



# Texas General Election 2022



Hobby School of Public Affairs  
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON



## **Texas General Election 2022**

The Hobby School of Public Affairs at the University of Houston conducted an online survey of Texas likely voters to identify their preferences and opinions regarding the 2022 general election candidates, public policy issues, and the voting process. The survey was fielded between October 19 and October 26, 2022, in English and Spanish, with 1,200 YouGov respondents who are likely to vote in the 2022 general election, resulting in a confidence interval of +/-2.8%. The respondents were matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race/ethnicity, presidential vote history, and education and are representative of the population of Texans expected to vote this fall.

The results of the survey will be presented in two reports. This report examines the vote intention of Texans for the 2022 statewide plural executive offices from governor to railroad commissioner as well as analyzes the influence of a wide range of issues on Texas voters' gubernatorial vote decision, while also providing the favorability ratings of the top statewide non-judicial candidates. The second report will focus on voter concerns about potential election fraud and voter suppression as well as their evaluation of the voting process in Texas and the U.S.

### **Executive Summary**

This fall, 64% of these Texas likely voters intend to vote early, either in-person (54%), by mail (8%), or early in-person or by mail (2%). One in four (26%) plan to vote on Election Day, while the remaining 10% is split between those who will vote either early or on election day.

In the race for governor, Republican Greg Abbott (53%) holds a 13% lead over Democrat Beto O'Rourke (40%), with 4% undecided.

More than nine out of ten Abbott (94%) and O'Rourke (92%) voters are certain about their vote choice, while 6% and 8% respectively say they could still change their mind.

Six issues are extremely or very important to the gubernatorial vote decision of more than three out of four likely voters: crime and public safety (85%), inflation (83%), electric grid reliability (81%), government spending and taxes (79%), K-12 public education (79%), and economic growth (76%).

The five issues that are extremely or very important to the voting decision of the largest proportion of Abbott voters are inflation (95%), immigration and border security (95%), crime and public safety (92%), government spending and taxes (89%), and economic growth (83%).

The five issues that are extremely or very important to the voting decision of the largest proportion of O'Rourke voters are voting rights (90%), health care costs (90%), electric grid reliability (88%), abortion (84%), and K-12 public education (83%).

Two issues stand out among likely voters as being among the top three most important issues guiding their 2022 gubernatorial vote decision. More than one-half (56%) of likely voters indicate that inflation is among the three most important issues, followed by 44% who identified immigration and border security as being among their top three decisive issues.

A second set of issues ranked among the top three determinants of the gubernatorial vote decision of approximately one in four likely voters: economic growth (28%), health care costs (25%), abortion (25%), and government spending and taxes (24%).

Two issues stand out as ranking among the top three of Abbott voters: inflation (73%) and immigration and border security (70%).

The top issues for O'Rourke voters are abortion (45%), health care costs (37%), inflation (34%), climate change (31%), and voting rights (28%).

Only three issues have proportions in the double digits of likely voters that rank them as the most important issue to their 2022 gubernatorial vote decision: inflation (32%), immigration and border security (19%), and abortion (10%).

In the race for lieutenant governor, Republican Dan Patrick (51%) holds a 15% lead over Democrat Mike Collier (36%), with 10% undecided.

While only 15% of likely voters don't know enough about Patrick to have an opinion about him, 53% don't know enough about Collier to have an opinion about him.

In the race for attorney general, Republican Ken Paxton (49%) holds a 12% lead over Democrat Rochelle Garza (37%), with 11% undecided.

While only 15% of likely voters don't know enough about Paxton to have an opinion about him, 55% don't know enough about Garza to have an opinion about her.

In the race for comptroller, Republican Glenn Hegar (49%) holds a 17% lead over Democrat Janet Dudding (32%), with 16% undecided.

In the race for land commissioner, Republican Dawn Buckingham (48%) holds a 16% lead over Democrat Jay Kleberg (32%), with 18% undecided.

In the race for agriculture commissioner, Republican Sid Miller (49%) holds a 14% lead over Democrat Susan Hays (35%), with 16% undecided.

In the race for railroad commissioner, Republican Wayne Christian (47%) holds a 14% lead over Democrat Luke Warford (33%), with 16% undecided.

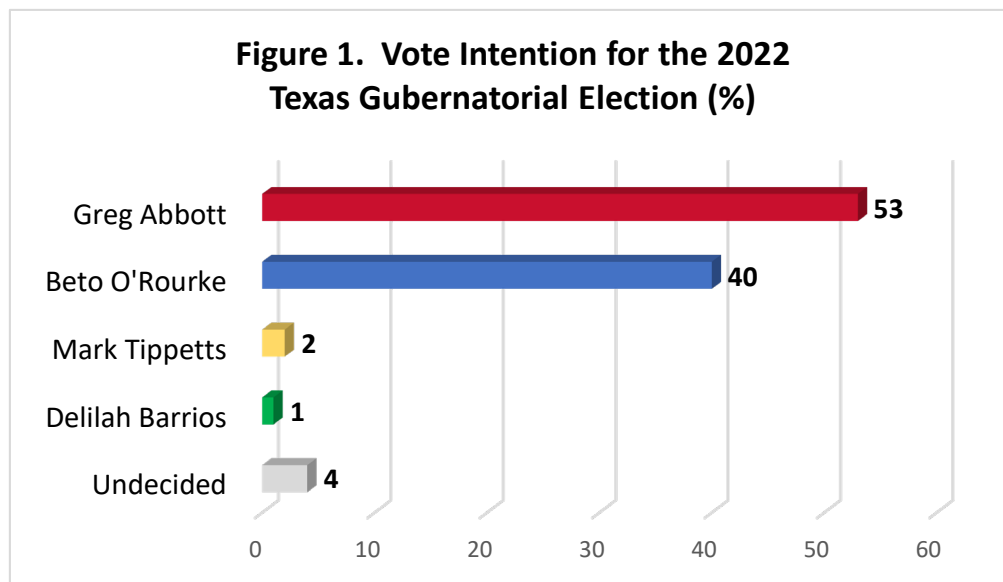
While only 1% and 2% of likely voters don't know enough about Abbott and O'Rourke, respectively, to have an opinion about them, and 15% don't know enough about Patrick and Paxton, more than half of likely voters don't know enough about the other plural executive candidates on the statewide ballot to have an opinion about them, with proportions ranging from 51% to 72%.

## Survey Population Demographics

Whites account for 60% of this survey population of Texas likely voters, Latinos 24%, Blacks 11%, and others 5%. Women account for 55% of the population, men for 44%, and others for 1%. Regarding generations, 46% of the population belongs to the combined Silent Generation (born between 1928-1945) and Baby Boomer (1946-1964) cohort, 25% to Generation X (Gen-X, 1965-1980), 22% to the Millennial (1981-1996) generation and 7% to the Generation Z (1997-2014) cohort. Almost two-fifths (39%) of the population identifies as Republican and 30% as Democrat, with 26% identifying as Independent and 5% either as something else (3%) or are unsure about their partisan identification (2%).

## The 2022 Texas Gubernatorial Election

Figure 1 provides the vote intention among likely voters in the 2022 Texas gubernatorial election. Republican Greg Abbott (53%) holds a 13 percentage point lead over Democrat Beto O'Rourke (40%), with 2% intending to vote for Libertarian Mark Tippetts, 1% for the Green Party's Delilah Barrios, and 4% undecided.



More than nine out of ten Abbott (94%) and O'Rourke (92%) voters are certain about their vote choice, while 6% and 8% respectively say they could still change their mind.

Abbott is viewed favorably by 56% of these likely voters and unfavorably by 43%, with only 1% not knowing enough about him to have an opinion.

O'Rourke is viewed favorably by 42% of these likely voters and unfavorably by 56%, with only 2% not knowing enough about him to have an opinion.

Tippetts and Barrios are both viewed favorably by 11% of likely voters and unfavorably by 17%, with 72% not knowing enough about either minor party candidate to have an opinion.

Table 1 breaks down the gubernatorial vote by the voter’s ethnicity/race, gender, generation, partisanship, and expected vote type (early in person or by mail [64% of likely voters] vs. in person on election day [26%], see Figure 13 for more information).

**Table 1: 2022 Texas Governor Vote Intention Among Likely Voters: Overall & by Sociodemographic Groups (%)**

Group	Sub-Group	Abbott	O'Rourke	Don't Know/Unsure
Overall	Overall	53	40	4
Ethnicity/Race	White	67	28	3
	Latino	37	54	7
	Black	11	83	4
Gender	Women	48	44	5
	Men	59	36	3
Generation	Silent/Boomers	65	32	2
	Generation X	53	37	6
	Millennials	40	53	5
	Generation Z	25	64	6
Partisan ID	Democrat	2	94	2
	Independent	55	33	8
	Republican	91	4	3
Voting Type	Early in Person/By Mail	53	43	2
	Election Day	60	30	8

Abbott (67%) holds a 39 percentage point lead over O’Rourke (28%) among white voters, while O’Rourke (83%) holds a 72 percentage point lead over Abbott (11%) among Black voters. O’Rourke (54%) holds a 17 percentage point lead over Abbott (37%) among Latino voters.

Abbott (59%) holds a 23 percentage point lead over O’Rourke (36%) among men, and a 4 percentage point lead among women (48% to 44%).

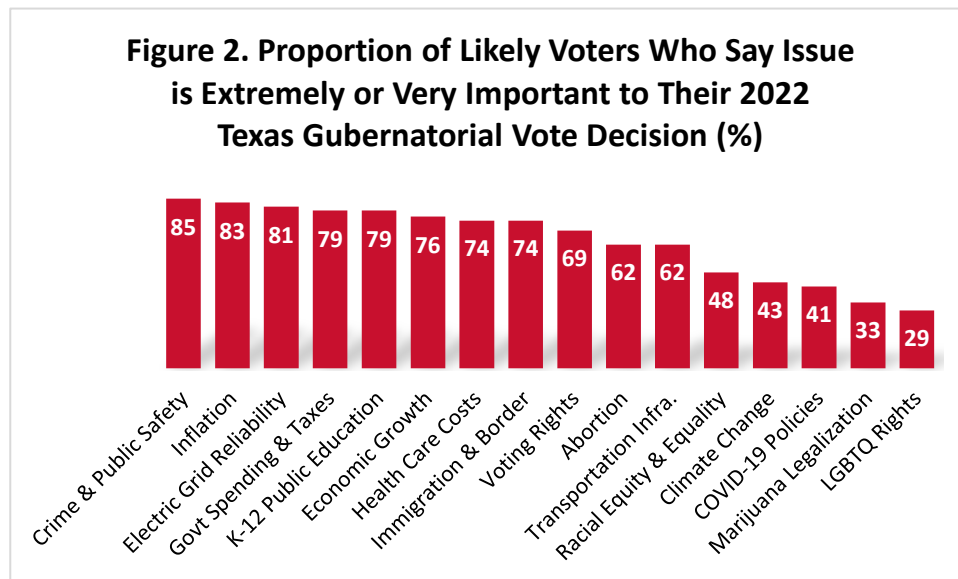
Abbott leads O’Rourke among members of the Silent Generation/Baby Boomer cohort and of Generation X by 33 (65% to 32%) and 16 (53% to 37%) percentage points respectively. O’Rourke leads Abbott among Millennials and members of Generation Z by 13 (53% to 40%) and 39 (64% to 25%) percentage points, respectively.

More than nine out of ten (91%) Republicans intend to vote for Abbott compared to 4% who intend to vote for O’Rourke and 3% who are undecided. More than nine out of ten (94%) Democrats intend to vote for O’Rourke compared to 2% who intend to vote for Abbott and 2% who are undecided. Independents favor Abbott over O’Rourke 55% to 33%, with 8% undecided.

Abbott holds a 10 percentage point lead over O’Rourke (53% to 43%) among those voters who plan to vote early in person or by mail, and a 30 percentage point advantage (60% to 30%) among the approximately one in four likely voters who intend to vote on Election Day.

The survey respondents were asked if 16 policy issues were extremely important, very important, somewhat important or not all important to their 2022 Texas gubernatorial vote decision (they could also answer don't know). The issues evaluated included the following: abortion, climate change, COVID-19 policies (including mask and vaccine mandates), crime and public safety, economic growth, electric grid reliability, government spending and taxes, health care costs (including prescription drugs), immigration and border security, inflation, K-12 public education, LGBTQ rights, marijuana legalization, racial equity and equality, transportation infrastructure, and voting rights.

Figure 2 provides the proportion of all likely voters who indicated that the issue was extremely or very important to their 2022 Texas gubernatorial vote decision.



Six issues are extremely or very important to the gubernatorial vote decision of more than three out of four likely voters: crime and public safety (85%), inflation (83%), electric grid reliability (81%), government spending and taxes (79%), K-12 public education (79%), and economic growth (76%).

Five other issues are extremely or very important to the gubernatorial voting decision of less than three-fourths, but more than three-fifths, of likely voters: health care costs (74%), immigration and border security (74%), voting rights (69%), abortion (62%), and transportation and infrastructure (62%).

Five issues are extremely or very important to the gubernatorial voting decision of less than half of likely voters: racial equity and equality (48%), climate change (43%), COVID-19 policies (41%), marijuana legalization (33%), and LGBTQ rights (29%).

Table 2 provides the proportion of all likely voters who indicated that the issue was extremely or very important to their 2022 Texas gubernatorial vote decision, as well as the proportion of Abbott and O'Rourke voters for whom the issue was extremely or very important to their gubernatorial vote decision.

**Table 2: Proportion of Likely Voters Who Say Issue is Extremely or Very Important to Their 2022 Texas Gubernatorial Vote Decision (%)**

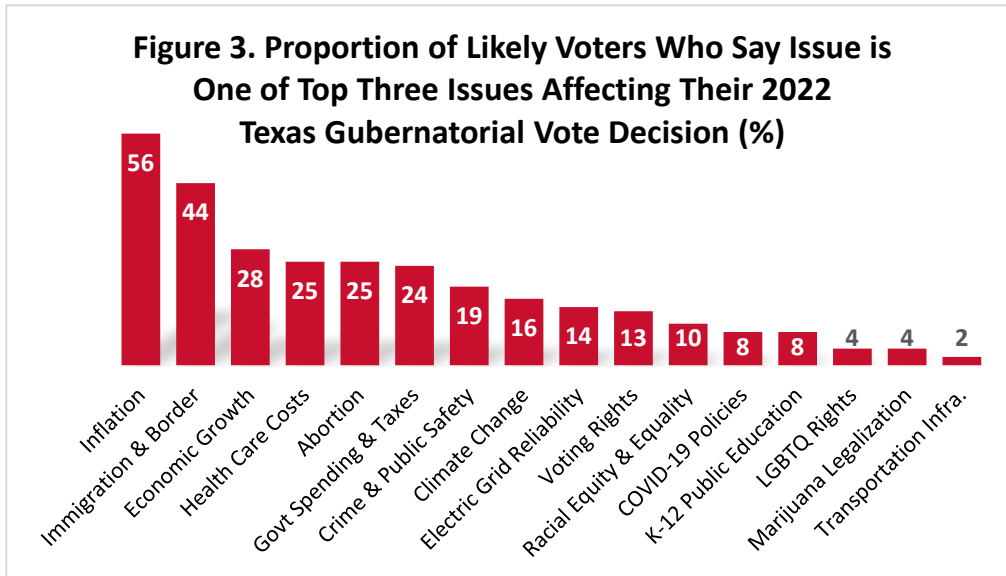
Issue	All Voters	Abbott Voters	O'Rourke Voters
Crime & Public Safety	85	92	77
Inflation	83	95	69
Electric Grid Reliability	81	78	88
Government Spending & Taxes	79	89	64
K-12 Public Education	79	78	83
Economic Growth	76	83	65
Health Care Costs	74	62	90
Immigration & Border Security	74	95	46
Voting Rights	69	54	90
Abortion	62	45	84
Transportation Infrastructure	62	57	72
Racial Equity & Equality	48	23	80
Climate Change	43	16	78
COVID-19 Policies	41	29	55
Marijuana Legalization	33	17	53
LGBTQ Rights	29	6	60

The five issues that are extremely or very important to the voting decision of the largest proportion of Abbott voters were inflation (95%), immigration and border security (95%), crime and public safety (92%), government spending and taxes (89%), and economic growth (83%).

The five issues that are extremely or very important to the voting decision of the largest proportion of O'Rourke voters were voting rights (90%), health care costs (90%), electric grid reliability (88%), abortion (84%), and K-12 public education (83%).

In sum, there is no overlap between the issues that are extremely or very important to the largest proportion of Abbott and O'Rourke voters.

The respondents were then asked to indicate which of these 16 issues was most important, second most important, and third most important to their 2022 gubernatorial vote decision. Figure 3 provides the proportion of all likely voters who ranked the 16 issues as one of the three most important to their 2022 gubernatorial vote decision.



Two issues stand out among all likely voters as being among the three most important issues guiding their 2022 gubernatorial vote decision. More than one-half (56%) of likely voters indicated that inflation was among the three most important issues, followed by 44% who identified immigration and border security as being among their top three decisive issues.

A second set of issues ranked among the top three determinants of the gubernatorial vote decision of approximately one in four likely voters: economic growth (28%), health care costs (25%), abortion (25%), and government spending and taxes (24%).

While crime and public safety is extremely or very important to the vote decision of the largest percentage (85%) of likely voters, it only ranks among the top three issues of 19% of likely voters, proximate to climate change (16%), electric grid reliability (14%), and voting rights (13%).

Five policies rank among the three most important issues of fewer than one in ten likely voters: COVID-19 policies (8%), K-12 public education (8%), LGBTQ rights (4%), marijuana legalization (4%), and transportation infrastructure (2%).



Table 3 provides the proportion of all likely voters as well as of Abbott and O’Rourke voters who ranked the 16 issues as one of the three most important to their 2022 gubernatorial vote decision.

**Table 3: Proportion of Voters Who Say Issue is One of Top Three Issues Affecting Their 2022 Texas Gubernatorial Vote Decision (%)**

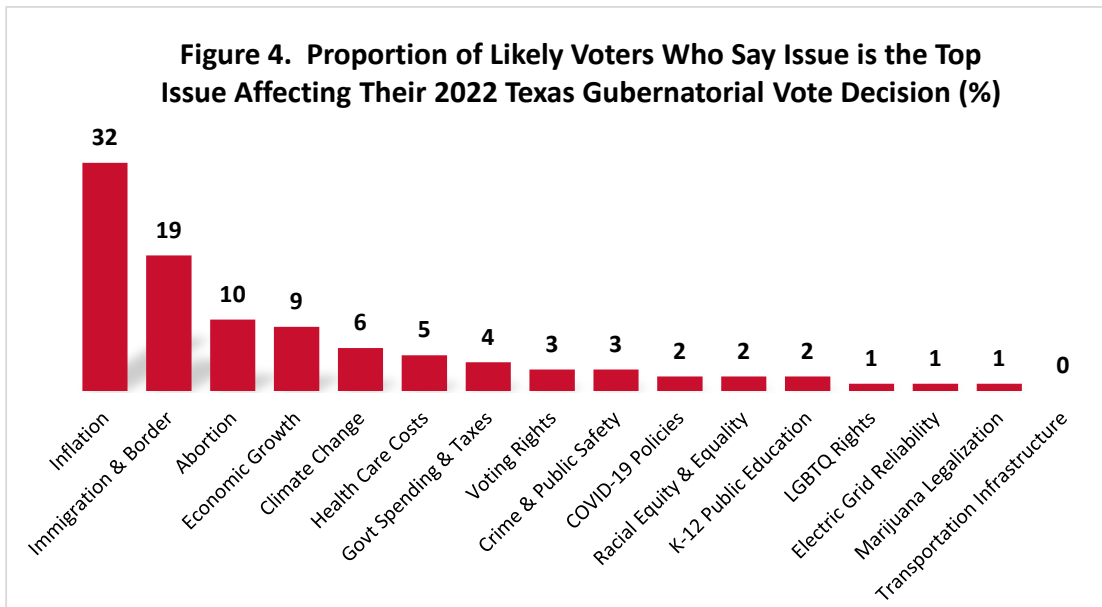
Issue	All Voters	Abbott Voters	O'Rourke Voters
Inflation	56	73	34
Immigration & Border Security	44	70	9
Economic Growth	28	34	20
Health Care Costs	25	15	37
Abortion	25	12	45
Government Spending & Taxes	24	35	10
Crime & Public Safety	19	26	10
Climate Change	16	5	31
Electric Grid Reliability	14	11	18
Voting Rights	13	3	28
Racial Equity & Equality	10	2	19
COVID-19 Policies	8	4	11
K-12 Public Education	8	7	9
LGBTQ Rights	4	0	9
Marijuana Legalization	4	2	7
Transportation Infrastructure	2	1	3

Two issues stand out as ranking among the top three of Abbott voters: inflation (73%) and immigration and border security (70%). The only other issues ranked among the three most important by more than one-fifth of Abbott voters are: government spending and taxes (35%), economic growth (34%), and crime and public safety (26%).

The top issues for O’Rourke voters are abortion (45%), health care costs (37%), inflation (34%), climate change (31%), and voting rights (28%).

The only issue upon which there exists overlap between the top-ranked issues of Abbott and O’Rourke voters is inflation, but even there, twice as many Abbott voters (73%) than O’Rourke voters (34%) listed inflation as one of the top three issues influencing their gubernatorial vote decision.

Figure 4 provides the proportion of likely voters who listed the issue as the single most important issue to their 2022 gubernatorial vote decision.



Only three issues have proportions in the double digits of likely voters that rank them as the most important to their 2022 gubernatorial vote decision: inflation (32%), immigration and border security (19%), and abortion (10%). And, only three other issues are listed as the most important by 5% or more of likely voters: economic growth (9%), climate change (6%), and health care costs (5%).

Table 4 provides the proportion of all likely voters, Abbott voters and O’Rourke voters who listed the issue as the single most important issue to their 2022 gubernatorial vote decision.

**Table 4: Proportion of Voters Who Say Issue is The Top Issue Affecting Their 2022 Texas Gubernatorial Vote Decision (%)**

Issue	All Voters	Abbott Voters	O’Rourke Voters
Inflation	32	40	20
Immigration & Border Security	19	33	1
Abortion	10	3	22
Economic Growth	9	10	8
Climate Change	6	1	14
Health Care Costs	5	2	8
Government Spending & Taxes	4	5	2
Voting Rights	3	0	7
Crime & Public Safety	3	3	2
COVID-19 Policies	2	1	4
Racial Equity & Equality	2	1	5
K-12 Public Education	2	1	3
LGBTQ Rights	1	0	1
Electric Grid Reliability	1	0	2
Marijuana Legalization	1	0	1
Transportation Infrastructure	0	0	0

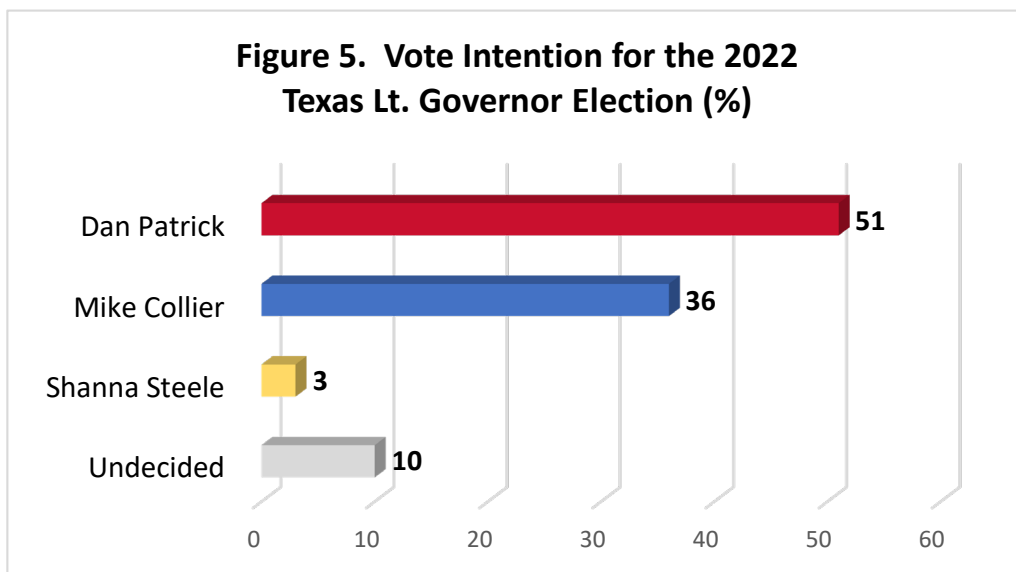
Inflation is the most important issue influencing the gubernatorial vote decision of two-fifths (40%) of Abbott voters, followed by immigration and border security (33%) and economic growth (10%), with no other issue listed as among the most important by more than 5% of Abbott voters.

Abortion (22%) and inflation (20%) are the two most important decisions influencing the gubernatorial vote decision of O'Rourke voters, followed by climate change (14%), health care costs (8%), economic growth (8%), and voting rights (7%).

As before, the only overlap occurs in the issue area of inflation, with, again, Abbott voters (40%) prioritizing it as their top issue at twice the rate of O'Rourke voters (20%).

### The 2022 Texas Lieutenant Governor Election

Figure 5 provides the vote intention among likely voters in the 2022 Texas lieutenant governor election. Republican Dan Patrick (51%) holds a 15 percentage point lead over Democrat Mike Collier (36%), with 3% intending to vote for Libertarian Shanna Steele, and 10% undecided.



More than nine out of ten Patrick (93%) and Collier (91%) voters are certain about their vote choice, while 7% and 9%, respectively, say they could still change their mind.

Patrick is viewed favorably by 47% of these likely voters and unfavorably by 38%, with 15% not knowing enough about him to have an opinion.

Collier is viewed favorably by 24% of these likely voters and unfavorably by 23%, with more than half (53%) not knowing enough about him to have an opinion.

Table 5 breaks down the lieutenant governor vote by the voter’s ethnicity/race, gender, generation, partisanship, and expected vote type (early in person or by mail [64% of likely voters] vs. in person on election day [26%], see Figure 13 for more information).

**Table 5: 2022 Texas Lt. Governor Vote Intention Among Likely Voters: Overall & by Sociodemographic Groups (%)**

Group	Sub-Group	Patrick	Collier	Don't Know/Unsure
Overall		51	36	10
Ethnicity/Race	White	64	26	8
	Latino	35	45	18
	Black	11	72	13
Gender	Women	46	37	14
	Men	57	33	7
Generation	Silent/Boomers	62	31	5
	Generation X	48	32	14
	Millennials	38	44	15
	Generation Z	24	45	28
Partisan ID	Democrat	2	88	9
	Independent	51	25	17
	Republican	87	4	7
Voting Type	Early in Person/By Mail	50	39	8
	Election Day	58	26	13

Patrick (64%) holds a 38 percentage point lead over Collier (26%) among white voters, while Collier (72%) holds a 61 percentage point lead over Patrick (11%) among Black voters. Collier (45%) holds a 10 percentage point lead over Patrick (35%) among Latino voters, with one in five (18%) Latino voters still undecided.

Patrick (57%) holds a 24 percentage point lead over Collier (33%) among men, and a 9 percentage point lead among women (46% to 37%).

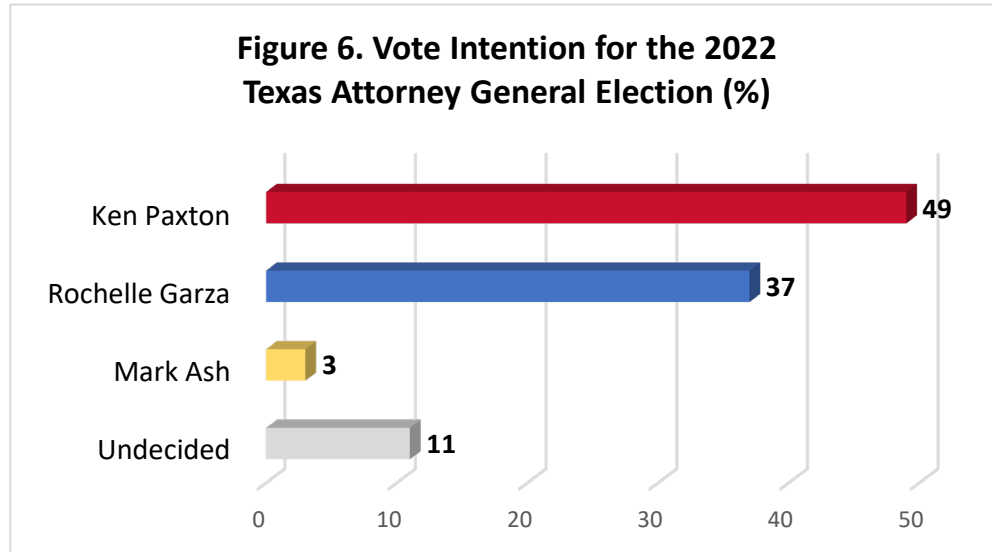
Patrick leads Collier among members of the Silent Generation/Baby Boomer cohort and of Generation X by 31 (62% to 31%) and 16 (48% to 32%) percentage points, respectively. Collier leads Patrick among Millennials and members of Generation Z by 6 (44% to 38%) and 21 (45% to 24%) percentage points, respectively, with more than one in four (28%) of the members of Generation Z still undecided.

Almost nine out of ten (87%) Republicans intend to vote for Patrick compared to 4% who intend to vote for Collier and 7% who are undecided. Almost nine out of ten (88%) Democrats intend to vote for Collier compared to 2% who intend to vote for Patrick and 9% who are undecided. Independents favor Patrick over Collier 51% to 25%, with 17% undecided.

Patrick holds an 11 percentage point lead over Collier (50% to 39%) among those voters who plan to vote early in person or by mail, and a 32 percentage point advantage (58% to 26%) among the approximately one in four likely voters who intend to vote on Election Day.

## The 2022 Texas Attorney General Election

Figure 6 provides the vote intention among likely voters in the 2022 Texas attorney general election. Republican Ken Paxton (49%) holds a 12 percentage point lead over Democrat Rochelle Garza (37%), with 3% intending to vote for Libertarian Mark Ash, and 11% undecided.



Nine out of ten Paxton (93%) and Garza (90%) voters are certain about their vote choice, while 7% and 10% respectively say they could still change their mind.

Paxton is viewed favorably by 46% of these likely voters and unfavorably by 39%, with 15% not knowing enough about him to have an opinion.

Garza is viewed favorably by 23% of these likely voters and unfavorably by 22%, with more than half (55%) not knowing enough about her to have an opinion.

Table 6 breaks down the attorney general vote by the voter’s ethnicity/race, gender, generation, partisanship, and expected vote type (early in person or by mail [64% of likely voters] vs. in person on election day [26%]; see Figure 13 for more information).

**Table 6: 2022 Texas Attorney General Vote Intention Among Likely Voters: Overall & by Sociodemographic Groups (%)**

Group	Sub-Group	Paxton	Garza	Don't Know/Unsure
Overall		49	37	11
Ethnicity/Race	White	62	26	9
	Latino	33	48	17
	Black	11	73	14
Gender	Women	45	37	15
	Men	55	36	7
Generation	Silent/Boomers	61	31	6
	Generation X	48	33	14
	Millennials	34	49	16
	Generation Z	21	49	27
Partisan ID	Democrat	1	90	8
	Independent	50	26	18
	Republican	86	4	8
Voting Type	Early in Person/By Mail	48	40	9
	Election Day	57	27	14

Paxton (62%) holds a 36 percentage point lead over Garza (26%) among white voters, while Garza (73%) holds a 62 percentage point lead over Paxton (11%) among Black voters, with one in seven (14%) Black voters still undecided. Garza (48%) holds a 15 percentage point lead over Paxton (33%) among Latino voters, with one in six (17%) Latino voters still undecided.

Paxton (55%) holds a 19 percentage point lead over Garza (36%) among men, and an 8 percentage point lead among women (45% to 37%).

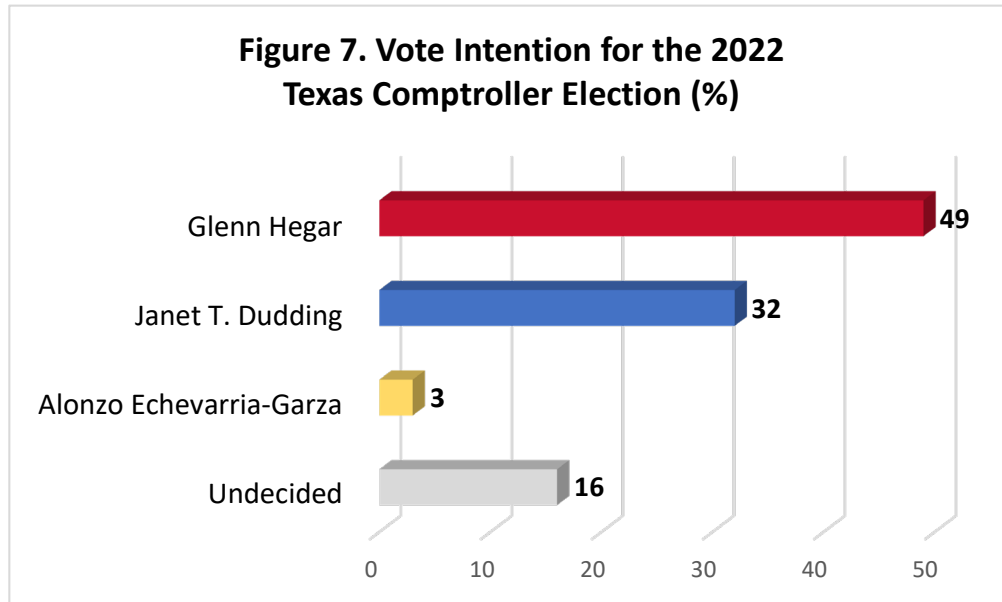
Paxton leads Garza among members of the Silent Generation/Baby Boomer cohort and of Generation X by 30 (61% to 31%) and 15 (48% to 33%) percentage points, respectively. Garza leads Paxton among Millennials and members of Generation Z by 15 (49% to 34%) and 28 (49% to 21%) percentage points, respectively, with more than one in four (27%) of the members of Generation Z still undecided.

Almost nine out of ten (86%) Republicans intend to vote for Paxton compared to 4% who intend to vote for Garza and 8% who are undecided. Nine out of ten (90%) Democrats intend to vote for Garza compared to 1% who intend to vote for Paxton and 8% who are undecided. Independents favor Paxton over Garza 50% to 26%, with 18% undecided.

Paxton holds an 8 percentage point lead over Garza (48% to 40%) among those voters who plan to vote early in person or by mail, and a 30 percentage point advantage (57% to 27%) among the approximately one in four likely voters who intend to vote on Election Day.

## The 2022 Texas Comptroller General Election

Figure 7 provides the vote intention among likely voters in the 2022 Texas comptroller election. Republican Glenn Hegar (49%) holds a 17 percentage point lead over Democrat Janet Dudding (32%), with 3% intending to vote for Libertarian V. Alonzo Echevarria-Garza, and one in six (16%) likely voters still undecided.



Among the 16% of voters who are undecided in the comptroller race, in the gubernatorial contest 41% intend to vote for O'Rourke, 35% for Abbott, 4% for Tippetts and 1% for Barrios, with 19% undecided.

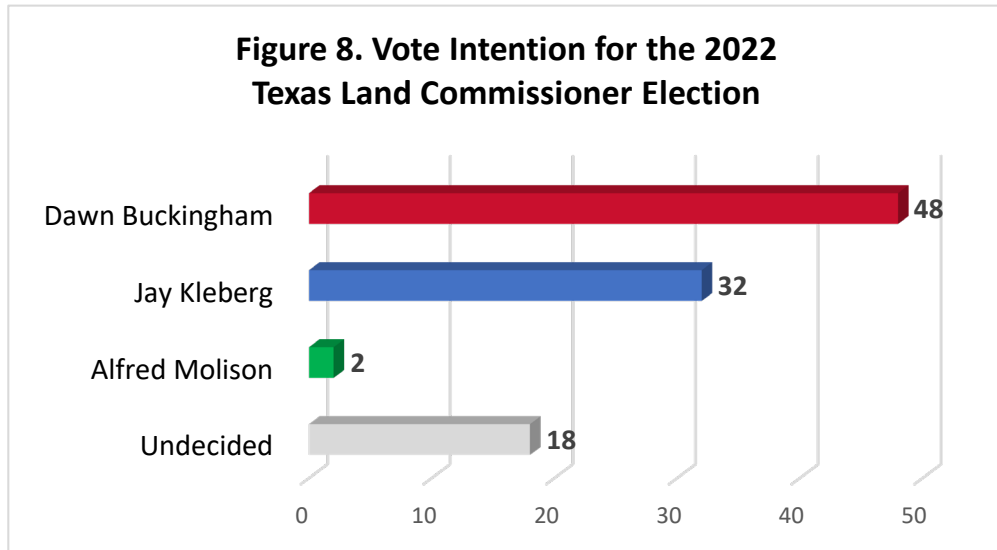
Nine out of ten Hegar (94%) and Dudding (89%) voters are certain about their vote choice, while 6% and 11%, respectively, say they could still change their mind.

Hegar is viewed favorably by 28% of these likely voters and unfavorably by 18%, with more than half (54%) not knowing enough about him to have an opinion.

Dudding is viewed favorably by 13% of these likely voters and unfavorably by 16%, with more than two-thirds (71%) not knowing enough about her to have an opinion.

## The 2022 Texas Land Commissioner Election

Figure 8 provides the vote intention among likely voters in the 2022 Texas general land commissioner election. Republican Dawn Buckingham (48%) holds a 16 percentage point lead over Democrat Jay Kleberg (32%), with 2% intending to vote for the Green Party's Alfred Molison, and one in five (18%) likely voters still undecided.



Among the 18% of voters who are undecided in the land commissioner race, in the gubernatorial contest 39% intend to vote for O'Rourke, 39% for Abbott, 4% for Tippetts and 1% for Barrios, with 17% undecided.

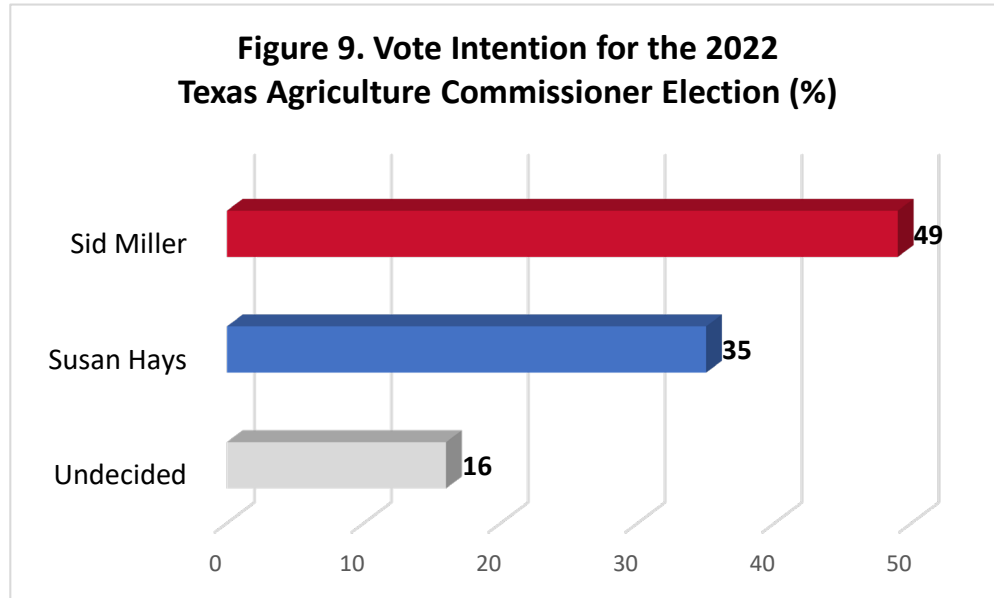
Buckingham is viewed favorably by 23% of these likely voters and unfavorably by 15%, with more than three-fifths (62%) not knowing enough about her to have an opinion.

Kleberg is viewed favorably by 14% of these likely voters and unfavorably by 18%, with more than two-thirds (68%) not knowing enough about him to have an opinion.



## The 2022 Texas Agriculture Commissioner Election

Figure 9 provides the vote intention among likely voters in the 2022 Texas agriculture commissioner election. Republican Sid Miller (49%) holds a 14 percentage point lead over Democrat Susan Hays (35%), with one in six (16%) likely voters still undecided.



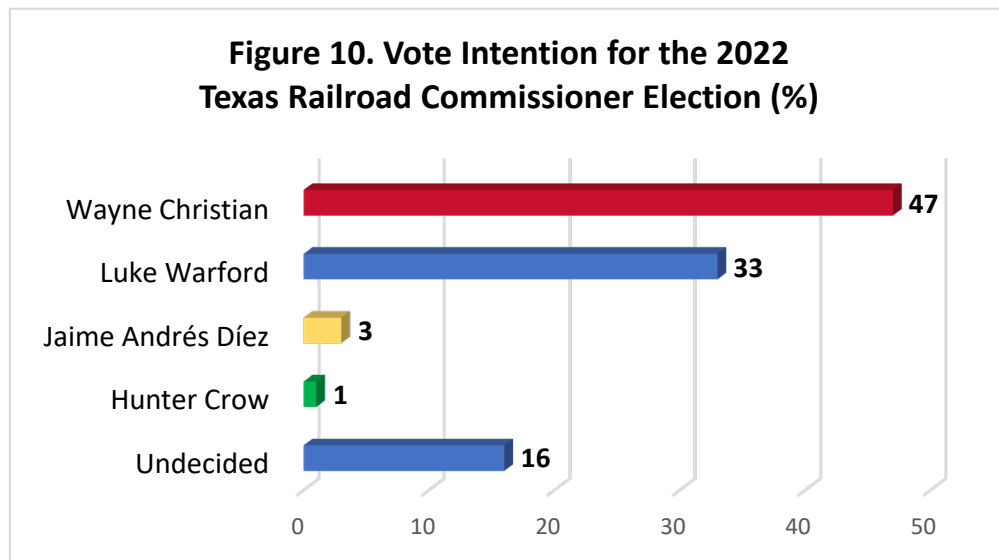
Among the 16% of voters who are undecided in the agriculture commissioner race, in the gubernatorial contest 37% intend to vote for O'Rourke, 35% for Abbott, 5% for Tippetts and 2% for Barrios, with 21% undecided.

Miller is viewed favorably by 30% of these likely voters and unfavorably by 19%, with more than half (51%) not knowing enough about him to have an opinion.

Hays is viewed favorably by 16% of these likely voters and unfavorably by 18%, with two-thirds (66%) not knowing enough about her to have an opinion.

## The 2022 Texas Railroad Commissioner Election

Figure 10 provides the vote intention among likely voters in the 2022 Texas railroad commissioner election (the three Texas railroad commissioners are elected for six-year terms on a staggered cycle under which one is up for election every two years). Republican Wayne Christian (47%) holds a 14 percentage point lead over Democrat Luke Warford (33%), with 3% intending to vote for Libertarian Jaime Andrés Díez and 1% for the Green Party's Hunter Crow, with one in six (16%) likely voters still undecided.



Among the 16% of voters who are undecided in the railroad commissioner race, in the gubernatorial contest 42% intend to vote for O'Rourke, 37% for Abbott, 3% for Tippetts and 0% for Barrios, with 18% undecided.

Christian is viewed favorably by 21% of these likely voters and unfavorably by 16%, with more than three-fifths (63%) not knowing enough about him to have an opinion.

Warford is viewed favorably by 12% of these likely voters and unfavorably by 16%, with more than two-thirds (72%) not knowing enough about him to have an opinion.

## The 2022 Congressional and County Judge Elections (Generic Ballot)

Figure 11 provides the generic congressional vote intention across the 38 Texas U.S. House districts while Figure 12 provides the generic county judge vote intention across the 254 Texas counties. The response options were the Republican candidate, the Democratic candidate, neither the Republican nor the Democratic candidate, and don't know/undecided (note: not all of these actual races have both a Republican and a Democratic candidate).

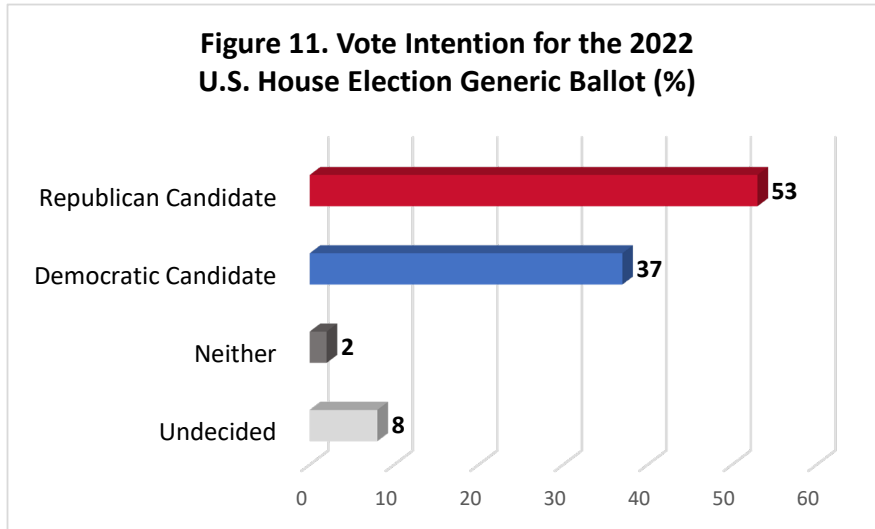
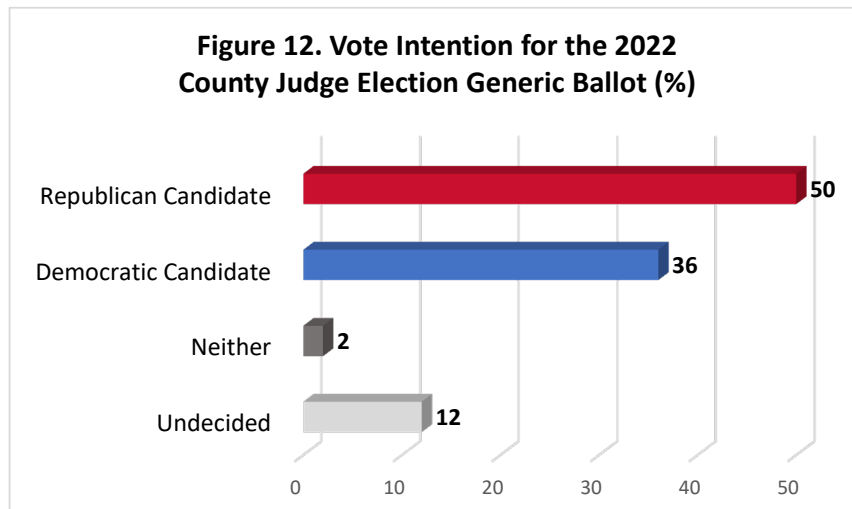


Figure 11 indicates that 53% of likely voters intend to cast a vote for the Republican U.S. House candidate in their district while 37% intend to cast a vote for the Democratic U.S. House candidate in their district. One in fifty (2%) likely voters say they will vote for neither the Republican nor the Democrat in these congressional contests while 8% are undecided.

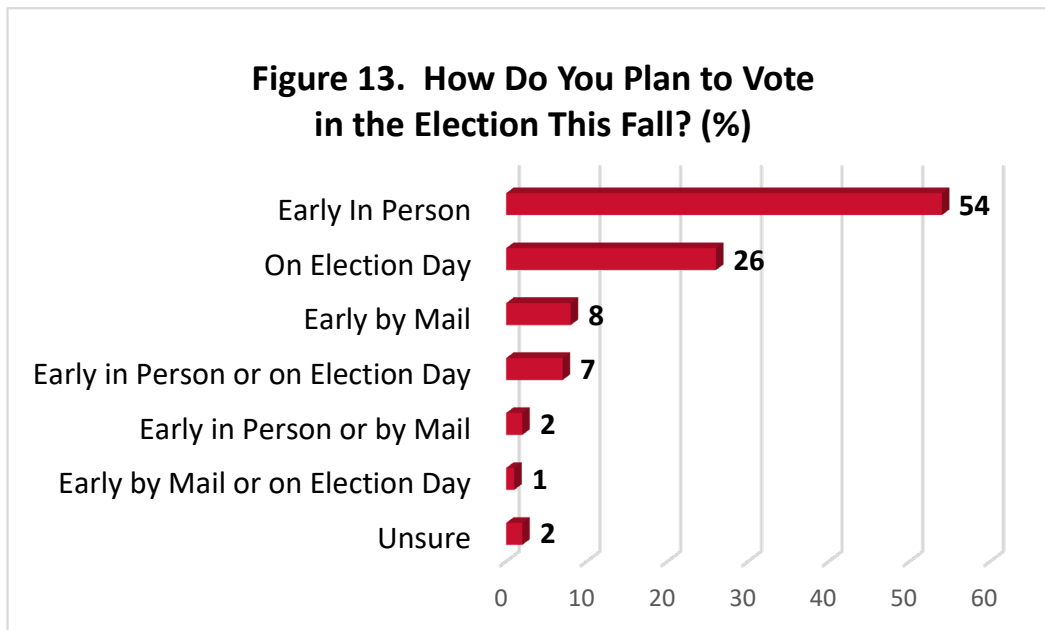
Figure 12 indicates that 50% of likely voters intend to cast a vote for the Republican county judge candidate in their county while 36% intend to cast a vote for the Democratic county judge candidate in their county. One in fifty (2%) likely voters say they will vote for neither the Republican nor Democrat in the county judge election while 12% are undecided.



## The Voting Plans of Likely Voters: Early Vote In-Person, Early by Mail, Election Day In-Person

The survey respondents were asked how they planned to vote in this fall's election. The response options were in-person during the early voting period (October 24 to November 4), early by-mail/absentee ballot, in-person on Election Day (November 8), either in-person during the early voting period or in-person on Election Day, either early by-mail/absentee ballot or in-person during the early voting period, either early by-mail absentee ballot or in-person on Election Day, or unsure/don't know.

Figure 13 provides the distribution of the responses. More than one-half of the likely voters (54%) indicate they plan to vote early in-person, while 8% plan to vote early by mail, and 2% plan to vote early in person or early by mail, for a total of 64% that plan to vote early. One in four (26%) respondents plans to vote on Election Day, with the remaining 10% distributed among those who plan to either vote early in-person or on Election Day (7%), early by mail or on Election Day (1%), or did not know how they were going to vote (2%).



## Approval and Disapproval of Political Figures Among Texas Likely Voters

Before the respondents were asked any vote intention questions, they were asked if they had a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of 25 national and state political figures, or if they did not know enough about the person to have an opinion.

Table 7 provides the proportion of likely voters with a favorable and unfavorable opinion of these figures (with the proportion holding a very favorable and very unfavorable opinion of the person in parentheses), as well as the proportion of likely voters who responded that they did not know enough about the person to have an opinion about them.

**Table 7. Texas Likely Voter Approval and Disapproval of Political Figures (%)**

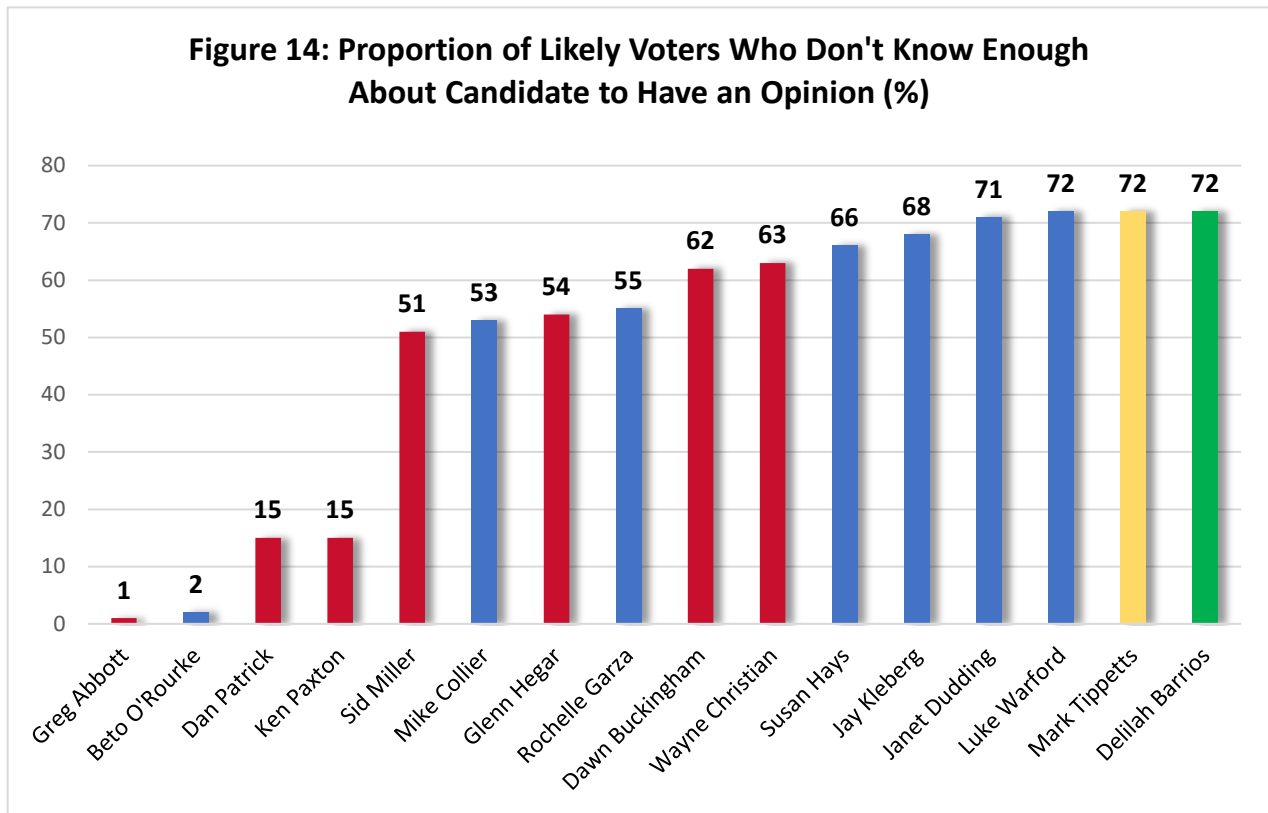
Political Figure	Favorable	Unfavorable	Don't Know Enough About
Greg Abbott	56 (34)	43 (35)	1
Donald Trump	53 (31)	45 (38)	2
Ted Cruz	53 (28)	43 (35)	4
Ron DeSantis	50 (37)	33 (27)	17
Dan Patrick	47 (23)	38 (29)	15
Ken Paxton	46 (21)	39 (29)	15
Beto O'Rourke	42 (27)	56 (51)	2
John Cornyn	37 (9)	47 (27)	16
Joe Biden	37 (18)	61 (54)	2
Kamala Harris	35 (16)	63 (55)	2
Nancy Pelosi	33 (14)	64 (56)	3
Sid Miller	30 (12)	19 (11)	51
Glenn Hegar	28 (10)	18 (9)	54
Chuck Schumer	27 (10)	58 (47)	15
Mitch McConnell	25 (5)	63 (41)	12
Mike Collier	24 (10)	23 (14)	53
Dawn Buckingham	23 (10)	15 (9)	62
Rochelle Garza	23 (9)	22 (14)	55
Wayne Christian	21 (8)	16 (8)	63
Susan Hays	16 (6)	18 (9)	66
Jay Kleberg	14 (6)	18 (8)	68
Janet Dudding	13 (6)	16 (9)	71
Luke Warford	12 (5)	16 (7)	72
Delilah Barrios	11 (2)	17 (9)	72
Mark Tippetts	11 (1)	17 (8)	72

Percentage of Strongly Approve and Strongly Disapprove in parentheses.

Four political figures are viewed favorably by one-half or more of these likely voters: Texas Governor Greg Abbott (56%), former president Donald Trump (53%), Texas U.S. Senator Ted Cruz (53%), and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis (50%).

Six political figures are viewed unfavorably by one-half or more of these likely voters: U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (64%), Vice President Kamala Harris (63%), U.S. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (63%), President Joe Biden (61%), U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (58%), and Texas gubernatorial candidate Beto O'Rourke (56%).

Figure 14 displays the proportion of these likely voters who do not know enough about the Republican and Democratic Texas plural executive candidates on the November 8, 2022 ballot to have an opinion about them, along with the Libertarian and Green Party gubernatorial candidates.



Republican gubernatorial candidate Greg Abbott and Democratic gubernatorial candidate Beto O'Rourke are universally well known, with only 1% and 2% of likely voters, respectively, saying that they don't know enough about them to have an opinion.

In a second tier of recognition are the Republican lieutenant governor and attorney general candidates, Dan Patrick and Ken Paxton, with 85% of likely voters knowing enough about them to have an opinion while 15% do not.

More than half of Texas 2022 likely voters do not know enough about all of the remaining 12 candidates to have an opinion, including three Republican incumbents running for re-election, one Republican running for an open position, every Democrat not named Beto O'Rourke, and both minor party gubernatorial candidates.

The four best-known candidates among these dozen lesser-known candidates are the incumbent Republican nominees for agriculture commissioner (Sid Miller) and comptroller (Glenn Hegar) and the Democratic nominees for lieutenant governor (Mike Collier) and attorney general (Rochelle Garza). Just

over half of likely voters don't know enough about Miller (51%), Collier (53%), Hegar (54%), and Garza (55%) to have an opinion about them.

The four least well-known candidates are the Libertarian (Mark Tippetts) and Green Party (Delilah Barrios) gubernatorial candidates and the Democratic railroad commissioner (Luke Warford) and comptroller (Janet Dudding) candidates. Almost three-fourths of likely voters don't know enough about Tippetts (72%), Barrios (72%), Warford (72%) and Dudding (71%) to have an opinion about them.

In between these two extremes are the Republican candidates for land commissioner (Dawn Buckingham) and railroad commissioner (Wayne Christian) along with the Democratic candidates for agriculture commissioner (Susan Hays) and land commissioner (Jay Kleberg). Between three-fifths and just over two-thirds of likely voters don't know enough about Buckingham (62%), Christian (63%), Hays (66%), and Kleberg (68%) to have an opinion about them.

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