

PIPELINE

NEWS ABOUT CONTRA COSTA COUNTY'S REFINERY INDUSTRY

SPECIAL EDITION 2012

DESIRE TO "HELP OUR SCHOOLS" FUELED PROP 30 VICTORY IN COUNTY, SAYS NEW CONTRA COSTA POLL

A new post-election survey by the Contra Costa Poll provides insight into local voter attitudes toward education and higher taxes, and echoes the results of a Contra Costa Poll conducted last May, which found 62 percent support at the time for Proposition 30 — the governor's initiative that raises the state's sales tax by a quarter-cent for four years, while increasing income taxes on those earning \$250,000 or more.

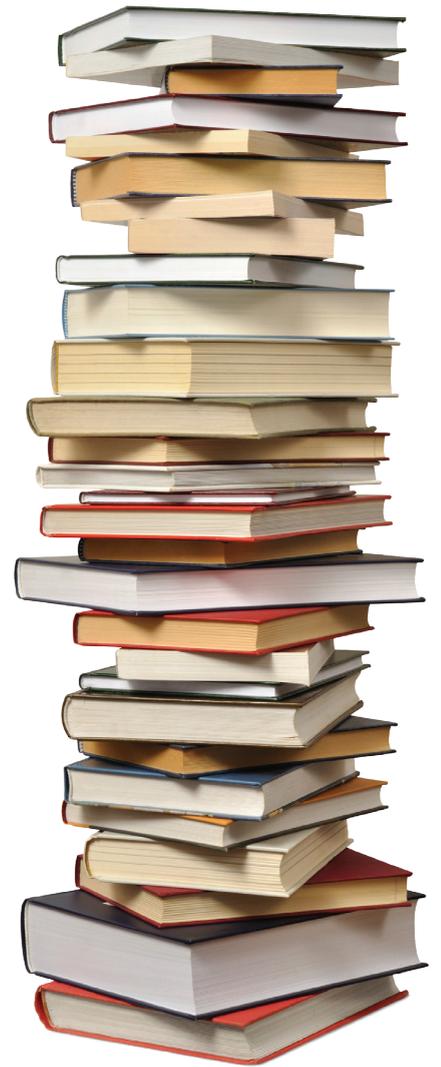
Facing a \$14 billion state budget deficit and looming school cuts, California voters passed Proposition 30 in November's general election with 54 percent voting "yes." Support for

the measure in Contra Costa County was even higher — nearly 60 percent.

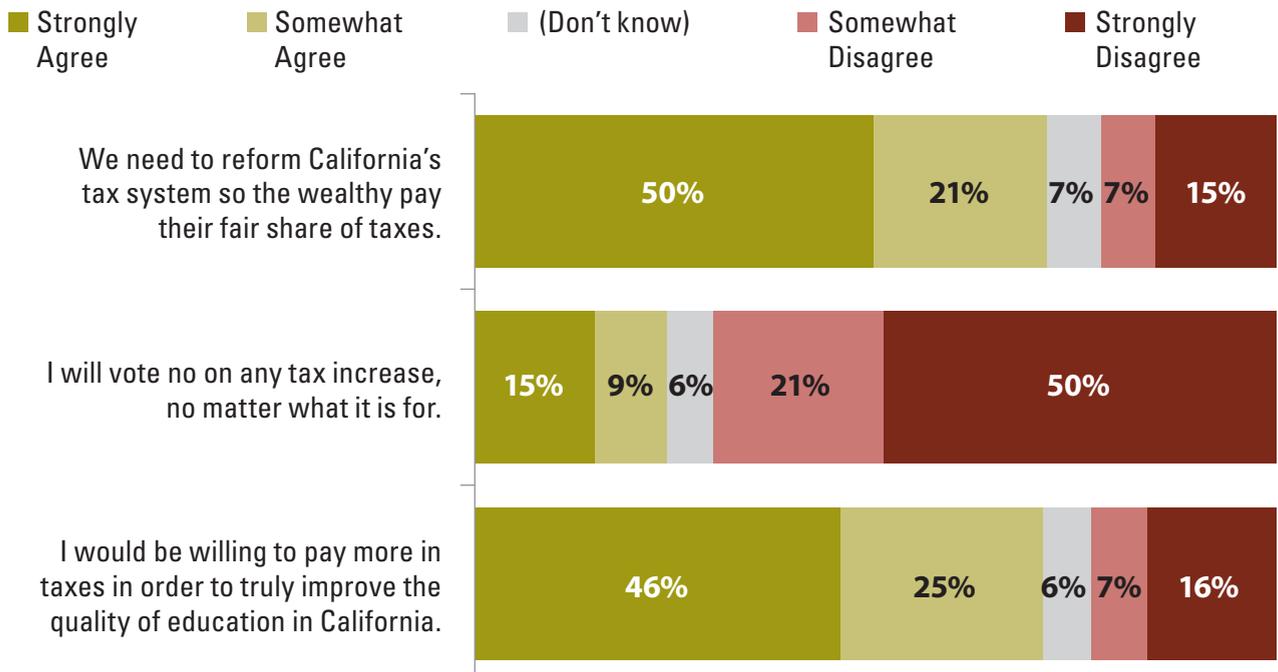
The Contra Costa Poll post-election survey found that 53 percent of county voters supporting Proposition 30 did so to "help the schools" and make education "a top priority." Other reasons included supporting the governor (6 percent), the state's need for more revenue (5 percent), and a belief that those with higher incomes should pay more in taxes (5 percent).

71% OF COUNTY VOTERS SAY THEY WOULD PAY MORE TAXES 'TO TRULY IMPROVE EDUCATION IN CALIFORNIA'

Thirty-six percent of local voters who opposed Proposition 30 said they voted "no" because they were
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About half of county voters solidly support taxes, while 20-25% are "soft" supporters requiring persuasion.



against higher taxes, while 21 percent said they opposed the measure because they felt the new funding would not be used properly or would not go to schools.

Proposition 30 garnered 80 percent support among Democratic voters in the county, 60 percent support among Independents, and 36 percent support among Republican voters.

Nevertheless, when county voters

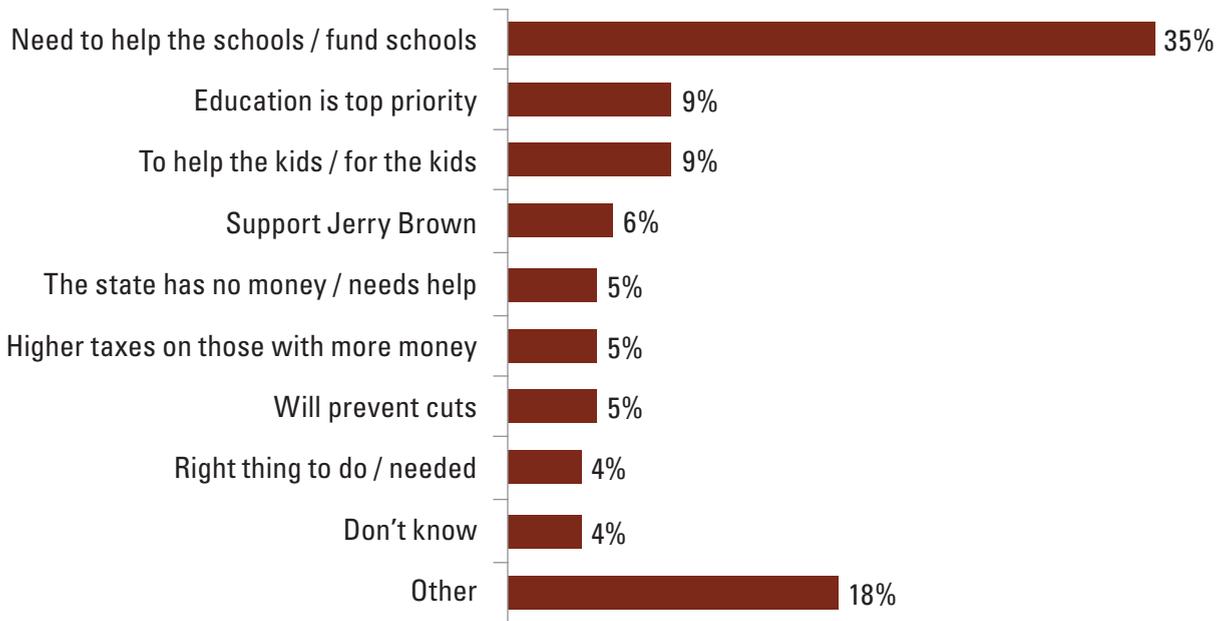
**47% TRUST LOCAL
GOVERNMENT TO MANAGE
TAX DOLLARS MORE THAN
STATE GOVERNMENT**

were asked if they would be willing to pay more taxes “to truly improve the quality of education in California,” there was strong and widespread support, with 71 percent saying “yes.”

While county voters were willing to increase state taxes to help fund education, they weren’t willing to raise local taxes to pay for fire protection, as called for by Measure Q. While Measure Q did receive 53 percent support, it fell far short of

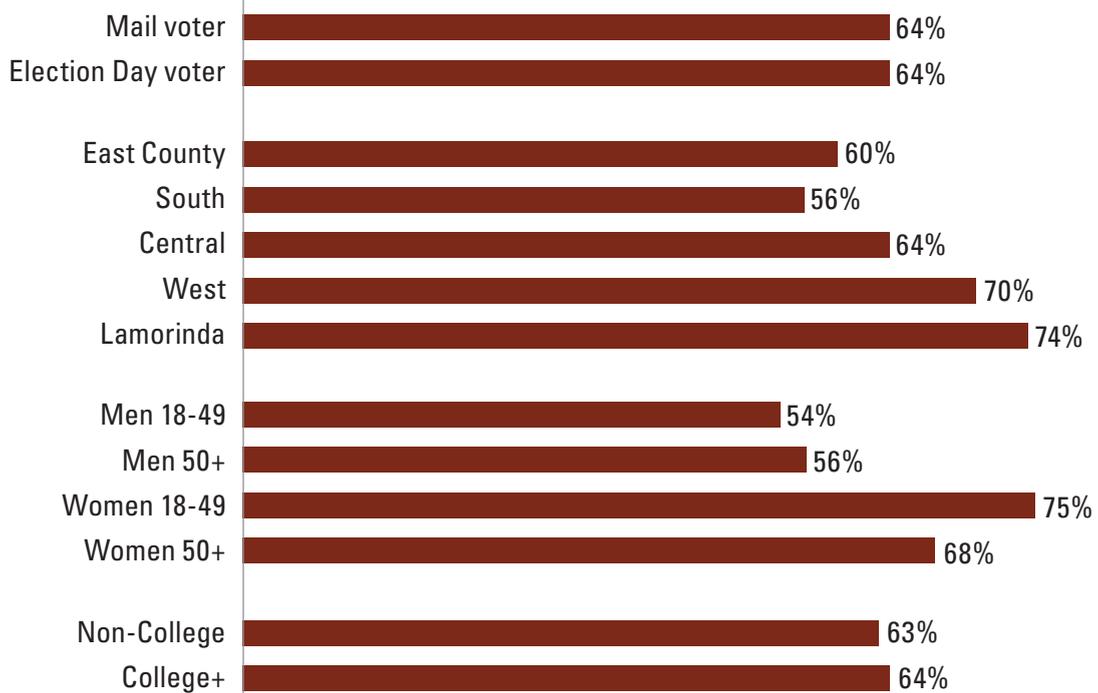
Schools and education were top reasons for supporting Prop 30

What is the most important reason you voted yes on Prop 30?



How they voted on Prop 30

■ Yes on Prop 30



the two-thirds approval needed for passage.

Likewise, Measure A, which would have raised parcel taxes for community colleges, fell just short of passing. While 65 percent of voters approved, the measure needed a two-thirds vote for passage.

Among the survey's other findings:

- Half of county voters say it's safer to vote "no" on ballot measures because too many have hidden impacts or unintended consequences.
- While vote-by-mail voters were once typically more conservative, that "gap" is disappearing as more voters vote by mail.
- About eight percent more women in Contra Costa County voted this election than men.

WHO DO YOU TRUST?

When it comes to managing tax dollars, 57 percent of county voters agree that "the state already has enough money, it's just mismanaged," while 31 percent disagree.

**57% OF COUNTY VOTERS
AGREE "THE STATE ALREADY
HAS ENOUGH MONEY,
IT'S JUST MISMANAGED"**

When it comes to local government, 47 percent say "I trust local government to manage tax dollars more than I trust state government," while 25 percent disagree.

On education, 62 percent say "the most important thing our schools need is more funding," while 40 percent say "the schools in our state already have enough money; we need to reform the education system instead of adding more money to it."

EMC Research conducted the Contra Costa Poll, in which 600 local voters were interviewed November 4 through November 7. The poll has a margin of error of 4.0 percent. ■

"OPEN DIALOGUE, INFORMED DECISIONS" ABOUT THE CONTRA COSTA POLL

Sponsored by the county's Phillips 66, Shell and Tesoro refineries, the Contra Costa Poll is a public service designed to help guide the county's decision-making process on jobs, education, the economy and other key local issues. The poll is conducted periodically throughout the year.

**"OUR GOAL WITH THE
CONTRA COSTA POLL IS
TO HELP VOTERS AND
POLICYMAKERS MAKE
INFORMED DECISIONS."**

Phillips 66 Manager
Rand Swenson

"We're a proud and active part of this community," says Phillips 66 refinery manager Rand Swenson. "Our goal with the Contra Costa Poll is to help voters and policymakers make informed decisions on issues that have a very real impact on the county and its economic well-being."

Shell Refinery manager Paul Gabbard agrees. "It's something we're doing to contribute to the local dialogue, share ideas and encourage an open discussion on key issues."

"Knowing how people feel about the issues impacting their lives is an essential part of the policy-making process," says Tesoro refinery manager Stephen Hansen. "We're happy to contribute and be a part of that process." ■

CONTRA
COSTA POLL

**According to
a previous
Contra Costa Poll
of local voters:**

71%
believe the refineries
"generate significant
local tax revenues"

71%
believe the refineries
"are good for the
community"

77%
believe the refineries
"are one of the largest
local employers"

88%
believe the refineries
"are good for the
local economy"

The survey was conducted in
January 2011 by EMC Research.



May your holidays be bright and peaceful.

THE REFINERIES OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Photo by Chiye Azuma. Photographed in the East Bay Regional Park District — home to over 112,000 acres of peaceful beauty, with more than 1,200 miles of hiking, biking, horseback and nature study trails. Learn more at www.ebparks.org