Latino Voters in the 2021 Recall Election
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Executive Summary

- Latino voters mobilized later than others. The single-biggest day of Latino votes was September 14, 2021, the day of the recall election.

- In most counties, support for Governor Newsom increased as the concentration of Latino voters in precincts increased.

- Statewide, an estimated 78.1% of Latinos voted against the recall election. High support for Governor Newsom among Latinos is broadly unchanged from the 2018 election.

- Regionally, the most important patterns are:
  - In Southern California, Latino support for Governor Newsom was upwards of 75%, even in historically Republican Counties like Orange and Riverside County.
  - In Central California, Latino voters were more likely to vote opposite of non-Latino voters.
  - Support for Governor Newsom among Latinos was highest in the Bay Area. Contra Costa displayed the strongest Latino support for Governor Newsom with 93% of Latinos rejecting the recall.
  - In Northern California, Governor Newsom received a similar share of votes compared to 2018.

- Similar to non-Latinos, the majority of Latinos voters cast their ballot by mail. However, in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Tulare counties, Latino voters were more likely to vote in-person when compared to non-Latinos.
Methodology

• **Data sources:** County Registrars of voters provide recall election data at the precinct-level (2021). The share of Latino voters in each precinct comes from UC Berkeley’s statewide election database.

• We match precinct-level data on votes cast in the 2021 recall to the estimated percentage of Latino voters in recent elections.
  • The share of Latino voters in each precinct is estimated from data in the 2020 general election in all counties.
  • For Santa Clara, we use demographics from the 2018 gubernatorial election.
  • For Riverside, we match to demographics from both the 2018 gubernatorial and 2020 general.
  • Precincts for which we do not have a match between the 2018/2020 and 2021 elections were excluded.
  • We also exclude precincts a) that lack valid Latino demographic data or b) that have fewer than 25 votes.

• To estimate the percentage of Latino voters who voted “Yes” and “No” we fit a Loess regression line. For the 2021 statewide election results, we estimate the percentage of Latino votes using a King’s ecological inference model.

• This data analysis is more reliable than exit polls because it uses actual data on votes cast and historical election data. Exit polls are often subject to several biases.
## Counties Included in Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Latino Voters (% NO)</th>
<th>Non-Latino Voters (% NO)</th>
<th>County Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Southern California</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles County</td>
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<td>57%</td>
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<td>Ventura County</td>
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<td>56%</td>
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<td><strong>Inland Empire</strong></td>
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<td>Riverside County</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<td>San Bernardino County</td>
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<td><strong>Central California</strong></td>
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<td>Merced County</td>
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<td>San Luis Obispo County</td>
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<td>62%</td>
<td>52.8% NO</td>
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<td>Stanislaus County</td>
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<td>Tulare County</td>
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<td>37%</td>
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<td><strong>The Bay Area</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Alameda County</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>85%</td>
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<td>Contra Costa County</td>
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<td><strong>Northern California</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sacramento County</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>62.0% NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonoma County</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>73.7% NO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The 18 counties in our analysis represent 81.4% of California’s population and 81.5% of the state’s Latino population (2020 Census).
Orrin Heatlie’s Notice of Intent to California Secretary of State for Recall Petition

TO THE HONORABLE GAVIN NEWSOM: Pursuant to section11020, California Elections Code, the undersigned registered qualified voters of the State of California, hereby give notice, we are the proponents of a recall petition and we intend to seek your recall and removal from the office of Governor in the State of California and to demand election of a successor in that office. The grounds for this recall are as follows: Governor Newsom has implemented laws which are detrimental to the citizens of this state and our way of life. Laws he endorsed favor foreign nationals, in our country illegally, over that of our own citizens. People in this state suffer the highest taxes in the nation, the highest homelessness rates, and the lowest quality of life as a result. He has imposed sanctuary state status and fails to enforce immigration laws. He unilaterally over-ruled the will of the people regarding the death penalty. He seeks to impose additional burdens on our state by the following: removing the protections of Proposition 13, rationing our water use, increasing taxes and restricting parental rights. Having no other recourse, we the people have come together to take this action, remedy these misdeeds and prevent further injustices.

Context: The Recall and Latino Voters

- The recall petition, started by a retired county sheriff’s sergeant, explicitly called out immigration, taxes, homelessness, criminal justice, and quality of life as reasons for the recall.
- Since the last recall in 2003, UCLA LPPI estimates that there has been nearly a 150% increase of Latino voters and 122% increase for Asian American. During the past 20 years, the growth of white voters in California was 5%.
- In the 2020 election, Latinos composed:
  - 32% of the total citizen population in CA (8.3m people)
  - 27.9% of registered voters in CA (5.0m people)
  - 26.8% of total voters in CA (4.5m people)
Latino Votes Doubled Once In-Person Voting Began

- Latino votes doubled once in-person voting opened.
- The single-biggest day of Latino votes was September 14, 2021, the day of the recall election.
- Total Latino turnout stands at 1,823,798 statewide.
- Latino voter turnout was 30%.

Source: Political Data Intelligence (PDI).
Statewide: 78.1% of Latinos Voted Against the Recall

California Recall Vote - Statewide
Sorted by Percent Latino within each Precinct

- Support for Governor Newsom increased as the percent Latino in each precinct grew.
- Statewide, an estimated 78.1% of Latinos voted against the recall.
- An estimated 60.7% of non-Latinos statewide voted against the recall.
- Overall, 61.9% of Californians voted “No” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
In both the 2018 and 2021 elections, support for Governor Newsom was strongest in high-density Latino precincts.

In high-density Latino precincts, support for Governor Newsom was nearly identical with the 2018 election.
Statewide: Latinos More Likely to Vote In-Person

- Generally speaking, most Latinos cast their ballots through the mail but displayed a greater preference to voting in-person than non-Latinos.

- In high-density Latino precincts statewide, 77 percent of Latino voters voted by mail.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Note: Chart includes 14 counties: Alameda, Los Angeles, Madera, Merced, Orange, San Bernardino, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Tulare, and Ventura Counties.
Southern California: Strong Latino Support, Even in Historically Republican Counties
In Los Angeles County, an estimated 83% of Latinos voted against the recall.

An estimated 70% of non-Latinos in Los Angeles County voted against the recall.

Overall, 70.8% of Angelenos voted “No” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
In high-density Latino precincts in Los Angeles County, 83% of voters rejected the recall.

Although support for the Governor was almost identical, Newsom fell 2 percentage points between the 2018 election and the 2021 recall.
Overall, 82.2% of Angelenos voted by mail during the recall.

In-person voting was preferred by an estimated 25% of Latinos.

Only 12% of non-Latinos chose to vote in-person during the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
• Despite Orange County’s reputation as a Republican stronghold, 81% of Latinos voted against the recall of Governor Newsom.

• In contrast, only 40% of non-Latino voters in Orange County voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

• Overall, 51.7% of Orange County voted “No” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Orange: Support for Newsom Slightly Lowered Among Latinos

Comparison of Support for Newsom (2018) and “No on recall” (2021) 
Sorted by Percent Latino in Each Precinct - Orange County

- In high-density Latino precincts in Orange County, 81% of voters rejected the recall.
- Support for Governor Newsom in high-density Latino precincts fell by an estimated 5 percentage points between 2018 and 2021.

Sources: UC Berkeley Statewide Redistricting Database (2020) and County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Overall, 88.3% of voters in Orange County voted by mail during the recall.

An estimated 90% of Latinos selected voting by mail as their preferred method of participation.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
San Diego: 80% of Latinos Voted Against the Recall

- In San Diego County, an estimated 80% of Latinos voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.
- 57% of non-Latino voters in San Diego County rejected the recall of Governor Newsom.
- Overall, 57.2% of San Diegans voted “No” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
In San Diego County’s high-density Latino precincts, 80% of voters voted “No” on the recall.

Between 2018 and 2021, Support for Governor Newsom fell by an estimated 5 percentage points precincts 25%.
Ventura County, an estimated 82% of Latinos voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

56% of non-Latino voters in Ventura County rejected the recall of Governor Newsom.

Overall, 57.2% of Ventura County voted “No” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast
Ventura: Support for Newsom Largely Unchanged

Comparison of Support for Newsom (2018) and “No on recall” (2021)
Sorted by Percent Latino in Each Precinct - Ventura County

- In Ventura County’s high-density Latino precincts, 82% of voters rejected the recall of Governor Newsom.
- Support for Governor Newsom between 2018 and 2021 becomes more similar as the density of Latino voters increases in a precinct.

Sources: UC Berkeley Statewide Redistricting Database (2020) and County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast
Overall, 90.4% of voters in Ventura County voted by mail during the recall.

An estimated 90% of Latinos chose to vote by mail.

Ventura: 9 in 10 Latinos Voted by Mail

Percent of Votes Cast by Mail (VBM) or in Person
Sorted by Percent Latino in Each Precinct - Ventura County

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast
Inland Empire: Small Reduction in Latino Support for Newsom Since 2018
In the Inland Empire’s Riverside County, 76% of Latinos voted against the recall of Governor Newsom.

In contrast, only 45% of non-Latino voters in Riverside County voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

Overall, 50.5% of Riverside County voted “Yes” on the recall.
Riverside: Support for Newsom Slightly Down in High-Density Latino Precincts

Comparison of Support for Newsom (2018) and 'No' on Recall (2021) Sorted by Percent Latino within each Precinct
Riverside County

- In high-density Latino precincts, 76% of voters rejected the recall.
- Support for Governor Newsom fell in precincts that were more than 25% Latino.
- In high-density Latino precincts, support for Governor Newsom fell by an estimated 8 percentage points between 2018 and 2021.

Sources: UC Berkeley Statewide Redistricting Database (2020) and County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
In the Inland Empire’s San Bernardino County, 74% of Latinos voted against the recall of Governor Newsom.

In contrast, only 38% of non-Latino voters in San Bernardino County voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

Overall, 50.2% of San Bernardino County voted “No” on the recall.
San Bernardino: Support for Newsom Down Across the County

Comparison of Support for Newsom (2018) and 'No' on Recall (2021) Sorted by Percent Latino within each Precinct
San Bernardino County

- In high-density Latino precincts, 74% of voters rejected the recall.
- Support for Governor Newsom fell slightly in precincts that were more than 25% Latino.
- In high-density Latino precincts, support for Governor Newsom fell by an estimated 2 percentage points between 2018 and 2021, but remained around 75%.

Sources: UC Berkeley Statewide Redistricting Database (2020) and County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Overall, 86.6% of voters in San Bernardino County voted by mail during the recall.

An estimated 88% of Latinos chose to vote by mail.
Central California: Latinos Generally Voted in Contrast to Non-Latinos
Central California counties reveal clear differences in voting patterns by race/ethnicity.

In Madera County, 77% of Latino voters rejected the recall of Governor Newsom.

In stark contrast, only 30% of non-Latino voters in Madera County voted “No” on the recall.

Overall, 61.2% of Madera County voted “Yes” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
In Madera County’s High-density Latino precincts, 77% of voters were against the recall.

Support for Governor Newsom was largely similar in the highest-density and lowest-density precincts.
Overall, 92.4% of voters in Madera County voted by mail during the recall.

An estimated 90% of Latinos chose to vote by mail, which suggests a slight preference to voting in-person for the highest-density precincts.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Merced County also demonstrates clear voting patterns by race/ethnicity.

An estimated 76% of Latinos voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

In contrast, 85% of non-Latinos voted “Yes” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

Overall, 52.0% of Merced County voted “Yes” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
In Merced County’s high-density Latino precincts, 76% of voters were against the recall.

While support for Newsom was largely similar in the highest-density precincts, there was an estimated 5 percentage point drop across most precincts between 2018 and 2021.

Sources: UC Berkeley Statewide Redistricting Database (2020) and County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Overall, 93.5% of voters in Merced County voted by mail during the recall.

An estimated 90% of Latinos chose to vote by mail, which suggests a slight preference to voting in-person for the highest-density precincts.
• 50% of Latinos in San Luis Obispo County voted against the recall of Governor Newsom.

• 62% of non-Latinos in San Luis Obispo County voted against the recall.

• Overall, 52.8% of the county voted “No” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
In San Luis Obispo County’s high-density Latino precincts, 50% of voters rejected the recall of Governor Newsom.

Support for Governor Newsom generally increased across most precincts, except those with the highest-density of Latino voters.
Overall, 93.2% of voters in San Luis Obispo County voted by mail during the recall.

Latino voting method preferences broadly followed general trends in the county.
Like other Central California Counties, Stanislaus County demonstrates diverging voter preferences by race/ethnicity.

An estimated 75% of Latinos voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

In contrast, 76% of non-Latinos voted “Yes” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

Overall, 54.5% of Stanislaus County voted “Yes” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
• In Stanislaus County’s high-density Latino precincts, 75% of voters were against the recall.

• Support for Governor Newsom across all precincts fell between 2018 and 2021.

Sources: UC Berkeley Statewide Redistricting Database (2020) and County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Overall, 95.9% of voters in Stanislaus County voted by mail during the recall.

Latino voting method preferences broadly followed general trends in the county.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Like other Central California Counties, Tulare County demonstrates diverging voter preferences by race/ethnicity.

An estimated 82% of Latinos voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

In contrast, 63% of non-Latinos voted “Yes” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

Overall, 61.1% of Tulare County voted “Yes” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
In Tulare County’s high-density Latino precincts, 82% of Latinos voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

Support for Governor Newsom fell in most of Tulare County’s precincts.

Support for Governor Newsom in high-density Latino precincts was broadly the same between 2018 and 2021.

Sources: UC Berkeley Statewide Redistricting Database (2020) and County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Overall, 88.8% of voters in Tulare County voted by mail during the recall.

Voters in high-density Latino precincts slightly more likely to vote in-person compared to low-density precincts.
The Bay Area: Consistent Latino Support for Newsom
In Alameda County, Latinos voted largely in-line with county voters.

An estimated 76% of Latinos in Alameda County voted against the recall.

In Alameda County, an estimated 85% of non-Latinos voted against the recall.

Overall, 81.2% of Alameda County voted “No” on the recall.
In Alameda County’s high-density Latino precincts, 76% of Latinos voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

In high-density Latino precincts, support for Governor Newsom dropped 9 percentage points between 2018 and 2020.

Sources: UC Berkeley Statewide Redistricting Database (2020) and County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Overall, 94.6% of voters in Alameda County voted by mail during the recall.

98% of voters in high-density Latino precincts voted by mail.
Contra Costa: 93% of Latinos Voted Against the Recall

California Recall Vote - Contra Costa County
Sorted by Percent Latino within each Precinct

- Contra Costa shows one of the highest rates of “No” votes by Latinos.
- An estimated 93% of Latino voters in Contra Costa County voted “No” against the recall.
- In contrast, only 70% of non-Latino voters in Contra Costa County voted against the recall.
- Overall, 71.5% of Contra Costa voted “No” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
In Contra Costa County’s high-density Latino precincts, 93% of Latinos voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

In high-density Latino precincts, support for Governor Newsom grew by 4 percentage points between 2018 and 2020.

Sources: UC Berkeley Statewide Redistricting Database (2020) and County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
San Francisco: 88% of Latinos Voted Against the Recall

- In line with overall county voting patterns, 88% of Latinos in San Francisco voted “No” on the recall.
- An estimated 79% of non-Latino voters in San Francisco voted against the recall.
- Overall, 86.1% of San Franciscans voted “No” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
In San Francisco County’s high-density Latino precincts, 88% of Latinos voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

In high-density Latino precincts, support for Governor Newsom grew 5 percentage points between 2018 and 2020.

Sources: UC Berkeley Statewide Redistricting Database (2020) and County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Overall, 91.5% of voters in San Francisco County voted by mail during the recall.

An estimated 77% of voters in high-density Latino precincts voted by mail.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
In San Mateo, an estimated 87% of Latinos voted “No” on the recall.

74% of non-Latino voters in San Mateo County voted against the recall.

Overall, 78% of San Mateo County voted “No” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Note: San Mateo matching 2020 consolidated precincts using county crosswalk file.
In San Mateo’s County’s high-density Latino precincts, 87% of Latinos voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

Support for Governor Newsom grew 1 percentage point between 2018 and 2020 in high-density Latino precincts.

Sources: UC Berkeley Statewide Redistricting Database (2020) and County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Note: San Mateo matching 2020 consolidated precincts using county crosswalk file.
Overall, 95% of voters in San Mateo County voted by mail during the recall.

An estimated 95% of voters in high-density Latino precincts voted by mail.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Santa Clara: 78% of Latinos Voted Against the Recall

California Recall Vote - Santa Clara County
Sorted by Percent Latino within each Precinct

- Latino voting patterns in Santa Clara broadly followed general trends in the county.
- An estimated 78% of Latino voters in Santa Clara County voted against the recall.
- An estimated 74% of non-Latino voters in Santa Clara County voted against the recall.
- Overall, 73.8% of Santa Clara County voted “No” on the recall.
In San Mateo’s County’s high-density Latino precincts, 78% of Latinos voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.

Support for Governor Newsom fell 8 percentage points between 2018 and 2020 in high-density Latino precincts.

Sources: UC Berkeley Statewide Redistricting Database (2020) and County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Note: San Mateo matching 2020 consolidated precincts using county crosswalk file.
Overall, 95% of voters in Santa Clara County voted by mail during the recall.

An estimated 93% of voters in high-density Latino precincts voted by mail.
Northern California: Consistent Support for Newsom in Northern Counties
Sacramento: 3 Out of 4 Latinos Voted Against the Recall

California Recall Vote - Sacramento County
Sorted by Percent Latino within each Precinct

- An estimated 74% of Latinos in Sacramento County voted “No” on the recall of Governor Newsom.
- In contrast, an estimated 49% of Non-Latino voters in Sacramento County voted “No” on the recall.
- Overall, 62% of Sacramento County voted “No” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters Unofficial Election Night Results by Precinct (2021). Data last updated 9/17/2021, 2:23 PM.
Sacramento: Support for Newsom Similar in All Precincts

Comparison of Support for Newsom (2018) and ‘No’ on Recall (2021)
Sorted by Percent Latino within each Precinct
Sacramento County

- 74% of voters in High-density Latino Precincts voted against the recall.
- Support for Governor Newsom was broadly the same across all precincts.
- Support for Newsom in low-density Latino precincts dropped 3 percentage points.

Sources: UC Berkeley Statewide Redistricting Database (2020) and County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Sonoma: 85% of Latinos Voted Against the Recall

California Recall Vote - Sonoma County
Sorted by Percent Latino within each Precinct

- 85% of Latinos in Sonoma County voted against the recall of Governor Newsom.
- 74% of non-Latinos in Sonoma County voted against the recall.
- Overall, 73.7% of Sonomans voted “No” on the recall.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
In Sonoma County’s high-density Latino precincts, 85% of voters were against the recall.

Support for Governor Newsom in high-density precincts grew 1 percentage point between 2018 and 2021.

Sources: UC Berkeley Statewide Redistricting Database (2020) and County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
• Overall, 66.5% of voters in Sonoma County voted by mail during the recall.

• Sonoma had the highest in-person voting utilization rate of any Northern California county.

Source: County Registrar of Voters, Statement of Votes Cast (2021).
Conclusions

LATINOS VOTED LATER AND IN SUPPORT OF NEWSOM

• The biggest single day of Latino votes was 9/14—Election Day. The number of Latino votes roughly doubled over the final two days.
• Statewide, an estimated 78.1 percent of Latinos voted against the recall.

IN SOCAL, LATINOS SUPPORTED NEWSOM

• Even in traditionally Republican counties like Orange County, Latino support for Governor Newsom was upwards of 75 percent.

SUPPORT FOR NEWSOM AMONG LATINOS FELL IN THE INLAND EMPIRE

• Support for Governor Newsom, even in high-density Latino precincts, fell from 2018 levels.

IN CENTRAL CA, LATINOS VOTED IN STARK CONTRAST TO NON-LATINOS

• In Madera, Merced, Stanislaus, and Tulare Counties, Latinos overwhelmingly voted “No” on the recall, while non-Latinos overwhelmingly voted to remove Governor Newsom from office.

SUPPORT FOR NEWSOM AMONG LATINOS WAS STRONGEST IN THE BAY AREA

• In every Bay Area county analyzed, over three-quarters of Latinos voted “No” on the recall.
• Support for Governor Newsom was consistent between 2018 and 2021.

SUPPORT FOR NEWSOM CONSISTENT IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

• Support for Governor Newsom in Northern California counties was consistent between 2018 and 2021.

We need to stop relegating diverse voters to the margins.

—Sonja Diaz