Dec 2020	22%	8%	8%	62%	995

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Q22. Now, please indicate whether you or anyone in your household has done or experienced any of the following in the last 12 months...Reduced meals or cut back on food to save money?

	Yes, happened to me	Yes, happened to someone in my household	Yes, happened to me and someone in my household	Did not happen to anyone in my household	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	34%	5%	14%	48%	1026
Nov 2021	29%	2%	8%	61%	1009
Dec 2020	23%	5%	14%	58%	995

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q23. Now, please indicate whether you or anyone in your household has done or experienced any of the following in the last 12 months...Received unemployment benefits?

	Yes, happened to me	Yes, happened to someone in my household	Yes, happened to me and someone in my household	Did not happen to anyone in my household	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	11%	7%	3%	79%	1025
Nov 2021	19%	10%	4%	67%	1014
Dec 2020	16%	15%	5%	64%	993

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Q24. Now, please indicate whether you or anyone in your household has done or experienced any of the following in the last 12 months...Received food from a food bank or pantry?

	Yes, happened to me	Yes, happened to someone in my household	Yes, happened to me and someone in my household	Did not happen to anyone in my household	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	23%	9%	7%	60%	1027
Nov 2021	24%	7%	6%	63%	1009
Dec 2020	24%	7%	12%	57%	993

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Q26. Now, please indicate whether you or anyone in your household has done or experienced any of the following in the last 12 months...Had difficulty paying rent or mortgage?

	Yes, happened to me	Yes, happened to someone in my household	Yes, happened to me and someone in my household	Did not happen to anyone in my household	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	24%	8%	6%	62%	1026
Nov 2021	20%	5%	5%	69%	1011
Dec 2020	18%	8%	9%	64%	994

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Q27. Next, how often, if ever, do you worry about each of the following? You or someone in your family losing their job?

	Every day	Almost every day	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	16%	6%	26%	21%	31%	1027
Nov 2021	15%	7%	32%	17%	29%	1011
Dec 2020	18%	9%	30%	15%	28%	995

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Q28. Next, how often, if ever, do you worry about each of the following? The cost of healthcare for you and your family?

	Every day	Almost every day	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	19%	10%	31%	20%	20%	1028
Nov 2021	14%	10%	35%	17%	23%	1014
Dec 2020	18%	9%	31%	18%	24%	995

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Q29. Next, how often, if ever, do you worry about each of the following? The cost of housing for you and your family?

	Every day	Almost every day	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	26%	16%	31%	14%	13%	1028
Nov 2021	24%	12%	36%	12%	17%	1013
Dec 2020	25%	12%	31%	16%	17%	994

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Q30. Next, how often, if ever, do you worry about each of the following? Paying your bills?

	Every day	Almost every day	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	24%	16%	32%	15%	13%	1028
Nov 2021	20%	15%	32%	16%	17%	1012
Dec 2020	23%	11%	35%	15%	16%	995

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q31. Next, how often, if ever, do you worry about each of the following? The cost of childcare?

	Every day	Almost every day	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	7%	3%	10%	9%	71%	1027
Nov 2021	8%	3%	11%	10%	68%	1012
Dec 2020	7%	2%	8%	12%	70%	995

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q32. Next, how often, if ever, do you worry about each of the following? The amount of debt your have?

	Every day	Almost every day	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	23%	10%	29%	13%	24%	1028
Nov 2021	19%	12%	28%	18%	24%	1014
Dec 2020	22%	12%	25%	18%	23%	995

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Q34. Next, how often, if ever, do you worry about each of the following? Being able to save enough for your retirement?

	Every day	Almost every day	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	27%	11%	29%	13%	20%	1028
Nov 2021	22%	12%	31%	11%	24%	1011
Dec 2020	22%	15%	25%	14%	24%	996

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Q35. Overall, would you say you are satisfied or dissatisfied with your job?

	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Not satisfied	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	27%	57%	16%	0%	407
Nov 2021	33%	56%	11%	0%	375
Dec 2020	79%	21%	0%	0%	342

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q36. Would you say that you
 have stable and predictable
 pay at work?

	Yes	No	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	73%	27%	409
Nov 2021	75%	25%	375
Dec 2020	72%	28%	343

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Q37. Would you say that you have stable and predictable hours at work?

	Yes	No	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	64%	36%	409
Nov 2021	72%	28%	376
Dec 2020	66%	34%	344

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q38. Would you say that your
 job offers opportunities for
 growth and advancement?

	Yes	No	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	45%	55%	409
Nov 2021	48%	52%	376
Dec 2020	54%	46%	343

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q40. Would you say that you
 can voice concerns at work
 without fear of negative
 consequences?

	Yes	No	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	67%	33%	409
Nov 2021	67%	33%	376
Dec 2020	74%	26%	344

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Q41. Would you say that
 decisions made at work take
 into account your views and
 concerns?

	Yes	No	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	52%	48%	408
Nov 2021	53%	47%	375
Dec 2020	67%	33%	344

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q46. Next, does your workplace offer a membership in or affiliation with a union, occupation association, worker center, or other type of group that represents workers?

	Yes	No	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	23%	77%	0%	409
Nov 2021	18%	80%	2%	376
Dec 2020	21%	79%	0%	343

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q46a. And are you or is anyone in your immediate family a member of a labor union? [if yes, ask: Is that person you or another person in your family?]

	Yes, respondent	Yes, another person in family	Yes, both	No	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	9%	10%	2%	78%	0%	408
Nov 2021	13%	4%	0%	83%	0%	376

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q47. Does your current job provide healthcare coverage?			
	Yes	No	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	49%	51%	408
Nov 2021	50%	50%	376
Dec 2020	48%	52%	344

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q48. Does your current job provide paid sick leave?			
	Yes	No	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	60%	40%	408
Nov 2021	56%	44%	376
Dec 2020	59%	41%	344

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q49. Does your current job provide retirement savings?			
	Yes	No	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	40%	60%	408
Nov 2021	45%	55%	376
Dec 2020	40%	60%	344

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q50. And thinking about the
 benefits offered at your current
 job... - Does your current job
 provide educational or training
 assistance?

	Yes	No	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	32%	68%	408
Nov 2021	35%	65%	376
Dec 2020	33%	67%	344

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q51. Next, please read these two statements and say if you completely agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or completely disagree with each one. It is important for workers to organize so that employers do not take advantage of them.

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	51%	37%	9%	3%	1023
Nov 2021	48%	39%	9%	4%	1012
Dec 2020	49%	35%	11%	5%	996

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q52. Next, please read these two statements and say if you completely agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or completely disagree with each one. Voting gives people like me some say in what the government does.

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	37%	41%	13%	8%	1023
Nov 2021	37%	42%	11%	10%	1013
Dec 2020	38%	45%	10%	7%	995

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q53. Do you favor or oppose a
 government policy to make
 college tuition free at both
 public two-year and four-year
 colleges?

	Favor	Oppose	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	76%	24%	1019
Nov 2021	75%	25%	1010
Dec 2020	76%	24%	993

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q54. Would you favor or
 oppose a government policy to
 eliminate college debt?

	Favor	Oppose	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	71%	29%	1019
Nov 2021	71%	29%	1008
Dec 2020	74%	26%	992

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q55. Do you favor or oppose
 increasing government funding
 so that child care programs
 are available for more lower-
 income working parents?

	Favor	Oppose	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	86%	14%	1022
Nov 2021	82%	18%	1012
Dec 2020	82%	18%	993

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q56. Do you favor or oppose
 increasing government funding
 for job training programs so
 that more workers have the
 skills they need for today's
 jobs?

	Favor	Oppose	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	84%	16%	1021
Nov 2021	85%	15%	1012
Dec 2020	85%	15%	992

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q57. Would you favor or
 oppose the government
 offering a health insurance
 plan, similar to Medicare, that
 Americans can choose to
 purchase instead of private
 insurance?

	Favor	Oppose	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	83%	17%	1020
Nov 2021	79%	21%	1009
Dec 2020	79%	21%	994

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Q58. Do you favor or oppose
 the government expanding the
 eligibility and payments of the
 earned income tax credit for
 lower-income working families
 and individuals?

	Favor	Oppose	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	83%	17%	1021
Nov 2021	82%	18%	1008
Dec 2020	81%	19%	987

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q59. Would you favor or
 oppose the federal
 government providing a
 guaranteed income,
 sometimes called a "Universal
 Basic Income," of about
 \$1,000 a month for all adult
 citizens, whether or not they
 work?

	Favor	Oppose	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	66%	34%	1021
Nov 2021	63%	37%	1012
Dec 2020	63%	37%	990

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q63. How big of a problem is racism in the U.S. today? Is it a big problem, somewhat of a problem, a small problem, or not a problem at all?

	Big problem	Somewhat of a problem	Small problem	Not a problem at all	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	51%	33%	11%	4%	0%	1027
Nov 2021	51%	30%	13%	7%	0%	1013
Dec 2020	56%	31%	8%	5%	0%	999

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

PPIC Statewide Survey
Californians and Their Economic Well-Being - November 2022
Adults with Incomes Under \$40k - Time Trends

Q64. Was there a time in the last twelve months when you felt you were treated unfairly at your place of work because of your racial or ethnic background?

	Yes	No	(VOL) Not applicable	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	16%	83%	1%	0%	1025
Nov 2021	15%	84%	0%	0%	1012
Dec 2020	13%	86%	1%	0%	998

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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Q65. How much do you think that racial and ethnic discrimination contributes to economic inequality in this country?

	A great deal	A fair amount	Not too much	Not at all	(VOL) Don't know	Unweighted n
Nov 2022	30%	45%	18%	7%	0%	1025
Nov 2021	34%	39%	19%	9%	0%	1013
Dec 2020	33%	44%	17%	7%	0%	999

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding