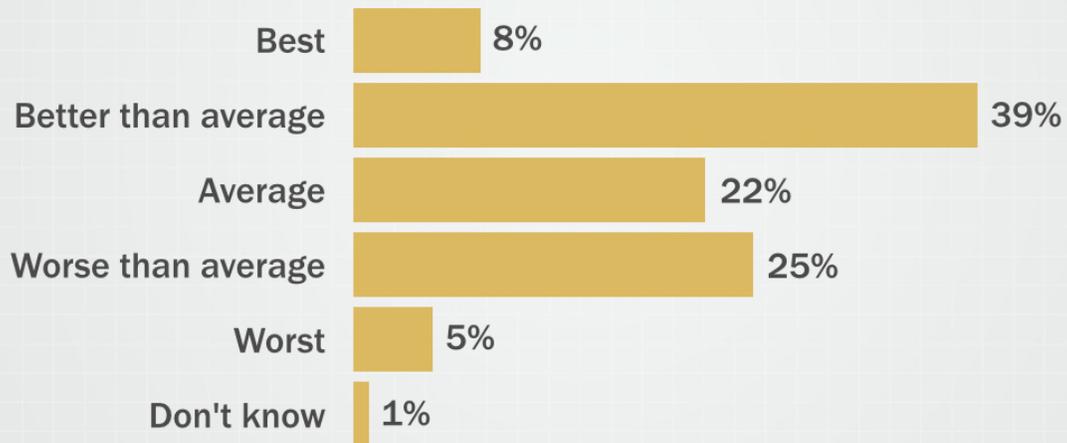


“INSIDE” INTELLIGENCE

*The Texas Weekly/Texas Tribune insider poll
for the week of 19 December 2014*

INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

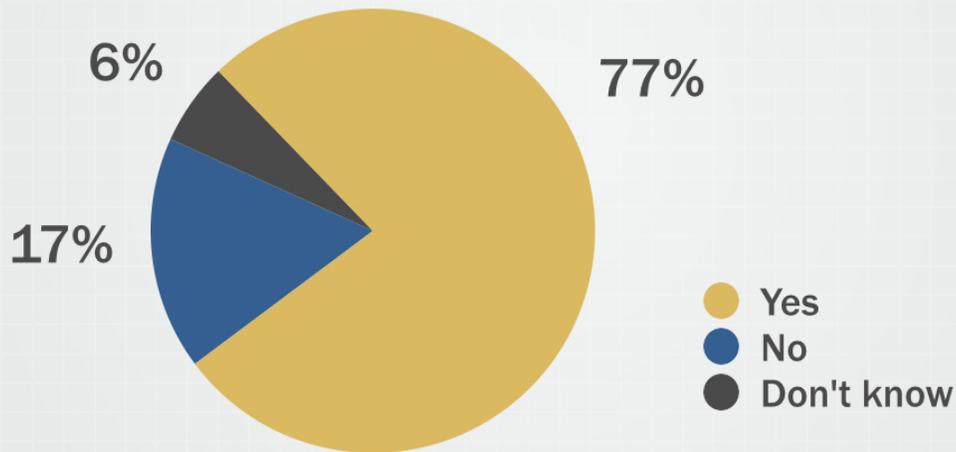
HOW DOES PERRY RANK AMONG GOVERNORS?



Inside Intelligence is an informal survey of political and government insiders in Texas and is not meant to measure public opinion.

INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

WILL THIS BE PERRY'S LAST PUBLIC OFFICE?



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How would you rank Rick Perry among Texas governors?

- "Stable. Shrewd. Arrogant. "
- "One of the best we have seen in modern history - which incidentally will be the best judge and after 14 years of leadership there will be missteps that all will point out, but at the end of the day one of the best we have ever seen."
- "Well, it's a fact he's the longest serving governor. He could not have stuck around so long if he wasn't doing something right, which his predecessors largely did not. And while times are relatively great today, it has not always been so during his tenure--anyone remember the \$10B shortfall in 2003? --But he's set the agenda and shaped the results that led to economic success. What did Mark White, Bill Clements or Ann Richards do when faced with similar challenges (aside from lose at the ballot box)? Give Perry credit where it's due."
- "Bigger and badder. Definitely transformative, but not in healthy ways. "
- "How many problems did he leave for the next guy to fix?"
- "I don't personally like him, but he will go down as one of the best Texas campaigners of our time."
- "The man won gubernatorial elections in 2002, 2006 and 2010. Only fourth governor in Texas history to serve three terms. Texans kept voting for him, sending him back to the Governor's Office again and again and again. He must have been doing something right."
- "Rick Perry was the governor Jim Mattox would have been if Democrats had been fooled. "
- "Tough question: He had a significantly longer period of time to succeed or fail so it's tough from the perspective. He was arguably more corrupt than modern governors. He succeeded on many front -- especially public safety and homeland security issues and economic development (despite the graft). He was a failure in most legislative respects -- very contentious relationship with the Legislature and few real successes within that body. He's most noteworthy for things like 'oops' and 'get on down the road' and the clouds of cronyism and an official indictment... so I guess I gotta say 'worst'. "
- "Kept his word on what he would do, like it or not. "
- "Since I've only been here 20+ years - long enough to work under 3 Governors - I've got a limited perspective. But, I'd say he sure the hell had a firm grasp on how to run for Governor and how to use the office."
- "Clearly the best of the modern era. A visionary leader who charted a course for economic success unparalleled by any of his predecessors."
- "Too much meddling by Governor Perry in higher education."

- "Austin hates him, but the people of Texas clearly loved him."
- "The fact that he pushed the un-Texan concept of toll roads and helped de-regulate college tuition alone make him an awful governor."
- "The length of his time in office will become the most remarkable accomplishment of his tenure. "
- "The average ranking is based on his long tenure without which he would be in the bottom tier."
- "At least he wanted an educated workforce and cared about those immigrants born in Texas that deserve a right to in-state tuition NOT free tuition!"
- "He concentrated on his own political advancement while

completely neglecting the long-term interests of the state."

- "He came in with strength--calling on the Legislature to include ZERO-based budgeting in their next budget to deal with a \$10 billion shortfall. And he's going out with strength--adding a strong pro-LIFE bill to special sessions to offset the Speaker's success in burying them during the regular sessions."
- "The new Governor is left to clean up the messes he left..."
- "I agree with precious few priorities pushed by Perry, but it's hard to argue with longevity. Clearly voters stayed okay with him for years."
- "Longevity does not equal excellence. "

What do you think has been his biggest achievement?

- "Steering the ship through mostly calm waters, i.e. not f***ing up a good thing"
- "Economic 'reform.' He focused on taking government processes that frustrated the private sector and cut turn around time down to a third. This is what got the country ignited about doing business with Texas. It was an attitude of lets fix this and get you an answer ASAP. "
- "Being at the right place at the right time."
- "Letting business do business."
- "Stealing jobs from California"

- "Providing an economic model to the rest of the states."
- "Economic development"
- "Longevity"
- "Kept winning!"
- "Being in the right place at the right time. But one would have to say switching parties and getting elected to agriculture commissioner.it is basically the only move in his career with which he can receive at least the majority of the credit. Everything else is more of a tale of Candide."
- "His self promotion"

- "Starting out of the way. "
- "Convincing voters he is fiscally conservative."
- "Restraint of govt growth"
- "Privatizing state government services"
- "Tort reform"
- "Self promotion "
- "1. Longest serving governor. 2. Not really messing up too badly. 3. I can't remember #3...oops!"
- "Longevity"
- "Stewardship of the Texas economy, Pro life leadership"
- "He was the first to identify the tea party movement and take advantage of that wave. He was also the best 'Yell Leader' for Texas. "
- "Getting elected and re-elected"
- "Longevity"
- "Fiscally responsible in time of surplus and shortfalls. He never wavered from that principle. The state has benefited from that strong stance. "
- "Texas business climate"
- "Business first climate"
- "Staying in office"
- "Fortunate that Texas had an economy based on oil and gas"
- "He appointed EVERY board, commission, etc. in the entire state for 20+ years"
- "Marketing out state nationwide attracting businesses and manufacturers to our state. "
- "Failing to destroy Texas A&M's image."
- "Homeland security - by far. He stands tall when hurricanes hit and disasters strike."
- "Surviving a failed run at the presidency."
- "Holding g the office so long that he has packed commissions and boards with rightwing anti-consumer leadership. "
- "Tort reform. Job creation"
- "Maintained good environment of investment and job creation."
- "Named every single current gubernatorial appointee and had input on probably every managerial hiring at every state agency. "
- "Leading the legislature to enact pro-business reforms in order to grow our state's economy."
- "Staying in office"
- "Staying in office longer than any other Texas Governor."
- "Economic development "
- "Economic prosperity."
- "Jobs"

- "Staying out of the way of a strong business economy "
- "From the outset, charting a different governorship from his predecessor. If he had tried to be GWB 2.0, he would have failed."
- "Consolidating more power into the governor's hands."
- "He did a good job on economic development, despite some questionable uses of the ED fund."
- "Making some in Texas think he has been a good gov "
- "Empowering the Governor's office and job creation. "
- "His Longevity"
- "Recruiting companies to Texas. "
- "Eisenhower moment - give me a few days and I might be able to think of something. Appointments to every post possible would be my first take. "
- "Focusing attention on the economic advantages of Texas and avoiding much of the pain felt by other states during the recession."
- "Economic Development"
- "Economic Development"
- "His success at reaching his goals of no new taxes or fees and no new spending. "
- "His ability to attract business to Texas. While there have been questions about the process, I still think he has done a great job with economic development."
- "If you're business then life is good in Texas-low taxes-other than that our stats are not good.... lack of insurance and ok schools and colleges. "
- "Job creation. Staying in office past his welcome. "
- "Economic development. Not only encouraging companies to move here, but helping create an attractive environment to do so by keeping state government out of the way of the economic engine that has developed here. "
- "Economic development and tax improvements"
- "Consistency"
- "Economic Growth"
- "Using fear and hatred effectively to enrich himself and his friends in the lobby. "
- "Economic Development followed by his adept appointments strategy in the last few years."
- "The economy"
- "Oops. "
- "He successfully exploited Texans' dissatisfaction with Washington to extend his own term in office."
- "Corporate welfare - slush funds."
- "Surviving- he reads the battleground well and adapts. From Democrat to tea party / secessionist, he can change stripes and ruthlessly attack his opposition. "

- "Limiting the expansion of government at the expense of personal freedom."
- "None"
- "None"
- "Economic Growth"
- "Longevity"
- "Keeping Texas on its positive trajectory"
- "Longevity"
- "Building Political industrial Complex"
- "Presiding over a very successful economy--in good times and in bad."
- "Not messing up job growth."
- "Bringing jobs to Texas"
- "Tort Reform "
- "Getting elected and re-elected (and re-elected and...)."
 - "Make Texas more politically conservative."
 - "Bringing businesses to Texas"
 - "Promoting the business climate in Texas to companies across the nation and even internationally (note: that that does not include creating the

business climate in Texas, although he did protect and nurture what he had inherited on that front)"

- "Serving longer than anyone else"
- "Entrenching Texas into the 'red' column"
- "Keeping his job so long."
- "Economic development and tort reform"
- "Being in the right place at the right time. "
- "Economic explosion in Texas created by his incredible world wide outreach and pro-business climate. "
- "Stability in regulations and outlook."
- "Biz development"
- "Business friendly"
- "The Texas Miracle!"
- "Supporting policies and practices that sustain a strong business climate and healthy job growth. "
- "Oops"
- "Holding down the size of government "
- "The economy"

What do you think has been his biggest failure?

- "It's a toss up ... either the Trans-Texas Corridor or not having enough

influence with God to get the rains falling during the drought."

- "The vaccine - well intended, not well thought out. "
- "Following those idiots, Karl Rove and Tom Delay, and attempting to re-district Texas in a non-redistricting year and thus treating Texas like DC."
- "Wallace Hall."
- "Not sure"
- "Lack of vision. To hold the office as long as he has, with the majority he had in the legislature, and to have simply ridden the wave is a real shame."
- "HPV vaccine. "
- "To provide adequate infrastructure"
- "Longevity"
- "It's a toss up between crumbling infrastructure, poverty, and sky high insurance rates."
- "Social services"
- "Mike Toomey taking him into the executive order on required shots for teenage girls. "
- "Piling up debt on Transportation projects instead of paying as we go."
- "Transportation"
- "Privatizing state government services"
- "Bipartisanship"
- "Self promotion"
- "Placing junior staffers in key regulatory / policy positions. Allowing his desire for higher office to drive policy positions. "
- "Not leading. "
- "The mind of man runneth not to the answer to this question"
- "Cronyism"
- "Being Rick Perry. He may be one of the best politicians of our lifetime, but he was horrible at governing. "
- "Lack of an inclusive vision for the Texas of the future."
- "Education reform"
- "Does anyone remember the Trans Texas Corridor???"
- "HPV vaccine"
- "Education and health issue"
- "Roads, water and education"
- "Expanding health insurance for the needy"
- "He is the longest service governor"
- "Not addressing the infrastructure needs of our state to accommodate the growth."
- "Failing to destroy UT's image."
- "He wanted to 'fix' property taxes... took many swings at that early in his time in office. Failed miserable."
- "Education in Texas has slipped tremendously especially at the university level. The inability to

manage a surplus and direct it toward higher education is a failure."

- "Making this state an embarrassment nationwide."
- "School choice. Higher education"
- "Cronyism "
- "Not really his entire fault, but I'm sick and damn tired of my increasingly lengthy time it's taking me to drive to Dallas. "
- "He has been too partisan!!"
- "Higher ed and transportation"
- "Transportation issues including way too many toll roads and the failure to keep Texas highway system free for all users and in good condition."
- "Cronyism "
- "Having major surgery right before announcing for President of the United States."
- "Oops!"
- "Failing to seek conservative solutions to Texas challenges and essentially punting on major issues too long."
- "Reckless pursuit of Trans Texas Corridor and the HPV vaccine will go down as political miscalculations."
- "Enabling the rise of people like Ted Cruz that are an embarrassment to Texas. In the past, Democrats and Republicans were conservative but smart in realizing how to use government to accomplish things for

the common good, including leveraging federal tax dollars. Hopefully, this is a passing phase but it is Perry's legacy."

- "What he has done to some of the state agency's rep. And how far on debt he has taken Texas "
- "Allowing his handlers to isolate him so there was no challenge to their advice. "
- "His Longevity"
- "Running for president. "
- "Trans Texas Corridor. The anti cancer vaccination. "
- "Focusing too much on actions that played well to Republican primary voters and ignoring sound policies in infrastructure investment and transparent financial management of the state."
- "Not countering the rise of the far right no-growthers."
- "Not having any grand vision beyond no new taxes and no new spending. There were a few visionary moments but he couldn't close the deals - Trans Texas Corridor...\$10,000 college degree"
- "His politics have prevented the state from receiving billions in federal dollars. This has cost us money and mostly because of politics. Governing should be what is best, not what makes you look best."
- "He has been so lucky in terms of our economy...I think not thinking thru the health care opportunities with the Affordable healthcare Act."

- "Failure to invest in public education or higher Ed. He ignored the future of our State's workforce. "
- "As Governor? Trans Texas Corridor and transportation funding overall. In general? The 2012 Presidential campaign."
- "No one loves him"
- "Helping poor people"
- "Presidential Race"
- "Delusions of competence. "
- "HPV Executive Order"
- "Improving education"
- "Oops. "
- "His near-total lack of leadership in preparing the state for future road, water and education needs."
- "Lack of investment in public and higher education and transportation."
- "Leading on infrastructure."
- "Looking terrible on the national stage thereby providing fodder for people across the nation to view Texans as illiterate hicks."
- "Lower property taxes"
- "Too many to mention"
- "Education and Infrastructure"
- "Higher education management and healthcare management"
- "Lack of attention to anything other than economic development. "
- "Politicizing issues- lack of true leadership in developing long term public policy that resolves issues"
- "Building Political Industrial Complex"
- "Time will tell whether he can overcome the 'oops' moment on the national state. "
- "Veto of Eminent Domain Reform in 2007."
- "Not reducing property taxes more. "
- "If he finally solved any issue that was present when he took office in 2001, I missed it."
- "Education"
- "Not properly addressing water and infrastructure problems created by the businesses he brought to Texas."
- "Trans-Texas corridor was an awesome vision that would have been an ENORMOUS benefit to the future of our state; sadly it was not executed / implemented as well as it could have been (but, in fairness, there may not have been any other method that would have been more successful for such a huge goal) "
- "Not stopping the gutting of public education"
- "Leadership of all Texans"
- "Keeping his job so long."
- "Education"
- "Under Governor Perry Texas became a crony state. Ethical behavior"

is an aberration under Rick Perry.
Can't wait for the new batch of cronies..."

- "Not always best communicator. "
- "Too vengeful."
- "Reducing size of government "
- "TTC (but it is needed, this state will be gridlock)"

• "Failing to properly articulate the PV vaccine"

- "Taking his eye off the ball in the last few years as he pursued higher office. "
- "Cronyism"
- "Failing to prepare properly to run for President"
- "Infrastructure"

Do you think governor is the last public office Rick Perry will hold?

- "I would look for him to eventually be appointed to some cush six-figure gubment job."
- "He was a good AAA ball player but doesn't have the stuff to make it in the majors. As we saw in 2012... and may see again in 2016."
- "Last elected office"
- "A republican presidential administration might appoint him to something. "
- "He will go make 'serious money' and be the next Rudy Giuliani (that's not a complement). "
- "No chance at all that the nation elects another redneck Texan... so it's over for Rick"
- "If he runs for President, he will be a leading candidate. Whether or not things break his way -- it's too early to tell."
- "'Mr. Secretary, your plane is waiting.'"

• "Yes unless they think they need a vp like Dan Quayle "

- "Maybe the last elected office but probably not the last public office. "
- "It's time to enjoy his pensions and rewards from all his friends who have benefitted from him being in office...there is always a place for Rick Perry!"
- "He might get an appointment in a Republican White House, but no more elections will he win."
- "I don't know whether he'll be president, Vice President, a cabinet secretary or university president but he will hold some public job."
- "It's his last elective office. It's possible that some future GOP president will appoint him to a federal agency. In the meantime, since he's now increasingly irrelevant to Texas, he'll likely move to California, where the climate is better and he can spend his net worth accumulated during a lifetime in public office."

- "Unless a Pres Romney wants to put him in his cabinet."
- "Only time will tell. As I speak with friends across America, they like the idea of a successful governor becoming president."
- "He's got a shot at Governor."
- "By election, yes. By presidential appointment? Perhaps not."
- "Yes, but he could be appointed to some federal post."
- "Does the NRA elect its president or do the gun manufacturers just pick?"
- "He will run for President. If that effort fails, I am confident he will be appointed to some high position in the administration of the Republican who will win the Presidency in 2016. "
- "Don't ever count the man out of the race."
- "I think he has a better chance now."

Our thanks to this week's participants: Gene Acuna, Cathie Adams, Brandon Aghamalian, Brandon Alderete, Clyde Alexander, George Allen, Jay Arnold, Charles Bailey, Dave Beckwith, Andrew Biar, Allen Blakemore, Tom Blanton, Chris Britton, Raif Calvert, Kerry Cammack, Snapper Carr, Corbin Casteel, William Chapman, Elna Christopher, Harold Cook, Beth Cubriel, Randy Cubriel, Curtis Culwell, Denise Davis, June Deadrick, Nora Del Bosque, Glenn Deshields, Holly DeShields, Tom Duffy, David Dunn, Richard Dyer, Jeff Eller, Jack Erskine, John Esparza, Jon Fisher, Neftali Garcia, Dominic Giarratani, Bruce Gibson, Stephanie Gibson, Eric Glenn, Daniel Gonzalez, Jim Grace, John Greytok, Clint Hackney, Bill Hammond, Ken Hodges, Steve Holzheuser, Kathy Hutto, Deborah Ingersoll, Jason Johnson, Mark Jones, Robert Jones, Walt Jordan, Robert Kepple, Tom Kleinworth, Sandy Kress, Nick Lampson, Pete Laney, James LeBas, Luke Legate, Myra Leo, Vilma Luna, Matt Mackowiak, Steve Minick, Bee Moorhead, Mike Moses, Steve Murdock, Nelson Nease, Keats Norfleet, Pat Nugent, Todd Olsen, Nef Partida, Gardner Pate, Jerod Patterson, Jerry Philips, Richard Pineda, Allen Place, Gary Polland, Jay Propes, Patrick Reinhart, David Reynolds, Carl Richie, Jason Sabo, Andy Sansom, Barbara Schlieff, Stan Schlueter, Bruce Scott, Robert Scott, Ben Seabee, Bradford Shields, Julie Shields, Nancy Sims, Jason Skaggs, Ed Small, Larry Soward, Leonard Spearman, Dennis Speight, Jason Stanford, Bob Strauser, Colin Strother, Michael Quinn Sullivan, Sherry Sylvester, Sara Tays, Gerard Torres, Trey Trainor, Vicki Truitt, Corbin Van Arsdale, Ken Whalen, David White, Darren Whitehurst, Woody Widrow, Seth Winick, Peck Young, Angelo Zottarelli.