

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Thursday, February 5, 2009  
Poll Results Release #1

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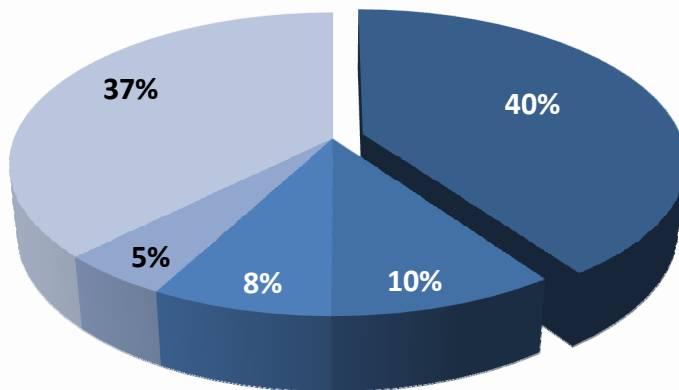
## **CAPITOL WEEKLY/PROBOLSKY RESEARCH CALIFORNIA POLL – PUBLIC POLICY**

The *Capitol Weekly/Probolsky Research California Poll* is a quarterly statewide survey of voters sponsored by *Capitol Weekly*, California's only newspaper devoted solely to state politics, in conjunction with Probolsky Research LLC, a California-based full service public opinion research and polling firm. The results are published online and in print in *Capitol Weekly* ([www.capitolweekly.net](http://www.capitolweekly.net)) as well as at [www.probolskyresearch.com](http://www.probolskyresearch.com).

### **POLL RESULTS**

#### **MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE TO CALIFORNIANS**

The Economy is the top concern of voters



- Economy (Jobs/Unemployment, Housing/Mortgage Crisis, etc.) 40%
- Safety/Crime/Drugs 10%
- Education/Schools 8%
- Government Budget/Funding 5%
- Other Issues (individually less than 4%) 37%

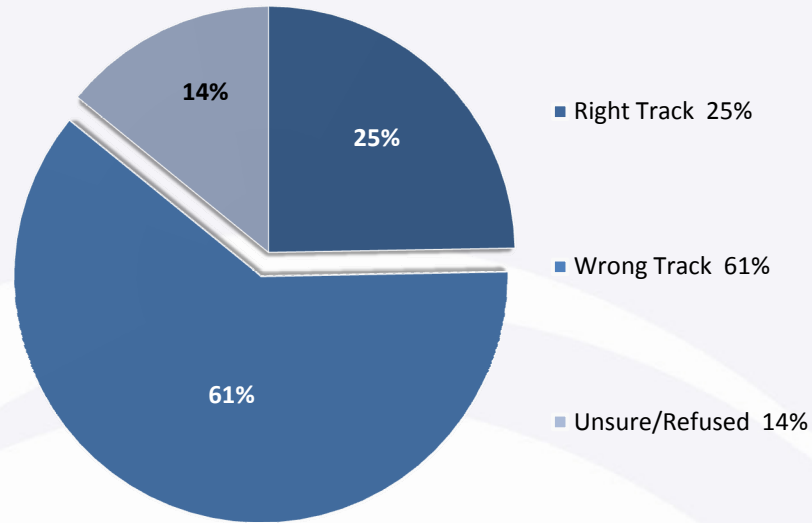
*Question: Please tell me in your own words what is the most important issue facing your community today?*

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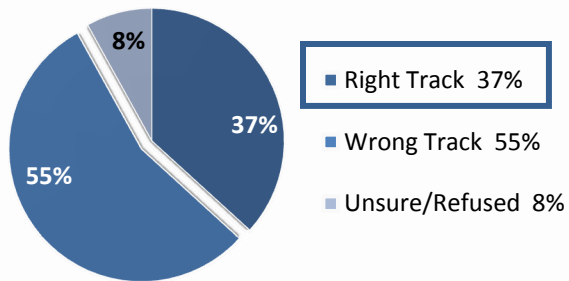
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## RIGHT TRACK/WRONG TRACK: CALIFORNIA

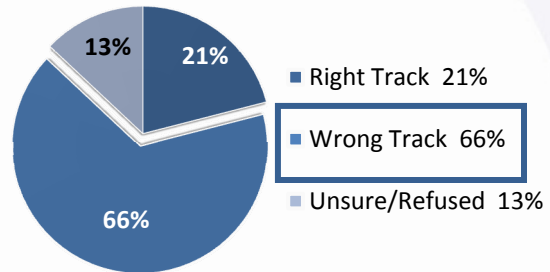
A majority of respondents feel that California is on the “wrong track”



### Aged 18-34



### Central California



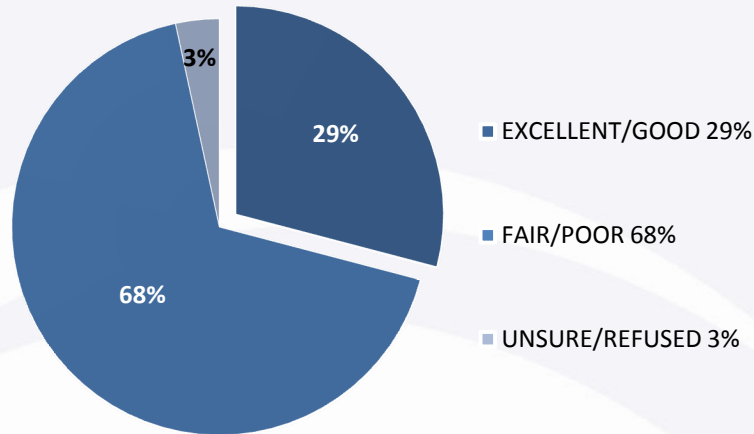
Question: Do you think that California is generally on the right track or on the wrong track?

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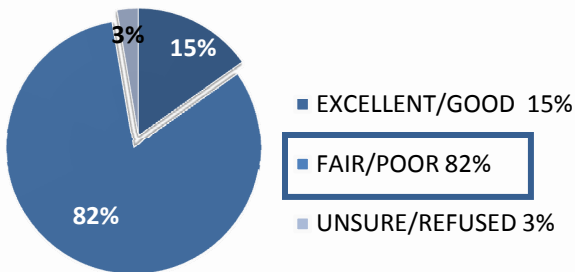
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## JOB PERFORMANCE REVIEW: GOVERNOR SCHWARZENEGGER

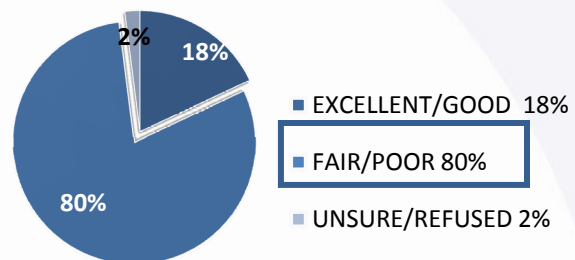
68% of voters consider Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's job performance to be "Fair/Poor"



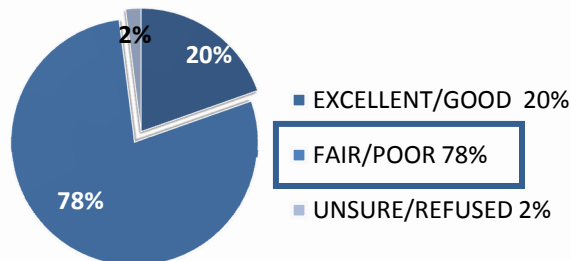
### Latinos/Hispanics



### Blacks



### Asians



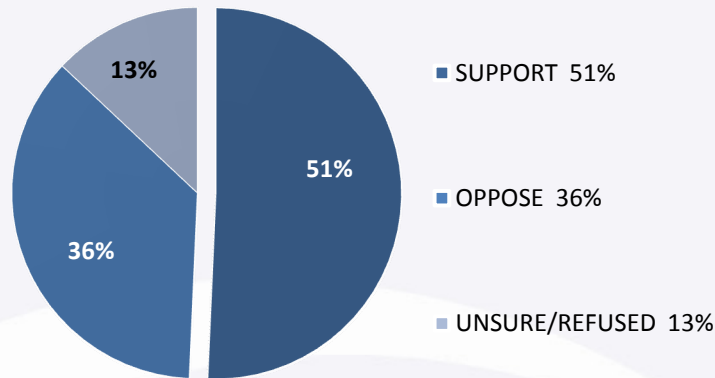
Question: Thinking about the job that California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger is doing, would you say he is doing an excellent, good, fair or poor job?

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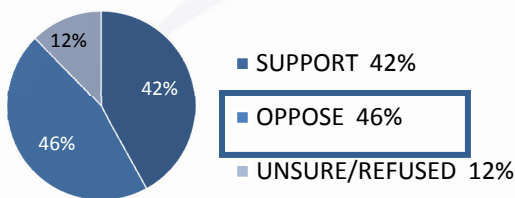
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## SUPPORT OR OPPOSE: PART-TIME STATE LEGISLATURE

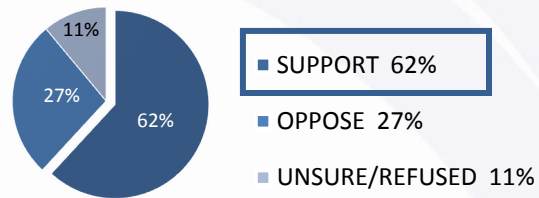
### One-half of voters support a part-time legislature



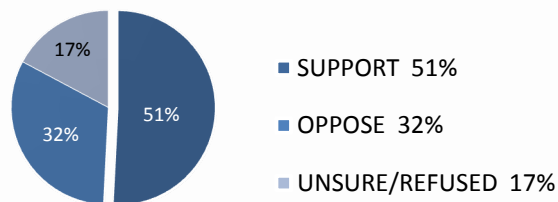
#### Democrats



#### Republicans



#### Decline to State



*Question: California's legislators who serve in the State Assembly and State Senate are full-time employees of the state. There has been talk of changing our current full-time legislature to a part-time legislature.*

*Supporters of a part-time legislature argue that California's legislators are among the highest paid in the nation, and only spend about one-third of the year "in-session." Supporters suggest that most states that have part-time legislatures and manage to pass their budgets on-time, but our own full-time legislators do not. And the state could save money from reduced salaries required for part-time legislators and their staffs.*

*Opponents of a part-time legislature argue that it would increase the power of lobbyists, bureaucrats and the Governor. Opponents also suggest that full-time legislators are more independent than part-time legislators. Finally, opponents argue that California is too large and too complex to be effectively served by part-time elected leadership.*

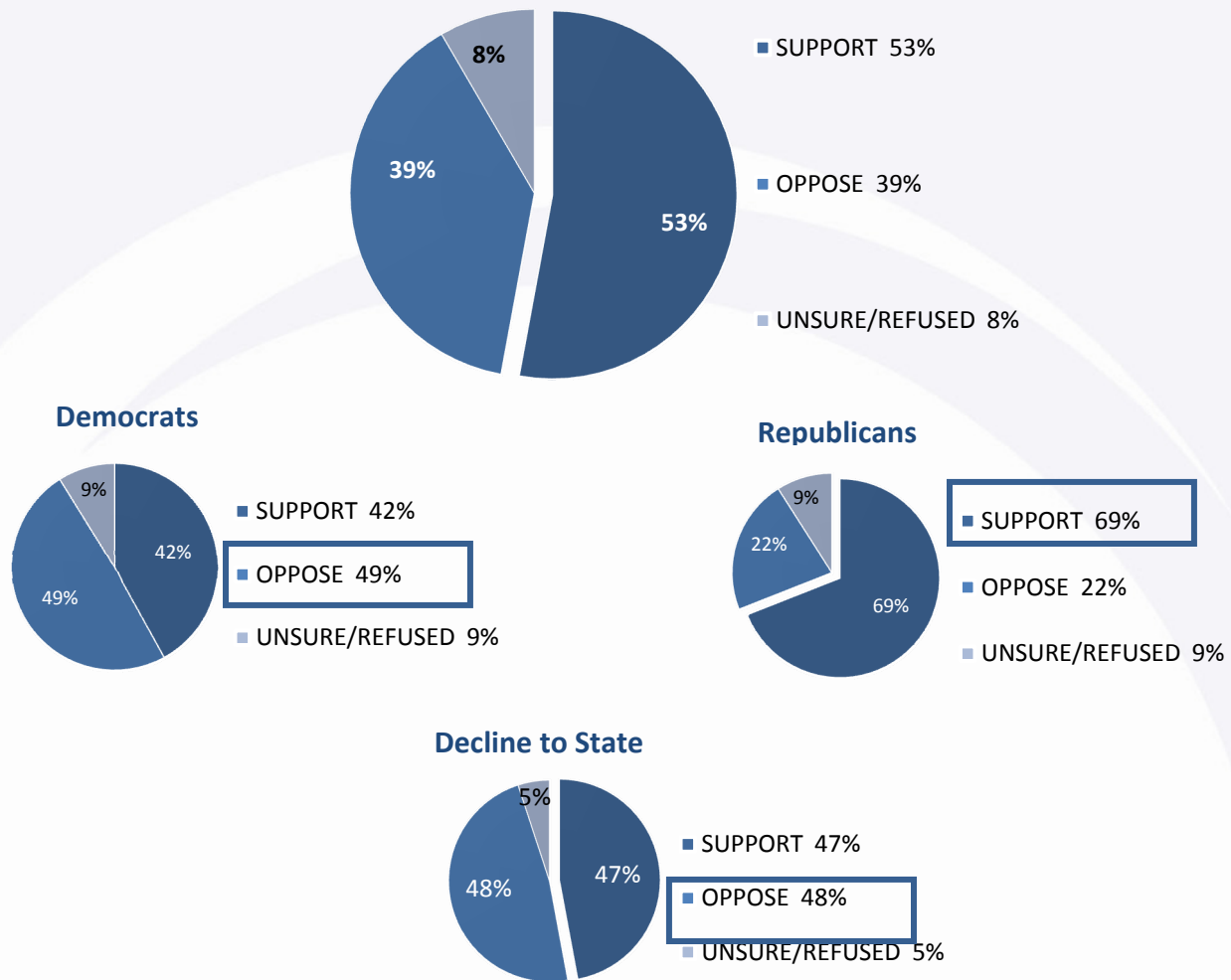
*In general do you support or oppose a change from a full-time California legislature to a part-time California legislature?*

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## RELAXING ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF FEDERAL STIMULUS FUNDS

A majority of voters support relaxing environmental rules and regulations for infrastructure in California in order to take full advantage of Federal stimulus funds



Question: The Federal Government is working on the next stimulus package to improve the economy. Building roads, freeways and other infrastructure such as water storage and conveyance projects will be the focus. California's strict environmental regulations might prevent the State from taking full advantage of this stimulus.

In general do you support or oppose relaxing environmental rules and regulations for infrastructure in California in order to take full advantage of Federal stimulus funds?

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## METHODOLOGY

Probolsky Research LLC conducted a telephone survey of voters within the State of California. Interviews were conducted during the daytime and evening hours of Thursday, January 22 through Sunday, January 25, 2009.

The sample data is sourced from the California Voter File. The county voter files are updated an average of more than five times per year, and our California Voter File in aggregate is appended by the regular use of outside telephone matches, census data updates, assessor-homeowner matches, ethnic surname matches and postal carrier routing.

A total of 752 voters were polled. A survey of this size yields a margin of error of +/-3.7% with a 95% confidence interval. Results for specific subgroups will have lower statistical significance. Appropriate ratios were obtained such as for geographic region, gender, age group, party registration and voter type.

Interviews were conducted in English. The average survey took 6.6 minutes to complete.

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