

**University of Texas / Texas Tribune**  
**Texas Statewide Survey**

October 2012 Instrument

N=800 Adults

Margin of error: +/- 3.46% unless otherwise noted

---

**Interest and Engagement**

Q2. Generally speaking, would you say that you are extremely interested in politics and public affairs, somewhat interested, not very interested, or not at all interested?

1. Extremely interested	52%
2. Somewhat interested	37%
3. Not very interested	8%
4. Not at all interested	3%
5. Don't know	1%

Q3. There are many elections in the state of Texas. Furthermore, many people intend to vote in a given election, but sometimes personal and professional circumstances keep them from the polls. Thinking back over the past two or three years, would you say that you voted in all elections, almost all, about half, one or two, or none at all?

1. Every election	34%
2. Almost every election	36%
3. About half	9%
4. One or two	10%
5. None	9%
6. Don't know/Refused/NA	1%

## Most Important Problem

Q4. What would you say is the most important problem facing this country today?

1. The economy	31%
2. Federal spending/national debt	17%
3. Unemployment/jobs	14%
4. Political corruption/leadership	7%
5. Partisan gridlock	6%
6. Health care	5%
7. Moral decline	3%
8. Income inequality	2%
9. Gas prices	2%
10. Education	2%
11. Social welfare programs	2%
12. Immigration	2%
13. Taxes	1%
14. National security/terrorism	1%
15. Abortion	1%
16. Crime and drugs	1%
17. Afghanistan/Pakistan	1%
18. Energy	0%
19. Gay marriage	0%
20. Environment	0%
21. The media	0%
22. Housing	0%
23. Border security	0%
24. Iraq	0%
25. Federal courts/nominees	0%
26. Foreign trade	0%
27. Voting system	0%

Q5. What would you say is the most important problem facing the state of Texas today?

1. Immigration	14%
2. Border security	13%
3. The economy	11%
4. Education	10%
5. Unemployment/jobs	9%
6. Political corruption/leadership	9%
7. State budget cuts	6%
8. Health care	5%
9. Gas prices	4%
10. Crime and drugs	3%
11. State government spending	2%
12. Moral decline	2%
13. Taxes	2%
14. Water supply	2%
15. Social welfare programs	2%
16. Transportation/roads/traffic	1%
17. Abortion	1%
18. The media	1%
19. Redistricting	1%
20. Gay marriage	0%
21. Energy	0%
22. Environment	0%
23. Housing	0%
24. Insurance rates	0%
25. Voting system	0%
26. State courts	0%
27. Utility rates	0%
28. Electoral fraud	0%

### Retrospective Assessments

Q6. How would you rate the job Barack Obama has done as president? Would you say that you...

1. Approve strongly	19%
2. Approve somewhat	21%
3. Neither approve nor disapprove	6%
4. Disapprove somewhat	9%
5. Disapprove strongly	44%
6. Don't know	1%

Q7. Overall, how do you rate the job the U.S. Congress is doing?

- |                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Approve strongly               | 1%  |
| 2. Approve somewhat               | 10% |
| 3. Neither approve nor disapprove | 18% |
| 4. Disapprove somewhat            | 26% |
| 5. Disapprove strongly            | 43% |
| 6. Don't know                     | 3%  |

Q8. How would you rate the job Rick Perry has done as governor? Would you say that you...

- |                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Approve strongly               | 9%  |
| 2. Approve somewhat               | 32% |
| 3. Neither approve nor disapprove | 17% |
| 4. Disapprove somewhat            | 12% |
| 5. Disapprove strongly            | 27% |
| 6. Don't know                     | 3%  |

Q9. Thinking about the country, do you think that things are headed in the right direction, or do you think that things are headed off on the wrong track?

- |                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| 1. Right direction | 31% |
| 2. Wrong track     | 58% |
| 3. Don't know      | 11% |

Q10. Compared to a year ago, would you say that the national economy is a lot better off, somewhat better off, about the same, somewhat worse off, or a lot worse off?

- |                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| 1. A lot better off    | 7%  |
| 2. Somewhat better off | 25% |
| 3. About the same      | 25% |
| 4. Somewhat worse off  | 19% |
| 5. A lot worse off     | 23% |
| 6. Don't know          | 1%  |

Q11. Thinking about the state of Texas, do you think that things are headed in the right direction, or do you think that things are headed off on the wrong track?

- |                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| 1. Right direction | 43% |
| 2. Wrong track     | 34% |
| 3. Don't know      | 23% |

Q12. Compared to a year ago, would you say that you and your family are economically a lot better off, somewhat better off, about the same, somewhat worse off, or a lot worse off?

- |                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| 1. A lot better off    | 6%  |
| 2. Somewhat better off | 17% |
| 3. About the same      | 43% |
| 4. Somewhat worse off  | 23% |
| 5. A lot worse off     | 11% |
| 6. Don't know          | 1%  |

Q13. Compared to a year ago, would you say that the Texas economy is a lot better off, somewhat better off, about the same, somewhat worse off, or a lot worse off?

- |                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| 1. A lot better off    | 4%  |
| 2. Somewhat better off | 21% |
| 3. About the same      | 51% |
| 4. Somewhat worse off  | 16% |
| 5. A lot worse off     | 5%  |
| 6. Don't know          | 3%  |

Q14. Looking ahead to the future, do you think your children will be better off than you are, worse off, or about the same economically?

- |                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| 1. Better off     | 23% |
| 2. Worse off      | 41% |
| 3. About the same | 18% |
| 4. Don't know     | 18% |

Q15. Thinking about the condition of the national economy, do you think the worst is over or is the worst yet to come?

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 1. Worst is over        | 30% |
| 2. Worst is yet to come | 42% |
| 3. Don't know           | 27% |

Q16. What about the money you owe on credit cards and installment loans – not including your mortgage – would you say that you:

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Owe a lot more than you can afford               | 15% |
| 2. Owe a little more than you can afford            | 14% |
| 3. Owe about what you can afford                    | 24% |
| 4. Owe less than what you can afford                | 17% |
| 5. Don't have any debts                             | 16% |
| 6. Don't have any credit cards or installment loans | 12% |
| 7. Don't know                                       | 2%  |

## Elections

**[For Q17 through Q19, respondents were first asked the questions below. If they initially answered that they didn't know, they were then asked a follow-up question: "If you had to make a choice, who would you choose?" Responses to the follow-up questions were folded into the results found below. "Likely Voters" were defined as those who indicated that they were either "Extremely" or "Somewhat" interested in politics in Q2 AND either voted in "Every" or "Almost every" election in Q3.]**

Q17. If the 2012 general election for U.S. president were held today, would you vote for the Democratic ticket of Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Republican ticket of Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan, someone else, or haven't you thought enough about it to have an opinion?

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| 1. Mitt Romney  | 55% |
| 2. Barack Obama | 39% |
| 3. Someone else | 6%  |

Q18. If the 2012 general election for U.S. Senator from Texas were held today, would you vote for the the Republican Ted Cruz, the Democrat Paul Sadler, the Libertarian John Jay Myers, the Green Party candidate David Collins, someone else, or haven't you thought enough about it to have an opinion?

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| 1. Ted Cruz       | 54% |
| 2. Paul Sadler    | 39% |
| 3. John Jay Myers | 3%  |
| 4. David Collins  | 2%  |
| 5. Someone else   | 2%  |

As you may know, there are two open seats for the Texas Railroad Commission.

Q19. If the 2012 general election for the contested railroad commissioner seat was held today, would you vote for the Republican Christi Craddick, the Democrat Dale Henry, the Libertarian Vivekandanda Wall, the Green Party candidate Chris Kennedy, someone else, or haven't you thought enough about it to have an opinion?

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Christi Craddick  | 50% |
| 2. Dale Henry        | 36% |
| 3. Vivekandanda Wall | 6%  |
| 4. Chris Kennedy     | 6%  |
| 5. Someone else      | 3%  |

Q20. Do you think your incumbent state representative deserves reelection in 2012, or is it time to give someone else a chance?

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |                                       |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Deserves reelection                | 36% |
| 2. Time to give someone else a chance | 43% |
| 3. Don't know                         | 22% |

Q21. If the 2014 Republican primary election for lieutenant governor were held today, which of the following possible candidates would you vote for, or haven't you thought about it enough to have an opinion?

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. David Dewhurst                                      | 12% |
| 2. Susan Combs   | 5%  |
| 3. Dan Patrick   | 3%  |
| 4. Dan Branch  | 1%  |
| 5. Jerry Patterson                                     | 1%  |
| 6. Todd Staples  | 1%  |
| 7. I won't be voting in the Republican primary in 2014 | 32% |
| 8. Haven't thought enough about it                     | 46% |

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. David Dewhurst                                      | 15% |
| 2. Susan Combs   | 6%  |
| 3. Dan Patrick   | 5%  |
| 4. Dan Branch  | 1%  |
| 5. Jerry Patterson                                     | 1%  |
| 6. Todd Staples  | 1%  |
| 7. I won't be voting in the Republican primary in 2014 | 33% |
| 8. Haven't thought enough about it                     | 38% |

Q21A If Rick Perry were to run for governor again in 2014, would you vote for him, would you vote against him, or would you need to wait and see who is running against him?

- |                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| 1. Vote for Perry     | 19% |
| 2. Vote against Perry | 39% |
| 3. Wait and see       | 38% |
| 4. Don't know         | 5%  |

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| 1. Vote for Perry     | 22% |
| 2. Vote against Perry | 42% |
| 3. Wait and see       | 35% |
| 4. Don't know         | 2%  |

Q22. Suppose the Tea Party movement organized itself as a political party. When thinking about the next election for Congress, would you vote for the Republican candidate from your district, the Democratic candidate from your district, or the Tea Party candidate from your district?

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 1. Republican candidate | 16% |
| 2. Democratic candidate | 36% |
| 3. Tea Party candidate  | 17% |
| 4. Don't know           | 30% |

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 1. Republican candidate | 18% |
| 2. Democratic candidate | 36% |
| 3. Tea Party candidate  | 20% |
| 4. Don't know           | 26% |

Q23. Do you think the Tea Party movement has too much influence, too little influence, or the right amount of influence in the Republican Party?

- |                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Too much influence            | 30% |
| 2. Too little influence          | 21% |
| 3. The right amount of influence | 23% |
| 4. Don't know                    | 26% |

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Too much influence            | 32% |
| 2. Too little influence          | 26% |
| 3. The right amount of influence | 26% |
| 4. Don't know                    | 16% |

**[RANDOMIZE Q24-Q25]**

Q24. Please tell us whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of Ted Cruz.

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Very favorable                                 | 22% |
| 2. Somewhat favorable                             | 27% |
| 3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable              | 11% |
| 4. Somewhat unfavorable                           | 11% |
| 5. Very unfavorable                               | 18% |
| 6. Don't know enough about him to have an opinion | 11% |

Q25. Please tell us whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of Paul Sadler.



Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Very favorable                                 | 7%  |
| 2. Somewhat favorable                             | 16% |
| 3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable              | 20% |
| 4. Somewhat unfavorable                           | 9%  |
| 5. Very unfavorable                               | 5%  |
| 6. Don't know enough about him to have an opinion | 43% |

**[Randomize Q26 through Q27]**

Q26. Please tell us whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of Barack Obama.

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |                                      |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Very favorable                    | 26% |
| 2. Somewhat favorable                | 13% |
| 3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable | 3%  |
| 4. Somewhat unfavorable              | 5%  |
| 5. Very unfavorable                  | 52% |
| 6. Don't know/No Opinion             | 1%  |

Q27. Please tell us whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney.

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |                                      |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Very favorable                    | 30% |
| 2. Somewhat favorable                | 22% |
| 3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable | 6%  |
| 4. Somewhat unfavorable              | 6%  |
| 5. Very unfavorable                  | 35% |
| 6. Don't know/No Opinion             | 1%  |

**[Randomize Q28 through Q29]**

Q28. Please tell us whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden.

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |                                      |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Very favorable                    | 26% |
| 2. Somewhat favorable                | 13% |
| 3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable | 3%  |
| 4. Somewhat unfavorable              | 8%  |
| 5. Very unfavorable                  | 48% |
| 6. Don't know/No Opinion             | 2%  |

Q29. Please tell us whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of Paul Ryan.

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |                                      |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Very favorable                    | 37% |
| 2. Somewhat favorable                | 16% |
| 3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable | 9%  |
| 4. Somewhat unfavorable              | 5%  |
| 5. Very unfavorable                  | 31% |
| 6. Don't know/No Opinion             | 3%  |

Q30. When voting for a political candidate, please indicate how important each of the following factors is in your decision, "Extremely important", "Somewhat important", "not very important", "Not at all important":

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

	<b>Extremely Important</b>	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Not very important</b>	<b>Not at all important</b>
<b>A. Religious faith</b>	18%	32%	24%	27%
<b>B. Issue positions</b>	88%	12%	0%	0%
<b>C. Character</b>	81%	18%	1%	0%
<b>D. Party</b>	20%	42%	26%	13%
<b>E. Political record</b>	65%	32%	2%	1%

Q30A. When voting for a political candidate, please indicate which of the following factors is MOST important in your decision:

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

- |                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| 1. Religious faith  | 4%  |
| 2. Issue positions  | 56% |
| 3. Character        | 20% |
| 4. Party            | 6%  |
| 5. Political record | 14% |

**[Randomize Q31 through Q32]**

Q31. Please tell us whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of Rick Perry.

1. Very favorable	11%
2. Somewhat favorable	29%
3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable	15%
4. Somewhat unfavorable	10%
5. Very unfavorable	31%
6. Don't know/No Opinion	4%

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

1. Very favorable	13%
2. Somewhat favorable	32%
3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable	11%
4. Somewhat unfavorable	9%
5. Very unfavorable	33%
6. Don't know/No Opinion	2%

Q32. Please tell us whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of Greg Abbott.

1. Very favorable	8%
2. Somewhat favorable	14%
3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable	23%
4. Somewhat unfavorable	7%
5. Very unfavorable	8%
6. Don't know/No Opinion	40%

Among Likely Voters (n=540 ;MOE=+/- 4.22)

1. Very favorable	12%
2. Somewhat favorable	18%
3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable	23%
4. Somewhat unfavorable	8%
5. Very unfavorable	11%
6. Don't know/No Opinion	29%

## Government

Q33. How do you feel about the following statement: Generally speaking, the way state government runs in Texas serves as a good model for other states to follow.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 18% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 36% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 18% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 18% |
| 5. Don't know        | 10% |

Please read the following series of statements that will help us understand what you think about a number of issues facing Texas. For each statement, please indicate if you “strongly agree”, “somewhat agree”, “somewhat disagree”, or “strongly disagree” with it. The first one is...

### [Randomize 33A-33D]

Q33A. The state government in Austin is more efficient and less wasteful than the national government in Washington.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 23% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 49% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 20% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 8%  |

Q33B. The state government in Austin has become too dependent on financial aid from Washington.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 9%  |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 33% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 45% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 14% |

### [Split Sample Q33C1 and Q33C2]

Q33C1. The state government in Austin should require state and local employees, including police, fire, and emergency medical workers, to pay more of the cost of their retirement pensions.

(n=381 ;MOE=+/- 5.02)

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 19% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 33% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 34% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 14% |

Q33C2. The state government in Austin should require state and local employees to pay more of the cost of their retirement pensions.

(n=416 ;MOE=+/- 4.80)

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 25% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 36% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 28% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 11% |

**[Rotate Q34-Q35]**

Q34. Now just a few questions about state government in Austin.

Below are some pairs of opposite phrases, please tell me which one better describes your state government: **[Randomize Q34A-Q34D]**

Q34A.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Mostly corrupt OR | 33% |
| 2. Mostly honest     | 42% |
| 3. Don't know        | 25% |

Q34B.

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Mostly careful with people's tax dollars OR | 41% |
| 2. Mostly careless with people's tax dollars   | 39% |
| 3. Don't know                                  | 19% |

Q34C.

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Mostly addresses the needs of Texas residents OR | 55% |
| 2. Mostly ignores the needs of Texas residents      | 30% |
| 3. Don't know                                       | 16% |

Q34D.

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Is too divided along partisan lines OR      | 37% |
| 2. Can usually work together to address issues | 49% |
| 3. Don't know                                  | 13% |

Q35. Now just a few questions about the federal government in Washington.

Below are some pairs of opposite phrases, please tell me which one better describes the federal government: **[Randomize Q35A-Q35D]**

Q35A.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Mostly corrupt OR | 70% |
| 2. Mostly honest     | 15% |
| 3. Don't know        | 15% |

Q35B.

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Mostly careful with people's tax dollars OR | 12% |
|--|-----|

- 2. Mostly careless with people's tax dollars 79%
- 3. Don't know 9%

Q35C.

- 1. Mostly addresses the needs of Texas residents OR 13%
- 2. Mostly ignores the needs of Texas residents 61%
- 3. Don't know 27%

Q35D.

- 1. Is too divided along partisan lines OR 86%
- 2. Can usually work together to address issues 5%
- 3. Don't know 9%

Q36. In attempting to deal with the budget shortfall, state lawmakers have two basic options at their disposal: cutting spending and increasing revenue. Please choose your preference for how state lawmakers should close the budget gap on a 0-10 scale, where 10 indicates that you prefer that state lawmakers close the gap entirely through revenue increases, and 0 indicates that you prefer that state lawmakers close the gap entirely through spending cuts.

Mean=4.28

Standard Deviation=2.72

Q37. Of the three branches of federal government, which one do you trust the most?

- 1. The U.S. Congress, the legislative branch 10%
- 2. The President, the executive branch 28%
- 3. The U.S. Supreme Court, the judicial branch 34%
- 4. Don't know 28%

### Policy Questions

Q38. Some people argue that requiring registered voters to present government-issued photo identification at the polls reduces voter fraud and does not place major obstacles on anyone who is legally entitled to vote. Other people argue that such a requirement has a negligible effect on voter fraud but places significant obstacles on elderly, low-income, disabled, and minority voters. Do you agree or disagree with the idea that registered voters should be required to present a government issued photo ID at the polls before they can be allowed to vote?

- 1. Agree 66%
- 2. Disagree 27%
- 3. Don't know 7%

Q39. What is your opinion on gay marriage or civil unions?

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Gays and lesbians should have the right to marry                         | 36% |
| 2. Gays and lesbians should have the right to civil unions but not marriage | 33% |
| 3. Gays and lesbians should not have the right to civil unions or marriage  | 25% |
| 4. Don't know   | 7%  |

Q40. Should illegal immigrants who have graduated from a Texas high school and lived in the state for at least three years receive in-state tuition rates at Texas public colleges and universities, or should they have to pay the higher tuition rate for out-of-state students?

- |                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. In-state tuition      | 36% |
| 2. Out-of-state-tuition  | 50% |
| 3. Don't know/no opinion | 14% |

For each of the following statements, please indicate whether you “strongly agree”, “somewhat agree”, “somewhat disagree”, or “strongly disagree”: **[Randomize Q41A-Q41D]**

Q41A. State and local police in Texas should NOT be permitted to inquire about or report the immigration status of people they routinely encounter on the street.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 18% |
| 1. Somewhat agree    | 13% |
| 2. Somewhat disagree | 16% |
| 3. Strongly disagree | 46% |
| 4. Don't know        | 6%  |

Q41B. Most immigrants pay their fair share of taxes.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 12% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 21% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 21% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 38% |
| 5. Don't know        | 9%  |

Q41C. We should restrict and control people coming to live in the U.S. more than we do now.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 48% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 28% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 13% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 5%  |
| 5. Don't know        | 6%  |

Q41D. Newcomers from other countries enrich Texas with their hard work and values.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 20% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 43% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 18% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 10% |
| 5. Don't know        | 10% |

Q42. Compared to a year ago, would you say that K-12 public school education in Texas is a lot better, somewhat better, about the same, somewhat worse, or a lot worse?

- |                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. A lot better          | 2%  |
| 2. Somewhat better       | 9%  |
| 3. About the same        | 34% |
| 4. Somewhat worse        | 27% |
| 5. A lot worse           | 16% |
| 6. Don't know/no opinion | 12% |

Q43. Do you think that Texas spends too much, too little, or about the right amount on primary and secondary education?

- |                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Too much               | 11% |
| 2. Too little             | 52% |
| 3. About the right amount | 23% |
| 4. Don't know/no opinion  | 14% |

Q44. What about the state's universities and colleges? Do you think that Texas spends too much, too little, or about the right amount on higher education?

- |                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Too much               | 19% |
| 2. Too little             | 37% |
| 3. About the right amount | 28% |
| 4. Don't know/no opinion  | 16% |



**[Note: For Q45, the sample was randomly split and the question was asked in two different ways to each sub-sample. One sub-sample received the wording as presented below, while for the other, the orders of the arguments and response options were reversed. Results shown here are for the entire (combined) sample]**

As you may know, Texas State Legislative candidates have recently been invited to pledge NOT to increase taxes when the legislature convenes in January 2013.

Q45. Some people say that state legislative candidates should pledge not to increase taxes before the elections so that voters know where they stand on taxes.

Others say that anti-tax pledges lock candidates into inflexible positions before the fiscal situation in January 2013 is clear.

Which of these positions is closer to yours?

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Candidates should pledge not to increase taxes before the elections.     | 34% |
| 2. Candidates should not make pledges before the fiscal situation is clear. | 52% |
| 3. Not sure/Don't know  | 14% |

Q46. As you may know, some states have a history of discrimination in their election laws. Because of this, they are required to request federal approval before implementing any changes to their voting procedures or election practices.

Do you think these states should still be subject to federal supervision, or do you think they should be able to change their voting and election practices without the approval of the federal government?

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. These states should still be under federal supervision   | 51% |
| 2. These states should be able to change their voting and election practices without federal approval | 36% |
| 3. Not sure/Don't know  | 13% |

Q47. How often do you personally come in contact with immigrants who speak little or no English?

- |                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| 1. Often (daily or weekly) | 57% |
| 2. Sometimes (monthly)     | 31% |
| 3. Rarely (once a year)    | 10% |
| 4. Never                   | 1%  |
| 5. Don't know              | 1%  |

Q48. Some people think that our elected officials and policy-makers should follow the advice of scientists on many issues. Others think that scientists are often either biased or wrong on many issues. For each of the following issues, please use a 0-10 scale to indicate how much politicians and public officials should defer to scientists: 10 means to follow scientific advice completely, 0 means to ignore scientific advice, and 5 means to weight it equally with other factors.

Q48A. Stem cell research

Mean: 6.52  
Standard Deviation: 2.82

Q48B. Global warming

Mean: 5.67  
Standard Deviation: 3.44

Q48C. Abortion

Mean: 5.15  
Standard Deviation: 3.14

Q48D. Space exploration

Mean: 6.99  
Standard Deviation: 2.50

Q48E. Childhood obesity

Mean: 6.33  
Standard Deviation: 2.72

Q48F. AIDS

Mean: 6.96  
Standard Deviation: 2.56

Q48G. Birth control

Mean: 5.70  
Standard Deviation: 3.00

Q48H. Legalizing drug use

Mean: 5.63  
Standard Deviation: 2.91

Q48I. Health care coverage

Mean: 5.64  
Standard Deviation: 2.86

Q48J. Natural disaster preparedness

Mean: 7.15  
Standard Deviation: 2.31

Q48K. Nuclear power

Mean: 7.05  
Standard Deviation: 2.29

Q48L. Coal production

Mean: 6.13  
Standard Deviation: 2.81

Q48M. Gun control

Mean: 4.61  
Standard Deviation: 3.38

Q49. Please tell us whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each of the following statements: **[PROVIDE GRID]**

**[RANDOMLY SELECT 4 OF Q49A-Q49H, RANDOMIZE SELECTION]**

**(for Q49A-Q49H, n is between 389 and 412, MOE is between +/-4.83 and 4.99)**

Q49A. When faced with a difficult decision, politicians should follow the advice of relevant experts, even if it means going against their ideology.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 25% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 41% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 27% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 8%  |

Q49B. Most of the time, instinct and gut reactions are just as good as the advice of scientists.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 14% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 37% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 29% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 20% |

Q49C. Faith is a better guide than scientific evidence on most important questions.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 17% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 34% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 26% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 24% |

Q49D. Scientists and academics are not hostile to people of faith.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 19% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 34% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 30% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 18% |

Q49E. Scientists and academics are not concerned about the moral implications of their research.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 24% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 31% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 33% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 11% |

Q49F. Most university professors are liberals who are trying to push an ideological agenda with their research.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 30% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 28% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 27% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 16% |

Q49G. Most economists are conservatives who are trying to push an ideological agenda with their research.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 11% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 28% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 44% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 17% |

Q49H. Most scientists are liberals who are trying to push an ideological agenda with their research.

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly agree    | 20% |
| 2. Somewhat agree    | 31% |
| 3. Somewhat disagree | 32% |
| 4. Strongly disagree | 17% |

## Political Knowledge

### [Randomize INFO1-INFO3]

INFO1. Which political party holds the majority in the U.S. House of Representatives?

- |                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| 1. Republican Party | 69% |
| 2. Democratic Party | 17% |
| 3. Neither          | 1%  |
| 4. Don't know       | 13% |

INFO2. What majority of both houses of the U.S. Congress is needed to override a presidential veto?

- |                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| 1. More than one-half      | 6%  |
| 2. More than two-thirds    | 73% |
| 3. More than three-fourths | 10% |
| 4. Don't know              | 11% |

INFO3. Who is the current Attorney General of Texas?

- |                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| 1. Greg Abbott      | 70% |
| 2. Michael Williams | 0%  |
| 3. Susan Combs      | 2%  |
| 4. Victor Carrillo  | 1%  |
| 5. Don't know       | 28% |

## Political Orientation

We're almost done. Now we just have a few basic questions for statistical purposes.

LIBCON. On a scale from 1 to 7, where 1 is extremely liberal, 7 is extremely conservative, and 4 is exactly in the middle, where would you place yourself?

- |                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Extremely liberal      | 2%  |
| 2. Somewhat liberal       | 7%  |
| 3. Lean liberal           | 9%  |
| 4. In the middle          | 39% |
| 5. Lean conservative      | 16% |
| 6. Somewhat conservative  | 18% |
| 7. Extremely conservative | 8%  |

PID3. Generally speaking, would you say that you usually think of yourself as a...

- |                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| 1. Democrat       | 41% |
| 2. Independent    | 12% |
| 3. Republican     | 44% |
| 4. Other/Not Sure | 3%  |

PID7.

1. Strong Democrat	22%
2. Not very strong Democrat	9%
3. Lean Democrat	10%
4. Independent	12%
5. Lean Republican	15%
6. Not very strong Republican	8%
7. Strong Republican	21%
8. Other	3%

## Demographics

AGE. Please indicate your age group.

1. 18-29	19%
2. 30-44	25%
3. 45-64	39%
4. 65 and up	18%

LOCATE. Would you say that you live in an urban, suburban, or rural community?

1. Urban	28%
2. Suburban	51%
3. Rural	21%

METRO. Do you live in the Houston, Dallas-Fort Worth, San Antonio, or Austin metropolitan areas?

1. Yes, I live in the Houston area.	20%
2. Yes, I live the Dallas-Fort Worth area	32%
3. Yes, I live in the San Antonio area	8%
4. Yes, I live in the Austin area	9%
5. No, I live in another part of Texas.	32%

CHILD. How many children are currently living with you?

1. One	21%
2. Two	11%
3. Three	5%
4. Four or more	2%
5. None	61%

SCHOOL. Do you have any children currently enrolled in school in Texas? (check all that apply)

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Yes, I have a child/children under 18 enrolled in public school in Texas.   | 23% |
| 2. Yes, I have a child/children under 18 enrolled in private school in Texas.  | 2%  |
| 3. Yes, I have a child/children under 18 who are being home schooled in Texas. | 2%  |
| 4. No, I do not have any children under 18 in school in Texas.                 | 73% |

INCOME. In which category would you place your household income last year?

- |                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| 1. Less than \$10,000      | 6%  |
| 2. \$10,000 to \$19,999    | 8%  |
| 3. \$20,000 to \$29,999    | 11% |
| 4. \$30,000 to \$39,999    | 9%  |
| 5. \$40,000 to \$49,999    | 8%  |
| 6. \$50,000 to \$59,999    | 7%  |
| 7. \$60,000 to \$69,999    | 7%  |
| 8. \$70,000 to \$79,999    | 6%  |
| 9. \$80,000 to \$99,999    | 8%  |
| 10. \$100,000 to \$119,999 | 8%  |
| 11. \$120,000 to \$149,999 | 4%  |
| 12. More than \$150,000    | 5%  |
| 13. Prefer not to say      | 12% |

EDU. What is the highest level of education that you received?

- |                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| 1. Less than high school    | 4%  |
| 2. High school degree       | 35% |
| 3. Some college             | 24% |
| 4. Two-year college degree  | 9%  |
| 5. Four-year college degree | 20% |
| 6. Post-graduate degree     | 8%  |

RELIG. What is your religious affiliation? **[No open response on “other”]**

1. Agnostic	5%
<b>2. Assembly of God*</b>	<b>1%</b>
3. Atheist	4%
<b>4. Baptist*</b>	<b>17%</b>
5. Buddhist	0%
<b>6. Catholic*</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>7. Christian Scientist*</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>8. Church of Christ*</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>9. Church of God*</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>10. Disciples of Christ*</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>11. Episcopal/Anglican*</b>	<b>3%</b>
12. Hindu	0%
13. Jehovah’s Witnesses	0%
14. Jewish	1%
<b>15. Lutheran*</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>16. Methodist*</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>17. Mormon*</b>	<b>2%</b>
18. Muslim/Islam	0%
<b>19. Nondenominational Christian*</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>20. Orthodox/Eastern Orthodox*</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>21. Pentecostal*</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>22. Presbyterian*</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>23. Protestant (non-specific)*</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>24. Reformed*</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>25. Unitarian/Universalist*</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>26. United Church of Christ*</b>	<b>0%</b>
27. Spiritual but not religious	12%
<b>28. Other*</b>	<b>7%</b>
29. Don’t know	0%

EVANG. **[Ask if respond \* to RELIG]** Do you consider yourself to be a “born again” or “evangelical” Christian?

1. Yes	49%
2. No	51%

CATHOLICID. **[Ask if RELIG = “Catholic”]** Do you identify with any of the following descriptions? Please select all that apply.

1. Liberal Catholic	21%
2. Conservative Catholic	24%
3. Traditional Catholic	33%
4. Charismatic Catholic	1%
5. Evangelical Catholic	1%
6. I do not identify with any of the above	30%



CHARISMATIC. [Ask if respond \* to RELIG] Do you consider yourself to be a “spirit filled” or “charismatic” Christian?

- |        |     |
|--------|-----|
| 1. Yes | 39% |
| 2. No  | 61% |

SOCIALGOSPEL. [Ask if respond \* to RELIG] Do you consider social justice to be at the heart of the Gospel?

- |        |     |
|--------|-----|
| 1. Yes | 41% |
| 2. No  | 59% |

LITERAL. Which of these statements comes closest to describing your feelings about the Bible?

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. The Bible is the actual word of God and is to be taken literally, word for word.                | 29% |
| 2. The Bible is the word of God but not everything in it should be taken literally, word for word. | 42% |
| 3. The Bible is a book written by men and is not the word of God.                                  | 21% |
| 4. Don't know.   | 7%  |

IMPORT. How important is religion in your life?

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 1. Extremely important  | 47% |
| 2. Somewhat important   | 29% |
| 3. Not very important   | 13% |
| 4. Not at all important | 12% |

ATTEND. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services or participate in religious activities?

- |                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. More than once a week | 14% |
| 2. Once a week           | 19% |
| 3. A few times a month   | 12% |
| 4. Once or twice a year  | 30% |
| 5. Never                 | 25% |

RACE1. What race do you consider yourself to be?

1. White	65%
2. African American	14%
3. Hispanic or Latino	15%
4. Asian/Pacific Islander	1%
5. Native American	1%
6. Multi-racial	2%

RACE2. **[Ask if RACE ~= "Hispanic or Latino"]** Do you happen to have a Hispanic-Latino grandparent?

1. Yes	1%
2. No	98%
3. Don't know	1%

NATIVE1. **[Ask if RACE = "Hispanic or Latino"]** Were you born in the United States or Puerto Rico, or in another country?

1. Born in the United States or Puerto Rico	88%
2. Born in another country	12%
3. Don't know	0%

NATIVE2. **[Ask NATIVE2 if answer 1 on NATIVE1]** Were your parents born in the United States or Puerto Rico, or another country?

1. Both of my parents were born in the United States or Puerto Rico	60%
2. One of my parents was born in another country	24%
3. Both of my parents were both in another country	16%

LEAVE1. In the last 12 months, have you considered moving out of the state of Texas?

1. Yes, I have	24%
2. No, I have not	74%
3. Don't know/no opinion	2%

LEAVE2. **[Ask if LEAVE1=1]** How important, on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 indicates "not-at-all important", and 10 means "very important", are each of these reasons why you have considered moving out of the state of Texas? [Randomize A-N]

- A. To be closer to family  
Mean=4.07  
Standard Deviation=4.19
- B. High cost of housing here  
Mean=3.54  
Standard Deviation=3.82

- C. Opportunity for better jobs elsewhere  
Mean=5.26  
Standard Deviation=3.88
- D. I want to live around people like me  
Mean=5.15  
Standard Deviation=3.58
- E. Current high tax rates here  
Mean=3.32  
Standard Deviation=3.45
- F. Prospect of higher tax rates if I stay here  
Mean=3.23  
Standard Deviation=3.50
- G. Traffic congestion and overcrowding here  
Mean=4.65  
Standard Deviation=3.61
- H. High crime here  
Mean=4.11  
Standard Deviation=3.57
- I. The quality of schools is declining here  
Mean=4.45  
Standard Deviation=3.95
- J. The economy is getting worse here  
Mean=4.12  
Standard Deviation=3.50
- K. I want a quieter place to live  
Mean=4.61  
Standard Deviation=3.92
- L. I want a better climate  
Mean=6.47  
Standard Deviation=3.55
- M. I want to live around more Democrats  
Mean=3.22  
Standard Deviation=3.81
- N. I want to live around more Republicans  
Mean=1.50  
Standard Deviation=2.75

LEAVE3. **[Ask if LEAVE1=1]** Which of the following is the MOST important reason why you have considered moving out of the state of Texas?

(n=189 ;MOE=+/- 7.13)

1. To be closer to family	15%
2. High cost of housing here	1%
3. Opportunity for better jobs elsewhere	22%
4. I want to live around people like me	6%
5. Current high tax rates here	1%
6. Prospect of higher tax rates if I stay here	1%
7. Traffic congestion and overcrowding here	2%
8. High crime here	1%
9. The quality of schools is declining here	2%
10. The economy is getting worse here	3%
11. I want a quieter place to live	8%
12. I want a better climate	18%
13. I want to live around more Democrats	4%
14. I want to live around more Republicans	0%
15. Other	15%

COME1. When did you move to Texas?

1. In the last 2 years.	4%
2. Between 2 and 5 years ago.	4%
3. More than 5 years ago.	38%
4. Always lived in Texas	54%

COME2. **[Ask if COME1=1, 2, or 3]** How important, on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 indicates “not-at-all important”, and 10 means “very important”, are each of these reasons why you moved to the state of Texas? [Randomize A-N]

A. To be closer to family	Mean=4.62	Standard Deviation=4.27
B. Low cost of housing	Mean=4.59	Standard Deviation=3.81
C. Opportunity for better jobs	Mean=5.97	Standard Deviation=3.91
D. I want to live around people like me	Mean=3.63	Standard Deviation=3.60
E. Prospect of lower taxes	Mean=4.31	Standard Deviation=3.71
F. Less traffic congestion and overcrowding	Mean=3.24	Standard Deviation=3.44
G. Less crime		

- Mean=4.10  
Standard Deviation=3.72
- H. The quality of schools is better  
Mean=3.62  
Standard Deviation=3.77
- I. The economy was getting better in Texas  
Mean=5.07  
Standard Deviation=3.70
- J. a quieter place to live  
Mean=3.88  
Standard Deviation=3.69
- K. a better climate  
Mean=4.19  
Standard Deviation=3.71
- L. I wanted to live around more Democrats  
Mean=1.18  
Standard Deviation=2.43
- M. I wanted to live around more Republicans  
Mean=2.04  
Standard Deviation=3.15
- N. To go to college or graduate school  
Mean=2.62  
Standard Deviation=3.59

COME3. [Ask if COME1=1, 2, or 3] Which of the following is the MOST important reason why you chose to move to the state of Texas?

(n=359 ;MOE=+/- 5.17)

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. To be closer to family                    | 33% |
| 2. Low cost of housing                       | 3%  |
| 3. Opportunity for better jobs               | 35% |
| 4. I want to live around people like me      | 1%  |
| 5. Prospect of lower taxes                   | 2%  |
| 6. Less traffic congestion and overcrowding  | 0%  |
| 7. Less crime                                | 1%  |
| 8. The quality of schools is better          | 2%  |
| 9. The economy was getting better in Texas   | 8%  |
| 10. a quieter place to live                  | 3%  |
| 11. a better climate                         | 4%  |
| 12. I wanted to live around more Democrats   | 0%  |
| 13. I wanted to live around more Republicans | 0%  |
| 14. To go to college or graduate school      | 6%  |

HOME. Do you own or rent your home?

- |         |     |
|---------|-----|
| 1. Own  | 73% |
| 2. Rent | 27% |

MARITAL. What is your marital status?

1. Married	60%
2. Separated	1%
3. Divorced	10%
4. Widowed	5%
5. Single	18%
6. Domestic Partnership	6%

GENDER. What is your gender?

1. Male	46%
2. Female	54%

P08. In the 2008 presidential election, who did you vote for?

1. Barack Obama	40%
2. John McCain	43%
3. Someone else	5%
4. Did not vote	12%