
FOR RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

**TEXAS GOVERNOR’S RACE: ABBOTT LEADS O’ROURKE 53% – 46%,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY TEXAS POLL FINDS;
TEXAS-MEXICO BORDER RANKS AS #1 ISSUE AMONG LIKELY VOTERS**

Six weeks before Election Day, Republican incumbent Greg Abbott has a 7-point lead over Democratic challenger Beto O’Rourke 53 – 46 percent in the Texas governor’s race, according to a Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pea-ack) University poll of likely voters in Texas released today.

This is Quinnipiac’s first poll of likely voters in Texas’ 2022 election and cannot be compared to earlier polls of registered voters.

Republicans support Abbott 96 – 3 percent, while Democrats support O’Rourke 96 – 4 percent. Among independents, 53 percent support Abbott, while 46 percent support O’Rourke.

“The race for the top job in Austin leans toward Abbott, who has very strong support from white Texans, particularly white men, while O’Rourke has overwhelming appeal among Black voters and strong support among young voters,” said Quinnipiac University Polling Analyst Tim Malloy.

Nearly all likely voters (96 percent) who support a candidate in the race for governor say their minds are made up about how they will cast their vote, while 3 percent say they might change their minds before the election.

Likely voters are split in their opinion of Abbott, as 50 percent have a favorable opinion of him and 47 percent have an unfavorable opinion of him.

O’Rourke receives a negative favorability rating, as 44 percent have a favorable opinion of him and 50 percent have an unfavorable opinion of him.

Likely voters were asked who would do a better job handling four issues...

- the economy: 56 percent say Abbott, while 41 percent say O’Rourke;
- the situation at the Mexican border: 54 percent say Abbott, while 43 percent say O’Rourke;
- gun policy: 53 percent say Abbott, while 44 percent say O’Rourke;
- abortion: 48 percent say O’Rourke, while 46 percent say Abbott.

MOST URGENT ISSUE

Asked to choose the most urgent issue facing Texas today, the Texas-Mexico border (38 percent) ranks first followed by abortion (17 percent) and inflation (11 percent).

There are big differences by party identification.

Among Republicans, the Texas-Mexico border (66 percent) ranks first followed by inflation (20 percent). No other issue reached double digits.

Among Democrats, abortion (36 percent) ranks first followed by gun policy (16 percent) and election laws (12 percent).

Among independents, the Texas-Mexico border (37 percent) ranks first followed by abortion (16 percent). No other issue reached double digits.

ABBOTT BUSING MIGRANTS NORTH

Likely voters are divided on Governor Greg Abbott busing migrants in Texas to Democratic led cities and states and using state funds to do it, with 51 percent approving of his actions and 47 percent disapproving of his actions. Republicans approve 92 – 6 percent, while Democrats disapprove 94 – 5 percent. Independents are divided, with 51 percent approving and 47 percent disapproving of Abbott’s actions.

“With 1,254 miles of border and a steady surge of immigrants, Texans can’t help but have the border top of mind. But when it comes to loading asylum seekers onto buses and exporting them to other states, likely voters are divided,” added Malloy.

ABORTION

A majority of likely voters (53 percent) disagree with the Supreme Court decision overturning the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision which had established a woman’s right to an abortion, while 43 percent agree with the decision.

Democrats (94 – 6 percent) and independents (52 – 44 percent) disagree with the decision, while Republicans (75 – 21 percent) agree with the decision.

Women (64 – 34 percent) disagree with the decision, while men (54 – 40 percent) agree with the decision.

JOB APPROVALS

Job approval ratings for Texas elected officials...

- Governor Greg Abbott: 51 percent approve, while 47 percent disapprove;
- Senator Ted Cruz: 49 percent approve, while 48 percent disapprove;
- Senator John Cornyn: 36 percent approve, while 49 percent disapprove.

Likely voters give President Joe Biden a negative 39 – 57 percent job approval rating.

TRUMP FAVORABILITY

Likely voters give Donald Trump a negative 44 – 51 percent favorability rating.

CASTING BALLOTS

For the 2022 general elections, two-thirds of likely voters (66 percent) plan to vote in person at an early voting location, 25 percent plan to vote in person on Election Day, and 8 percent plan to vote early by mail or absentee ballot.

1,327 likely Texas voters were surveyed from September 22nd – 26th with a margin of error of +/- 2.7 percentage points.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Doug Schwartz, Ph.D. since 1994, conducts independent, non-partisan national and state polls on politics and issues. Surveys adhere to industry best practices and are based on random samples of adults using random digit dialing with live interviewers calling landlines and cell phones.

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Email poll@qu.edu, or follow us on [Twitter](#) @QuinnipiacPoll.

1. If the election for governor were being held today, and the candidates were Beto O'Rourke the Democrat and Greg Abbott the Republican, for whom would you vote? (INCLUDES LEANERS)

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
O'Rourke	46%	3%	96%	46%	34%	55%	43%	30%
Abbott	53	96	4	53	64	44	56	69
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
UNDECIDED (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
REFUSED	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	1

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht			
O'Rourke	59%	43%	42%	49%	27%	42%	35%	88%	49%	
Abbott	39	53	57	49	73	56	64	10	48	
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
UNDECIDED (VOL)	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	
REFUSED	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	1	

	VOTING METHOD Q16.....		
	InPersonOn ElectionDay	Mail/ Absentee	InPersonAt EarlyVtLoc
Abbott	75	36	46
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	-	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	-	-	-
UNDECIDED (VOL)	-	-	-
REFUSED	1	-	1

1a. (If candidate chosen q1) Is your mind made up, or do you think you might change your mind before the election?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....		
	CANDIDATE CHOSEN Q1.....		
	Tot	CANDIDATE OF CHOICE Q1	
O'Rourke		Abbott	
Mind made up	96%	97%	96%
Might change	3	3	3
DK/NA	1	1	2

2. Is your opinion of Greg Abbott favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Favorable	50%	94%	4%	48%	60%	42%	54%	65%
Unfavorable	47	5	95	47	37	55	45	32
Hvn't hrd enough	1	1	-	3	2	1	1	1
REFUSED	2	-	-	2	1	2	1	2

AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
				Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+					
Favorable	36%	50%	53%	49%	69%	54%	61%	6%	46%
Unfavorable	60	47	45	49	29	44	37	89	51
Hvn't hrd enough	5	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	2
REFUSED	-	2	2	2	1	1	1	4	1

3. Is your opinion of Beto O'Rourke favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Favorable	44%	6%	94%	41%	34%	53%	42%	30%
Unfavorable	50	90	5	49	62	41	55	66
Hvn't hrd enough	4	3	1	9	3	5	2	3
REFUSED	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1

AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
				Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+					
Favorable	59%	42%	41%	49%	26%	41%	34%	80%	52%
Unfavorable	35	54	53	46	72	54	61	8	44
Hvn't hrd enough	6	4	4	3	2	4	3	9	4
REFUSED	-	1	1	2	-	2	1	3	-

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

LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Approve	51%	95%	4%	48%	61%	43%	55%	67%
Disapprove	47	3	96	49	37	55	45	31
DK/NA	2	1	-	3	1	2	-	2

AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
				Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+					
Approve	35%	51%	54%	49%	71%	56%	62%	7%	45%
Disapprove	61	46	44	49	28	43	36	92	51
DK/NA	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	4

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

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	49%	91%	5%	46%	61%	40%	51%	65%
Disapprove	48	7	94	51	37	57	47	32
DK/NA	2	2	2	3	1	3	2	3

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Approve	38%	50%	52%	47%	69%	52%	60%	8%	45%
Disapprove	61	47	45	51	29	45	38	86	55
DK/NA	1	2	3	2	2	3	2	6	-

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

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	36%	59%	14%	36%	42%	32%	42%	43%
Disapprove	49	24	75	49	42	54	47	40
DK/NA	15	17	11	15	16	14	11	17

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Approve	24%	33%	39%	38%	44%	42%	43%	11%	32%
Disapprove	59	46	53	46	39	45	42	75	52
DK/NA	17	21	8	16	18	13	15	14	16

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as president?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	39%	3%	89%	36%	30%	45%	40%	27%
Disapprove	57	96	10	56	66	50	58	71
DK/NA	4	-	1	8	3	5	2	2

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Approve	37%	36%	38%	49%	23%	40%	32%	81%	35%
Disapprove	56	59	57	51	75	58	66	13	57
DK/NA	7	6	5	-	2	2	2	6	8

8. Is your opinion of Donald Trump favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Favorable	44%	87%	4%	38%	51%	38%	41%	63%
Unfavorable	51	10	95	55	42	58	55	35
Hvn't hrd enough	2	2	-	3	2	2	2	2
REFUSED	3	1	1	4	4	2	2	1

AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Favorable	34%	46%	47%	40%	60%	50%	54%	9%	38%
Unfavorable	62	48	49	55	36	48	43	90	53
Hvn't hrd enough	1	1	2	4	2	2	2	1	3
REFUSED	3	4	2	1	2	-	1	-	6

9. In your opinion, what is the most urgent issue facing Texas today: COVID-19, inflation, climate change, the Texas-Mexico border, health care, election laws, racial inequality, schools, crime, abortion, taxes, or gun policy?

LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
COVID-19	-	-	1%	-	-	-	-	-
Inflation	11	20	2	9	14	8	13	11
Climate change	3	-	4	3	3	2	3	2
Texas-Mexico border	38	66	5	37	43	34	36	52
Health care	3	1	5	3	3	3	3	2
Election laws	6	1	12	5	5	6	5	5
Racial inequality	3	-	5	3	2	3	1	2
Schools	4	2	6	5	4	4	8	3
Crime	3	3	2	4	3	2	2	3
Abortion	17	4	36	16	11	21	19	13
Taxes	1	-	1	2	2	-	1	-
Gun policy	8	1	16	9	4	12	7	5
SOMETHING ELSE (VOL)	3	2	4	4	4	3	1	1
DK/NA	1	1	1	-	-	1	1	1

AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
COVID-19	-	-	1%	-	-	-	-	1%	-
Inflation	10	17	8	9	14	9	12	6	12
Climate change	8	1	2	3	3	3	3	1	3
Texas-Mexico border	25	36	43	37	52	41	46	4	36
Health care	5	3	2	3	2	3	2	5	5
Election laws	4	5	6	7	6	5	5	8	6
Racial inequality	3	3	3	3	-	2	1	15	1
Schools	7	6	2	3	4	5	5	5	3
Crime	-	3	3	5	4	2	3	6	1
Abortion	20	16	19	15	9	21	15	24	17
Taxes	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	2
Gun policy	12	7	7	10	4	7	6	12	12
SOMETHING ELSE (VOL)	4	1	3	3	2	1	1	10	3
DK/NA	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	2	-

10. Regardless of how you intend to vote, who do you think would do a better job - handling the economy: Greg Abbott or Beto O'Rourke?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Abbott	56%	98%	8%	57%	67%	47%	58%	69%
O'Rourke	41	2	88	39	30	49	39	29
DK/NA	4	1	4	4	3	4	3	2

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Abbott	47%	57%	58%	50%	73%	58%	65%	14%	55%
O'Rourke	49	38	40	45	24	39	33	84	41
DK/NA	4	4	1	5	2	3	3	3	5

11. Regardless of how you intend to vote, who do you think would do a better job - handling the situation at the Mexican border: Greg Abbott or Beto O'Rourke?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Abbott	54%	96%	5%	56%	66%	45%	57%	68%
O'Rourke	43	3	93	41	31	53	42	29
DK/NA	3	1	2	3	4	2	2	2

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Abbott	44%	57%	56%	49%	73%	57%	64%	9%	53%
O'Rourke	53	39	42	48	25	41	34	85	44
DK/NA	3	4	2	3	2	2	2	6	3

12. Regardless of how you intend to vote, who do you think would do a better job - handling abortion: Greg Abbott or Beto O'Rourke?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Abbott	46%	88%	4%	44%	56%	39%	48%	64%
O'Rourke	48	7	94	48	37	56	47	32
DK/NA	6	5	2	7	7	5	5	4

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Abbott	32%	47%	52%	44%	63%	53%	58%	9%	39%
O'Rourke	64	44	45	50	31	43	38	83	54
DK/NA	4	9	3	6	5	4	5	8	7

13. Regardless of how you intend to vote, who do you think would do a better job - handling gun policy: Greg Abbott or Beto O'Rourke?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....			
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG			
							Yes	No		
Abbott	53%	96%	4%	54%	65%	44%	55%	70%		
O'Rourke	44	3	96	44	32	54	44	27		
DK/NA	2	1	-	2	3	1	1	3		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Abbott	42%	56%	56%	50%	74%	57%	64%	10%	49%	
O'Rourke	56	38	44	49	24	41	34	89	48	
DK/NA	2	5	1	2	3	1	2	2	3	

14. As you may know, the Supreme Court overturned the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision which had established a woman's right to an abortion. Do you agree or disagree with the Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v. Wade?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....			
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG			
							Yes	No		
Agree	43%	75%	6%	44%	54%	34%	47%	54%		
Disagree	53	21	94	52	40	64	48	42		
DK/NA	4	3	-	5	6	2	4	4		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Agree	29%	42%	44%	44%	62%	44%	52%	13%	35%	
Disagree	66	54	53	54	34	53	44	86	61	
DK/NA	6	5	3	3	5	3	4	1	4	

15. As you may know, Governor Greg Abbott is busing migrants in Texas to Democratic led cities and states, using state funds to do it. Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Abbott's actions?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....			
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG			
							Yes	No		
Approve	51%	92%	5%	51%	61%	43%	55%	66%		
Disapprove	47	6	94	47	37	55	44	33		
DK/NA	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	2		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Approve	41%	51%	54%	48%	70%	54%	61%	6%	48%	
Disapprove	55	47	45	51	28	44	37	93	51	
DK/NA	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	

16. Thinking about the 2022 general elections, do you think you will vote in person on Election Day, vote early by mail or absentee ballot, or vote in person at an early voting location?

LIKELY VOTERS.....

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL DEG	Yes
In person/Elect. Day	25%	31%	11%	27%	29%	21%	20%	30%
Mail/Absentee	8	6	13	6	7	9	8	8
In person/Early vote	66	60	76	65	62	69	70	60
WON'T VOTE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DK/NA	2	2	-	2	2	1	1	2

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
In person/Elect. Day	21%	27%	27%	22%	30%	23%	26%	16%	24%
Mail/Absentee	8	1	4	19	7	9	8	15	6
In person/Early vote	70	69	68	58	61	67	64	67	70
WON'T VOTE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DK/NA	1	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	-