



The Inclusive Economy Poll

Full Question Summary

The Inclusive Economy Poll provides a snapshot of experiences, perspectives, and viewpoints related to economic opportunity, access, well-being, and awareness in the eight-county Capital Region.

Each year, [Valley Vision](#), the backbone support organization for [We Prosper Together](#), fields two to three public opinion polls in partnership with Sacramento State’s Institute of Social Research to generate greater understanding of the most pressing issues facing our region. The Inclusive Economy Poll, which was conducted in 2023, is Valley Vision’s first public opinion poll solely focused on the economic well-being of our eight-county region.

This full-question summary is designed to accompany the full report, which we encourage you to read by [visiting our website](#). Please note that this summary only includes topline responses. Further information about demographical differences may be found in the full report.

Question	Weighted Response Choice	% (Weighted)
1. How concerned are you with the following economic issues in your region?		
1a. Aging population and declining young adult population	Not Concerned	37.3%
	Somewhat Concerned	39.9%
	Concerned	14.8%
	Very Concerned	8.0%
1b. Attracting high-paying skilled jobs	Not Concerned	16.1%
	Somewhat Concerned	39.9%
	Concerned	30.2%
	Very Concerned	13.9%



1c. Improving infrastructure to encourage commercial growth in the region	Not Concerned	21.0%
	Somewhat Concerned	35.1%
	Concerned	26.8%
	Very Concerned	17.1%
1d. Encouraging "green" or climate friendly practices	Not Concerned	23.0%
	Somewhat Concerned	27.9%
	Concerned	25.8%
	Very Concerned	23.3%
1e. Ensuring all community members benefit	Not Concerned	13.4%
	Somewhat Concerned	26.8%
	Concerned	34.1%
	Very Concerned	25.7%
2. Which of these ways to improve your community's economy would you be most supportive of? Select up to four.		
2a. Improving vibrancy of downtowns	No	63.8%
	Yes	36.2%
2b. Creating new eco-friendly and sustainable buildings	No	71.0%
	Yes	29.0%
2c. Creating spaces that mix office, residential, and commercial spaces (for live/work/shop experiences)	No	56.5%
	Yes	43.5%
2d. More development in rural areas	No	82.5%
	Yes	17.5%
2e. Reinvigorating neglected retail spaces	No	31.8%



	Yes	68.2%
2f. Preserving green, open and wild spaces	No	32.7%
	Yes	67.3%
2g. Provide public transportation to support community growth	No	51.2%
	Yes	48.8%
3. What do you think gets in the way of financial wellbeing for families in your community? Select up to four.		
3a. Lack of high-quality jobs in the region	No	58.8%
	Yes	41.2%
3b. High unemployment in the region	No	83.8%
	Yes	16.2%
3c. High cost of housing	No	9.7%
	Yes	90.3%
3d. High cost of basic needs and services (childcare, healthcare)	No	19.3%
	Yes	80.7%
3e. Lack of job opportunities for people like me	No	82.6%
	Yes	17.4%
3f. eLack of knowledge about managing personal finances	No	67.0%
	Yes	33.0%
3g. Lack of reliable transportation methods	No	76.3%
	Yes	23.7%
3h. Lack of educational opportunities or funding	No	78.1%
	Yes	21.9%



3i. Other.	No	93.2%
	Yes	6.8%
4. What is your level of access to the following resources?		
4a. Reliable power (i.e. gas and electricity)	I never/occasionally have access	2.0%
	I mostly/always have access	98.0%
4b. Clean air in your home and neighborhood	I never/occasionally have access	6.9%
	I mostly/always have access	93.1%
4c. Reliable high-speed internet connection	I never/occasionally have access	10.3%
	I mostly/always have access	89.7%
4d. Transportation to get where you need to go	I never/occasionally have access	10.3%
	I mostly/always have access	89.7%
5. In the last 12 months, the food that we bought in my household just didn't last and we didn't have money to get more.	Never true	75.0%
	Sometimes true	17.6%
	Often true	7.3%
6. In the last 12 months, I had to eat less than I felt I should because there wasn't enough money for food.	Never true	72.3%
	Sometimes true	19.6%
	Often true	8.1%
7. My financial situation now, compared to 2019, has...	gotten worse	36.3%
	stayed the same	30.1%
	improved	33.6%



8. Over the next ten years, my economic well-being will...	get worse	24.6%
	stay the same	34.3%
	get better	41.0%
9. My child(ren)'s financial and professional life will...	be worse than mine	20.0%
	be the same as mine	33.3%
	be better than mine	46.7%
10. If you had an unexpected \$400 emergency expense come up today, which of the following best describes how you would handle the extra expense?	I would cover this cost with savings or cash on hand	65.9%
	I would ask for help/borrow/get a loan/other	34.1%
11. How confident are you in your ability to successfully perform the following tasks?		
11a. Manage a household budget	Not confident	4.9%
	Somewhat or very confident	95.1%
11b. Open bank accounts that grow wealth (i.e. high yield savings, CDs)	Not confident	21.1%
	Somewhat or very confident	78.9%
11c. Invest for long- or short-term gains	Not confident	29.1%
	Somewhat or very confident	70.9%
11d. Save for retirement	Not confident	23.7%
	Somewhat or very confident	76.3%
11e. Manage credit/debt	Not confident	10.1%
	Somewhat or very confident	89.9%
11f. Manage credit/debt	Not confident	10.1%



	Somewhat or very confident	89.9%
12. Which of the following financial resources do you have? Select all that apply.		
12a. Checking account	Not selected	3.8%
	Selected	96.2%
12b. Savings account	Not selected	18.9%
	Selected	81.1%
12c. Credit card(s)	Not selected	13.2%
	Selected	86.8%
12d. Pension	Not selected	63.1%
	Selected	36.9%
12e. Retirement	Not selected	34.0%
	Selected	66.0%
12f. Non-retirement investment accounts	Not selected	64.7%
	Selected	35.3%
13. If you suffered a sudden job loss or lost your primary source of income, how long would your savings last?	I do not have any savings	18.7%
	Less than 3 months	18.7%
	3 months	13.1%
	More than 3 months	49.4%
14. Is your level of education higher or more advanced than your highest educated parent or guardian?	No	42.2%
	Yes	57.8%
15. What do you think the likelihood is that your children will achieve a higher or more advanced level of education than you?	Very unlikely	2.0%
	Somewhat unlikely	12.2%



	Somewhat likely	40.7%
	Very likely	45.1%
16. Thinking about job opportunities where you live, would you say that...	there are plenty of jobs available	52.4%
	jobs are difficult to find	47.6%
17. How would you characterize your current primary employment status?	Employed full time	47.3%
	Employed part time and looking for more employment	5.2%
	Employed part time and not looking for more employment	6.3%
	Not employed, but looking for employment	6.3%
	Not employed and not looking for employment	5.6%
	Retired	23.6%
	Other. Please specify:	5.8%

18. Which of the following unemployment resources, if any, are you aware of that may be of use to you? Select all that apply.

18a. Basic necessities assistance (BenefitsCal)	No	91.1%
	Yes	8.9%
18b. Food assistance (CalFresh, Food banks, etc.)	No	32.9%
	Yes	67.1%
18c. Medical care and coverage (Covered California, community health clinics, etc.)	No	45.0%
	Yes	55.0%



18d. Employment and training services from workforce agencies	No	83.7%
	Yes	16.3%
18e. Credit card debt relief programs	No	90.2%
	Yes	9.8%
18f. Housing and utilities assistance	No	78.0%
	Yes	22.0%
18g. Discounted phone services	No	62.1%
	Yes	37.9%
18h. Discounted broadband services	No	66.1%
	Yes	33.9%
18i. Legal services and community mediation	No	89.7%
	Yes	10.3%
18j. Other. Please specify:	No	94.8%
	Yes	5.2%
19. How many jobs are you currently working?	One	85.9%
	Two	10.9%
	More than two	3.2%
20. How many hours a week do you work?	20 hours or less	10.7%
	Between 21-40 hours	56.9%
	41 hours+	32.4%
21. My job offers me...		
21a. Adequate health insurance	Strongly disagree	15.6%
	Somewhat disagree	6.7%



	Somewhat agree	31.4%
	Strongly agree	46.4%
21b. A livable wage	Strongly disagree	14.3%
	Somewhat disagree	14.5%
	Somewhat agree	40.5%
	Strongly agree	30.7%
21c. Adequate vacation time	Strongly disagree	14.9%
	Somewhat disagree	12.7%
	Somewhat agree	29.1%
	Strongly agree	43.3%
21d. Adequate sick leave	Strongly disagree	13.8%
	Somewhat disagree	15.2%
	Somewhat agree	29.4%
	Strongly agree	41.6%
21e. Needed mental health resources	Strongly disagree	18.7%
	Somewhat disagree	14.0%
	Somewhat agree	37.2%
	Strongly agree	30.1%
21f. The chance to advance in my career	Strongly disagree	14.2%
	Somewhat disagree	19.2%
	Somewhat agree	42.0%
	Strongly agree	24.6%
21g. Safe conditions to work in	Strongly disagree	3.3%
	Somewhat disagree	7.0%



	Somewhat agree	26.1%
	Strongly agree	63.5%
21h. Maternal/paternal/family leave	Strongly disagree	14.4%
	Somewhat disagree	7.3%
	Somewhat agree	27.2%
	Strongly agree	51.1%
21i. Work-life balance	Strongly disagree	8.6%
	Somewhat disagree	19.7%
	Somewhat agree	34.6%
	Strongly agree	37.0%
22. Do you have opportunities for promotion and/or higher wages in your current job?	No	33.2%
	Yes	66.8%
23. In your current employment situation, how many hours do you need to work to make ends meet for yourself and/or your family? (Recode)	0 - 20	5.8%
	21 - 40	56.6%
	41 or more	31.3%
	I can't make ends meet	6.3%
24. Have you ever experienced discrimination at your current workplace due to the following?		
24a. Language barriers	No	94.0%
	Yes	6.0%
24b. Cultural differences	No	86.5%
	Yes	13.5%
24c. Race/Ethnicity	No	88.3%



	Yes	11.7%
24d. Gender	No	83.2%
	Yes	16.8%
24e. Religion	No	94.0%
	Yes	6.0%
24f. Sexual orientation	No	94.6%
	Yes	5.4%
24g. Disabilities	No	93.7%
	Yes	6.3%
24h. Age	No	86.5%
	Yes	13.5%
24i. Something else	No	96.8%
	Yes. Please specify:	3.2%
25. Are you interested in increasing your job skills?	No	17.9%
	Yes	82.1%
26. What types of skill building are you interested in? Select all that apply		
26a. Technical skills (e.g. computer literacy, project management)	No	15.1%
	Yes	84.9%
26b. Soft skills (e.g. communication, organization)	No	38.6%
	Yes	61.4%
26c. Other. Please specify:	No	94.4%
	Yes	5.6%



27. Are you interested in changing your profession?	No	62.2%
	Yes	37.8%
28. Would you be interested in applying or learning about training programs for these jobs?	No	8.7%
	Yes	91.3%
29. I have entrepreneurial skills and abilities.	Strongly disagree	12.4%
	Disagree	33.1%
	Agree	43.5%
	Strongly agree	11.0%
30. I would take a chance and set up my own business.	Strongly disagree	20.0%
	Disagree	38.7%
	Agree	28.6%
	Strongly agree	12.7%
31. What, if any, types of gig employment do you currently have? Select up to four.		
31a. Driving for a rideshare app, such as Uber or Lyft	No	95.9%
	Yes	4.1%
31b. Selling products or services on sites such as Etsy or Ebay	No	92.4%
	Yes	7.6%
31c. Providing professional services as a freelancer	No	89.8%
	Yes	10.2%
31d. Working through pay apps such as TaskRabbit	No	98.6%
	Yes	1.4%
31e. Selling products such as Mary Kay or Pampered Chef	No	98.5%
	Yes	1.5%



31f. Renting space in your personal home, such as Airbnb	No	97.2%
	Yes	2.8%
31g. Select up to four None of the above	No	18.5%
	Yes	81.5%
32. What percentage of your current income comes from the "gig" economy?	<24%	71.8%
	25-49%	7.9%
	50%-74%	4.9%
	75%+	15.5%