

## San Diego County Issues Barometer March 2023 Poll

### TAXES

n=508 San Diego County Residents

Margin of Sampling Error +/- 4.3%

March 3-7, 2023

Weighted on race, ethnicity, education, age, turnout, party, region

Hello is \_\_\_\_ there? Hi this is \_\_\_\_\_ with Competitive Edge Research, a national polling firm and we're calling the good folks of San Diego to ask your opinion on local issues. We are not selling anything. Most people find it interesting, and all your answers will be kept strictly confidential. Please let me begin by asking...

Q1. To help us better understand what's important in different areas of San Diego County, what is your ZIP code?

	%
South Suburbs	16.3
South Central	21.5
North Central	17.4
North Coastal	8.8
North Inland	17.2
East Suburbs	16.1
East County	2.8

Q2. And in what year were you born?

	%
18-24	12.1
25-34	21.1
35-44	16.5
45-54	16.3
55-64	15.6
65-74	10.6
75+	7.8
<b>Average</b>	<b>47.0</b>

Q3. Do you think things in San Diego County are moving in the right direction or have they gotten off on the wrong track?

	June %	Sept %	Dec %	March %
Right direction, strongly	5.9	6.1	4.4	8.4
Right direction, somewhat	29.6	35.1	29.6	22.6
Wrong track, somewhat	17.4	15.4	12.4	10.0
Wrong track, strongly	28.8	24.9	24.0	29.1
Mixed <i>(Not read)</i>	3.2	3.9	14.2	13.0
Unsure <i>(Not read)</i>	14.2	14.2	14.6	16.0
Refused <i>(Not read)</i>	1.0	0.5	0.7	0.8

Q4. What is the most important issue facing people in San Diego County? (Currently being coded)

	June %	Sept %	Dec %	Mar %
Homelessness	22.1	21.7	33.4	29.8
Housing affordability	18.2	20.6	12.5	15.0
Cost of living	8.9	9.9	9.8	8.8
Economy and jobs	2.9	3.5	3.7	8.3
Utility costs	--	--	0.5	4.7
Housing availability	3.5	6.5	3.3	3.9
Taxes	1.4	1.6	1.3	3.6
Crime and safety	2.6	3.3	6.2	3.2
Infrastructure/Road repair	--	2.5	1.8	2.2
Inflation	6.4	3.4	4.4	1.7
Bad political leadership	2.0	2.1	2.0	1.4
Government overreach	--	--	1.4	1.3
Illegal immigration/Border	3.1	1.9	1.3	1.1
Overdevelopment/Overpopulation	1.7	0.4	0.9	1.1
Traffic	1.4	1.4	2.4	1.0
Schools/Education	3.1	2.2	--	0.9
SANDAG	--	--	--	0.9
Environment and climate change	2.2	3.3	1.5	0.8
Gasoline prices	9.3	2.8	--	0.7
Water scarcity	1.5	3.9	1.8	0.5
Public transportation	--	--	--	0.4
Health issues	--	--	2.2	--
Other	4.4	6.5	5.2	4.0
Nothing/Don't know	5.4	2.6	4.2	4.7

Q10. Are federal income taxes on low/middle/high income earners...

	Low % (n=162)	Middle % (n=163)	High % (n=183)
Too high	43.8	62.5	27.6
Too low	6.0	6.0	25.4
About right	27.3	26.7	32.5
Unsure ( <i>Not read</i> )	22.9	4.8	14.5

Q11. Are state income taxes on low/middle/high income earners...

	Low % (n=162)	Middle % (n=163)	High % (n=183)
Too high	54.4	70.2	31.5
Too low	6.7	0.3	20.6
About right	24.7	25.0	32.1
Unsure ( <i>Not read</i> )	14.2	4.6	15.9

Q12. Are property taxes ...

	%
Too high	60.9
Too low	1.0
About right	25.6
Unsure (Not read)	12.5

Q13. Which do you think is the best way to promote economic growth in the United States:  
(Answer choices were rotated)

Lower taxes on individuals and businesses and reduce spending on some government services and programs

OR

Raise taxes on wealthy individuals and businesses and spend more on education and the nation’s infrastructure?

	%
Lower taxes and reduce spending, strongly	32.5
Lower taxes and reduce spending, somewhat	16.6
Raise taxes and spend more, somewhat	12.4
Raise taxes and spend more, strongly	33.2
Unsure (Not read)	5.3

Q14. A California legislator has proposed a new tax on the net worth of very wealthy households in addition to taxing them on their annual income. Here are two opinions related to that proposal. (Answer choices were rotated)

Smith says California should impose a wealth tax on Californians who have a net worth over \$50 million in addition to the normal income tax they pay. This would capture more revenue from the super-wealthy and ensure they pay their fair share.

Jones says California imposing such a wealth tax is a bad idea. It is difficult to know how much a super-wealthy person is actually worth, imposing that type of tax would encourage them to leave the state, and the threshold will eventually be reduced so ordinary residents will also be taxed on their net worth.

Do you agree more with Smith or with Jones?

	%
Smith, strongly	31.1
Smith, somewhat	16.9
Jones, somewhat	11.0
Jones, strongly	28.0
Neither (Not read)	3.0
Unsure (Not read)	9.9

Thanks. Now I have some demographic questions to ensure we have a representative sample...

Q20. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

	%
Less than high school graduate	10.0
High school graduate, including equivalency	19.8
Some college or an associate degree	30.2
Bachelor's degree	20.7
Graduate or professional degree	19.3

Q21. Is your ethnic heritage mainly...

	%
Hispanic	29.7
Not Hispanic	70.3

Q22. Is your racial heritage mainly

	%
White	66.8
Black or African American	5.7
Asian or Pacific Islander	12.4
Native American	1.0
Multiracial	13.0
Something else	1.0

Thanks for your time and your opinion counts, goodbye.

23. SEX

	%
Male	47.8
Female	52.2

24. LANGAUGE

	%
English	90.6
Spanish	9.4

25. REGISTERED VOTER/POLITICAL PARTY

	%
Democrat	34.5
Non-partisan/Minor party	25.5
Republican	22.3
Non-registrants	17.6