

**Questionnaire  
INCA0001**

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## Page: survey\_intro\_pg

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<p>A California-based non-profit is conducting a poll to learn what Californians would think about California having more political autonomy, either within the U.S. or as an independent country.</p>

## Page: implicit\_page\_Q1

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**Q1-**

**required**

SINGLE CHOICE

Were you born...?

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varlabel                      Place of birth

required                      HARD

- <sup>1</sup>    in California
- <sup>2</sup>    elsewhere in the U.S.
- <sup>3</sup>    outside the U.S.
- <sup>8</sup>   *Skipped*
- <sup>9</sup>   *Not Asked*

## Page: implicit\_page\_Q2

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**Q2-**

**prompt  
once  
on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

Which statement do you agree with most?

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varlabel                      American and California Identity

required                      SOFT

- <sup>1</sup>    I feel more American than Californian
- <sup>2</sup>    I feel more Californian than American
- <sup>3</sup>    I feel equally California and American
- <sup>8</sup>   *Skipped*
- <sup>9</sup>   *Not Asked*

## Page: implicit\_page\_Q3

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**Q3-**  
**prompt**  
**once**  
**on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:

I can't imagine myself wanting to live anywhere in the United States but California.

---

varlabel                      Live in another state

required                      SOFT

- 1     Strongly agree
- 2     Somewhat agree
- 3     Somewhat disagree
- 4     Strongly disagree
- 8    *Skipped*
- 9    *Not Asked*

## Page: implicit\_page\_Q4

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**Q4-**  
**prompt**  
**once**  
**on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

Which government do you trust more? California's state government in Sacramento, or the federal government in Washington, DC?

---

varlabel                      Government trust

required                      SOFT

- 1     The state government
- 2     The federal government
- 3     Both equally
- 8    *Skipped*
- 9    *Not Asked*

## Page: implicit\_page\_Q5

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**Q5-  
prompt  
once  
on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

California governors Gavin Newsom and Arnold Schwarzenegger have sometimes called California a "nation-state," implying that California is in some ways its own nation. How accurate is it to refer to California this way?

---

varlabel Nation state

required SOFT

- 1  Very accurate
- 2  Somewhat accurate
- 3  Somewhat inaccurate
- 4  Very inaccurate
- 8 *Skipped*
- 9 *Not Asked*

**Q6-  
prompt  
once  
on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

Suppose that a majority of Californians wanted California to peacefully secede from the U.S. and become an independent country. Would that be possible?

Pick the statement you agree with the most:

varlabel                      Secede from US possibility  
required                      SOFT  
order                          randomize

- 1     California could become an independent country with the approval of Congress, like Cuba and the Philippines did. (Do you strongly agree or somewhat agree? [Q6\_1])
- 2     California could never become an independent country because the Civil War decided that states cannot secede. (Do you strongly agree or somewhat agree? [Q6\_2])
- 8    *Skipped*
- 9    *Not Asked*

## Page: implicit\_page\_Q7

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**Q7-**  
**prompt**  
**once**  
**on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

California's economy is bigger than Canada's, and its population is about the same size.

Regardless of your answer to the previous question, imagine that at some point in the next ten years, California were to peacefully become an independent country with a friendly relationship with the U.S., like Canada.

Compared to the way things are now, do you think Californians would be...

---

varlabel                      Become independent country

required                      SOFT

- <sup>1</sup>  Much better off
- <sup>2</sup>  Somewhat better off
- <sup>3</sup>  Somewhat worse off
- <sup>4</sup>  Much worse off
- <sup>8</sup>     *Skipped*
- <sup>9</sup>     *Not Asked*

## Page: cal\_issues\_intro\_pg

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<p>Now you're going to be asked about how living in an independent country might affect issues important to Californians.</p> <p>For each issue, you'll see a pair of statements, arguing that Californians would be <b>better off</b> or <b>worse off</b> in regards to a particular issue if California were to peacefully become an independent country.</p> <p>Regardless of how you answered the previous question or how you feel about independence overall, please pick the argument you think is most convincing.</p>

## Module: issues\_md

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**Q8-  
prompt  
once  
on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

If California were an independent country, Californians would be...

---

varlabel                      Climate crisis issue

required                      SOFT

order                          randomize

- 1     **Better off** because we would be able to negotiate solutions to the climate crisis on a nation-to-nation basis. (Much better off or somewhat better off? [Q8\_1])
- 2     **Worse off** because we would not have a direct say in the United States' approach to the climate crisis. (Much worse off or somewhat worse off? [Q8\_2])
- 8    *Skipped*
- 9    *Not Asked*

**Q9-  
prompt  
once  
on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

If California were an independent country, Californians would be...

---

varlabel Democracy issue

required SOFT

order randomize

- 1 ○ **Better off** because under the federal system, California voters are under-represented in the electoral college and the U.S. Senate. (Much better off or somewhat better off? [Q9\_1])
- 2 ○ **Worse off** because government in California would no longer be moderated by Congress and the Supreme Court (Much worse off or somewhat worse off? [Q9\_2])
- 8 *Skipped*
- 9 *Not Asked*



### Page: Q10\_pg

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**Q10-**  
**prompt**  
**once**  
**on skip** SINGLE CHOICE

If California were an independent country, Californians would be...

---

varlabel                   Guns issue

required                   SOFT

order                      randomize

- 1   ○ **Better off** because we could adopt stricter gun regulations and control gun imports. (Much better off or somewhat better off? [Q10\_1])
- 2   ○ **Worse off** because we would no longer have 2nd Amendment rights under the U.S. constitution. (Much worse off or somewhat worse off? [Q10\_2])
- 8   *Skipped*
- 9   *Not Asked*

### Page: Q11\_pg

---

**Q11-**  
**prompt**  
**once**  
**on skip** SINGLE CHOICE

If California were an independent country, Californians would be...

---

varlabel                   Health Care issue

required                   SOFT

order                      randomize

- 1   ○ **Better off** because California would be able to reform its health care system to lower costs and offer universal coverage. (Much better off or somewhat better off? [Q11\_1])
- 2   ○ **Worse off** because California would over-regulate health care, driving up costs and limiting options. (Much worse off or somewhat worse off? [Q11\_2])
- 8   *Skipped*
- 9   *Not Asked*

**Q12-**  
**prompt**  
**once**  
**on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

If California were an independent country, Californians would be...

---

varlabel                      Immigration issue

required                      SOFT

order                          randomize

<sup>1</sup>     **Better off** because California would decide its own immigration policies, such as who can enter California and how people become California citizens. (Much better off or somewhat better off? [Q12\_1])

<sup>2</sup>     **Worse off** because it would be harder for Californians to enter the U.S. and harder for skilled Americans to come to California. (Much worse off or somewhat worse off? [Q12\_2])

<sup>8</sup>    *Skipped*

<sup>9</sup>    *Not Asked*

### Page: Q13\_pg

---

**Q13-**  
**prompt**  
**once**  
**on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

If California were an independent country, Californians would be...

---

varlabel Military issue

required SOFT

order randomize

- 1  **Better off** because we could have a smaller, more efficient military focused primarily on defense. (Much better off or somewhat better off? [Q13\_1])
- 2  **Worse off** because California and California's economic interests would no longer be protected by the U.S. military. (Much worse off or somewhat worse off? [Q13\_2])
- 8 *Skipped*
- 9 *Not Asked*

### Page: Q14\_pg

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**Q14-**  
**prompt**  
**once**  
**on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

If California were an independent country, Californians would be...

---

varlabel Tax dollars issue

required SOFT

order randomize

- 1  **Better off** because California taxpayers would not have to subsidize other U.S. states. (Much better off or somewhat better off? [Q14\_1])
- 2  **Worse off** because we would lose federal funding and access to the United States' power to borrow money. (Much worse off or somewhat worse off? [Q14\_2])
- 8 *Skipped*
- 9 *Not Asked*

Page: Q15\_pg

**Q15-**  
**prompt**  
**once**  
**on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

If California were an independent country, Californians would be...

varlabel                      Trade issue

required                      SOFT

order                          randomize

- 1     **Better off** because we would be able to negotiate our own trade agreements with other major economic powers. (Much better off or somewhat better off? [Q15\_1])
- 2     **Worse off** because any trade agreement we negotiated with the U.S. would be less free than what we have now. (Much worse off or somewhat worse off? [Q15\_2])
- 8    *Skipped*
- 9    *Not Asked*

## Page: Q16\_pg

**Q16-**  
**prompt**  
**once**  
**on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

If California were an independent country, Californians would be...

varlabel Water issue

required SOFT

order randomize

- 1  **Better off** because we would have full control over the water we use, rather than the federal government allocating nearly half of it. (Much better off or somewhat better off? [Q16\_1])
- 2  **Worse off** because California might lose its rights to Colorado River water. (Much worse off or somewhat worse off? [Q16\_2])
- 8 *Skipped*
- 9 *Not Asked*

end module: issues\_md

## Page: implicit\_page\_Q17

**Q17-**  
**prompt**  
**once**  
**on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

Now that you've considered some of these arguments, please imagine one more time that at some point in the next ten years, California were to peacefully become an independent country with a friendly relationship with the U.S., similar to that of Canada.

Compared to the way things are now, do you think Californians would be...

varlabel Better/worse off as independent country

required SOFT

- 1  Much better off
- 2  Somewhat better off
- 3  Somewhat worse off
- 4  Much worse off
- 8 *Skipped*
- 9 *Not Asked*

## Page: Q18\_pg

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<p>Finally, you'll be asked to consider some other scenarios that would give Californians more political autonomy than we have now.</p>

end module: implicit\_module\_3

## Module: Q18\_20\_md

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### Page: implicit\_page\_Q18

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**Q18-  
prompt  
once  
on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

Suppose that at some point in the next ten years, California were to peacefully leave the U.S. and form a new union with Oregon and Washington.

Compared to the way things are now, do you think Californians would be...

---

varlabel                      Oregon union

required                      SOFT

- <sup>1</sup>     Much better off
- <sup>2</sup>     Somewhat better off
- <sup>3</sup>     Somewhat worse off
- <sup>4</sup>     Much worse off
- <sup>8</sup>    *Skipped*
- <sup>9</sup>    *Not Asked*

## Page: implicit\_page\_Q19

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**Q19-**  
**prompt**  
**once**  
**on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

Some countries, like the United Kingdom and Spain, grant certain parts of the country more autonomy over their own affairs, including health care, environmental policy, and how to spend taxes collected by the national government.

Suppose that at some point in the next ten years, California negotiated a special autonomous status for itself, giving Californians more control over decisions currently made by the federal government. California would still be part of the U.S.

Compared to the way things are now, do you think Californians would be...

---

varlabel                      Special autonomy

required                      SOFT

- <sup>1</sup>     Much better off
- <sup>2</sup>     Somewhat better off
- <sup>3</sup>     Somewhat worse off
- <sup>4</sup>     Much worse off
- <sup>8</sup>    *Skipped*
- <sup>9</sup>    *Not Asked*

## Page: implicit\_page\_Q20

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**Q20-  
prompt  
once  
on skip**

SINGLE CHOICE

About 45% of California's land and nearly half of California's water infrastructure is owned and controlled by the federal government.

Supposed that at some point over the next ten years, California negotiated transferring ownership of nearly all federal land and federal water infrastructure to California's state and local governments. California would otherwise remain a regular U.S. state.

Compared to the way things are now, do you think Californians would be...

---

varlabel                      Transfer land ownership

required                      SOFT

- 1     Much better off
- 2     Somewhat better off
- 3     Somewhat worse off
- 4     Much worse off
- 8    *Skipped*
- 9    *Not Asked*

end module: Q18\_20\_md

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