#### **Texas Statewide Survey**

Field Dates: April 16-22, 2021 N=1200 Registered Voters

Margin of error: +/- 2.83% (3.7% adjusted for weighting) unless otherwise noted<sup>1</sup>

#### Interest and Engagement

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

| Q1              | Percent |
|-----------------|---------|
| Yes, registered | 100     |

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?

| Q2                    | Percent |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Extremely interested  | 48      |
| Somewhat interested   | 37      |
| Not very interested   | 9       |
| Not at all interested | 4       |
| 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?

| Q3                    | Percent |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Every election        | 38      |
| Almost every election | 35      |
| About half            | 9       |
| One or two            | 9       |
| None                  | 6       |
| Don't know            | 2       |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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 3.5%.

# **Texas Statewide Survey**

#### **Most Important Problem**

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

| Q4                                     | Percent |
|----------------------------------------|---------|
| Coronavirus/COVID-19                   | 16      |
| Political corruption/leadership        | 13      |
| Immigration                            | 10      |
| Gun control/gun violence               | 6       |
| Border security                        | 6       |
| Moral decline                          | 5       |
| The economy                            | 4       |
| Race relations                         | 4       |
| Income inequality                      | 4       |
| Health care                            | 4       |
| Voting system                          | 4       |
| Federal spending/national debt         | 4       |
| Environment                            | 3       |
| Police brutality/police militarization | 3       |
| The media                              | 2       |
| Crime                                  | 2       |
| Partisan gridlock                      | 2       |
| Education                              | 2       |
| Abortion                               | 1       |
| Unemployment/jobs                      | 1       |
| National security/terrorism            | 1       |
| Taxes                                  | 1       |
| Sexual Harassment                      | 0       |
| Social welfare programs                | 0       |
| Government data collection             | 0       |
| Russia                                 | 0       |
| Housing                                | 0       |
| Opioid/prescription drug abuse         | 0       |
| Oil prices                             | 0       |
| Gas prices                             | 0       |
| Energy                                 | 0       |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

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

| Q5                                     | Percent |
|----------------------------------------|---------|
| Border security                        | 19      |
| Immigration                            | 18      |
| Coronavirus/COVID-19                   | 12      |
| Political corruption/leadership        | 11      |
| Gun control/gun violence               | 4       |
| Education                              | 3       |
| Health care                            | 3       |
| The economy                            | 3       |
| Housing                                | 2       |
| Taxes                                  | 2       |
| Redistricting                          | 2       |
| Moral decline                          | 2       |
| Unemployment/jobs                      | 2       |
| Energy                                 | 2       |
| Utility rates                          | 2       |
| Voting system                          | 2       |
| Race relations                         | 1       |
| Abortion                               | 1       |
| State government spending              | 1       |
| The media                              | 1       |
| Property rights                        | 1       |
| Water supply                           | 1       |
| Police brutality/police militarization | 1       |
| Homelessness                           | 1       |
| Gas prices                             | 1       |
| Environment                            | 1       |
| Crime                                  | 1       |
| Opioid/prescription drug abuse         | 0       |
| Insurance rates                        | 0       |
| Social welfare programs                | 0       |
| State budget cuts                      | 0       |
| State courts                           | 0       |
| Hurricane recovery                     | 0       |
| Gay marriage                           | 0       |
| Transportation/roads/traffic           | 0       |
| Electoral fraud                        | 0       |
| Oil prices                             | 0       |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

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

| POTUS     | Approve strongly | Approve somewhat | Neither approve nor disapprove | Disapprove somewhat | Disapprove strongly | Don't know |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 27               | 17               | 10                             | 5                   | 41                  | 1          |
| Mar. 2021 | 26               | 18               | 11                             | 5                   | 39                  | 1          |
| Feb. 2021 | 30               | 15               | 9                              | 5                   | 39                  | 2          |

Q6A. Do you approve or disapprove of how Joe Biden has handled the response to the coronavirus/COVID-19?

| Q6A        | Approve strongly | Approve somewhat | Neither approve nor disapprove | Disapprove somewhat | Disapprove strongly | Don't know |
|------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| April 2021 | 34               | 15               | 14                             | 9                   | 26                  | 1          |
| Mar. 2021  | 33               | 15               | 14                             | 9                   | 27                  | 1          |
| Feb. 2021  | 34               | 15               | 14                             | 7                   | 29                  | 2          |

# **Texas Statewide Survey**

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

| CONGRESS  | Approve strongly | Approve somewhat | Neither approve nor disapprove | Disapprove somewhat | Disapprove strongly | Don't know |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 4                | 20               | 17                             | 18                  | 37                  | 3          |
| Mar. 2021 | 7                | 22               | 19                             | 13                  | 36                  | 3          |
| Feb. 2021 | 7                | 15               | 17                             | 14                  | 43                  | 4          |
| Oct. 2020 | 5                | 15               | 17                             | 23                  | 37                  | 3          |
| June 2020 | 4                | 15               | 16                             | 26                  | 36                  | 3          |
| Apr. 2020 | 6                | 17               | 18                             | 24                  | 32                  | 3          |
| Feb. 2020 | 5                | 13               | 16                             | 19                  | 42                  | 4          |
| Oct. 2019 | 7                | 14               | 18                             | 23                  | 35                  | 4          |
| June 2019 | 4                | 14               | 19                             | 21                  | 39                  | 3          |
| Feb. 2019 | 4                | 14               | 18                             | 26                  | 35                  | 3          |
| Oct. 2018 | 4                | 22               | 16                             | 19                  | 38                  | 2          |
| June 2018 | 3                | 15               | 18                             | 21                  | 38                  | 4          |
| Feb. 2018 | 2                | 17               | 16                             | 22                  | 39                  | 3          |
| Oct. 2017 | 2                | 10               | 15                             | 24                  | 45                  | 3          |
| 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          |
| Oct. 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                | 16                             | 23                  | 48                  | 3          |
| Feb. 2012 | 1                | 10               | 14                             | 26                  | 47                  | 2          |
| Oct. 2011 | 2                | 9                | 10                             | 26                  | 51                  | 2          |
| May 2011  | 1                | 15               | 19                             | 27                  | 35                  | 3          |
| Feb. 2011 | 1                | 17               | 19                             | 26                  | 32                  | 4          |
| Oct. 2009 | 2                | 12               | 11                             | 22                  | 49                  | 4          |
| June 2009 | 2                | 18               | 22                             | 22                  | 36                  | 0          |
| Mar. 2009 | 4                | 22               | 22                             | 15                  | 37                  | 0          |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

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

| GOVERNOR  | Approve strongly | Approve somewhat | Neither approve nor disapprove | Disapprove somewhat | Disapprove strongly | Don't know |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 19               | 24               | 11                             | 13                  | 32                  | 2          |
| Mar. 2021 | 22               | 23               | 10                             | 9                   | 34                  | 1          |
| Feb. 2021 | 21               | 25               | 12                             | 12                  | 27                  | 3          |
| Oct. 2020 | 20               | 27               | 12                             | 16                  | 24                  | 2          |
| June 2020 | 29               | 20               | 10                             | 13                  | 26                  | 3          |
| Apr. 2020 | 31               | 25               | 9                              | 14                  | 18                  | 4          |
| Feb. 2020 | 30               | 18               | 11                             | 10                  | 24                  | 7          |
| Oct. 2019 | 30               | 22               | 15                             | 9                   | 19                  | 6          |
| June 2019 | 29               | 22               | 13                             | 11                  | 20                  | 5          |
| Feb. 2019 | 33               | 18               | 12                             | 11                  | 21                  | 5          |
| Oct. 2018 | 36               | 16               | 12                             | 9                   | 23                  | 5          |
| June 2018 | 27               | 20               | 13                             | 12                  | 24                  | 5          |
| Feb. 2018 | 28               | 18               | 18                             | 8                   | 23                  | 5          |
| Oct. 2017 | 27               | 21               | 14                             | 11                  | 22                  | 5          |
| 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          |
| Oct. 2015 | 20               | 22               | 21                             | 10                  | 19                  | 7          |
| June 2015 | 22               | 24               | 19                             | 8                   | 20                  | 7          |
| Oct. 2014 | 22               | 24               | 13                             | 11                  | 27                  | 3          |

Q8A2. Do you approve or disapprove of how Greg Abbott has handled the response to the coronavirus/COVID-19?

|           | Approve strongly | Approve somewhat | Neither approve nor disapprove | Disapprove somewhat | Disapprove strongly | Don't know |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 22               | 21               | 8                              | 14                  | 34                  | 2          |
| Mar. 2021 | 24               | 20               | 7                              | 13                  | 35                  | 1          |
| Feb. 2021 | 20               | 24               | 12                             | 15                  | 26                  | 3          |
| Oct. 2020 | 17               | 27               | 10                             | 20                  | 26                  | 1          |
| June 2020 | 27               | 22               | 7                              | 12                  | 29                  | 3          |
| Apr. 2020 | 31               | 25               | 9                              | 13                  | 16                  | 5          |

#### **Texas Statewide Survey**

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

| LTGOVERNOR | Approve strongly | Approve somewhat | Neither approve nor disapprove | Disapprove somewhat | Disapprove strongly | Don't know |
|------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Apr. 2021  | 19               | 16               | 15                             | 6                   | 33                  | 11         |
| Mar. 2021  | 22               | 15               | 17                             | 6                   | 31                  | 10         |
| Feb. 2021  | 20               | 17               | 15                             | 5                   | 31                  | 12         |
| Oct. 2020  | 18               | 19               | 13                             | 6                   | 31                  | 12         |
| June 2020  | 22               | 17               | 12                             | 6                   | 32                  | 11         |
| Apr. 2020  | 20               | 20               | 13                             | 7                   | 29                  | 11         |
| Feb. 2020  | 21               | 18               | 13                             | 7                   | 28                  | 12         |
| Oct. 2019  | 22               | 17               | 15                             | 9                   | 23                  | 14         |
| June 2019  | 22               | 19               | 18                             | 6                   | 25                  | 11         |
| Feb. 2019  | 24               | 18               | 16                             | 6                   | 25                  | 10         |
| Oct. 2018  | 27               | 17               | 14                             | 5                   | 26                  | 11         |
| June 2018  | 18               | 18               | 18                             | 8                   | 26                  | 12         |
| Feb. 2018  | 19               | 17               | 21                             | 8                   | 25                  | 10         |
| Oct. 2017  | 16               | 20               | 19                             | 7                   | 24                  | 13         |
| 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         |
| Oct. 2015  | 10               | 19               | 28                             | 9                   | 17                  | 16         |
| June 2015  | 13               | 19               | 28                             | 8                   | 16                  | 15         |

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

| SPEAKER   | Approve strongly | Approve somewhat | Neither approve nor disapprove | Disapprove somewhat | Disapprove strongly | Don't know |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 6                | 14               | 26                             | 8                   | 14                  | 31         |
| Mar. 2021 | 6                | 13               | 29                             | 8                   | 13                  | 31         |
| Feb. 2021 | 7                | 15               | 30                             | 6                   | 12                  | 30         |

Q8D. How would you rate the job Ken Paxton is doing as Attorney General? Would you say that you...

| Q8D                            | Percent |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Approve strongly               | 17      |
| Approve somewhat               | 15      |
| Neither approve nor disapprove | 16      |
| Disapprove somewhat            | 6       |
| Disapprove strongly            | 30      |
| Don't know                     | 15      |

# **Texas Statewide Survey**

#### [RANDOMIZE Q9A-Q9B]

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

| SENCRUZ   | Approve strongly | Approve somewhat | Neither approve nor disapprove | Disapprove somewhat | Disapprove strongly | Don't know |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 31               | 12               | 6                              | 8                   | 40                  | 3          |
| Mar. 2021 | 28               | 15               | 8                              | 5                   | 41                  | 4          |
| Feb. 2021 | 33               | 12               | 8                              | 5                   | 38                  | 4          |
| Oct. 2020 | 31               | 15               | 8                              | 6                   | 36                  | 4          |
| June 2020 | 30               | 16               | 9                              | 9                   | 33                  | 4          |
| Apr. 2020 | 29               | 16               | 9                              | 7                   | 32                  | 6          |
| Feb. 2020 | 29               | 13               | 7                              | 8                   | 36                  | 7          |
| Oct. 2019 | 28               | 18               | 8                              | 9                   | 30                  | 7          |
| June 2019 | 27               | 20               | 10                             | 8                   | 31                  | 4          |
| Feb. 2019 | 31               | 15               | 9                              | 7                   | 34                  | 4          |
| Oct. 2018 | 34               | 13               | 8                              | 5                   | 37                  | 3          |
| June 2018 | 21               | 18               | 13                             | 8                   | 33                  | 7          |
| Feb. 2018 | 22               | 18               | 12                             | 9                   | 32                  | 7          |
| Oct. 2017 | 19               | 19               | 13                             | 12                  | 31                  | 5          |
| 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          |
| Oct. 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...

| SENCORNYN | Approve strongly | Approve somewhat | Neither approve nor disapprove | Disapprove somewhat | Disapprove strongly | Don't know |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 12               | 19               | 15                             | 13                  | 30                  | 10         |
| Mar. 2021 | 12               | 21               | 16                             | 14                  | 28                  | 9          |
| Feb. 2021 | 12               | 20               | 18                             | 13                  | 29                  | 8          |
| Oct. 2020 | 18               | 21               | 12                             | 11                  | 28                  | 10         |
| June 2020 | 15               | 21               | 13                             | 13                  | 27                  | 11         |
| Apr. 2020 | 15               | 23               | 13                             | 10                  | 26                  | 13         |
| Feb. 2020 | 16               | 20               | 13                             | 9                   | 30                  | 12         |
| Oct. 2019 | 15               | 20               | 16                             | 10                  | 24                  | 15         |
| June 2019 | 14               | 23               | 17                             | 11                  | 23                  | 12         |
| Feb. 2019 | 15               | 21               | 18                             | 13                  | 22                  | 11         |
| Oct. 2018 | 17               | 22               | 15                             | 9                   | 25                  | 13         |
| June 2018 | 8                | 19               | 21                             | 14                  | 24                  | 13         |
| Feb. 2018 | 10               | 19               | 23                             | 15                  | 23                  | 10         |
| Oct. 2017 | 7                | 21               | 18                             | 15                  | 27                  | 12         |
| 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         |
| Oct. 2015 | 7                | 20               | 22                             | 16                  | 18                  | 16         |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

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?

| USDIR     | Right direction | Wrong track | Don't know |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 32              | 57          | 12         |
| Mar. 2021 | 32              | 56          | 12         |
| Feb. 2021 | 31              | 56          | 12         |
| Oct. 2020 | 29              | 62          | 9          |
| June 2020 | 30              | 62          | 9          |
| Apr. 2020 | 39              | 52          | 9          |
| Feb. 2020 | 40              | 49          | 11         |
| Oct. 2019 | 37              | 54          | 9          |
| June 2019 | 40              | 50          | 10         |
| Feb. 2019 | 39              | 53          | 9          |
| Oct. 2018 | 42              | 49          | 9          |
| June 2018 | 41              | 47          | 11         |
| Feb. 2018 | 39              | 50          | 11         |
| Oct. 2017 | 29              | 61          | 10         |
| 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         |
| Oct. 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         |
| May 2010  | 26              | 62          | 11         |
| Feb. 2010 | 31              | 56          | 13         |
| Oct. 2009 | 32              | 59          | 10         |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

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?

| USECON    | A lot better off | Somewhat better off | About the same | Somewhat worse off | A lot worse off | Don't know |
|-----------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 8                | 23                  | 22             | 20                 | 23              | 0          |
| Feb. 2021 | 4                | 11                  | 20             | 26                 | 35              | 4          |
| Oct. 2020 | 8                | 9                   | 13             | 29                 | 38              | 2          |
| June 2020 | 6                | 11                  | 10             | 29                 | 41              | 3          |
| Apr. 2020 | 10               | 11                  | 11             | 19                 | 45              | 4          |
| Feb. 2020 | 26               | 22                  | 25             | 16                 | 8               | 3          |
| Oct. 2019 | 24               | 21                  | 24             | 16                 | 8               | 6          |
| June 2019 | 26               | 21                  | 23             | 18                 | 8               | 3          |
| Feb. 2019 | 27               | 22                  | 23             | 15                 | 9               | 3          |
| Oct. 2018 | 32               | 19                  | 26             | 12                 | 7               | 4          |
| June 2018 | 26               | 25                  | 23             | 14                 | 8               | 4          |
| Feb. 2018 | 25               | 28                  | 26             | 13                 | 6               | 2          |
| Oct. 2017 | 18               | 25                  | 33             | 16                 | 6               | 3          |
| 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          |
| Oct. 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                  | 25             | 24                 | 25              | 3          |
| Feb. 2011 | 3                | 24                  | 30             | 24                 | 17              | 2          |
| Oct. 2010 | 3                | 19                  | 20             | 23                 | 33              | 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          |
| Mar. 2009 |                  | 4                   | 13             | 33                 | 48              | 0          |
| Oct. 2008 | 1                | 3                   | 10             | 34                 | 52              | 0          |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

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?

| TXDIR     | Right direction | Wrong track | Don't know |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 42              | 42          | 16         |
| Mar. 2021 | 41              | 46          | 14         |
| Feb. 2021 | 39              | 41          | 20         |
| Oct. 2020 | 41              | 44          | 15         |
| June 2020 | 41              | 47          | 13         |
| Apr. 2020 | 43              | 43          | 15         |
| Feb. 2020 | 48              | 37          | 16         |
| Oct. 2019 | 47              | 35          | 17         |
| June 2019 | 49              | 34          | 17         |
| Feb. 2019 | 49              | 35          | 16         |
| Oct. 2018 | 50              | 35          | 16         |
| June 2018 | 46              | 37          | 16         |
| Feb. 2018 | 48              | 36          | 15         |
| Oct. 2017 | 43              | 40          | 16         |
| 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         |
| Oct. 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          | 17         |
| May 2011  | 36              | 46          | 18         |
| Feb. 2011 | 41              | 41          | 18         |
| Oct. 2010 | 45              | 37          | 18         |
| May 2010  | 45              | 38          | 17         |
| Feb. 2010 | 43              | 37          | 20         |
| Oct. 2009 | 38              | 39          | 23         |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

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?

| FAMECON   | A lot better off | Somewhat better off | About the same | Somewhat worse off | A lot worse off | Don't know |
|-----------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 5                | 16                  | 53             | 16                 | 7               | 3          |
| Mar. 2021 | 5                | 17                  | 49             | 20                 | 8               | 2          |
| Feb. 2021 | 5                | 13                  | 49             | 19                 | 10              | 5          |
| Oct. 2020 | 9                | 14                  | 44             | 20                 | 11              | 2          |
| June 2020 | 6                | 18                  | 43             | 20                 | 11              | 2          |
| Apr. 2020 | 9                | 19                  | 34             | 21                 | 14              | 3          |
| Feb. 2020 | 15               | 26                  | 38             | 13                 | 6               | 3          |
| Oct. 2019 | 15               | 25                  | 38             | 13                 | 5               | 3          |
| June 2019 | 15               | 25                  | 37             | 14                 | 5               | 3          |
| Feb. 2019 | 12               | 28                  | 39             | 13                 | 6               | 2          |
| Oct. 2018 | 12               | 27                  | 39             | 13                 | 6               | 3          |
| June 2018 | 10               | 27                  | 42             | 14                 | 6               | 2          |
| Feb. 2018 | 11               | 27                  | 42             | 13                 | 5               | 1          |
| Oct. 2017 | 9                | 22                  | 47             | 16                 | 5               | 1          |
| 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          |
| Oct. 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             | 27                 | 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          |
| May 2010  | 4                | 16                  | 41             | 25                 | 13              | 1          |
| Feb. 2010 | 3                | 14                  | 40             | 29                 | 12              | 1          |
| Oct. 2009 | 3                | 14                  | 39             | 27                 | 16              | 1          |
| Mar. 2009 | 3                | 14                  | 42             | 27                 | 14              | 0          |
| Oct. 2008 | 4                | 16                  | 38             | 29                 | 14              | 0          |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

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?

| TXECON    | A lot better off | Somewhat better off | About the same | Somewhat worse off | A lot worse off | Don't know |
|-----------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 5                | 18                  | 37             | 26                 | 7               | 7          |
| Mar. 2021 | 5                | 11                  | 36             | 30                 | 12              | 6          |
| Feb. 2021 | 3                | 10                  | 31             | 32                 | 17              | 7          |
| Oct. 2020 | 5                | 10                  | 24             | 34                 | 22              | 4          |
| June 2020 | 5                | 11                  | 21             | 36                 | 21              | 6          |
| Apr. 2020 | 7                | 15                  | 19             | 26                 | 28              | 6          |
| Feb. 2020 | 20               | 23                  | 36             | 11                 | 4               | 6          |
| Oct. 2019 | 17               | 25                  | 35             | 13                 | 3               | 8          |
| June 2019 | 16               | 27                  | 35             | 12                 | 5               | 6          |
| Feb. 2019 | 17               | 28                  | 35             | 10                 | 5               | 5          |
| Oct. 2018 | 20               | 29                  | 31             | 10                 | 4               | 5          |
| June 2018 | 13               | 30                  | 34             | 12                 | 4               | 7          |
| Feb. 2018 | 13               | 30                  | 38             | 13                 | 3               | 3          |
| Oct. 2017 | 8                | 27                  | 41             | 16                 | 3               | 5          |
| 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          |
| Oct. 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          |

Q15. Is Texas's increasing racial and ethnic diversity a cause for optimism or a cause for concern?

|           | A cause for optimism | A cause for concern | Don't know/No opinion |
|-----------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 39                   | 29                  | 32                    |
| Feb. 2021 | 40                   | 31                  | 29                    |
| Oct. 2020 | 44                   | 28                  | 28                    |
| June 2020 | 48                   | 31                  | 21                    |
| Feb. 2020 | 49                   | 28                  | 24                    |
| Oct. 2019 | 44                   | 32                  | 24                    |
| June 2019 | 44                   | 33                  | 23                    |

#### **Texas Statewide Survey**

#### **Political Figures and Elections**

Q16A. Do you approve or disapprove of how Joe Biden has handled the economy?

| Q16A                           | Percent |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Approve strongly               | 21      |
| Approve somewhat               | 17      |
| Neither approve nor disapprove | 12      |
| Disapprove somewhat            | 7       |
| Disapprove strongly            | 39      |
| Don't know                     | 3       |

Q16B. Do you approve or disapprove of how Joe Biden has handled immigration and border security?

| Q16B                           | Percent |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Approve strongly               | 8       |
| Approve somewhat               | 15      |
| Neither approve nor disapprove | 14      |
| Disapprove somewhat            | 10      |
| Disapprove strongly            | 49      |
| Don't know                     | 4       |

#### **Policy Questions**

Q17. How closely have you been following the Texas Legislature this session?

|           | Extremely closely | Somewhat closely | Not very closely | Not at all closely |
|-----------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 10                | 40               | 33               | 17                 |
| Mar. 2021 | 8                 | 36               | 40               | 16                 |

Q18. As you probably know, the Texas Legislature is currently meeting in Austin for the 140-day legislative session held every other year. What do you think should be the legislature's top priority? **[OPEN-ENDED]** 

| Q18_Coded                            | Percent |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Immigration/Border Security          | 36      |
| Covid-19                             | 12      |
| Energy/Power Grid                    | 12      |
| Jobs/The economy                     | 8       |
| Gun control/Gun safety               | 7       |
| Voting rights                        | 5       |
| Education                            | 4       |
| Healthcare                           | 4       |
| Second Amendment/Consitutional carry | 4       |
| Voter Fraud/Election Integrity       | 3       |
| Climate change/Environment           | 2       |
| Marijuana legalization               | 1       |
| Racism/Race relations                | 1       |
| Redistricting                        | 1       |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

Q19. Based on what you know, do you think that Texas's election system discriminates against racial and ethnic minorities?

|           | Yes | No | Don't know/No opinion |
|-----------|-----|----|-----------------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 36  | 52 | 12                    |
| June 2020 | 38  | 51 | 11                    |
| June 2019 | 35  | 50 | 15                    |
| Feb. 2019 | 36  | 53 | 11                    |
| Oct. 2017 | 38  | 47 | 15                    |

Q20A. In general, do you think that vaccines are...Safe?

|           | Yes | No | Don't know/No opinion |
|-----------|-----|----|-----------------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 66  | 18 | 16                    |
| Feb. 2021 | 61  | 18 | 21                    |

Q20B. In general, do you think that vaccines are... Effective?

|           | Yes | No | Don't know/No opinion |
|-----------|-----|----|-----------------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 66  | 16 | 18                    |
| Feb. 2021 | 63  | 14 | 23                    |

Q21. Would you say that the coronavirus/COVID-19 is...

|           | A significant crisis | A serious problem but not a crisis | A minor problem | Not a problem at all | Don't know/No opinion |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 52                   | 28                                 | 13              | 5                    | 2                     |
| Feb. 2021 | 53                   | 32                                 | 9               | 4                    | 2                     |
| Oct. 2020 | 53                   | 29                                 | 11              | 6                    | 1                     |
| June 2020 | 57                   | 29                                 | 10              | 4                    | 1                     |
| Apr. 2020 | 66                   | 26                                 | 4               | 2                    | 2                     |

Q22. Do you approve or disapprove of how each of the following is handling the coronavirus/COVID-19?

| lltem                  |    |    | 1  | Disapprove<br>somewhat | Disapprove strongly | Don't<br>know/No<br>opinion |
|------------------------|----|----|----|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Federal government     | 20 | 27 | 15 | 14                     | 22                  | 2                           |
| Texas state government | 18 | 27 | 12 | 16                     | 24                  | 2                           |
| Your local government  | 20 | 33 | 20 | 12                     | 11                  | 4                           |

Q23. How concerned are you about the spread of the coronavirus in your community?

|           | Extremely concerned | Very concerned | Somewhat concerned | Not very concerned | Not at all concerned | Don't know/No opinion |
|-----------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 16                  | 20             | 24                 | 21                 | 16                   | 0                     |
| Feb. 2021 | 25                  | 24             | 22                 | 15                 | 11                   | 2                     |
| Oct. 2020 | 20                  | 20             | 27                 | 16                 | 14                   | 3                     |
| June 2020 | 27                  | 20             | 26                 | 17                 | 9                    | 1                     |
| Apr. 2020 | 28                  | 26             | 29                 | 12                 | 5                    | 1                     |

# **Texas Statewide Survey**

Q24. How concerned are you about you or someone you know getting infected with the coronavirus?

|           | Extremely concerned | Very concerned | Somewhat concerned | Not very concerned | Not at all concerned | Don't know/No opinion |
|-----------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 17                  | 17             | 27                 | 21                 | 15                   | 0                     |
| Feb. 2021 | 27                  | 23             | 21                 | 15                 | 11                   | 2                     |
| Oct. 2020 | 23                  | 21             | 22                 | 16                 | 16                   | 2                     |
| June 2020 | 26                  | 22             | 24                 | 17                 | 10                   | 1                     |
| Apr. 2020 | 33                  | 21             | 26                 | 12                 | 5                    | 2                     |

Q25. Are you going to try to get a COVID vaccine as soon as it becomes available to you? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

|           | Yes | Already received a COVID vaccine | No | Unsure | Don't know/No opinion |
|-----------|-----|----------------------------------|----|--------|-----------------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 10  | 54                               | 22 | 10     | 4                     |
| Feb. 2021 | 36  | 15                               | 28 | 16     | 4                     |
| Oct. 2020 | 42  | 0                                | 36 | 0      | 21                    |
| June 2020 | 59  | 0                                | 21 | 0      | 20                    |

Respondents were not given the option to say that they had already received a vaccine or were unsure in 2020 polling, prior to the release of a vaccine.

Q26. Thinking about how you and your family are dealing with the coronavirus pandemic, which of these best describes you these days?

|           | Living normally, coming and | Still leaving my residence, but being | Only leaving my residence when I | Not leaving |
|-----------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
|           | going as usual              | careful when I do                     | absolutely have to               | home        |
| Apr. 2021 | 33                          | 44                                    | 21                               | 2           |
| Feb. 2021 | 24                          | 42                                    | 31                               | 3           |
| Oct. 2020 | 27                          | 40                                    | 32                               | 2           |
| June 2020 | 19                          | 41                                    | 37                               | 3           |
| Apr. 2020 | 9                           | 20                                    | 63                               | 9           |

Q27. Which of the following measures, if any, are you taking in response to the coronavirus/COVID-19? [RANDOMIZE A-C]

|                                                                         | April 2021 | Feb. 2021 | Oct. 2020 | June 2020 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Staying away from large groups                                          | 74         | 82        | 83        | 88        |
| Avoiding other people as much as possible                               | 64         | 72        | 74        | 80        |
| Wearing a mask when in close contact with people outside your household | 80         | 88        | 87        | 81        |

Q28. Do you support or oppose the use of a credential (e.g. a "vaccine passport") for people to provide evidence that they have been vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to gain admission to events or activities with large groups of people?

| Q28                        | Percent |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Strongly support           | 24      |
| Somewhat support           | 17      |
| Neither support nor oppose | 12      |
| Somewhat oppose            | 4       |
| Strongly oppose            | 38      |
| Don't know/No opinion      | 5       |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

Q29. Regardless of the current restrictions in your local area, do you think it would be safe or unsafe for you to...

| Item                                                     | Apr. 2021 | Feb. 2021 | Oct. 2020 | June 2020 |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Go grocery shopping                                      | 85        | 78        | 80        | 72        |
| Get a haircut                                            | 77        | 66        | 66        | 59        |
| Go to work                                               | 74        | 65        | 64        | 55        |
| Stay in a hotel                                          | 74        | 62        | 62        | 50        |
| Eat at a restaurant                                      | 63        | 55        | 56        | 49        |
| Send your child to school                                | 63        | 55        | 45        | 35        |
| Go to a shopping mall                                    | 62        | 48        | 49        | 36        |
| Attend church                                            | 59        | 48        | 50        | 41        |
| Fly on an airplane                                       | 51        | 40        | 39        | 27        |
| Attend a sporting event or concert at an outdoor stadium | 51        | 40        | 41        | 30        |
| Go to a movie theater                                    | 49        | 38        | 37        | 27        |
| Go to a gym or health club                               | 47        | 37        | 35        | 29        |
| Attend a sporting event or concert in an indoor arena    | 39        | 29        | 29        | 21        |
| Go to a bar or club                                      | 38        | 30        | 28        | 23        |

Q30A. Do you think gun control laws should be made more strict, less strict, or left as they are now?

|           | More<br>strict | Left as they are now | Less<br>strict | Don't know/No opinion |
|-----------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 46             | 30                   | 20             | 5                     |
| Oct. 2019 | 51             | 28                   | 13             | 8                     |
| Feb. 2019 | 49             | 30                   | 17             | 4                     |
| June 2018 | 51             | 31                   | 13             | 5                     |
| Oct. 2017 | 52             | 31                   | 13             | 5                     |
| Nov. 2015 | 41             | 36                   | 18             | 6                     |
| Feb. 2015 | 36             | 36                   | 22             | 5                     |

Q30B. Do you think that laws restricting abortion here in Texas should be made more strict, less strict, or left as they are now?

|           | More strict | Left as they are now | Less strict | Don't know/No opinion |
|-----------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 33          | 22                   | 33          | 11                    |
| Feb. 2021 | 32          | 18                   | 37          | 13                    |
| Feb. 2019 | 41          | 20                   | 32          | 8                     |
| June 2013 | 38          | 21                   | 26          | 14                    |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

Q31. Below are some proposals being considered in the Texas Legislature this year. Please tell us whether you would support or oppose each of the following proposals for new laws: [RANDOMIZE A-G, H-K, L-N, O-R]

| Item                                                                                                                                                                            | Strongly support | Somewhat support |    | Strongly oppose |    | TOTAL<br>SUPPORT | TOTAL<br>OPPOSE |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----|-----------------|----|------------------|-----------------|
| Prohibiting counties from offering voters the option of voting at a drive-through location                                                                                      | 31               | 11               | 11 | 36              | 12 | 42               | 47              |
| Allowing volunteer poll watchers, including those recruited by political parties, to photograph, video, or audio record voters that                                             | 30               | 18               | 12 | 26              | 14 | 48               | 38              |
| they suspect to be engaged in an illegal activity Prohibiting counties from offering more than 12 hours a day of early voting during the last week of early voting              | 22               | 14               | 13 | 34              | 17 | 36               | 47              |
| Prohibiting counties from sending vote-by-mail applications to voters who haven't requested them                                                                                | 47               | 9                | 8  | 26              | 10 | 56               | 34              |
| Requiring all county voting systems to have a paper record by which a voter can verify that their ballot is counted accurately                                                  | 61               | 19               | 5  | 4               | 11 | 80               | 9               |
| Prohibiting any vote-counting equipment from being connected to the internet or any other computer network                                                                      | 50               | 15               | 7  | 8               | 19 | 65               | 15              |
| Requiring counties of more than 100,000 residents to both livestream and record all areas where ballots are counted                                                             | 35               | 21               | 11 | 12              | 21 | 56               | 23              |
| Banning the use of chokeholds by police                                                                                                                                         | 50               | 17               | 14 | 9               | 10 | 67               | 23              |
| Requiring police officers to intervene if another officer is violating state law, federal law, or their own police department's policy in their use of force against a civilian | 64               | 22               | 3  | 2               | 9  | 86               | 5               |
| Allowing civilians to sue a police officer who has violated state law or police department policy in their use of force                                                         | 47               | 22               | 11 | 11              | 10 | 69               | 22              |
| Requiring local governments to hold an election before reducing or redirecting funds from their police budgets                                                                  | 46               | 18               | 9  | 11              | 16 | 64               | 20              |
| Making abortion illegal after 6 weeks of pregnancy except in the case of a medical emergency                                                                                    | 34               | 15               | 10 | 31              | 10 | 49               | 41              |
| Allowing any individual in Texas the right to sue an abortion provider they believe has violated state law                                                                      | 30               | 14               | 8  | 29              | 19 | 44               | 37              |
| Automatically banning all abortions in Texas if the U.S. Supreme Court overturns Roe v. Wade                                                                                    | 22               | 12               | 12 | 42              | 12 | 34               | 54              |
| Limiting the emergency powers of the Texas<br>Governor during a pandemic or similar public<br>health emergency                                                                  | 23               | 22               | 20 | 18              | 18 | 45               | 38              |
| Prohibiting local governments from using public money to pay lobbyists or organizations to represent their interests before the Texas Legislature                               | 55               | 14               | 7  | 8               | 16 | 69               | 15              |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

| Item                                                                                                                       | Strongly support | Somewhat support |    | 0, |    | TOTAL<br>SUPPORT | TOTAL<br>OPPOSE |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----|----|----|------------------|-----------------|
| Allowing legal gun owners over the age of 21 to carry handguns in most public places in Texas without licenses or training | 22               | 12               | 11 | 48 | 6  | 34               | 59              |
| Allowing restaurants with valid licenses the ability to sell alcoholic beverages for delivery or pick-up                   | 42               | 28               | 10 | 9  | 10 | 70               | 19              |

Q32. How confident are you that the Texas Legislature will enact effective laws to prevent future disruptions in utility services like those that resulted from the February 2021 winter storm that affected much of the state?

|   |           | Extremely confident | Very confident | Somewhat confident | Not very confident | Not at all confident | Don't know/No opinion |
|---|-----------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Α | pr. 2021  | 7                   | 10             | 25                 | 25                 | 25                   | 8                     |
| N | lar. 2021 | 9                   | 16             | 31                 | 29                 | 16                   | 0                     |

Q33. Would you support or oppose each of the following proposals in response to the February 2021 winter storm and its effects?

| Item                                                                                                                                                                       | Strongly<br>support |    |    | Somewhat oppose | oppose | KNOW/NO | TOTAL<br>SUPPORT | TOTAL<br>OPPOSE |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|----|----|-----------------|--------|---------|------------------|-----------------|
| Require energy providers to weatherize their facilities                                                                                                                    | 70                  | 14 | 6  | 2               | 1      | 7       | 84               | 3               |
| Provide government funds to energy providers to weatherize their facilities                                                                                                | 30                  | 22 | 15 | 13              | 11     | 8       | 52               | 24              |
| Require all Energy Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) board members to reside in Texas                                                                                   | 67                  | 14 | 7  | 2               | 1      | 8       | 81               | 3               |
| Require that companies and regulators ensure higher levels of reserve energy to meet spikes in demand                                                                      | 59                  | 22 | 9  | 1               | 1      | 8       | 81               | 2               |
| Create a council of government energy regulators and emergency managers to coordinate during disasters                                                                     | 43                  | 28 | 12 | 4               | 4      | 9       | 71               | 8               |
| Ban products that allow residential customers to pay wholesale electricity prices that may save them money, but may also expose them to high bills during energy shortages | 32                  | 17 | 21 | 8               | 7      | 15      | 49               | 15              |
| Create a statewide disaster alert system to alert Texans about impending weather-related disasters and power outages                                                       | 59                  | 19 | 11 | 3               | 2      | 6       | 78               | 5               |

#### **Texas Statewide Survey**

Q34. Thinking about police departments in your area, do you think that spending on policing should be...

|           | Be increased | Be increased a | Stay about the | Be decreased a | Be decreased | Don't know/No | TOTAL    | TOTAL    |
|-----------|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|----------|----------|
|           | a lot        | little         | same           | little         | a lot        | opinion       | INCREASE | DECREASE |
| Apr. 2021 | 20           | 22             | 30             | 7              | 10           | 11            | 42       | 17       |
| Feb. 2021 | 15           | 25             | 36             | 8              | 9            | 7             | 40       | 17       |
| Oct. 2020 | 18           | 24             | 32             | 11             | 8            | 8             | 42       | 19       |

Q35. Do you think the deaths of Black people during encounters with police in recent years are... [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

|           | Isolated incidents | A sign of broader problems in the treatment of Black people by police | Don't know/No opinion |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 45                 | 47                                                                    | 9                     |
| Feb. 2021 | 45                 | 45                                                                    | 10                    |
| Oct. 2020 | 44                 | 48                                                                    | 8                     |
| June 2020 | 43                 | 49                                                                    | 7                     |

Q36A. Do you think the U.S. government is doing too much to address climate change, about enough to address climate change, or too little to address climate change?

| Q36A                  | Percent |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Too much              | 30      |
| About enough          | 16      |
| Too little            | 43      |
| Don't know/No opinion | 11      |

Q36B Do you think Texas state government is doing too much to address climate change, about enough to address climate change, or too little to address climate change?

| Q36B                  | Percent |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Too much              | 13      |
| About enough          | 27      |
| Too little            | 43      |
| Don't know/No opinion | 16      |

Q37. As you may know, the federal minimum wage is currently \$7.25 an hour. Do you favor or oppose increasing the minimum wage?

|           | Favor | Oppose | Don't know/No opinion |
|-----------|-------|--------|-----------------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 61    | 30     | 9                     |
| Feb. 2016 | 62    | 27     | 11                    |

Q38A. How much have you heard about Texas' decision not to expand eligibility for Medicaid, the government health insurance and long-term care program for certain low-income adults and children?

| Q38A           | Percent |
|----------------|---------|
| A lot          | 10      |
| Some           | 23      |
| A little       | 22      |
| Nothing at all | 46      |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

Q38B. Based on what you know, do you support or oppose Texas expanding eligibility for its Medicaid program?

| Q38B                  | Percent |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Strongly support      | 37      |
| Somewhat support      | 18      |
| Somewhat oppose       | 14      |
| Strongly oppose       | 12      |
| Don't know/No opinion | 20      |

Q39 Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Undocumented immigrants currently living in the United States should be deported immediately.

|           | Strongly agree | Somewhat agree | Somewhat disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|-----------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 33             | 18             | 17                | 24                | 9          |
| Feb. 2021 | 24             | 21             | 17                | 30                | 7          |
| Apr. 2020 | 28             | 21             | 16                | 27                | 8          |
| Feb. 2020 | 27             | 20             | 15                | 29                | 9          |
| Oct. 2019 | 29             | 21             | 18                | 26                | 7          |
| Oct. 2018 | 32             | 22             | 19                | 26                | 0          |
| Feb. 2018 | 23             | 22             | 21                | 29                | 5          |
| Oct. 2017 | 25             | 19             | 21                | 30                | 5          |
| Oct. 2016 | 23             | 24             | 19                | 27                | 7          |
| June 2016 | 27             | 24             | 17                | 25                | 7          |
| Feb. 2016 | 30             | 23             | 18                | 23                | 5          |
| Nov. 2015 | 30             | 25             | 18                | 21                | 6          |
| Feb. 2015 | 34             | 25             | 16                | 19                | 6          |
| Oct. 2014 | 35             | 25             | 16                | 18                | 6          |
| June 2014 | 32             | 22             | 18                | 22                | 6          |

Q40. Which comes closest to your view about children who arrive at the U.S-Mexico border without a parent or guardian and are seeking to enter the United States?

| Q40                                        | Percent |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|
| They should be turned away                 | 37      |
| They should be housed in government        | 24      |
| facilities until relatives can be found    |         |
| They should be allowed to enter the United | 29      |
| States to be care                          | 29      |
| Don't know/No opinion                      | 10      |

#### **Texas Statewide Survey**

Q41. Do you support or oppose requiring criminal and mental health background checks on all gun purchases in the United States, including at gun shows and for private sales?

|           | Strongly support |    |    |    |   | 1 1 | TOTAL<br>OPPOSE |
|-----------|------------------|----|----|----|---|-----|-----------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 57               | 17 | 7  | 11 | 7 | 74  | 18              |
| Feb. 2020 | 61               | 18 | 8  | 7  | 6 | 79  | 15              |
| Oct. 2019 | 61               | 20 | 7  | 6  | 5 | 81  | 13              |
| Feb. 2016 | 54               | 24 | 8  | 9  | 4 | 78  | 17              |
| June 2013 | 57               | 17 | 10 | 14 | 3 | 74  | 24              |
| Feb. 2013 | 61               | 17 | 9  | 8  | 3 | 78  | 17              |

Q42. If more people carried guns, do you think the United States would be safer, less safe, or would it have no impact on safety?

|           | More safe | Less safe | No impact on safety | Don't know/No opinion |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Apr. 2021 | 34        | 39        | 16                  | 10                    |
| Feb. 2020 | 37        | 39        | 16                  | 8                     |
| June 2018 | 37        | 39        | 15                  | 9                     |
| Oct. 2017 | 38        | 41        | 14                  | 7                     |

Q43. Which of the following best characterizes your opinion on the death penalty for those convicted of violent crimes?

|           | Strongly support | Somewhat support | Somewhat oppose | Strongly oppose | Don't know/No<br>opinion | TOTAL<br>SUPPORT | TOTAL<br>OPPOSE |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Apr. 2020 | 40               | 23               | 12              | 13              | 12                       | 63               | 26              |
| June 2018 | 38               | 27               | 13              | 12              | 10                       | 65               | 24              |
| Feb. 2015 | 49               | 26               | 10              | 9               | 6                        | 75               | 18              |
| Oct. 2013 | 46               | 28               | 10              | 10              | 6                        | 74               | 20              |
| Oct. 2011 | 49               | 25               | 9               | 12              | 5                        | 74               | 24              |
| Feb. 2011 | 54               | 24               | 9               | 8               | 5                        | 78               | 16              |
| Feb. 2010 | 53               | 25               | 10              | 8               | 4                        | 78               | 16              |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

#### **Political Knowledge**

#### [Randomize INFO1-INFO3]

INFO1. Which political party holds the majority in the U.S. House of Representatives? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

| INFO1            | Percent |
|------------------|---------|
| Democratic Party | 78      |
| Republican Party | 11      |
| Neither          | 5       |
| Don't know       | 7       |

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

| INFO2                   | Percent |
|-------------------------|---------|
| More than two-thirds    | 75      |
| More than three-fourths | 7       |
| More than one-half      | 6       |
| Don't know              | 13      |

INFO3. Who is the current Texas Agriculture Commissioner? [RANDOMIZE 1-3]

| INFO3            | Percent |
|------------------|---------|
| Sid Miller       | 23      |
| Glenn Hegar      | 8       |
| Christi Craddick | 4       |
| George P. Bush   | 16      |
| Don't know       | 49      |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

#### **Political Orientation**

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?

| LIBCON7        | Percent |
|----------------|---------|
| Extremely lib. | 10      |
| Somewhat lib.  | 12      |
| Lean lib.      | 8       |
| Moderate       | 24      |
| Lean con.      | 7       |
| Somewhat con.  | 21      |
| Extremely con. | 18      |

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

| PID3         | Percent |
|--------------|---------|
| Democrats    | 40      |
| Independents | 15      |
| Republicans  | 45      |

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

| PID7    | Percent |
|---------|---------|
| StrDem  | 20      |
| WeakDem | 9       |
| LeanDem | 11      |
| Ind     | 15      |
| LeanRep | 12      |
| WeakRep | 8       |
| StrRep  | 25      |

REPCON. [ASK IF PID7 >= 5] Overall, do you think that Republican elected officials in Texas are conservative enough, too conservative, or not conservative enough?

| REPCON                  | Percent |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Conservative enough     | 47      |
| Too conservative        | 8       |
| Not conservative enough | 37      |
| Don't know/No opinion   | 7       |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

DEMLIB. [ASK IF PID7 <= 3] Overall, do you think that Democratic elected officials in Texas are liberal enough, too liberal, or not liberal enough?

| DEMLIB                | Percent |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Liberal enough        | 32      |
| Too liberal           | 8       |
| Not liberal enough    | 38      |
| Don't know/No opinion | 22      |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

#### **Demographics**

AGE. Please indicate your age group.

| AGEG  | Percent |
|-------|---------|
| 18-29 | 18      |
| 30-44 | 26      |
| 45-64 | 37      |
| 65+   | 20      |

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

| LOCATE   | Percent |
|----------|---------|
| Urban    | 27      |
| Suburban | 53      |
| Rural    | 20      |

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

| METRO                                  | Percent |
|----------------------------------------|---------|
| Yes, I live in the Houston area        | 24      |
| Yes, I live the Dallas-Fort Worth area | 27      |
| Yes, I live in the San Antonio area    | 9       |
| Yes, I live in the Austin area         | 11      |
| No, I live in another part of Texas    | 29      |

CHILD. How many children are currently living with you?

| CHILD        | Percent |
|--------------|---------|
| One          | 15      |
| Two          | 12      |
| Three        | 4       |
| Four or more | 2       |
| None         | 67      |

SCHOOL. Do you have any children currently enrolled in school in Texas? (check all that apply)

| Item                                                                        | Percent |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Yes, I have a child/children under 18 enrolled in public school in Texas.   | 15      |
| Yes, I have a child/children under 18 enrolled in private school in Texas.  | 3       |
| Yes, I have a child/children under 18 who are being home schooled in Texas. | 3       |
| No, I do not have any children under 18 in school in Texas.                 | 80      |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

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

| INCOME                | Percent |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Less than \$10,000    | 6       |
| \$10,000 - \$19,999   | 7       |
| \$20,000 - \$29,999   | 10      |
| \$30,000 - \$39,999   | 6       |
| \$40,000 - \$49,999   | 7       |
| \$50,000 - \$59,999   | 8       |
| \$60,000 - \$69,999   | 7       |
| \$70,000 - \$79,999   | 7       |
| \$80,000 - \$99,999   | 7       |
| \$100,000 - \$119,999 | 7       |
| \$120,000 - \$149,999 | 6       |
| More than \$150,000   | 8       |
| Prefer not to say     | 14      |

AB. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself to be pro-life, pro-choice, or neither?

| AB         | Percent |
|------------|---------|
| Pro-life   | 40      |
| Pro-choice | 43      |
| Neither    | 13      |
| Don't know | 3       |

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

| EDU                      | Percent |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Less than high school    | 3       |
| High school degree       | 24      |
| Some college             | 24      |
| Two-year college degree  | 12      |
| Four-year college degree | 26      |
| Post-graduate degree     | 12      |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

RELIG. What is your primary religious affiliation, if any? [No open response on "other"]

| RELIG1                                    | Percent |
|-------------------------------------------|---------|
| Agnostic                                  | 6       |
| Assembly of God                           | 1       |
| Atheist                                   | 6       |
| Baptist                                   | 14      |
| Born again                                | 2       |
| Buddhist                                  | 1       |
| Catholic                                  | 16      |
| Church of Christ                          | 3       |
| Church of God                             | 0       |
| Disciples of Christ                       | 1       |
| Don't know                                | 3       |
| Episcopal / Anglican                      | 1       |
| Evangelical                               | 1       |
| Hindu                                     | 0       |
| Jehovah's Witnesses                       | 0       |
| Jewish                                    | 1       |
| Lutheran                                  | 3       |
| Methodist                                 | 5       |
| Mormon                                    | 1       |
| Muslim / Islam                            | 0       |
| No religious affiliation / none           | 12      |
| Nondenominational Christian               | 7       |
| Orthodox / Eastern Orthodox               | 0       |
| Other                                     | 3       |
| Pentecostal / charismatic / spirit-filled | 2       |
| Presbyterian                              | 1       |
| Protestant (non-specific)                 | 3       |
| Reformed                                  | 0       |
| Religious but not spiritual               | 0       |
| Spiritual but not religious               | 5       |
| Unitarian / Universalist                  | 0       |
| United Church of Christ                   | 0       |

LITERAL. Which of these statements comes closest to describing your feelings about the Bible?

| LITERAL                                          | Percent |  |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------|--|
| The Bible is the actual word of God and is to    | 0.7     |  |
| be taken literally, word for word.               | 27      |  |
| The Bible is the word of God but not             |         |  |
| everything in it should be taken literally, word | 38      |  |
| for word.                                        |         |  |
| The Bible is a book written by men and is not    |         |  |
| the word of God.                                 | 26      |  |
| Don't know.                                      | 8       |  |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

IMPORT. How important is religion in your life?

| IMPORT               | Percent |
|----------------------|---------|
| Extremely important  | 43      |
| Somewhat important   | 23      |
| Not very important   | 13      |
| Not at all important | 21      |

ATTEND. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services or participate in religious activities?

| ATTEND                | Percent |
|-----------------------|---------|
| More than once a week | 10      |
| Once a week           | 22      |
| A few times a month   | 7       |
| Once or twice a year  | 24      |
| Never                 | 37      |

ATTENDCHANGE. [ASK IF ATTEND<=3] Have you changed your attendance habits as a result of the coronavirus/COVID-19?

| ATTENDCHANGE | Percent |
|--------------|---------|
| Yes          | 63      |
| No           | 37      |

ATTENDONLINE. [ASK IF ATTENDCHANGE=="1. Yes"] How have your attendance habits changed?

| ATTENDONLINE                                                                    | Percent |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| I am no longer attending in-person religious services                           | 31      |
| I am attending in-person religious services less frequently than I was before   | 26      |
| I am attending religious services online                                        | 33      |
| I am attending religious services online, but less frequently than I was before | 4       |
| Other                                                                           | 6       |

#### **Texas Statewide Survey**

RACE1. What race do you consider yourself to be?

| race            | Percent |
|-----------------|---------|
| White / Blanco  | 58      |
| Black           | 14      |
| Hispanic        | 23      |
| Asian           | 1       |
| Middle Eastern  | 0       |
| Native American | 1       |
| Mixed           | 1       |
| Other           | 2       |

RACE2. [Ask if RACE ~= "Hispanic or Latino"] Do you happen to have a Hispanic-Latino grandparent?

| index |  |
|-------|--|

NATIVE1. [Ask if RACE = "Hispanic or Latino"] Were you born in the United States or Puerto Rico, or in another country?

| NATIVE1                                  | Percent |
|------------------------------------------|---------|
| Born in the United States or Puerto Rico | 83      |
| Born in another country                  | 14      |
| Don't know                               | 3       |

NATIVE2. [Ask NATIVE2 if answer 1 on NATIVE1] Were your parents born in the United States or Puerto Rico, or another country?

| NATIVE2                                                          | Percent |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Both of my parents were born in the United States or Puerto Rico | 62      |
| One of my parents was born in another country                    | 25      |
| Both of my parents were both in another country                  | 13      |

MOVE. Did you move to Texas from some other state?

| MOVE | Percent |
|------|---------|
| Yes  | 41      |
| No   | 59      |

STATE. [ASK IF MOVE=1] Which state did you move from (most recently)? [DROPDOWN LIST OF STATES]

| MOVE | Percent |
|------|---------|
| Yes  | 41      |
| No   | 59      |

## **Texas Statewide Survey**

VETERAN Which of the following best describes your current situation? Please check all that apply:

| Item                                        | Percent |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|
| Active-duty military                        | 0       |
| Military veteran                            | 14      |
| Active-duty military in my immediate family | 3       |
| Military veteran in my immediate family     | 18      |
| None of the above                           | 69      |

HOME. Do you own or rent your home?

| HOME | Percent |
|------|---------|
| Own  | 71      |
| Rent | 29      |

MARITAL. What is your marital status?

| MARITAL              | Percent |
|----------------------|---------|
| Married              | 51      |
| Separated            | 1       |
| Divorced             | 11      |
| Widowed              | 5       |
| Single               | 26      |
| Domestic Partnership | 6       |

GENDER. What is your gender?

| gender | Percent |
|--------|---------|
| Male   | 46      |
| Female | 54      |

#### **Texas Statewide Survey**

#### Sampling and Weighting Methodology for the April 2021 Texas Statewide Study

For the survey, YouGov interviewed 1392 Texas registered voters between April 16 and April 22, 2021, who were then matched down to a sample of 1200 to produce the final dataset. The respondents were matched on gender, age, race, and education. YouGov then weighted the matched set of survey respondents to known characteristics of registered voters of Texas from the 2018 Current Population survey and 2014 Pew Religious Landscape Survey.

The respondents were matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race, and education. The frame was constructed by stratified sampling from the full 2018 Current Population Survey (CPS) voter registration supplement with selection within strata by weighted sampling with replacements (using the person weights on the public use file). For the main sample, the matched cases were weighted to the sampling frame using propensity scores. The matched cases and the frame were combined and a logistic regression was estimated for inclusion in the frame. The propensity score function included age, gender, race/ethnicity, and years of education. The propensity scores were grouped into deciles of the estimated propensity score in the frame and post-stratified according to these deciles. These weights were then post-stratified on baseline party identification, the 2020 and 2016 presidential vote, ideology, and a full stratification of four-category age, four-category race, gender, and four-category education. The weights were trimmed at 7 and normalized to sum to the sample size.

The margin of error of the weighted data for registered voters is 2.8% for registered voters (if adjusted for weighting, the margin of error for registered voters is 3.7%).

#### **Survey Panel Data**

The YouGov panel, a proprietary opt-in survey panel, is comprised of 1.5 million U.S. residents who have agreed to participate in YouGov Web surveys. At anyt given time, YouGov maintains a minimum of five recruitment campaigns based on salient current events.

Panel members are recruited by a number of methods and on a variety of topics to help ensure diversity in the panel population. Recruiting methods include Web advertising campaigns (public surveys), permission-based email campaigns, partner sponsored solicitations, telephone-to-Web recruitment (RDD based sampling), and mail-to-Web recruitment (Voter Registration Based Sampling).

The primary method of recruitment for the YouGov Panel is Web advertising campaigns that appear based on keyword searches. In practice, a search in Google may prompt an active YouGov advertisement soliciting opinion on the search topic. At the conclusion of the short survey respondents are invited to join the YouGov panel in order to receive and participate in additional surveys. After a double opt-in procedure, where respondents must confirm their consent by responding to an email, the database checks to ensure the newly recruited panelist is in fact new and that the address information provided is valid.

The YouGov panel currently has over 20,000 active panelists who are residents of Texas. These panelists cover a wide range of demographic characteristics.

#### **Sampling and Sample Matching**

Sample matching is a methodology for selection of "representative" samples from non-randomly selected pools of respondents. It is ideally suited for Web access panels, but could also be used for other types of surveys, such as phone surveys. Sample matching starts with an enumeration of the target population. For general population studies, the target population is all adults, and can be enumerated through the use of the decennial Census or a high-quality survey, such as the American Community Survey. In other contexts, this is known as the sampling frame, though, unlike conventional sampling, the sample is not drawn from the frame. Traditional sampling, then, selects individuals from the sampling frame at random for participation in the study. This may not be feasible or economical as the contact information, especially email addresses, is not available for all individuals in the frame and refusals to participate increase the costs of sampling in this way.

Sample selection using the matching methodology is a two-stage process. First, a random sample is drawn from the target population. We call this sample the target sample. Details on how the target sample is drawn are provided below, but the essential idea is that this sample is a true probability sample and thus representative of the frame from which it was drawn.

#### **Texas Statewide Survey**

Second, for each member of the target sample, we select one or more matching members from our pool of opt-in respondents. This is called the matched sample. Matching is accomplished using a large set of variables that are available in consumer and voter databases for both the target population and the opt-in panel.

The purpose of matching is to find an available respondent who is as similar as possible to the selected member of the target sample. The result is a sample of respondents who have the same measured characteristics as the target sample. Under certain conditions, described below, the matched sample will have similar properties to a true random sample. That is, the matched sample mimics the characteristics of the target sample.

When choosing the matched sample, it is necessary to find the closest matching respondent in the panel of opt-ins to each member of the target sample. YouGov employs the proximity matching method to find the closest matching respondent. For each variable used for matching, we define a distance function, d(x,y), which describes how "close" the values x and y are on a particular attribute. The overall distance between a member of the target sample and a member of the panel is a weighted sum of the individual distance functions on each attribute. The weights can be adjusted for each study based upon which variables are thought to be important for that study, though, for the most part, we have not found the matching procedure to be sensitive to small adjustments of the weights. A large weight, on the other hand, forces the algorithm toward an exact match on that dimension.