

University of Texas / Texas Tribune
Texas Statewide Survey

October 2011 Instrument
N=800 Adults, October 19-26
Margin of error: +/-3.46% unless otherwise noted
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Interest and Engagement

Q1. Are you registered to vote in the state of Texas?

1. Yes, registered	100%
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Q2. Generally speaking, would you say that you are extremely interested in politics and public affairs, somewhat interested, not very interested, or not interested at all?

1. Extremely interested	53%
2. Somewhat interested	35%
3. Not very interested	8%
4. Not at all interested	4%
5. Don't know	0%

Retrospective Assessments

Q5. How would you rate the job Barack Obama has done as president? Would you say that you...

1. Approve strongly	15%
2. Approve somewhat	18%
3. Neither approve nor disapprove	9%
4. Disapprove somewhat	8%
5. Disapprove strongly	49%
6. Don't know	1%

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

1. Approve strongly	11%
2. Approve somewhat	17%
3. Neither approve nor disapprove	10%
4. Disapprove somewhat	8%
5. Disapprove strongly	53%
6. Don't know	1%

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

1. Approve strongly	2%
2. Approve somewhat	9%
3. Neither approve nor disapprove	10%
4. Disapprove somewhat	26%
5. Disapprove strongly	51%
6. Don't know	2%

[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q8-Q10]

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

1. Approve strongly	14%
2. Approve somewhat	25%
3. Neither approve nor disapprove	14%
4. Disapprove somewhat	13%
5. Disapprove strongly	31%
6. Don't know	2%

Q9. How would you rate the job Rick Perry has done handling the Texas economy? Would you say that you...

1. Approve strongly	19%
2. Approve somewhat	23%
3. Neither approve nor disapprove	16%
4. Disapprove somewhat	12%
5. Disapprove strongly	29%
6. Don't know	2%

Q10. Where would you put Rick Perry on this scale?

1. Extremely liberal	1%
2. Somewhat liberal	2%
3. Slightly liberal	4%
4. Moderate, middle of the road	10%
5. Slightly conservative	10%
6. Somewhat conservative	33%
7. Extremely conservative	30%
8. Don't Know	10%

Q16. Thinking ahead to the 2012 elections, do you think you will vote in the **[RANDOMIZE PARTY NAMES]** Republican Primary, the Democratic Primary, or do you usually not vote in primary elections?

1. Republican Primary	50%
2. Democratic Primary	30%
3. Don't usually vote in primaries	21%

Q17. **[Ask if Q16=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? **[Randomize 1-9] (n=395; MoE=+/- 4.93)**

1. Mitt Romney	9%
2. Ron Paul	12%
3. Gary Johnson	1%
4. Michele Bachmann	2%
5. Newt Gingrich	8%
6. Herman Cain	27%
7. Rick Perry	26%
8. Rick Santorum	1%
9. Jon Huntsman	1%
10. Another Republican candidate	1%
11. Don't know	11%

Q18. **[Ask if Q16=1]** If the 2012 Republican primary election for U.S. Senator 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? **[Randomize 1-6] (n=395; MoE= +/-4.93%)**

1. David Dewhurst	22%
2. Elizabeth Ames Jones	2%
3. Ted Cruz	10%
4. Tom Leppert	5%
5. Michael McCaul	5%
6. Glenn Addison	0%
7. Another Republican candidate	7%
8. Don't Know	50%

Q19. **[Ask if Q16=1]** 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? **[Randomize 1-5] (n=397; MoE= +/-4.92%)**

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Susan Combs | 14% |
| 2. Todd Staples | 2% |
| 3. Jerry Patterson | 5% |
| 4. Dan Branch | 1% |
| 5. Dan Patrick | 9% |
| 6. Another Republican candidate | 5% |
| 7. Don't know | 64% |

Q20. **[Ask if Q16=2]** If the 2012 Democratic primary election for U.S. Senator 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? **[Randomize 1-3] (n=235; MoE= +/-6.39%)**

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Chris Bell | 15% |
| 2. Chet Edwards | 9% |
| 3. Ricardo Sanchez | 11% |
| 4. Another Democratic candidate | 10% |
| 5. Don't know | 55% |

[Randomize Q21, Q22, Q23, Q24]

Q21. If the 2012 general election for U.S. president were held today and Rick Perry was the Republican nominee, would you vote for **[randomize]** Barack Obama, Rick Perry, someone else, or haven't you thought enough about it to have an opinion? **[Randomize 1-2]**

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Rick Perry | 45% |
| 2. Barack Obama | 37% |
| 3. Someone else | 10% |
| 4. Haven't thought about it enough to have an opinion | 8% |

(By political Interest)

	Extremely	Somewhat	Not Very	Not at all
1. Rick Perry	54%	40%	17%	14%
2. Barack Obama	35%	44%	25%	34%
3. Someone else	9%	12%	17%	3%
4. Haven't though...	2%	5%	41%	48%

Q22. 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? **[Randomize 1-2]**

- | | |
|-----------------|-----|
| 1. Mitt Romney | 36% |
| 2. Barack Obama | 34% |

- 3. Someone else 19%
- 4. Haven't thought about it enough to have an opinion 11%

(By political Interest)

	Extremely	Somewhat	Not Very	Not at all
1. Mitt Romney	45%	29%	9%	20%
2. Barack Obama	33%	40%	20%	30%
3. Someone else	19%	19%	23%	3%
4. Haven't thought...	3%	12%	47%	47%

Q23. If the 2012 general election for U.S. president were held today and Ron Paul was the Republican nominee, would you vote for **[randomize]** Barack Obama, Ron Paul, someone else, or haven't you thought enough about it to have an opinion? **[Randomize 1-2]**

- 1. Ron Paul 38%
- 2. Barack Obama 33%
- 3. Someone else 17%
- 4. Haven't thought about it enough to have an opinion 13%

(By political Interest)

	Extremely	Somewhat	Not Very	Not at all
1. Ron Paul	48%	31%	17%	7%
2. Barack Obama	33%	37%	22%	27%
3. Someone else	18%	18%	15%	7%
4. Haven't thought...	2%	14%	46%	60%

Q24. If the 2012 general election for U.S. president were held today and Herman Cain was the Republican nominee, would you vote for **[randomize]** Barack Obama, Herman Cain, someone else, or haven't you thought enough about it to have an opinion? **[Randomize 1-2]**

- 1. Herman Cain 40%
- 2. Barack Obama 35%
- 3. Someone else 13%
- 4. Haven't thought about it enough to have an opinion 12%

(By political Interest)

	Extremely	Somewhat	Not Very	Not at all
1. Herman Cain	53%	30%	14%	14%
2. Barack Obama	34%	40%	19%	29%
3. Someone else	9%	17%	16%	10%
4. Haven't thought...	3%	13%	52%	46%

Q25. 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? **[Randomize 1-2]**

- 1. Republican candidate 47%
- 2. Democratic candidate 30%

- 3. Someone else 4%
- 4. Haven't thought about it enough to have an opinion 18%

Q26. 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 20%
- 2. Democratic candidate 33%
- 3. Tea Party candidate 24%
- 4. Don't know 24%

Q27. 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 23%
- 3. The right amount of influence 25%
- 4. Don't know 22%

Q28. Do you support or oppose the "Occupy Wall Street" or "99 percent" protests taking place in cities across the country, or haven't you thought about it enough to have an opinion?

- 1. Strongly support 20%
- 2. Somewhat support 17%
- 3. Somewhat oppose 8%
- 4. Strongly oppose 32%
- 5. Haven't thought about it enough to have an opinion 23%

Q29. Do you think most people you know would vote for a Mormon presidential candidate if they agreed with him or her on the issues?

- 1. Yes 53%
- 2. No 23%
- 3. Don't Know/No Answer 25%

Political Traits

Q31. Here are several descriptive words or phrases. Using a 0-10 scale, where 0 means “not at all well” and 10 means “extremely well,” please tell us how well each item describes Governor Rick Perry. **[Randomly select 5 items from Q31a-Q31j] [Include “don’t know” option for every scale.]**

- a. Honest (n=387):
mean=5.05; sd=3.24; don’t know=6%
- b. Career politician (n=385):
mean=7.11; sd=3.06; don’t know=5%
- c. Conservative (n=421):
mean=7.40; sd=2.47; don’t know=9%
- d. Corrupt (n=409):
mean=4.58; sd=2.90; don’t know=9%
- e. Strong leader (n=406):
mean=5.89; sd=3.12; don’t know=5%
- f. Competent (n=405):
mean=5.60; sd=3.23; don’t know=4%
- g. Outsider (n=372):
mean=3.86; sd=2.74; don’t know=10%
- h. Self-serving (n=380):
mean=5.64; sd=2.96; don’t know=7%
- i. Straight talker (n=406):
mean=5.36; sd=3.23; don’t know=6%
- j. A real Texan (n=394):
mean=6.32; sd=3.05; don’t know=7%

Q32. Regardless of how you view Rick Perry, do you think his candidacy has helped, hurt, or had no effect on Texas's image among voters outside of the state.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Helped Texas's image | 19% |
| 2. Hurt Texas's image | 37% |
| 3. Had no effect on Texas's image | 34% |
| 4. Don't know | 11% |

Policy Questions

Q33. Should illegal immigrants who have graduated from a Texas high school and lived in the state for at least a year receive lower 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 | 28% |
| 2. Out-of-state tuition | 55% |
| 3. Don't know | 17% |

Q34. **[Ask if Q33=1]** Should illegal immigrants brought to Texas as children by their parents be eligible to receive state-funded financial aid for college? (n=223)

- | | |
|---------------|-----|
| 1. Yes | 67% |
| 2. No | 26% |
| 3. Don't Know | 7% |

Q35. Which of the following best characterizes your opinion on the federal proposal that would provide a pathway to citizenship for most illegal immigrants currently living in the United States?

- | | |
|---------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly support | 19% |
| 2. Somewhat support | 20% |
| 3. Somewhat oppose | 15% |
| 4. Strongly oppose | 36% |
| 5. Don't know | 11% |

[Note: For Q36, 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 shows here are for the entire (combined) sample]

Q36. Some say that Rick Perry's leadership in promoting policies such as low taxes, lenient regulation, and small government, is the main reason the Texas economy has fared better than the national economy.

Others say that long-existing economic policies such as a constitutional requirement for a balanced budget, no income tax, and a lenient regulatory environment, in addition to Texas' natural resources, have been the main reasons the Texas economy has fared better than the national economy.

Which would you say is closer to your own view:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Rick Perry's leadership has helped Texas fare better than the rest of the country. | 21% |
| 2. Long-standing policies have helped T Texas fare better than the rest of the country. | 65% |
| 3. Don't Know | 14% |

Q37. Which of the following best characterizes your opinion on the death penalty for those convicted of violent crimes?

- | | |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly support | 49% |
| 2. Somewhat support. | 25% |
| 3. Somewhat oppose. | 9% |
| 4. Strongly oppose | 12% |
| 5. Don't know | 5% |

Q38. How often do you think people are wrongly convicted of death penalty offenses in the state of Texas?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| 1. Never | 3% |
| 2. Almost never | 30% |
| 3. Occasionally | 41% |
| 4. A great deal of the time | 15% |
| 5. Don't know | 11% |

Q39. What is your opinion on the availability of abortion?

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. By law, abortion should never be permitted | 16% |
| 2. The law should permit abortion only in case of rape, incest or when the woman's life is in danger | 31% |
| 3. The law should permit abortion for reasons other than rape, incest, or danger to the woman's life, but only after the need for the abortion has been clearly established. | 12% |
| 4. By law, a woman should always be able to obtain an abortion as a matter of personal Choice. | 36% |
| 5. Don't know | 5% |

Q40. Would you say that the quality of K-12 public school education in Texas is:

- | | |
|------------------|-----|
| 1. Excellent | 7% |
| 2. Good | 36% |
| 3. Not very good | 32% |
| 4. Terrible | 19% |
| 5. Don't know | 7% |

Q41. Do you think that Texas spends too much, too little, or about the right amount on primary and secondary education?

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Too much | 14% |
| 2. Too little | 53% |
| 3. About the right amount | 22% |
| 4. Don't Know | 11% |

Political Knowledge

[Randomize INFO1-INFO3]

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

- | | |
|---------------------|-----|
| 1. Republican Party | 75% |
| 2. Democratic Party | 14% |
| 3. Neither | 3% |
| 4. Don't know | 8% |

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

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| 1. More than one-half | 5% |
| 2. More than two-thirds | 72% |
| 3. More than three-fourths | 12% |
| 4. Don't know | 12% |

INFO3. Who is the current Attorney General of Texas?

- | | |
|---------------------|-----|
| 1. Greg Abbott | 65% |
| 2. Michael Williams | 1% |
| 3. Susan Combs | 7% |
| 4. Victor Carrillo | 2% |
| 5. Don't know | 25% |

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	5%
2. Somewhat liberal	8%
3. Slightly liberal	9%
4. In the middle	25%
5. Slightly conservative	16%
6. Somewhat conservative	22%
7. Extremely conservative	14%

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

1. Democrat	29%
2. Independent	27%
3. Republican	34%
4. Other	6%
5. Not sure	5%

PID7. (Uses the four PID3 follow-up questions)

1. Strong Democrat	20%
2. Not very strong Democrat	9%
3. Lean Democrat	8%
4. Independent	13%
5. Lean Republican	15%
6. Not very strong Republican	10%
7. Strong Republican	24%
8. Not sure	2%

Demographics

AGE. Please indicate your age group.

1. 18-29	16%
2. 30-44	28%
3. 45-64	39%
4. 65 and up	16%

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

- | | |
|-------------|-----|
| 1. Urban | 29% |
| 2. Suburban | 46% |
| 3. Rural | 25% |

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

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Yes, I live in the Houston area. | 17% |
| 2. Yes, I live the Dallas-Fort Worth area Rural | 29% |
| 3. Yes, I live in the San Antonio area | 11% |
| 4. Yes, I live in the Austin area | 11% |
| 5. No, I live in another part of Texas. | 33% |

CHILD. How many children are currently living with you?

- | | |
|-----------------|-----|
| 1. One | 18% |
| 2. Two | 12% |
| 3. Three | 8% |
| 4. Four or more | 1% |
| 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 | 24% |
| 2. Yes, I have a child/children under 18 enrolled in private school in Texas | 4% |
| 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 | 71% |

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

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. Less than \$10,000 | 5% |
| 2. \$10,000 to \$14,999 | 4% |
| 3. \$15,000 to \$19,999 | 6% |
| 4. \$20,000 to \$24,999 | 6% |
| 5. \$25,000 to \$29,999 | 6% |
| 6. \$30,000 to \$39,999 | 11% |
| 7. \$40,000 to \$49,999 | 10% |
| 8. \$50,000 to \$59,999 | 6% |
| 9. \$60,000 to \$69,999 | 9% |
| 10. \$70,000 to \$79,999 | 6% |

11. \$80,000 to \$99,999	9%
12. \$100,000 to \$119,999	5%
13. \$120,000 to \$149,999	3%
14. \$150,000 or more	4%
15. Prefer not to say	10%

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

1. Less than high school	3%
2. High school degree	39%
3. Some college	29%
4. Two-year college degree	10%
5. Four-year college degree	13%
6. Post-graduate degree	5%

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

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

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

- | | |
|--------|-----|
| 1. Yes | 48% |
| 2. No | 52% |

MORMON. Do you believe that Mormons are Christians?

- | | |
|---------------|-----|
| 1. Yes | 43% |
| 2. No | 29% |
| 3. Don't Know | 28% |

IMPORT. How important is religion in your life?

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 1. Extremely important | 47% |
| 2. Somewhat important | 28% |
| 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 | 16% |
| 2. Once a week | 18% |
| 3. A few times a month | 11% |
| 4. Once or twice a year | 28% |
| 5. Never | 27% |

RACE. What race do you consider yourself to be?

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. White | 63% |
| 2. African American | 12% |
| 3. Hispanic or Latino | 18% |
| 4. Asian/Pacific Islander | 2% |
| 5. Native American | 1% |
| 6. Multi-racial | 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 | 87% |
| 2. Born in another country | 13% |

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 | 69% |
| 2. One of my parents was born in another country | 19% |
| 3. Both of my parents were both in another country | 13% |

NATIVE3. **[Ask NATIVE3 if answer 1 on NATIVE1]** Were you born in Texas, or did you move here later in life?

- | | |
|------------------------|-----|
| 1. Born in Texas | 72% |
| 2. Born somewhere else | 28% |

HOME. Do you own or rent your home?

- | | |
|---------|-----|
| 1. Own | 73% |
| 2. Rent | 28% |

MARITAL. What is your marital status?

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 1. Single | 17% |
| 2. Married | 61% |
| 3. Divorced | 12% |
| 4. Widowed | 17% |
| 5. 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 | 40% |
| 2. John McCain | 46% |
| 3. Someone else | 6% |
| 4. Did not vote | 8% |