

Texas Statewide Survey

Field Dates: September 25 to October 4, 2020

N=1200 Registered Voters

Margin of error: +/- 2.83% (3.8% adjusted for weighting) unless otherwise noted

Q15A. Of the three branches of the federal government, which one do you trust the most?

	The President, the executive branch	The U.S. Congress, the legislative branch	The U.S. Supreme Court, the judicial branch	Don't know/No opinion
Oct. 2020	29	13	27	31
Feb. 2020	27	12	30	30
Feb. 2019	33	14	28	25
Oct. 2018	29	8	29	35
Oct. 2017	27	5	36	32
June 2017	26	6	38	30
Feb. 2017	28	7	36	30
June 2016	17	14	28	41
Oct. 2015	18	18	24	40
Oct. 2012	28	10	34	27

Political Figures and Elections

[Results for Q16 through Q20B are presented among Likely Voters. Likely Voters are defined as those who selected 9 or 10 on Q3A and (if they are over the age of 20) stated that they vote in "Every" or "Almost every" election on Q3. Respondents who said that they hadn't thought enough about the election to have an opinion on Q17 and Q19 were asked a follow-up question: "If you had to make a choice, who would you choose?" Responses to this item were folded into those who initially indicated a preference and reported below in items Q17 and Q19.]

N = 908, MOE is +/- 3.25%, MOE is +/- 4.16% if adjusted for weighting, unless otherwise noted.

Q16. Thinking ahead to the upcoming election, do you intend to vote in person on Election Day, vote in-person early, or vote by mail?

Q16	Percent
Vote in person on Election Day	26
Vote in person early	60
Vote by mail	13
Do not intend to vote	0
Don't know	1

Q22. Do you favor or oppose giving all Texans the opportunity to vote by mail? *(Prior versions of this item were asked with explicit reference to COVID: "Would you favor or oppose allowing all Texans to vote by mail in the upcoming 2020 general election in response to the coronavirus/COVID-19?")*

	Favor	Oppose	Don't know/No opinion
Oct. 2020	49	41	11
June 2020	52	40	9
Apr. 2020	55	33	11

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Q23. Do you support or oppose allowing Texans to complete their voter registration forms online?

	Support	Oppose	Don't know/No opinion
Oct. 2020	63	24	13
June 2018	57	22	20

Q25. When do you think the winner of the 2020 presidential election will be announced?

Q25	Percent
On election night	28
1-2 days after Election Day	23
1 week after Election Day	17
A few weeks after Election Day	11
A month or more after Election Day	6
Don't know/No opinion	15

Q26. Generally speaking, are you confident that Americans will trust the result of the presidential election?

Q26	Percent
Very confident	16
Somewhat confident	31
Not very confident	29
Not at all confident	15
Don't know/No opinion	10

Q27. What about you? Will you trust the result of the presidential election, regardless of who wins?

Q27	Percent
Yes	41
No	14
Don't know/Unsure	46

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Q28. How serious a problem do you think each of the following will be in the 2020 Election? [RANDOMIZE A-H]

Item	Extremely serious	Somewhat serious	Not too serious	Not at all serious	Don't know
People voting who are not eligible	40	17	14	24	5
People voting multiple times	38	19	13	25	5
Votes being counted inaccurately	43	26	17	9	4
Foreign governments or other bad actors interfering in the election	39	24	22	10	5
Eligible voters being prevented from voting	40	22	15	17	6
Misinformation spread on social media	62	20	9	4	5
An increase in people voting by mail	33	22	16	23	6
People not voting due to the coronavirus pandemic	32	32	20	12	4

People voting who are not eligible

	Extremely serious	Somewhat serious	Not too serious	Not at all serious	Don't know
Oct. 2020	40	17	14	24	5
Oct. 2016	40	16	14	24	5

People voting multiple times

	Extremely serious	Somewhat serious	Not too serious	Not at all serious	Don't know
Oct. 2020	38	19	13	25	5
Oct. 2016	35	18	15	27	5

Votes being counted inaccurately

	Extremely serious	Somewhat serious	Not too serious	Not at all serious	Don't know
Oct. 2020	43	26	17	9	4
Oct. 2016	37	24	17	15	7

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Policy Questions

Q48A. How closely have you been following efforts to fill the seat of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who recently passed away?

Q48A	Percent
Extremely closely	48
Somewhat closely	34
Not very closely	11
Not at all	7

Q48B. Which of the following is closest to your opinion? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

Q48B	Percent
The Senate should vote on President Donald Trump's nominee to the Supreme Court.	47
The Senate should only vote on President Trump's nominee to the Supreme Court if he wins the 2020 election.	41
Don't know/No opinion	12

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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	70
Republican Party	20
Neither	2
Don't know	9

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

INFO2	Percent
More than two-thirds	72
More than three-fourths	8
More than one-half	7
Don't know	13

INFO3. Who is the current Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts? [RANDOMIZE 1-3]

INFO3	Percent
Glenn Hegar	14
Sid Miller	9
Christi Craddick	9
George P. Bush	13
Don't know	55

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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.	9
Somewhat lib.	12
Lean lib.	9
Moderate	25
Lean con.	9
Somewhat con.	16
Extremely con.	20

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

PID3	Percent
Democrats	41
Independents	13
Republicans	47

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

PID7	Percent
StrDem	21
WeakDem	9
LeanDem	11
Ind	13
LeanRep	13
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	50
Too conservative	11
Not conservative enough	34
Don't know/No opinion	6

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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	34
Too liberal	9
Not liberal enough	38
Don't know/No opinion	19

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Demographics

AGE. Please indicate your age group.

AGEG	Percent
18-29	19
30-44	23
45-64	38
65+	20

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

LOCATE	Percent
Urban	29
Suburban	51
Rural	21

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	22
Yes, I live the Dallas-Fort Worth area	28
Yes, I live in the San Antonio area	13
Yes, I live in the Austin area	10
No, I live in another part of Texas	27

CHILD. How many children are currently living with you?

CHILD	Percent
One	18
Two	13
Three	5
Four or more	3
None	61

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.	18
Yes, I have a child/children under 18 enrolled in private school in Texas.	4
Yes, I have a child/children under 18 who are being home schooled in Texas.	5
No, I do not have any children under 18 in school in Texas.	74

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

INCOME	Percent
Less than \$10,000	6
\$10,000 - \$19,999	5
\$20,000 - \$29,999	10
\$30,000 - \$39,999	7
\$40,000 - \$49,999	7
\$50,000 - \$59,999	8
\$60,000 - \$69,999	6
\$70,000 - \$79,999	6
\$80,000 - \$99,999	9
\$100,000 - \$119,999	7
\$120,000 - \$149,999	6
More than \$150,000	9
Prefer not to say	13

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

AB	Percent
Pro-life	46
Pro-choice	38
Neither	12
Don't know	3

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

EDU	Percent
Less than high school	2
High school degree	25
Some college	24
Two-year college degree	11
Four-year college degree	25
Post-graduate degree	12

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

RELIG1	Percent
Agnostic	5
Assembly of God	2
Atheist	5
Baptist	14
Born again	3
Buddhist	0
Catholic	17
Christian Scientist	0
Church of Christ	4
Church of God	0
Disciples of Christ	1
Don't know	2
Episcopal / Anglican	2
Evangelical	2
Hindu	0
Jehovah's Witnesses	0
Jewish	1
Lutheran	3
Methodist	5
Mormon	1
Muslim / Islam	0
No religious affiliation / none	8
Nondenominational Christian	8
Orthodox / Eastern Orthodox	0
Other	3
Pentecostal / charismatic / spirit-filled	3
Presbyterian	1
Protestant (non-specific)	4
Reformed	0
Religious but not spiritual	0
Spiritual but not religious	6
Unitarian / Universalist	1
United Church of Christ	0

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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 be taken literally, word for word.	31
The Bible is the word of God but not everything in it should be taken literally, word for word.	40
The Bible is a book written by men and is not the word of God.	22
Don't know.	7

IMPORT. How important is religion in your life?

IMPORT	Percent
Extremely important	48
Somewhat important	24
Not very important	11
Not at all important	18

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	14
Once a week	22
A few times a month	9
Once or twice a year	23
Never	32

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

ATTENDCHANGE	Percent
Yes	70
No	30

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

ATTENDONLINE	Percent
I am no longer attending in-person religious services	33
I am attending in-person religious services less frequently	27
I am attending religious services online	35
Other	5

RACE1. What race do you consider yourself to be?

race	Percent
White / Blanco	59
Black	14
Hispanic	21
Asian	2
Middle Eastern	0
Native American	1
Mixed	1
Other	1

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

RACE2	Percent
Yes	2
No	97
Don't know	1

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	84
Born in another country	13
Don't know	4

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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	73
One of my parents was born in another country	16
Both of my parents were both in another country	11

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

MOVE	Percent
Yes	43
No	57

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

STATEFROM	Percent
Alabama	1
Alaska	0
Arizona	1
Arkansas	1
California	12
Colorado	3
Connecticut	0
Delaware	0
District of Columbia	0
Florida	6
Georgia	6
Hawaii	0
Idaho	0
Illinois	8
Indiana	2
Iowa	1
Kansas	1
Kentucky	0
Louisiana	7
Maine	0
Maryland	2
Massachusetts	3
Michigan	5
Minnesota	1
Mississippi	1
Missouri	2
Montana	0
Nebraska	2
Nevada	0
New Hampshire	0
New Jersey	1
New Mexico	2
New York	4
Newfoundland	0
North Carolina	1
Not in the U.S. or Canada	2
Ohio	2
Oklahoma	4
Ontario	0

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STATEFROM	Percent
Oregon	1
Pennsylvania	1
Puerto Rico	1
Rhode Island	0
Saskatchewan	0
South Carolina	1
South Dakota	0
Tennessee	3
Utah	1
Virginia	4
Washington	1
West Virginia	0
Wisconsin	1
Wyoming	0

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

Item	Percent
Active-duty military	1
Military veteran	13
Active-duty military in my immediate family	3
Military veteran in my immediate family	22
None of the above	65

HOME. Do you own or rent your home?

HOME	Percent
Own	67
Rent	33

MARITAL. What is your marital status?

MARITAL	Percent
Married	53
Separated	2
Divorced	10
Widowed	6
Single	24
Domestic Partnership	5

GENDER. What is your gender?

gender	Percent
Male	46
Female	54

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Sampling and Weighting Methodology for the October 2020 Texas Statewide Study

For the survey, YouGov interviewed 1482 Texas registered voters between September 25 and October 4, 2020, 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 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 and 3.25% for likely voters (if adjusted for weighting, the margin of error for registered voters is 3.8%, 4.1% for likely voters).

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 any 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,

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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.

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.