

Poll: Californians Want Rent Control

July 10, 2019

Overwhelming Support for Rental Affordability Act

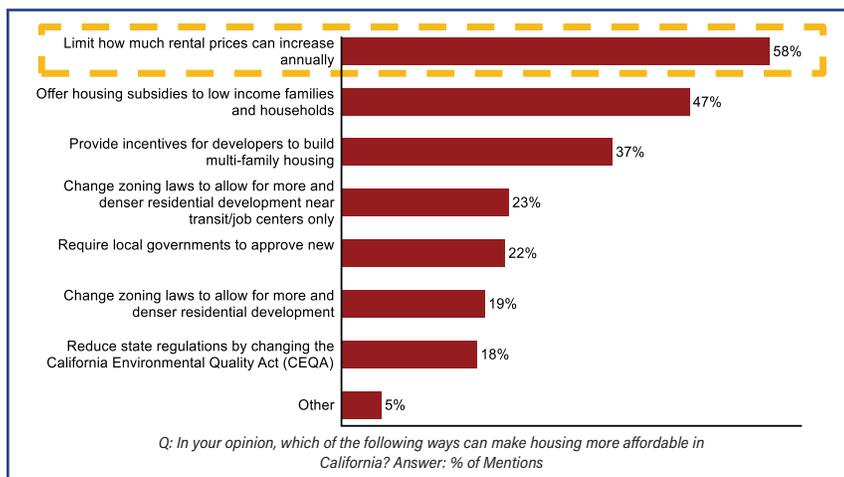
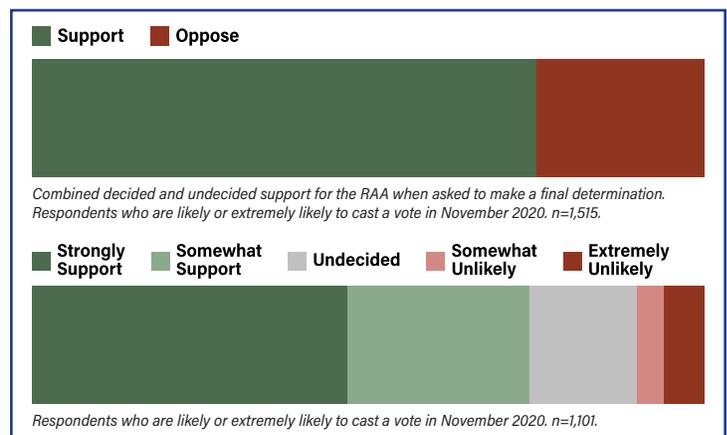
A statewide poll of likely voters expressed support for the Rental Affordability Act. The Act would reform state law, allowing cities and counties to expand rent control policies that limit how much rents can increase each year.

California voters overwhelmingly support the expansion of rent control policies and a proposed ballot initiative, the Rental Affordability Act (RAA), according to a new poll commissioned by AIDS Healthcare Foundation. The poll was conducted at the end of June 2019 by A/B Consulting. It found increasing dissatisfaction with the direction of public policy in California, with 61% of likely voters saying homelessness was among their top 3 issues most concerning to Californians.

Voters Strongly Support Rent Control

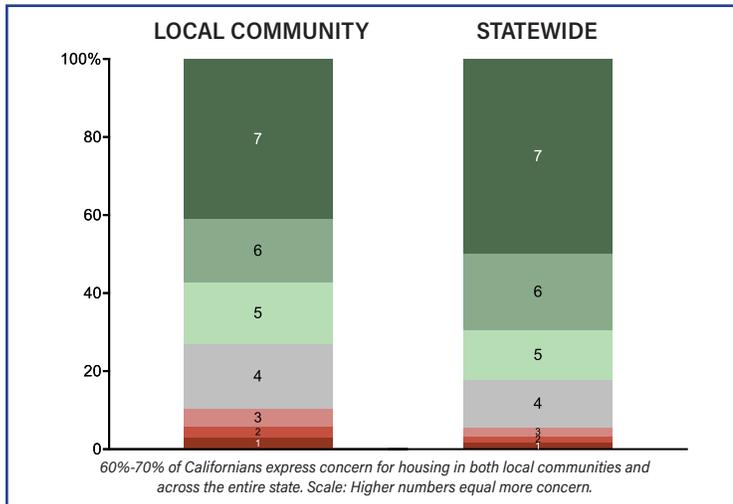
75% of voters who are likely and extremely likely to vote in next year's General Election said they were likely to support the Rental Affordability Act.

California voters overwhelmingly support rent control policies that limit how much housing rental prices can increase each year.



Nearly 60% of voters identified limiting the rate at which rental prices can increase annually as one of the ways to make housing more affordable in California—more than any other option provided in our survey. Limiting rental increases was also mentioned as one of the top 3 methods to make housing more affordable.

Deep Housing Affordability Concerns



Over three-quarters of likely voters polled said housing affordability is a big problem in their local community, with even more respondents saying it was a pressing concern statewide.

The poll suggests that while press coverage often focuses on the effects of the crisis in the largest California cities, communities up and down the state are feeling the pressure from accelerating housing costs.

Initiative Popular Across California

The poll found significant support for the Rental Affordability Act across the state, with notable net-support above 50% in San Diego, Riverside and Los Angeles counties. When broken down by Congressional Districts, net support was higher than opposition in every one of California's 53 districts.

Region	Yes or Lean Yes	No or Lean No	Net %
San Diego County	66%	14%	52%
Riverside County	63%	12%	51%
Los Angeles County	65%	15%	50%
San Bernardino County	57%	9%	48%
Sacramento County	59%	17%	42%
San Francisco Bay Area	60%	21%	39%
Orange County	56%	18%	38%
Fresno County	50%	14%	36%

Note: Net is the % Supporters (Yes or Lean Yes) minus % Non-Supporters (No or Lean No)

VOICES FROM ACROSS THE STATE

"I support the Rental Affordability Act because looking at the general trend of housing prices, they have drastically increased over the years. The average family income of these areas doesn't accommodate for the rapid increase in housing. It would be more beneficial to the community in the end if more diverse groups could reasonably afford the housing."

- Orange County Resident

"Rent prices keep increasing yet jobs in the area don't have pay increases. I have lost many friends [and] colleagues to relocating out of state due to the high rent/cost of living."

- Solano County Resident

"I support [the RAA] because it helps renters and stops large real estate agencies from price gouging and making the rental prices so unaffordable for the lower and middle class."

- Sacramento County Resident

visit us at www.housinghumanright.org

Source: California Rental Affordability Act Survey (n=1,515), A/B Consulting. Field work from 20-29 June 2019. The respondent pool is a representative sample of the California voter demographics based on voter registration, history, and likelihood to vote