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Chapman University’s Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences is pleased to present the 2018 Orange County Annual Survey results. This study and its affiliated conference are made possible by a generous grant provided by Fieldstead and Company. Orange County public opinion research dates back to the early 1980s. Former UC Irvine Prof. Mark Baldassare and Research Associate Cheryl Katz directed the Orange County Annual Survey—a study that we will reference in this report as a benchmark—from 1982 to 2000. After Baldassare left UC Irvine to become Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) Statewide Survey director, the PPIC and UC Irvine conducted the Special Survey of Orange County from 2001 to 2004. We (the authors of this report) and other research associates conducted the State of Orange County Survey in 2010, another study we will reference in this document. We conducted this study in conjunction with Chapman University’s fourth annual local government conference, “Will California Ever Figure Out How to House Itself,” taking place the date of this report’s release, April 5, 2018. You can read the conference’s white papers here: https://www.chapman.edu/wilkinson/about/events/local-government-conference.aspx.

Orange County, CA, is a metropolis that has undergone tremendous change since its founding in 1889—from a ranching and agriculture-based economy, to one focused on defense and entertainment in the 20th century, to a technology- and tourism-based economy today. According to the latest U.S. Census data, Orange County is home to approximately 3,190,400 people, composed of 22.5 percent younger than age 18 and 14.0 percent age 65 and older. Among the county’s racial and Hispanic origin, 41.1 percent identify as white alone, 34.3 percent
as Hispanic or Latino, 20.4 percent Asian alone, 2.1 percent black or African-American alone, 1.1 percent American Indian or Alaska Native alone and 0.4 percent Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander alone. Overall, 30.4 percent of the county’s population is foreign born, and 120,558 veterans live in the county.

The county has 1,090,054 housing units, with a median value of owner-occupied housing units of $584,200. The median gross rent is $1,608. The county is home to 1,017,012 households, resulting in 3.04 persons per household. The county has high education rates, with 84.5 percent of those 25 or older earning a high school diploma and 38.4 percent of those 25 or older earning a bachelor’s degree. The median household income is $78,145, and 11.1 percent of county residents live in poverty. According to national U.S. Census Bureau data, the national median household income in 2016 was $59,039, and 12.7 percent of those living in the United States live in poverty. Therefore, Orange County’s median household income is roughly 76 percent higher than the nation’s, but the county’s poverty rate is comparable to the national rate.

Survey Methodology

I/H/R Research Group conducted the survey telephonically from February 6 through March 4, 2018. There were 706 participants in the study, all adult (18 and older) residents of Orange County. The survey contained 72 percent cell phone (502) and 28 percent landline (198) respondents, 51 percent male and 49 percent female. Eighty-nine percent of respondents were registered to vote. Forty-one percent of the respondents said they were closer to the Republican Party, 38 percent said they felt closer to the Democratic Party, and 22 percent said neither. The survey’s margin of error is 3.7 percent.
Executive Summary

A major takeaway from analyzing the results is that Orange County is no longer a Red County, or a Republican-dominated county, as it was in the 1990s. OC is much more moderate than its conservative reputation suggests. Residents support gun control, environmental protection, DACA, a legal path to citizenship for those in the country illegally, rent control and land-use planning. People in the county are troubled by the growing gap between rich and poor, and they do not think government is doing enough to address the needs of the poor and homeless. Residents see diversity as a source of strength and believe climate change is a serious manmade problem. OC residents are distrustful of Washington, feel the country is going in the wrong direction and favor smaller government, but residents also see government action as a legitimate way to solve problems. A slight plurality would like to see the Democrats in control of the House and nearly two-thirds disapprove of the job the president is doing. This suggests more competitive midterms than seen in recent memory, possibly contributing to a Blue wave.

Regarding housing issues, people like OC, most do not plan to leave despite the high cost of housing and most are satisfied with their present housing arrangement. By an overwhelming margin, people want to own their homes. This is the major reason people move. Single-family detached homes are still preferred by a large margin, but many prefer walkable cities as opposed to being car-dependent. High-rise living is very unpopular. The high price of housing is seen as a serious problem. Half said they do not think their children could afford a home in Orange County. The home ownership dream is not dead, but likely deferred. There is pessimism about the direction Orange County is headed, but optimism about people’s individual financial conditions. Homelessness is a great concern—much greater than the need for affordable housing—and people are willing to tax themselves to resolve it.
Local Conditions

Nearly twice as many people believe quality of living conditions in the county are getting worse versus those who believe conditions are getting better. When asked about quality of living conditions in the Orange County area during the past three or four years, 50 percent believe they have stayed the same, 32 percent believe they are getting worse and 18 percent believe they are getting better. When asked about quality of living conditions in the Orange County area in five to six years, 39 percent believe they will be about the same, 34 percent believe they will be worse and 27 percent believe they will be better.

Additionally, Orange County residents see the area’s diversity as a source of strength. As discussed previously, a large percentage—30.4 percent—of the county’s residents are foreign born and the county is ethnically diverse. When we asked about the county’s increasing ethnic diversity, 71 percent believe it is a source of great strength, and 29 percent believe it is a growing problem. Sixty-four percent believe immigrants generally contribute more to the U.S. economy, and 36 percent believe immigrants take more.

County residents’ views toward immigration have changed since 2010. When we asked residents if immigrants are a benefit or a burden that year, 35 percent replied that they are a benefit because of their hard work and job skills, while 54 percent said that they are a burden because they use public services. Perhaps one can attribute these changes to economic conditions. For example, as Gallup’s 2015 study “Economic Outlook Shapes Views of Immigration” states, “Worldwide, the study finds people who say their economic situations are ‘poor’ or ‘getting worse’ are more likely to favor lower immigration levels in their countries. The reverse is also true: Those who see their situations as ‘good’ or ‘getting better’ are more likely to
want to see higher levels of immigration.” OC in 2018 may have a more favorable view of immigrants because the U.S. economy is stronger than it was in 2010.

| 2010: (A) Immigrants today are a benefit to California because of their hard work and job skills, or (B) immigrants today are a burden to California because they use public services. |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Immigrants today are a benefit to California because of their hard work and job skills | 40% |
| Immigrants today are a burden to California because they use public services | 50% |
| Don’t know/no response | 10% |

2018: Do immigrants to the U.S. generally (A) take more from the American economy than they contribute/or: (do they) (B) contribute more than they take?

| Take more from the American economy than they contribute | 36% |
| Contribute more than they take | 64% |

Respondents across all racial groups believe the county’s ethnic diversity is a source of strength by wide margins, but there were major differences among these groups when asked if immigrants to the U.S. generally take more from the American economy than they contribute. Respondents who identified as Asian and Hispanic or Latino believe immigrants contribute more (88 percent to 12 percent and 83 percent to 17 percent, respectively). Those who identified as Caucasian or white, but not Hispanic; black or African-American; and other were divided somewhat evenly.

Economic Conditions

Orange County residents have varied views toward economic conditions and economic inequality. Participants were asked, “How serious a problem would it be for the country if the gap between the rich and poor gets significantly bigger?” Sixty-two percent see this as a very serious problem. A combined 84 percent see this issue as either very serious or somewhat serious and 16 percent see this as not much of a problem.
Separately, people are optimistic about their individual conditions. When we asked about people’s personal financial situation during the last few years, 46 percent said it has stayed about the same, 37 percent said it was getting better and 17 percent getting worse. A substantial 49 percent believe they will be better off in three to four years, compared with 39 percent who believe their situation will be about the same and 12 percent who believe they will be worse off. There was somewhat similar personal optimism in 2004. That year’s PPIC Special Survey of Orange County asked residents, “Looking ahead, do you think that a year from now you (and your family) will be better off, worse off, or just about the same as now?” Forty-eight percent responded with “same,” 41 percent “better off,” and 7 percent “worse off.”

Fifty-four percent believe their personal financial situation is about the same compared to the rest of the county, 31 percent believe they are better off, and 15 percent worse off. The next section explains residents’ negative views toward the president and country’s direction, but this pessimism does not apply to people’s perspectives for themselves.

National Issues

It is evident that Orange County residents’ views on national issues are evolving, and the county’s elected leaders’ positions are no longer in line with OC residents on key issues. When asked about the threat of climate change or global warming, 57 percent see the issue as very serious, and a combined total of 79 percent see the problem as either very serious or somewhat serious. Sixty-four percent of respondents believe stricter environmental laws and regulations are worth the cost, while 36 percent believe such laws and regulations cost too many jobs and hurt the economy. When asked about the primary causes of climate change or global warming, 70 percent believe it is mainly caused by human activities, and 30 percent believe it is mainly caused by climate cycles. It is noteworthy that a majority of OC Republicans (56 percent) see
climate change as either very serious or somewhat serious. We refer to OC Republicans who recognize the seriousness of climate change as eco-Republicans. The eco-Republican does not favor big government agencies such as the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency, and these Republicans are opposed to regulations that limit pollution and tell businesses what to do. However, in Orange County, these Republicans care about the environment when factors such as the weather and climate affect their quality of life.

Views on climate change this year are strikingly different than eight years ago. When we conducted the 2010 State of Orange County Survey, we found that only half of the sample was confident that climate change was even real (53 percent), and for the rest (47 percent), the jury was still out. Nearly four times as many Democrats (41 percent) than Republicans (11 percent) in 2010 felt that global climate change had been established as a serious problem. The majority of Republicans (62 percent) were not convinced that global climate change was real.

Undocumented immigration is another significant issue in which opinions have changed. When asked about how to handle undocumented immigrants living in the U.S., a considerable percentage—83 percent—stated that having a way for them to stay legally comes closer to their view, and 17 percent believe they should not be allowed to stay. While a vast majority of county Democrats (96 percent) favor a way for undocumented immigrants to stay legally, a large majority of county Republicans (71 percent) also share this view. Regarding Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), 78 percent are in favor and 22 percent are opposed. Ninety-six percent of Democrats favor DACA, as do a majority of Republicans (57 percent).

The survey results indicate that a Blue wave may approach OC voting booths this year, and there is general pessimism with the country’s direction. When asked, “Do you think the United States is headed in the right direction or wrong direction?” a large number—60 percent—
responded with “wrong direction” compared to 40 percent who responded with “right direction.” Across party lines, 73 percent of OC Republicans believe the country is headed in the right direction, while 11 percent of county Democrats and 27 percent who identified as part of neither party believe the country is going in the right direction. Those who identified as Asian, Hispanic or Latino, black or African-American and other chose “wrong direction” by substantial margins. Those who identified as Caucasian or white, but not Hispanic, believe the country is headed in the right direction by a 56 percent to 44 percent margin.

Orange County residents also exhibited a bleak outlook in 2010. Facing a struggling national economy, 57 percent stated that the nation was headed in the wrong direction, and 51 percent disapproved of the way the president was handling his job. Given California’s budget deficit, political gridlock and high unemployment in 2010, 87 percent believed that California was headed in the wrong direction. Contrast this with the 2004 PPIC Special Survey of Orange County. Respondents were asked, “Do you think things in the United States is generally going in the right direction or the wrong direction?” Fifty-seven percent responded with “right direction” and 38 percent “wrong direction.”

Trust in the government is low this year. When asked, “How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right?” a combined 21 percent responded with either “Just About Always” or “Most of the Time.” A combined 79 percent responded, “Only Some of the Time” or “Never.” These percentages are also consistent with the nation. This is a decline from previous years. When asked about trust in government for the 2004 PPIC survey, a combined 40 percent responded with either “Just About Always” or “Most of the Time,” and a combined 58 percent responded, “some of the time” or “none of the time.”
OC residents still prefer small government, but residents also see government action as a legitimate way to solve problems. For example, respondents were asked “Would you say government is trying to do too many things that should be left to individuals and businesses?” Fifty-six percent responded that “government should do less,” and 44 percent responded that “government should do more.”

However, county residents also see government as having the ability to address societal problems. Gun control is one example. When asked if the government goes too far in restricting the rights of citizens to own guns, a very large number—71 percent—believe the government does not do enough, while 29 percent believe the government goes too far. County Democrats believe the government does not do enough by a 94 percent to 6 percent margin, but OC Republicans are relatively split; 51 percent believe the government goes too far, and 49 percent believe the government does not do enough. As written earlier, data collection for this report took place from February 6 to March 4, 2018. The Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland, FL, took place February 14, 2018. Thus, gun control advocacy made frequent national headlines during much of the data collection process and may have affected the results.

Support for gun control among OC residents has increased since 2010. That year, 52 percent of respondents agreed with the statement “Government does not do enough to regulate access to guns.” In the 2000 UCI study, 63 percent agreed with that statement. There were strong differences this year among political groups. Seventy-five percent of Democrats said that the government did not do enough to regulate guns, whereas most Republicans (56 percent) felt that the government did too much. Once again, views are changing in the county.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The government goes too far in restricting the rights of citizens to own guns</th>
<th>Democratic Party</th>
<th>Republican Party</th>
<th>Neither</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democratic Party</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
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The government does not do enough to regulate access to guns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democratic</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither</td>
<td>68%</td>
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As written earlier, respondents see a potential growing gap between the rich and poor as a serious problem. When asked, “Do you agree or disagree that the government should take action to reduce income differences between rich and poor?” a combined 57 percent either strongly agreed or slightly agreed (37 percent of whom strongly agreed), while a combined 42 percent either slightly disagree or strongly disagree. Respondents were asked, “As a national program, do you think we’re now spending too little, too much, or about the right amount of money on improving the conditions of the poor?” Sixty-seven percent feel we are spending too little, 15 percent too much and 18 percent the right amount. The county is changing.

Political Attitudes

Orange County has traditionally been considered a Republican stronghold. Richard Nixon and John Wayne are from the area, and Ronald Reagan commenced his political career in OC. Republicans once had a 22 percent advantage in voter registration (1990). This margin began to shrink year by year, and in 2016, the Democratic nominee for president won Orange County for the first time since Franklin Delano Roosevelt won the county in 1936. Today, the Republican advantage over Democrats is 2.8 percent. Two reasons for the shrinking Republican advantage are the growing Latino electorate—a majority of whom vote Democratic—and voters between ages 18 and 34 trend Democratic.

When respondents were asked if they approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president, a substantial percentage—63 percent—expressed disapproval, while 37 percent expressed approval. This OC now more of a geographical area that lines up
with the rest of the nation in terms of presidential approval ratings. (As of March 2018, a FiveThirtyEight aggregate poll showed that Trump’s national approval rating was 40.6 percent and his disapproval rating 54.1 percent.) Responses to many domestic and national issues were split considerably across party lines. For example, Trump’s approval rating among OC Democrats is 5 percent, and it is 26 percent among those who selected “neither” for political party. However, the president has a 75 percent approval rating among the county’s Republicans. Respondents who identified as Hispanic or Latino expressed disapproval of the president by the widest margin (83 percent disapprove versus 16 percent approve), followed by respondents who identified as Asian (82 percent disapprove versus 18 percent approve), and black or African American (79 percent disapprove versus 21 percent approve).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donald Trump’s approval rating</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democratic Party</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican Party</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

President Donald Trump’s approval rating in the county is strikingly different than the previous Republican president. In 2004, when the PPIC asked OC residents about their overall approval or disapproval of the way that George W. Bush handled his job as president, 57 percent approved, and 40 percent disapproved.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>57%</td>
<td>37%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In response to the question as to whether the country would be better off if Republicans or Democrats controlled Congress, 27 percent believe that the country would be better off with a Republican-controlled Congress, 31 percent favor a Democratic-controlled Congress, and 42 percent believe the situation would be the same regardless of the party in control. These responses demonstrate (1) Orange County, a traditionally conservative county, has experienced a
major shift in political preferences; and (2) there is significant cynicism and a lack of trust toward government.

Housing and Homelessness

Despite housing affordability concerns (discussed shortly), people like living in Orange County, and most do not plan to leave. When asked if they would like to move from their current residence in the next one to two years, 56 percent responded with no and 44 percent responded with yes, and when asked how likely they are to move in the next one to two years, 60 percent responded with not very likely. In rating the Orange County area in general as a place to live, a combined 79 percent rate the area as excellent or good, a substantial number. This is compared to the combined 21 percent who rate the area as either fair or poor. In stating their current housing arrangements, a combined 89 percent stated they are either very satisfied or somewhat satisfied, while a combined 11 percent are either somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

Residents’ satisfaction with living in Orange County was also very high in 2004, when the PPIC released its final Special Survey of Orange County. That year, when asked, “Overall, how satisfied are you with the house or apartment you live in?” a combined 94 percent responded with “very satisfied” or “satisfied.” When asked “Overall, how satisfied are you with the neighborhood you live in,” a combined 93 percent answered “very satisfied” or “satisfied.”

Former U.S. Rep. Leonard Boswell once said, “The American Dream is one of success, home ownership, college education for one’s children, and have a secure job to provide these and other goals.” This dream of owning one’s own home is still alive in Orange County. A massive combined 90 percent stated that it is either extremely important, very important or somewhat important to own their own residence, with 75 percent stating that it is either extremely important or very important. Single-family detached homes are still preferred. An enormous 80 percent
prefer a single-family detached home, versus the remaining 20 percent who prefer an attached home, apartment or other type of dwelling. One’s type of community drew an almost even split between two options. Respondents were asked, “If you could choose where to live in the Orange County area, which would you prefer assuming costs were the same?” Forty-nine percent answered, “a smaller home in a more urbanized area, within walking distance of shops and workplaces.” Meanwhile, 46 percent chose, “a single-family home with a big yard, where you would need to drive almost everywhere you want to go.” High-rise living is not popular in OC, as only 5 percent responded, “a more densely packed neighborhood filled with high-rises and other amenities.”

Despite people’s overall satisfaction with living in OC, housing costs are a big concern. When asked an open-ended question about the biggest problem facing people in the Orange County area, by far, the two most frequent responses were “housing affordability” (27 percent) and “poverty, the poor, homeless, welfare” (24 percent). “Traffic and transportation” received 10 percent of responses, “jobs, the economy” 6 percent and “growth, population, development” 5 percent. OC residents also considered this a significant problem in the final PPIC Special Survey of Orange County (2004). That year, a combined 81 percent considered the availability of housing that one could afford a big problem or somewhat of a problem. In 2004, when asked about the most important issues facing Orange County, 18 percent responded with “housing costs; housing availability,” 17 percent “population growth; too much development; sprawl,” 13 percent “traffic; transportation,” 10 percent “jobs, economy, unemployment” and 8 percent “immigration, illegal immigration.” Twenty years ago, in the 1998 UC Irvine Orange County Annual Survey, 30 percent considered crime the county’s most serious problem, 12 percent schools, 11 percent traffic, 9 percent the El Toro Airport controversy and 6 percent the economy.
Orange County’s biggest problems in 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing affordability</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty, the poor, homeless, welfare</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic and transportation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobs, the economy</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth, population, development</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A combined 66 percent stated that Orange County’s high cost of housing is either a very serious or somewhat serious concern for them and their families. In comparing home owners against renters, a combined 54 percent of owners answered either “very serious” or “somewhat serious,” while a combined 85 percent of renters responded with “very serious” or “somewhat serious.” When asked about the likelihood of being able to find a home they can afford and would like to buy in the county, a combined 49 percent said it was either not very likely or not at all likely, versus 51 percent who said it was very likely or somewhat likely that they would be able to find a home they could afford and would like to buy. When asked if housing costs make respondents and their families seriously consider moving away from the county, 68 percent responded no, 21 percent responded with yes and a desire to leave the state and 11 percent responded with yes and a desire to move elsewhere in California. There was a noteworthy divide between owners and renters. Twenty percent of owners responded yes (considering either elsewhere in California or outside the state) and 80 percent no, while 48 percent of renters responded yes and 52 percent no. Renters constitute the largest group considering moving outside the state (29 percent of renters versus 15 percent of owners).

Yet, despite housing cost concerns, 70 percent agreed with the statement, “Housing prices are high here, but Orange County is worth it.” Meanwhile, 30 percent agreed with, “I want to move out of Orange County because housing prices are so high.” There was a significant divide between owners and renters. Seventy-six percent of owners agree with “Housing prices are high here, but Orange County is worth it” versus 60 percent of renters. Twenty-four percent
of owners agree with “I want to move out of Orange County because housing prices are so high” versus 40 percent of renters.

Fifty-six percent of county residents see affordable housing availability as a serious problem, and a combined 88 percent see the problem as either very or somewhat serious. OC residents favor rent-control laws by a 59 percent to 41 percent margin, and county residents were split evenly (50 percent-50 percent) when asked if they think their children will be able to purchase a residence in Orange County. When asked if we need land-use planning to guide development or if people or industry should be free to build whatever they want, a large number—82 percent—prefer land-use planning, while 18 percent believe industry should be free to build wherever they want. Members of both major political parties (and those who identify as members of neither) favor land-use planning by very large margins.

Despite the concern that the county has for affordable housing, the gap between rich and poor and homelessness, there is a significant not-in-my-backyard, or NIMBY, attitude. Given the choice between more or less affordable housing being built in their neighborhoods, 70 percent prefer less development of affordable housing in their neighborhoods, compared with 30 percent who believe affordable housing should be built in their neighborhoods to increase supply and prevent prices from rising.

Sixty-six percent of county residents consider homelessness a very serious problem, and a combined 91 percent see the issue as either very or somewhat serious. Members of both major political parties and those who affiliate with neither see the issue as serious or somewhat serious by a wide margin. People are willing to tax themselves to address homelessness. Los Angeles County residents in 2017 approved Measure H, a quarter-cent sales tax intended to generate revenue to address homelessness. We asked Orange County residents if they would support a
quarter-cent tax to fight homelessness in OC. A wide majority—63 percent—responded yes and 37 percent responded no.

Conclusions

We see a county that is changing dramatically, and Red County does not describe Orange County anymore. The county’s distinctive political culture of the 1960s through 1990s seems to be slipping away. Public opinion on immigration, DACA, the environment and gun control shows that OC is looking more like the State of California and more like the nation. Change is coming, it is irreversible and it is led by the county’s Latinos and young.

Contact Fred Smoller at fredsmoller@gmail.com. Michael A. (Mike) Moodian’s website is www.moodian.com, and you can contact him at drmike@moodian.com. Special thanks to Santina Busalacchi (’21) for the excellent cover design for this report and for designing the corresponding conference poster.
INTRO1 Hello, my name is __________, and I'm calling from a public opinion research center 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. May I ask my questions now?

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 Register. 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]

OVERALL MOOD

PREZAPP First, overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Donald Trump is handling his job as President?

1. APPROVE--37%%
2. DISAPPROVE--63%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

DIRECTION Do you think the United States is headed in the right direction or the wrong direction?
APPENDIX: THE ORANGE COUNTY ANNUAL SURVEY--2018
FINAL with Results

1. RIGHT DIRECTION--40%
2. WRONG DIRECTION--60%
7. DK NR
9. REFUSED

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, or only some of the time?

1. JUST ABOUT ALWAYS--2%
2. MOST OF THE TIME--19%
3. ONLY SOME OF THE TIME--65%
4. NEVER--14%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

CONGRESS

Do you think the country would be better off if the Republicans controlled Congress, if the Democrats controlled Congress, or would the country be the same regardless of which party controlled Congress?

1. REPUBLICANS CONTROLLED CONGRESS--27%
2. DEMOCRATS CONTROLLED CONGRESS--31%
3. SAME REGARDLESS OF WHICH PARTY IS IN CONTROL--42%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

POLITICAL PROFILE

TRANS1

Now I’d like to ask you about some of major issues affecting the country. Please tell me if the first statement or the second statement comes closer to your views—even if neither is exactly right….

GUNS1

(A) The government goes too far in restricting the rights of citizens to own guns (B) the government does not do enough to regulate access to guns.

1. THE GOVERNMENT GOES TOO FAR--29%
2. THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT DO ENOUGH--71%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED
ENVLAW  (A) Stricter environmental laws and regulations cost too many jobs and hurt the economy (B) stricter environmental laws and regulations are worth the cost.

1. STRICTER ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS COST JOBS--36%
2. STRICTER ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS ARE WORTH THE COST--64%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

LANDUSE  (A) We need land-use planning to guide development, or (B) people and industry should be free to build wherever they want.

1. LAND USE PLANNING--82%
2. FREE TO BUILD WHAT THEY WANT--18%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

SIZEGOVT (A) Government is trying to do too many things that should be left to individuals and businesses; or (B) Government should do more to solve the problems of individual people.

1. GOVERNMENT SHOULD DO LESS--56%
2. GOVERNMENT SHOULD DO MORE.--44%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

NIMYIMBY (A) More affordable housing should NOT be built in my neighborhood even if that means the price of housing will continue to climb; or (B) More affordable housing SHOULD be built in my neighborhood in order to increase supply and help keep prices from rising.

1. LESS DEVELOPMENT--70%
2. MORE DEVELOPMENT--30%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED
GAPGROWS2  How serious a problem would it be for the country if the gap between the rich and poor gets significantly bigger than it is today? Would you say: very serious, somewhat serious, or not much of a problem?

1. VERY SERIOUS--62%
2. SOMEWHAT SERIOUS--22%
3. NOT MUCH OF A PROBLEM--16%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

LESDIFF14  Do you agree or disagree that the government should take action to reduce income differences between rich and poor in America. Do you strongly agree, slightly agree, slightly disagree, or strongly disagree?

1. STRONGLY AGREE--37%
2. SLIGHTLY AGREE--20%
3. SLIGHTLY DISAGREE--16%
4. STRONGLY DISAGREE--26%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

POVERTY  As a national program, do you think we’re now spending too little, too much, or about the right amount of money on improving the conditions of the poor?

1. TOO MUCH--15%
2. TOO LITTLE--67%
3. RIGHT AMOUNT--18%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

WARMING  How serious a problem would you say is the threat of climate change or global warming? Would you say: very serious, somewhat serious, or not very serious?

1. VERY SERIOUS--57%
2. SOMEWHAT SERIOUS--22%
3. NOT VERY SERIOUS--21%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED
WHYWARM What do you believe is the primary cause of climate change or global warming? Is it [ROTATE]

1. MAINLY CAUSED BY HUMAN ACTIVITIES.--70%
2. MAINLY CAUSED BY NORMAL CLIMATE CYCLES--30%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

TRANS2 Now I’d like to turn to some issues that affect Orange County.

BIGPROB2 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--4%
2. SCHOOLS, EDUCATION--2%
3. TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION--10%
4. GROWTH, POPULATION, DEVELOPMENT--5%
5. IMMIGRATION--4%
6. DRUGS, DRUG ABUSE--1%
7. ENVIRONMENT, POLLUTION--1%
8. JOBS, THE ECONOMY--6%
9. MORALITY, VALUES--1%
10. HOUSING, AFFORDABILITY,--27%
11. POVERTY, THE POOR, HOMELESS, WELFARE--24%
12. LOCAL GOVERNMENT--4%
13. HIGH TAXES--2%
13. OTHER (SPECIFY)--10%
77. DK/NR
99. REFUSED

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--40%
2. GOOD--39%
3. FAIR--18%
4. POOR--3%
When thinking about the quality of living conditions in the Orange County area over the past 3 or 4 years, do you think conditions have been getting better, getting worse, or have they stayed about the same?

1. GETTING BETTER--18%
2. GETTING WORSE--32%
3. STAYED ABOUT THE SAME--50%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

As you look ahead 5 to 6 years from now, do you think the quality of living conditions in the Orange County area in the year 2023 will be better, worse, or about the same?

1. GETTING BETTER--27%
2. GETTING WORSE--34%
3. STAYED ABOUT THE SAME--39%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

What about you personally, during the last few years, has your financial situation been getting better, getting worse, or has it stayed about the same?

1. GETTING BETTER--37%
2. GETTING WORSE--17%
3. STAYED ABOUT THE SAME--46%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

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--49%
2. WORSE OFF--12%
3. ABOUT THE SAME--39%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED
NEWQ
In the last few years, in terms of your personal financial situation, compared to the rest of Orange County, do you think you are better off, worse off, or about the same?

1. BETTER OFF -- 31%
2. WORSE OFF -- 15%
3. ABOUT THE SAME -- 54%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

IMMIGRATION

ETHSOK
Do you think that the increasing ethnic diversity in Orange County will eventually become [ROTATE]: a source of great strength for the region / or: a growing problem for the region?

1. SOURCE OF STRENGTH -- 71%
2. GROWING PROBLEM -- 29%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

IMMIGBAD
Do immigrants to the U.S. generally (A) take more from the American economy than they contribute / or: (do they) (B) contribute more than they take?

1. TAKE MORE -- 36%
2. CONTRIBUTE MORE -- 64%

IMMIG2
Which comes closer to your view about how to handle undocumented immigrants who are living in the US? There should be a way for them to stay in the country legally, if certain requirements are met, or they should not be allowed to stay in this country legally?

1. A WAY FOR THEM TO STAY LEGALLY -- 83%
2. NOT BE ALLOWED TO STAY -- 17%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED
DACA

Do you favor or oppose, DACA, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, which is a policy that grants temporary legal status to "dreamers," otherwise law-abiding children and young adults who were brought into the United States at a very young age by parents who are undocumented immigrants.

1. FAVOR DACA--78%
2. OPPOSE DACA--22%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

HOUSING MODULE

HOWLONG2  How many years have you lived in Orange County? OPEN

LIVERES  And how many years have you lived in your current residence? [OPEN]

DWELLING  Is the place you currently live a single-family detached home; an attached home such as a condo, duplex, or townhome; an apartment; or another type of dwelling?

1. SINGLE-FAMILY DETACHED HOME  [No common wall]--51%
2. ATTACHED HOME [common wall]--20%
3. APARTMENT--23%
4. OTHER TYPE--6%
7. DON'T KNOW
9. REFUSED

HOUSSIT  Do you currently rent or own your residence?

1. OWN--56%
2. RENT--41%
3. OTHER--3%

IMPOWN  How important is it to you to own your own residence?

1. EXTREMELY IMPORTANT--43%
2. VERY IMPORTANT--32%
3. SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT--15%
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3. NOT VERY IMPORTANT AT ALL--10%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

Housing
How satisfied are you with your current housing arrangement?

1. VERY SATISFIED--54%
2. SOMEWHAT SATISFIED--35%
3. SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED--7%
4. VERY DISSATISFIED--4%
7. DK/NR
9. REFUSED

LKMOVE1
Would you like to move from your current residence in the next 1-2 years?

1. YES--44%
2. NO---------------------------SKPTO LIKELYMO--56%
9. OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)--SKPTO LIKELYMO

WHYMOVE
What is the main reason you would you like to move? [OPEN]

LIKELYMO
How likely are you to move from your current residence in the next 1-2 years?

1. VERY LIKELY--20%
2. SOMEWHAT LIKELY--19%
3. NOT VERY LIKELY--SKPTO HOSTRAIN--60%
4. OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)--SKPTO HOSTRAIN--1%

NOMOREA
What are the three main reasons why you haven't moved yet? (CHOOSE ALL THAT APPLY) for people want to move.

1. CAN'T SELL HOUSE
2. CAN'T AFFORD TO MOVE
3. CAN'T FIND AN AFFORDABLE PLACE TO LIVE
4. EXTENDED FAMILY LIVES LOCALLY
5. JOB
6. IMMEDIATE FAMILY DOES NOT WANT/CAN'T MOVE
7. DEBT
8. CAN'T GET A LOAN
9. CANNOT FIND ANYTHING I LIKE
10. DON’T WANT LONGER COMMUTE
11. OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)

HOSTRAIN
At any time in the past year did you have a problem paying for housing?
Has that been a very serious problem for you, somewhat serious, not much of
a problem, or not a problem during the past year?

1. VERY SERIOUS PROBLEM--5%
2. SOMEWHAT SERIOUS PROBLEM--9%
3. NOT MUCH OF A PROBLEM--13%
4. NOT A PROBLEM--73%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

DWLPRF
What type of residence would you prefer to live in?

1. SINGLE-FAMILY DETACHED HOME [No common wall]--80%
   2. ATTACHED HOME [common wall]--9%
   3. APARTMENT--7%
   4. OTHER TYPE--4%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

HOUSTROUB
How serious a problem is Orange County’s high cost of housing for you and
your family?

1. VERY SERIOUS--34%
2. SOMEWHAT SERIOUS--32%
3. NOT VERY SERIOUS--34%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

FINDHOME
If you decided to buy a residence that you could afford in the near future, how
likely is it that you would be able to find a home that you can afford and
would like to buy in Orange County? Very likely, somewhat likely, not very
likely, or not at all likely?
1. VERY LIKELY,--20%
2. SOMEWHAT LIKELY,--31%
3. NOT VERY LIKELY--25%
9. NOT AT ALL LIKELY--24%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

MOVEOC Does the cost of your housing make you and your family seriously consider moving away from Orange County? (if yes: Does it make you consider moving elsewhere in California, or outside of the state?)

1. YES, ELSEWHERE IN CALIFORNIA--11%
2. YES, OUTSIDE OF THE STATE--21%
3. NO--68%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

LIVEPFE If you could choose where to live in the Orange County area, which would you prefer assuming costs were the same-- [ROTATE:] (1) a single-family home with a big yard, where you would need to drive almost everywhere you want to go / or: (2) A smaller home in a more urbanized area, within walking distance of shops and workplaces; or (3) A more densely packed neighborhood filled with high rises and other amenities.

1. A SINGLE-FAMILY HOME WITH A BIG YARD, WHERE YOU WOULD NEED TO DRIVE ALMOST EVERYWHERE YOU WANT TO GO.--46%

2. A SMALLER HOME IN A MORE URBANIZED AREA, WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF SHOPS AND WORKPLACES.--49%

3. A MORE DENSELY PACKED NEIGHBORHOOD FILLED WITH HIGH RISES AND OTHER AMENITIES.--5%

7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED
RENTCON

Some people believe rent control laws that give local governments the ability to set limits on how much rents can be increased are a way to help middle and lower income people remain in their communities. Others say rent control leads to fewer rental units being built and this makes the problem worse in the long run. What is your opinion? Do you favor or oppose rent control laws in your area?

1. FAVOR--59%
2. OPPOSE--41%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

KIDOC

Do you think your children will be able to purchase a residence in Orange County?

1. YES--50%
2. NO--50%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

OCWORTH

SMITH and JONES are two Orange County residents. Who do you agree with more:

SMITH says, “I want to move out of Orange County because housing prices are so high.”

JONES says, “Housing prices are high here, but Orange County is worth it.”

Who do you agree with more, SMITH or JONES?

1. AGREE WITH SMITH MORE--30%
2. AGREE WITH JONES MORE--70%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED
AFFORD2  Compared to all the problems the county faces, how serious a problem is the availability of affordable housing?

1. VERY SERIOUS--56%
2. SOMEWHAT SERIOUS--32%
3. NOT VERY SERIOUS--12%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

HOMELESS  Compared to all the other problems the county faces, how serious a problem is homelessness?

1. VERY SERIOUS--66%
2. SOMEWHAT SERIOUS--25%
3. NOT VERY SERIOUS--9%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

HOMETAX  Would you support a ¼ cent sales tax increase, such as the one that recently passed in Los Angeles County, to fight homelessness?

1. YES--63%
2. NO--37%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

POLITICAL PROFILE

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

1. REPUBLICAN PARTY--41%
2. DEMOCRATIC PARTY--38%
3. NEITHER--21%
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED
IDEOLOGY

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

1. VERY LIBERAL--12%
2. SOMEWHAT LIBERAL--19%
3. MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD--33%
4. SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE--22%
5. VERY CONSERVATIVE--15%
7. DK/ NR
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 under?

1. YES--27%
2. NO--73%
7. DK/NR
9 REFUSED

EDUC.

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

1. LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA/GED--3%
2. HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA/GED--16%
3. SOME COLLEGE, NO DEGREE--24%
4. ASSOCIATE’S DEGREE--10%
5. BACHELOR’S DEGREE--25%
6. GRADUATE OR PROFESSIONAL DEGREE (E.G. TEACHING CREDENTIAL, MASTERS, PH.D., JD)--22%
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7. DK/ NR
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]
7. DK/ NR
9. REFUSED

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

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

REGVOTE. Next, some people are registered to vote and others are not. Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote in California?

1. YES
2. NO
7. DK/ NR
9. 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 includes your total household income in 2017, that is, the income for all members of the household during the past year?
(READ LIST)
1. Less than $12,500
2. less than $25,000
3. less than $37,500
4. less than $50,000
5. less than $62,500
6. less than $75,000
7. less than $100,000
8. less than to $150,000, or
9. More than $150,000
(98) D   (DO NOT READ) Don’t know
(99) R   (DO NOT READ) Refused

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

ICLANG  INTERVIEWER: RECORD LANGUAGE IN WHICH INTERVIEW WAS CONDUCTED
1. ENGLISH
2. SPANISH

ICGENDER  INTERVIEWER RECORD GENDER BY OBSERVATION
1. MALE
2. FEMALE
3. COULD NOT TELL BY VOICE ALONE

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