ORANGE COUNTY ANNUAL SURVEY 2021

Prepared by
Fred Smoller and
Michael A. Moodian

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary

The COVID-19 deniers, anti-maskers, and anti-vaxxers **do not** represent Orange County.

Despite public protests and the pronouncements of some Orange County officials, 83 percent (83%) of those surveyed said that the coronavirus is a real threat and 80 percent (80%) said it is **not fully** under control here. We found overwhelming support for government efforts to combat the virus including rules on social distancing (90%) and a national mask mandate (70%). These prescriptions have been described as an unconstitutional infringement of civil liberties and individual freedom. Seventy-three percent (73%) said government efforts to fight the virus were either about right (38%) or did not go far enough (35%). Only about a quarter (27%) felt that government efforts to combat the virus went too far.

While only 13 percent (13%) said the pandemic had caused them severe economic hardship, there is widespread support for an economic stimulus package, with nearly half of those surveyed saying (49%) the plan currently being promoted by President Joe Biden does not go far enough. Respondents also put containing the virus (64%) ahead of rebuilding the economy. Respondents have more confidence in health professionals such as Dr. Anthony Fauci or the Orange County Health Care Agency than elected officials such as the Orange County Board of Supervisors or Governor Gavin Newsom to deal with the pandemic. There was a sharp partisan divide among those planning to get vaccinated. Eighty-one percent (81%) of Democrats versus only 58 percent (58%) of Republicans said they would get vaccinated. A majority (56%) believe schools should reopen immediately provided proper precautions are taken. Once again, there is a major partisan divide, as 84 percent (84%) of Republicans believe this, 54 percent (54%) of Decline to State voters, and 31 percent (31%) of Democrats.

Seventy-nine percent (79%) said that the threat of climate change was a serious problem and seventy percent (70%) said climate change was caused by human activities. This reaffirms the findings from the 2020 Orange County Annual Survey which focused on climate change. The majority of those polled support the governor's electric car mandate. People may love their cars, but they are less attached to the internal combustion engine. Respondents also accepted increased environmental regulations even if this meant higher utility bills. Recent wildfires, which the governor and others attributed to a changing climate, appear to have had a modest impact on attitudes.

President Donald Trump is gone, but polarization remains. Sixty-nine percent (69%) believe the 2020 presidential election was fair but 31 percent (31%), a significant minority, do not. Sixty-seven percent (67%) of Republicans think the election was not conducted fairly, whereas 97 percent (97%) of the Democrats and 73 percent (73%) of the Decline to State respondents feel it was fair. Most respondents (57%) say the Congress was right to impeach Trump for a second time. Only 15 percent (15%) of the Republicans felt the president should be impeached compared to 95 percent (95%) of Democrats and 57 percent (57%) of those who do not belong to one of the major political parties. People across the board say Trump will go down in history as a less-than-average president. Twenty-six percent (26%) of Republicans said he would go down as below average or as a poor president. The comparable figure for Democrats was 91 percent (91%), and Decline to State, 57 percent (57%).

For the second consecutive presidential election since Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Democratic candidate won Orange County. Joe Biden took Orange County and he remains popular here. Sixty-three percent (63%) of those surveyed said they approved of Biden's performance in office, which is higher than his national approval rating (Gallup: 57%). Respondents were cautiously optimistic about the direction of the country—52 percent (52%) believe the U.S. is headed in the right direction, but less than half (43%) felt that California was headed in the right direction.

Orange County is evenly divided about removing Gavin Newsom from office before his term expires in January 2023. About half (48%) of those surveyed say the governor should be recalled. Not surprising, support for the recall is sharply divided along party lines. Eighty percent (80%) of Republicans and the majority of the respondents who say they do not belong to either party (53%) support the recall, but eighty-four percent (84%) of the Democrats do not.

Orange County's three biggest problems, according to respondents, are housing affordability/homelessness, the coronavirus, and the economy. Housing affordability and homelessness consistently rank in the top three each year when we conduct this study.

A strong majority of county residents (65%) support the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement, but there is a substantial difference between partisan affiliation. Ninety-five percent (95%) of Democrats and 73 percent (73%) of Decline to State voters support BLM, compared to only 22 percent (22%) of Republicans. While the past year brought tension between the police and communities they serve in some major American cities, the police are generally looked upon favorably in Orange County. A strong majority responded with either "Excellent" or "Good" when asked about how the police were doing in maintaining public safety, treating the community with respect, responding with the appropriate number of officers, and gaining the trust of local residents. However, a majority (62%) believe the police are doing a "Fair" or "Poor" job at responding to the mental health crisis.

Introduction

Chapman University's Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences is pleased to present the 2021 Orange County Annual Survey Report. Orange County, CA (OC), is a thriving metropolitan area that lies between Los Angeles County to the north, San Diego County to the south, San Bernardino County to the northeast, and Riverside County to the east. The area is home to roughly 3.2 million residents.[1] As of June 2, 2021, 36.9 percent of active voters were registered Democrats, 33.7 percent were Republicans, and 24.1 percent had no party preference.[2]

This marks the fifth countywide survey we have conducted since 2010, and it is the fourth consecutive annual survey we have completed. Each year, our survey focuses a significant portion of questions on a different topic. The 2018 survey explored county residents' views on housing and homelessness, in 2019 the focus was transportation, and last year we researched Orange County's views on climate change. This year, as our country and world endure a pandemic that has greatly affected the lives of all, the survey focuses on COVID-19 and the government's response to the pandemic. Our purpose for conducting these

yearly studies is to educate the public and civic leaders on county residents' views of sociopolitical issues and to spark informed debate. We thank Fieldstead & Company and Chapman's Office of Research for sponsoring this study.

Refer to Appendix A for the methodology and Appendix B for a complete list of survey questions and results.

The Coronavirus Pandemic[3]

The COVID-19 pandemic has taken an enormous toll on Orange County. More than 250,000 people became infected and more than 5,000 died. Schools, businesses, restaurants, gyms, movie theaters, amusement parks, sports venues, and museums were shuttered. Those who could work from home survived relatively unscathed; those who could not faced greater exposure to the virus at work or were laid off, resulting in lost income, eviction, and food insecurity. Efforts to combat the virus aggravated deep political divisions:

- In April 2020, protesters in downtown Huntington Beach claimed the virus was a hoax and that the efforts to curtail it—vaccinations, masks, social distancing, and a lockdown—violated the Constitution.
- In May 2020, Orange County officials refused to enforce Governor Newsom's order to close Orange County beaches.[4]
- In June 2020, Dr. Nichole Quick, who was then Orange County's chief health officer, resigned because of death threats resulting from her controversial mask order. Protestors showed up at board meetings and at Dr. Quick's home with a banner depicting Dr. Quick as Adolf Hitler.[5]
- In July, despite a surge in coronavirus cases, the conservative Orange County Board of Education recommended that OC schools reopen without masks or social distancing.[6] The recommendation was ignored by the county's 28 school districts and ridiculed nationally.[7]
- On May 5, 2021, the Orange County Board of Education passed a symbolic resolution against digital vaccine passports for students without their parents' consent even though there was no such plan.[8]
- At its May 11, 2021 meeting, the Orange County Board of Supervisors tabled a proposal to establish a voluntary digital record (passport) of a person's vaccine status, bowing to pressure from the more than 500 angry protestors who packed the chambers and the sidewalks in front of the administration building. The protestors compared the proposed passport program to the yellow stars Nazis ordered Jews to wear as a means of identification and complained that the program was an infringement of their civil liberties. Others claimed the virus was a hoax.[9]
- The following day, May 1, 2021, the Orange County Grand Jury issued a scathing report on the county's handling of the pandemic.[10]
- Finally, on May 18 and 19, 2021, protestors lined up in front of the home of Dr. Clayton Chau, the head of the Orange County Health Care Agency, to protest a non-existent "vaccine passport" program.[11]

All of this resulted in unflattering media portrayals of the county as the wellspring of right-wing fanaticism. For example, an article in the Los Angeles Times said, "... right-wing protests in Orange County [have] spiraled into increasingly violent language against ever larger foes, real and imagined. It began with protests and outlandish conspiracies about COVID-19 restrictions, including a harassment campaign that drove out the county's top health officer, and rallies to recall Gov. Gavin Newsom and support Trump."[12]

The question arises: Do the above incidents represent the views of most Orange County residents? Is this who we are? Our findings, in a nutshell, say "No."

We found that the COVID deniers, anti-maskers and anti-vaxxers **do not** represent Orange County. In fact, we found overwhelming support for social distancing, mask wearing, vaccinations, and the lockdown. Only about a quarter (27%) felt that the government went too far in its efforts to curtail the virus. We also found that respondents have more confidence in health professionals such as Dr. Anthony Fauci and the Orange County Health Care Agency officials than elected officials. However, we did find a major partisan divide among responses. The one thing residents are in agreement on is that schools should reopen immediately, provided proper precautions are taken.

[1] Retrieved from https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/orangecountycalifornia

[2] Retrieved from https://www.ocvote.com/datacentral/

[3] The Orange County Register published a version of this opening section in a June 2, 2021 op-ed.

[4] Hannah Fry, Anh Do, Richard Winton, "Will Orange County enforce Newsom beach closure? Officials vow a fight," Los Angeles Times, May 1, 2020. Retrieved from:
https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-05-01/will-orange-county-enforce-newsom-beach-closure-officials-vow-a-fight

[5] Hannah Fry, Luke Money, "Orange County public health officer resigns in coronavirus controversy," Los Angeles Times. June 9, 2020, Retrieved from:
https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-06-09/orange-county-public-health-officer-resigns-amid-controversy-over-face-coverings.

[6] Hannah Fry and Sara Cardine, "Orange County education leaders want schools to reopen without masks or social distancing," Los Angeles Times. June 13, 2020, Retrieved from: https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-07-13/orange-county-board-of-education-recommends-no-masks-social-distancing-when-schools-reopen

[7] See, for example, Alicia Lee, Jenn Selva and Jack Hannah, "Orange County's largest school districts won't comply with Board of Education vote to return to classroom," CNN, July 15, 2020. Retrieved from: https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/14/us/california-orange-county-reopen-school-no-masks-trnd/index.html

[8] Roxana Kopetman,"OC Board of Education revises untrue statement, deletes reference to county health official," Orange County Register, May 6, 20201. Retrieved from: https://www.ocregister.com/2021/05/06/oc-board-of-education-revises-untrue-statement-deletes-reference-to-county-health-official/

[9] Spencer Custodio, "OC Supervisors Cancel Digital Coronavirus Vaccine Records, Hundreds of People Rail Against Vaccine Passports," Voice of OC, May 11, 2021, Retrieved from: https://voiceofoc.org/2021/05/oc-supervisors-debate-cancelling-digital-coronavirus-vaccine-records-hundreds-of-people-rail-against-vaccine-passports/

[10] Spencer Custodio and Brandon Pho, "OC Grand Jury Issues Scathing Report on County's Pandemic Response, Plans," Voice of OC, May 12, 2021, Retrieved from: https://voiceofoc.org/2021/05/oc-grand-jury-issues-scathing-report-on-countys-pandemic-response-and-plans/

[11] Alicia Robinson, "OC Supervisors denounce protest at county health officer's home," Orange County Register, May 21, 2021, Retrieved from:
https://www.ocregister.com/2021/05/21/oc-supervisors-denounce-protest-at-county-health-officers-home/

[12] See "Editorial: Dear Orange County: Coronavirus is the problem, not the efforts to stop its spread,"
Los Angeles Times, November 20, 2020, Retrieved from: https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2020-11-20/coronavirus-restrictions-orange-county-supervisors
and Paige St. John, Anita Chabria, Hannah Fry, Michael Finnegan, "Suburban radicals: Inside the resurgence of right-wing extremism in Orange County," Los Angeles Times, March 21, 2021, Retrieved from: https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-03-21/orange-county-far-right-trump-covid-19

Finding #1: Coronavirus Threat Real

Our first finding is that despite public protests and the pronouncements of some Orange County officials, 83 percent (83%) of those surveyed said that the coronavirus is a real threat and 80 percent (80%) said it is **not fully** under control here (Table 1).

Do you think the coronavirus is a real threat or blown out of proportion?

	Real Threat	Exaggerated
Value	83	17

Do you think the coronavirus in Orange County is under control, mostly under control, somewhat under control or not under control at all?

	Completely Or Mostly	Somewhat Or Not
Value	19	80
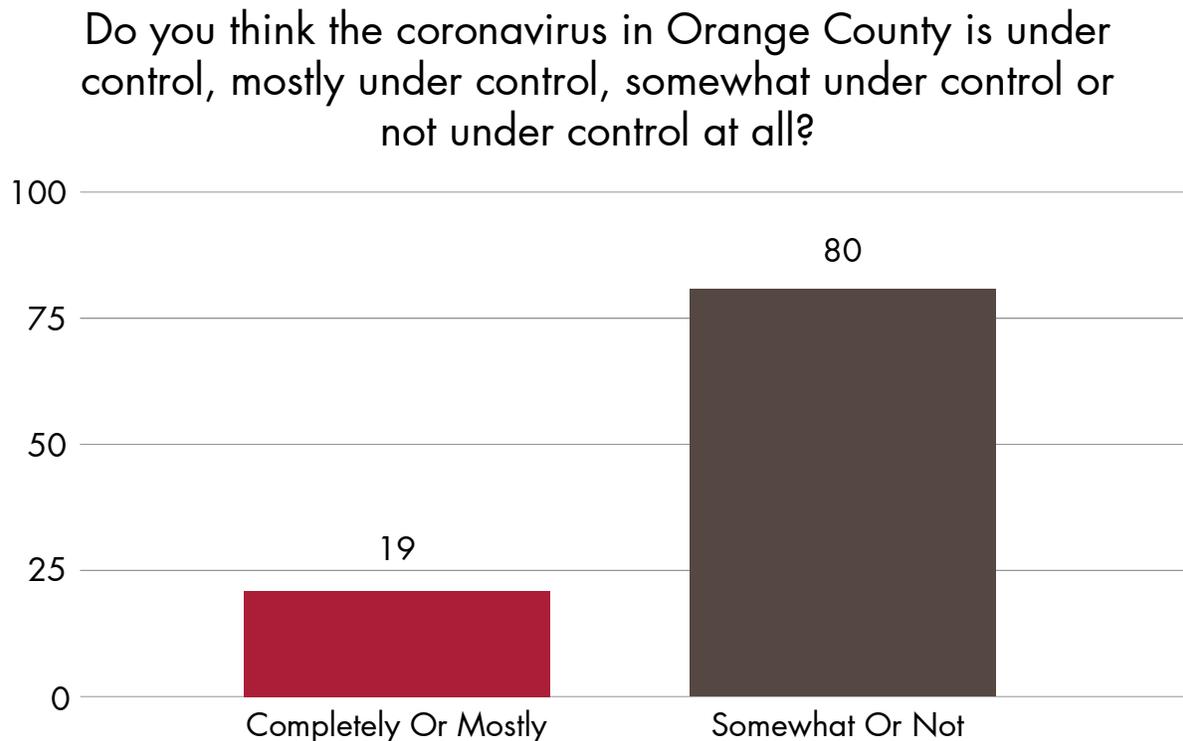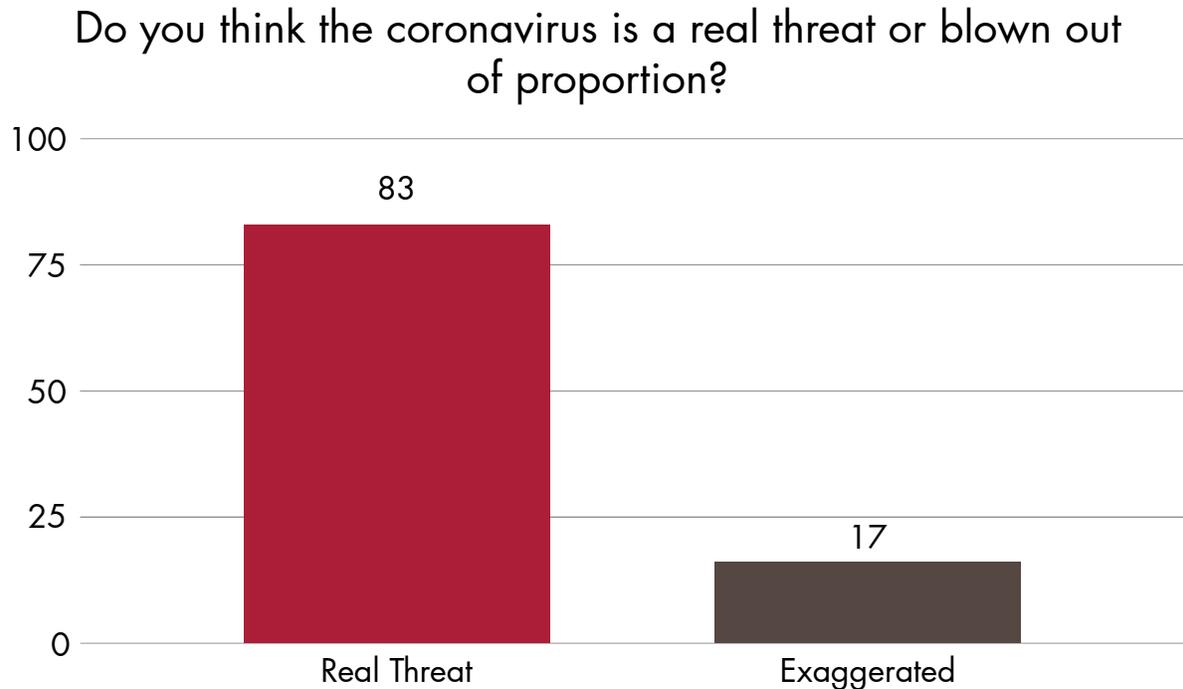
Finding #2: Government Efforts to Fight Virus Popular

We also found overwhelming support for government efforts to combat the virus, including the current rules on social distancing (90%) and a national mask mandate (70%). These prescriptions have been described as an unconstitutional infringement of civil liberties and individual freedom. Seventy-three percent (73%) said government efforts to fight the virus were either about right (38%) or did not go far enough (35%). Only about a quarter (27%) felt that government efforts to combat the virus went too far.

Do you support the current rules on social distancing?

	YES	NO
Value	90	10

Do you support a national mask mandate?

	YES	NO
Value	70	30
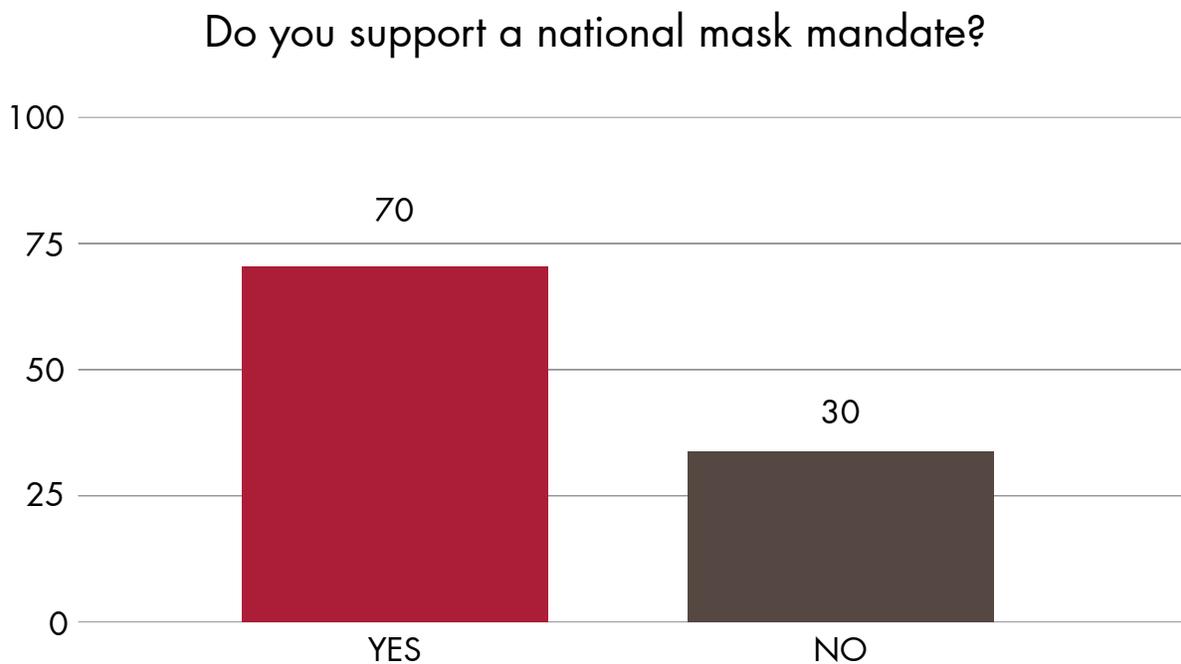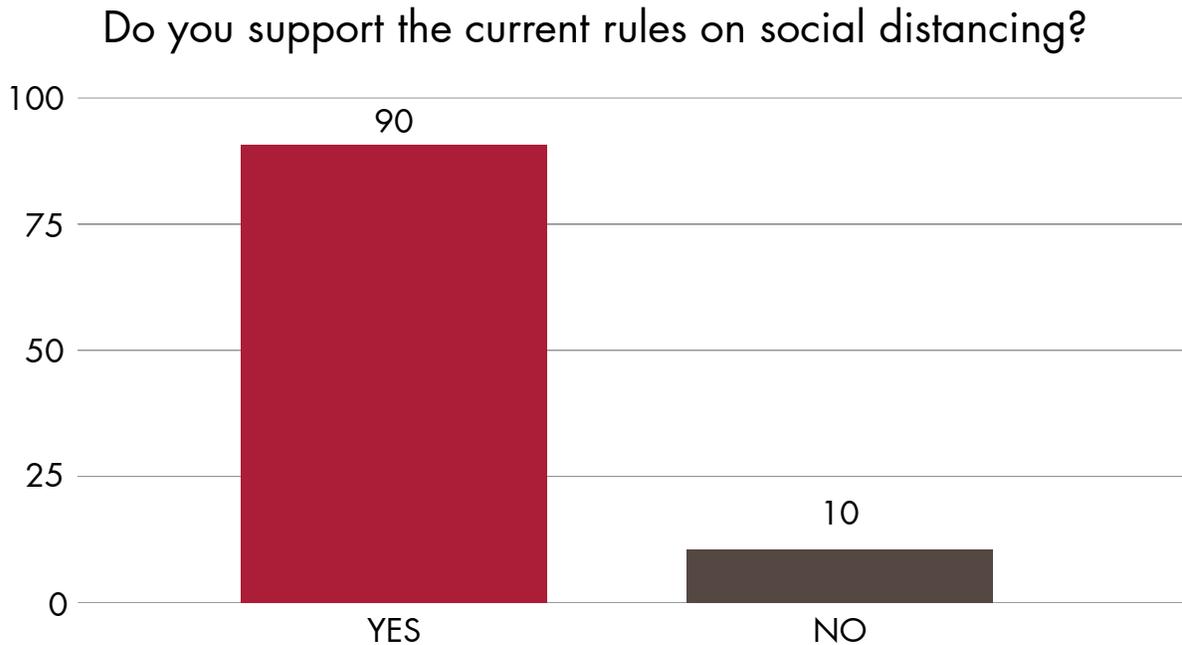
Do government mandates to fight the virus go too far?

TOO FAR	27
JUST RIGHT OR NOT FAR ENOUGH	73
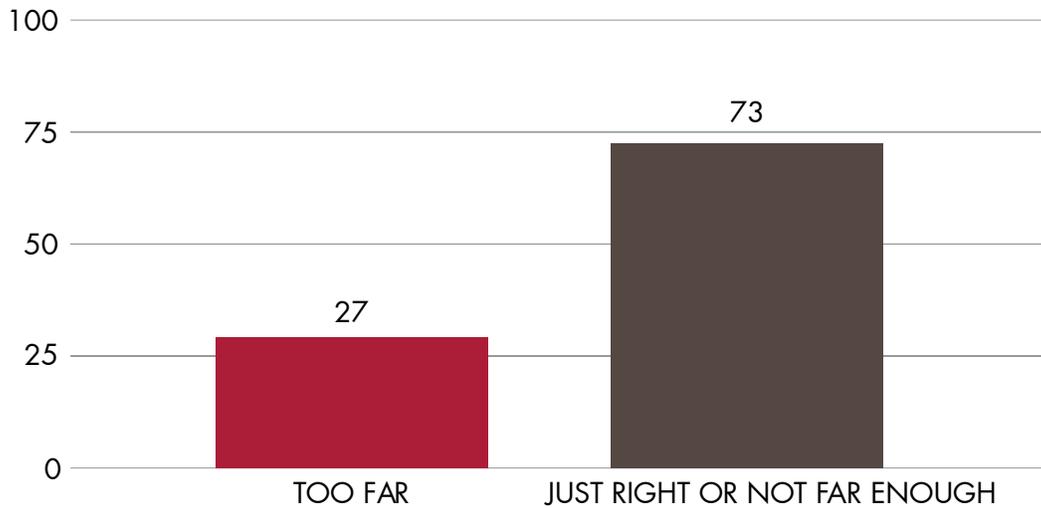
Finding #3: Economic Impact Modest For Most

While only 13 percent (13%) said the pandemic had caused them severe economic hardship, there is widespread support for an economic stimulus package, with nearly half of those surveyed (49%) saying the plan currently being promoted by President Biden does not go far enough. Respondents also put containing the virus (64%) ahead of rebuilding the economy. Chapman University's Joel Kotkin argues that the pandemic has enlarged California's gap between the rich and poor. For example, technology companies such as California-based Zoom have been very successful during the pandemic. Orange County has a multifaceted economy. The hospitality and tourism sectors suffered greatly. However, the county is one of the state's more affluent areas and a region in which more people would have the ability to work virtually (compared to an area such as the Central Valley). Those who could work from home continued to do well.

Has the coronavirus pandemic caused you:

SEVERE ECONOMIC IMPACT	13
MODERATE OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT	87
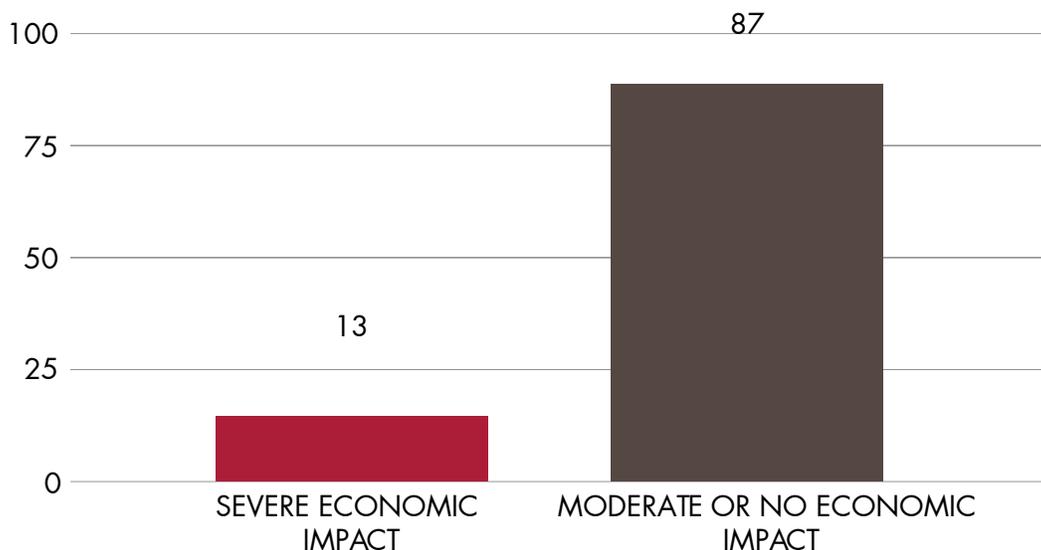
Finding #4: Residents Trust Medical Professionals More Than Politicians

As mentioned at the start of this report, health care professionals such as Drs. Nichole Quick and Clayton Chou have been personally attacked for their public health recommendations. Quick resigned in June 2020 after being threatened and intimidated as a result of her order mandating that masks be worn in public. Both have been compared to Adolf Hitler. On the national level, Dr. Fauci, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, has been harshly criticized by politicians and protestors. Nevertheless, we found that respondents have more confidence in health professionals such as those who work for Orange County Health Care Agency (Quick and Chou) than elected officials of both parties.

How much confidence do you have in the following to deal with pandemic? Percent saying "Great Deal" or "Some"

Category	Percent
HEALTH CARE DEPARTMENT	74
DR. FAUCI	69
PRESIDENT BIDEN	64
SHERIFF BARNES	61
SUPERVISORS	56
GOVERNOR NEWSOM	46
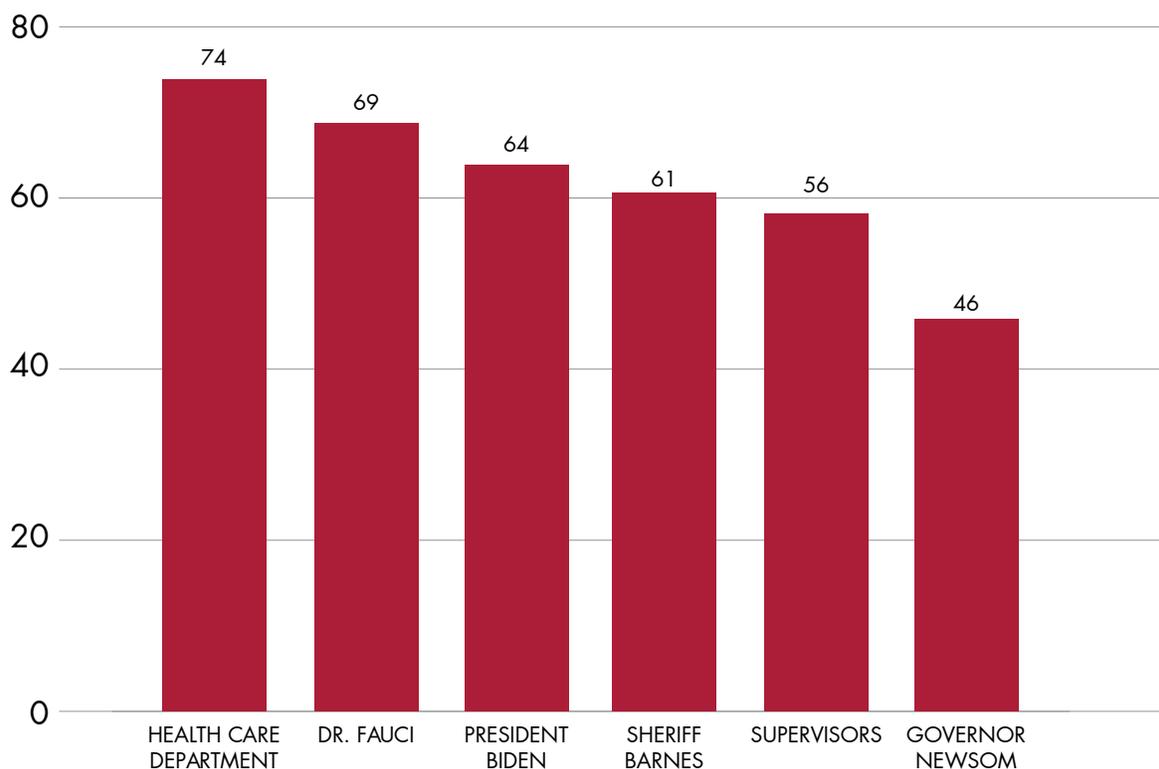
Finding #5: Partisan Divide

There was a sharp partisan divide on nearly all questions. Table 8 provides data on whether respondents felt containing the virus or reopening the economy was more important. Ninety-three percent (93%) of Democrats said that containing the virus was more important compared to 32 percent (32%) of Republicans.

Which is more important to you: Containing the virus or reopening the economy?

■ CONTAINING VIRUS   ■ OPENING ECONOMY

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
Containing Virus	32	93	61	64
Opening Economy	68	7	39	36
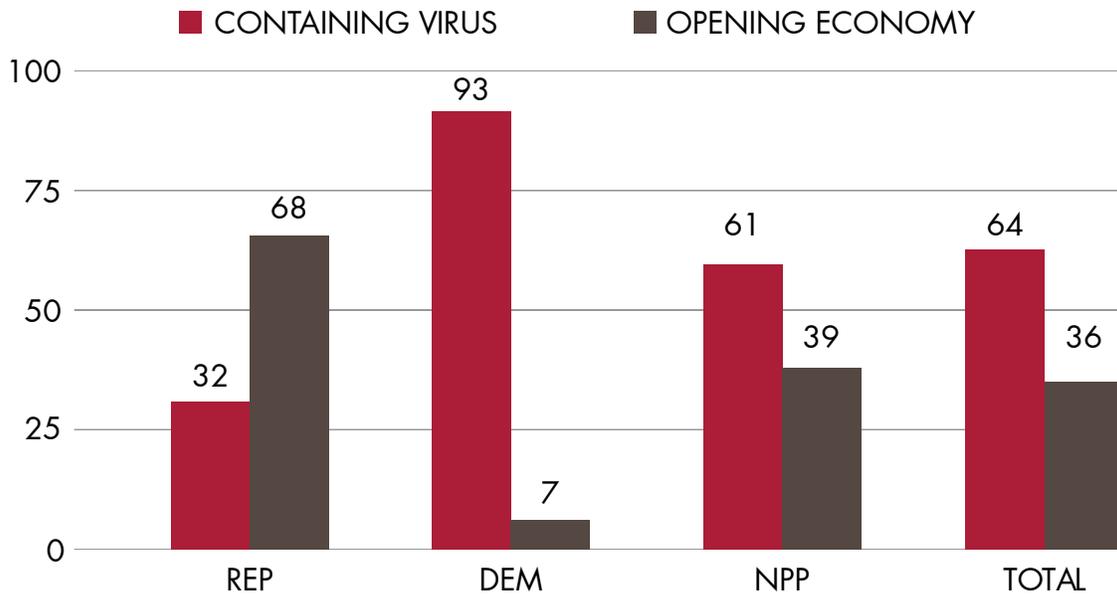
Finding #6 Agreement on Schools Reopening

The Orange County Board of Education generated nationwide headlines when it recommended in July 2020 that students return to schools with no mask or social distancing requirements. Our study found that a majority (56%) do believe schools should reopen immediately, provided proper precautions are taken. Once again, there is a major partisan divide, as 84 percent (84%) of Republicans believe this, 54 percent (54%) of Decline to State voters, and 31 percent (31%) of Democrats.

Should public schools reopen immediately provided proper precautions are taken or remian closed until the threat of the coronavirus has passed?

CLOSED	OPEN
44	56
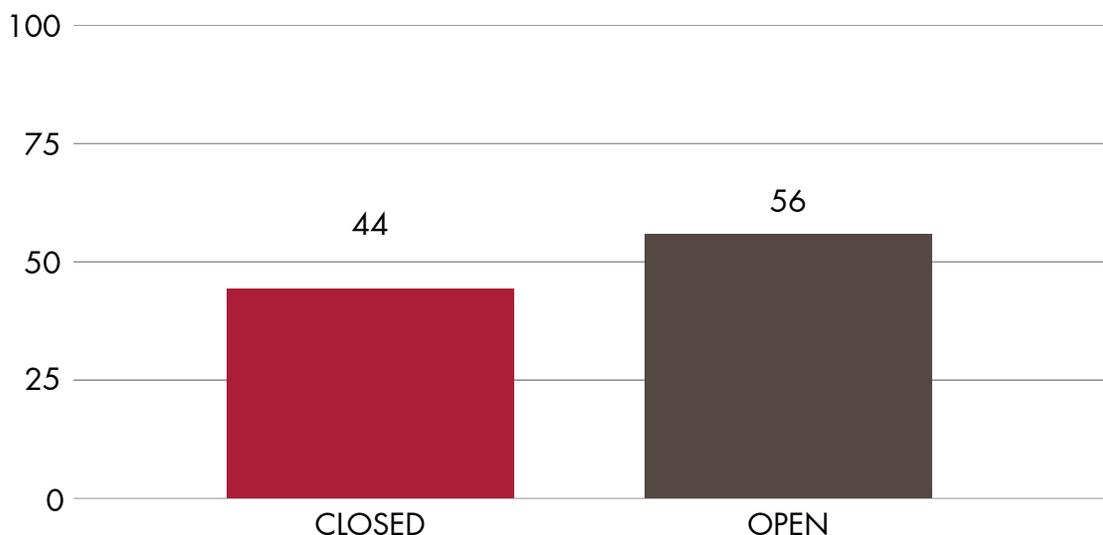
Finding #7: Most Have or Will Get Vaccinated

Eighty percent (80%) of the respondents told us that they had been or planned to get vaccinated. The top two reasons people declined to be vaccinated was that they felt it was not safe and they thought the vaccine—which was developed at "warp" speed—needs further testing.

Do you plan to get vaccinated?
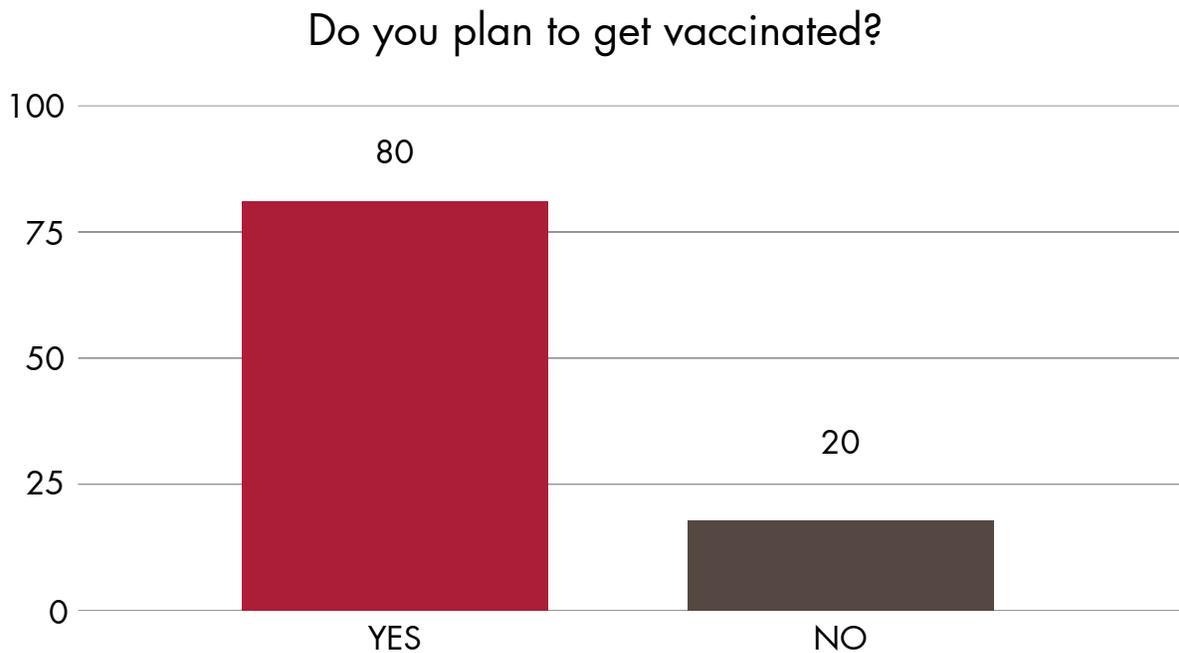
Climate Change

Seventy-nine percent (79%) said that the threat of climate change was a serious problem and 70 percent (70%) said climate change was caused by human activities. This reaffirms the finding from the 2020 Orange County Annual Survey, which focused on climate change. The majority of those polled support the governor's electric car mandate. People may love their cars, but are less attached to the internal combustion engine. Respondents also accepted increased environmental regulations even if this meant higher utility bills. Recent wildfires, which the governor and others attribute to a changing climate, appear to have had a modest impact on attitudes.

Do you support Gov. Newsom's executive order to require all new cars sold to be zero-emission vehicles by 2035?

■ YES ■ NO

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
YES	22	85	52	54
NO	78	15	48	46
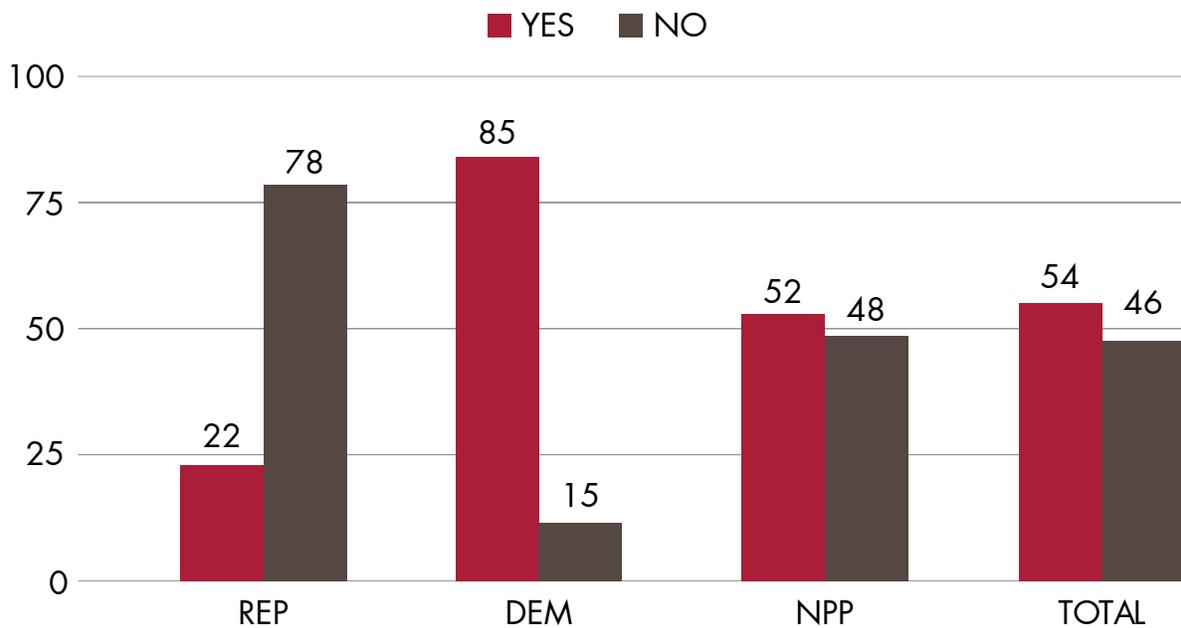
How serious a problem is climate change?

■ SERIOUS ■ NOT SERIOUS

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
SERIOUS	58	98	83	79
NOT SERIOUS	42	2	17	21
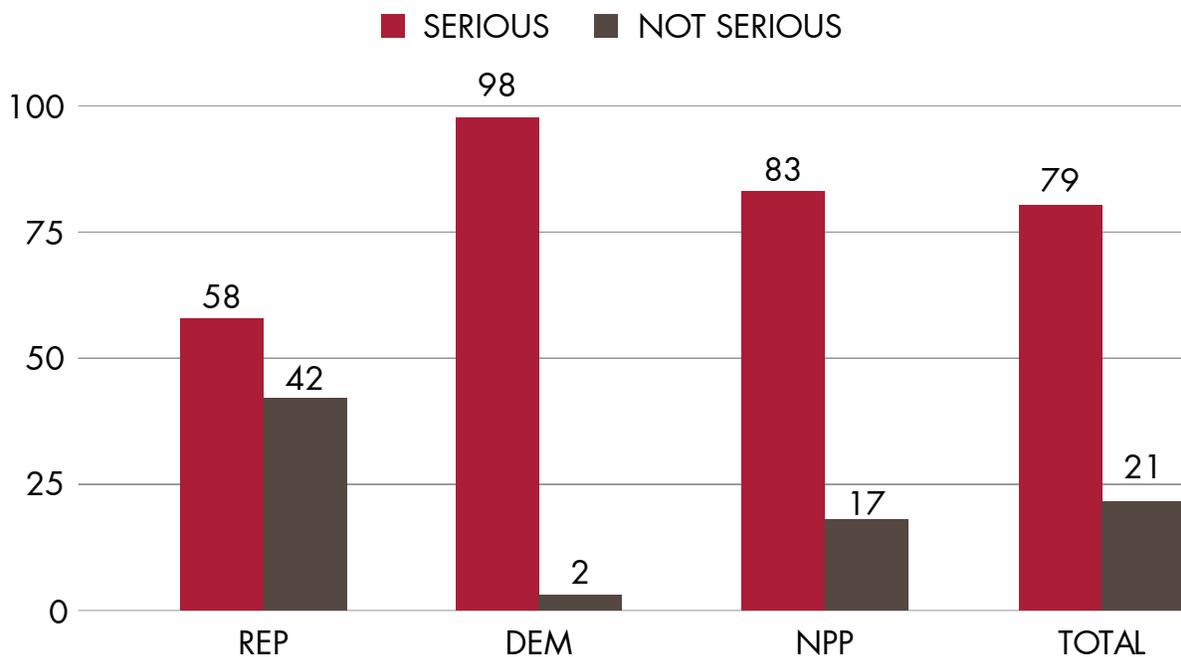
Washington, D.C.

Trump is out of office but polarization remains. Sixty-nine percent (69%) believe the 2020 presidential election was fair but 31 percent (31%), a significant minority, do not. Sixty-seven percent (67%) of Republicans think the election was not conducted fairly, whereas 97 percent (97%) of the Democrats and 73 percent (73%) of the Decline to State respondents feel it was fair. Most respondents (57%) say that Congress was right to impeach Trump for a second time. Only 15 percent (15%) of the Republicans felt the president should have been impeached. Ninety-five percent (95%) of the Democrats and 57 percent (57%) of those who do not belong to one of the major political parties believe he should have been impeached. People across the board say Trump will go down in history as a less-than-average president. Twenty-six percent (26%) of Republicans said he would go down as below average or as a poor president. The comparable figure for Democrats was 91 percent (91%), and Decline to State, 57 percent (57%). Biden is popular among county residents early in his presidency. For the second consecutive presidential election since Franklin Roosevelt, the Democratic candidate won Orange County. Sixty-three percent (63%) of those surveyed said they approved of President Biden's performance in office, which is higher than his national approval rating (Gallup: 57%). Respondents were cautiously optimistic about the direction of the country—52 percent (52%) said the U.S. is headed in the right direction, but less than half (43%) felt that California was headed in the right direction.

Sacramento

Orange County is evenly divided about removing Gavin Newsom from office before his term expires in January 2023. About half (48%) of those surveyed say the Governor should be recalled. Not surprising, support for the recall is sharply divided along party lines. Eighty percent (80%) of Republicans and the majority of the respondents who say they do not belong to either party (53%) support the recall, but 84 percent (84%) of the Democrats do not.

Do you think the State of California is headed in the right direction or the wrong direction?

■ RIGHT ■ WRONG

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
RIGHT	9	77	37	43
WRONG	91	23	63	57

Governor Newsom Recall

■ SUPPORT ■ OPPOSE

	DEM	REP	NPP	TOTAL
SUPPORT	16	80	53	48
OPPOSE	84	20	47	52
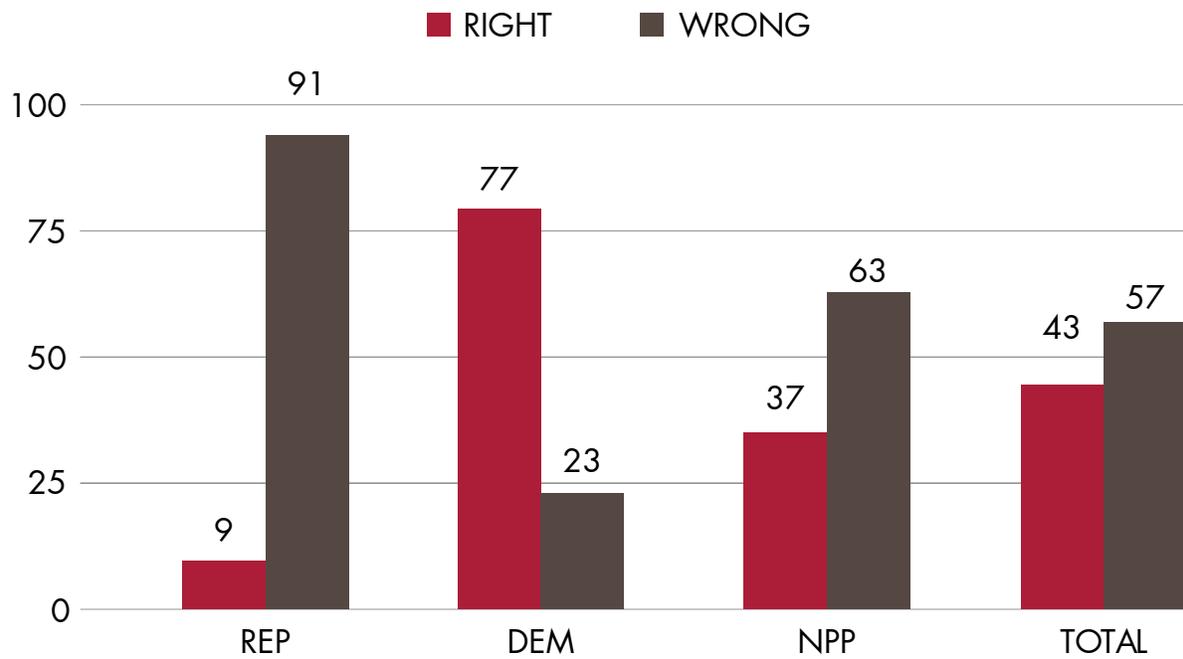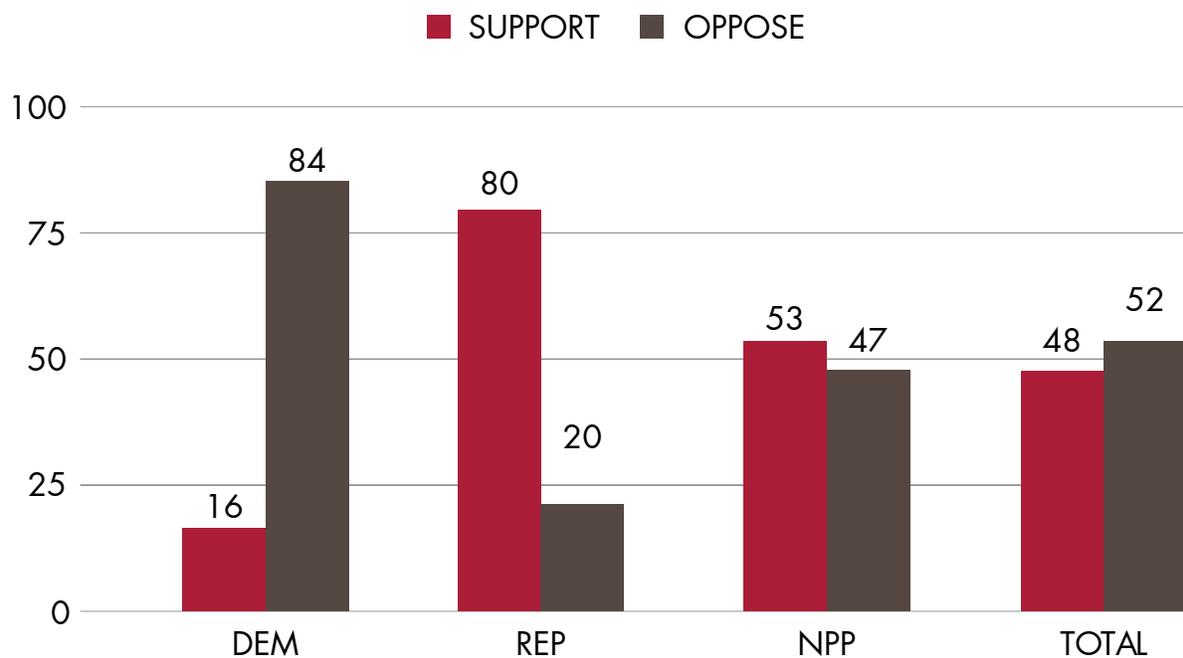
Orange County

Each year, we ask county residents for their thoughts on the biggest problem facing people in the Orange County area today. For the fourth consecutive year (out of four consecutive years of conducting this study), housing affordability ranked first. With a rapidly increasing cost of living in the county, residents continue to be concerned with how affordable it is to live here. The coronavirus ranked second, which should be no surprise since the pandemic and ensuing lockdown affected all residents' lives during 2020. Jobs and the economy ranked third. Again, this is no surprise given the uncertainty about the region's economic future during the pandemic. This marked the first time in our four consecutive years of conducting this study that traffic did not rank in the top three. Of course, traffic was significantly lighter in 2020 once more people were required to work from home. While there are concerns about housing affordability, OC residents like living here. When asked how they would rate the Orange County area in general as a place to live, a combined 83 percent (83%) responded with either "Excellent" or "Good." There was agreement among members of both political parties. There is also measured optimism about living conditions and personal financial situations. When we asked whether they think the quality of living conditions in the Orange County area will be better, worse, or about the same five to six years from now, a combined 74 percent (74%) responded with either "staying about the same" or "getting better." When we asked county residents whether they would be better off, worse off, or about the same as today three or four years from now, 88 percent (88%) responded with either "about the same" or "better off."

Most Important Problems Over The Years

TOP THREE:

1. Housing Affordability, Homeless
2. Jobs, the Economy
3. Coronavirus

1989 UCI	1999 UCI	2010 (BU)	2019 (CU)	2020 (CU)	2021 (CU)
Traffic	Crime	Economy	Housing	Housing/ Homelessness	Housing/ Homelessness
Growth	Schools	Schools	Poverty	Traffic/ Transportation	Economy
Drug Abuse	Traffic	Immigration	Traffic	Poverty	Coronavirus

Black Lives Matter, Policing

Separate from the coronavirus pandemic, last year was a significant one in terms of social justice movements. When George Floyd died on May 25, 2020, large-scale Black Lives Matter (BLM) protests erupted across the United States, including areas throughout Orange County. A national debate ensued about police brutality and funding for police. Therefore, we wanted to gain an idea of county residents' views toward both Black Lives Matter and policing in the county. A strong majority of county residents (65%) support the Black Lives Matter movement, but there is a substantial difference between partisan affiliation. Ninety-five percent (95%) of Democrats and 73 percent (73%) of Decline to State voters support BLM, compared to only 22 percent (22%) of Republicans. While the past year brought tension between the police and communities they serve in some major American cities, the police are generally looked upon favorably in OC. A strong majority responded with either "Excellent" or "Good'' when asked about how the police were doing in maintaining public safety, treating the community with respect, responding with the appropriate number of officers, and gaining the trust of local residents. However, a majority 62 percent (62%) believe the police are doing a "Fair" or "Poor" job at responding to the mental health crisis. In general, Orange County, which once had a reputation for being monocultural and supportive of initiatives such as Save Our State, has evolved in its perspective on social justice issues. Meanwhile, while there is a tense relationship between police and citizens in some American metropolitan areas, that does not seem to be the case in Orange County.

In general do you support or oppose the Black Lives Matter movement?

Legend: ■ REP   ■ DEM

	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
REP	22	78
DEM	95	5
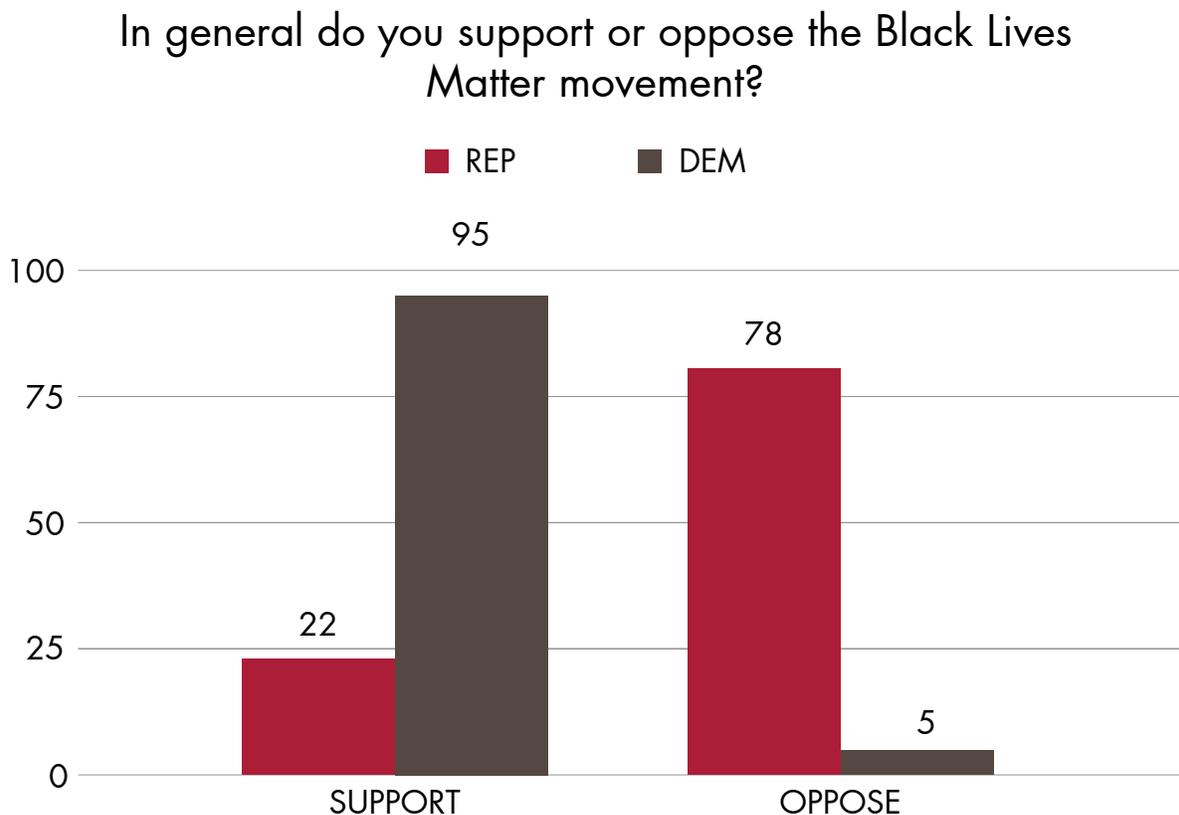
How are the police in your area doing in each of the following?

■ Excellent/Good   ■ Fair/Poor

	Public safety	Respect	Response	Trust	Mental Health Crisis
Excellent/Good	76	76	69	67	39
Fair/Poor	24	24	32	33	62
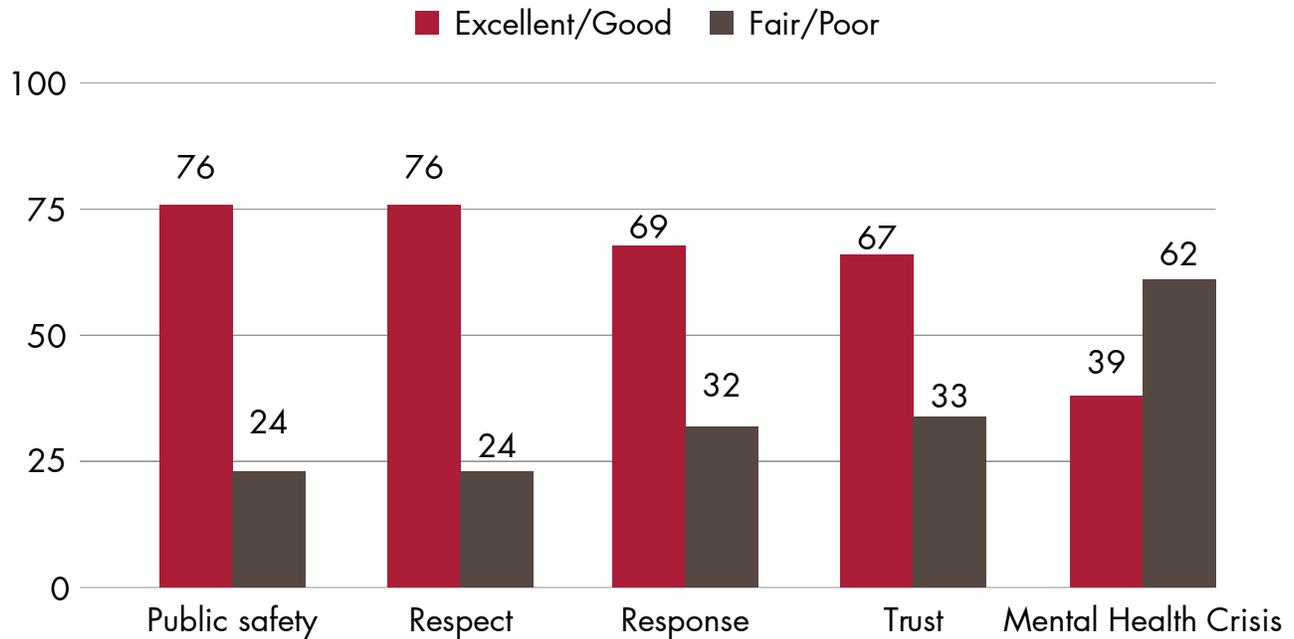
Conclusions

Orange County has changed rapidly during recent years. OC is no longer an ultraconservative outlier among coastal California counties. Rather, today, it is balanced politically and is an area that resembles the rest of the United States. While political polarization stifles governing at the federal level, it also poses challenges for our local government leaders given the vast differences in opinions outlined in this report. Finding common ground and methods to create public policy that works for all OC residents will be the challenges local leaders face as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Appendix A: Methodology (Section contributed by ReconMR)

METHODOLOGY

Reconnaissance Market Research (ReconMR) was contracted by Chapman University to conduct telephone surveys among Orange County residents. Surveys averaged 17.57 minutes utilizing a questionnaire provided by staff at Chapman University. Respondents were screened in order to interview an adult, 18 or older, who resided in Orange County. Oversampling was introduced to target Hispanic and Asian respondents in Orange County.

Overview

The fielding period of this study was from January 26 through February 12, 2021. A total of 703 surveys were administered by ReconMR. 106 surveys were conducted among landline telephone records and 597 surveys were conducted among wireless telephone records. 488 landline records were flagged as ported wireless numbers and treated as wireless records. 14 of the surveys completed among wireless records originated from the landline frame. Both an English and Spanish language version of the questionnaire were made available. Spanish speaking households encountered by an English only interviewer were called back by a bilingual interviewer in an attempt to complete the interview in Spanish. 68 total Spanish surveys were conducted. Telephone numbers were purchased by ReconMR through MSG (Marketing Systems Group).

Fielding

Interviews were conducted using Voxco's computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) software, which ensured all questions were asked correctly and all logic and skip patterns were implemented properly. The telephone sample was also managed by the CATI system, allowing dialing rules and disposition management to be streamlined. The CATI system allowed for a maximum of 5 attempts to be made on each number. To ensure the highest response rate, numbers were called at various times of the day and days in the week and respondents could request a callback at a more convenient time and date as needed. These appointments were called at the appointed time or rescheduled if the respondent was not available at the initially requested time.

Sample and interviewer productivity were closely monitored by the project team so adjustments could be made when needed.

Sampling

A total of 11,510 unique landline telephone numbers and 43,837 unique wireless telephone numbers were required to complete the study.

Quality/Data Verification

Project supervisors validated 10% of each interviewer's completed surveys by calling back the respondent and verifying specific responses. Additionally, supervisors continually monitored live calls through ReconMR's call monitoring system in order to ensure proper interviewing procedures were maintained.

Appendix B: Survey Questions and Top Ends

INTRO1   Hello, my name is ***, and I'm calling on behalf of Chapman University. We're calling to conduct a scientific study of public opinion about some issues that affect Orange County. We are not trying to sell you anything.

               Are you 18-34, or 35 or older?

(IF UNDER 18)   May I speak to someone 18 or older?

AGE   Are you 18 years of age or older?

         1. YES
         2. NO   SKIPTO FINITO
         7. DK/NR   SKIPTO FINITO
         9. REFUSED   SKIPTO FINITO

RESIDENT   Also, do you live in Orange County?

         1. YES
         2. NO   SKIPTO FINITO
         7. DK/NR   SKIPTO FINITO
         9. REFUSED   SKIPTO FINITO

INTRO2   Again, we are calling to conduct a scientific study of public opinion for Chapman
                University. The results of the study will be published in the Orange County Regis-
                ter. You can choose not to answer any of the questions or to end the survey at any
                time. Your answers will be strictly confidential. Would it be alright for me to ask the
                questions now? The survey will take about 15 minutes.

                1. YES
                2. NO   [SKIP TO APPT]

LANG   Would you be more comfortable conducting this survey in English or Spanish?

                1. ENGLISH
                2. SPANISH [SKIP TO }

I. POLITICS

ELECTION   Was the 2020 U.S. presidential election conducted fairly?

                1. YES
                2. NO
                7. DK
                9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
YES	33	97	73	69
NO	67	3	27	31

APCONG2   Was it right for former President Donald Trump to be
                impeached a second time?

                1. YES
                2. NO
                7. DK
                9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
YES	15	95	57	57
NO	85	5	43	43

TRUMPR　　　　　How do you think Trump will go down in history - as an outstanding president, above average, average, below average, or poor?

      1. OUTSTANDING
      2. ABOVE AVERAGE
      3. AVERAGE
      4. BELOW AVERAGE
      5. POOR
      7. DK/NR
      9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
OUTSTANDING	30	1	9	13
ABOVE AVERAGE	24	0	13	12
AVERAGE	20	7	21	15
BELOW AVERAGE	12	17	12	14
POOR	14	74	45	46

PREZAPP　　　　　Although he has been in office just a short while overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Joe Biden is handling his job as President?

      1. APPROVE
      2. DISAPPROVE
      7. DK
      9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
APPROVE	21	98	63	63
DISAPPROVE	79	2	37	37

DIRECTION   Do you think the United States is headed in the right direction or the wrong direction?

          1. RIGHT DIRECTION
          2. WRONG DIRECTION
          7. DK/NR
          9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
RIGHT	18	86	46	52
WRONG	82	14	54	48

TRUSTGOV   How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right? Just about always, most of the time, only some of the time?

          1. JUST ABOUT ALWAYS
          2. MOST OF THE TIME
          3. ONLY SOME OF THE TIME
          4. NEVER
          7. DK/NR
          9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
ALWAYS	1	4	4	3
MOST	11	40	19	25
SOME	66	55	66	61
NEVER	22	2	11	11

APCONG | What about Congress? Do approve or disapprove of the way that Congress is handling its job?

1. APPROVE
2. DISAPPROVE
7. DK
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
APPROVE	12	60	35	37
DISAPPROVE	88	40	65	63

CADIRECT | Do you think the State of California is headed in the right direction or the wrong direction?

1. RIGHT DIRECTION
2. WRONG DIRECTION
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
RIGHT	9	77	37	43
WRONG	91	23	63	57

RECALL | A campaign has been launched to recall Governor Newsom in response to the measures he has taken to combat the coronavirus. Do you think Governor Newsom should be recalled from office?

1. YES
2. NO
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
YES	80	16	53	48
NO	20	84	47	52

TRANS1   Now I'd like to ask you about the coronavirus.———————

II. PANDEMIC

VIRUS   Do you think the coronavirus is

1. A REAL THREAT
2. BLOWN OUT OF PROPORTION
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
THREAT	70	95	79	83
EXAGGERATED	30	5	21	17

WORRIED   How concerned are you that you or someone in your family or someone else you know will become infected with the coronavirus?

1. VERY
2. SOMEWHAT
3. NOT VERY
4. NOT AT ALL
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
VERY	27	67	47	48
SOMEWHAT	42	25	34	33
NOT VERY	18	7	12	12
NOT AT ALL	13	1	8	7

PRIORITIES   Which is more important to do now? [(ROTATE]

1. CONTAINING THE CORONAVIRUS
2. REBUILDING THE ECONOMY
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
CORONAVIRUS	32	93	61	64
ECONOMY	68	7	39	36

RESPONSE   Do you think your local government's response to the coronavirus pandemic has been:

1. TOO MUCH
2. JUST ABOUT RIGHT
3. NOT QUITE ENOUGH
4. NOT ENOUGH AT ALL
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
TOO MUCH	34	3	12	16
RIGHT	36	34	42	37
NOT QUITE ENOUGH	15	36	27	27
NOT ENOUGH AT ALL	15	27	19	20

IMPACT   Has the coronavirus pandemic caused you:

1. SEVERE ECONOMIC HARDSHIP
2. MODERATE FINANCIAL HARDSHIP
3. NO FINANCIAL HARDSHIP AT ALL
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
SEVERE	12	12	15	13
MODERATE	31	43	43	39
NONE	56	45	42	48

VACCINE   Do you plan to get a vaccine shot against coronavirus when
a vaccine becomes available or not?

1. YES [SKIPTO CONTROL]
2. ALREADY GOT
2. NO
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
YES	58	81	65	69
GOT ONE	14	11	7	11
NO	28	8	27	20

VACCINE2　　　　What is your main objection for not taking the vaccine?
Number of Mentions: (The responses to this open-ended question sometimes fell into more than one category.)

1. NOT SAFE (25)
2. NOT EFFECTIVE (3)
3. DON'T TRUST GOVERNMENT (3)
4. NOT NECESSARY (COVID IS NOT DANGEROUS) (6)
5. OPPOSE ALL VACCINATIONS (6)
6. CONSPIRACY THEORY/MISINFORMATION (3)
7. NEEDS FURTHER TESTING (20)
8. OTHER [OPN] (61)
77. DON'T KNOW (2)
99. REFUSED (1)

CONTROL　　　　Do you think coronavirus in Orange County is completely under control, mostly under control, somewhat under control or not under control at all?

1. COMPLETELY UNDER CONTROL
2. MOSTLY UNDER CONTROL
4. SOMEWHAT UNDER CONTROL
3. NOT UNDER CONTROL
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
COMPLETELY	5	0	2	2
MOSTLY	26	10	17	17
SOMEWHAT	54	56	54	55
NOT UNDER CONTROL	15	33	27	25

RELIEF

In general, do you think the federal government's relief packages to deal with the economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic are too much, just about right, or too little?

1. TOO MUCH
2. JUST ABOUT RIGHT
3. TOO LITTLE
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP[1]	TOTAL
TOO MUCH	36	2	16	17
RIGHT	32	35	34	34
TOO LITTLE	32	62	51	49

MASK

Do you support a national mask mandate?

1. YES
2. NO
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
YES	39	94	73	70
NO	61	6	27	30

SOCIAL

Do you support the current rules on social distancing?

1. YES
2. NO
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
YES	81	98	90	90
NO	19	2	10	10

[1] No Party Preference. Includes minor parties (e.g, Green and Peace and Freedom, and those who say they do not align with either party.)

SHOME

In general, do you think government mandates to fight the coronavirus go too far? Not go far enough? Or is it just about right?" [INTERVIEWER: MANDATES INCLUDE THE STAY AT HOME ORDER, MASKS, SOCIAL DISTANCING)

1. TOO FAR
2. NOT FAR ENOUGH
3. JUST ABOUT RIGHT
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP[1]	TOTAL
TOO FAR	60	2	24	27
NOT FAR ENOUGH	14	52	37	35
ABOUT RIGHT	26	45	39	38

BIDEN

How much confidence do you have in the following groups and individuals to deal with the coronavirus pandemic?

President Joe Biden

1. A GREAT DEAL OF CONFIDENCE
2. A FAIR AMOUNT OF CONFIDENCE
3. NOT VERY MUCH CONFIDENCE
4. NO CONFIDENCE AT ALL

FAUCI

How much confidence do you have in the following groups and individuals to deal with the coronavirus pandemic?

Dr. Anthony Fauci

1. A GREAT DEAL OF CONFIDENCE
2. A FAIR AMOUNT OF CONFIDENCE
3. NOT VERY MUCH CONFIDENCE
4. NO CONFIDENCE AT ALL

NEWSOM   How much confidence do you have in the following groups and individuals to deal with the coronavirus pandemic?

Governor Gavin Newsom

1. A GREAT DEAL OF CONFIDENCE
2. A FAIR AMOUNT OF CONFIDENCE
3. NOT VERY MUCH CONFIDENCE
4. NO CONFIDENCE AT ALL

OCBOS   How much confidence do you have in the following groups and individuals to deal with the coronavirus pandemic?

The Orange County Board of Supervisors

1. A GREAT DEAL OF CONFIDENCE
2. A FAIR AMOUNT OF CONFIDENCE
3. NOT VERY MUCH CONFIDENCE
4. NO CONFIDENCE AT ALL

HEALTHD   How much confidence do you have in the following groups and individuals to deal with the coronavirus pandemic?

The Orange County Health Care Agency

1. A GREAT DEAL OF CONFIDENCE
2. A FAIR AMOUNT OF CONFIDENCE
3. NOT VERY MUCH CONFIDENCE
4. NO CONFIDENCE AT ALL

BARNES   How much confidence do you have in the following groups and individuals to deal with the coronavirus pandemic?

Orange County Sheriff Don Barnes

1. A GREAT DEAL OF CONFIDENCE
2. A FAIR AMOUNT OF CONFIDENCE
3. NOT VERY MUCH CONFIDENCE
4. NO CONFIDENCE AT ALL

	BIDEN	FAUCI	NEWSOM	BOS	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	BARNES
GREAT DEAL	27	40	14	9	16	22
SOME	37	29	32	47	58	39
LITTLE	17	14	22	26	16	19
NONE	19	17	32	18	9	20

SCHOOLS   Smith and Jones also disagree about school closures. SMITH believes public schools should remain closed until the threat of the virus has passed. JONES believes the coronavirus does not pose a serious threat to young people and schools should reopen immediately **provided proper precautions are taken.**

Who do you agree with more, SMITH or JONES?
1. SMITH
2. JONES
3. DK

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
CLOSED	16	69	46	44
OPEN	84	31	54	56

III. CLIMATE CHANGE SCOPE OF PROBLEM

TRANS2   Now I'd like to ask you about the environment.

REAL   From what you know about global climate change or global
                warming, which of the following four statements comes
                closest to your views?

                1. GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE HAS BEEN
                ESTABLISHED AS A SERIOUS PROBLEM AND
                IMMEDIATE ACTION IS NECESSARY.

                2. THERE IS ENOUGH EVIDENCE THAT
                CLIMATE CHANGE IS TAKING PLACE
                AND SOME ACTION IS REQUIRED.

                3. WE DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT GLOBAL
                CLIMATE CHANGE, AND MORE RESEARCH IS
                NECESSARY BEFORE WE TAKE ANY ACTIONS.

                4. CONCERN ABOUT GLOBAL CLIMATE
                CHANGE IS UNWARRANTED.

                7. DK/NR
                9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
SERIOUS PROB	12	78	52	48
SOME ACTION REQ	36	14	29	25
MORE RESEARCH	37	5	12	19
UNWARRANTED	15	2	7	8

CLIMATE   How serious a problem would you say is the threat of
           climate change? Would you say: very serious, somewhat
           serious, not very serious, or not a problem at all?

           1. VERY SERIOUS
           2. SOMEWHAT SERIOUS
           3. NOT VERY SERIOUS
           4. NOT A PROBLEM
           7. DK/NR
           9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
VERY SERIOUS	16	83	62	53
SOMEWHAT	42	14	21	26
NOT SERIOUS	29	1	10	14
NOT PROBLEM	13	1	7	7

ENVLAW   Do (A) Stricter environmental laws and regulations cost too
          many jobs and hurt the economy or are (B) stricter
          environmental laws and regulations are worth the cost.

          1. STRICTER ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS
          COST JOBS/HURT ECONOMY
          2. STRICTER ENVIRONMENTAL
          LAWS WORTH THE COST
          7. DK/NR
          9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
HURT ECONOMY	74	12	36	39
WORTH COST	26	88	64	61

33

WORRIED   How worried are you about climate change?

1. VERY WORRIED   34%
2. SOMEWHAT WORRIED   35%
3. NOT VERY WORRIED   18%
5. NOT AT ALL WORRIED 13%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
VERY	8	58	33	34
SOMEWHAT	31	37	38	35
NOT VERY WORRIED	32	4	19	18
NOT AT ALL	29	0	11	13

IMPACT   Is climate change something that is affecting you personally
right now, do you believe that it will affect you primarily
later in your life, or do you believe it will primarily
affect future generations?

1. RIGHT NOW
2. IN YOUR LIFE
3. AFFECT FUTURE GENERATIONS
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
NOW	4	21	15	14
LIFETIME	8	27	13	16
FUTURE GEN	68	51	64	60
NEVER	20	2	8	10

CABANICE Do you support Gov. Gavin Newsom's executive order to require all new cars sold to be zero-emission vehicles by 2035?

1. YES
2. NO
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
YES	22	85	52	54
NO	78	15	48	46

WHYWARM What do you believe is the primary cause of climate change? Is it mainly caused by human activities or mainly caused by normal climate cycles

1. MAINLY CAUSED BY HUMAN ACTIVITIES
2. MAINLY CAUSED BY NORMAL CLIMATE CYCLES
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
HUMAN ACTIVITIES	39	93	75	70
NATURAL	61	7	25	30

SB100 Do you favor or oppose the state law that requires that requires 100% of the state's electricity to come from renewable energy sources by 2045 even if this costs you more for electricity?

1. FAVOR
2. OPPOSE
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
FAVOR	30	84	59	58
OPPOSE	70	16	41	42

IV. OCISSUES

TRANS3   Now I'd like to turn to some issues that affect Orange County.

BIGPROB   What would you say is the biggest problem facing people in the Orange County area today? OPEN ENDED

[INTERVIEWER: DO NOT READ RESPONSE OPTIONS.
CODE NUMBERED RESPONSE. OR JUST HAVE
PERSON BRIEFLY SAY THE RESPONSE TO QUESTION]

1. CRIME, GANGS
2. SCHOOLS, EDUCATION
3. TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION
4. GROWTH, POPULATION, DEVELOPMENT
5. IMMIGRATION
6. DRUGS, DRUG ABUSE
7. ENVIRONMENT, POLLUTION
8. JOBS, THE ECONOMY
9. MORALITY, VALUES
10. HOUSING AFFORDABILITY, HOMELESS
11. POVERTY, THE POOR
12. LOCAL GOVERNMENT
13. SCHOOLS, EDUCATION
14. HIGH TAXES
15. OTHER (SPECIFY)
16. CORONAVIRUS
77. DK/NR
99. REFUSED

TOP THREE:

1. HOUSING AFFORDABILITY, HOMELESS
2. JOBS, THE ECONOMY
3. CORONAVIRUS

BLM   In general do you support or oppose the Black Lives Matter movement?

1. SUPPORT
2. OPPOSE
7. DK/NR

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
SUPPORT	22	95	73	65
OPPOSE	78	5	27	35

Police

In the area around where you live, how are the police doing in each of the following?

P1 Maintaining public safety

1. EXCELLENT
2. GOOD
3. FAIR
4. POOR
7. DK

P2 Treating your community with respect

1. EXCELLENT
2. GOOD
3. FAIR
4. POOR
7. DK

P3 Responding with the appropriate amount of officers

1. EXCELLENT
2. GOOD
3. FAIR
4. POOR
7. DK

P4 Gaining the trust of local residents

1. EXCELLENT
2. GOOD
3. FAIR
4. POOR
7. DK

P5 Responding to the mental health crises

1. EXCELLENT
2. GOOD
3. FAIR
4. POOR
7. DK

	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
MAINTAINING PUBLIC SAFETY	42	34	19	5
TREATING YOUR COMMUNITY WITH RESPECT	40	36	19	5
RESPONDING WITH THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF OFFICERS	36	33	23	9
GAINING THE TRUST OF LOCAL RESIDENTS	32	35	25	8
RESPONDING TO THE MENTAL HEALTH CRISES	13	26	33	29

ORANGEC   How would you rate the Orange County area in general as a place to live? Would you say: excellent, good, fair, or poor?

1. EXCELLENT
2. GOOD
3. FAIR
4. POOR
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
EXCELLENT	43	35	38	38
GOOD	43	48	40	45
FAIR	11	15	18	15
POOR	2	2	4	2

FUTUREOC   As you look ahead 5 to 6 years from now, do you think the quality of living conditions in the Orange County area will be better, worse, or about the same?

1. GETTING BETTER
2. GETTING WORSE
3. STAYED ABOUT THE SAME
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
BETTER	8	25	16	18
WORSE	41	15	26	26
SAME	51	59	58	56

NEXT3YRS   What about 3 or 4 years down the road? Do you think you'll be better off, worse off, or about the same as today?

1. BETTER OFF
2. WORSE OFF
3. ABOUT THE SAME
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

	REP	DEM	NPP	TOTAL
BETTER	23	35	31	30
WORSE	19	6	11	12
SAME	57	59	58	58

POLITICAL PROFILE

PARTY   Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or Democratic Party?

1. REPUBLICAN PARTY   36
2. DEMOCRATIC PARTY   40
3. NEITHER PARTY OR DECLINE TO STATE   24

IDEOLOGY   Next, do you consider yourself to be politically… [READ LIST, ALTERNATE PRESENTATION ORDER TOP TO BOTTOM]

1. VERY LIBERAL   9
2. SOMEWHAT LIBERAL   20
3. MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD   34
4. SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE   27
5. VERY CONSERVATIVE   11
9. REFUSED

DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS

[IF RESPONDENT REFUSES ANY DEMO QUESTION,
SAY: "WE UNDERSTAND AND RESPECT THAT
THIS INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL, WE ASK
ONLY FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES AND
WILL KEEP ALL OF THIS INFORMATION
ABSOLUTELY ANONYMOUS"]

YEARBORN   Finally, we have a few demographic questions. In what year
                  were you born?

                  1. SPECIFY (E.G. 1972) [OPEN]
                  7. DK/ NR
                  9. REFUSED

PARENT   Are you a parent, stepparent, or legal guardian of any
                  children 18 or younger?

                  1. YES
                  2. NO

EDUC.   What was the last grade of school that you completed?
                  [IF NECESSARY: READ LIST]

                  1. LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA/GED
                  2. HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA/GED
                  3. SOME COLLEGE, NO DEGREE
                  4. ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE
                  5. BACHELOR'S DEGREE
                  6. GRADUATE OR PROFESSIONAL DEGREE (E.G.
                  TEACHING CREDENTIAL, MASTERS, PH.D., JD)
                  7. DK
                  9. REFUSED

RACE   How would you describe your race and ethnicity?

                  [READ LIST; ACCEPT UP TO TWO ANSWERS]
                  [INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT SAYS "INDIAN"
                  PROBE: is that American Indian or Asian Indian?]

                  1. ASIAN
                  2. HISPANIC OR LATINO
                  3. NON-HISPANIC CAUCASIAN OR WHITE
                  4. BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN
                  5. OTHER [SPECIFY]
                  6. MIXED
                  9. REFUSED

ZIPCODE.   For sampling purposes only, may I have your correct zip code?

ZIP>
77777. DON'T KNOW/ NO RESPONSE
99999. REFUSED

INCOME   Finally, which of the following categories best describes
your total annual household income before taxes,
from all sources in 2017[PROBE: your best
estimate is fine AND/OR REREAD LIST BEFORE
ACCEPTING DON'T KNOW OR REFUSED"] [IF
RESPONDENT REFUSES, SAY "We
understand and respect that this information is confidential,
we ask only for research purposes and will keep all of this
information absolutely anonymous"]

Please stop me when I reach the income category that
that is, the income for all members of the
household during the past year?

(READ LIST)

1. LESS THAN $25,000
2. BETWEEN $25,000 to $49,000
3 BETWEEN $50,000 and $75,000
4 BETWEEN $75,000 and $100,000
5. BETWEEN $100,000 and $125,000
6. BETWEEN $125,000 and $150,00
7. MORE THAN $150,000
(77) D (DO NOT READ) Don't know
(99) R (DO NOT READ) Refused

77. DON'T KNOW/ NO RESPONSE
99. REFUSED

CALLBK   FINALLY, would it be OK for Chapman researchers to
contact you at a later time to elaborate on your responses?
If so, could you give us your name and what would be a
good contact number? OPN

ICLANG   INTERVIEWER: RECORD LANGUAGE IN WHICH
INTERVIEW WAS CONDUCTED

1. ENGLISH
2. SPANISH

ICGENDER   INTERVIEWER RECORD GENDER BY OBSERVATION

                  1. MALE
                  2. FEMALE
                  3. COULDN'T TELL

FINITO   THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME, BUT WE
                  ARE ONLY INTERVIEWING PERSONS 18 OR OLDER
                  AND RESIDENTS OF ORANGE COUNTY