University of Texas / Texas Tribune

Texas Statewide Survey

May 2012 Instrument N=800 Adults

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

Interest and Engagement

- Q1. Are you registered to vote in the state of Texas?
 - 1. Yes, registered 100%
- 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?

Extremely interested	48%
Somewhat interested	38%
Not very interested	9%
Not at all interested	4%
Don't know	0%
	Somewhat interested Not very interested Not at all interested

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	32%
2.	Almost every election	35%
3.	About half	13%
4.	One or two	11%
5.	None	7%
6.	Don't know/Refused/NA	1%

Retrospective Assessments

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

1.	Approve strongly	17%
2.	Approve somewhat	19%
3.	Neither approve nor disapprove	10%
4.	Disapprove somewhat	8%
5.	Disapprove strongly	46%
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	9%
3.	Neither approve nor disapprove	15%
4.	Disapprove somewhat	23%
5.	Disapprove strongly	48%
6.	Don't know	3%

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

Approve strongly	11%
Approve somewhat	26%
Neither approve nor disapprove	16%
Disapprove somewhat	12%
Disapprove strongly	31%
Don't know	4%
	Approve somewhat Neither approve nor disapprove Disapprove somewhat Disapprove strongly

Elections

Q13. Thinking ahead to the May 29 primary elections, do you think you will vote in the Republican Primary, the Democratic Primary, or do you usually not vote in primary elections?

1.	Republican Primary	43%
2.	Democratic Primary	30%
3.	Don't usually vote in primaries	27%

Likely Voters (n=512; MOE=+/- 4.33)

1.	Republican Primary	54%
2.	Democratic Primary	31%
3.	Don't usually vote in primaries	16%

Q13A. **[Ask if Q13=1 OR Q13=2]** Many people cast their votes on Election Day, but many others vote before Election Day by absentee ballot or what is called early voting. What about you? Do you plan to vote on Election Day or before Election Day?

1.	On Election Day	36%
2.	Before Election Day	55%
3.	Don't know	9%

Likely Voters (n=433; MOE=+/- 4.71)

1.	On Election Day	35%
2.	Before Election Day	61%
3.	Don't know	4%

[For Q14 through Q19 and for Q22, 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.]

Q14. **[Ask if Q13=1]** If the 2012 Republican primary election for President were held today, which of the following candidates would you vote for, or haven't you thought about it enough to have an opinion? **(n=345;MOE=+/-5.28%)**

1.	Mitt Romney	60%
2.	Ron Paul	15%
3.	Newt Gingrich	9%
4.	Rick Santorum	10%
5.	Michele Bachmann	3%
6.	Jon Huntsman	1%
7.	Other	1%

Likely Voters (n=275; MOE=+/- 5.91%)

1.	Mitt Romney	63%
2.	Ron Paul	14%
3.	Newt Gingrich	9%
4.	Rick Santorum	10%
5.	Michele Bachmann	3%
6.	Jon Huntsman	1%
7.	Other	1%

Q15. **[Ask if Q13=1]** If the 2012 Republican primary election for U.S. Senator were held today, which of the following candidates would you vote for, or haven't you thought about it enough to have an opinion? **(n=343;MOE=+/-5.29%)**

1.	David Dewhurst	40%
2.	Ted Cruz	28%
3.	Tom Leppert	15%
4.	Curt Cleaver	1%
5.	Ben Gambini	1%
6.	Glenn Addison	2%
7.	Joe Agris	1%
8.	Craig James	5%
9.	Lela Pittenger	3%
10.	Don't know	3%

Likely Voters (n=274; MOE=+/- 5.92%)

1.	David Dewhurst	40%
2.	Ted Cruz	31%
3.	Tom Leppert	17%
4.	Curt Cleaver	1%
5.	Ben Gambini	0%
6.	Glenn Addison	2%
7.	Joe Agris	1%
8.	Craig James	4%
9.	Lela Pittenger	3%
10.	Don't know	2%

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

Q16. **[Ask if Q13=1]** If the 2012 Republican primary election for <u>one</u> of the railroad commissioner seats were held today, which of the following candidates would you vote for, or haven't you thought about it enough to have an opinion? **(n=345;MOE=+/-5.28%)**

1.	Christi Craddick	29%
2.	Roland Sledge	11%
3.	Beryl Burgess	4%
4.	Becky Berger	13%
5.	Joe Cotten	13%
6.	Warren Chisum	20%
7.	Don't know	9%

Likely Voters (n=275; MOE=+/- 5.91%)

1.	Christi Craddick	30%
2.	Roland Sledge	10%
3.	Beryl Burgess	5%
4.	Becky Berger	13%
5.	Joe Cotten	14%
6.	Warren Chisum	19%
7.	Don't know	8%

Q17. **[Ask if Q13=1]** If the 2012 Republican primary election for the other railroad commissioner seat were held today, which of the following candidates would you vote for, or haven't you thought about it enough to have an opinion? **(n=342;MOE=+/- 5.3%)**

1.	Barry Smitherman	24%
2.	Greg Parker	34%
3.	Elizabeth Murray-Kolb	26%
4.	Al Lee	7%
5.	Don't know	9%

Likely Voters (n=272; MOE=+/- 5.94%)

1.	Barry Smitherman	26%
2.	Greg Parker	33%
3.	Elizabeth Murray-Kolb	25%
4.	Al Lee	8%
5.	Don't know	8%

Q18. **[Ask if Q13=2]** If the 2012 Democratic primary election for U.S. Senator were held today, which of the following candidates would you vote for, or haven't you thought about it enough to have an opinion? **(n=234;MOE=+/-6.41%)**

Sean Hubbard	22%
Addie Dainell Allen	22%
Paul Sadler	35%
Grady Yarbrough	12%
Don't know	9%
	Addie Dainell Allen Paul Sadler Grady Yarbrough

Likely Voters (n=157; MOE=+/- 7.82%)

1.	Sean Hubbard	25%
2.	Addie Dainell Allen	19%
3.	Paul Sadler	29%
4.	Grady Yarbrough	15%
5.	Don't know	11%

Q19. If the 2012 general election for U.S. president were held today and Mitt Romney was the Republican nominee, would you vote for **[randomize]** Barack Obama, Mitt Romney, someone else, or haven't you thought enough about it to have an opinion?

1.	Mitt Romney	46%
2.	Barack Obama	38%
3.	Someone else	9%
4.	Haven't thought about it	
	enough to have an opinion	8%

Likely Voters (n=511; MOE=+/- 4.34%)

1.	Mitt Romney	55%
2.	Barack Obama	35%
3.	Someone else	7%
4.	Haven't thought about it	
	enough to have an opinion	3%

Q20. If the 2012 general election for U.S. Senator from Texas were held today, would you vote for the **[randomize]** Republican candidate, the Democratic candidate, someone else, or haven't you thought enough about it to have an opinion?

1.	Republican candidate	45%
2.	Democratic candidate	34%
3.	Someone else	3%
4.	Haven't thought about it	
	enough to have an opinion	18%

Likely Voters (n=511; MOE=+/- 4.34%)

Republican candidate	55%
Democratic candidate	34%
Someone else	3%
Haven't thought about it	
enough to have an opinion	8%
	Someone else Haven't thought about it

Q21. Do you think your incumbent state representative deserves reelection in 2012, or is it time to give someone else a chance?

1.	Deserves reelection	28%
2.	Time to give someone else a chance	50%
3.	Don't know	21%

Likely Voters (n=512; MOE=+/- 4.33%)

1.	Deserves reelection	35%
2.	Time to give someone else a chance	54%
3.	Don't know	11%

Q22. **[Ask if Q13=1]** Thinking ahead to the 2014 statewide elections, 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? **(n=344;MOE=+/-5.28%)**

1.	Susan Combs	29%
2.	Todd Staples	10%
3.	Jerry Patterson	9%
4.	Dan Branch	3%
5.	Dan Patrick	23%
6.	Another Republican candidate	22%
7.	Don't know	4%

Likely Voters (n=274; MOE=+/- 5.92%)

1.	Susan Combs	28%
2.	Todd Staples	9%
3.	Jerry Patterson	11%
4.	Dan Branch	3%
5.	Dan Patrick	23%
6.	Another Republican candidate	21%
7.	Don't know	5%

Q23. Suppose the Tea Party movement organized itself as a political party. When thinking about the next election for Congress, would you vote for **[randomize]** the Republican candidate from your district, the Democratic candidate from your district, or the Tea Party candidate from your district? **[Randomize 1-2]**

1.	Republican Candidate	22%
2.	Democratic candidate	34%
3.	Tea Party candidate	18%
4.	Don't know	27%

Q24. 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	29%
2.	Too little influence	23%
3.	The right amount of influence	23%
4.	Don't know	26%

Q25. When voting for a political candidate, please indicate how important each of the following factors is in your decision, "very important", "somewhat important", "neither important nor unimportant", "very unimportant", "not important at all":

	Very important	Somewhat important	Neither Important nor unimportant	Not very important	Not important at all
Religious faith	23%	20%	24%	12%	21%
Issue positions	83%	12%	4%	0%	0%
Character	74%	18%	7%	0%	1%
Party	27%	29%	25%	10%	9%
Their record	74%	18%	7%	1%	0%

[RANDOMIZE Q26-Q31]

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

1.	Very favorable	8%
2.	Somewhat favorable	22%
3.	Neither favorable nor unfavorable	21%
4.	Somewhat unfavorable	11%
5.	Very unfavorable	14%
6.	Don't know enough about	
	him to have an opinion	25%

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

1.	Very favorable	4%
2.	Somewhat favorable	14%
3.	Neither favorable nor unfavorable	20%
4.	Somewhat unfavorable	7%
5.	Very unfavorable	7%
6.	Don't know enough about	
	him to have an opinion	48%

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

1.	Very favorable	7%
2.	Somewhat favorable	16%
3.	Neither favorable nor unfavorable	16%
4.	Somewhat unfavorable	9%
5.	Very unfavorable	10%
6.	Don't know enough about	
	him to have an opinion	42%

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

1.	Very favorable	3%
2.	Somewhat favorable	7%
3.	Neither favorable nor unfavorable	20%
4.	Somewhat unfavorable	7%
5.	Very unfavorable	8%
6.	Don't know enough about	
	him to have an opinion	55%
	him to have an opinion	55%

Q30. Please tell us whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of Paul Sadler.

1.	Very favorable	2%
2.	Somewhat favorable	8%
3.	Neither favorable nor unfavorable	21%
4.	Somewhat unfavorable	3%
5.	Very unfavorable	2%
6.	Don't know enough about	
	him to have an opinion	63%

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

1.	Very favorable	3%
2.	Somewhat favorable	6%
3.	Neither favorable nor unfavorable	22%
4.	Somewhat unfavorable	6%
5.	Very unfavorable	5%
6.	Don't know enough about	
	him to have an opinion	58%

[Randomize Q32 and Q34]

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

1.	Very favorable	21%
2.	Somewhat favorable	17%
3.	Neither favorable nor unfavorable	8%
4.	Somewhat unfavorable	8%
5.	Very unfavorable	44%
6.	Don't know/No Opinion	3%

Q33. 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	13%
2.	Somewhat favorable	25%
3.	Neither favorable nor unfavorable	12%
4.	Somewhat unfavorable	12%
5.	Very unfavorable	35%
6.	Don't know/No Opinion	4%

Q34. Please tell us whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney.

1.	Very favorable	13%
2.	Somewhat favorable	27%
3.	Neither favorable nor unfavorable	14%
4.	Somewhat unfavorable	15%
5.	Very unfavorable	23%
6.	Don't know/No Opinion	7%

Political Traits

[Randomize Q36 and Q37]

Q36. Here are several descriptive phrases. Using a 0-10 scale, where 0 means "not at all well" and 10 means "extremely well," please tell us how well each of the following phrases describe Barack Obama. [Include "don't know" option for every scale.]

- a. Really cares about people like me Mean=5.33, Standard Deviation=4.03
- b. Strong leader Mean=5.51, Standard Deviation=4.01
- c. Knowledgeable
 Mean=6.41, Standard Deviation=3.95
- d. Fights for the middle class
 Mean=5.50, Standard Deviation=4.03

Q37. Here are several descriptive phrases. Using a 0-10 scale, where 0 means "not at all well" and 10 means "extremely well," please tell us how well each of the following phrases describe Mitt Romney. [Include "don't know" option for every scale.]

- a. Really cares about people like me Mean=5.04, Standard Deviation=3.48
- b. Strong leader Mean=6.32, Standard Deviation=3.32
- c. Knowledgeable Mean=6.86, Standard Deviation=3.33
- d. Fights for the middle class
 Mean=5.22, Standard Deviation=3.58

Political Knowledge

[Randomize INFO1-INFO3]

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

1.	Republican Party	73%
2.	Democratic Party	13%
3.	Neither	2%
4.	Don't know	12%

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	69%
3.	More than three-fourths	11%
4.	Don't know	14%

INFO3. Who is the current Attorney General of Texas?

1.	Greg Abbott	66%
2.	Michael Williams	1%
3.	Susan Combs	5%
4.	Victor Carrillo	1%
5.	Don't know	27%

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? [Wording on scale: (1) "Extremely liberal," (4) "In the middle," (7) "Extremely conservative"]

1.	Extremely liberal	2%
2.	Somewhat liberal	6%
3.	Lean liberal	9%
4.	In the middle	40%
5.	Lean conservative	15%
6.	Somewhat conservative	20%
7.	Extremely conservative	8%

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

1.	Democrat	31%
2.	Independent	28%
3.	Republican	33%
4.	Other	1%
5.	Not sure	6%

PID7.

1.	Strong Democrat	20%
2.	Not very strong Democrat	13%
3.	Lean Democrat	8%
4.	Independent	10%
5.	Lean Republican	12%
6.	Not very strong Republican	14%
7.	Strong Republican	22%
8.	Other	1%

Demographics

AGE. Please indicate your age group.

1.	18-29	16%
2.	30-44	27%
3.	45-64	37%
4.	65 and up	20%

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

1.	Urban	28%
2.	Suburban	54%
3.	Rural	18%

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

1.	Yes, I live in the Houston area.	18%
2.	Yes, I live the Dallas-Fort Worth area	34%
3.	Yes, I live in the San Antonio area	9%
4.	Yes, I live in the Austin area	9%
5.	No, I live in another part of Texas.	30%

CHILD. How many children are currently living with you?

1.	One	15%
2.	Two	13%
3.	Three	5%
4.	Four or more	3%
5.	None	65%

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

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enrolled in public school in Texas.	22%
Yes, I have a child/children under 18	
enrolled in private school in Texas.	2%
Yes, I have a child/children under 18	
who are being home schooled in Texas.	1%
No, I do not have any children under 18	
in school in Texas.	74%
	enrolled in private school in Texas. Yes, I have a child/children under 18 who are being home schooled in Texas. No, I do not have any children under 18

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

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

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

1.	Less than high school	5%
2.	High school degree	34%
3.	Some college	25%
4.	Two-year college degree	9%
5.	Four-year college degree	19%
6.	Post-graduate degree	8%

RELIG. What is your religious affiliation? [No open response on "other"]

1.	Agnostic	4%
	Assembly of God*	1%
	Atheist	4%
		4 /0 19%
	Baptist*	19%
	Buddhist	
-	Catholic*	19%
	Christian Scientist*	0%
-	Church of Christ*	3%
-	Church of God*	1%
	Disciples of Christ*	1%
	Episcopal/Anglican*	2%
12.	Hindu	0%
13.	Jehovah's Witnesses	1%
14.	Jewish	1%
15.	Lutheran*	3%
16.	Methodist*	5%
17.	Mormon*	2%
18.	Muslim/Islam	0%
19.	Nondenominational Christian*	0%
20.	Orthodox/Eastern Orthodox*	1%
21.	Pentecostal*	5%
22.	Presbyterian*	2%
	Protestant (non-specific)*	3%
	Reformed*	0%
25.	Unitarian/Universalist*	1%
	United Church of Christ*	0%
	Spiritual but not religious	6%
	Other*	6%
_	Don't know	2%
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EVANG. **[Ask if respond * to RELIG]** Do you consider yourself to be a "born again" or "evangelical" Christian?

1.	Yes	46%
2	No	54%

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

1.	Liberal Catholic	22%
2.	Conservative Catholic	17%
3.	Traditional Catholic	37%
4.	Charismatic Catholic	1%
5.	Evangelical Catholic	3%
6.	I do not identify with any of the above	21%

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

1.	Yes	36%
2.	No	64%

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

1.	Yes	35%
2.	No	65%

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.	31%
2.	The Bible is the word of God but not	
	everything in it should be taken literally,	
	word for word.	41%
3.	The Bible is a book written by men and	
	is not the word of God.	20%
4.	Don't know.	8%

IMPORT. How important is religion in your life?

1.	Extremely important	47%
2.	Somewhat important	33%
3.	Not very important	9%
4.	Not at all important	11%

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

1.	More than once a week	19%
2.	Once a week	16%

3.	A few times a month	13%
4.	Once or twice a year	25%
5.	Never	27%

RACE1. What race do you consider yourself to be?

1.	White	62%
2.	African American	14%
3.	Hispanic or Latino	18%
4.	Asian/Pacific Islander	1%
5.	Native American	1%
6.	Multi-racial	3%

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

1.	Yes	3%
2.	No	97%
3.	Don't know	0%

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

 Born in the United States or Puerto Rico
 Born in another country
 Don't know
 3%

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	68%
2.	One of my parents was born in	
	another country	20%
3.	Both of my parents were	
	both in another country	12%

CALI. Did you move to Texas from California?

1.	Yes	9%
2.	No	91%

HOME. Do you own or rent your home?

1.	Own	73%
2.	Rent	27%

MARITAL. What is your marital status?

1.	Married	58%
2.	Separated	2%
3.	Divorced	10%
4.	Widowed	6%
5.	Single	20%
6.	Domestic Partnership	4%

GENDER. What is your gender?

1.	Male	47%
2.	Female	53%

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

1.	Barack Obama	41%
2.	John McCain	43%
3.	Someone else	5%
4.	Did not vote	11%