

Poll: Californians financially better off

By Josh Richman, San Jose Mercury News

For the first time in seven years, more California voters say they're financially better off compared to the previous year than not, a Field Poll finds.

Forty-four percent of the state's registered voters are feeling they're doing better now than a year ago, while 28 percent say they're worse off and 28 percent say there's no change, the poll found. But the level of optimism on this and other questions differ dramatically, depending on where the voters live and how much money they make.

Nowhere is the outlook sunnier than in the Bay Area, where those who say California is having good economic times are tied with those who say we're in bad times, at 35 percent each. This probably is the result of who lives and works in the Bay Area: Democrats and more affluent people are far likelier to say we're having good times, according to the poll.

But the rest of the state is also feeling somewhat better.

Read the whole story