



## Texas Election 2020

Candidates, Favorability & the  
U.S. Supreme Court Confirmation

**HOBBY**  
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# Contents

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<b>Contents</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>List of Figures</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>List of Tables</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>1 Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Voting by the Likely Voters Surveyed</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3 The Presidential Election in Texas</b>	<b>3</b>
3.1 Race/Ethnicity and Presidential Vote Choice . . . . .	4
3.2 Gender and Presidential Vote Choice . . . . .	5
3.3 Generation and Presidential Vote Choice . . . . .	5
3.4 Partisan Identification and Presidential Vote Choice . . . . .	6
3.5 Educational Attainment and Presidential Vote Choice Among Anglos	6
<b>4 The U.S. Senate Election in Texas</b>	<b>8</b>
4.1 Race/Ethnicity and Senate Vote Choice . . . . .	9
4.2 Gender and Senate Vote Choice . . . . .	9
4.3 Generation and Senate Vote Choice . . . . .	9
4.4 Partisan Identification and Senate Vote Choice . . . . .	10
4.5 Educational Attainment and Senate Vote Choice Among Anglos . . .	10
<b>5 The Texas Railroad Commissioner Election</b>	<b>12</b>
5.1 Ethnicity/Race and Railroad Commissioner Vote Choice . . . . .	13
5.2 Gender and Railroad Commissioner Vote Choice . . . . .	13
5.3 Generation and Railroad Commissioner Vote Choice . . . . .	14
5.4 Partisan Identification and Railroad Commissioner Vote Choice . . .	14
5.5 Educational Attainment and Railroad Commissioner Vote Choice Among Anglos . . . . .	15

<b>6</b>	<b>Projected Vote for President, U.S. Senate and Texas Railroad Commissioner</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Statewide Texas Judicial Elections</b>	<b>17</b>
7.1	Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice . . . . .	17
7.2	Texas Supreme Court Justice Place 6 . . . . .	18
7.3	Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Judge Place 3 . . . . .	18
<b>8</b>	<b>Public Opinion of Leading National and Texas Politicians</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>The Comparative Influence of a Vice President Kamala Harris</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>The U.S. Supreme Court Confirmation of Justice Amy Coney Barrett</b>	<b>23</b>

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## List of Figures

---

1	The Distribution of the Respondents by Vote Type . . . . .	2
2	Republican, Democratic, Libertarian & Green Candidates for President, Senate & Railroad Commissioner . . . . .	16
3	Net Favorability Rating of National and Texas Politicians . . . . .	20
4	How Much Influence Would Vice President Kamala Harris Have in a Biden Administration Compared to the Average Recent Vice President by percentage . . . . .	22
5	Should the US Senate Hold Hearings and Vote to Confirm a New Supreme Court Justice Before November 3 or Wait Until January 2021? .	24

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## List of Tables

---

1	Presidential Vote . . . . .	3
2	Ethnicity/Race and the Presidential Vote . . . . .	4
3	Gender and the Presidential Vote . . . . .	5
4	Generation and the Presidential Vote . . . . .	6
5	Partisan ID and the Presidential Vote . . . . .	6
6	Education Attainment and the Presidential Vote Among Anglos . . . . .	7
7	Senate Vote . . . . .	8
8	Ethnicity/Race and the Senate Vote . . . . .	9
9	Gender and the Senate Vote . . . . .	9
10	Generation and the Senate Vote . . . . .	10
11	Partisan ID and the Senate Vote . . . . .	10
12	Education Attainment and the Senate Vote Among Anglos . . . . .	11
13	Railroad Commissioner Vote . . . . .	12
14	Ethnicity/Race and the Railroad Commissioner Vote . . . . .	13
15	Gender and the Railroad Commissioner Vote . . . . .	13
16	Generation and the Railroad Commissioner Vote . . . . .	14
17	Partisan ID and the Railroad Commissioner Vote . . . . .	14
18	Education Attainment and the Railroad Commissioner Vote Among Anglos . . . . .	15
19	Supreme Court Chief Justice Vote . . . . .	17
20	Supreme Court Justice Place 6 Vote . . . . .	18
21	Court of Criminal Appeals Judge Place 3 Vote . . . . .	18
22	Public Opinion of Leading National and Texas Politicians . . . . .	20

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# Introduction

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The Hobby School of Public Affairs at the University of Houston conducted a statewide survey of likely Texas voters about the 2020 election between October 13 and 20, 2020. The data will be shared in three reports. The first report identifies vote intention in the races for President, U.S. Senate, Texas Railroad Commissioner, Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice, Texas Supreme Court Place 6 Justice, and Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Place 3 Judge. Additional information includes the favorability ratings of key national and state politicians as well as Texans' beliefs about how much influence a Vice President Kamala Harris would have in a future Biden administration and public opinion on the decision to confirm a new United States Supreme Court Justice before the November 3 election. Forthcoming reports will examine topics such as voting logistics in the time of COVID-19, public attitudes toward election administration reforms, public opinion regarding liberal or conservative bias among national and Texas media outlets, and what Texas voters consider to be the most pressing issues facing the state.

This survey was conducted online among likely Texas voters by YouGov. In all, 1000 registered voters were interviewed, providing a margin of error of +/- 3.1%.

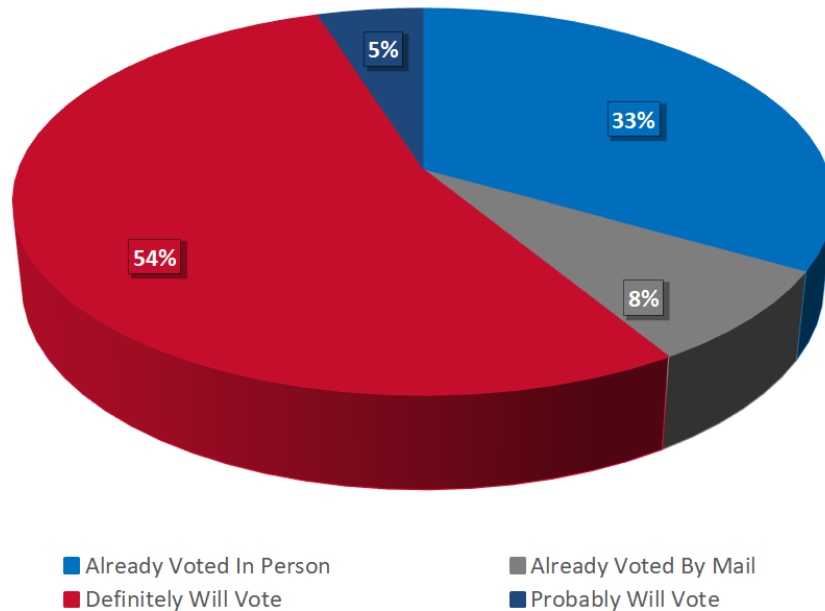
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## Voting by the Likely Voters Surveyed

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Figure 1 divides the likely voters surveyed into four distinct categories. One group had already voted at the time of the survey (41.3%), divided among those who had already voted in person (33.3%) and among those who had already voted by mail (8.0%). The remaining 58.7% of the respondents were split between those who indicated they would definitely vote by November 3 (53.8%) and those who indicated they would probably vote by November 3 (4.9%). Of those who had not yet voted, 73% plan to vote in person prior to Election Day, 21% plan to vote on Election Day, and 6% plan to vote by mail.

**Figure 1:** The Distribution of the Respondents by Vote Type





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# The Presidential Election in Texas

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There are four candidates on the Texas ballot for president: Donald Trump (Republican Party), Joe Biden (Democratic Party), Jo Jorgensen (Libertarian Party), and Howie Hawkins (Green Party). The first column in Table 1 provides information on the vote intention (including the vote choice for those who have already cast their ballot) for the four presidential candidates. Trump (50.0%) leads Biden (44.7%) by 5.3%, with 2.7% unsure (Don't Know or Don't Remember, DK/DR) and 2.7% supporting other candidates. When the 2.7% of voters who are undecided are proportionally distributed across the four candidates (valid votes), the vote shares for Trump and Biden are 51.4% and 45.9% respectively.

**Table 1:** Presidential Vote

	All Voters	All Valid Votes	Vote Already Cast	Vote To Be Cast
Donald Trump	50.0	51.4	39.0	57.7
Joe Biden	44.7	45.9	58.9	34.6
Jo Jorgensen	2.4	2.4	0.8	3.5
Howie Hawkins	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4
DK/DR	2.7		1.1	3.8

Biden enjoys a substantial advantage among the two-fifths of voters who have already cast their ballot, besting Trump 58.9% to 39.0%. Trump in turn bests Biden among those who had not yet cast their ballot, but planned to do so by November 3, 57.7% to 34.6%. It is worth noting that if the 5% of voters who said they would “probably” rather than “definitely” vote are excluded from the group that had not yet voted, Trump’s advantage over Biden increases slightly to 59.8% to 34.1%. Of those who plan to wait to vote until Election Day, 63.7% intend to vote for Trump and 32.9% intend to vote for Biden, with 1.6% undecided.

### 3.1 Race/Ethnicity and Presidential Vote Choice

In regard to self-identified race/ethnicity, the survey population is distributed as follows: Anglo (58.1%), Latino (23.4%), African American (13.1%), and Other (5.4%). The vote intention/vote cast broken down by racial/ethnic group is provided in Table 2.

**Table 2:** Ethnicity/Race and the Presidential Vote

	All Voters	Anglos	Latinos	African Americans
Donald Trump	50.0	63.1	38.1	12.2
Joe Biden	44.7	30.7	55.9	87.1
Jo Jorgensen	2.4	3.2	0.9	0.0
Howie Hawkins	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.0
DK/DR	2.7	2.5	5.0	0.6

Trump enjoys a more than two to one advantage over Biden among Anglos, 63.1% to 30.7%, while Biden enjoys a more than seven to one advantage over Trump among African Americans, 87.1% to 12.2%. The two candidates are closer in support among Latinos, 55.9% of whom back Biden and 38.1% of whom back Trump.

## 3.2 Gender and Presidential Vote Choice

In regard to self-identified gender, the survey population is distributed as follows: women (51.8%), men (48.2%). The vote intention/vote cast broken down by gender is provided in Table 3.

**Table 3:** Gender and the Presidential Vote

	All Voters	Women	Men
Donald Trump	50.0	46.0	54.3
Joe Biden	44.7	49.5	39.5
Jo Jorgensen	2.4	1.8	2.9
Howie Hawkins	0.3	0.0	0.6
DK/DR	2.7	2.7	2.7

Biden is the preferred candidate among women over Trump, 49.5% to 46.0%. In contrast, Trump is the preferred candidate among men over Biden by a notably larger margin, 54.3% to 39.5%.

## 3.3 Generation and Presidential Vote Choice

Texas voters belong to one of five generational groups: Silent Generation (those born before 1946), Baby Boomers (1946-1964), Generation X (1965-1980), Millennials (1981-1996), Generation Z (1997-2012). In the analysis, the members of the Silent Generation and Baby Boomers (45.0% of the survey population) are examined together as are Millennials and members of Generation Z (31.3%), while members of Generation X (23.8%) are examined separately. The vote intention/vote cast broken down by generation is provided in Table 4.

Trump is the preferred candidate among the Silent Generation/Baby Boomers, with 59.2% supporting him versus 38.7% for Biden. Trump is also favored by the members of Generation X over Biden, but by a narrower margin, 50.3% to 43.3%. In contrast, Biden is the preferred candidate of Millennials and Generation Z over Trump, 54.3% to 36.5%.

**Table 4:** Generation and the Presidential Vote

	All Voters	Silent Generation & Baby Boomers	Generation X	Millenials & Generation Z
Donald Trump	50.0	59.2	50.3	36.5
Joe Biden	44.7	38.7	43.3	54.3
Jo Jorgensen	2.4	0.0	3.1	5.1
Howie Hawkins	0.3	0.1	1.0	0.1
DK/DR	2.7	2.0	2.3	4.0

### 3.4 Partisan Identification and Presidential Vote Choice

In regard to partisan identification (party ID), 32.6% of respondents identify as Republican, 31.6% identify as Democrat, and 31.9% identify as Independent, with the remaining 3.9% either identifying with another party (2.9%) or unsure (1.0%). The vote intention/vote cast broken down by party ID is provided in Table 5.

Trump and Biden are supported by large proportions of Republican (92.8%) and Democratic (96.4%) identifiers respectively. While the difference is small, Biden is preferred by more Republicans (6.2%) than Trump is preferred by Democrats (3.2%). Independents support Trump over Biden, 51.3% to 33.9%, with notably more Independents still undecided (7.0%) than is the case for either Republicans (1.1%) or Democrats (0.3%).

**Table 5:** Partisan ID and the Presidential Vote

	All Voters	Republicans	Independents	Democrats
Donald Trump	50.0	92.8	51.3	3.2
Joe Biden	44.7	6.2	33.9	96.4
Jo Jorgensen	2.4	0.0	7.1	0.2
Howie Hawkins	0.3	0.0	0.6	0.0
DK/DR	2.7	1.1	7.0	0.3

### 3.5 Educational Attainment and Presidential Vote Choice Among Anglos

Among Anglos, respondents were divided into three groups based on their highest level of educational attainment: high school or less (24.1%), some college or associate

### 3.5. Educational Attainment and Presidential Vote Choice Among Anglos

degree (31.1%), college degree or advanced degree (44.7%). The vote intention/vote cast by Anglos broken down by education is provided in Table 6.

There is a notable inverse relationship between educational attainment and support for Trump among Anglos. While Trump is preferred over Biden among all Anglo education groups, as educational attainment falls, support for Trump rises, with 55.0% of those with a college or advanced degree backing the president, compared to 65.7% of those with only some college or an associate degree, and 74.8% of those with only high school or lower as their highest level of educational attainment.

**Table 6:** Education Attainment and the Presidential Vote Among Anglos

	All Anglo Voters	College or Advanced Degree	Some College or Associates Degree	High School or No High School
Donald Trump	63.1	55.0	65.7	74.8
Joe Biden	30.7	37.4	27.4	22.4
Jo Jorgensen	3.2	3.7	4.9	0.1
Howie Hawkins	0.5	0.4	0.2	1.1
DK/DR	2.5	3.5	1.8	1.6

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# The U.S. Senate Election in Texas

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There are four candidates on the Texas ballot in the race for U.S. Senate: John Cornyn (Republican Party), MJ Hegar (Democratic Party), Kerry McKennon (Libertarian Party), David Collins (Green Party). The first column in Table 7 provides the vote intention/vote cast for these candidates. Cornyn (48.9%) leads Hegar (41.6%) by 7.3%, with 5.6% undecided, 2.8% supporting McKennon and 1.1% supporting Collins. When the 5.6% undecided voters are proportionally distributed across the four candidates (valid votes), the vote shares for Cornyn and Hegar are 51.8% and 44.1% respectively.

Hegar is favored over Cornyn 56.0% to 38.7% among the two-fifths of the respondents who have already cast a ballot. Conversely, Cornyn is favored over Hegar 56.0% to 31.6% among the three-fifths of respondents who had not yet voted.

**Table 7: Senate Vote**

	All Voters	All Valid Votes	Vote Already Cast	Vote To Be Cast
John Cornyn	48.9	51.8	38.7	56.0
MJ Hegar	41.6	44.1	56.0	31.6
Kerry McKennon	2.8	2.9	3.1	2.6
David Collins	1.1	1.1	0.0	1.8
DK/DR	5.6		2.2	8.1

## 4.1 Race/Ethnicity and Senate Vote Choice

The vote intention/vote cast broken down by racial/ethnic group is provided in Table 8. Among Anglos, Cornyn (61.7%) has a more than two to one advantage over Hegar (29.5%). Hegar leads Cornyn by a large margin among Latinos, 50.3% to 34.6%, and by an even more substantial five to one margin among African Americans, 80.8% to 16.1%. A notably larger share of Latinos (12.1%) remain undecided in this race compared to either Anglos (3.7%) or African Americans (3.1%).

**Table 8:** Ethnicity/Race and the Senate Vote

	All Voters	Anglos	Latinos	African Americans
John Cornyn	48.9	61.7	34.6	16.1
MJ Hegar	41.6	29.5	50.3	80.8
Kerry McKennon	2.8	3.9	1.6	0.0
David Collins	1.1	1.2	1.4	0.1
DK/DR	5.6	3.7	12.1	3.1

## 4.2 Gender and Senate Vote Choice

The vote intention/vote cast broken down by gender is provided in Table 9. Hegar possesses a narrow advantage over Cornyn among women voters, 45.9% to 45.3%. Cornyn possesses a much larger advantage over Hegar among men, 52.7% to 37.1%.

**Table 9:** Gender and the Senate Vote

	All Voters	Women	Men
John Cornyn	48.9	45.3	52.7
MJ Hegar	41.6	45.9	37.1
Kerry McKennon	2.8	3.2	2.3
David Collins	1.1	0.2	2.0
DK/DR	5.6	5.4	5.9

## 4.3 Generation and Senate Vote Choice

The vote intention/vote cast broken down by generation is provided in Table 10. Cornyn (60.3%) easily bests Hegar (36.7%) among the Silent Generation/Boomers,

while Hegar (50.0%) easily bests Cornyn (33.2%) among Millennials/Generation Z. Cornyn (47.8%) is ahead of Hegar (40.0%) by a much smaller margin among Generation X.

**Table 10:** Generation and the Senate Vote

	All Voters	Silent Generation & Baby Boomers	Generation X	Millenials & Generation Z
John Cornyn	48.9	60.3	47.8	33.2
MJ Hegar	41.6	36.7	40.0	50.0
Kerry McKennon	2.8	0.8	2.4	5.9
David Collins	1.1	0.1	1.6	2.0
DK/DR	5.6	2.1	8.2	8.9

## 4.4 Partisan Identification and Senate Vote Choice

The vote intention/vote cast broken down by party ID is provided in Table 11. Cornyn (90.5%) and Hegar (93.1%) are supported by more than nine out of ten of their respective co-partisans, with only 5.9% of Republicans opting for Hegar and 2.3% of Democrats opting for Cornyn. Independents favor Cornyn over Hegar, 50.5% to 28.2%, and are also much more likely to be undecided (11.8%) than either Democrats (4.1%) or Republicans (1.8%).

**Table 11:** Partisan ID and the Senate Vote

	All Voters	Republicans	Independents	Democrats
John Cornyn	48.9	90.5	50.5	2.3
MJ Hegar	41.6	5.9	28.2	93.1
Kerry McKennon	2.8	1.7	6.2	0.5
David Collins	1.1	0.1	3.3	0.0
DK/DR	5.6	1.8	11.8	4.1

## 4.5 Educational Attainment and Senate Vote Choice Among Anglos

The vote intention/vote cast broken down by educational attainment is provided in Table 12. Cornyn and Hegar enjoy their lowest and highest level of support



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#### 4.5. Educational Attainment and Senate Vote Choice Among Anglos

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respectively among Anglos with a college or advanced degree, 54.3% vs. 36.8%, and their highest and lowest level of support respectively among Anglos whose highest level of educational attainment is high school or less, 70.9% to 22.3%.

**Table 12:** Education Attainment and the Senate Vote Among Anglos

	All Anglo Voters	College or Advanced Degree	Some College or Associates Degree	High School or No High School
John Cornyn	61.7	54.3	65.1	70.9
MJ Hegar	29.5	36.8	24.7	22.3
Kerry McKennon	3.9	4.5	4.4	2.1
David Collins	1.2	1.0	1.7	1.1
DK/DR	3.7	3.5	4.2	3.5

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# The Texas Railroad Commissioner Election

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There are four candidates on the Texas ballot in the race for Texas Railroad Commissioner: Jim Wright (Republican Party), Chrysta Castañeda (Democratic Party), Matt Sterett (Libertarian Party), Kat Gruene (Green Party). The first column in Table 13 provides the vote intention/vote cast for these candidates. Wright (46.8%) leads Castañeda (38.4%) by 8.4%, with 11.1% undecided, 2.6% supporting Sterett and 1.0% supporting Gruene. When the 11.1% undecided voters are proportionally distributed across the four candidates (valid votes), the vote shares for Wright and Castañeda are 52.7% and 43.3% respectively. With 1.1% of the valid vote, Gruene arguably represents the Texas Green Party’s best hope of capturing at least 2% of the statewide vote, which would qualify it for automatic ballot access for the next five elections.

Castañeda is favored over Wright 52.5% to 40.6% among the two-fifths of the respondents who have already cast a ballot. Conversely, Wright is favored over Castañeda 51.3% to 28.6% among the three-fifths of respondents who had not yet voted.

**Table 13: Railroad Commissioner Vote**

	All Voters	All Valid Votes	Vote Already Cast	Vote To Be Cast
Jim Wright	46.8	52.7	40.6	51.3
Chrysta Castañeda	38.4	43.3	52.5	28.6
Matt Sterett	2.6	2.9	0.7	3.9
Kat Gruene	1.0	1.1	0.5	1.3
DK/DR	11.1		5.7	15.0

## 5.1 Ethnicity/Race and Railroad Commissioner Vote Choice

The vote intention/vote cast broken down by racial/ethnic group is provided in Table 14. Among Anglos, Wright (59.5%) has a more than two to one advantage over Castañeda (26.0%). Castañeda leads Wright by a substantial margin among Latinos, 50.7% to 31.5%, and by an even more substantial nearly five to one margin among African Americans, 73.8% to 15.2%.

**Table 14:** Ethnicity/Race and the Railroad Commissioner Vote

	All Voters	Anglos	Latinos	African Americans
Jim Wright	46.8	59.5	31.5	15.2
Chrysta Castañeda	38.4	26.0	50.7	73.8
Matt Sterett	2.6	3.7	1.9	0.0
Kat Gruene	1.0	0.8	1.9	0.5
DK/DR	11.1	10.0	14.0	10.6

## 5.2 Gender and Railroad Commissioner Vote Choice

The vote intention/vote cast broken down by gender is provided in Table 15. Wright possesses a narrow advantage over Castañeda among women voters, 42.3% to 41.1% and a much more substantial advantage over Castañeda among men, 51.7% to 35.6%.

**Table 15:** Gender and the Railroad Commissioner Vote

	All Voters	Women	Men
Jim Wright	46.8	42.3	51.7
Chrysta Castañeda	38.4	41.1	35.6
Matt Sterett	2.6	2.6	2.6
Kat Gruene	1.0	0.5	1.5
DK/DR	11.1	13.6	8.5

### 5.3 Generation and Railroad Commissioner Vote Choice

The vote intention/vote cast broken down by generation is provided in Table 16. Wright (57.3%) comfortably bests Castañeda (34.7%) among the Silent Generation/Boomers, while Castañeda (44.6%) is notably ahead of Wright (33.1%) among Millennials/Generation Z. Wright (45.2%) is ahead of Castañeda (37.3%) by a much narrower margin among the members of Generation X.

**Table 16:** Generation and the Railroad Commissioner Vote

	All Voters	Silent Generation & Baby Boomers	Generation X	Millenials & Generation Z
Jim Wright	46.8	57.3	45.2	33.1
Chrysta Castañeda	38.4	34.7	37.3	44.6
Matt Sterett	2.6	1.8	2.2	4.1
Kat Gruene	1.0	0.3	1.1	1.9
DK/DR	11.1	5.9	14.2	16.3

### 5.4 Partisan Identification and Railroad Commissioner Vote Choice

The vote intention/vote cast broken down by party ID is provided in Table 17. Wright (88.2%) and Castañeda (89.1%) are supported by almost nine out of ten of their respective co-partisans, with only 5.5% of Republicans opting for Castañeda and 2.3% of Democrats opting for Wright. Independents favor Wright over Castañeda, 47.0% to 23.0%, and are also significantly more likely to be undecided (21.6%) than either Democrats (8.2%) or Republicans (4.1%).

**Table 17:** Partisan ID and the Railroad Commissioner Vote

	All Voters	Republicans	Independents	Democrats
Jim Wright	46.8	88.2	47.0	2.3
Chrysta Castañeda	38.4	5.5	23.0	89.1
Matt Sterett	2.6	1.4	5.8	0.3
Kat Gruene	1.0	0.0	2.6	0.2
DK/DR	11.1	4.9	21.6	8.2

## 5.5 Educational Attainment and Railroad Commissioner Vote Choice Among Anglos

The vote intention/vote cast broken down by educational attainment is provided in Table 18. Wright and Castañeda respectively enjoy their lowest and highest level of support among Anglos with a college or advanced degree, 50.8% vs. 33.7%, and their highest and lowest level of support respectively among Anglos whose highest level of educational attainment is high school or less, 69.1% to 19.0%.

**Table 18:** Education Attainment and the Railroad Commissioner Vote Among Anglos

	All Anglo Voters	College or Advanced Degree	Some College or Associates Degree	High School or No High School
Jim Wright	59.5	50.8	64.5	69.1
Chrysta Castañeda	26.0	33.7	20.4	19.0
Matt Sterett	3.7	4.7	5.0	0.1
Kat Gruene	0.8	0.6	1.9	0.0
DK/DR	10.0	10.3	8.2	11.8

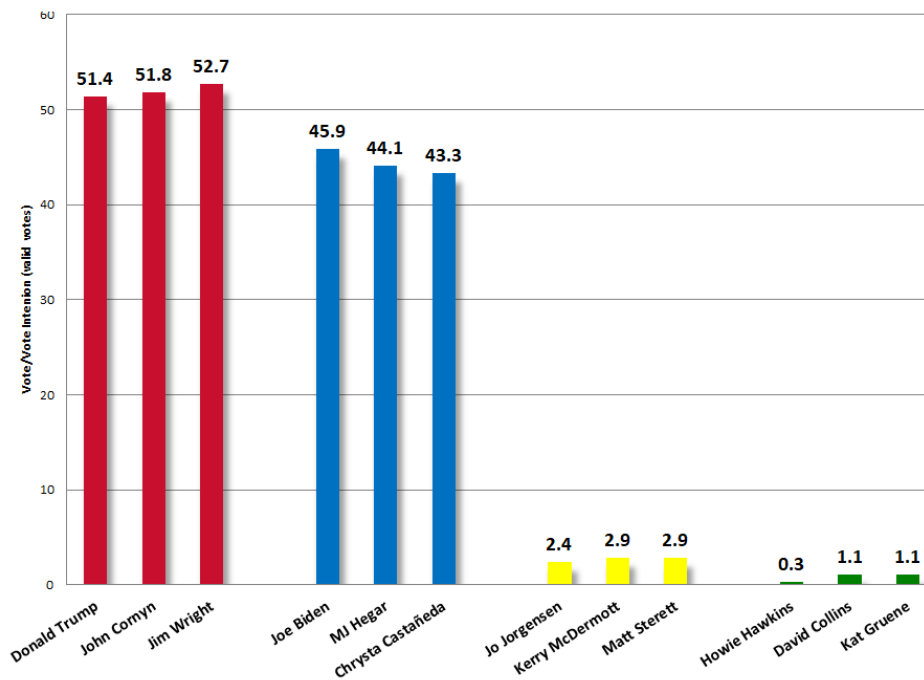
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# Projected Vote for President, U.S. Senate and Texas Railroad Commissioner

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Figure 2 provides a projection of the vote for the three races based on the second column of “valid votes” in Tables 1, 7, and 13. As the Republican candidates go down the ballot from President to Railroad Commissioner their vote share rises slightly, with the obverse true for the three Democratic candidates.

**Figure 2:** Republican, Democratic, Libertarian & Green Candidates for President, Senate & Railroad Commissioner



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# Statewide Texas Judicial Elections

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There are seven statewide judicial races on the Texas ballot in 2020, four for the Texas Supreme Court and three for the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. Here we focus on three of these elections that together allow for a broader overview of the projected outcome of the state's seven statewide judicial contests this year.

## 7.1 Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice

There are three candidates on the Texas ballot in the race for Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice: Nathan Hecht (Republican Party), Amy Clark Meachum (Democratic Party), Mark Ash (Libertarian Party). The first column in Table 19 provides the vote intention/vote cast for these candidates. Hecht (47.5%) leads Clark Meachum (40.0%) by 7.5%, with 9.4% undecided, and 3.2% supporting Ash. When the 9.4% undecided voters are proportionally distributed across the three candidates (valid votes), the vote shares for Hecht and Clark Meachum are 52.4% and 44.1% respectively. With 3.5% of the valid vote, Ash represents (along with two other statewide Libertarian judicial candidates running in the Supreme Court Place 7 and Place 8 elections) his party's best hope for capturing at least 2% of the statewide vote, which would qualify the Texas Libertarian Party for automatic ballot access for the next five elections.

**Table 19:** Supreme Court Chief Justice Vote

	All Voters	All Valid Votes	Vote Already Cast	Vote To Be Cast
Nathan Hecht	47.5	52.4	38.4	53.9
Amy Clark Meachum	40.0	44.1	54.8	29.5
Mark Ash	3.2	3.5	1.0	4.7
DK/DR	9.4		5.7	12.0

## 7.2 Texas Supreme Court Justice Place 6

There are two candidates on the Texas ballot in the race for Supreme Court Justice Place 6: Jane Bland (Republican Party) and Kathy Cheng (Democratic Party). The first column in Table 20 provides the vote intention/vote cast for these candidates. Bland (49.2%) leads Cheng (40.1%) by 9.1%, with 10.7% undecided. When the 10.7% undecided voters are proportionally distributed across the three candidates (valid votes), the vote shares for Bland and Cheng are 55.1% and 44.9% respectively.

**Table 20:** Supreme Court Justice Place 6 Vote

	All Voters	All Valid Votes	Vote Already Cast	Vote To Be Cast
Jane Bland	49.2	55.1	38.4	56.8
Kathy Cheng	40.1	44.9	54.2	30.1
DK/DR	10.7		7.4	13.1

## 7.3 Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Judge Place 3

There are two candidates on the Texas ballot in the race for Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Judge Place 3: Bert Richardson (Republican Party) and Elizabeth Davis Frizell (Democratic Party). The first column in Table 21 provides the vote intention/vote cast for these candidates. Richardson (48.2%) leads Davis Frizell (38.3%) by 9.9%, with 13.5% undecided. When the 13.5% undecided voters are proportionally distributed across the three candidates (valid votes), the vote shares for Richardson and Davis Frizell are 55.8% and 44.3% respectively.

**Table 21:** Court of Criminal Appeals Judge Place 3 Vote

	All Voters	All Valid Votes	Vote Already Cast	Vote To Be Cast
Bert Richardson	48.2	55.8	39.3	54.5
Elizabeth Davis Frizell	38.3	44.3	51.6	29.0
DK/DR	13.5		9.1	16.5



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# Public Opinion of Leading National and Texas Politicians

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Respondents were queried on their opinion regarding a set of national and Texas politicians, with options ranging from Very Favorable, to Somewhat Favorable, to Neither Favorable Nor Unfavorable, to Somewhat Unfavorable, to Very Unfavorable. Respondents were also given the option of answering that they did not know enough about the politician to have an opinion.

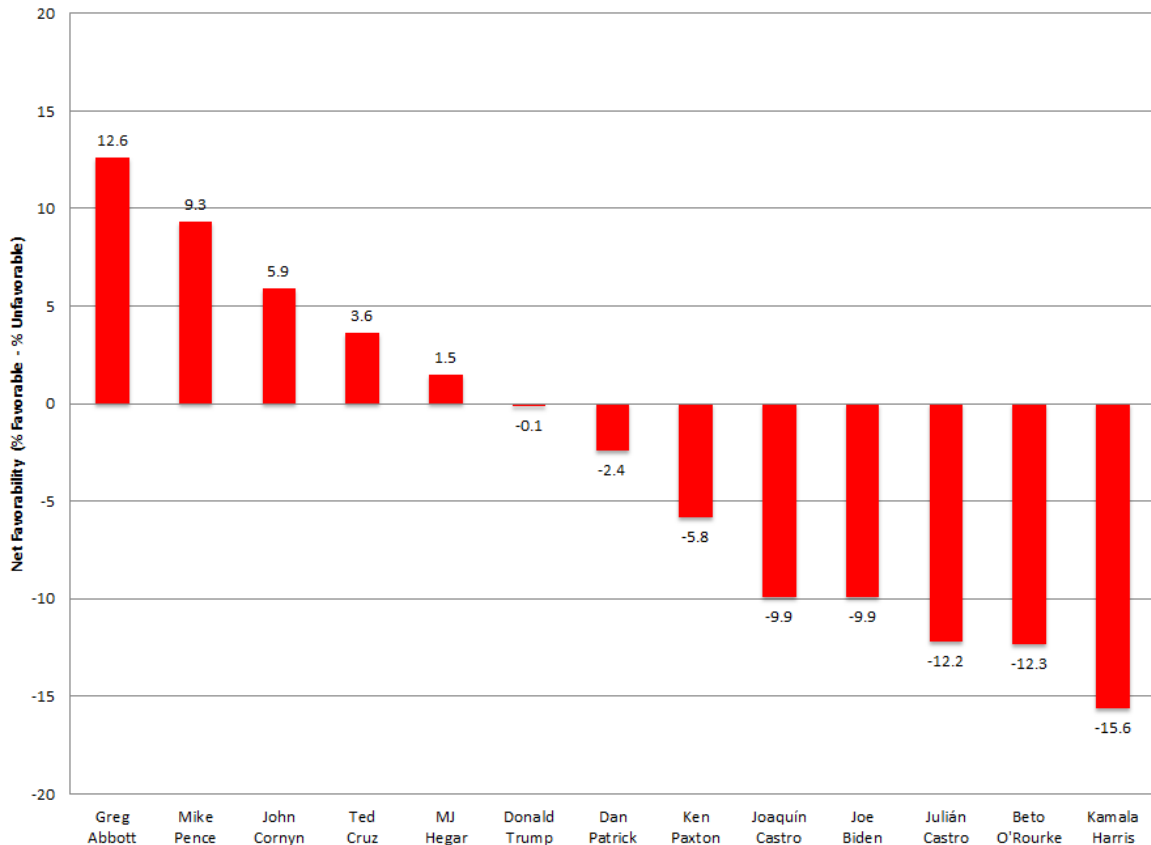
Table 22 displays the favorability evaluations of four national politicians (Joe Biden, Kamala Harris, Mike Pence, Donald Trump) and nine Texas politicians (Greg Abbott, Joaquín Castro, Julián Castro, John Cornyn, Ted Cruz, MJ Hegar, Beto O'Rourke, Dan Patrick, Ken Paxton). Three politicians are viewed very favorably by more than one-third of likely Texas voters: Mike Pence (39.2%), Donald Trump (36.1%), and Ted Cruz (34.1%). In contrast, four politicians are viewed very unfavorably by more than two-fifths of likely Texas voters: Kamala Harris (48.3%), Joe Biden (43.3%), Beto O'Rourke (42.7%), and Donald Trump (41.8%). More than a fifth of likely Texas voters don't know enough about four politicians to have an opinion about them: Joaquín Castro (29.8%), Ken Paxton (25.3%), Julián Castro (24.3%), Dan Patrick (21.4%).

Figure 3 provides the net favorability rating for these 13 politicians. It is calculated by subtracting the proportion of respondents who have a very favorable and somewhat favorable view of the politician from the proportion of respondents who have a somewhat unfavorable and very unfavorable view of the politician. Greg Abbott has the highest net favorability rating (12.6%), followed by Mike Pence (9.3%), John Cornyn (5.9%), Ted Cruz (3.6%), and MJ Hegar (1.5%). All of the remaining politicians are underwater, with more likely voters having an unfavorable than favorable opinion of them. The politicians with negative net favorability ratings are Kamala Harris (-15.6%), Beto O'Rourke (-12.3%), Julián Castro (-12.2%), Joe Biden (-9.9%), Joaquín Castro (-9.9%), Ken Paxton (-5.8%), Dan Patrick (-2.4%), and Donald Trump (-0.1%).

**Table 22:** Public Opinion of Leading National and Texas Politicians

	Very Favorable	Somewhat Favorable	Neither Favorable nor Unfavorable	Somewhat Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Don't Know Enough
Mike Pence	39.2	11.5	6.8	6.7	34.7	1.2
Donald Trump	36.1	11.6	4.2	6.0	41.8	0.3
Kamala Harris	26.0	11.2	7.0	4.5	48.3	3.1
Joe Biden	24.6	17.6	4.9	8.8	43.3	0.8
Ted Cruz	34.1	11.6	8.0	7.2	34.9	4.2
Greg Abbott	23.8	26.9	8.9	14.0	24.1	2.4
Beto O'Rourke	22.3	13.4	9.3	5.3	42.7	7.1
John Cornyn	21.8	20.4	12.1	8.6	27.7	9.5
MJ Hegar	17.2	17.8	13.9	10.7	22.8	17.7
Dan Patrick	15.9	14.8	14.7	5.7	27.4	21.4
Julián Castro	12.2	11.5	16.0	7.4	28.5	24.3
Ken Paxton	11.6	14.8	18.2	6.3	23.8	25.3
Joaquín Castro	11.3	10.2	17.4	5.5	25.9	29.8

**Figure 3:** Net Favorability Rating of National and Texas Politicians



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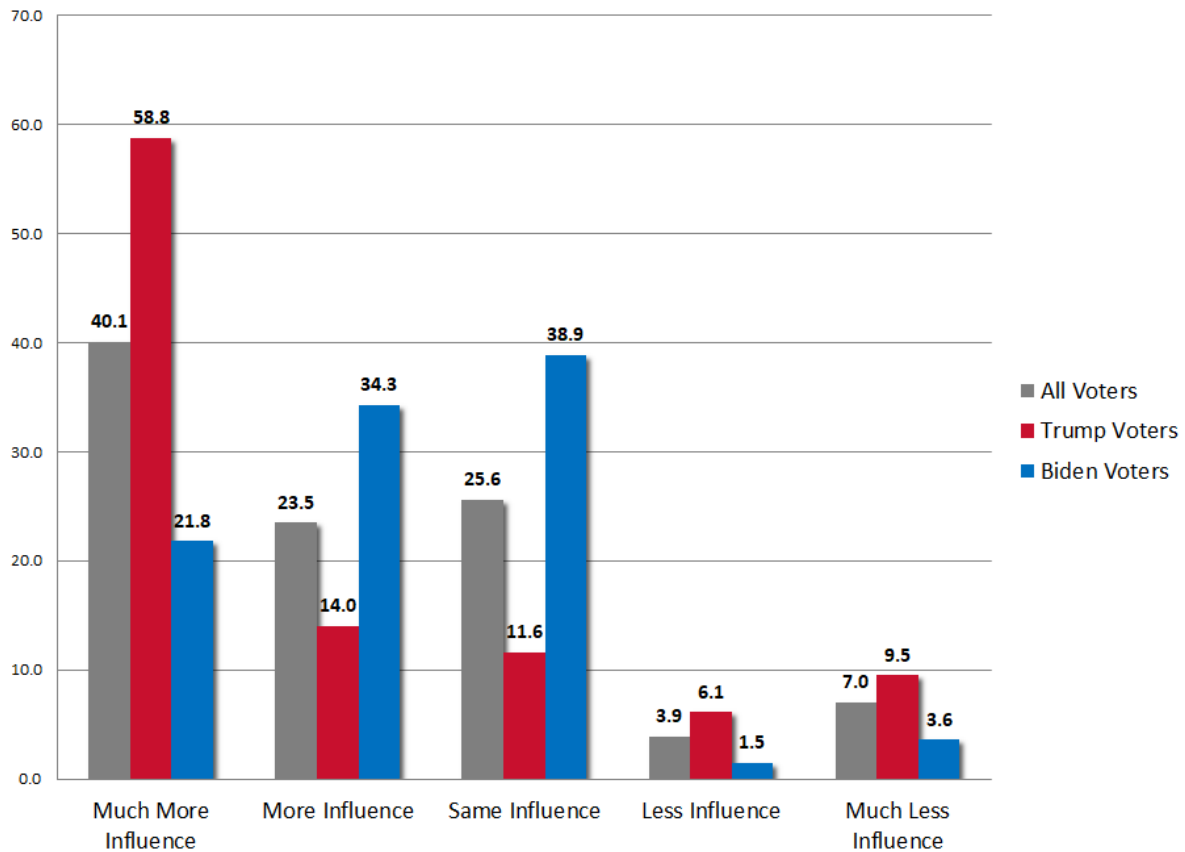
## The Comparative Influence of a Vice President Kamala Harris

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In the survey, the respondents were asked how much influence they believed a Vice President Kamala Harris would have in a Biden administration compared to the average influence of the four most recent vice presidents (Mike Pence, Joe Biden, Dick Cheney, Al Gore). The options were Much More Influence, More Influence, The Same Amount of Influence, Less Influence, and Much Less Influence.

Figure 4 displays the results for both the total population (in grey), for Trump voters (in red) and for Biden voters (in blue). Together, 40.1% of likely Texas voters believe Harris would have much more influence than an average recent vice president, with another 23.5% believing she would have more influence. Only 3.9% and 7.0% believe she would have either less influence or much less influence respectively. A quarter of the respondents (25.6%) believe Harris would have the same amount of influence as her four immediate predecessors on average.

**Figure 4:** How Much Influence Would Vice President Kamala Harris Have in a Biden Administration Compared to the Average Recent Vice President by percentage



Substantially more Republicans (58.8%) than Democrats (21.8%) believe Harris would have much more influence than her average predecessor, with 34.3% of Democrats believing she would have more influence, compared to 14.0% of Republicans. In all, more than two-thirds (72.8%) of Republicans and more than half (56.1%) of Democrats believe Harris would have more influence than her average predecessor. The most common response among Democrats (38.9%) is that Harris would have the same amount of influence as her four predecessors, with only one in twenty Democrats (5.1%) believing Harris would have less influence, compared to 15.6% of Republicans.

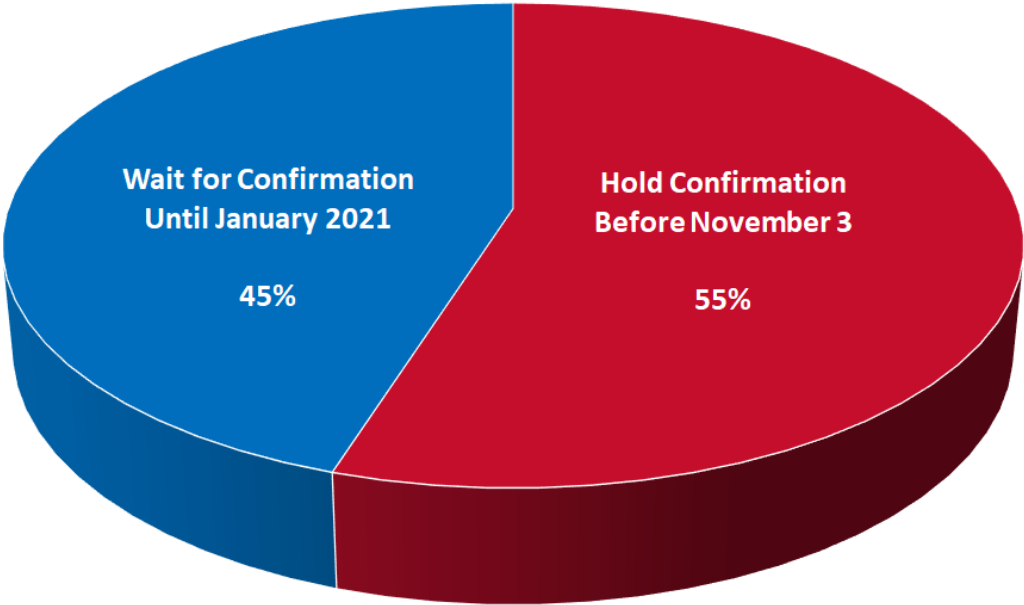
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# The U.S. Supreme Court Confirmation of Justice Amy Coney Barrett

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The respondents were asked if the U.S. Senate should hold hearings and a confirmation vote for a new U.S. Supreme Court Justice to replace the recently deceased Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg before the November 3 election, or if the U.S. Senate should wait until January of 2021 once the next presidential and senate terms had begun to hold the hearings and confirmation vote. Figure 5 reveals that a majority (55.0%) of Texans favor holding the confirmation hearings and vote prior to November 3, while 45.0% favor waiting until January 2021 to do so.

**Figure 5:** Should the US Senate Hold Hearings and Vote to Confirm a New Supreme Court Justice Before November 3 or Wait Until January 2021?



Among Trump voters, 93.2% favor holding the confirmation hearings and vote prior to November 3, while 6.8% prefer to wait until January. Among Biden voters, 87.2% favor waiting until January, while 12.8% prefer holding the vote prior to November 3.