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SCE HOUSING SURVEY (FIELDED IN FEBRUARY)

Note: The year references in the questions are updated each year; they are denoted by [XX] in the text below. Some questions and response options change across survey years; please see the codebook tabs in the spreadsheet with the microdata for the exact questions and responses in each year.

[INTRO]

We want to learn about your current housing situation, and your outlook for the future of the housing market. This survey takes about 30 minutes. You will receive \$[payment_amount] for completing the survey.

Most of the questions in this survey have no right or wrong answers - we are interested in your views and opinions. Your responses are confidential, and it helps us a great deal if you respond as carefully as possible. If you should come to any question that you can't or don't want to answer, just click on 'NEXT' and wait for the next question to appear.

Thank you for your participation!

BLOCK 1: Home Price Expectations [All Participants]

Q39

What is the ZIP code of your primary residence (the place where you usually live)?

(numeric response 0-99999)

Q1

Consider a typical home (house/apartment) in your <u>zip code</u>. What is your best guess of the value of such a home as of today?

(By value, we mean how much that typical home would approximately sell for.)

_____ dollars

(numeric response 0-999999999; response required)

[Randomly Assign half of Respondents to see Version 1 and half to Version 2] Version 1 (Show: Q3a1part2, Q3b2, Q3a2part2, Q3a2part3) Version 2 (Show: Q3a, Q3b, Q3c)

[Note: Display Q3a1 and Q3a1part2 on the same page for Version 1]

Q3a1 [If Version 1]

You estimated the current value of a typical home in your zip code to be [Q1 response]. Now, we would like you to think about the **future** value of such a home.

Over the next 12 months (by February 20[XX]), I expect the value of such a home to ...

O increase O decrease

Q3a1part2 [If Version 1]

By about what percent do you expect the value of such a home to [increase/decrease] over the next 12 months? Please give your best guess.

______%

Q3b2 [If Version 1]

You estimated the current value of a typical home in your zip code to be \$[Q1 response].

What do you think is the percent chance that the value of such a home, **over the next 12 months** (by February 20[XX]), will...

decrease by 5% or more		percent chance
decrease by 0% to 5%		percent chance
increase by 0% to 10%		percent chance
increase by 10% or more		percent chance
—	(00)	

(Responses must sum to 100)

[Note: Display Q3a2 and Q3a2part2 on the same page for version 1]

Q3a2 [If Version 1]

And **over the next 5 years** (by February 20[XX]), what do you expect will happen to the value of such a home?

Over the next 5 years, I expect the value of such a home to...

O increase O decrease

Q3a2part2 [If Version 1]

By about what percent do you expect the value of such a home to [increase/decrease] over the next 5 years IN TOTAL? Please give your best guess.

%

Q3a2part3 [If Version 1]

You estimated the current value of a typical home in your zip code to be \$[Q1].

What do you think is the percent chance that the value of such a home, **over the next 5 years IN TOTAL** (by February 20[XX]), will...

decrease by 10% or more	 percent chance
decrease by 0% to 10%	 percent chance
increase by 0% to 20%	 percent chance
increase by 20% or more	 percent chance

(Ensure that responses sum to 100)

Q3a [If Version 2]

You estimated the current value of a typical home in your zip code to be \$[Q1].

Now, we would like you to think about the **future** value of such a home. What do you think the value of such a home will be:

one year from today (in February 20[XX])?	 dollars	(i.e. a X% increase/decrease)
five years from today (in February 20[XX])?	 dollars	(i.e. a X% increase/decrease)

(Autopopulate X based on dollar response)

Q3b [If Version 2]

You estimated the current value of a typical home in your zip code to be \$[Q1].

What do you think is the percent chance that the value of such a home **12 months from today** (in February 20[XX]) will be...

Less than [0.95*Q1] dollars?	percent chance
------------------------------	----------------

Between [0.95*Q1] and [Q1] dollars?	percent chance
-------------------------------------	----------------

Between [Q1] and [1.1*Q1] dollars? ______ percent chance

More than [1.1*Q1] dollars? ______ percent chance

(Note: round dollar values to nearest 100)

Q3c [If Version 2]

You estimated the current value of a typical home in your zip code to be \$[Q1].

What do you think is the percent chance that the value of such a home **5 years from today** (in February 20[XX]) will be...

Less than [0.9*Q1] dollars?	percent chance
Between [0.9*Q1] and [Q1] dollars?	percent chance
Between [Q1] and [1.2*Q1] dollars?	percent chance
More than [1.2*Q1] dollars?	percent chance

Q3d

If the typical home in your zip code (the house/apartment you have considered so far) could be rented, what do you think the average monthly rent of such a home (excluding utilities) would be...

today	 dollars
one year from today (in February 20[XX])?	 dollars
five years from today (in February 20[XX])?	 dollars

[Note: Display Q2a and Q2apart2 on the same page]

Q2a

You estimated the current value of a typical home in your zip code to be \$[Q1]. Now, we would like you to think about the **past** value of a typical home in your zip code.

Over the past 12 months (since February 20[XX]), I think the value of such a home has...

O increased O decreased

Q2apart2

By about what percent do you think the value of such a home has [increased/decreased] over the **past 12 months**? Please give your best guess.

_____%

[Note: Display Q2a2 and Q2a2part2 on the same page]

Q2a2

Over the **<u>past</u> 5 years** (since February 20[XX]), I think the value of such a typical home in my zip code has...

 \mathbf{O} increased

O decreased

Q2a2part2

By about what percent do you think the value of such a home has [increased/decreased] **IN TOTAL over the** <u>past</u> **5 years**? Please give your best guess.

_____ %

BLOCK 2: Housing Screening [All Participants]

Next, we would like to ask you a few questions about your current housing situation.

Q38

Are you currently married or living with a partner (not including roommates)?

O Yes

O No

Q6e

How long have you lived in your town/city?

_____Year(s) _____Month(s) (Dropdown menu)

[Display Q4b through Q4b2 on same page]

Q4b

Please indicate the type of your current primary residence. Is your primary residence a...

O House

O Apartment/Condo/Co-op

O Townhouse/Duplex

O Mobile/manufactured home

O Other (please specify)

Q4b1

Please indicate your best guess as to when your primary residence was built:

O = 5 years ago

O 5 – 20 years ago

 \bigcirc 20 – 40 years ago

O More than 40 years ago

Q4b2

Which of the following best describes where you live?

O City center/urban area

O Suburb less than 20 miles from a city center

O Suburb 20 miles or more from a city center

O In a small town

 ${\bf O}$ In a rural area

O Other

Q4new

Which of the following best describe your current housing situation?

- O Live in residence that I/we own
- O Renting a residence
- O Staying with family or friends
- ${\bf O}$ Unstable housing
- \mathbf{O} Homeless
- O Other, please describe_____

QH1aa

When did you move in to your current primary residence:

(Response: drop-down menu 2022-1950 + "before 1950")

QH1b

When you moved to your primary residence, how long did you expect to stay in this home?

- O Less than 2 years
- O 2-3 years
- O 4-5 years
- O 6-7 years
- **O** 8-10 years
- O More than 10 years
- O Had no specific time frame in mind

QH1c

How many more years do you expect to stay in this home as of today?

- O Less than 2 years
- O 2-3 years
- O 4-5 years
- O 6-7 years
- **O** 8-10 years
- O More than 10 years

Q10

What is your current employment situation?

O Working full-time (for someone or self-employed)

- **O** Working part-time (for someone or self-employed)
- O Not working, but would like to work
- ${\bf O}$ Temporarily laid off
- O On sick or other leave
- O Permanently disabled or unable to work
- O Retiree or early retiree
- O Student, at school or in training
- O Homemaker
- O Other (please specify) _____

BLOCK 3: Owners [if Q4new = "Live in residence that I/we own"]

Next, we would like to ask you some questions about the primary residence that you own.

QH2newb

How did you acquire your primary residence?

O Financed with a mortgage

- O Cash purchase
- O Inherited/gift
- O Other, please describe _____

QH2 [If QH2newb != "Inherited/gift"]

What was the purchase price of this home?

_____ dollars

QH2new [If QH2newb = "Financed with a mortgage"]

How much was your down payment?

_____ dollars

QH3

Now, please think about the current and future value of your home, under the assumption that you don't make any investments in your home other than regular maintenance/repairs. What do you think your home would sell for:

today	 dollars
one year from today (in February 20[XX])?	 dollars

five years from today (in February 20[XX])? _____ dollars

QH3bnew

What is the percent chance that you will put your primary residence up for sale in the next 12 months?

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

QH4Bnew

What do you think is the percent chance that you will make any investments in your home (such as remodeling, additions, upgrades, landscaping, but not including regular maintenance and repairs) costing more than \$5,000 total:

Over the next 12 months (February 20[XX] to February 20[XX])

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

Over the next three years (February 20[XX] to February 20[XX])

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

[QH4b1new]: And looking at the more immediate future, what do you think is the percent chance that, over the next 12 months (until [pipe: MonthS] 2022), you will make any investments in your home costing more than \$5,000 total? Values: 0-100

QH5

Do you [IF Q38 = "Yes": add 'and/or your spouse/partner'] have any outstanding loans against the value of your home, including all mortgages, home equity loans and home equity lines of credit?

O Yes, mortgage(s) only

O Yes, home equity loans/lines of credit only

O Yes, both mortgage(s) and home equity loans/lines of credit

O No

QH5a [ASK IF QH5 != "No"]

Approximately, what is the total amount of outstanding loans against your primary residence as of today, including all mortgages and home equity loans?

_____ dollars

QH5c [ASK IF QH5 != "No"]

Approximately, how much do you pay per month in total on all outstanding loans against your primary residence (including all mortgages and home equity loans)?

dollars

QH5d

During the past 12 months, did you miss **two or more payments** on any outstanding loans against your primary residence (including all mortgages and home equity loans)?

O Yes O No

QH5d2 [IF QH5d = "Yes" ASK QH5d2]

Which of the following are reasons you missed **two or more payments** on loans against your home? (Select all that apply)

- Health issues/medical bills
- □ A disability
- □ Job loss/unemployment
- □ Reduction in income
- □ Death of a spouse
- Separation or divorce
- □ Increase in monthly mortgage payment due
- Decline in home value
- □ Accidentally forgot to pay
- □ To get lender to modify the loan
- Other (please specify) _____

QH5enew

What do you think is the percent chance that **over the next 12 months** you will miss **two or more payments** on any outstanding loans against your home?

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

Qh5l_1

What is the percent chance that **over the next 12 months** you will enter foreclosure or lose your home through a repossession?

_____%

Qh5m2_1

What is the current interest rate on your mortgage?

_____%

QH6b

What is the percent chance that **over the next 12 months** you will refinance the mortgage on your primary residence?

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

QH6a0

Have you ever refinanced your mortgage (on your current primary residence or an earlier one)?

O Yes

O No

QH6a_ym [IF QH6a0 = "Yes", ask QH6a_ym on the same page]

When did you last refinance your mortgage?

_____Year _____Month (Dropdown menu)

QH6a2 [IF QH6a0 = "Yes"]

When you last refinanced, how did the terms of your mortgage change?

- □ The interest rate was lowered
- The balance on the mortgage increased (I cashed out some of the equity in my home)
- □ The term of the mortgage changed (for instance, changed from a 15-year to a 30-year mortgage, changed from an adjustable/floating rate mortgage to a fixed-rate mortgage or vice versa)
- □ Other (please specify) _____

QH6a2b [IF QH6a2 = "The balance on the mortgage increased" ask QH6a2b on the same page]

You indicated that you increased the balance on your mortgage when you last refinanced. What did you use this money for?

- To make renovations or improvements to the home
- To help pay my other debt, such as credit card debt, auto loans, student loans, or medical bills
- □ To make purchases unrelated to home improvements
- Put it into my savings
- Other (please specify) _____

QH6c [Ask IF QH6b > 0]

If you do end up refinancing over the next 12 months, what would be your reasons for doing so? (Select all that apply)

- Lower the interest rate on my mortgage
- □ Increase the balance on my mortgage (cash out some of the equity in my home)
- □ Change my mortgage terms (for instance, change from a 15-year to a 30-year mortgage, change from an adjustable/floating rate mortgage to a fixed-rate mortgage or vice versa)

- □ Other (please specify) _
- □ I/we have no interest in refinancing over the next 12 months

QH6d [ASK IF (QH6a_ym < March 2020 OR QH6a0 = "No") AND QH1aa<2020]

Why haven't you refinanced since the drop in mortgage rates in March 2020? (Select all that apply)

- □ Mortgage rates haven't dropped enough to justify refinance
- □ I plan to, but haven't had enough time to apply
- □ Too much paperwork and effort required
- □ The upfront fee is too high
- □ I did apply but lenders were slow to process
- □ I lost part of my income and would not qualify for a mortgage
- □ My credit record is not good enough to qualify for a mortgage
- □ I am not sure how long I will stay at my primary residence
- □ The remaining maturity on my mortgage is too short to justify refinance
- □ I like my lender
- □ I like my mortgage contract
- □ I expect mortgage rates to drop further
- Other (please specify) _____

QH7

What is the percent chance that **over the next 12 months**, you will apply for an additional loan on your primary residence?

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

QH7b [Ask if QH7 > 0]

If you do end up taking out an additional loan on your primary residence over the next 12 months, what would you use it for? (Select all that apply)

- □ To make renovations or improvements to the home
- To help pay my other debt, such as credit card debt, auto loans, student loans, or medical bills
- □ To make purchases unrelated to home improvements
- □ To put in a savings account
- □ Other (please specify) _____

[Note: Display QH8_1 through QH8_5 on the same page]

QH8

We would now like to ask you about how natural disasters and severe weather events have impacted your household recently.

QH8_1

Do you think natural disasters or severe weather events have negatively affected your home value **over** the <u>past</u> 3 years?

Yes
No
Unsure

QH8_2

Has your household made any investments in disaster-related adaptation, such as weatherproofing or retrofitting, in response to the threat of natural disasters or severe weather events **over the <u>past</u> 3 years**? (Please exclude any purchases of disaster-related insurance.)

□ Yes

🗆 No

QH8_3 [ASK IF QH8_2= "Yes"]

How much roughly, have you invested in such adaptations over the past 3 years excluding insurance?

_____ dollars

QH8_4

Have you had to pay higher out of pocket disaster-related insurance costs **over the <u>past</u> 3 years** in response to the threat of natural disasters of severe weather events?

□ Yes □ No

QH8_5 [ASK IF QH8_4= "Yes"]

How much roughly, have you had to pay out of pocket in disaster-related insurance costs **over the <u>past</u> three years**?

_____ dollars

[Note: Display QH9_1 through QH9_4 on the same page]

QH9

What is the likelihood the risk of natural disasters or severe weather events in the future will...

QH9_1

Decrease your home price over the next 12 months (USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

QH9 2

Decrease your home price **over the next three years** (USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

QH9_3

Increase your out-of-pocket adaptation / retrofit or insurance costs (including premiums or personal savings for disasters) **over the next 12 months**

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

QH9_4

Increase your out-of-pocket adaptation / retrofit or insurance costs (including premiums or personal savings for disasters) **over the next three years**

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

QH10

How many homes do you currently own?

O More than 10

QH10dd (Ask if QH10>1)

What do you use this/these additional residence(s) for?

- **O** As a vacation/second home (which may include renting it out part-time, including AirBnB/Vrbo etc.)
- As an investment property (to rent it out full-time, or to sell at a higher price later, including AirBnB/Vrbo etc.)
- O As residence for a family member or other associated person
- O Other, please specify _____

BLOCK 4: Renters [Ask if Q4 != "Live in residence that I/we own"]

QR2a

How much is the total monthly rent for your home (regardless of whether you pay the whole amount yourself or split it with others)?

_____ dollars

QR2anew

Does this amount include some or all utilities?

- O Includes some utilities
- O Includes all utilities
- O Does not include any utilities

[Note: Display QR2anew2 – part2 on same page]

QR2anew2

Do you split your rent with anybody other than your spouse/partner?

O Yes

O No

QR2anew2part1 [Ask if QR2anew2 = "yes"]

How many roommates/housemates, other than your spouse/partner?

QR2anew2part2 [Ask if QR2anew2 = 1]

What is your share of the monthly rent in dollars?

_____ dollars

QR2c

What do you think the total monthly rent for the home you are currently in will be:

[Note: Display QR3 – QR3b on same page]

QR3

Were you unable to make a rent payment over the past 12 months?

O Yes

O No

QR3b [Ask if QR3 = 1]

Which of the following are reasons you were unable to make a rent payment? (Select all that apply)

- Health issues/medical bills
- □ A disability
- □ Job loss/unemployment
- □ Reduction in income
- Death of a spouse
- □ Separation or divorce
- □ Increase in rent
- Accidentally forgot to pay
- Other (please specify) _____

QR4

What do you think is the percent chance that **over the next 12 months** you will be unable to make a rent payment?

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

QR11a

What do you think is the percent chance that you will be evicted* from your primary residence

Over the next 12 months (by February 20[XX])? _____ %

Over the next three years (by February 20[XX])? _____ %

*Eviction is the process by which renters are forced to leave their home by their landlord.

QR5

If you [If Q38 = "Yes": add 'and/or your spouse/partner'] wanted to buy a home today, do you think it would be easy or difficult for you to obtain a home mortgage?

Very easy	Somewhat easy	Neither easy nor difficult	Somewhat difficult	Very difficult

QR7a

Have you ever owned a home?

O Yes

O No

QR8

Assuming you had the financial resources to do so, would you like to own instead of rent your primary residence?

O Yes, would strongly prefer owning

- O Yes, would prefer owning
- O Indifferent between owning and renting
- O No, would prefer renting
- **O** No, would strongly prefer renting

QR9

What do you think is the percent chance that you will own a primary residence at some point in the future?

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

QR9b [IF QR9 > 0 ASK QR9b]

At what point in the future do you think you will own a primary residence? Please provide us with your best guess.

O In less than 1 year

O In 1-2 years

O In 3-5 years

O In 5-10 years

O More than 10 years in the future

QR12

Which of the following describes how changes in home prices over the last year have affected your housing investment plans? (Please select all that apply)

□ My household still prefers to rent despite changes in house prices

□ Recent changes in prices have accelerated my household's search to purchase a home

□ My household wants to purchase a home, but is waiting until prices come down

☐ My household was previously planning to purchase a home, but now prefers to save or invest in other assets such as stocks

☐ My household was previously planning to purchase a home, but now renting is a better financial decision

BLOCK 5: Rate Expectations and Perceptions [All Participants]

Q5

Assume that you applied for a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage today. What mortgage interest rate do you think you would qualify for?

%

Q5dk [on the same page as Q5]

□ I would not qualify at any mortgage rate.

Q5b

What do you think is the average interest rate (for all borrowers) on a new 30-year fixed-rate mortgage as of today?

_____%

Q5c

What do you think the average interest rate on a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage will be:

one year from today (in February 20[XX])?	 %
three years from today (in February 20[XX])?	 %

Q5d

What do you think is the percent chance that **one year from today** (in February 20[XX]) the average interest rate on a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage will be...

Lower than [Q5b - 1]%?	percent chance
Between [Q5b - 1]% and [Q5b]%?	percent chance
Between [Q5b]% and [Q5b + 2]%?	percent chance
Higher than [Q5b + 2]%?	percent chance

Q5f

Compared to **12 months ago**, do you think it is generally harder or easier these days for people to obtain a mortgage?

Much harder	Somewhat harder	Equally easy/hard	Somewhat easier	Much easier

Q5g

Looking ahead, do you think that **12 months from now** it will generally be harder or easier for people to obtain a mortgage than it is currently?

Much harder	Somewhat harder	Equally easy/hard	Somewhat easier	Much easier

Q5h

And looking further into the future, do you think that **three years from now** it will generally be harder or easier for people to obtain a mortgage than it is currently?

Much harder	Somewhat harder	Equally easy/hard	Somewhat easier	Much easier

Q5i

Do you think that **12 months from now** economic conditions in your county will be better or worse than they are currently?

Much worse	Somewhat worse	Unchanged	Somewhat better	Much better

Q5j

And looking further into the future, do you think that **three years from now** economic conditions in your county will be better or worse than they are currently?

ĺ	Much worse	Somewhat worse	Unchanged	Somewhat better	Much better

BLOCK 6: Moving Expectations [All Participants]

[Note: Display Q6d and Q6a on the same screen]

Q6d

We would now like you to think about your future moving plans. What is the percent chance that **over the next 12 months** (by February 20[XX]) you will move to a different primary residence?

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

Q6a

And looking further into the future, what is the percent chance that **over the next three years** (by February 20[XX]) you will move to a different primary residence?

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

[Note: Display Q6b and Q6c on the same screen]

Q6b

If you were to move to a different primary residence **over the next three years**, what is the percent chance that this home would be in your current county?

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

Q6c

And if you were to move to a different primary residence **over the next three years**, what is the percent chance that you [If Q38 = "Yes": add 'and/or your spouse/partner'] would buy (as opposed to rent) your new home?

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

BLOCK 7: Miscellaneous [All Participants]

Q7

If someone had a large sum of money that they wanted to invest, would you say that relative to other possible financial investments, buying property in your zip code today is

- □ A very good investment
- □ A somewhat good investment
- □ Neither good nor bad as an investment
- □ A somewhat bad investment
- □ A very bad investment

Q7a

What is the percent chance that **over the next three years** (between February 20[XX] and February 20[XX]) you [If Q38 = "Yes": add 'and/or your spouse/partner'] will buy a home that you would NOT use as your primary residence (meaning you would use it as a vacation home, or as an investment property, etc.)?

(USE CUSTOM SLIDER)

Q7b [Ask if Q7a>0]

If you [If Q38 = "Yes": add 'and/or your spouse/partner'] were to buy such a home **over the next three years**, what would you most likely use it as?

- As a vacation/second home (which may include renting it out part-time, including AirBnB/Vrbo etc.)
- As an investment property (to rent it out full-time, or to sell at a higher price later, including AirBnB/Vrbo etc.)
- As residence for a family member or other associated person
- Other (please specify) _____

Qshop8_1

On a scale from 1 (completely unwilling) to 10 (absolutely willing), in comparison to others, are you a person who is generally willing to give up something today in order to benefit in the future?

(Values 1-10; 1 and 10 labelled completely unwilling and absolutely willing, respectively)

[Note: Display Q4e1, Q4e2, Q4e3, and Q4e4 on the same screen]

Q4e1

Do you personally know any individuals/families who have been evicted* **since 2006**?

🗆 No

Q4e2

Have you been evicted* from a home you were renting?

Yes
No

*Eviction is the process by which renters are forced to leave their home by their landlord.

Q4e3 [lf Q4e2 = "Yes"]

What year did this happen?

_____ (enter year)

Q4e4 [lf Q4e2 = "Yes"]

Which of the following were factors in your being evicted? (Select all that apply)

Health issues/medical bills

- □ A disability
- □ Job loss/unemployment
- □ Reduction in income
- □ Death of a spouse
- □ Separation or divorce
- □ Increase in monthly rent or utility costs due
- Damage to unit
- Living arrangements deemed unacceptable by landlord
- Building sold to a new owner
- Other (please specify) _____

Q10e

Were you or anybody you know personally affected by severe weather events or natural disasters over the **last three years** (hurricanes/storms, flooding, wildfires, landslides, earthquakes, etc.)?

O Yes

O No

Q10f1

What do you think is the percent chance that some homes in your local area will be severely damaged or destroyed by a natural disaster or severe weather events over the **next three years**?

_%

Q14

What would you say is your credit score?

Below 620

- 620-679
- 680-719
- 720-760
- above 760
- Don't know

Feedback

Do you have any comments about the survey or the survey experience?

Please type these in the box below.