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%

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?

 Worst is over 	30%
Worst is yet to co	me 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 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%

[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%

[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%

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?

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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"]

4	Agnastic	E0/
1.	Agnostic	5%
	Assembly of God*	1%
	Atheist	4%
	Baptist*	17%
	Buddhist	0%
-	Catholic*	16%
7.	Christian Scientist*	0%
8.	Church of Christ*	2%
9.	Church of God*	0%
10.	Disciples of Christ*	0%
11.	Episcopal/Anglican*	3%
12.	Hindu	0%
13.	Jehovah's Witnesses	0%
14.	Jewish	1%
15.	Lutheran*	1%
16.	Methodist*	7%
17.	Mormon*	2%
18.	Muslim/Islam	0%
19.	Nondenominational Christian*	10%
20.	Orthodox/Eastern Orthodox*	0%
21.	Pentecostal*	3%
22.	Presbyterian*	2%
	Protestant (non-specific)*	4%
	Reformed*	0%
	Unitarian/Universalist*	0%
	United Church of Christ*	0%
_	Spiritual but not religious	12%
	Other*	7%
_	Don't know	0%
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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?

21%

7%

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. 4. Don't know.

IMPORT. How important is religion in your life?

47% 1. Extremely important 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?

 In the last 2 years. 	4%
2. Between 2 and 5 years ago.	4%
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%