

University of Texas / Texas Tribune Poll
Texas Statewide Survey

Field Dates: June 2 -11, 2017

N=1200 Adults

Margin of error: +/- 2.83% (3.28% adjusted for weighting) unless otherwise noted*

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 at all interested?

1. Extremely interested	50%
2. Somewhat interested	39
3. Not very interested	7
4. Not at all interested	3
5. Don't know	0

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	33%
2. Almost every election	38
3. About half	11
4. One or two	13
5. None	4
6. Don't know	1

*In calculating the margin of error (MOE) for the survey, we provide two calculations, one that compensates for the relative standard deviation of the weights and one that does not. Without taking the variance of the weights into account, the margin of error for the full sample is 2.83%. To compensate for the additional uncertainty from weighting, we apply a multiplier derived from the coefficient of variation of the weights: $\sqrt{1+CV^2}$, where $CV=sd(weights)/mean(weights)$. For this weight sensitive calculation, the MOE for the full sample is 3.28%.

Most Important Problem

Q4. What would you say is the most important problem facing this country today? **[Randomize]**

1. Political corruption/leadership	17%
2. National security/terrorism	10
3. The economy	8
4. Immigration	8
5. Health care	8
6. Federal spending/national debt	7
7. Moral decline	6
8. Income inequality	3
9. Partisan gridlock	3
10. Border security	3
11. Education	3
12. Environment	3
13. The media	3
14. Unemployment/jobs	2
15. Taxes	2
16. Gun control/gun violence	2
17. Crime and drugs	2
18. Race relations	2
19. Russia	2
20. Middle East instability	1
21. Social welfare programs	1
22. Voting system	1
23. Police brutality/police militarization	1
24. Government data collection	1
25. Energy	1
26. Afghanistan/Pakistan	1
27. Gay marriage	0
28. Gas prices	0
29. Abortion	0
30. Housing	0
31. Foreign trade	0
32. Gender inequality	0

Q5. What would you say is the most important problem facing the State of Texas today?
[Randomize]

1. Immigration	20%
2. Border Security	12
3. Political corruption/leadership	11
4. Education	6
5. Health care	6
6. Crime and drugs	4
7. Moral decline	4
8. The economy	3
9. Unemployment/jobs	3
10. Social welfare programs	3
11. State government spending	3
12. State budget cuts	3
13. Transportation/roads/traffic	2
14. Taxes	2
15. Gun control/gun violence	2
16. Redistricting	2
17. Water supply	1
18. Abortion	1
19. Environment	1
20. Insurance rates	1
21. Voting system	1
22. Utility rates	1
23. Housing	1
24. The media	1
25. Property rights	1
26. Police brutality/police militarization	1
27. Declining oil prices	1
28. Gay marriage	0
29. Gas prices	0
30. Energy	0
31. Electoral fraud	0
32. State courts	0
33. Pension funding	0

Retrospective Assessments

Q5A. Name a person who you think has good ideas about what's best for Texas? [**OPEN-ENDED, INCLUDE "Don't Know" OPTION**]

Q6. How would you rate the job Donald Trump is doing as president? Would you say that you...

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Approve strongly | 25% |
| 2. Approve somewhat | 18 |
| 3. Neither approve nor disapprove | 6 |
| 4. Disapprove somewhat | 7 |
| 5. Disapprove strongly | 44 |
| 6. Don't know | 1 |

Q7. How would you rate the job the U.S. Congress is doing? Would you say that you...

	Approve strongly	Approve somewhat	Neither approve nor disapprove	Disapprove somewhat	Disapprove strongly	Don't Know
June 2017	2	13	15	24	43	4
Feb. 2017	5	21	20	18	32	5
Oct. 2016	2	8	18	27	41	4
June 2016	2	8	16	24	45	5
Feb. 2016	2	10	17	24	43	4
Nov. 2015	2	8	17	25	46	3
June 2015	2	13	21	26	36	2
Feb. 2015	3	17	19	24	34	3
Oct. 2014	2	12	13	30	41	2
June 2014	3	8	15	24	48	3
Feb. 2014	3	8	15	23	49	2
Oct. 2013	2	6	12	21	56	3
June 2013	2	10	16	23	46	2
Feb. 2013	3	11	12	23	48	3
Oct. 2012	1	10	18	26	43	3
May 2012	1	9	15	23	48	3
Feb. 2012	1	10	14	26	47	2
Oct. 2011	2	9	10	26	51	2
May 2011	1	15	20	27	35	3
Feb. 2011	2	17	19	26	33	4
Oct. 2009	2	12	11	22	49	4
June 2009	2	18	22	22	36	0
Feb. 2009	4	22	22	15	37	0

Q7A. How would you rate the job the Texas Legislature is doing? Would you say that you...

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Approve strongly | 12% |
| 2. Approve somewhat | 22 |
| 3. Neither approve nor disapprove | 18 |
| 4. Disapprove somewhat | 15 |
| 5. Disapprove strongly | 27 |
| 6. Don't know | 8 |

Q8A. How would you rate the job Greg Abbott is doing as Governor? Would you say that you...

	Approve strongly	Approve somewhat	Neither approve nor disapprove	Disapprove somewhat	Disapprove strongly	Don't Know
June 2017	27	18	12	9	29	4
Feb. 2017	27	18	17	9	24	5
Oct. 2016	21	21	17	10	23	8
June 2016	20	22	19	10	21	8
Feb. 2016	18	23	24	9	20	6
Nov. 2015	20	22	21	10	19	7
June 2015	22	24	28	8	16	15

Q8B. How would you rate the job Dan Patrick is doing as Lieutenant Governor? Would you say that you...

	Approve strongly	Approve somewhat	Neither approve nor disapprove	Disapprove somewhat	Disapprove strongly	Don't Know
June 2017	15	19	18	8	28	11
Feb. 2017	16	16	24	8	23	14
Oct. 2016	12	19	20	9	22	18
June 2016	12	19	24	8	22	15
Feb. 2016	8	19	30	7	20	16
Nov. 2015	10	19	28	9	17	16
June 2015	13	19	28	8	16	15

Q8C. How would you rate the job Joe Straus is doing as Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives? Would you say that you...

	Approve strongly	Approve somewhat	Neither approve nor disapprove	Disapprove somewhat	Disapprove strongly	Don't Know
June 2017	5	20	25	12	17	21
Feb. 2017	7	16	31	9	14	22
Oct. 2016	5	16	30	9	14	26
June 2016	4	15	30	10	14	26
Feb. 2016	4	16	35	7	13	25
Nov. 2015	4	16	32	8	14	25

Q9A. How would you rate the job Ted Cruz is doing as U.S. Senator? Would you say that you...

	Approve strongly	Approve somewhat	Neither approve nor disapprove	Disapprove somewhat	Disapprove strongly	Don't Know
June 2017	21	17	12	9	35	6
Feb. 2017	20	18	14	10	29	9
Oct. 2016	16	19	13	11	34	7
June 2016	18	17	13	12	31	9
Feb. 2016	18	19	15	10	32	6
Nov. 2015	27	17	11	9	28	9

Q9B. How would you rate the job John Cornyn is doing as U.S. Senator? Would you say that you...

	Approve strongly	Approve somewhat	Neither approve nor disapprove	Disapprove somewhat	Disapprove strongly	Don't Know
June 2017	9	19	18	14	27	12
Feb. 2017	11	19	22	12	22	14
Oct. 2016	8	20	22	14	22	15
June 2016	7	17	24	14	21	17
Feb. 2016	7	20	26	14	18	15
Nov. 2015	7	20	22	16	18	16

Q10. 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?

	Right Track	Wrong Track	Don't Know
June 2017	34	54	12
Feb. 2017	39	49	12
Oct. 2016	22	67	11
June 2016	18	70	12
Feb. 2016	22	66	12
Nov. 2015	22	68	10
June 2015	23	64	14
Feb. 2015	26	59	15
Oct. 2014	25	65	10
June 2014	23	65	13
Feb. 2014	25	63	12
Oct. 2013	20	69	11
June 2013	28	60	11
Feb. 2013	29	62	9
Oct. 2012	31	58	11
May 2012	25	61	14
Feb. 2012	28	61	11
Oct. 2011	14	75	11
May 2011	24	63	14
Feb. 2011	26	59	15
Oct. 2010	25	64	11
Sep. 2010	26	63	12
May 2010	27	62	11
Feb. 2010	31	56	13
Oct. 2009	35	59	10

Q11. 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?

	A lot better off	Somewhat better off	About the same	Somewhat worse off	A lot worse off	Don't Know
June 2017	14	28	30	18	7	3
Feb. 2017	12	28	36	11	9	4
Oct. 2016	8	20	29	25	15	4
June 2016	6	20	29	23	17	5
Feb. 2016	8	22	27	25	15	3
Nov. 2015	7	25	28	23	14	3
June 2015	7	24	33	21	13	3
Feb. 2015	11	25	33	18	11	3

Oct. 2014	6	25	30	23	14	2
June 2014	7	24	26	25	16	2
Feb. 2014	5	24	28	23	17	2
Oct. 2013	5	20	25	25	24	1
June 2013	7	28	31	18	15	1
Oct. 2012	7	25	25	19	23	1
May 2012	4	24	29	20	19	4
Feb. 2012	4	25	30	19	20	2
Oct. 2011	2	12	25	28	31	2
May 2011	2	20	26	24	25	3
Feb. 2011	3	24	30	24	17	2
Oct. 2010	3	19	20	23	33	3
Sep. 2010	3	20	21	20	34	2
May 2010	5	23	24	15	32	1
Feb. 2010	3	25	19	23	29	1
Oct. 2009	5	19	16	23	36	1

Q12. 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?

	Right Track	Wrong Track	Don't Know
June 2017	43	40	17
Feb. 2017	46	36	18
Oct. 2016	42	40	17
June 2016	41	38	22
Feb. 2016	42	37	21
Nov. 2015	45	36	19
June 2015	50	32	18
Feb. 2015	50	30	20
Oct. 2014	48	35	18
June 2014	49	33	17
Feb. 2014	45	35	20
Oct. 2013	42	39	19
June 2013	50	32	18
Feb. 2013	45	39	16
Oct. 2012	43	34	23
May 2012	38	42	21
Feb. 2012	43	38	19
Oct. 2011	39	43	18
May 2011	36	48	16
Feb. 2011	41	41	18
Oct. 2010	45	37	18
Sep. 2010	43	38	18
May 2010	45	38	17
Feb. 2010	43	37	20
Oct. 2009	38	39	23

Q13. 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?

	A lot better off	Somewhat better off	About the same	Somewhat worse off	A lot worse off	Don't Know
June 2017	5	20	52	15	5	1
Feb. 2017	6	21	50	16	7	1
Oct. 2016	5	22	44	19	8	2
June 2016	5	18	44	20	9	3
Feb. 2016	5	20	45	19	9	2
Nov. 2015	5	18	45	23	7	1
June 2015	5	21	48	17	7	2
Feb. 2015	6	21	44	21	7	2
Oct. 2014	5	22	42	23	7	1
June 2014	6	21	42	21	8	2
Feb. 2014	5	20	43	22	9	1
Oct. 2013	5	17	41	23	12	2
June 2013	6	19	44	23	7	1
Oct. 2012	6	17	43	23	11	1
May 2012	4	15	48	19	13	2
Feb. 2012	4	16	45	23	11	1
Oct. 2011	3	13	40	28	15	1
May 2011	2	16	40	25	16	2
Feb. 2011	3	17	45	24	11	1
Oct. 2010	3	16	38	27	14	2
Sep. 2010	3	17	39	26	14	1
May 2010	4	16	42	25	13	1
Feb. 2010	3	14	41	29	12	2
Oct. 2009	3	14	39	27	16	1

Q14. 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?

	A lot better off	Somewhat better off	About the same	Somewhat worse off	A lot worse off	Don't Know/No Opinion
June 2017	6	28	39	17	4	6
Feb. 2017	6	22	49	11	5	6
Oct. 2016	3	22	45	19	5	5
June 2016	4	22	41	19	6	8
Feb. 2016	4	22	41	23	5	4
Nov. 2015	4	25	41	20	5	5
June 2015	5	28	44	14	4	4
Feb. 2015	6	26	47	14	3	4
Oct. 2014	9	32	40	12	4	3
Oct. 2012	4	21	51	16	5	3

Q15. Of the three branches of federal government, which one do you trust the most?

1. The U.S. Congress, the legislative branch 6%
2. The President, the executive branch 26
3. The U.S. Supreme Court, the judicial branch 38
4. Don't know 30

Q16. Please tell us whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of the FBI.

1. Very favorable	11%
2. Somewhat favorable	34
3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable	24
4. Somewhat unfavorable	17
5. Very unfavorable	9
6. Don't know/no opinion	5

Political Figures and Elections

Q17A. 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 | 21% |
| 2. Democratic candidate | 39 |
| 3. Tea Party candidate | 16 |
| 4. Don't know | 25 |

Q17B. 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 | 26 |
| 3. The right amount of influence | 16 |
| 4. Don't know | 27 |

[RANDOMIZE Q18-19]

Q18. 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 | 20% |
| 2. Somewhat favorable | 17 |
| 3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable | 12 |
| 4. Somewhat unfavorable | 9 |
| 5. Very unfavorable | 36 |
| 6. Don't know/no opinion | 6 |

Q19. Please tell us whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of Beto O'Rourke.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| 1. Very favorable | 9% |
| 2. Somewhat favorable | 9 |
| 3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable | 15 |
| 4. Somewhat unfavorable | 5 |
| 5. Very unfavorable | 8 |
| 6. Don't know/no opinion | 55 |

Q20. Do you think Donald Trump...[GRID WITH RESPONSE OPTIONS “Yes”, “No”, “Don’t know”] [RANDOMIZE A-C]

A. has the temperament to serve effectively as president?

	June 2017	Feb. 2017	Oct. 2016
1. Yes	38%	39%	32%
2. No	53	48	59
3. Don’t know	9	13	9

B. is honest and trustworthy?

	June 2017	Feb. 2017	Oct. 2016
1. Yes	35%	38%	32%
2. No	55	50	60
3. Don’t know	9	12	8

C. is competent?

	June 2017
1. Yes	46%
2. No	47
3. Don’t know	7

Q21. Do you believe that the outcome of the 2016 presidential election was influenced by Russia?

1. Yes	39%
2. No	47
3. Don’t know enough to say	14

Q21A. [ASK IF Q21 = Yes] Do you think Russia’s influence... [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

1. Helped Donald Trump	95%
2. Helped Hillary Clinton	2
3. Don’t know	2

Q22. Do you think there was coordination between the Trump campaign and Russia in the 2016 Election?

1. Yes	39%
2. No	45
3. Don’t know enough to say	16

Policy Questions

Q23. Please tell us whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of the Affordable Care Act, also known as “Obamacare”.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Very favorable | 14% |
| 2. Somewhat favorable | 25 |
| 3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable | 9 |
| 4. Somewhat unfavorable | 8 |
| 5. Very unfavorable | 41 |
| 6. Don't know/no opinion | 4 |

Q24A. And how much have you heard about the health care legislation that was passed earlier this year by the U.S. House of Representatives?

- | | |
|-------------------|-----|
| 1. A lot | 31% |
| 2. Some | 44 |
| 3. Not very much | 20 |
| 4. Nothing at all | 5 |

Q24B. **[ASK IF Q24A <=3]** Based on what you have heard, do you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of that healthcare legislation?

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| 1. Very favorable | 3% |
| 2. Somewhat favorable | 17 |
| 3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable | 22 |
| 4. Somewhat unfavorable | 15 |
| 5. Very unfavorable | 36 |
| 6. Don't know/No Opinion | 7 |

Q36. Please tell us whether you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, neither favorable nor unfavorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of Russia.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| 1. Very favorable | 4% |
| 2. Somewhat favorable | 7 |
| 3. Neither favorable nor unfavorable | 27 |
| 4. Somewhat unfavorable | 22 |
| 5. Very unfavorable | 34 |
| 6. Don't know/no opinion | 6 |