

A Message from the CEO



This year, ABC is again proud to release the 2024 - Voter Guide - a vital tool intended to inform voters in Los Angeles County and increase their voting confidence on measures. This voter guide has been developed to demonstrate how different local and state ballot measures, and propositions may

directly affect Latina/o residents. As one of the larger, more active demographics in the county, the social and economic dynamic throughout the Los Angeles region is deeply influenced by our community. <u>ABC's Latino/a Scorecard Report</u> shows that Los Angeles County is also home to 32% of California's Latina/o population. Among Los Angeles County's 88 incorporated cities, Latinas/os are the largest ethnic/racial group in 48 cities. In addition, 62.5% of elementary and high school students are Latina/o. The economic and social prosperity of the Los Angeles region is undoubtedly dependent on the prosperity of the Latina/o community. Latinas/os contribute upwards of <u>\$60</u> <u>billion to the local economy annually</u>, and compose well over <u>40% of the workforce</u> in Los Angeles County, while providing integral contributions to key sectors like healthcare, education, and public service.



ABC's Voter Guide stands apart because it takes the unprecedented step of centering the interests and needs of the Latina/o community, giving voice to so many issues that are otherwise whispered about in the mainstream. Our 2020 and 2022 guides were foundational to this work while still centering attention on critical issues: affordable housing, access to quality education, and environmental justice. This year's guide builds upon that with a wider range of topics, from LGBTQ+ rights to housing, taxes and bonds, and government reform at both local and hyper-local levels. It gives a nuanced look at how each of these policy proposals fits into the priorities and values of this community to make informed decisions about the future of neighborhoods and families.

Empower Los Angeles: Your Vote, Your Voice

Alliance for a Better Community voter guide aims to help you understand your ballot and support local and state initiatives that expand opportunities for all communities, with a special focus on the impact on the Latina/o community in Los Angeles.

SOMOS EL VOTO

ABC is dedicated to mobilizing and empowering Latina/o voters in Los Angeles to ensure their voices are heard at the polls. Voting is a powerful tool that enables us to work toward a future where all Latina/os thrive in a community enriched by better education, healthcare, housing, and civic participation. By casting our ballots, Latina/o voters can drive critical resources and meaningful investments to our neighborhoods.

Los Angeles Latina/o Voters

Close to 8.2 million California Latinas/os are eligible to vote in the November 2024 General Election. In Los Angeles County alone, 2.6 million Latinas/os are eligible to vote, representing the largest racial or ethnic group of eligible voters in the county at 40%. Latinas/os also represent the second youngest racial or ethnic group among eligible voters in Los Angeles County, with the median age at 38, seven years younger than the overall eligible voter population and more than a decade younger than non-Hispanic whites. Despite these trends however, Latinas/os have the lowest turnout rates historically compared to other racial or ethnic groups. Across California, Latinas/os comprise 36% of the adult population but just 25% of likely voters. Yet, given their significant numbers and youthful demographic, Latinas/os have the potential to shape key policy decisions and significantly influence the overall election outcome.



2024 California General Important Dates

October 7

Los Angeles County elections office will begin mailing ballots.

October 8 Ballot drop-off locations open.

October 8 - November 5

Vote-by-mail ballots can be returned by mail, at a drop-off location, or the county elections office.

October 26

Vote centers open for early in-person voting in all Voter's Choice Act counties.



Scan here to find more information about Early Voting and Vote-by-Mail Ballot Drop-Off Locations.

At a Glance

California State Propositions Los Angeles County Measures	Neutral on Prop 2	Authorizes Bonds for Public Schools and Community College Facilities
	Yes on Prop 3	Constitutional Right to Marriage
	Yes on Prop 4	Authorizes Bonds for Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, and Protecting Communities and Natural Lands from Climate Risks
	Yes on Prop 5	Allows Local Bonds for Affordable Housing and Public Infrastructure with 55% Voter Approval
	Yes on Prop 6	Eliminates Constitutional Provision Allowing Involuntary Servitude for Incarcerated Persons
	Yes on Prop 32	Raises Minimum Wage
	Yes on Prop 33	Expands Local Governments Authority to Enact Rent Control on Residential Property
	Yes on Prop 35	Provides Permanent Funding for Medi-Cal Health Care Services
	No on Prop 36	Allows Felony Charges and Increases Sentences for Certain Drug and Theft Crimes
	Yes on Measure A	Affordable Housing, Homelessness Solutions and Prevention Now
county Measures	Yes on Measure DD	Independent Redistricting Commission for the City of Los Angeles
County Measures o	Yes on Measure DD	Independent Redistricting Commission for the City of Los Angeles
ounty Measures ◦— Los Angeles	Yes on Measure DD Yes on Measure LL	Independent Redistricting Commission for the City of Los Angeles

A Closer Look

•—— California State Propositions ——•

Neutral on Prop 2

Proposition 2 proposes a \$10 billion state bond to improve and modernize educational facilities, allocating \$8.5 billion for elementary and secondary schools and \$1.5 billion for community colleges. To participate, school districts must submit a 5-year facilities master plan and update school building capacity reports. The proposition adjusts local funding contributions for state aid eligibility and allows funds to replace buildings 75+ years old, support schools on military bases and small districts, and address lead in water. Grants can be used for seismic safety, health projects, and school broadband infrastructure. To receive bond money, districts must raise a local bond of their own and then apply to the State Facilities Program for a funding match on a sliding scale.

According to the UC Berkeley Center for Cities + Schools, districts in the wealthiest communities received \$4,000-\$5,000 more per student to modernize their facilities, compared to districts in the least affluent communities. Latina/o students are more likely to attend schools in lower-income districts, which could struggle to raise the local funds needed to receive state matching grants under Proposition 2. However, with many schools facing desperate needs for upgraded school facilities, Prop 2 can provide a significant funding stream to local districts and create opportunities for students to have access to updated and improved school facilities across the state.

ABC recommends voters to take a position on Prop 2 based on their values through an equity and student-centered lens.

Yes on Prop 3

Proposition 3 is a constitutional amendment that would enshrine the right to same-sex marriage into the California constitution, ultimately repealing Proposition 8 - a measure approved in 2008 that defined marriage as between a man and a woman. This change would affirm that marriage is a fundamental right for everyone.

California is home to the nation's largest LGBTQ+ community, of which 34% identify as Latinas/os. Although, samesex marriage was legalized nationwide through a historic 2015 Supreme Court decision, enshrining it in the state's constitution, protects same-sex marriage in California from being impacted through potential future US Supreme Court overrulings.

Vote YES on Prop 3 to uphold marriage equality in California and officially recognize marriage equality in the California Constitution.

Prop 3 Supporters

- · Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California
- California Labor Federation
- California Chamber of Commerce

Yes on Prop 4

Proposition 4 proposes issuing a \$10 billion bond to fund various projects addressing California's environmental challenges. These include ensuring safe drinking water, preparing for droughts and floods, enhancing water resilience, preventing wildfires, promoting forest resilience, and mitigating extreme heat. The bond prioritizes aid to disadvantaged communities and includes substantial investments in sustainable agriculture, local food systems, and farmworker health. If approved by voters, this act would take effect immediately, focusing on urgent environmental and public health needs across the state. Latina/o communities are disproportionately impacted by climate change. In LA County, regions like Southeast LA, comprised of 94% Latinas/os, have some of the most severe environmental scores that represent dangerous levels of water quality, air pollution, and environmental toxins that affect the neighborhoods.

Vote YES on Prop 4 to fund climate resilience projects, including improving safe drinking water, enhancing wildfire prevention measures, and supporting sustainable agriculture initiatives.

Prop 4 Supporters

- Clean Water Action
- National Wildlife Federation
- California Professional Firefighters

Yes on Prop 5

Proposition 5, aims to change how local bond measures are approved locally in California. Currently, most local bond proposals need a two-thirds vote, or 66% from the public to pass. A two-thirds voter approval for local bond measures hurts our community's ability to fund important local projects like housing and public infrastructure. If Proposition 5 is approved by the voters, the threshold would be lowered to 55%. Proposition 5 would mirror the 55% threshold already in place for school construction bonds and other types of local projects covered by the measure.

Latinas/os in Los Angeles County face significant challenges in accessing affordable housing due to high housing costs and limited availability. By lowering the voting threshold for bonds supporting affordable housing and other projects, Prop 5 could potentially lead to increased funding for new affordable housing developments and rental assistance programs and may directly benefit Latina/o families struggling with housing affordability issues. **Vote YES** on Prop 5 to lower barriers to obtaining funding for affordable housing and public infrastructure projects.

Prop 5 Supporters

- California Housing Partnership
- California Labor Federation
- League of Women Voters of California

Yes on Prop 6

The California Constitution currently bans slavery and involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for a crime. If passed, Proposition 6 will end mandatory work requirements for state prisoners, instead making jobs voluntary for incarcerated people, and will prevent the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation from punishing incarcerated individuals who refuse work assignments. If passed, state prisons could set up a volunteer work assignment program to take time off sentences in the form of credits.

Latinas/os are disproportionately represented in California's prison system, constituting 44% of the total prison population. Eliminating punishments for incarcerated individuals, addresses systemic inequalities historically upheld through the state's prison system.

Vote YES on Prop 6 to end involuntary servitude as punishment for crimes in California, ensuring wages and voluntary work opportunities.

Prop 6 Supporters

- ACLU California Action
- Anti-Recidivism Coalition
- California Teachers Association

Yes on Prop 32

Proposition 32 proposes to gradually increase California's minimum wage to \$18 per hour by 2026. Currently, the minimum wage is set at \$16 per hour and adjusted annually for inflation. The initiative would raise the minimum wage to \$17 for the remainder of 2024, and increase to \$18 an hour starting in January 2025. Small businesses with less than 26 employees would have a slightly longer period for these changes, and instead will be required to pay at least \$17 starting 2025, and \$18 in 2026. In periods of decreased economic activity, or General Fund deficit, the Governor may suspend annual increases up to two times, thereby extending the timeline for reaching \$18.00 per hour.

According to CalMatters, nearly 6 in 10 low-wage workers are Latina/o, and about half of those are immigrants. Although several cities across California already have higher existing minimum wage requirements, this Proposition would provide a statewide standard that would lift wages for many Latina/o workers, particularly in areas where local minimums are lower.

Vote YES on Prop 32 to help ensure fair wages, support economic stability for workers, and reduce emergency spending for households across California.

Prop 32 Supporters

- Unite Here
- Working Families Party California
- League of Women Voters of California

Yes on Prop 33

Proposition 33 aims to expand the authority of local governments in California to enact rent control. Currently, the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act of 1995 prevents cities and counties from setting rent limits for single-family homes or apartments built after 1995. If Proposition 33 passes, it would repeal the Costa-Hawkins law, allowing local governments to set rent limits on vacant units, single-family homes, and newer apartments. This change would enable local governments to regulate rents if they choose to do so.

Data shows that 55% of Latina/o renters in LA are housing cost-burdened, spending over 30% of their income on rent. Latinas/os make up 56% of renters in LA County, highlighting the significant impact this measure could have. With over two-thirds of LA rentals owned by corporate landlords and big landlords controlling 28% of California's rental market, Proposition 33 aims to expand the number of affordable housing options through local rent controls.

Vote YES on Prop 33 to empower local governments to expand rent control, alleviate housing costs, and provide more affordable and stable housing options for the Latina/o community and other vulnerable renters.

Prop 33 Supporters

- California Nurses Association
- CA Alliance for Retired Americans
- Housing is a Human Right



Yes on Prop 35

Proposition 35 aims to permanently impose a tax on health insurance providers, known as managed care organizations (MCO), that provide or arrange services for a monthly payment. These tax revenues help fund the state's Medi-Cal programs and are used for specific Medi-Cal services such as primary and specialty care, emergency care, mental health, and prescription drugs, and prohibit using the funds to replace existing Medi-Cal funding. California's recent expansion of Medi-Cal eligibility to include individuals regardless of immigration status has increased the amount of funding necessary to sustain the Medi-Cal program. Proposition 35 would remove the current sunset date of 2026 for the MCO tax and instead make it permanent.

About 15 million Californians, roughly a third of the state population, use Medi-Cal. Over 50% of those enrolled are Latina/o. The passing of Proposition 35 will allow for continued coverage of essential Medi-Cal services for Latinas/os in Los Angeles and the state.

Vote YES on Prop 35 to ensure stable funding for Medi-Cal, improve access to essential health services, and enhance care quality for low-income Latinas/os in Los Angeles.

Prop 35 Supporters

- · Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California
- California Hospital Association
- California Primary Care Association

No on Prop 36

Proposition 36 seeks to amend Proposition 47, a measure passed by voters in 2014 that reduced certain nonviolent felonies to misdemeanors to ease prison overcrowding and redirect funds to treatment programs. Under Prop 36, possessing drugs like fentanyl or committing thefts valued under \$950 could become felonies, if an individual has prior convictions for similar offenses, and would face up to three years in county jail or state prison. This is a shift from current law through Prop 47, which classified these offenses as misdemeanors and individuals are subject to only up to six months in a county jail.

Historically, Latina/o communities have faced higher rates of policing and incarceration in California. Data show that before Proposition 47, approximately 34% of Latina/o arrests were for felonies. After Proposition 47, this share decreased by about 8 percentage points, dropping to approximately 26%. Similarly, there was a 71% decrease in booking rates for drug felonies among Latina/os after Prop 47 was passed. By rolling back measures of Prop 47, Prop 36 could disproportionately impact the Latina/o community by increasing arrests and incarceration rates across the state.

Vote NO on Prop 36 to prevent increasing incarceration rates, avoid exacerbating disparities in the criminal justice system, and protect community resources from being diverted to higher prison costs.

Prop 36 Opponents

- Alliance for Safety and Justice
- ACLU of Southern California
- League of Women Voters of California

o----- Los Angeles County Measures -----

Yes on Measure A

Measure A will replace Measure H, which was set to expire in 2027, and increase the sales tax by ¼ cent to add funding for homelessness prevention and making housing more affordable. Measure A is expected to generate around \$1 billion annually for affordable housing, mental health care, substance abuse treatment, and other critical services across L.A. County. The new tax can be repealed by voters. It seeks to improve upon past approaches by adding more accountability requirements including mandatory goals, with a requirement that funding be moved from lower performing programs to higher performing. The measure is focused on getting people from tents into treatment and housing. The allocation of funds would be as follows: 50% for homeless services, 24% for housing production, 11% for homelessness prevention and renter support, 10% for flexible services or housing, and 1.25% for accountability and evaluation.

The number of unhoused Latinas/os in LA County has increased in recent years to an estimated 30,000 – a 73% increase since 2018. Latinas/os represent 44% of the unhoused population, despite making up 49% of the county's overall population. Approximately 226,000, live in overcrowded and substandard housing, particularly in South and Metro LA, often "doubled up" with other households. Despite revised counting methods in the 2024 Los Angeles County Point-In-Time Count, the percentage of Latinas/os experiencing homelessness has remained largely unchanged. If the measure passes, it could provide substantial funding for affordable housing and essential services.

Vote YES on Measure A to provide substantial funding for affordable housing and essential services, directly benefiting those in need and reducing homelessness in our community.

Measure A Supporters

- United Way of LA
- ACLU Southern California
- InnerCity Struggle

── Los Angeles City Council ───

Yes on Measure DD

Redistricting is the process by which governments redraw political district boundaries every ten years following the Census. The manner in which these lines are drawn can maintain or divide communities of interest, influence electoral outcomes, and determine which policy issues and solutions are prioritized and implemented. In the City of Los Angeles, the city council has historically controlled the redistricting process, a power that has been exploited for the self-serving benefit of elected officials. Measure DD aims to create an Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) thus removing this influence and decisionmaking power from elected officials and placing it in the hands of Los Angeles city residents. Applicants for commissioner positions must meet specific criteria and are chosen through a transparent and unbiased public process that prevents any undue influence from elected officials.

There have been ongoing efforts to increase the voting power and influence of Latinas/os in Los Angeles. The redistricting process is a critical opportunity to influence the lines drawn that will not only sustain or divide existing communities within current districts but also determine the resources allocated to each district, which has been a source of ongoing tension.

Vote YES on Measure DD to ensure that the redistricting process in Los Angeles is fair, transparent, and accountable to the communities it affects.

Measure DD Supporters

- AAPI Equity Alliance
- California Common Cause
- Catalyst California

• Los Angeles Unified School District

Yes on Measure LL

Similar to the proposal for an Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) for the City of LA, Measure LL aims to create an IRC for the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). The boundaries drawn will not only shape the representation within the district but also determine how resources are distributed, which schools receive attention, and which communities are prioritized.

While nearly 75% of LA Unified students are Latina/o and 80% of multilingual learners speak Spanish, the district has consistently failed to adequately serve Latina/o students and their interests through the redistricting process, leading to fragmented district lines. The redistricting process has the potential to amplify community interests and voices by ensuring that political influences are removed and community voices are prioritized.

Vote YES on Measure LL to establish an Independent Redistricting Commission for the Los Angeles Unified School District (LA Unified), ensuring that the voices and interests of parents, students, and staff, are prioritized.

Measure LL Supporters

- League of Women Voters of Greater Los Angeles
- Translatin@ Coalition
- Catalyst California

Note: ABC also conducted an analysis on Proposition 34. However, ABC did not take a position on this and therefore it was not included in the Voter Guide.

Additional information about LA County Measure G and LAUSD Measure US will be available soon.







ABC advances social, economic, and racial equity and justice for the Latina/o community and the broader Los Angeles area through strategic power building and policy advocacy.

Join Us In Our Mission!



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