

**FOR RELEASE: FEBRUARY 26, 2019**

**THE WALL CUTS TEXAS VOTERS IN HALF,  
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;  
BUT VOTERS OPPOSE EMERGENCY POWERS BY WIDE MARGIN**

Texas voters are evenly split 48 – 48 percent on whether to build a wall on the Mexican border, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

There are party, gender, age and racial gaps, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll finds:

- Republicans support the wall 87 – 11 percent. Opposed are Democrats, 90 – 7 percent, and independent voters, 51 – 43 percent;
- Men support the wall, 53 – 45 percent, with women opposed by a mirror image 52 – 43 percent;
- Voters 18 to 34 years old oppose the wall 64 – 33 percent. Voters over 65 years old back the wall 58 – 39 percent;
- White voters support the wall 63 – 34 percent. Opposed are black voters, 80 – 13 percent, and Hispanic voters, 65 – 32 percent.

Texas voters disapprove 60 – 39 percent of President Donald Trump using emergency powers to fund a wall on the border. Voters say 52 – 45 percent-undocumented immigrants crossing the border is not a national emergency.

But voters agree with President Trump 52 – 45 percent that the undocumented immigrants, drugs and gang members crossing the border is an “invasion.”

Texas voters are divided in their opinion of President Donald Trump as 47 percent approve of the job he is doing and 50 percent disapprove.

“Texas is the state most directly impacted by the border wall controversy because of its long border with Mexico. Its generally conservative nature and stronger support for President Donald Trump makes these numbers especially relevant.

“President Trump’s 47 – 50 percent job approval in Texas is not great, but it’s better than Quinnipiac University finds in nationwide polls,” said Peter A. Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

**-more-**

## **Quinnipiac University Poll/February 26, 2019 – page 2**

“Texas voters are split down the middle on the need for a border wall, but overwhelmingly think immigration has been good for this country,” Brown added.

Texas voters say 57 – 38 percent that a wall on the Mexican border would not “significantly decrease violent crime in the U.S.” The wall would not “significantly decrease the amount of illegal drugs in the U.S.,” voters say 54 – 43 percent.

By a wide 62 – 33 percent, voters oppose the federal government seizing private property to build the wall. The only listed party, gender, education, age or racial groups to support this seizure are Republicans, 64 – 29 percent, and white men, 51 – 44 percent. White voters with no college degree are divided as 49 percent back seizures, with 43 percent opposed.

Immigrants from other cultures have a mainly positive impact on American society, 64 percent of Texas voters say, as 19 percent say immigrants have a mainly negative impact.

Texas voters also support 71 – 24 percent allowing “Dreamers” to stay in the U.S. and ultimately apply for citizenship. Support is strong among all listed groups.

### **School Funding**

By an overwhelming 83 – 11 percent, Texas voters support proposed multi-billion dollar increases in school funding in the Lone Star State.

State funding for schools should remain linked to student population, 78 percent of voters say, while 12 percent say funding should be linked to student performance on standardized tests. Texas voters say 60 – 31 percent that the use of standardized tests is not good for education.

Voters support 77 – 18 percent requiring local governments to get voter approval if they want to increase property taxes more than 2.5 percent.

### **Approval Ratings for Governor, Senators**

Texas voters approve 58 – 28 percent of the job Gov. Greg Abbott is doing.

Voters approve 51 – 40 percent of the job U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz is doing and give U.S. Sen. John Cornyn a 43 – 26 percent job approval rating.

From February 20 – 25, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,222 Texas voters with a margin of error of +/- 3.4 percentage points, including the design effect.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts gold standard surveys using random digit dialing with live interviewers calling landlines and cell phones. The Quinnipiac University Poll conducts nationwide surveys and polls in more than a dozen states on national and statewide elections, as well as public policy issues.

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20. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Greg Abbott is handling his job as governor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Approve	58%	88%	29%	56%	63%	54%	64%	72%			
Disapprove	28	5	56	26	27	28	27	17			
DK/NA	14	7	15	19	10	18	9	11			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Approve	43%	56%	70%	64%	73%	63%	68%	38%	50%		
Disapprove	32	30	24	25	19	25	22	39	34		
DK/NA	26	14	6	10	8	12	10	23	16		

21. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ted Cruz is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Approve	51%	87%	16%	47%	55%	48%	57%	67%			
Disapprove	40	7	76	43	39	41	37	22			
DK/NA	9	6	8	10	7	11	6	10			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Approve	40%	50%	56%	61%	67%	58%	62%	22%	46%		
Disapprove	47	40	38	34	28	32	30	66	45		
DK/NA	13	10	6	5	6	10	8	13	9		

22. Do you approve or disapprove of the way John Cornyn is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Approve	43%	64%	21%	40%	49%	37%	54%	51%			
Disapprove	26	10	48	26	25	27	28	20			
DK/NA	31	26	32	34	26	36	18	29			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Approve	26%	35%	52%	58%	61%	44%	52%	26%	30%		
Disapprove	28	29	27	22	23	25	24	34	28		
DK/NA	46	37	21	20	16	31	23	40	43		

23. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Approve	47%	90%	2%	43%	51%	42%	54%	69%		
Disapprove	50	9	96	52	45	54	42	28		
DK/NA	4	1	2	5	4	4	4	3		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Approve	33%	43%	55%	57%	65%	58%	61%	9%	34%	
Disapprove	61	53	44	41	33	38	35	91	59	
DK/NA	7	4	1	2	3	4	3	-	7	

24. Overall, do you think immigrants from other cultures have a mainly positive or a mainly negative impact on American society?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Mainly positive	64%	46%	84%	66%	69%	60%	67%	49%		
Mainly negative	19	34	7	16	16	22	17	28		
DK/NA	17	20	8	18	15	18	16	23		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Mainly positive	78%	68%	60%	51%	63%	53%	58%	75%	75%	
Mainly negative	7	17	23	32	19	26	23	11	14	
DK/NA	15	15	17	17	18	21	19	14	11	

25. Do you support or oppose allowing undocumented immigrants who were brought to the U.S. as children to remain in the United States and eventually apply for citizenship?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Support	71%	51%	95%	73%	66%	75%	65%	63%		
Oppose	24	41	4	22	29	20	29	30		
DK/NA	5	8	1	5	5	5	6	7		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Support	80%	69%	70%	63%	60%	68%	64%	91%	79%	
Oppose	18	25	25	29	34	25	30	6	19	
DK/NA	2	6	5	8	6	7	6	2	2	

26. Do you support or oppose building a wall along the border with Mexico?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Support	48%	87%	7%	43%	53%	43%	56%	71%		
Oppose	48	11	90	51	45	52	41	26		
DK/NA	4	2	2	6	3	5	3	3		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Support	33%	46%	55%	58%	67%	60%	63%	13%	32%	
Oppose	64	50	40	39	31	37	34	80	65	
DK/NA	3	4	4	3	2	3	3	7	3	

27. Do you approve or disapprove of President Trump using emergency executive powers to fund a wall along the border with Mexico without the approval of Congress?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Approve	39%	77%	1%	34%	43%	34%	48%	59%		
Disapprove	60	22	99	63	55	64	50	39		
DK/NA	2	1	-	3	2	2	2	2		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Approve	22%	35%	47%	52%	57%	49%	53%	5%	23%	
Disapprove	78	64	51	46	41	48	45	92	76	
DK/NA	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	

28. Do you think that undocumented immigrants crossing the border with Mexico into the United States is a national emergency, or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Yes/Emergency	45%	82%	6%	42%	49%	42%	51%	66%		
No	52	16	92	55	49	55	45	33		
DK/NA	3	2	2	3	2	3	3	1		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Yes/Emergency	32%	40%	54%	55%	61%	56%	59%	10%	33%	
No	66	59	43	42	37	41	39	88	63	
DK/NA	2	1	3	3	1	3	2	2	3	

29. As you may know, President Trump has said that the undocumented immigrants, drugs, and gang members crossing the border with Mexico into the United States is an invasion. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Agree	52%	87%	13%	48%	54%	50%	58%	72%
Disagree	45	10	84	48	43	47	39	26
DK/NA	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3

  

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Agree	38%	49%	59%	60%	67%	62%	64%	26%	37%
Disagree	56	48	39	36	31	34	32	71	60
DK/NA	5	3	1	3	2	4	3	4	3

30. Which comes closer to your point of view: a wall along the border with Mexico is consistent with American values, or a wall along the border with Mexico is against American values?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Consistent w/ values	47%	83%	8%	45%	50%	43%	55%	68%
Against values	45	12	85	46	43	46	38	25
DK/NA	8	5	7	9	6	11	7	7

  

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Consistent w/ values	33%	44%	57%	58%	64%	59%	62%	18%	32%
Against values	57	47	39	34	30	33	32	74	58
DK/NA	10	9	5	8	6	8	7	8	10

31. Do you think that a wall along the border with Mexico would significantly decrease violent crime in the United States, or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Decrease crime	38%	74%	4%	32%	41%	36%	45%	55%
No	57	22	92	63	56	59	50	39
DK/NA	4	4	3	4	3	6	5	6

  

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Yes/Decrease crime	25%	33%	45%	51%	51%	49%	50%	8%	29%
No	72	64	49	45	45	44	45	89	70
DK/NA	3	3	5	4	4	7	5	3	-

32. Do you think that a wall along the border with Mexico would significantly decrease the amount of illegal drugs in the United States, or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Yes/Decrease drugs	43%	82%	6%	38%	46%	40%	50%	63%		
No	54	16	91	60	51	57	47	34		
DK/NA	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Yes/Decrease drugs	31%	39%	51%	54%	59%	54%	57%	14%	29%	
No	67	60	47	42	38	43	41	84	70	
DK/NA	2	2	2	4	3	3	3	2	-	

33. In order to build a wall along the entire border with Mexico, it may be necessary for the federal government to seize private property. Do you support or oppose the federal government seizing private property in order to build the wall?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Support	33%	64%	3%	30%	38%	28%	41%	49%		
Oppose	62	29	96	65	58	66	54	43		
DK/NA	5	8	1	5	4	7	5	9		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Support	17%	31%	41%	43%	51%	39%	45%	7%	18%	
Oppose	81	65	54	50	44	52	48	90	80	
DK/NA	2	4	5	7	5	9	7	3	2	

34. As you may know, Governor Abbott and lawmakers of both parties are proposing multi-billion dollar increases in the amount that is spent on public education. In general, do you think spending this money on public education is a good idea or bad idea?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Good idea	83%	78%	92%	83%	83%	83%	79%	82%		
Bad idea	11	15	6	11	13	9	15	10		
DK/NA	6	7	3	6	4	8	6	8		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Good idea	87%	89%	82%	77%	80%	81%	81%	91%	86%	
Bad idea	9	8	12	15	14	11	12	7	11	
DK/NA	4	3	6	8	6	9	7	2	3	

35. In general, do you think the use of standardized tests is good for education, or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Good	31%	34%	31%	31%	35%	27%	31%	26%
No	60	58	62	61	58	63	60	64
DK/NA	9	9	8	9	6	11	10	10

  

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Yes/Good	30%	32%	29%	36%	33%	24%	28%	29%	37%
No	67	63	63	49	59	64	62	68	57
DK/NA	3	4	8	15	7	13	10	3	6

36. Do you think that the amount of money that Texas school districts receive from the state should be linked to how well the students do on standardized tests, or do you think state education funding should remain linked only to the number of students and the cost of their educational needs?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Standardized tests	12%	14%	7%	15%	15%	9%	10%	12%
Number of students	78	75	86	77	75	82	82	77
DK/NA	9	12	7	8	10	9	8	11

  

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Standardized tests	12%	8%	14%	16%	15%	8%	11%	12%	13%
Number of students	85	83	77	67	77	82	79	82	77
DK/NA	3	9	9	17	8	10	9	6	10

37. Would you support or oppose requiring local governments to get the approval of voters if they want to increase property taxes by more than 2.5 percent?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Support	77%	84%	69%	80%	80%	75%	83%	83%
Oppose	18	14	25	16	17	19	14	11
DK/NA	5	2	6	4	3	6	3	6

  

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Support	68%	83%	79%	77%	87%	80%	83%	70%	71%
Oppose	24	15	20	17	11	15	13	28	24
DK/NA	8	3	1	6	3	5	4	2	5