Texas Lyceum Executive Summary

Civility, Texanness, Immigration, and AI: Texas Culture in 2025, and Beyond

In support of the Texas Lyceum's robust 2025 conference schedule, the 2025 Texas Lyceum Poll, a mixed-mode survey of Texas adults, in addition to checking in on Texans' views of the economy and state leadership, takes a deep dive into a number of important issues facing the state, including civility in politics; Texas culture; the future of policing; media consumption; artificial intelligence; and the role of immigration in Texas.

Texans' economic evaluations have improved slightly after years of negative assessments that have gone unabated since the start of the coronavirus pandemic. A change in the partisanship of the White House combined with the state's Republican orientation have resulted in a significant improvement in evaluations compared to 2024, though negative economic sentiments still dominate.

Despite the deep polarization in the country and the seeming intractability of political conflicts, most Texans say that they don't believe conflict is inherent to politics, and that in fact, people can have differences and still behave in civil ways. Large majorities of Texans also expressed a preference for political leaders who find common ground on key issues as opposed to those who solely fight for what they believe in. Unsurprisingly then, asked who is most responsible for divisions among Americans, the plurality of Texans point their collective finger at elected officials.

Texans remain deeply committed to their state and to their Texas identities, with the vast majority saying that they consider themselves to be Texan, express pride in the state's history, and see Texas as the best place to live in America. At the same time, while quintessentially "Texan" attitudes, like an embrace of religion, the death penalty, and football remain fundamentally intact, each receives less intense support than measured in Lyceum polling conducted in prior decades.

While artificial intelligence continues to grow in its prominence in business and culture, the technology itself has yet to be widely adopted by Texans. While views of AI are generally positive among Texas adults, it's clear from the polling results that Texans with college degrees and those earning higher incomes hold more positive views about AI, are more knowledgeable, and use it more regularly in their daily lives than those without college degrees and those with lower annual incomes.

Immigration and border security remain major issues in Texas due to the twin factors of continuous attention among the state's Republican identifiers along with the state's 1,200 mile border with Mexico. The poll finds continued, though decreasing concern about border crossings along with an acknowledgment among most Texans that undocumented immigrants primarily fill jobs that Texans don't want. At the same time, the poll also finds significant differences in the perceptions of the economic impact of migration, with most Texans seeing a positive impact from legal immigration, but a negative impact from undocumented immigration. The Lyceum poll therefore finds an increase in the share of Texans who believe Donald Trump will deport millions of undocumented immigrants since the question was last asked in 2017; increased support for these efforts; but largely ambivalent feelings about whether or not mass deportations will improve the lives of Texans.

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Civility and Institutional Trust in Texas

The 2025 Texas Lyceum Poll uncovered the depth of distrust that Texans place in many institutions that make up pillars of American society. Asked to rate their confidence in 9 institutions, no more than 34% of Texans expressed "a great deal of confidence" in any of the 9, with only the military seeing a majority of Texans expressing either "a great deal" (34%) or "quite a lot" (31%) of confidence. Thirty-nine percent expressed "very little confidence" in the presidency and the congress, respectively, while 38% expressed "very little confidence" in the news media, along with 34% saying the same about the criminal justice system. Texans' lack of confidence in the public school system and large technology companies was surprising, and similarly tepid, with only 12% and 10% expressing "a great deal of confidence" in public schools and large technology companies, but 40% and 41% expressing only "some" confidence, and 25% expressing "very little confidence" in each.

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: Thinking about divisions among Americans, which of the following do you hold most responsible for those divisions...

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
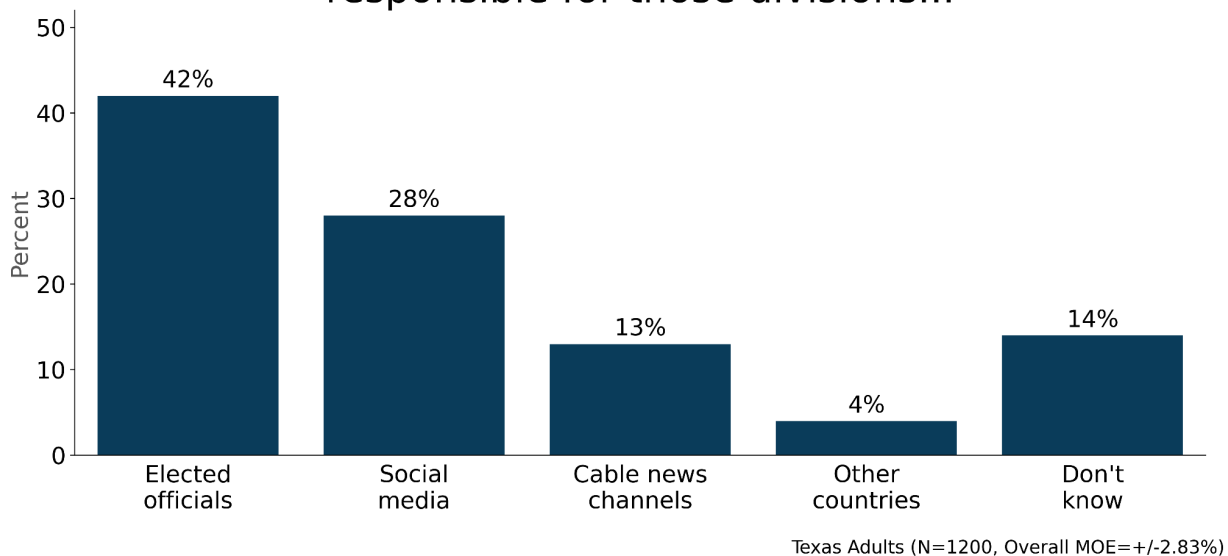
Asked to consider the divisions in American society, the plurality of Texans, 42%, said that elected officials bear the most responsibility for these divisions, followed by social media (28%), cable news channels (13%), and foreign countries (4%). While Republicans were divided between blaming elected officials (33%) and social media (32%), Democrats were nearly three times more likely to blame elected officials (60%) compared to social media (21%).

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: Do you believe it is possible for people to disagree about politics respectfully, or are nasty exchanges unavoidable?

Bar chart (Percent):
- It is possible for people to disagree about politics respectfully: 69%
- Nasty exchanges are unavoidable: 20%
- Don't know: 11%
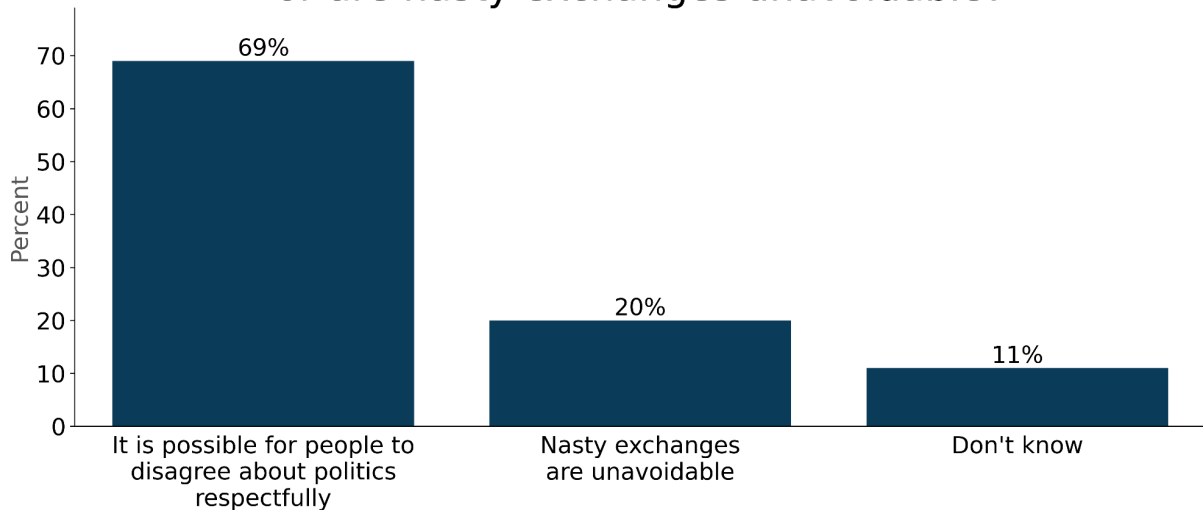
Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)

Despite the low levels of trust that Texans express in American institutions, and the blame that many Texans lay at the feet of elected officials, the vast majority, 69%, say they believe "it is possible for people to disagree about politics respectfully"compared to only 20% who say they believe "nasty exchanges are unavoidable." And despite the zero-sum terms of much of today's partisan politics, most Texans, 68%, say they would prefer that "political leaders compromise with others and find middle ground on key issues" compared to leaders who "stand their ground and fight hard to put in place the ideas they believe in" (32%). Democrats are only slightly more likely to prefer compromising leaders over Republicans (73% to 64%); while Republicans are more likely than Democrats to believe it is possible for people to disagree about politics respectfully (75% to 65%).

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll:
Would you rather political leaders who...

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
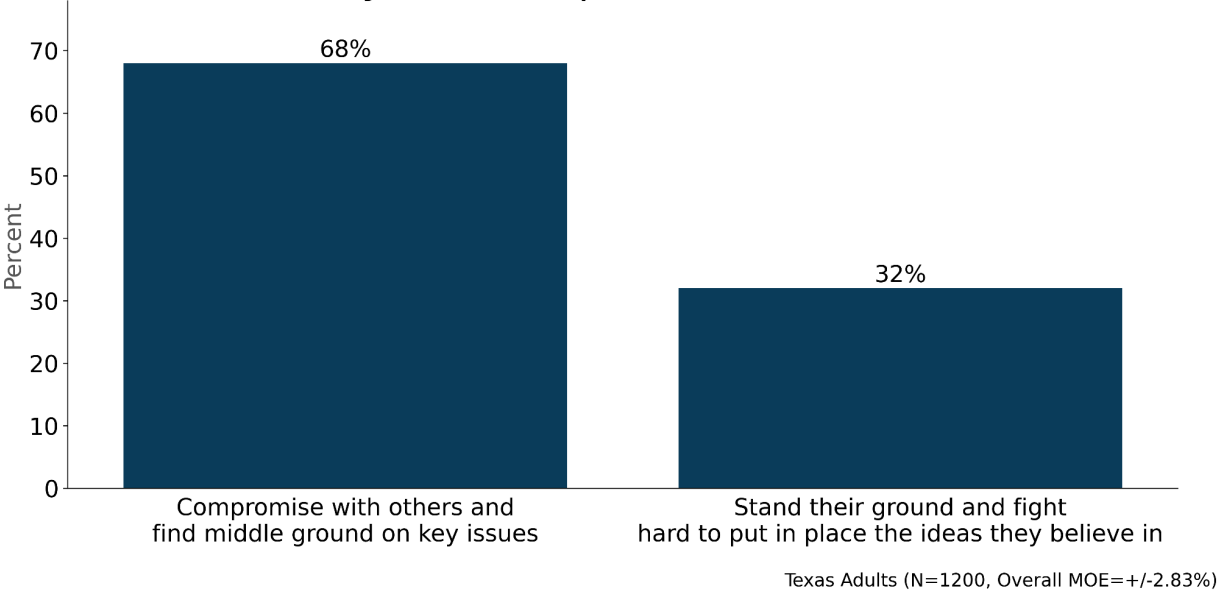
Texas Culture in 2025

Texas culture remains strong in the first quarter of the twenty-first century. Four out of every five Texas adults, 81%, consider themselves to be Texan while three-quarters are proud of Texas's history. The high rates of Texas identity held consistently across racial and ethnic groups, age categories, genders, and socioeconomic status. However, Republicans and conservatives (93% and 92%) were significantly more likely than Democrats and liberals (72% and 70%) to consider themselves to be Texans.

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Legend:
- America would be better if more states were like Texas
- Despite its problems, Texas is the best place to live in America
- I am proud of Texas's history
- I consider myself to be a Texan

	America would be better if more states were like Texas	Despite its problems, Texas is the best place to live in America	I am proud of Texas's history	I consider myself to be a Texan
Strongly agree	32%	39%	43%	54%
Somewhat agree	33%	33%	32%	27%
Somewhat disagree	18%	17%	16%	10%
Strongly disagree	16%	12%	9%	9%

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)

Pride in Texas history varied somewhat more than identity, with younger people less likely to express pride in Texas' history than those in older cohorts: 63% of those under 30; 74% of those 30 to 44; 78% of those 45-64; and 88% of those over the age of 65. Here too, Texas Republicans were more likely to express pride in the state's history than were Texas Democrats (92% versus 58%).

Despite these differences, majorities, and in many cases large majorities, of Texas adults consider themselves to be Texans while expressing pride in the state's history. Asked to evaluate Texas compared to other U.S. states, 72% of Texans agreed that "despite its problems, Texas is the best place to live in America," while 65% agreed that "America would be better if more states were like Texas," with 34% disagreeing. Given Republican dominance of state government for more than two decades, it's unsurprising to find 90% of Republicans agreeing with each statement, respectively. And while a majority of Democrats, 62%, disagree with the notion that America would be better if more states were like Texas,

a majority, 53%, nonetheless agree that "despite its problems, Texas is the best place to live in America," with 47% disagreeing.

To examine some more popular conceptions of "*Texas culture*," the 2025 Texas Lyceum Poll repeated items asked in prior decades about the public display of religion, the death penalty, and football. Overall, the poll found that while Texans remain, very much, *Texan*, each item saw a decline in support, or a decline in the intensity of support, over the intervening years.

Football remains the national sport of Texas, with nearly two-thirds of Texans, 64%, saying that they would encourage children to play youth or high school football, down only slightly from the 72% who said the same 10 years ago in 2015. The share of Texans that would discourage youth to play football also declined, from 21% to 17% (a greater share are unsure today than they were in 2015: 19% versus 6%).

Nearly three quarters of Texans, 74%, said that they support the death penalty in the 2025 Texas Lyceum Poll — slightly higher than the 70% who said the same in 2007 Lyceum polling. However, in 2007 Lyceum polling, 49% of Texans said that they "strongly supported" the death penalty for those convicted of violent crimes, while today, the share strongly supporting the death penalty is 37%, a 12-point decline.

Asked in 2007 whether they supported or opposed "religious displays, such as the Ten Commandments, on the grounds of government offices," 82% of Texans expressed support, with 60% strongly supporting the public display of religion. In 2025 Texas Lyceum polling, 69% expressed support (a 13 point decline); while 41% said they strongly supported religious displays on government grounds (a 19 point decline).

Texans and Artificial Intelligence (AI)

As artificial intelligence continues to infuse itself throughout business and culture in highly visible, largely opaque, and often unimaginable ways, Texans expressed a range of opinions about their attitudes, understanding, and adoption of AI technologies, with artificial intelligence still representing more promise than reality for most Texans.

Only 10% of Texans say that they have "a great deal of confidence" in the large technology companies primarily responsible for the most noticeable AI advances, with about a quarter (24%) expressing "quite a lot of confidence," and the remaining 66% expressing only "some" (41%) or "very little" (25%) confidence.

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: How much confidence you have in large technology companies?

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
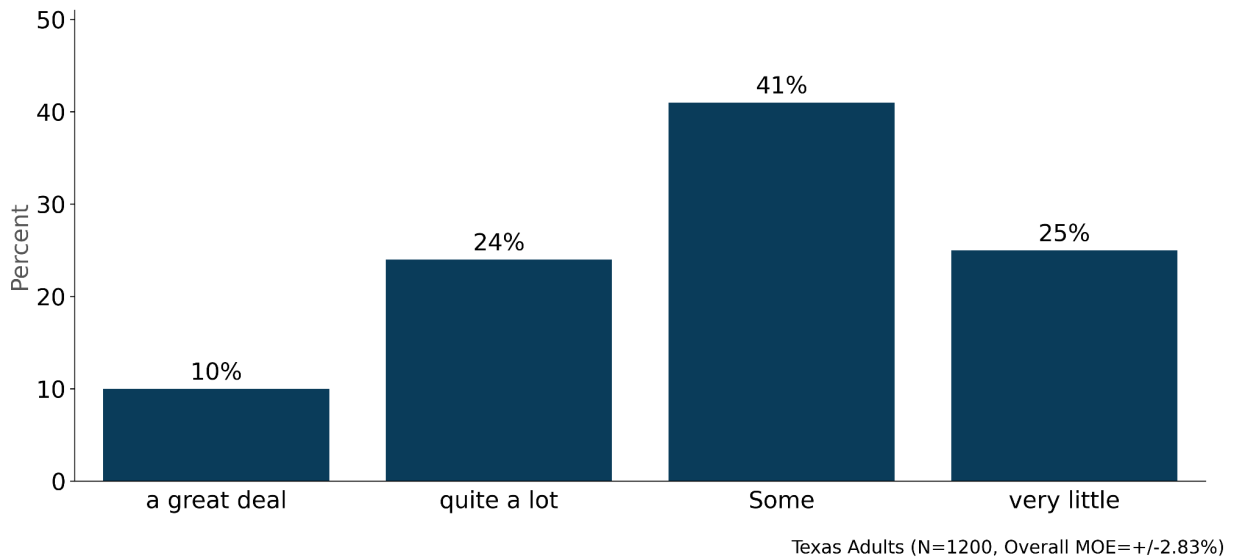
Texans' views of artificial intelligence lean slightly positive, with 39% holding a positive view, but almost as many holding a neutral view (31%) or negative view (30%). Equal shares, 13%, held "very" positive and "very" negative views, respectively. Those with annual, family incomes above $75,000 held more positive views than did those with incomes less than $75,000 (50% positive compared to 36% positive); while those with college degrees also expressed more positive views of AI than those without a college degree (48% positive compared to 35% positive).

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: In general, how positive or negative are your feelings towards artificial intelligence?

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
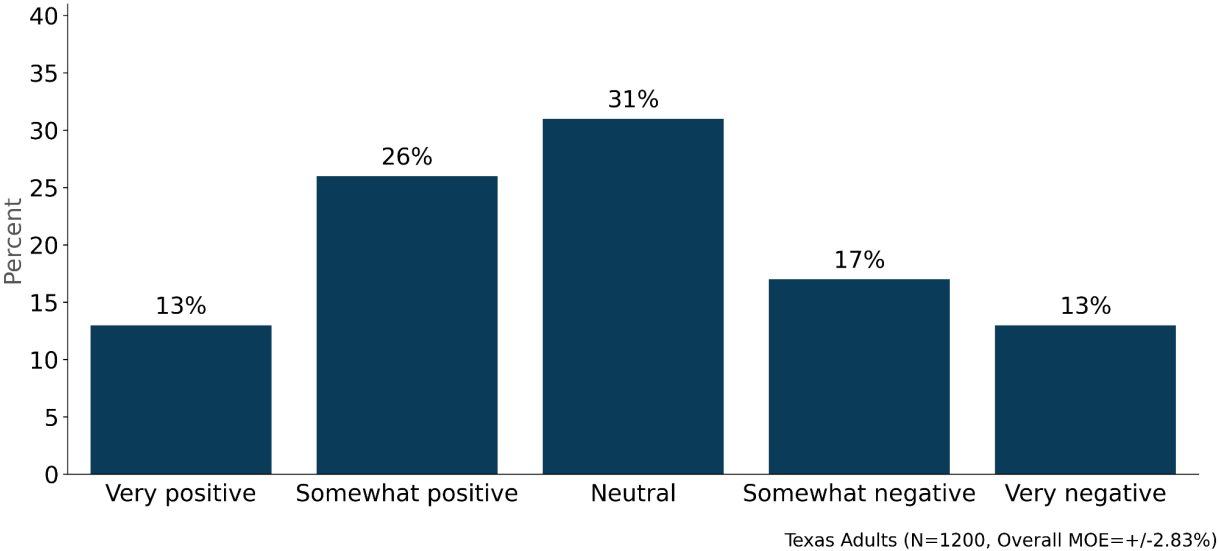
In general, AI adoption may be less further along than many might believe based on popular attention. Overall, only one in five Texas adults (21%) say that they use generative AI either "extremely" or "very" often, while fully 60% of Texans say that they use the technology sparingly, either "not very often" (19%), "rarely" (16%), or "never" (25%). Use is somewhat higher among younger cohorts and those with a college degree, but without overwhelming differences when compared to older, less educated cohorts.

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll:
How would you rate your understanding of AI?

Bar chart titled "2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: How would you rate your understanding of AI?" with y-axis labeled "Percent" (0 to 50):
- Very knowledgeable: 12%
- Somewhat knowledgeable: 44%
- Neither knowledge nor unknowledgeable: 29%
- Somewhat unknowledgeable: 10%
- Very unknowledgeable: 5%

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
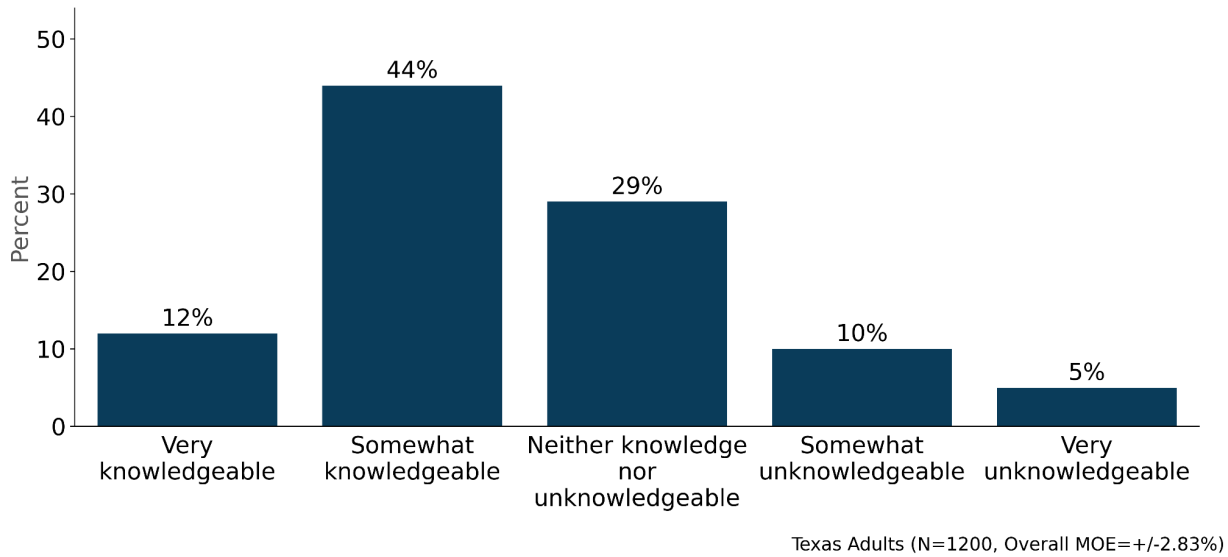
At the same time, more than half of Texas adults say that they are either "somewhat" (44%) or "very knowledgeable" (12%) in their understanding of AI. And while there are minor differences in stated understanding levels by education and income, the larger differences are most apparent when looking at age groups, with the youngest two cohorts in particular (under 30, and 30 to 44) expressing much more knowledge about AI than do the older cohorts.

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: How often, if at all, do you use generative AI (like Chat GPT)?

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
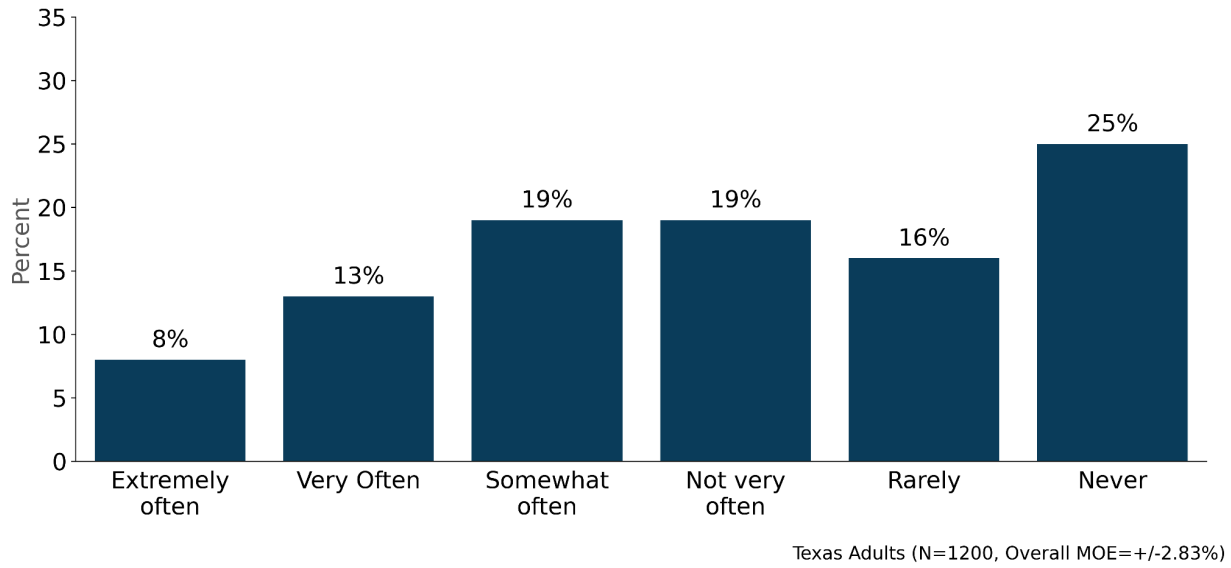
Immigration, the economy, and Texas

In the 2025 Texas Lyceum Poll, Texans expressed less concern about illegal immigration than they did 8 years ago in 2017 Lyceum Polling. In the 2017 poll, at the beginning of Donald Trump's first term in office, 37% of Texans said that they were "extremely" concerned about illegal immigration, with another 35% "somewhat concerned." In the 2025 poll, 29% of Texans said that they are "extremely concerned" with another 37% "somewhat concerned." This decline in concern may reflect the decrease in illegal border crossings that began at the end of Joe Biden's first term, continuing into Donald Trump's second; a response to 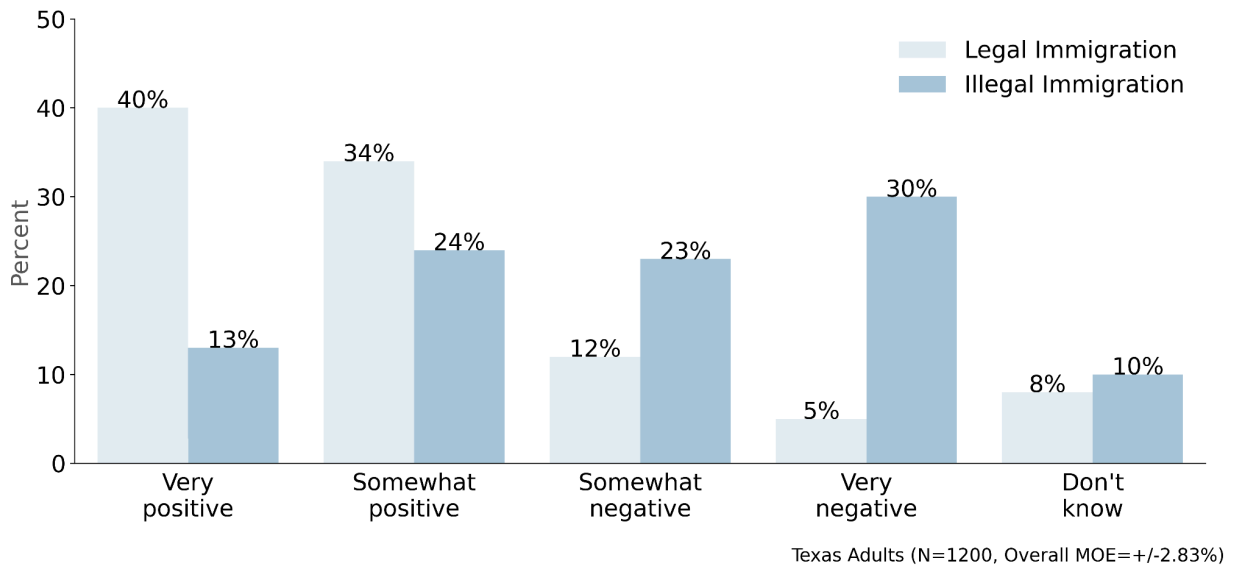a change in the occupant of the White House and the relative attention Trump pays to the issue relative to the attention paid by Biden; and more likely, some combination of the two. At the same time, other attitudes toward immigrants and immigration remain relatively static.

For example, considering immigration more broadly, equal shares of Texans, 32%, expressed the opinion that immigration **helps** the U.S. more than it hurts it *and* that immigration **hurts** the U.S. more than it helps. These results are broadly in line with 2022 Lyceum Polling (when 29% said immigration "hurts" more and 33% said immigration "helps more than it hurts"), but remain significantly different from when the question was first asked in 2016 and 2017 when more than half of Texans said that immigration helps more than it hurts (54% in 2016; 62% in 2017). Much of the movement evident in the polling has resulted from fewer Texans saying immigration helps more than it hurts, and more saying "a little of both."

The polling also makes clear some of the differences in Texans attitudes about the impact of **legal** versus **illegal** immigration on the Texas economy. Overall, 74% of Texans said that immigrants living in the country legally either have a "very positive" (40%) or "somewhat positive" (34%) impact on the Texas economy; whereas half as many Texans, only 37%, expressed positive views about the economic impact of immigrants living in the country illegally. Attitudes about the negative economic impact of immigrants were similarly lopsided, with only 17% of Texans saying that legal immigrants negatively impact the Texas economy, compared to a majority, 53%, who said the same about undocumented immigrants.

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll:
Impact of Immigration on the Texas Economy

Legal Immigration
Illegal Immigration

	Very positive	Somewhat positive	Somewhat negative	Very negative	Don't know
Legal Immigration	40%	34%	12%	5%	8%
Illegal Immigration	13%	24%	23%	30%	10%

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)

At the same time, most Texans, 63%, believe that undocumented immigrants "mostly fill jobs that American citizens don't want," with only 37% saying that undocumented immigrants fill jobs that American citizens would like to have. Variance in the responses to this question was, unsurprisingly, most visible among partisans, with largely trivial differences between Texans with different education levels, incomes, and even races/ethnicities. Among Democrats, 80% said that undocumented immigrants fill jobs that Americans don't want, while among Republicans, views were split, with a majority, 54%, saying that these are jobs that Americans would like to have, while 46% said that these are jobs Americans don't want.

While the extent of Texans' concerns about immigration have declined compared to results found in prior Lyceum polling, support for President Trump's mass deportation efforts have increased. In 2017 Lyceum polling, 50% of Texans said that they believed that Donald Trump would actually deport millions of undocumented immigrants living in the U.S., with 31% offering that they would like to see him accomplish this. In 2025 polling, 68% of Texans expect him to follow through with his promises of mass deportations, including 44% who say that they would like to see him accomplish this goal (35% don't want him to be successful in deporting millions of undocumented immigrants, 21% aren't sure).

While there are multiple factors contributing to this change, the most obvious contributor is the increasing expectations of Republican voters. Democratic attitudes have remained largely static over since Trump's first term, but the share of Republicans who believe that Donald Trump will deport millions of undocumented immigrants has increased by 32

points since 2017, from 47% to 79%; while the share who want to see him follow through on this promise has increased by 12 points, from 59% to 71%.

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: Do you want Donald Trump to deport millions of undocumented immigrants?

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
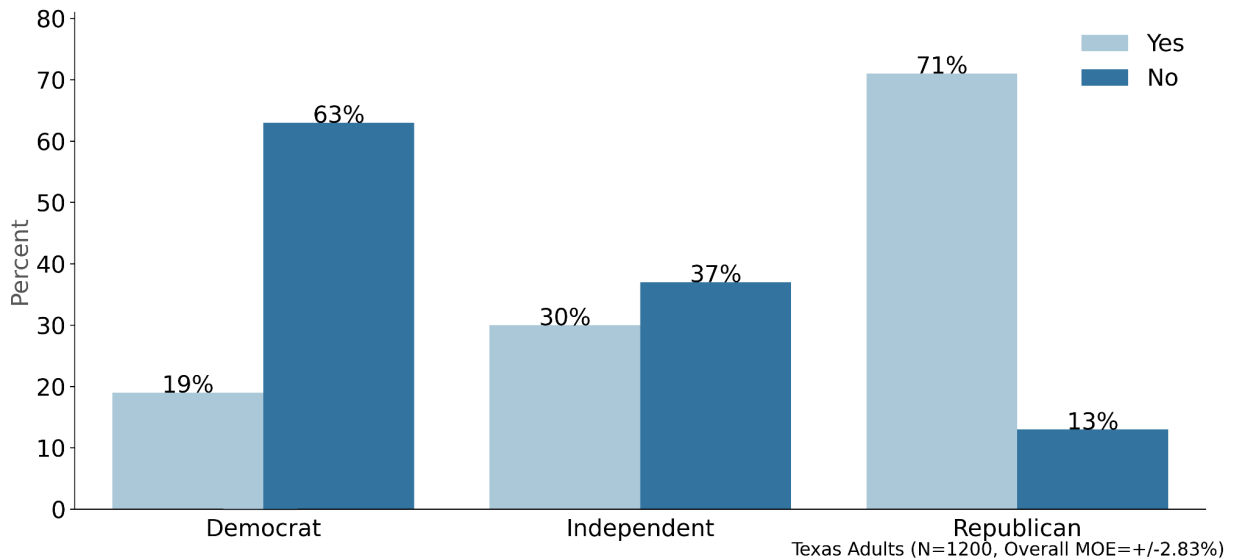
Asked whether efforts to decrease the number of migrants in the U.S. will generally make life better, worse, or have no impact, nearly equal shares of Texans said decreased immigration would make life better (33%) or said it would make no difference (30%), with nearly a quarter (24%) saying it would make life worse (12% didn't have a response). Again, the differences among Texans were most visible when looking at those results by partisanship, with 55% of Republicans saying that decreasing the number of immigrants in the U.S. will improve the lives of people like them, compared to only 15% of Democrats. White Texans (40%) were more likely than Hispanic (28%) or Black Texans (28%) to say that reductions in the immigrant population would improve their lives.

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: Share of Texans saying decreasing the number of immigrants in the U.S. will make life better for them

Percent

Republican	55%	
Conservative	53%	
45 to 64	40%	
White	40%	
>$75K	40%	
Rural	37%	
Children at Home	36%	
Home owner	36%	
Male	36%	
30 to 44	34%	
College Degree	34%	
Suburban	33%	
Overall	33%	

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
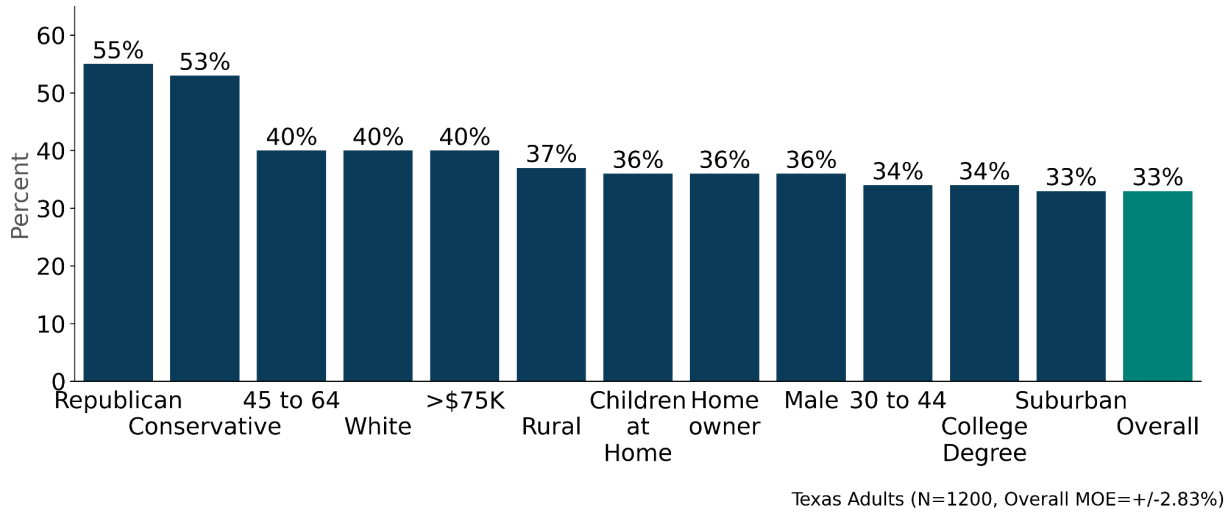
The Mood of Texas

After years of overwhelming pessimism, the most recent Texas Lyceum poll finds Texans ambivalent about the direction of the country, with a slight majority saying the country is on the wrong track, but a near equal share, 49%, saying things are headed in the right direction. This result represents a remarkable turnaround, given 63% of Texas adults who said that the country was on the wrong track in 2024, a result itself largely unchanged from polling conducted since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic. The share saying the country is headed in the right direction increased 24 points since last year, from 25% to 49%.

The results of the 2024 elections and a change in the partisanship of the White House likely produced the substantial shift in partisan sentiments evident in numerous trend items on the 2025 Lyceum poll. In 2024 polling, 39% of Texas Democrats said that the country was headed in the right direction compared to 48% who said the country was on the wrong track (itself a notable decline compared to 2023), but in 2025, only 22% of Democrats were willing to say the country is headed in the right direction, while 78% say the country is on the wrong track. Similarly, while 79% of Texas Republicans said that the country was on the wrong track in 2024, in 2025, 79% say the country is headed in the right direction.

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: Thinking about the country, do you think things are moving in the right direction or are we off on the wrong track?

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
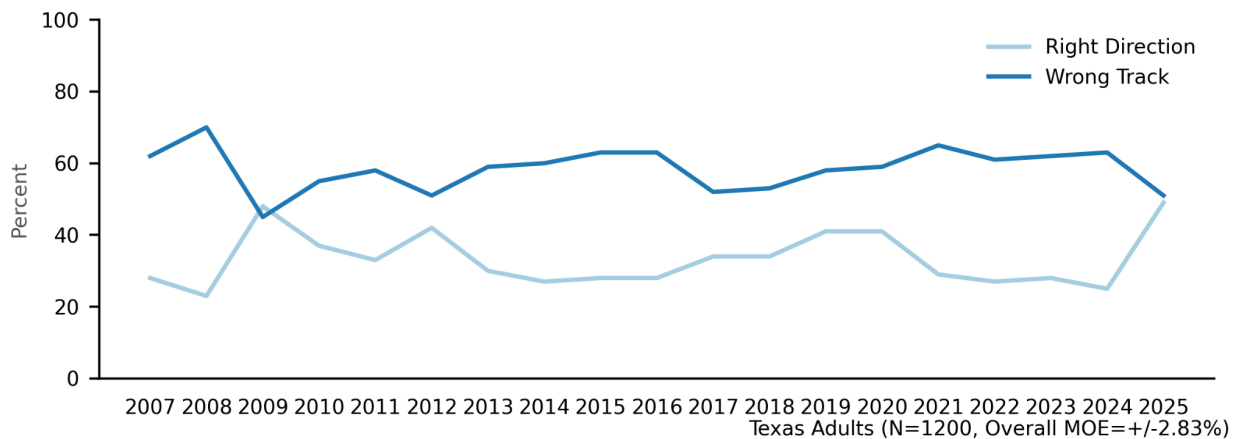
Asked to name the most important problem facing the country in an open-ended question, the economy (19%) and inflation/rising prices (18%) topped the list for the plurality of Texans for the second year (increasing by 10 points over 2024). The Trump presidency and immigration, respectively, were the top concerns of 8% of Texans each.

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll:
Most Important Problem Facing the Country (Top-6 Mentions)

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
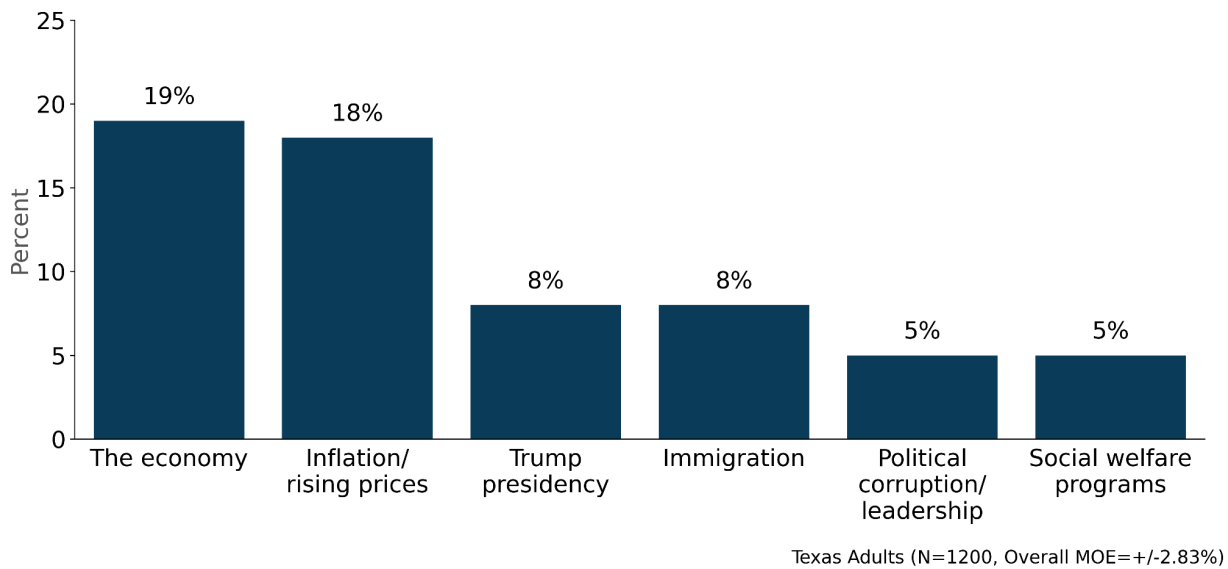
Concerns about inflation (13%) and the economy (9%) were also prominent in Texans' concerns about issues facing the state, but as in previous Lyceum polling, border security (12%) and immigration (14%) combined to top the list of issues that Texans say are most important, with the economy and rising prices a close second. As has been the case for most of the Lyceum time series, the poll finds immigration and border concerns driven largely by the views of Texas Republicans, among whom 42% said that either immigration (21%) or border security (21%) is the state's top issue — by contrast, only 15% of Democrats register similar concerns.

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll:
Most Important Problem Facing Texas (Top-6 Mentions)

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
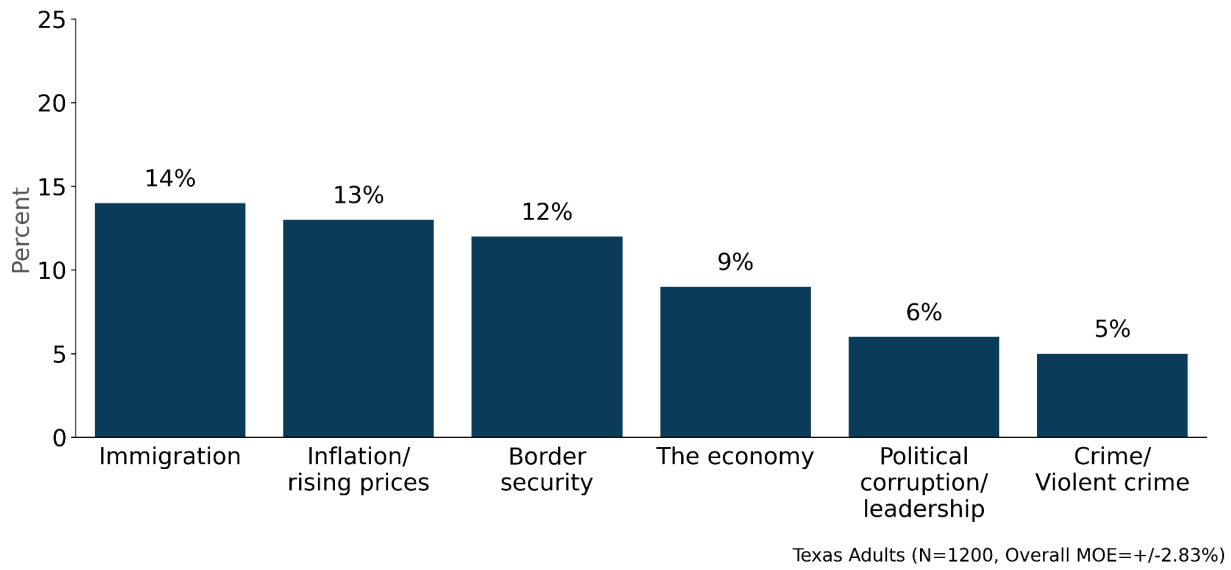
Economic Evaluations

Texans' negative evaluations of the national economy continued for a fifth consecutive year, but with notable improvement over the 2024 results. Overall, 30% of Texans said that the national economy is performing better this year compared to last (a 10 point increase over 2024), while 47% say the national economy is worse compared to last year, a significant decline from the 60% who said the same in 2024 — though still a plurality.

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: National Economic Conditions Compared to One Year Ago

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
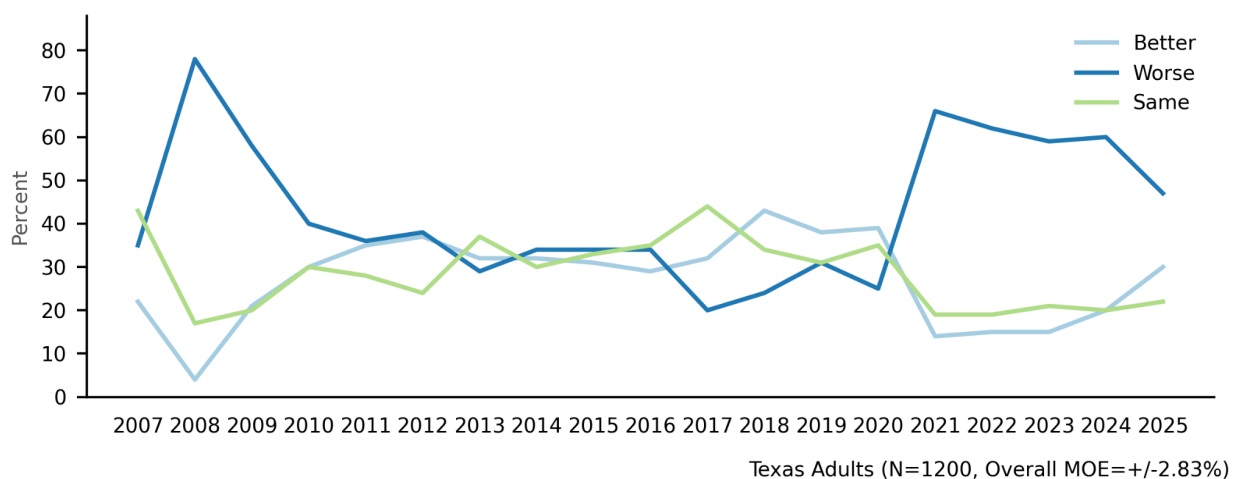
Like in other evaluations, a change in the occupant of the White House has shifted partisans' views of the national economic landscape — almost overnight. While 2024 results found 75% of Texas Republicans rating the national economy negatively, 2025 results found a majority of Republicans, 55%, saying that the national economy is performing better compared to last year. And while 40% of Democrats rated the economy better in 2024 compared to 2023, only 10% are willing to do so in 2025, with 75% saying that the economy is worse compared to last year.

Views of the Texas economy remain more mixed. The share of Texans saying that Texas' economy is performing better compared to the rest of the country's economy continues to improve slightly, increasing from 21% in 2023 to 26% in 2024, and again to 30% in 2025. And while the 2024 poll registered the greatest share of Texans saying that the Texas economy is performing worse than the rest of the country's since the question was first asked in 2009 (42%), a plurality, 35%, continue to say that the Texas economy is worse, while an equal share, 35%, rate it the same as the rest of the country's.

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: Texas' Economy Compared to the Rest of the Country

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
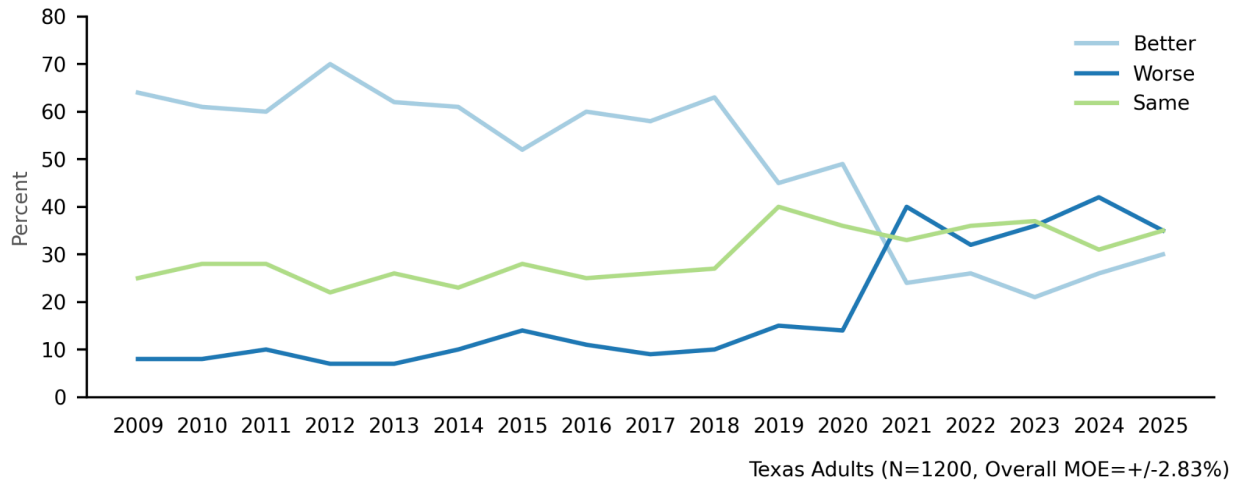
The negative economic perceptions of Republicans in Texas, informed to some extent by national political considerations, had, for a number of years, extended to state level evaluations, but in the 2025 Texas Lyceum poll, a slim majority of Republicans (50%) said that the state economy was performing better than the national economy. This represents a major turnaround from prior polling including last years', when slightly more Republicans (43%) than Democrats (39%) said that Texas' economy was doing worse than the rest of the country's.

Reflecting these still negative, broader economic evaluations, a plurality of Texans, 41%, say that their family's economic situation is worse compared to last year, with 36% saying that their situation remains unchanged, and only 23% saying that they are doing better financially compared to 2024 (a meager 3-point increase over last year's results). This result continues a trend of negative evaluations since 2021, though with mild abatement in the most recent survey.

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: Personal Economic Conditions Compared to One Year Ago

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
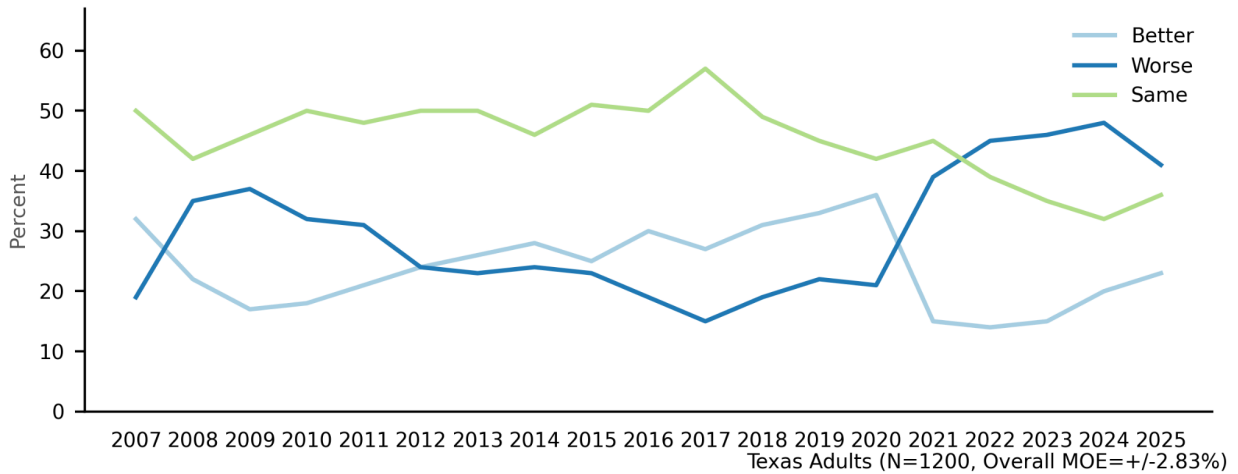
The most recent survey offers something of a mild rebound when it comes to Texans' expectations about their children's futures. A plurality of Texas voters, 38%, believe their children will be worse off than they are economically (statistically unchanged from last year when 37% said the same). At the same time, 37% of Texans said they expect their children to be better off than they are, a 12 point increase over 2024, along with 24% who expect their children to do the same as them economically (up 5 points from 2024).

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: Do you think your children will be better off than you are, worse off, or about the same economically?

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
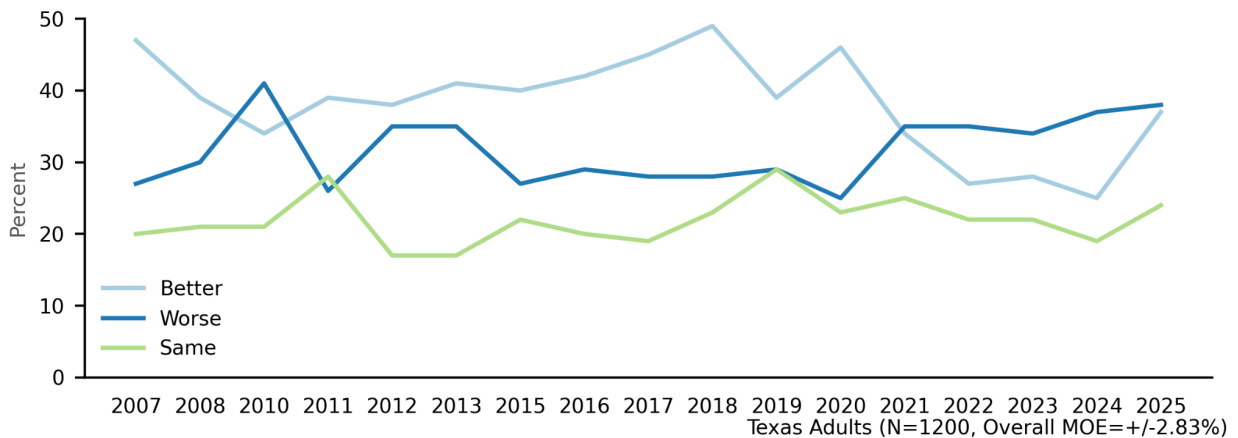
Political Evaluations of Texas Statewide Leaders

Overall, a majority of Texas adults, 54%, approve of the job Donald Trump is doing, with 46% saying that he is doing a "somewhat" (16%) or a "very poor job" (30%). In the last measurement of Donald Trump's first term in Texas Lyceum polling, only 41% approved of the job he was doing, with 56% disapproving, a net approval swing of 23 points.

Ninety percent of Republicans approve of the job that Trump is doing, including 52% who say that he doing a "very good job.". Among Democrats, 84% expressed disapproval of Trump's job performance, including 65% who say he is doing a "very poor job."

2025 Texas Lyceum Poll: How do you think Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
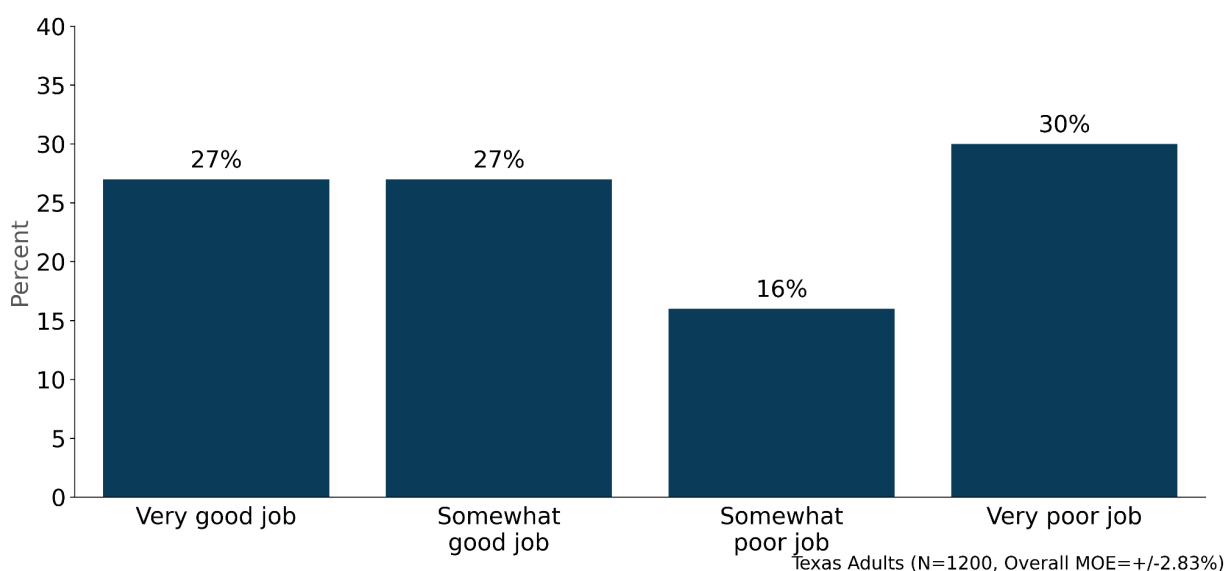
Asked more specifically about the job Donald Trump is doing with respect to immigration and border security, 58% of Texans approve so far, with 42% disapproving. Republicans are overwhelmingly favorable to Donald Trump's actions at the border so far, with 92% approving, compared to 78% of Democrats who express disapproval.

Asked to evaluate the job Greg Abbott is doing as Texas governor, 55% approved while 46% disapproved — another improvement over his 2024, 2023, and 2022 evaluations. Strong disapproval and strong approval were on par with each other, 28% to 25%. Eighty percent of Democrats expressed disapproval (10 points higher than last year), with 59% expressing strong disapproval (up 6 points from last year), while 86% of Republicans approve of Abbott's job performance (a 6 point increase from last year), with 49% approving strongly. Independent adults, who identify with neither the Democratic nor Republican parties, expressed more disapproval than approval, 55% to 45%.

Texas Lyceum Polling: Greg Abbott Job Approval

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
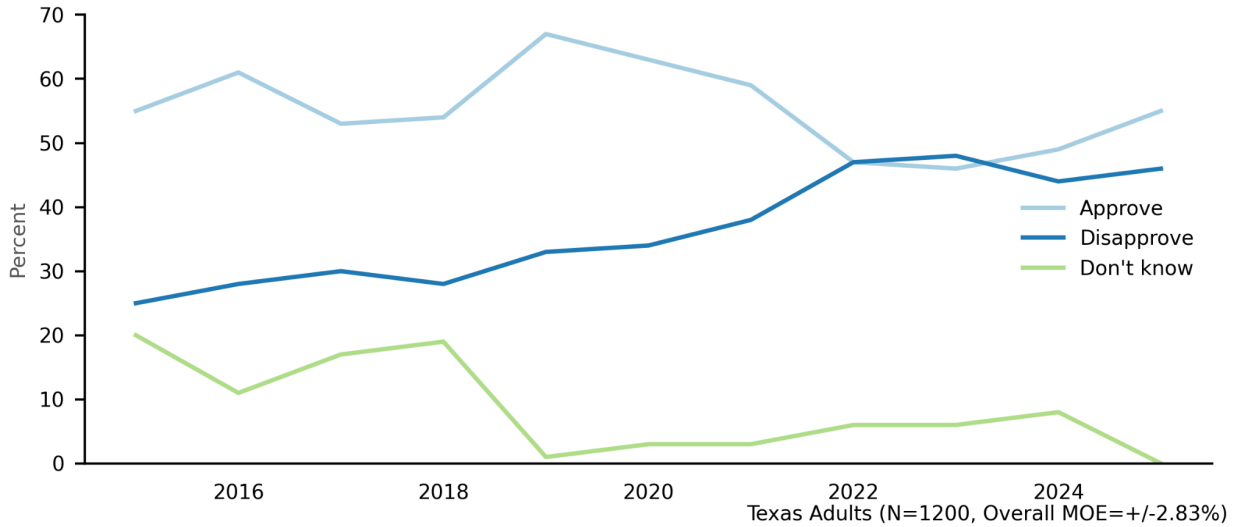
Asked to rate the job Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick is doing, 42% of Texas adults expressed approval while 36% registered disapproval, with the remainder unable to offer an opinion — largely unchanged from evaluations recorded in the last two Texas Lyceum surveys.

Texas Lyceum Polling: Dan Patrick Job Approval

Texas Adults (N=1200, Overall MOE=+/-2.83%)
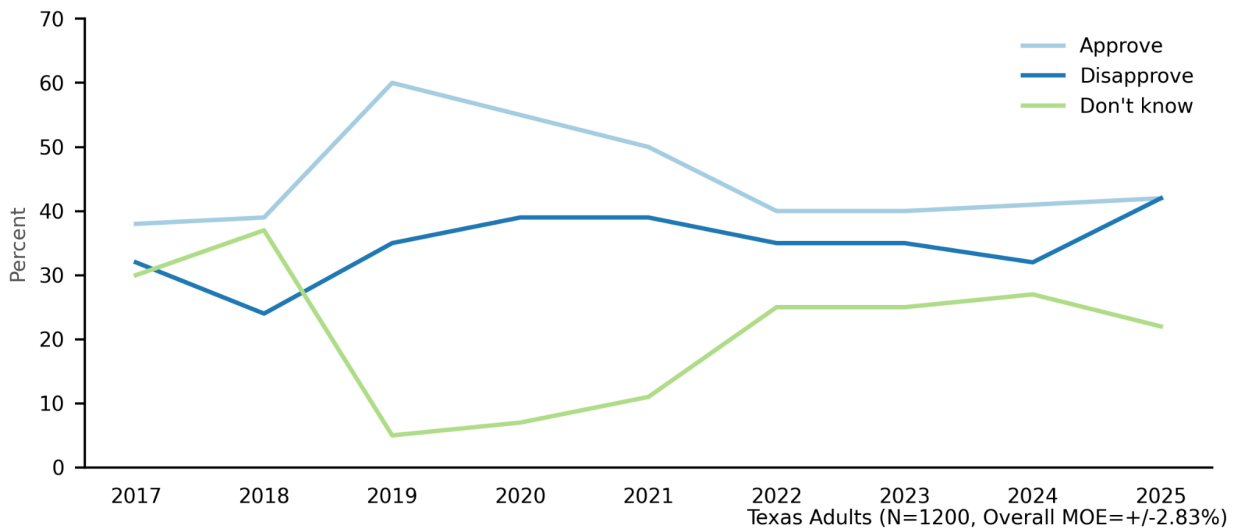
Attorney General Ken Paxton received 42% approval and 36% disapproval of the job he's doing as Attorney General among Texas adults. Among Democrats, 61% disapproved (up 6 points from last year), while among Republicans, 66% approved (up 7 points from last year).

As the legislature meets in Austin for its biennial legislative session, 46% of Texans say that they approve of the job the legislature is doing while 40% say that they disapprove with the remainderer expressing no opinion.

Methodology

From March 28 April 4, 2025, The Texas Lyceum conducted a 1000-person telephone survey of adult citizens from the state of Texas. The survey utilized a stratified probability sample design, with respondents being randomly selected at the level of the household and questioned by live interviewers. The survey also employed a randomized cell phone supplement, with 60 percent of completed telephone interviews being conducted among cell phone only or cell phone dominant households. A Spanish-language instrument was developed, and bilingual interviewers offered respondents a chance to participate in English or Spanish. On average, respondents completed the interview in 12 minutes. To ensure an appropriate sub-sample of unregistered citizens, a supplement of 200 interviews among Texas adults confirmed as unregistered was completed online. This yields a total statewide sample of 1,200 adults, 828 of whom are registered voters according to self-reports. The final data set is weighted to the joint distribution of race/ethnicity, age and gender to achieve representativeness as defined by the Texas Demographic Center 2023 population projections. The overall margin of error for the poll is +/- 2.83 percentage points, with a larger margin of error for sub-samples.

About The Texas Lyceum

The Texas Lyceum has committed to annual probability samples of the state of Texas to bolster its understanding of public opinion on crucial policy issues. The professional rationale for the Texas Lyceum Poll is straightforward: a non-partisan, high quality, scientific survey designed to provide (1) specific data points on issues of interest, and (2) a time series of key demographics, attitudes, and opinions. Towards this end, the trademark of the Texas Lyceum Poll is transparency. Top-line and detailed cross-tabular results of each poll will be made available on the Texas Lyceum website at www.texaslyceum.org.

The Texas Lyceum, now 40 years strong, is a non-profit, non-partisan statewide leadership organization focused on identifying the next generation of Texas leaders. The Texas Lyceum consists of 96 men and women from throughout the state. Directors begin their service while under the age of 46 and have demonstrated leadership in their community and profession, together with a deep commitment to Texas.

The Texas Lyceum acts as a catalyst to bring together diverse opinions and expertise to focus on national and state issues, and seeks to emphasize constructive private sector, public sector, and individual responses to the issues. To accomplish these purposes, the Lyceum conducts periodic public forums, commissions The Texas Lyceum Poll, and convenes programs for the Directors to explore and discuss key economic and social issues of the state and nation.

TEXAS LYCEUM POLL
2025 Texas Statewide Survey

N=1,200 ADULTS
MOE=+/-2.83 PERCENTAGE POINTS (UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)
CELL PHONE SUPPLEMENT (600 respondents)
ONLINE SUPPLEMENT (200 respondents)
BILINGUAL INSTRUMENT/INTERVIEWERS
March 28 to April 4, 2025

Hello. We're conducting a survey on behalf of the Texas Lyceum, a nonprofit, non-partisan organization focused on public policy issues affecting Texas and the United States.

May I please speak with the person in your home who is 18 or older and who will be having the next birthday?

IF ASK WHY BIRTHDAY SELECTION: This helps us make sure we represent adults living within a household correctly.

IF NECESSARY: We're interested in your views on several current issues. We would like to include your responses to this survey, which will be kept absolutely confidential, with the responses of several hundred other Texans like you. The survey should take about 12 minutes to complete, depending on your answers.

SECTION I: GENERAL MOOD

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

1.	Yes, registered	69%
2.	No, not registered	31

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	32%
2.	Somewhat interested	43
3.	Not very interested	17
4.	Not at all interested	8
5.	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA	0

Q3. 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   49%
2. Off on the wrong track   51
3. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA   0

	Right Direction	*Wrong Track*	*Don't know/Refuse*
2024	*25*	*63*	*12*
2023	*28*	*62*	*11*
2022	*27*	*61*	*13*
2021	29	65	6
2020	*41*	*59*	*0*
2019	*41*	*58*	*2*
2018	*34*	*53*	*14*
2017	*34*	*52*	*14*
2016	*28*	*63*	*9*
2015	*28*	*63*	*9*
2014	*27*	*60*	*13*
2013	*30*	*59*	*11*
2012	*42*	*51*	*7*
2011	*33*	*58*	*8*
2010	*37*	*55*	*8*
2009	*48*	*45*	*7*
2008	*23*	*70*	*7*
2007	*28*	*62*	*10*

Q4. What do you think is the most important issue facing the country today? **[OPEN-ENDED, please use pre-codes as applicable]**

1.	The economy	19%
2.	Inflation/rising prices	18
3.	Trump/the prospect of another Trump presidency	8
4.	Immigration	8
5.	Political corruption/leadership	5
6.	Social welfare programs	5
7.	National debt	3
8.	Border security	3
9.	Health care	3
10.	Russia/Russia-Ukraine war/threat from Russia	2
11.	Polarization/Gridlock/Partisanship	2
12.	Race relations/racial issues/ethnicity	2
13.	Tariffs	2
14.	National security/terrorism	2
15.	Unemployment/jobs	2
16.	Crime/violent crime	2
17.	Civil Rights/freedom/government control	2
18.	Unity/Division of country	2
19.	The news media	1
20.	Abortion	1
21.	Israel-Hamas conflict	1
22.	Moral decline	1
23.	Gun violence/Gun control	1
24.	Environment/Climate change	1
25.	Education/schooling/public schools	1
26.	Drug addiction/Opioids	1
27.	Deportations	1
28.	DOGE / Elon Musk	1
29.	Voting rights/threat to democracy/Jan. 6	1

Q5.   What do you think is the most important issue facing the state of Texas today? **[OPEN-ENDED, please use pre-codes as applicable]**

1.	Immigration	14%
2.	Inflation/rising prices	13
3.	Border security	12
4.	The economy	9
5.	Political corruption/leadership	6
6.	Crime/Violent crime	5
7.	Governor Abbott	4
8.	Taxes	4
9.	Abortion	4
10.	Education/Public schools	4
11.	Civil / Racial rights	4
12.	Housing/housing costs	3
13.	Unemployment/jobs	3
14.	Gun violence/gun control	2
15.	Health care	2
16.	Social welfare programs	2
17.	Civil unrest	2
18.	Energy/Gas Prices	1
19.	Traffic	1
20.	Drug addiction/Opioids	1
21.	Deportations	1
22.	Population growth	1
23.	Energy/Electric Grid	1

Q6.   How do you think Donald Trump 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   27
3.   Somewhat poor job   16
4.   Very poor job   30
5.   DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA   0

	V. Good Job	*S. Good Job*	*S. Poor Job*	*V. Poor Job*	*DK*
Joe Biden:					
2024	14	24	21	37	4
2023	15	25	19	36	5
2022	14	29	16	38	3
Donald Trump:					
2021	19	22	14	42	2
2020	27	20	16	36	1
2019	24	24	17	34	0
2018	21	23	18	34	4
2017	19	24	18	36	4

Q7.   Would you say that you approve or disapprove of the job that Greg Abbott is doing as Texas governor? *Would that be somewhat or strongly [approve/disapprove]?*

1.   Strongly approve   25%
2.   Somewhat approve   30
3.   Somewhat disapprove   18
4.   Strongly disapprove   28
5.   DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA   0

	Strong App	*Somewhat App*	*Somewhat Dis*	*Strong Dis*	*DK*
2024	25	24	16	28	8
2023	19	27	14	34	6
2022	18	29	18	29	6
2021	18	41	21	17	3
2020	26	37	19	15	3
2019	28	39	19	14	1
2018	23	31	13	15	19
2017	27	26	12	18	17
2016	23	38	11	17	11
2015	20	35	12	13	20

Q8A.   Would you say that you approve or disapprove of the job that Dan Patrick is doing as Texas's Lieutenant Governor? *Would that be somewhat or strongly [approve/disapprove]?*

1. Strongly approve   16%
2. Somewhat approve   26
3. Somewhat disapprove   16
4. Strongly disapprove   20
5. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA   22

	Strong App	*Somewhat App*	*Somewhat Dis*	*Strong Dis*	*DK*
2024	15	26	12	20	27
2023	13	27	14	21	25
2022	13	27	15	20	25
2021	10	40	20	19	11
2020	18	37	23	16	7
2019	18	42	20	15	5
2018	13	26	9	15	37
2017	11	27	13	19	30

Q8B.   Would you say that you approve or disapprove of the job that Ken Paxton is doing as Texas's Attorney General? *Would that be somewhat or strongly [approve/disapprove]?*

1. Strongly approve   16%
2. Somewhat approve   26
3. Somewhat disapprove   14
4. Strongly disapprove   22
5. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA   23

	Strong App	*Somewhat App*	*Somewhat Dis*	*Strong Dis*	*DK*
2024	15	24	15	22	24
2023	12	28	13	21	25
2022	13	27	14	21	25
2021	11	38	20	19	13

Q8C.   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   13%
2. Somewhat approve   33
3. Somewhat disapprove   20
4. Strongly disapprove   20
5. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA   15

Q9.   Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling the issue of immigration and border security?

		2025	**2017**
1.	Approve	58%	38%
2.	Disapprove	42	58
3.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	0	4

SECTION II: PERSONAL ECONOMIC PERCEPTIONS AND EVALUATIONS

Q10.   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   30%
2. Worse off   47
3. About the same   22
4. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA   0

	Better off	*Worse off*	*About the same*	*Don't know*
2024	20	60	20	3
2023	15	59	19	3
2022	15	62	19	3
2021	14	66	19	1
2020	39	25	35	1
2019	38	31	31	0
2018	43	24	34	0
2017	32	20	44	4
2016	29	34	35	2
2015	31	34	33	2
2014	32	34	30	3
2013	32	29	37	2
2012	37	38	24	1
2011	35	36	28	1
2010	30	40	30	1
2009	21	58	20	1

Q11.   Do you think Texas's economy is better off, worse off, or about the same as the rest of the country?

1. Better off   30%
2. Worse off   35
3. About the same   35
4. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA   0

	Better off	*Worse off*	*About the same*	*Don't know*
2024	26	42	31	1
2023	21	36	37	6
2022	26	32	36	6
2021	24	40	33	2
2020	49	14	36	2
2019	45	15	40	1
2018	63	10	27	0
2017	58	9	26	7
2016	60	11	25	4
2015	52	14	28	6
2014	61	10	23	6
2013	62	7	26	4
2012	70	7	22	1
2011	60	10	28	2
2010	61	8	28	4
2009	64	8	25	3

Q12.   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   23%
2. Worse off   41
3. About the same   36
4. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA   0

	Better off	Worse off	About the same	Don't know
2024	20	48	32	0
2023	15	46	35	4
2022	14	45	38	3
2021	15	39	45	1
2020	36	21	42	1
2019	33	22	45	0
2018	31	19	49	0
2017	27	15	57	1
2016	30	19	50	1
2015	25	23	51	0
2014	28	24	46	2
2013	26	23	50	1
2012	24	24	50	2
2011	21	31	48	0
2010	18	32	50	1
2009	17	37	46	0

Q13.   Looking ahead to the future, do you think your children will be better off than you are, worse off, or about the same economically?

1. Better off   37%
2. Worse off   38
3. About the same   24
4. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA   0

	Better off	Worse off	About the same	Don't know
2024	25	37	19	19
2023	28	34	22	16
2022	27	35	22	17
2021	34	35	25	5
2020	46	25	23	5
2019	39	29	29	3
2018	49	28	23	0
2017	45	28	19	9
2016	42	29	20	9
2015	40	27	22	10
2014	NA	NA	NA	NA
2013	41	35	17	7
2012	38	35	17	11
2011	39	26	28	8
2010	34	41	21	5
2009	40	32	18	10
2008	39	30	21	10
2007	47	27	20	6

SECTION III: ISSUES & POLICY

Q14.   Now I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one--a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little?... **[RANDOMIZE A-I]**

	A great deal	Quite a lot	Some	Very little
The news media	11	18	33	38
The public schools	12	23	40	25
The criminal justice system	9	19	38	34
Large technology companies	10	24	41	25
The police	19	26	33	21
The military	34	31	26	9
The presidency	24	17	20	39
The United States Supreme Court	13	22	37	28
Congress	7	17	36	39

Q15.   Thinking about divisions among Americans, which of the following do you hold most responsible for those divisions... **[RANDOMIZE 1-4]**

1. Elected officials   42%
2. Social media   28
3. Cable news channels   13
4. Other countries   4
5. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA   14

Q16.   Do you believe it is possible for people to disagree about politics respectfully, or are nasty exchanges unavoidable?

1. It is possible for people to disagree about politics respectfully   69%
2. Nasty exchanges are unavoidable   20
3. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA   11

Q17.   Would you rather political leaders compromise with others and find middle ground on key issues, or stand their ground and fight hard to put in place the ideas they believe in? **[RANDOMIZE 1-2]**

1. Compromise   68%
2. Fight hard   32
3. DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA   0

Q18.   Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? **[RANDOMLY SELECT FROM A-D]** *Would that be strongly [agree/disagree], or somewhat [agree/disagree]?* **[GRID WITH RESPONSE OPTIONS: "Strongly agree", "Somewhat agree", "Somewhat disagree", "Strongly disagree", "Don't know/No opinion"]** *How about...***[RANDOMLY SELECT FROM REMAINING A-D UNTIL COMPLETE] [IF NECESSARY:** *Do you agree or disagree with the statement...***]**

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	*TOTAL AGREE*	*TOTAL DISAGREE*
America would be better if more states were like Texas	32	33	18	16	*65*	*34*
Despite its problems, Texas is the best place to live in America	39	33	17	12	*72*	*29*
I am proud of Texas's history	43	32	16	9	*75*	*25*
I consider myself to be a Texan	54	27	10	9	*81*	*19*

[RANDOMIZE Q19-Q21]
Q19.   Do you support or oppose religious displays, such as the Ten Commandments, on the grounds of government offices? *Would that be strongly or just somewhat support/oppose?*

		2025	**2007**
1.	Strongly support	41%	60%
2.	Somewhat support	28	22
3.	Somewhat oppose	16	7
4.	Strongly oppose	15	7
5.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	0	3

Q20.   Do you support or oppose the death penalty for those convicted of violent crimes? *Would that be strongly support/oppose or only somewhat?*

		2025	**2007**
1.	Strongly support	37%	49%
2.	Somewhat support	37	21
3.	Somewhat oppose	18	11
4.	Strongly oppose	8	15
5.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	0	4

Q21.   Would you encourage children to play youth or high school football, or would you discourage them from it?

		2025	**2015**
1.	Encourage	64%	72%
2.	Discourage	17	21
3.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	19	6

(Q22-Q27 withheld for future release.)

Q28.   Would you say that immigration helps the United States more than it hurts it, or immigration hurts the United States more than it helps it?

		2025	2022	2017	2016
1.	Helps more than it hurts	32%	29%	62%	54%
2.	Hurts more than it helps	32	33	27	33
3.	A little of both (Vol.)	30	31	6	8
4.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	6	7	5	5

Q29A.   Do you think immigrants living in the country **legally** have a positive or negative impact on the Texas economy? *Would that be very positive/negative, or somewhat positive/negative?*

1.	Very positive	40%
2.	Somewhat positive	34
3.	Somewhat negative	12
4.	Very negative	5
5.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	8

Q29B.   Do you think immigrants living in the country **illegally** have a positive or negative impact on the Texas economy? *Would that be very positive/negative, or somewhat positive/negative?*

1.	Very positive	13%
2.	Somewhat positive	24
3.	Somewhat negative	23
4.	Very negative	30
5.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	10

Q30.   When it comes to undocumented immigrants currently in the United States, which comes closer to your view...**[RANDOMIZE 1-2]**

1.	Undocumented immigrants mostly fill jobs that American citizens would like to have	37%
2.	Undocumented immigrants mostly fill jobs American citizens don't want	63
3.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	0

Q31.   How concerned are you about illegal immigration? Extremely concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned?

		2025	2017
1.	Extremely	29%	37%
2.	Somewhat	32	35
3.	Not very	21	15
4.	Not at all	14	12
5.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	4	1

Q32.   Do you believe President Trump truly will deport millions of illegal immigrants currently living in the United States?

		2025	2017
1.	Yes	68%	50%
2.	No	17	40
3.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	15	10

Q33.   And do you want him to do that (deport millions of illegal immigrants currently living in the U.S.)?

		2025	2017
1.	Yes	44%	31%
2.	No	35	62
3.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	21	8

Q34.   Do you think that decreasing the number of immigrants in the United States will make life better for people like you, worse for people like you, or no different for people like you?

1.	Better	33%
2.	Worse	24
3.	No difference	30
4.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	12

Q35.   In general, how positive or negative are your feelings towards artificial intelligence, sometimes referred to as "AI"? Would you say you are...

1.	Very positive	13%
2.	Somewhat positive	26
3.	Neutral	31
4.	Somewhat negative	17
5.	Very negative	13
6.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	0

Q36.   And how would you rate your understanding of AI? Would you say you are...

1.	Very knowledgeable	12%
2.	Somewhat knowledge	44
3.	Neither knowledge nor unknowledgeable	29
4.	Somewhat unknowledgeable	10
5.	Very unknowledgeable	5
6.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	0

Q37.   How often, if at all, do you use generative AI (like Chat GPT)?

1.	Extremely often	8%
2.	Very Often	13
3.	Somewhat Often	19
4.	Not very often	19
5.	Rarely	16
6.	Never	25
7.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	0

SECTION IV: DEMOGRAPHICS

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

AGEG.

1.	18-29	23%
2.	30-44	28
3.	45-64	31
4.	65+	19

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

1.	Urban	29%
2.	Suburban	53
3.	Rural	18

MARRIED. What is your current marital status?

1.	Never married	35%
2.	Married	41
3.	Divorced	14
4.	Widowed	6
5.	Separated	2
6.	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA.	1

CHILD. Do you have children under the age of 18 living in your household?

1.	Yes	31%
2.	No	67
3.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	2

INCOME. What was your total household income for 2023? **[READ CATEGORIES]**

1.	Less than $15,000	12%
2.	$15,0000-$25,000	11
3.	$25,000-$40,000	21
4.	$40,000-$75,000	26
5.	$75,000-$150,000	22
6.	More than $150,000	6
7.	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA.	2

HOME. Do you currently own or rent your home?

1.	Own	51%
2.	Rent	44
3.	DON'T KNOW / REFUSED / NA	5

EDOFR. What is the highest level of education you completed? **[READ CATEGORIES AS NECESSARY]**

1.	Less than high school	4%
2.	High school	31
3.	Some college	27
4.	College degree	27
5.	Post-graduate degree (MA, LLD, PhD)	10
6.	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NA.	1

VETERAN. Does each of the following accurately describe your current situation? **[READ CATEGORIES]** **[CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]**

A.	Active-duty military	1%
B.	Military veteran	8
C.	Active-duty military in your immediate family	3
D.	Military veteran in your immediate family	7

RELIGION. What is your religious denomination **[PRON: DEE-NOM-I-NATION]?**

1.	Protestant	23%
2.	Catholic	20
3.	Other Christian	28
4.	Jewish	3
5.	Muslim, Buddhist, or other non-Christian	4
6.	Agnostic/Atheist	10
7.	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	12

FUND. **[IF RELIGION EQ 1]** Would you say that you are evangelical, fundamentalist, or born-again?

1.	Yes	59%
2.	No	37
3.	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	4

RACE. Would you say that you are…

1.	White or Anglo	44%
2.	Black or African American	37
3.	Hispanic	12
4.	Other	7

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

1.	Liberal	20%
2.	Moderate, or	35
3.	Conservative.	34
4.	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	11

PID3. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an independent, or something else?

1.	Democrat	34%
2.	Independent	23
3.	Republican	43

1.	Strong Democrat	17%
2.	Weak Democrat	10
3.	Lean Democrat	7
4.	Independent	23
5.	Strong Republican	7
6.	Lean Republican	12
7.	Strong Republican	24

GENDER. Do you identify as...

1.	Male	51%
2.	Female	49