

Texas Lyceum Poll

Fall 2012
Texas Statewide Survey

CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT

Sample: N=1,175 Registered Voters.
Margin of Error: +/- 2.83% unless otherwise reported.
Field Dates: September 10-26, 2012

["Likely Voters" were defined as those who indicated that they were either "Extremely" or "Somewhat" interested in politics in Q2 AND either voted in "Every" or "Almost every" election in Q3.]

SECTION I: GENERAL MOOD AND 2012 ELECTION ITEMS

- Q1. Are you registered to vote in the state of Texas?
- | | |
|---------------------|------|
| 1. 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?
- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Extremely interested. | 43% |
| 2. Somewhat interested. | 48% |
| 3. Not very interested. | 5% |
| 4. Not at all interested. | 3% |
| 5. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 0% |
- Q3. There are many elections in the state of Texas. Furthermore, many people intend to vote in a given election, but sometimes personal and professional circumstances keep them from the polls. Thinking back over the past two or three years, would you say that you voted in all elections, almost all, about half, one or two, or none at all?
- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Every election. | 35% |
| 2. Almost every election. | 36% |
| 3. About half. | 12% |
| 4. One or two. | 12% |
| 5. None at all. | 5% |
- Q4. Thinking about the country, do you think things are moving in the right direction or are we off on the wrong track?
- | | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| 1. Right direction. | 42% |
| 2. Off on the wrong track. | 51% |
| 3. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 7% |

Q5. What do you think is the most important issue facing the country today? [Open-ended]

1. The economy	37%
2. Unemployment/jobs	15%
3. Health care	7%
4. Federal spending/budget deficit	4%
5. Education	4%
6. National debt	3%
7. Moral decline	2%
8. Environment	2%
9. Middle East unrest	2%
10. Political corruption/leadership	1%
11. National security/terrorism	1%
12. Abortion	1%
13. Crime and drugs	1%
14. Foreign trade	1%
15. Polarization/Gridlock/Partisanship	1%

Q6. What do you think is the most important issue facing the state of Texas today? [Open-Ended]

1. The economy	19%
2. Education	17%
3. Immigration	16%
4. Unemployment/jobs	14%
5. Political corruption/leadership	8%
6. Border security	5%
7. Health care	4%
8. Moral decline	3%
9. Gas prices	2%
10. Crime and drugs	2%
11. State government spending (i.e. too much spending)	2%
12. Taxes	2%
13. State government spending cuts	1%
14. Social welfare programs	1%
15. Water supply	1%
16. Environment	1%
17. Voting system	1%
18. State budget deficit/budget shortfall	1%

Q7. How well do you think Barack Obama is handling his job as president? Is he doing a very good job, somewhat good job, somewhat poor job, or very poor job?

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Very good job. | 27% |
| 2. Somewhat good job. | 26% |
| 3. Somewhat poor job. | 11% |
| 4. Very poor job. | 34% |
| 5. DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA | 1% |

Among Likely Voters (MOE +/- 3.45%):

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Very good job. | 27% |
| 2. Somewhat good job. | 18% |
| 3. Somewhat poor job. | 12% |
| 4. Very poor job. | 43% |
| 5. DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA | 1% |

Q8. How good a job is President Obama doing on the economy?

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Very good job. | 20% |
| 2. Somewhat good job. | 29% |
| 3. Somewhat poor job. | 12% |
| 4. Very poor job. | 37% |
| 5. Don't Know / Refused / NA | 2% |

Among Likely Voters (MOE +/- 3.45%):

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Very good job. | 20% |
| 2. Somewhat good job. | 24% |
| 3. Somewhat poor job. | 9% |
| 4. Very poor job. | 46% |
| 5. Don't Know / Refused / NA | 1% |

Q9. Would you say that you approve or disapprove of the job that Rick Perry is doing as Texas governor? Would that be somewhat or strongly approve/disapprove?

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly approve | 14% |
| 2. Somewhat approve | 37% |
| 3. Somewhat disapprove | 16% |
| 4. Strongly disapprove | 27% |
| 5. DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA | 5% |

Among Likely Voters (MOE +/- 3.45%):

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly approve | 17% |
| 2. Somewhat approve | 39% |
| 3. Somewhat disapprove | 14% |
| 4. Strongly disapprove | 27% |
| 5. DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA | 3% |

Q10. Would you say that you approve or disapprove of the job that the Texas state legislature is doing? Would that be somewhat or strongly approve/disapprove?

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly approve | 9% |
| 2. Somewhat approve | 50% |
| 3. Somewhat disapprove | 17% |
| 4. Strongly disapprove | 14% |
| 5. DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA | 10% |

Among Likely Voters (MOE +/- 3.45%):

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly approve | 11% |
| 2. Somewhat approve | 51% |
| 3. Somewhat disapprove | 17% |
| 4. Strongly disapprove | 15% |
| 5. DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA | 6% |

[For Q11, respondents were first asked the questions below. If they initially answered that they didn't know, they were then asked a follow-up question: "If you had to make a choice, who would you choose?" Responses to the follow-up questions were collapsed into the results found below.]

Q11. If the 2012 election for president were held today, would you vote for the Democratic ticket of Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Republican ticket of Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan, or haven't you thought enough about it?

Among Likely Voters (MOE +/- 4.66%):

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Obama/Biden | 39% |
| 2. Romney/Ryan | 58% |
| 3. Haven't thought enough about it/Don't know | 4% |

Q13. If the election for U.S. Senate were held today, would you vote for the Democratic candidate Paul Sadler, the Republican candidate Ted Cruz, or haven't you thought enough about it?

Among Likely Voters (MOE +/- 4.66%):

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Paul Sadler | 24% |
| 2. Ted Cruz | 50% |
| 3. Haven't thought enough about it | 26% |

Q14. If the election for representative to the U.S. Congress were held today, would you vote for the Democratic candidate, the Republican candidate, someone else, or haven't you thought enough about it?

Among Likely Voters (MOE +/- 4.66%):

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Democratic candidate | 26% |
| 2. Republican candidate | 42% |
| 3. Someone else | 3% |
| 4. Haven't thought enough about it | 29% |

Q15. And if the election for representative to the Texas State House were held today, would you vote for the Democratic candidate, the Republican candidate, someone else, or haven't you thought enough about it?

Among Likely Voters (MOE +/- 4.66%):

- 1. Democratic candidate 27%
- 2. Republican candidate 41%
- 3. Someone else 1%
- 4. Haven't thought enough about it 30%

Q16. If Rick Perry were to run for governor again in 2014, would you vote for him, would you vote against him, or would you need to wait and see who is running against him?

Among Likely Voters (MOE +/- 4.66%):

- 1. Vote for Perry 18%
- 2. Vote against Perry 30%
- 3. Wait and see 53%

Would you say that your feelings towards the following people and groups are generally favorable or unfavorable? Would that be extremely or just somewhat favorable/unfavorable?

(MOE Ranges from +/- 3.94% to 4.17%)

	Extremely Favorable	Somewhat Favorable	Somewhat Unfavorable	Extremely Unfavorable	Don't Know
Q17A. The Tea Party	14%	28%	14%	30%	14%
Q17B. The Occupy Movement	8%	17%	14%	31%	30%
Q17C. The Environmental Protection Agency	14%	46%	20%	12%	8%
Q17D. Barack Obama	27%	24%	13%	34%	2%
Q17E. Mitt Romney	21%	34%	15%	23%	6%
Q17F. Paul Ryan	21%	25%	13%	25%	16%
Q17G. Joe Biden	17%	29%	15%	29%	10%
Q17H. Rick Perry	16%	38%	14%	25%	7%
Q17I. Immigrants	14%	38%	20%	12%	15%
Q17J. Unions	21%	27%	20%	22%	10%
Q17K. Banks and other Financial Institutions	8%	41%	29%	15%	7%
Q17L. Wall Street	5%	37%	25%	20%	12%

SECTION II:
PERSONAL ECONOMIC PERCEPTIONS

Q19. Thinking about the national economy, do you think the country is better off, worse off, or about the same compared to a year ago?

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Better off. | 37% |
| 2. Worse off. | 38% |
| 3. About the same. | 24% |
| 4. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 1% |

Q20. Now thinking about you and your family's economic situation, would you say that you are better off, worse off, or about the same economically compared to a year ago?

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Better off. | 24% |
| 2. Worse off. | 24% |
| 3. About the same. | 50% |
| 4. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 2% |

Q21A. Looking ahead to the future, do you think your children will be better off than you are, worse off, or about the same economically?

MOE +/- 4.03%

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Better off. | 38% |
| 2. Worse off. | 35% |
| 3. About the same. | 17% |
| 4. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 11% |

Q21B. Thinking about the condition of the national economy, do you think the worst is over or is the worst yet to come?

MOE +/- 4.06%

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Worst is over. | 40% |
| 2. Worst is yet to come. | 45% |
| 3. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 15% |

Q22. Do you think Texas's economy is better off, worse off, or about the same as the rest of the country?

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Better off | 70% |
| 2. Worse off | 7% |
| 3. About the same | 22% |
| 4. DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA | 1% |

SECTION III:
ISSUES & POLICY

Now we'd like to know what you think about education and education policy in Texas. Thinking about Kindergarten through 12th grade...

Q23. Who is most responsible for ensuring that our children are educated?

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. Individual families | 60% |
| 2. Local government | 9% |
| 3. State government | 19% |
| 4. National government | 8% |
| 5. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA | 4% |

Would you (or would you NOT) be willing to pay more in taxes for each of the following programs or proposals?

	Would be willing	Would NOT be willing	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA
Q24. Increased pay for teachers	74%	24%	2%
Q25. Increased pay for school staff	63%	33%	4%
Q26. Increased pay for district administrators	20%	76%	3%
Q27. Construction of new schools	61%	35%	4%
Q28. Additional instruction in music and art	62%	35%	3%
Q29. Investment in computers and high tech equipment	67%	32%	2%
Q30. Additional investment in physical education classes and sports	54%	45%	1%

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

Q31. Greater attention should be paid to educational achievement gaps between Anglo and minority students.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. Agree | 57% |
| 2. Disagree | 36% |
| 3. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA | 7% |

Q32. Some say that standardized tests, such as the TAKS and STAR, are essential for ensuring that students are learning what they need to learn, and that students should not be promoted if they fail these exams. Others say that local schools should have more flexibility in assessing students, and that some students who fail the exams should be promoted anyway. Which of these is closer to your own view?

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Standardized tests are essential | 34% |
| 2. Local schools should have more flexibility | 60% |
| 3. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA | 5% |

Turning to higher education in Texas...

Q33. Please rate the quality of public universities—such as the University of Texas, Texas A&M, and Texas Tech—in Texas.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Among the very best in the nation | 40% |
| 2. Good, but not among the best | 37% |
| 3. Average | 14% |
| 4. Not so good, but not among the worst | 2% |
| 5. Among the worst in the nation | 0% |
| 6. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA | 7% |

Q34. Currently, tuition rates at Texas colleges are not regulated by the state. Which of the following is closest to your own position:

We should cap tuition at Texas public universities so that college remains affordable for all qualified Texans.

We should allow public universities to adjust tuition rates so that they have the necessary flexibility to meet budgets and remain competitive.

We should allow universities to maintain or increase their budgets with de-regulation, but help low-income students offset the costs.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Re-regulate tuition. | 46% |
| 2. Keep tuition de-regulation, or | 18% |
| 3. Keep tuition de-regulation but help
low income students offset costs | 30% |
| 4. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 6% |

Q35. Do you think that students attending college get their money's worth for what they spend on higher education, or do they not receive a fair return on their investment?

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Students get their money's worth. | 43% |
| 2. Students do not receive a fair return
on their investment. | 42% |
| 3. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 15% |

Another issue that has been in the news lately is health policy.

Q36. As you may know, in 2010 the Affordable Care Act was signed into law. Do you have a generally favorable or generally unfavorable opinion of this health care law? Would that be extremely or just somewhat favorable/unfavorable?

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Extremely favorable | 22% |
| 2. Somewhat favorable | 23% |
| 3. Somewhat unfavorable | 14% |
| 4. Extremely unfavorable | 32% |
| 5. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 9% |

Q37A. As you may know, the federal health care law, known as the Affordable Care Act, allows the state to expand Medicaid access to more Texans, with the federal government covering the vast majority of the costs. Some say Texas should take advantage of this program because it would

expand health care coverage in Texas and lower the cost of insurance premiums for those who already have coverage. Others say Texas should refuse to participate in the program because Medicaid is a broken program and paying additional money into it is a mistake.

Which of these comes closer to your view? (MOE +/- 4.12%)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Support participation in program | 49% |
| 2. Oppose participation in program | 40% |
| 3. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA | 10% |

Q37B. As you may know, the federal health care law, known as the Affordable Care Act, allows the state to expand Medicaid access to more Texans, with the federal government covering the vast majority of the costs. Some say Texas should take advantage of this program because it would expand health care coverage in Texas and lower the cost of insurance premiums for those who already have coverage. Others say Texas should refuse to participate in the program because we have serious budget issues and cannot afford to expand the state's contribution to Medicaid even with the promise of additional federal support.

Which of these comes closer to your view? (MOE +/- 3.98%)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Support participation in program | 51% |
| 2. Oppose participation in program | 40% |
| 3. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA | 9% |

Q38A. Which of the following statements is closer to your own view:
"Health care research results in innovation that significantly reduces costs later on."
"Spending on health care research is a luxury that we can't afford when the economy is bad."

(MOE +/- 4.12%)

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Health care research results in innovation that reduces costs later on. | 74% |
| 2. Health care research is a luxury | 21% |
| 3. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 5% |

Q38B. Which of the following statements is closer to your own view:
Health care research results in innovation that significantly reduces costs later on."
"Spending on health care research simply creates more expensive drugs and procedures."

(MOE +/- 3.98%)

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Health care research results in innovation that reduces costs later on. | 71% |
| 2. Health care research creates more expensive drugs and procedures. | 19% |
| 3. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 11% |

Q39. Compared to when you were a kid, do you think that today's kids are:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Much more likely to be fat and out of shape | 64% |
|--|-----|

- | | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 2. | Somewhat more likely to be fat and out of shape | 28% |
| 3. | Somewhat less likely to be fat and out of shape | 4% |
| 4. | Much less likely to be fat and out of shape | 2% |
| 5. | DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 2% |

Q40. What is the MOST important factor contributing to childhood obesity?

- | | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 1. | Modern technology,
such as televisions and computers | 24% |
| 2. | Lack of physical education classes in school | 9% |
| 3. | Difficulty of finding safe places to play outdoors | 4% |
| 4. | Fast food/Bad diet | 17% |
| 5. | The food industry | 5% |
| 6. | Poor role-models | 3% |
| 7. | Parents not controlling what their kids eat | 31% |
| 8. | Other | 5% |
| 9. | DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 3% |

These last few issue questions are about water.

Q41. Do you think that water rights should be owned by individuals or should they be public?

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Individuals | 29% |
| 2. | Public | 54% |
| 3. | DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 17% |

Q43. Would you be willing to pay more in water tap fees to ensure that the state's water needs are met?

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Yes | 64% |
| 2. | No | 30% |
| 3. | DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 7% |

Q44. The Texas Legislature passed into law a measure that requires doctors to conduct a sonogram prior to an abortion, and then show and discuss the picture with the woman. Do you support or oppose this measure?

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Support | 50% |
| 2. | Oppose | 44% |
| 3. | DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 5% |

**SECTION V:
DEMOGRAPHICS**

We're almost done. The final questions are for statistical purposes...

NEWS. What is your primary source for news about politics?

1. Daily Newspaper	10%
2. Local television news	12%
3. National network television news (ABC, NBC, CBS)	15%
4. Cable TV news (FOX, CNN, MSNBC)	26%
5. Radio (talk, news programming)	6%
6. News magazine (i.e. Time, Newsweek)	1%
7. Internet (internet news sites, blogs, social media)_	24%
8. Late night TV comedy/entertainment TV	0%
9. OTHER (SPECIFY)	6%
10. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

AGE.

18-24	9%
25-44	34%
45-64	38%
65-74	11%
75+	8%

MARRIED. What is your current martial status?

1. Never married	15%
2. Married	67%
3. Divorced	9%
4. Widowed	7%
5. Separated	0%
6. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA.	1%

CHILD. How many children are currently living with you?

1. One	20%
2. Two	18%
3. Three	8%
4. Four or more	2%
5. None	52%

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

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Yes, I have a child/children under 18 enrolled in public school in Texas. | 27% |
| 2. Yes, I have a child/children under 18 enrolled in private school in Texas. | 7% |
| 3. Yes, I have a child/children under 18 who are being home schooled in Texas. | 1% |
| 4. No, I do not have any children under 18 in school in Texas. | 66% |

INCOME. What was your total household income for 2010?

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Less than \$15,000 | 7% |
| 2. \$15,000-\$25,000 | 9% |
| 3. \$25,000-\$40,000 | 13% |
| 4. \$40,000-\$75,000 | 24% |
| 5. \$75,000-\$150,000 | 24% |
| 6. More than \$150,000 | 11% |
| 7. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 12% |

EDOFR. What is the highest level of education you completed?

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Less than high school | 4% |
| 2. High school | 16% |
| 3. Some college | 27% |
| 4. College degree | 29% |
| 5. Post-graduate degree (MA, LLD, PhD) | 24% |
| 6. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA. | 1% |

RELIGION. What is your religious denomination?

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Protestant | 21% |
| 2. Catholic | 26% |
| 3. Other Christian | 36% |
| 4. Jewish | 1% |
| 5. Muslim, Buddhist, or other non-Christian | 1% |
| 6. Agnostic/Atheist | 6% |
| 7. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED | 10% |

[IF RELIGION EQ 1]

FUND. Would you say that you are evangelical, fundamentalist, or born-again?

- | | |
|--------|-----|
| 1. Yes | 62% |
| 2. No | 38% |

RACE. Would you say that you are...

1. White/Anglo-saxon	61%
2. African American	14%
3. Hispanic	25%

LIBCON. Generally speaking, would you say that you are...

1. Liberal	20%
2. Moderate, or	32%
3. Conservative.	43%
4. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	4%

COUNTY.

1. Harris	16%
2. Dallas	8%
3. Tarrant	6%
4. Bexar	6%
5. Travis	4%
6. Williamson	3%
7. Nueces	2%
8. Collin	2%
9. Denton	2%
10. Jefferson	2%
11. Montgomery	2%
12. Hidalgo	2%
13. Fort Bend	2%
14. Balance of state	43%

PID.

1. Democrat	44%
2. Independent	12%
3. Republican	44%

Among Likely Voters

1. Democrat	40%
2. Independent	9%
3. Republican	51%

GENDER. (BY OBSERVATION)

1. MALE	47%
2. FEMALE	53%