



Texas statewide public opinion survey

Hill Research Consultants

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FINAL DRAFT; TXTW08101; n=600; Field 8/25-29/10

Hello, this is _____ calling for Hill Research Consultants, a public opinion polling firm. May I speak with [NAME ON VOTER LIST]? We are calling registered voters in Texas to hear opinions about important issues facing the state.

A. _ Are you or is any member of your household an elected public official, an employee of a news organization, or an officer or employee of a political party or campaign organization?

YES THANK & TERMINATE
NO CONTINUE

1. _ Do you own or lease or rent the current residence where you live?

OWN 85%
LEASE 2%
RENT 9%
[DO NOT READ]
OTHER/UNSURE 2%
REFUSED 0%

2. _ Do you feel things in your part of Texas are going in the right direction these days, or do you feel things have pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?

RIGHT DIRECTION 36%
WRONG TRACK 50%
UNSURE 13%
REFUSED 1%

3. _ Based on what you know right now, if the election for Governor of Texas was held today, and you had to make a choice, would you be voting for [ROTATE] Republican Rick Perry OR Democrat Bill White?

REPUBLICAN RICK PERRY 42%
DEMOCRAT BILL WHITE 41%
[DO NOT READ]
OTHER PARTY/CANDIDATE 0%
NEITHER PARTY/CANDIDATE 2%
UNSURE/UNDECIDED 14%
REFUSED 1%

IF RENT OR LEASE IN Q1, SKIP TO Q7
IF OWN, OTHER/UNSURE OR REFUSE IN Q1, CONTINUE

4. _ What is the current approximate value of the home that you own where you live?
[READ LIST IN ORDER]

UNDER \$100,000 DOLLARS 24%
\$101,000 TO \$150,000 DOLLARS 16%
\$151,000 TO \$200,000 DOLLARS 20%
\$201,000 TO \$300,000 DOLLARS 14%
\$301,000 TO \$500,000 DOLLARS 6%
OVER \$500,000 DOLLARS 3%
[DO NOT READ]
UNSURE 8%
REFUSED 9%

- 5. __ Do you carry a homeowners' insurance policy on the residence where you live?
 - YES 94%
 - NO 4%
 - [DO NOT READ]
 - UNSURE 1%
 - REFUSED 2%

- 6. __ Would you personally say that the cost of homeowners' insurance in Texas these days is much too high, somewhat too high, about right, somewhat too low, or much too low?
 - MUCH TOO HIGH 29%
 - SOMEWHAT TOO HIGH 27%
 - ABOUT RIGHT 36%
 - SOMEWHAT TOO LOW 0%
 - MUCH TOO LOW 0%
 - [DO NOT READ]
 - UNSURE 7%
 - REFUSED 0%

ASK ALL

The state legislature will be meeting next year in Austin, and is likely to discuss homeowners' insurance rates and regulations. Based only on what you know right now, would you approve strongly, approve somewhat, disapprove somewhat or disapprove strongly of the following proposals that may be considered by the legislature. [ROTATE]

APRV STRONG	APRV SOME	DISPRV SOME	DISPRV STRONG	UNS	REF
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- 7. __ "PRIOR APPROVAL," which would require insurance companies submit and justify rate increases for review by the Texas Department of Insurance before they could go in to effect, not after.

51%.....	23%.....	9%.....	8%.....	9%.....	1%
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- 8. __ "DIRECT ELECTION," which would make the Insurance Commissioner a state-wide elected position chosen by voters, rather than be appointed by the Governor.

64%.....	20%.....	4%.....	7%.....	5%.....	0%
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- 9. __ "NEUTRAL REVIEW," which would prohibit insurance companies from using a person's credit rating when deciding whether to charge higher prices or deny coverage.

38%.....	14%.....	12%.....	25%.....	10%.....	1%
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- 10. __ "UNIFORM STANDARDS," which would require insurance companies offer a few standard policies written in plain language that would be consistent across the industry.

58%.....	27%.....	5%.....	2%.....	7%.....	1%
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- 11. __ "FAIR CLAIMS," which would give consumers stronger legal remedies and enhance damages and sanctions against insurance companies that unfairly deny, delay or underpay legitimate claims.

57%.....	21%.....	5%.....	8%.....	10%.....	1%
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END ROTATION

12. _ And in terms of elected officials and candidates running for office in Texas... would you personally be more likely to vote for them or less likely to vote for them if they supported insurance reforms like prior approval, direct election, neutral review, uniform standards and fair claims?
 [FOLLOW-UP] And do you feel strongly about that?

MORE LIKELY TO VOTE FOR THEM/STRONG 51%
 MORE LIKELY TO VOTE FOR THEM 23%
 LESS LIKELY TO VOTE FOR THEM 7%
 LESS LIKELY TO VOTE FOR THEM/STRONG 5%
 [DO NOT READ]
 UNSURE 13%
 REFUSED 1%

Here are some opinions other Texans have expressed about homeowners insurance, which may or may not be true in your view. For each, tell me whether you agree strongly, agree somewhat, disagree somewhat, or disagree strongly with that statement. Here's the first one.

AGREE STRONG	AGREE SOME	DISGRE SOME	DISGRE STRONG	UNS	REF
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[ROTATE]

13. _ With higher premiums, larger deductibles and expanded exclusions, it seems like we're paying more and more for homeowners insurance these days while getting less and less in return. 54%.....25%7% 7%..... 7%..... 0%

14. _ Texas' current system of regulation favors powerful insurance companies and their lobbyists over consumers and homeowners. 44%.....26%10% 10%..... 10%..... 1%

15. _ Politicians in Austin have promised to help homeowners for years now, but most of the so-called "reforms" they've passed simply benefited the insurance industry without actually lowering rates for consumers. 39%.....26%12% 9%..... 13%..... 1%

END ROTATION

Finally I just have a few simple questions designed to learn more about you, to be sure we have a sample that includes all types of people.

16. _ Including yourself, how many adults, age 18 and older, live in your household today?
 ONE 20%
 TWO 61%
 THREE OR MORE 19%
 REFUSED 1%

17. _ How many infants and children, under 18 years of age, live in your household today?
 NONE 64%
 ONE 15%
 TWO 13%
 THREE OR MORE 8%
 REFUSED 1%

18. _ When thinking about politics and government, do you consider yourself to be very conservative, somewhat conservative, moderate or middle-of-the-road, somewhat liberal, or very liberal?

VERY CONSERVATIVE.....	24%
SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE	23%
MODERATE/MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD	33%
SOMEWHAT LIBERAL.....	11%
VERY LIBERAL.....	5%
UNSURE	3%
REFUSED	1%

19. _ Since you have been voting in Texas, have you mostly been a strong Republican, not-so-strong Republican, Independent, not-so-strong Democrat, strong Democrat, or something else?

STRONG REPUBLICAN.....	27%
NOT SO STRONG REPUBLICAN.....	10%
INDEPENDENT	22%
NOT SO STRONG DEMOCRAT	8%
STRONG DEMOCRAT.....	25%
SOMETHING ELSE [SPECIFY].....	1%
UNSURE	5%
REFUSED.....	2%

20. _ Is any member of your household active in the so-called "Tea Party" protest movement, either in person or online?

YES.....	9%
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ASK ALL BUT YES

20.a _ Thinking about the Tea Party protest movement, would you say you are friendly towards and share its goals, hostile towards and oppose its goals, or don't care about the Tea Party movement and its goals either way?

FRIENDLY, SHARE	26%
HOSTILE, OPPOSE.....	16%
DON'T CARE EITHER WAY	38%
[DO NOT READ]	
UNSURE	10%
REFUSED	1%

ASK EVERYONE

21. _ What is the highest level of education that you have had an opportunity to complete?

[DO NOT READ LIST - RECORD ONLY]	
SOME GRADE SCHOOL [GRADES 1-8].....	1%
SOME HIGH SCHOOL [GRADES 9-11].....	3%
GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL [12TH GRADE]	14%
SOME COLLEGE.....	25%
GRADUATED COLLEGE.....	37%
GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL	18%
REFUSED	1%

22. _ And would your primary racial or ethnic group be Asian, black or African-American, Hispanic, Latino, or Mexican-American, white or Anglo, or are you of mixed race and ethnic background?

ASIAN.....	1%
BLACK OR AFRICAN-AMERICAN	7%
HISPANIC, LATINO, OR MEXICAN-AMERICAN.....	13%
WHITE OR ANGLO.....	74%
MIXED-RACE/ETHNICITY.....	4%
[DO NOT READ]	
OTHER/UNSURE [SPECIFY]	0%
REFUSED	1%

THANK AND TERMINATE

B. _ Record sex of respondent:

MALE.....	45%
FEMALE	55%

C. _ Record Phone #

[] - - - - -

D. _ Date

AUG __ __, 2010

E. _ Sex of interviewer

MALE.....	1
FEMALE	2

- F. _ In general, what was the respondent's attitude toward the interview?
- FRIENDLY & EAGER..... 1
 - COOPERATIVE, BUT NOT PARTICULARLY EAGER..... 2
 - INDIFFERENT & BORED 3
 - IMPATIENT & RESTLESS 4
 - HOSTILE 5
 - UNSURE 8
- G. _ Was the respondent's understanding of the questions...
- GOOD 1
 - FAIR 2
 - POOR..... 3
 - UNSURE 8
- H. _ Respondent's name _____