

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>

**Policy Questions**

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
<b>Apr. 2021</b>	36	52	12
<b>June 2020</b>	38	51	11
<b>June 2019</b>	35	50	15
<b>Feb. 2019</b>	36	53	11
<b>Oct. 2017</b>	38	47	15

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

	Yes	No	Don't know/No opinion
<b>Apr. 2021</b>	66	18	16
<b>Feb. 2021</b>	61	18	21

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

	Yes	No	Don't know/No opinion
<b>Apr. 2021</b>	66	16	18
<b>Feb. 2021</b>	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
<b>Apr. 2021</b>	52	28	13	5	2
<b>Feb. 2021</b>	53	32	9	4	2
<b>Oct. 2020</b>	53	29	11	6	1
<b>June 2020</b>	57	29	10	4	1
<b>Apr. 2020</b>	66	26	4	2	2

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

Item	Approve strongly	Approve somewhat	Neither approve nor disapprove	Disapprove somewhat	Disapprove strongly	Don't know/No opinion
<b>Federal government</b>	20	27	15	14	22	2
<b>Texas state government</b>	18	27	12	16	24	2
<b>Your local government</b>	20	33	20	12	11	4

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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

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 going as usual	Still leaving my residence, but being careful when I do	Only leaving my residence when I absolutely have to	Not leaving 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

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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

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

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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	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know	TOTAL SUPPORT	TOTAL 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 they suspect to be engaged in an illegal activity	30	18	12	26	14	48	38
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

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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
Apr. 2021	7	10	25	25	25	8
Mar. 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 support	Somewhat support	Neither support nor oppose	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know/No opinion	TOTAL SUPPORT	TOTAL OPPOSE
<b>Require energy providers to weatherize their facilities</b>	70	14	6	2	1	7	84	3
<b>Provide government funds to energy providers to weatherize their facilities</b>	30	22	15	13	11	8	52	24
<b>Require all Energy Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) board members to reside in Texas</b>	67	14	7	2	1	8	81	3
<b>Require that companies and regulators ensure higher levels of reserve energy to meet spikes in demand</b>	59	22	9	1	1	8	81	2
<b>Create a council of government energy regulators and emergency managers to coordinate during disasters</b>	43	28	12	4	4	9	71	8
<b>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</b>	32	17	21	8	7	15	49	15
<b>Create a statewide disaster alert system to alert Texans about impending weather-related disasters and power outages</b>	59	19	11	3	2	6	78	5

## Texas Statewide Survey

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?

<b>Q36A</b>	<b>Percent</b>
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?

<b>Q36B</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Too much	13
About enough	27
Too little	43
Don't know/No opinion	16

## 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 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, 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.

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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.