President’s Report: Activity Update

Our May Data and Reports:

With high school and college graduation occurring this month, we took a look at what it means to be parents and graduates, and explored how AI is impacting our state.

Texas 2036 takes a look at the state of parenting in the Lone Star State

Our team at Texas 2036, which includes parents of over two dozen children, is doing its part today to help raise tomorrow’s generation of Texans.

We take a look at how parents are faring, including where opportunities exist for the state to do better.

Learn more at: https://texas2036.org/parents/.

Texas 2036 dives into the data on the future of AI in Texas

We take a look at how Texas is working to reap AI’s many benefits while responsibly managing the technology’s risks.

Learn more at: https://texas2036.org/AI/.

Texas Legislative Interim Hearings

The Legislature meets every odd-numbered year, but a tremendous amount of policy work continues between sessions through interim charges to committees.

Texas 2036 has identified 40 such interim charges that align with our policies and research, and our policy team has begun testifying on them.

- Senior Policy Advisor Charles Miller testified on the findings of our Who Are The Uninsured report to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, focusing on eligible but unenrolled populations. (May 14, Senate HHS hearing) (video)

- Senior Policy Advisor Jeremy Mazur testified on how population growth and extreme weather trends could deepen Texas’ water supply challenges to the Senate Water, Agriculture, and Rural Affairs Committee. (May 15, Senate WARA hearing) (video)

- Policy Advisor Emily Dove provided data regarding institutional buyers of homes prior to the Senate State Affairs hearing. (May 29, Senate State Affairs hearing)
Texas 2036 in the Community

Our team made several stops across the state this month to speak about our work. Here’s where we’ve been:

May 1: Vice President of Data and Analytics Dr. Holly Heard hosted the next meeting of Texas 2036’s Research Advisory Council at Rice University.

May 8: Founder Tom Luce hosted a reception in honor of Incoming President and CEO David Leebron to introduce David to Texas 2036 North Texas donors.

May 11: Charles Miller participated in the National Healthcare Price Transparency Conference to discuss market-based strategies to reduce health care prices and employer cost-saving measures.

May 14: Dr. Holly Heard spoke at the Texas Society of CPAs Energy Conference, providing data on the demographic and economic changes in Texas’ future.

May 15: On behalf of Tom Luce, who was the honorary chair for the Retina Foundation’s Visionary Luncheon, Senior Vice President of Strategy and Operations Justin Coppedge gave remarks regarding the foundation’s cutting-edge research.

May 16: Executive Vice President A.J. Rodriguez spoke at the Building Owners and Managers Association Austin Membership Luncheon about the 2025 legislative session.

May 21: Charles Miller spoke on the panel “Is Increasing Competition the Answer to Rising Healthcare Costs?” at Georgetown University's Center on Health Insurance Reforms. This event was part of the center’s “The Future of Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance” series.

May 29: Dr. Holly Heard spoke at the Texas Demographic Center’s annual conference where she discussed how Texas 2036 uses the American Community Survey data to understand how our state is doing.

May 29-30: Charles Miller participated in an Aspen Institute roundtable on “Ensuring Access, Affordability, and Quality in the Age of Healthcare Consolidation.”

May 30-31: Vice President of Communications Merrill Davis headed to the Education Writers Association National Seminar to hear what the leading education policymakers and experts will share with journalists.

Texas 2036 in the News

In May, Texas 2036 was mentioned in a wide variety of news stories, including the Statesman, Chron.com, DMN, Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post, HPM, Jewish Herald-Voice, KPRC2, KSAT, Newsweek, SA Express-News, Spectrum News, Telemundo Austin, Texas Tribune, USA Today and more.

Here’s a sampling of the news stories:

- Austin American-Statesman - “Austin’s water supply is squeezed by extreme drought. Here’s what you can do”
- Chron.com - “Hurricanes, derechos, ice storms and heat: Houston has seen it all lately”
- Dallas Morning News - “McKenzie: Texas’ third century will require smart education strategies”
- Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post - “Childcare crisis hits more than families”
- Houston Public Media - “Texas-based organization raises concerns about policy and regulation of Artificial Intelligence in schools”
- Medpage Today - “What’s driving healthcare consolidation? The answer may surprise you”
- Newsweek - “Texas city offering residents up to $3,000 in new water program”
- USA Today - “The Uvalde school shooting thrust them into the national spotlight. Where are they now?”

Key Insights on the Texas 2036 Blog:

Jeremy Mazur provides three key takeaways from the Senate interim hearing on water system reliability, at which he also provided testimony on behalf of Texas 2036.

Emily Dove digs into the evidence behind the claim that institutional investors are to blame for high home prices, finding that they account for a relatively small percentage of single home purchases.

Charles Miller explains that reinsurance waivers offer surprisingly little value for the individual marketplace when it comes to lowering net premiums.