

FACT SHEET

WHAT

Public opinion poll results released today show that 88% of registered California voters want major changes to the way police and other emergency services providers respond to 911 calls. Two-thirds (69%) of voters say they want behavioral health professionals to respond either with (35%) or without (34%) law enforcement to non-life threatening situations like mental health crises and concerns about people who are homeless, while 19% want law enforcement to get additional training to respond more effectively.

WHY

There is growing nationwide concern that today's 911 system is outdated, leaving police departments to respond to calls outside their skillset, resulting in costly and unnecessary criminal justice involvement and avoidable injuries and even fatalities to people needing help.

HOW

In August 2022, a representative sample of 9,254 registered California voters responded to an online poll in English and Spanish. Sampling error is estimated to be +/- 2.0.

WHO

The poll was conducted by the Institute of Governmental Studies (IGS) at UC Berkeley. The Berkeley IGS Poll is a statewide non-partisan survey conducted regularly to understand public opinion on current election and public policy related issues. The poll was commissioned by Public Health Advocates.

KEY FINDINGS

67%

67% of voters think **law enforcement is least equipped to respond to mental health crises.**

This includes:

- Voters in San Diego (74%) and Sacramento (72%) compared with those in San Joaquin Valley (62%) and the Inland Empire (62%).
- 76% of American Indians, 74% of Whites, 72% of Blacks, 62% of Asian/Pacific Islanders, and 55% of Latinos.
- 72% of Democrats, 66% of Independents, and 60% of Republicans.

69%

69% of voters want **mental health professionals or social workers to respond** to or be included in the response to 911 calls for nonviolent crimes.

This includes:

- Voters in the San Francisco Bay Area (75%), the Central Coast (72%), Los Angeles County (65%), and San Joaquin Valley (61%).
- Whites (74%), Blacks and American Indians (69%), Asian/Pacific Islanders (69%) and Latinos (61%).
- Democrats (76%), Independents (67%), and Republicans (56%).

KEY FINDINGS BY REGION

WHICH OF THESE SITUATIONS ARE MOST COMMONLY IN NEED OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

	<i>Homeless</i>	<i>Mental Health</i>	<i>Robbery, Property Crimes</i>	<i>Mugging, Assaults</i>	<i>Family Violence</i>	<i>Gun Violence</i>	<i>Physical Health</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>
CALIFORNIA	49%	38%	37%	29%	25%	25%	21%	7%
Los Angeles	56%	40%	43%	32%	23%	24%	19%	8%
San Diego	52%	41%	31%	24%	28%	26%	27%	7%
Inland Empire	50%	34%	37%	24%	26%	27%	20%	5%
Central Coast	50%	43%	29%	25%	27%	23%	23%	8%
Sacramento/North Valley	50%	39%	33%	25%	28%	20%	19%	7%
Central Valley	49%	40%	34%	29%	30%	25%	21%	5%
San Joaquin Valley	47%	41%	35%	31%	31%	28%	22%	3%
SF Bay Area	44%	36%	39%	32%	22%	29%	20%	6%
North Coast/Sierras	42%	52%	17%	31%	27%	14%	27%	8%
Orange	40%	32%	31%	25%	24%	22%	23%	10%



WHICH OF THESE SITUATIONS ARE LOCAL POLICE AND SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENTS LEAST EQUIPPED TO RESPOND TO?

	<i>Mental Health</i>	<i>Homeless</i>	<i>Physical Health</i>	<i>Domestic Violence</i>	<i>Robbery</i>	<i>Gun Violence</i>	<i>Muggings, Assaults</i>	<i>No Opinion</i>
CALIFORNIA	67%	49%	15%	13%	10%	8%	7%	10%
Los Angeles County	64%	49%	14%	13%	10%	9%	8%	10%
San Diego County	74%	51%	18%	10%	6%	9%	5%	8%
Orange County	70%	51%	16%	9%	11%	5%	9%	9%
Inland Empire	62%	45%	16%	15%	12%	8%	6%	11%
Central Coast	70%	48%	17%	13%	8%	9%	3%	10%
Central Valley	67%	49%	14%	14%	11%	6%	6%	12%
Sacramento/North Valley	72%	51%	15%	12%	10%	5%	5%	12%
San Joaquin Valley	62%	47%	12%	16%	12%	8%	7%	12%
SF Bay Area	69%	53%	13%	12%	12%	8%	7%	11%
North Coast/Sierras	66%	44%	6%	16%	5%	7%	5%	19%

WHICH DO YOU WANT YOUR CITY TO PRIORITIZE?

	<i>Alternative Response With Police</i>	<i>Alternative Response Without Police</i>	<i>Alternative Response With or Without Police</i>	<i>Police Alone</i>	<i>No Change</i>
CALIFORNIA	35%	34%	69%	19%	12%
Los Angeles County	31%	34%	65%	21%	8%
San Diego County	33%	38%	71%	20%	13%
Orange County	32%	32%	64%	22%	13%
Inland Empire	39%	28%	67%	19%	11%
Central Coast	38%	34%	72%	16%	14%
Central Valley	40%	25%	65%	21%	11%
Sacramento/North Valley	43%	27%	70%	18%	17%
San Joaquin Valley	37%	24%	61%	22%	9%
SF Bay Area	33%	42%	75%	15%	14%
North Coast/Sierras	35%	36%	71%	15%	6%



KEY FINDINGS BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP

WHICH OF THESE SITUATIONS ARE MOST COMMONLY IN NEED OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

	<i>Homeless</i>	<i>Mental Health</i>	<i>Robbery, Property Crimes</i>	<i>Mugging, Assaults</i>	<i>Family Violence</i>	<i>Gun Violence</i>	<i>Physical Health</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>
CALIFORNIA	49%	38%	37%	29%	25%	25%	21%	7%
PARTY								
Democrat	51%	42%	32%	23%	26%	31%	22%	7%
Republican	46%	32%	44%	38%	24%	15%	19%	5%
Other	54%	45%	42%	35%	29%	24%	25%	4%
No party preference	47%	36%	36%	29%	25%	25%	20%	9%
AGE								
18-29	52%	41%	31%	24%	27%	24%	23%	8%
30-39	53%	39%	36%	29%	26%	21%	20%	5%
40-49	53%	40%	40%	31%	26%	29%	20%	6%
50-64	48%	39%	41%	30%	23%	26%	20%	7%
65+	43%	33%	34%	29%	26%	26%	22%	8%
RACE								
White	48%	37%	35%	26%	24%	20%	22%	8%
Latino	54%	22%	37%	30%	30%	31%	21%	5%
Black	54%	46%	35%	31%	28%	38%	21%	6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	44%	34%	42%	37%	23%	29%	21%	6%
American Indian	65%	52%	33%	37%	39%	34%	24%	2%
INCOME								
< \$20,000	55%	42%	35%	30%	32%	31%	24%	6%
\$20,000-\$39,999	49%	35%	33%	28%	27%	30%	22%	6%
\$40,000-\$59,999	51%	37%	36%	30%	30%	26%	19%	6%
\$60,000-\$99,999	50%	41%	37%	30%	27%	25%	22%	6%
\$100,000-\$149,999	43%	36%	37%	28%	23%	23%	21%	8%
\$150,000-\$199,999	52%	40%	40%	26%	24%	22%	20%	8%
>\$200,000	47%	38%	38%	27%	16%	20%	20%	8%



WHICH OF THESE SITUATIONS ARE LOCAL POLICE AND SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENTS LEAST EQUIPPED TO RESPOND TO?

	<i>Mental Health</i>	<i>Homeless</i>	<i>Physical Health</i>	<i>Domestic Violence</i>	<i>Robbery</i>	<i>Gun Violence</i>	<i>Muggings, Assaults</i>	<i>No Opinion</i>
CALIFORNIA	67%	49%	15%	13%	10%	8%	7%	10%
PARTY								
Democrat	72%	49%	14%	15%	8%	10%	6%	8%
Republican	60%	51%	17%	8%	14%	5%	8%	13%
Other	61%	48%	17%	12%	13%	9%	9%	10%
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RACE								
White	74%	54%	16%	12%	8%	5%	4%	10%
Latino	55%	43%	12%	14%	13%	11%	9%	12%
Black	72%	48%	17%	16%	10%	7%	7%	8%
Asian/Pacific Islander	62%	44%	14%	11%	14%	12%	12%	11%
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\$40,000-\$59,999	64%	50%	12%	11%	10%	10%	9%	10%
\$60,000-\$99,999	70%	49%	16%	14%	9%	7%	6%	9%
\$100,000-\$149,999	73%	52%	14%	14%	9%	6%	5%	8%
\$150,000-\$199,999	71%	53%	18%	12%	9%	6%	4%	11%
>\$200,000	73%	53%	18%	10%	11%	6%	6%	10%



WHICH DO YOU WANT YOUR CITY TO PRIORITIZE?

	<i>Alternative Response With Police</i>	<i>Alternative Response Without Police</i>	<i>Alternative Response With or Without Police</i>	<i>Police Alone</i>	<i>No Change</i>
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30-39	38%	35%	73%	16%	10%
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American Indian	27%	42%	69%	19%	12%
INCOME					
< \$20,000	33%	25%	58%	28%	13%
\$20,000-\$39,999	32%	29%	61%	23%	14%
\$40,000-\$59,999	31%	35%	66%	21%	11%
\$60,000-\$99,999	32%	38%	70%	20%	10%
\$100,000-\$149,999	34%	38%	72%	16%	13%
\$150,000-\$199,999	42%	42%	84%	15%	9%
>\$200,000	30%	33%	63%	13%	12%

