

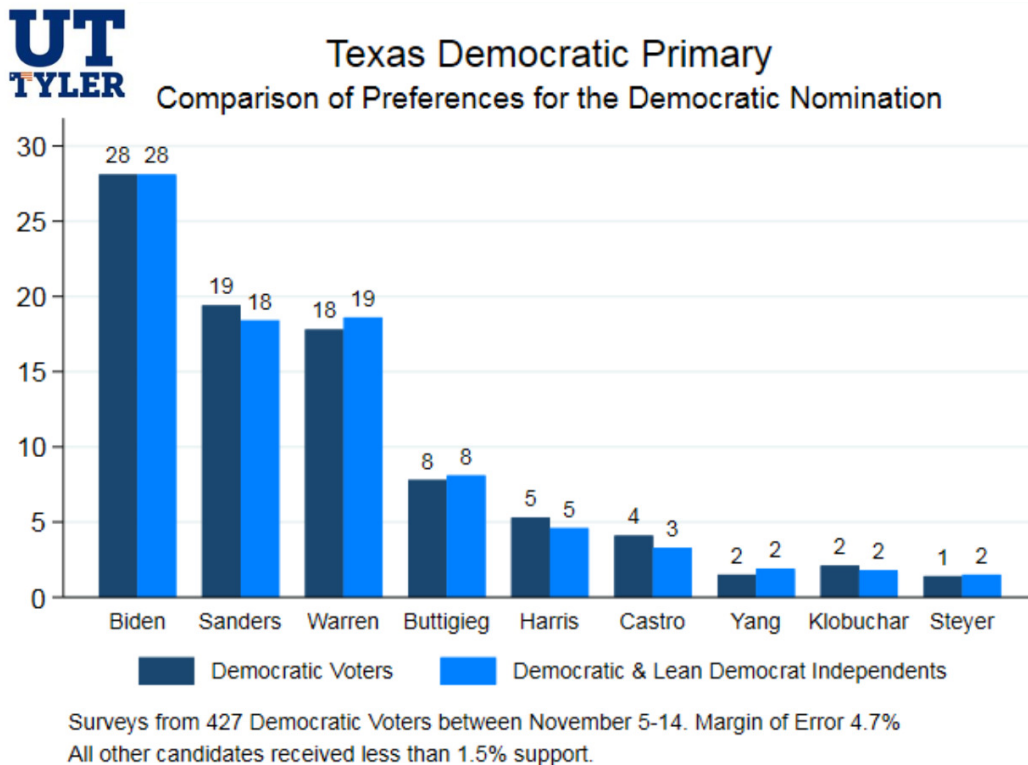


## UT Tyler Releases Pre-Debate Poll

*Biden & Warren Gain More Support Among Democrats in Texas. Also, Clear Coalitions are forming in the Democratic Senate Race*

Released: **Monday, November 18, 2019**

*Tyler, Texas* – In the first post-Beto Texas statewide survey of the Democratic field, former Vice President Joe Biden holds a commanding lead with 28 percent support. His closest rivals are Senators Bernie Sanders (19%) and Elizabeth Warren (18%). 11 percent of Texas Democrats remain undecided. This survey gives an early look at the Democratic primary in Texas after 20 percent of the voters were without their leading candidate at the start of the month.



Biden is ahead among key demographic groups within the Democratic party. Significantly, he leads among women (both white and African-American) by double-digits, older voters (e.g. 45-plus), and African-Americans. His popularity among black Democrats may be explained in part by their chief consideration for choosing a nominee: someone who will continue the agenda of Barack Obama. That said, Senator Sanders leads Biden by 20

percent among Latino Democrats and 27 percent among voters between the ages of 18 and 29 years.

### Tracking Momentum Across Recent UT Tyler Polls

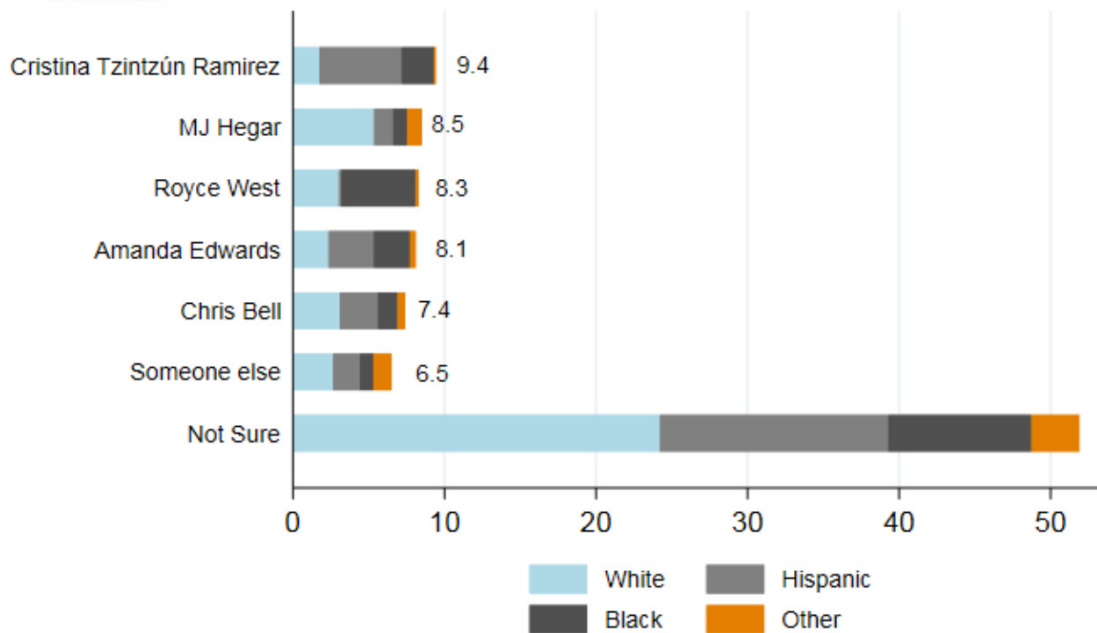
Candidate	Change	November	September	August	July
Biden	+ 2.1%	28.1%	26.0%	23.0%	24.4%
Sanders	+ 1.6%	19.4	17.6	16.0	15.4
Warren	+ 6.7%	17.8	11.1	10.3	10.6
Buttigieg	+ 4.6%	7.8	3.2	3.9	1.5
Harris	- 0.1%	5.3	5.4	5.3	8.5
Castro	+0.1%	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.3

The percentages above indicate the change in candidate support among self-identified Democrats in each of the UT Tyler surveys that have occurred following previous candidate debates. These trends in candidate support also look similar if we include independents that lean towards the Democratic Party. The only exception with the more inclusive definition of the electorate in the March primary is that support for Senator Sanders fades and support for Senator Warren increases slightly.

### SENATE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY: CLEAR COALITIONS FORMING



#### U.S. Senate Texas Democratic Primary



Surveys from 427 Democratic Voters between November 5-14. Margin of Error 4.7%

The vast majority of Texas Democrats remain undecided on the U.S. senate primary. No candidate is winning double-digit support nor leading outside of the margin of error. Nonetheless, our results reveal stark racial contours among the supporters of the declared

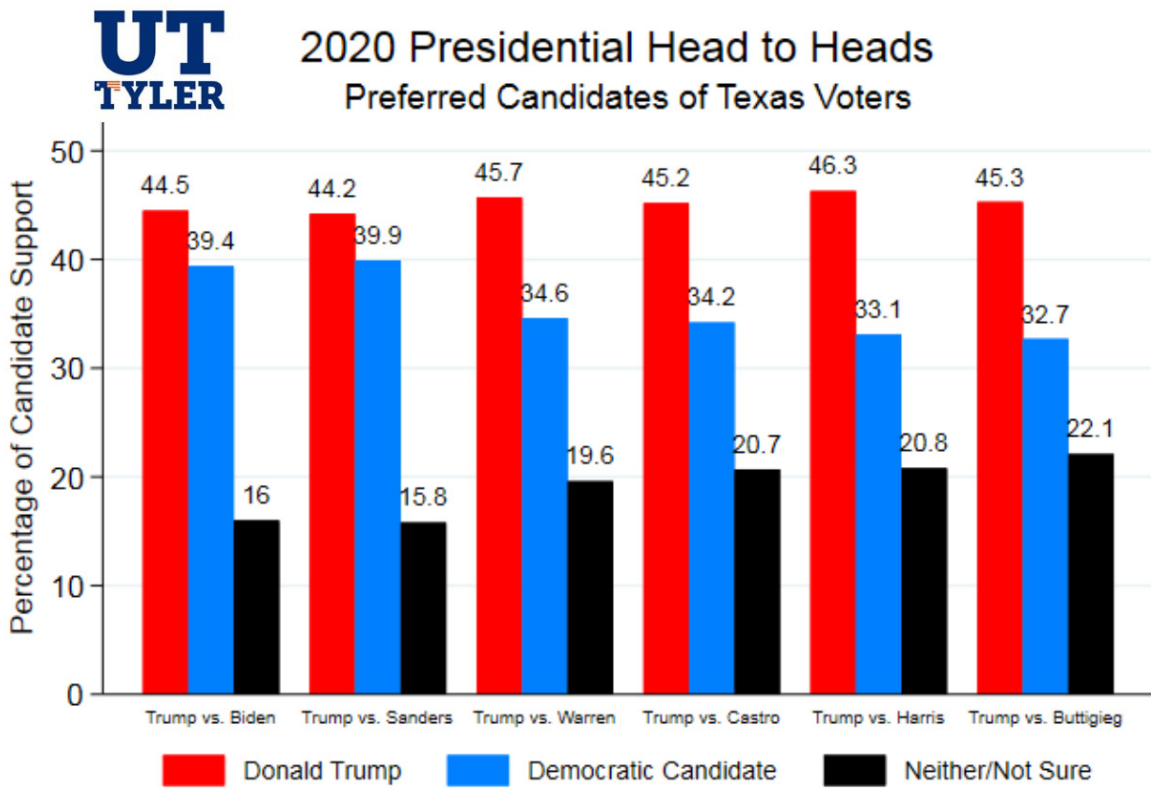
candidates. MJ Hegar (a white woman) is leading by 5 percent among white voters (followed by former U.S. Representative Chris Bell – a white man). Meanwhile, Texas state senator Royce West, a black man, is leading among black voters by 12 percent. Finally, Latina organizer and activist Cristina Ramirez is ahead with Latino Democrats by 19 percent.

**PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL DURING THE IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY**

President Donald Trump’s job approval is up from our last survey in September. It now stands at 43 percent approval among all registered Texans. His disapproval stands at 49 percent with 8 percent not sure. When asked to consider what they currently know, whether President Trump should or should not be impeached, 45 percent support impeachment and 47 percent do not. 8 percent of respondents were not sure. Clearly, these results indicate an ambivalence among Texans on the question of impeachment.

**EARLY LOOK AT THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION: FEWER UNDECIDEDS FOR EACH MATCH UP**

One year out from the 2020 election, President Trump is leading all Democrats in head to head contests. He beats Joe Biden (+5), Bernie Sanders (+4), and Elizabeth Warren (+11). Kamala Harris, Pete Buttigieg, and Julian Castro also trail Trump by double-digits. Interestingly, Trump’s surging support in head to heads since September appears to be coming from previously undecided respondents.



Surveys from 1,093 registered voters between November 5-14, 2019. Margin of Error +/-2.96

## **POLICY ISSUES: INTEREST IN MANDATORY BUYBACK OF GUNS FADES**

On gun issues, a plurality of Texans (42%) now disapprove of a mandatory buyback program to turn in all assault weapons for payment (37% approve). This is a significant shift from our September survey, which found a near majority approval for such a program. Our November results indicate that both Republicans and Independents have changed their minds. For instance, 33 percent of Texas Republicans approved of a mandatory buyback in September, that number now stands at 17 percent. Overall, 21 percent of Texans are still ambivalent about the issue.

### **Methodology**

The UT Tyler-Texas Opinion Survey reflects a statewide random sample of 1,093 registered voters during the ten days between November 5 and November 14. The mixed mode sample includes 397 registered voters who took the survey by phone and 696 registered voters that were randomly selected from a panel of registered voters that have opted-in to take surveys through a company called Dynata. The online and phone surveys were conducted in English and Spanish.

The data were weighted to be representative of the Texas register voter population. Iterative weighting was used to balance sample demographics to the state population parameters. The sample is balanced to match parameters for gender, age, race/ethnicity, and education using an iterated process known as raking. These parameters were derived from 2018 Current Population Survey to reflect Texas's electorate. The use of these weights in statistical analysis ensures that the characteristics of the sample closely reflect the characteristics of registered voters in Texas.

In this poll, the sampling error for 1,093 registered voters in Texas is +/- 2.96 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence interval. The survey's design asked additional questions to 427 registered voters who identify with the Democratic Party as members or independents that lean towards the party (margin of error of +/- 4.7%).

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A member of the prestigious UT System, The University of Texas at Tyler focuses on student success and innovative research in the more than 80 undergraduate and graduate degree programs offered. With more than 10,000 students, UT Tyler has facilities in Tyler, Longview, Palestine and Houston.

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**Survey of Registered Voters in Texas**

**Are you very enthusiastic, somewhat enthusiastic, somewhat unenthusiastic, or very unenthusiastic about voting in the March primary?**

	Weighted	Strong Dem.	Weak Dem.	Ind. Dem	Ind. No party	Ind. Rep.	Weak Rep.	Strong Rep.
Very Enthusiastic	49.4%	71.8%	33.9%	38.3%	36.5%	35.7%	23.5%	61.7%
Somewhat Enthusiastic	27.9	19.9	31.8	32.4	16.8	41.2	45.6	25.1
No opinion	11.1	4.0	26.5	6.7	5.1	8.5	12.3	6.1
Somewhat Unenthusiastic	6.5	0.9	4.8	10.8	27.0	7.9	14.4	5.0
Very Unenthusiastic	5.2	3.4	3.1	11.8	14.7	6.7	4.5	2.1
Total = 1,090		233	89	81	22	131	126	337

**In the 2020 primary, do you plan to vote in the Democratic primary, Republican primary, or not at all?**

	Weighted
Democratic primary	40.8%
Republican primary	43.3
Neither	5.7
Not sure	10.2
Total = 1,090	

**Do you consider yourself to be a Republican, Democrat, or neither?**

	Weighted
Republican	38.9%
Democrat	35.0
Neither	26.1
Total = 1,093	

**[If Republican or Democrat] Do you consider yourself to be a strong [Republican/ Democrat] or not strong [Republican/ Democrat]?**

**OR [If independent, no preference, or other party] Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or to the Democratic Party?**

	Weighted
Strong Republican	29.5%
Not strong Republican	12.1
Lean Republican, Independent	11.8
Lean to no Party, Independent	2.0
Lean Democratic, Independent	7.3
Not strong Democrat	10.6
Strong Democrat	26.9
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Total = 1,021	

**Using a 7-point scale where 1 is extremely liberal and 7 is extremely conservative, how would you rate your political views.**

	Weighted	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Extremely liberal	8.7%	17.1%	2.3%	4.8%
Liberal	12.4	24.9	6.5	4.6
Slightly Liberal	8.5	12.2	14.3	2.2
Moderate, Middle of the Road	26.1	29.4	46.5	12.6
Slightly Conservative	12.0	8.1	14.8	13.9
Conservative	17.2	4.0	11.1	31.8
Extremely Conservative	15.1	4.3	4.5	30.1
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Total = 1,000		365	217	418

**In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way President Donald Trump is handling his job as President?**

	Weighted	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Approve	43.3%	7.0%	33.6%	81.5%
Disapprove	49.0	86.5	54.3	12.2
Don't Know	7.7	6.5	12.1	6.4
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Total = 1,026		376	233	417

**In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Senator John Cornyn is handling his job as Senator?**

	Weighted	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Approve	36.1%	15.9%	22.2%	62.1%
Disapprove	34.6	60.4	32.4	12.5
Don't Know	29.3	32.4	45.4	25.4
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Total = 1,027		376	233	418

**[If Democrat] Please list in order of importance the following characteristics you prefer in a Democratic nominee for president.**

	Rank 1	Rank 2	Rank 3	Rank 4
Closest to [me] on the issues	36.5%	30.1%	18.1%	15.3%
Supports the policy legacy of President Obama	30.5	17.7	20.2	31.6
Will appeal to independents	25.7	29.0	27.3	18.0
Will energize the base	20.2	27.0	26.7	26.0
Total = 422				

**[If Democrat or Independent closer to Democratic Party] Who is your FIRST CHOICE candidate in the Democratic primary?**

	Dem.	Ind. (Lean D)	All	White	Hispanic	Black
Joe Biden	28.1%	28.2%	28.1%	33.2%	19.8%	30.9%
Bernie Sanders	19.4	14.5	18.4	11.0	39.4	7.1
Elizabeth Warren	17.8	21.5	18.6	23.3	11.4	17.9
Pete Buttigieg	7.8	9.2	8.1	13.0	4.0	5.7
Kamala Harris	5.3	1.5	4.6	4.4	-	7.9
Julian Castro	4.1	-	3.3	1.3	6.2	3.0
Andrew Yang	1.5	3.3	1.9	-	3.9	3.0
Amy Klobuchar	2.1	0.8	1.8	2.0	2.4	0.9
Tom Steyer	1.4	-	1.5	0.5	2.3	-
Tulsi Gabbard	0.8	2.4	1.1	1.4	1.7	-
Marian Williamson	1.2	-	1.0	-	-	4.3
Joe Sestak	1.1	-	0.9	-	3.1	-
Cory Booker	0.4	0.9	0.5	0.6	-	-
John Delaney	0.1	-	0.1	-	-	-
Michael Bennett	-	-	-	-	-	-
Steve Bullock	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wayne Messam	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not Sure	8.8	17.6	10.6	9.4	3.8	18.1
Total =	324	103	427	260	58	62

**[If Democrat or Independent closer to Democratic Party] Who is your SECOND CHOICE candidate in the Democratic primary?**

	Dem.	Ind. (Lean D)	All	White	Hispanic	Black
Joe Biden	16.4%	21.2%	17.3%	17.3%	18.0%	17.6%
Elizabeth Warren	20.2	11.8	18.5	19.2	20.6	15.7
Bernie Sanders	16.4	9.7	17.3	8.9	13.4	14.2
Pete Buttigieg	10.8	11.3	10.6	18.5	6.0	1.1
Kamala Harris	8.6	7.9	8.4	6.8	8.4	12.4
Julian Castro	5.6	4.5	5.4	3.1	12.5	-
Cory Booker	4.0	3.2	3.9	2.8	3.0	7.3
Amy Klobuchar	3.2	3.8	3.3	4.9	1.1	4.2
Tulsi Gabbard	2.5	-	2.0	1.3	2.8	3.0
John Delaney	1.3	0.3	1.1	0.2	2.3	-
Marian Williamson	1.2	-	1.0	1.4	1.2	-
Michael Bennett	0.9	-	0.7	-	-	2.8
Joe Sestak	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.2	-	2.4
Wayne Messam	0.6	-	0.5	-	1.7	-
Andrew Yang	0.5	2.2	0.8	1.9	-	-
Tom Steyer	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.4	1.2	-
Not Sure	11.0	17.6	13.3	12.6	6.0	19.2
Total =	322	103	424	258	59	62

**[If Democrat or Independent Lean Democrat] In the Texas Democratic primary for the U.S. Senate, which candidate do you support?**

	Weighted	White	Hispanic	Black
Cristina Tzintzún Ramirez	9.4%	4.1%	18.6%	9.9%
M.J. Hegar	8.5	12.6	4.3	4.2
Royce West	8.3	7.2	0.5	22.3
Amanda Edwards	8.1	5.6	10.2	10.9
Chris Bell	7.4	7.3	8.6	5.9
Someone else	6.5	6.3	6.1	4.0
Not sure	51.9	57.0	51.7	42.9
Total = 427		260	59	63



**[If Republican] If the general election for president were held today, for whom would you vote?**

	Weighted
Donald Trump	78.3%
Mark Sanford	3.9
Joe Walsh	1.4
Bill Weld	0.9
Not sure	15.5
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Total = 597	

**[If Republican CHOSE someone other than Donald Trump] If Donald Trump is the Republican nominee, would you be willing to support the Democratic Nominee?**

	Weighted
Yes	46.7%
No	27.2
Not Sure	26.2
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Total = 77	

**If the general election for president were held today, for whom would you vote?**

	Weighted	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Elizabeth Warren	34.6%	73.4%	28.4%	4.0%
Donald Trump	45.7	4.4	37.7	88.5
Neither – Other	13.5	17.3	20.8	5.2
Not sure	6.1	5.0	13.2	2.4
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Total = 1,086		323	299	464

**If the general election for president were held today, for whom would you vote?**

	Weighted	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Joe Biden	39.4%	76.9%	37.2%	7.2%
Donald Trump	44.5	3.6	36.5	86.7
Neither – Other	11.9	16.9	17.2	3.9
Not sure	4.1	2.6	9.1	2.2
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Total = 1,091		325	299	467

**If the general election for president were held today, for whom would you vote?**

	Weighted	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Kamala Harris	33.1%	67.5%	29.1%	4.8%
Donald Trump	46.3	5.1	39.3	87.9
Neither – Other	14.8	22.8	20.2	4.0
Not sure	5.9	4.7	11.4	3.4
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Total = 1,091		325	299	467

**If the general election for president were held today, for whom would you vote?**

	Weighted	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Bernie Sanders	39.9%	82.0%	34.2%	5.8%
Donald Trump	44.2	3.0	37.3	86.1
Neither – Other	11.4	11.9	20.0	5.3
Not sure	4.4	3.1	8.5	2.8
Total = 1,088		325	298	465

**If the general election for president were held today, for whom would you vote?**

	Weighted	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Pete Buttigieg	32.7%	65.4%	29.4%	5.5%
Donald Trump	45.3	4.9	37.3	87.0
Neither – Other	14.7	24.0	19.6	3.0
Not sure	7.4	5.8	13.7	4.5
Total = 1,089		324	299	466

**If the general election for president were held today, for whom would you vote?**

	Weighted	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Julian Castro	34.2%	69.7%	29.5%	5.3%
Donald Trump	45.2	5.2	37.9	86.2
Neither – Other	13.6	18.5	19.7	5.0
Not sure	7.1	6.7	13.0	3.5
Total = 1,088		324	299	465

**Generations of slavery and discrimination have created conditions that make it difficult for blacks to work their way out of the lower class.**

	Weighted
Strongly disagree	21.4%
Somewhat disagree	20.9
Have a neutral position	15.7
Somewhat agree	19.4
Strongly agree	22.6
Total =	1,081

**Irish, Italians, Jewish and many other minorities overcame prejudice and worked their way up. Blacks should do the same without any special favors.**

	Weighted
Strongly disagree	25.9%
Somewhat disagree	20.6
Have a neutral position	21.5
Somewhat agree	14.6
Strongly agree	17.3
Total =	1,074

**Based on what know today, do you believe that President Trump should be impeached?**

	Weighted	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Should be impeached	44.8%	83.6%	41.1%	13.0%
Should not be impeached	46.9	8.7	46.3	81.4
Neutral	8.2	7.8	12.7	5.6
Total = 1,090		324	299	467

**Overall, do you agree or disagree that elected officials are doing enough to prevent mass shootings?**

	Weighted	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Strongly agree	8.1%	6.0%	4.3%	12.4%
Agree	11.9	6.3	10.5	17.8
Somewhat agree	15.1	8.2	13.7	22.1
Somewhat disagree	16.8	13.5	19.3	18.0
Disagree	15.9	19.7	13.5	14.1
Strongly disagree	27.9	43.7	32.9	10.4
Not Sure	4.4	2.6	5.8	5.1
Total = 1,087		390	240	535

**To what degree do you agree or disagree, over the last few years, trust of the police has declined in your community?**

	Weighted	White	Hispanic	Black
Strongly agree	8.9%	5.3%	11.9%	10.1%
Agree	7.7	8.2	13.0	7.8
Somewhat agree	17.2	16.2	21.4	15.8
Somewhat disagree	15.5	14.4	22.1	13.7
Disagree	17.5	20.6	3.5	12.9
Strongly disagree	13.2	14.4	14.0	16.0
No Answer	20.1	20.9	14.1	23.7
Total = 1,087		799	94	84

**To what degree do you agree or disagree, over the last few years, there has been an increase in tension between the police and minority communities?**

	Weighted	White	Hispanic	Black
Strongly agree	11.8%	8.9%	15.2%	19.3%
Agree	17.8	18.6	19.9	15.2
Somewhat agree	20.9	23.5	21.4	13.2
Somewhat disagree	9.1	7.6	11.4	11.2
Disagree	6.9	6.6	9.0	3.7
Strongly disagree	4.6	3.7	5.5	4.9
No Answer	28.9	31.0	17.6	32.6
Total = 1,083		799	93	84

**To what degree do you agree or disagree, over the last few years, there has been an increase in derogatory statements made about the police?**

	Weighted	White	Hispanic	Black
Strongly agree	13.9%	15.7%	12.3%	14.1%
Agree	15.1	17.0	15.1	8.8
Somewhat agree	17.3	18.3	19.5	15.6
Somewhat disagree	11.8	7.3	21.0	13.4
Disagree	6.4	6.4	4.8	11.7
Strongly disagree	6.7	4.2	10.3	11.5
No Answer	28.8	31.2	17.1	24.9
Total = 1,084		799	93	84

**How do you primarily hear about instance of police behavior?**

	Weighted	White	Hispanic	Black
Local news	43.3%	45.3%	42.9%	42.1%
National news	47.6	47.9	50.0	37.9
Friends and Family	7.0	5.9	6.2	10.6
Neighbors	2.1	0.8	0.9	9.5
Total = 1,069		791	92	83

**Should oversight of Police behavior be done internally, by a community based third party, or federal agency?**

	Weighted	White	Ind.	Rep.
Internal investigations by Police	24.5%	29.0%	17.5%	14.4%
Community based organizations	34.6	33.3	35.3	40.2
Federal agency	24.3	19.6	31.3	36.8
Not sure	16.6	18.1	15.8	8.6
Total = 1,082		798	93	83

**Do you think the U.S. is very prepared, prepared, not very prepared or not prepared at all to keep elections safe and secure?**

	Weighted	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Very prepared	10.4%	5.1%	8.0%	16.9%
Prepared	36.9	26.1	36.4	46.9
Not prepared	33.7	40.4	35.8	26.4
Not very prepared	16.8	27.1	17.8	6.7
Not sure	2.2	1.3	2.0	3.1
Total = 1,081		323	295	463

**How likely or unlikely is it that a foreign nation will attempt to create confusion in the upcoming election?**

	Weighted	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Very likely	37.3%	45.1%	42.1%	27.1%
Somewhat likely	30.5	32.3	27.8	30.8
Somewhat unlikely	13.8	9.7	9.7	20.3
Very unlikely	11.0	5.3	11.6	15.6
Not sure	7.4	7.7	8.8	6.3
Total = 1,079		323	295	461

**On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 means Strongly Support and 5 means Strongly oppose, do you support or oppose a mandatory buyback program to turn in all assault weapons for payment?**

	Weighted	Dem.	Ind.	Rep.
Strongly support	18.2%	31.2%	15.0%	8.6%
Support	18.8	29.9	19.2	8.6
Have a neutral position	21.0	25.5	18.4	18.6
Oppose	13.0	9.1	16.4	14.2
Strongly oppose	29.0	4.3	31.0	50.0
Total = 1,080		323	295	462

## Demographic Questions

**What do you identify as your racial or ethnic background?**

	Weighted
White, Non-Hispanic	57.1%
Hispanic or Latino	21.7
Black or African American	13.3
Asian	1.1
Other	6.9
Total =	1,093

**[If Hispanic] What is the origin of the ethnicity background?**

	<u>Weighted</u>
Mexican	39.9%
Mexican American	49.2
Puerto Rican	3.1
Cuban	0.9
Other	6.8
Total =	93

**[If Hispanic] How many generations has your family been in America?**

	<u>Weighted</u>
One	21.5%
Two	30.8
Three or more	47.3
No answer	0.4
Total =	92

**What is the highest level of education you have attained?**

	<u>Weighted</u>
Did not finish high school	2.0%
High school graduation, no college	14.1
Completed Associate's Degree or Some College	43.5
Completed Bachelor's Degree	29.3
Graduate or Professional Degree/Coursework	11.2
Total =	1,093

**What is your age?**

	<u>Weighted</u>
18-29	14.7%
30-44	22.9
45-64	36.7
65+	25.7
Total =	1,093

**What is your marital status?**

	<u>Weighted</u>
Married	55.8%
Divorced/Separated	12.5
Single	25.7
Other	6.1
Total =	1,074

### How would you best describe your religious affiliation?

	Weighted
Roman Catholic	25.4%
Evangelical Protestant	24.5
Mainline Protestant	15.6
African-American Protestant	3.8
Christian – unaffiliated	3.5
Church of Latter Day Saints	1.3
Jewish	0.9
Buddhist	0.2
Hindu	0.1
Muslim	0.5
Other	0.3
Secular/No Religious Affiliation	21.5
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Total = 1,077	

### How frequently do you attend worship services?

	Weighted
Never/hardly ever	29.1%
A few times a year	23.9
Once or twice a month	11.1
Almost every week	12.7
Once a week or more	23.1
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Total = 1,017	

### What is your gender?

	Weighted
Male	48.5%
Female	51.3
Other	0.2
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Total = 1,093	

### What is your approximate level of household income?

	Weighted
Less than \$30,000	18.2%
\$30,000-\$49,999	15.4
\$50,000-\$74,999	17.8
\$75,000-\$99,999	12.9
\$100,000-\$149,999	12.7
\$150,000-\$199,999	7.0
\$200,000-\$299,999	2.8
\$300,000 or more	1.8
Not given	11.4
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Total = 1,093	

## Methodology

The UT Tyler-Texas Opinion Survey reflects a statewide random sample of 1,093 registered voters during the ten days between November 5 and November 14. The mixed mode sample includes 397 registered voters who took the survey by phone and 696 registered voters that were randomly selected from a panel of registered voters that have opted-in to take surveys through a company called Dynata. The online and phone surveys were conducted in English and Spanish.

The data were weighted to be representative of the Texas register voter population. Iterative weighting was used to balance sample demographics to the state population parameters. The sample is balanced to match parameters for gender, age, race/ethnicity, and education using an iterated process known as raking. These parameters were derived from 2018 Current Population Survey to reflect Texas's electorate. The use of these weights in statistical analysis ensures that the characteristics of the sample closely reflect the characteristics of registered voters in Texas.

In this poll, the sampling error for 1,093 registered voters in Texas is +/- 2.96 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence interval. The survey's design asked additional questions to 427 registered voters who identify with the Democratic Party as members or independents that lean towards the party (margin of error of +/- 4.7%).

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