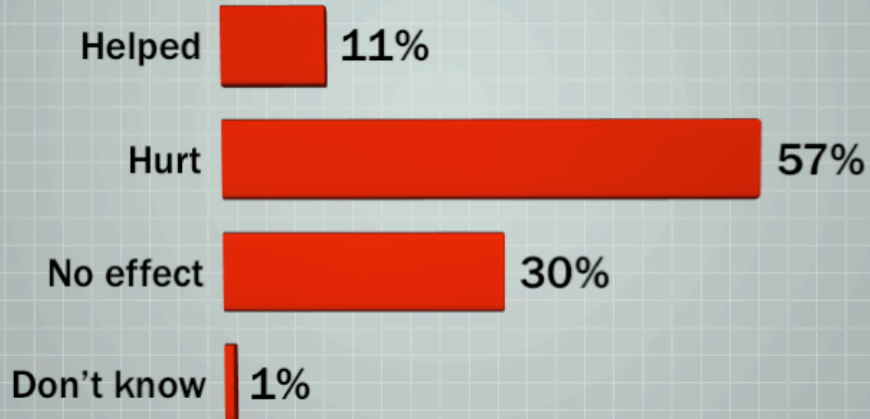


“INSIDE” INTELLIGENCE

*The Texas Weekly/Texas Tribune insider's poll
for the week of October 31.*

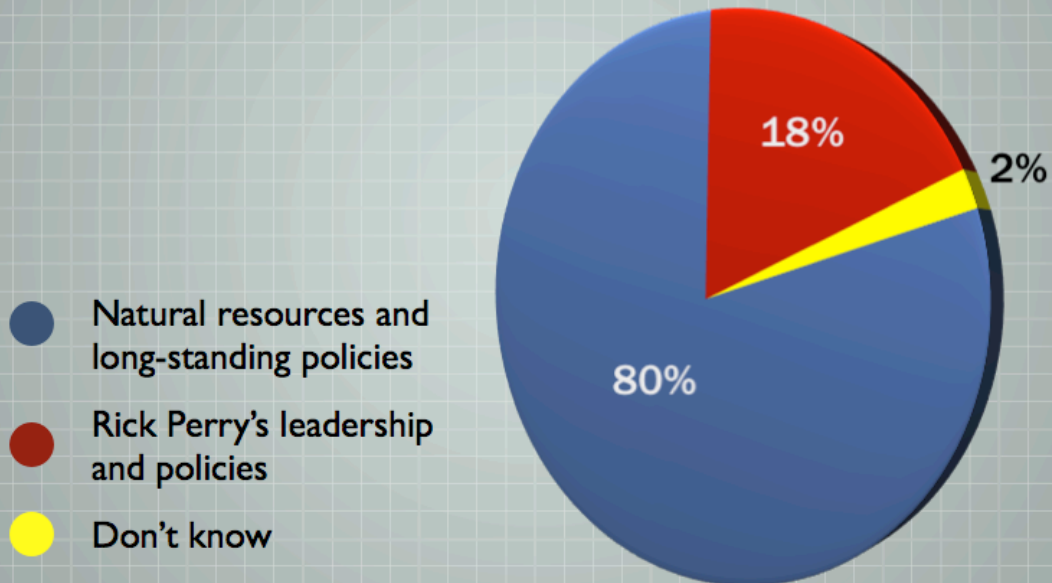
INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

What has Perry's campaign done for the state's image?



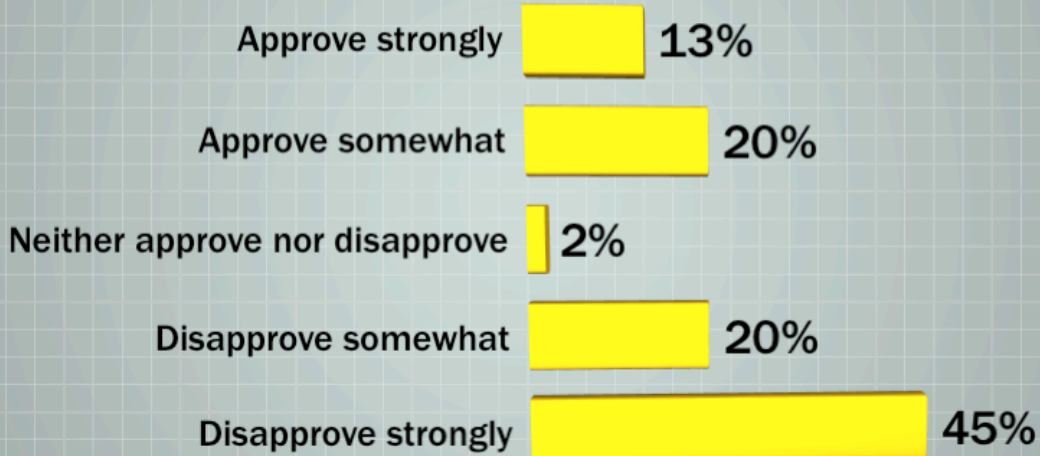
INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

Why has Texas outperformed other state economies?



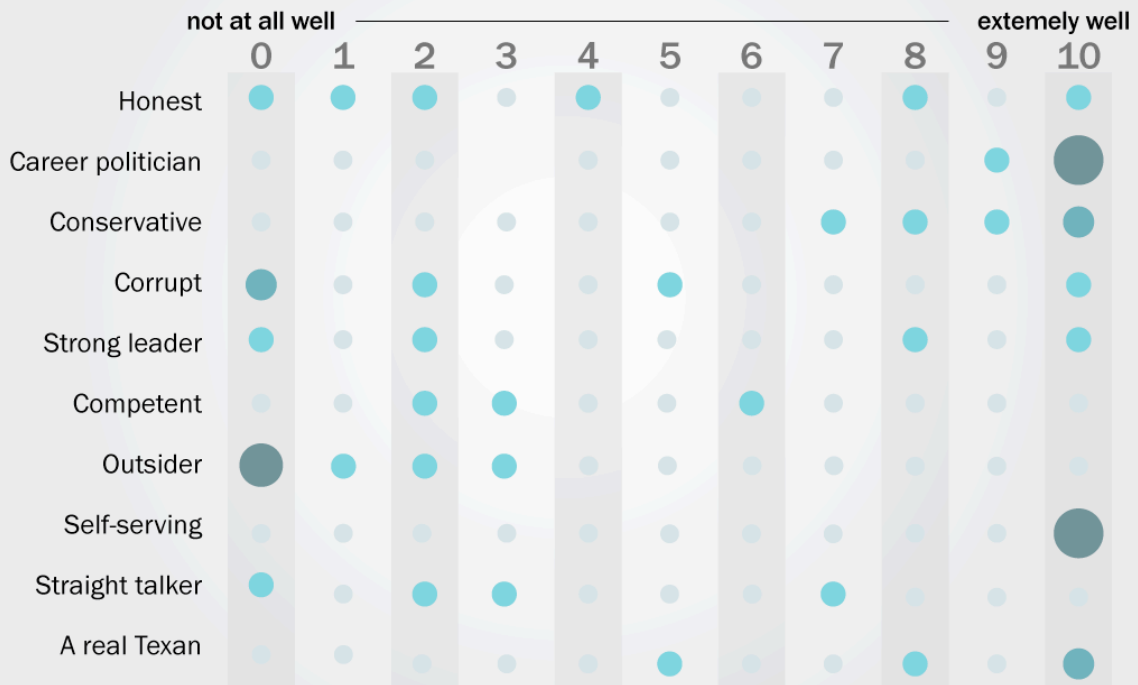
INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

Rate Rick Perry as governor



INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

How does each of the following terms describe Gov. Rick Perry?



Dots are bigger/darker to match larger numbers of responses

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?

- "If I am an out-of-state business, why would I want to cast my lot with a conspiratorial redneck like Rick Perry by relocating to a gridlocked, leveraged, drought-stricken, ill-prepared, pay-to-play, corrupt state? If I am a family looking for good schools to prepare my child to compete in a global workforce, why would I come here? Perry has turned Texas into a chicken-fried banana republic."
- "Got site selection? Not anymore!"
- "Opponents bang but the noise rapidly fades."
- "Having the state discussed nationally never hurts. Especially when they say we had 4 aces dealt to us in Texas."
- "It's almost too painful to watch yet another play up the fake Texan shtick for votes. Makes me want to sue him for defamation of the State."
- "I don't think it's made it worse after 8 years of Dubya in the White House."
- "The country is finally having to look beyond the sound bites, and it's not pretty."
- "No everyone is like the Bush family."
- "It's not like the rest of the nation is just now hearing about RP."
- "Please."
- "Had the media probed his leadership and policies for the past 10 years, had he been held accountable, he wouldn't be running for president and we wouldn't be in this position of embarrassment."
- "Dumber and meaner than W is what I get from outside state and in DC from political observers"
- "The only way it could be worse is if he actually spit tobacco juice across the CNN stage and called AC a 'sissy boy'."
- "How is it possible to hurt Texas image outside"
- "All the back-wood, idiotic portrayals of Texas are being reinforced by this unprepared candidate and his arrogant team."
- "Texas is at the bottom of nearly every measurement that we should be pursuing to be the best. Rick Perry has hurt Texas, not just its image."
- "The view of Texans as crude and ignorant has been reinforced"
- "No effect. Before the Perry candidacy, both east and west coasts thought we all had horses, guns, cowboy hats and the wrong stance on every issues affecting our country. Afterward, they still believe the same."
- "Reinforces our image as a state full of out-of-touch yokels."

- "Anyone who disagrees should spend some time in a major airport and eavesdrop on some conversations. The buzz around the nation is, 'Texas is odd.'"
- "It's certainly shown the country just how bad are public schools are and how poorly we administer public health."
- "Texas' 'backwardness' on many social, economic and environmental issues/ programs is now common knowledge in America more so than before the Governor began campaigning for the Presidency."
- "He merely confirms the image of Texas in the minds of most 'foreigners' (even more so than GWB)."
- "He reinforces it, but deserves little credit for that either."
- "He's partly stupid. Just the part that shows on TV."
- "It has simply reconfirmed what the rest of the country already thinks about our state. People like Debbie Riddle, Leo Berman and Louie Gohmert have done their part to make

our state a national laughing stock as well."

- "It's helped. Now people don't think George W. Bush was that stupid."
- "Reminds rest of U.S. what they don't like about Texas -- the swagger and perceived rudeness and intolerance"
- "And yet it is still early!"
- "1000 people moving here a day for work speaks for itself."
- "We are once again the Bonzo Dog Doo Dah Band of over-the-top guys who say it because they can get away with it. Even the lobby is offended. Ponzi schemes. Secession. Perry could come out for almost anything in the next few months and probably will. It's nuts."
- "He's only confirmed what others already think about Texas and Texans."
- "He has shown how pay-to-play is more prevalent in Texas than anywhere in the U.S."

Some say Texas's natural resources and long-existing policies such as a constitutionally required balanced budget, no income tax, and a lenient regulatory environment are the main reasons the Texas economy has fared better than the national economy. Others 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. Which would you say is closer to your own view?

- "Fared better is both a temporal and relative. Yes natural resources have helped us weather a storm. But we're still a low-wage economy and just because we didn't fall to the mat

doesn't hide the fact that a lot of families are living month to month."

- "Both questions are fundamentally conservative in their outlook; therefore, I can not differentiate. Natural resources, geography, climate, immigrants, and infrastructure have attracted people and businesses to Texas over the years."

- "Both."

- "Many states have resources but push policies to stop their harvest. Many states change tax policies yearly. Texas has a friendly regulatory climate and low taxes because Perry and the legislature have not changed their policies."

- "Like any career politician, you take what's available to you (long-existing policies) and make it your own."

- "Rick played the cards that were dealt to him. He played the hand well. He deserves credit for his play, and should thank his lucky stars he's from Texas!"

- "All of the above. Texas is blessed with natural resources and long-standing policies to encourage economic growth, and Governor Perry's leadership and policies have helped continue that growth."

- "I would add that Rick Perry's leadership and policies have put Texas in the place it is now, which is not only not entirely better than the rest of the country but is only temporary. When the chickens come home to roost, we will see the real impact of Rick Perry's tenure and it won't be pretty."

- "And he has done his best to dismantle those through methodical

extension of executive powers and elaborate self referral schemes w/ cartels of state contracts masquerading as 'privatization'"

- "Perry's done nothing but eat the state's equity in order to look like a fiscal conservative, although a real fiscal conservative would never destroy equity as a first choice."

- "Rick Perry is the 'Mack Brown' of Texas Governors. He will never get enough credit for all the things that he initiated while in office, but will certainly bear the brunt and criticism for everything that went wrong."

- "Perry has been dumb lucky"

- "No one ever thinks about the pilot when the plane lands safely. I guess he could have messed things up, but we've been on auto-pilot since Bullock died."

- "Nice weather hasn't hurt. Check back in Year Five of the just-commenced ten-year drought and let's see if the economy is still on track."

- "Natural resources and investment in educational and transportation infrastructure in previous decades has left us better off than the rest of the country. The latter advantage is rapidly disappearing after two decades of neglect. We will not remain an attractive place for new business for long. You get what you pay for."

- "Although Perry (along with Bush and a conservative legislature) has helped limit the number of new entitlements."

- "The accidental governor, through sheer longevity, has become much stronger than many others to hold the seat. He's a true democrat, in that he really needs the work. He's never had a real job."

- "But to Perry's credit, he didn't screw it up, and there is something to be said for that."

- "Natural resources main factor. Other policies you mention actually hurt growth."

- "Perry deserves some credit for maintaining low taxes. The rest of it was bequeathed to Texas by God and our forbearers, and exploited by Perry."

- "When a governor helps create an environment that welcomes and is

conducive to the growth of business you have jobs. As a client once said, Gov. Perry understands that poor people don't hire, growing and thriving businesses hire."

- "It's both."

- "Perry's business friendly policies have certainly helped but aren't the main cause of TX success."

- "The Legislature has always been fiscally conservative whether controlled by D's or R's. Perry inherited a tax structure and business environment in place for yours. He has done a disservice to the state by 'kicking the can down the road' in Medicaid, education, and borrowed money to pay for highway construction. The bill will come due when he is gone, but that is the plan."

How would you rate the job Rick Perry has done as governor?"

- "I know people will disagree, but Texas is the envy of many states and the governor and legislature deserve much of the credit."

- "In 11 years under his term, Texas has seen two school finance lawsuits, twice that the state's budget has been majorly in the hole, caters to special interests (HPV mandate), caters to his rightwing base (sanctuary cities, sonogram before abortions, voter ID), and yet we find our state worse off than it was when Dubya was here."

- "He has had but one focus ... partisan politics. But his string is at end."

- "In almost every measurement that impacts middle class families

(education, higher ed costs, children's healthcare, insurance, utility costs) Texas lags in the good stuff and leads in the bad stuff."

- "No vision for the future. No improvements in any of the statistics to show for his decade in office."

- "His critics can say what they want, but Texans have said 'YES' every time he's been on the ballot for Governor. If you're a D, that either says something good about the man or something bad about your candidates."

- "Perry has fiddled, while Texas burns. We've got some very serious challenges ahead, driven primarily by demographics, yet we've continued to kick the can down the road."

- "Outstanding judicial appointments; real leadership in protecting the Rainy Day Fund and limiting the size of government; bold attempts to address transportation and infrastructure issues"
- "Despite the narrative to the contrary, Perry was an accidental governor. A byproduct of the election of George W. Bush as the 43rd president."
- "He's not doing a job at all. Once session started, he declared his 'emergency' priorities and left town to sell books."
- "Personal politics has always trumped serious policy for Perry. Long-term state problems -- water, education, roads, health insurance -- have been ignored or slighted, with bill coming due after he's left office. No attempt to work with fellow officials on hard work of governance."
- "He avoids taking responsibility and boldly offering leadership."
- "Real issues don't matter, only what is good for Rick."
- "Disapproval isn't the word if you have children."

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.

- "The dude's for real."
- "'Real Texan' is an interesting, perfectly subjective category. My bias: real Texans work for a living. As a Texan who has worked everything from hauling firewood, to roofing houses, to an educated profession (paying my own student loans) I can't call him a 'real Texan'. And real Texans also don't carry a pistol while jogging!"
- "How do you define a real Texan?"
- "Career Politician - so many use that word as a pejorative. It's not, or rather - it shouldn't be. But anyone who's spent as much time in office as he has is certainly a career politician. 'Washington Outsider' - hell yes! Didn't you read Fed Up?"
- "Most of what he wants people to believe is not true; most of what he doesn't want them to believe is."
- "If I understand scale, 10 is intensity measure, meaning 10 on corrupt means extremely corrupt honest score of 0 means not honest"
- "Not sure if 'Strong, Conservative Leader who is dishonest and barely competent' is a winning slogan, but nothing else is working."
- "Corrupt, self-serving . . . how else do you become a millionaire while in office?"
- "Corporate Whore who got rich on public salary by being paid off for favors he did friends"
- "Although I disagree strongly with his ideology, his tactics and his

priorities, I acknowledge that the guy is clearly a strong leader--by whatever means they are that he uses, he bends people and processes to his will. He's a strong leader...he's just not a good leader."

- "Self serving career politician. But this too makes him completely unoriginal."
- "He has appropriated and misused the Republican brand in a Republican state. His two slush funds -- Enterprise and Emerging Technologies -- are absolutely indefensible."
- "He is simply the most cynical guy in Texas politics. However it appears

his wife is more so. Rick Perry is a smart guy but it got too easy. He hasn't done anything. Nothing. Not even trying."

- "For as long as he has been 'in' office, Austin's political establishment considers him an uncouth outsider intruder on their private party. Just how many times can you guys write his political obituary?"
- "Every negative article that appears today in the national press relates to a friend that he has rewarded in some way."

Our thanks to this week's participants: Gene Acuna, Cathie Adams, Victor Alcorta, James Aldrete, Clyde Alexander, Jay Arnold, Louis Bacarisse, Charles Bailey, Tom Banning, Mike Barnett, Reggie Bashur, Walt Baum, Leland Beatty, Dave Beckwith, Andrew Biar, Allen Blakemore, Tom Blanton, Hugh Brady, Steve Bresnen, Chris Britton, Andy Brown, Terri Burke, Kerry Cammack, Marc Campos, Snapper Carr, Tris Castaneda, William Chapman, George Cofer, Rick Cofer, John Colyandro, Harold Cook, Hector De Leon, June Deadrick, Tom Duffy, David Dunn, Jeff Eller, Alan Erwin, Jon Fisher, Robert Floyd, Terry Frakes, Dominic Giarratani, Scott Gilmore, Daniel Gonzalez, Kathy Grant, John Greytok, Michael Grimes, Billy Hamilton, Bill Hammond, Sandy Haverlah, Susan Hays, Ken Hodges, Laura Huffman, Shanna Igo, Deborah Ingersoll, Jason Johnson, Mark Jones, Robert Kepple, Richard Khouri, Kenneth Kramer, Dale Laine, Pete Laney, James LeBas, Donald Lee, Luke Legate, Leslie Lemon, Richard Levy, Ruben Longoria, Homero Lucero, Matt Mackowiak, Dan McClung, Parker McCollough, Lynn Moak, Bee Moorhead, Steve Murdock, Craig Murphy, Keir Murray, Keats Norfleet, Pat Nugent, Sylvia Nugent, Todd Olsen, Nef Partida, Jerry Philips, Tom Phillips, Wayne Pierce, Kraege Polan, Andrea Rado, Bill Ratliff, Tim Reeves, Carl Richie, Kim Ross, Jason Sabo, Luis Saenz, Mark Sanders, Andy Sansom, Jim Sartwelle, Stan Schlueter, Bruce Scott, Bradford Shields, Dee Simpson, Ed Small, Martha Smiley, Todd Smith, Larry Soward, Dennis Speight, Bob Strauser, Colin Strother, Michael Quinn Sullivan, Sherry Sylvester, Russ Tidwell, Bruce Todd, Trent Townsend, Trey Trainor, John Weaver, Ware Wendell, Ken Whalen, Darren Whitehurst, Woody Widrow, Michael Wilt, Seth Winick, Lee Woods, Peck Young, Angelo Zottarelli.