

President's Report: Activity Update

\$338B State Budget for 2026–27

The state budget [passed the Texas Legislature](#) with \$338 billion on the table for all revenue sources. The budget is currently awaiting the Comptroller's approval before sending to the Governor. Once on the Governor's desk, he has until June 22 to sign off or make line-item vetoes.

“It is a challenge to land the plane in any budget cycle – but the investments in SB 1 and HB 500 aim to meet our state's current and impending infrastructure and economic challenges while preserving fiscal flexibility for future legislatures.

Rahul Sreenivasan, Director of Government Performance & Fiscal Policy

Learn more: [Supplemental budget bill in Senate Finance: 3 takeaways](#)

Texas 2036's impact during the 89th Texas Lege Session



Texas 2036 testified **38 times** in legislative appropriations hearings, offering guidance to ensure both one-time and ongoing investments support **fiscal sustainability and better government performance**.

A proud moment: 54 of the bills we supported have successfully reached the Governor's desk and are awaiting signature while 21 have been signed by the Governor.

Get a recap: [Legislative session enters the final stretch: What you need to know](#)

Texas Lege passes landmark workforce readiness bill

This month, the Texas Legislature passed one of the session's most important workforce readiness bills: Senate Bill 1786 by Sen. **Brandon Creighton**, R-Conroe, and Rep. **Gary VanDeaver**, R-New Boston.

This bill builds on last session's landmark community college reforms and sets Texas up for long-term job growth. [Get a closer look.](#)

Nearly 1 million uninsured TX children

Nearly one in 5 uninsured Texans are under the age of 19. Of these uninsured children, more than 200,000 of them are under the age of 6, according to the latest U.S. Census data. Dive in further on our [latest analysis on Texas' uninsured](#).

Learn more: [Where are the uninsured located in Texas? Part 2](#)
[Texans want healthier health care markets in Texas](#)

The Texas 2036 guide to growth

Every day, Texas adds 1,542 more residents. Altogether, there are more than 31 million people who live in Texas with four million residents predicted by its 200th birthday. We take a look at how to prepare our infrastructure to meet that demand. [Dive in the data.](#)

Texas 2036 + UT Austin release new housing report

A [new report](#) from Texas 2036 and the Center for Sustainable Development at the University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture finds that medium- and high-density neighborhoods like townhomes, low-rise apartments and multifamily buildings are a net positive for city budgets.

Learn more: [New Study: Increasing housing density pays off for Texas cities](#)



Texas 2036 in the Community

May 13: Policy Advisor **Emily Brizzolara-Dove** discussed Texas' rising home prices and the steps the Legislature is taking to reduce them on the Texas Tribune's TribCast in Austin.

May 14: Executive Vice President **A.J. Rodriguez** joined JPMorganChase's Local Impact Lab in Austin to discuss how partnerships and data can expand career pathways and boost economic mobility in Texas.

May 15: Director of Infrastructure and Natural Resources Policy **Jeremy Mazur** spoke on the "Future of Texas Water" panel hosted by the Texas Public Policy Foundation.

May 15: Senior Vice President of Development **Anne Krause** gave a Texas 2036 overview presentation to Platinum Top 50 San Antonio, a real estate industry organization founded on education, philanthropy and service.

May 19: **Anne Krause** delivered a keynote presentation and conducted a workshop on regional policy issues for Leadership Texas' "Gateway to the Friendly Frontier" session in Abilene.

May 21-22: Vice President of Data Analytics **Holly Heard**, Data Analyst **Lauren Leining** and Communications Manager **Meagan Falcon** attended the Texas Demographics Conference in Dallas to get the latest updates on Texas' growing population.

May 22: President and CEO **David Leebron** joined a roundtable on "A Unified Federal and State Policy Agenda for Brain Health," hosted by the Business Collaborative for Brain Health and the World Economic Forum.

May 28: **A.J. Rodriguez** participated on a panel at the Austin Chamber of Commerce focused on the legislative session and key issues facing the business community.

May 28: **A.J. Rodriguez** moderated a panel discussion at the 2025 H.G. López Foundation Summit centered on identity, purpose, and paving the way for the next generation of Latino leaders.

May 29-31: Director of Communications **John Reynolds** participated in the 78th Education Writers Association National Symposium in St. Louis, Mo., a collection of the nation's leading education reporters and editors.



(Left to Right): Axios Austin report Nicole Cobler talks with Texas 2036 Executive Vice President A.J. Rodriguez at the Axios Local and JPMorganChase event "Axios' Zoom In: Strengthening the Regional Talent Pipeline" on May 14 in Austin.

Texas 2036 featured in Axios Local event in Austin

On May 14, A.J. Rodriguez had the opportunity to speak at JPMorganChase and Axios Austin's "Axios' Zoom In: Strengthening the Regional Talent Pipeline" in Austin.

[Watch the full livestream.](#)

Texas 2036 wins a Telly Award

We're honored to receive our first Telly Award for the PSA ["Building a Better Future for All Texans."](#)

A big thanks to our comms team and KXAN partners for helping share this powerful, future-focused message.



BTS: President and CEO David Leebron talks to camera crew behind the scenes for the PSA "Building a Better Future for All Texans" during filming in January.

Texas 2036 in the News

Texas 2036 continues to surpass previous records in terms of garnering earned media, with **more than 490 articles, TV and Radio broadcast stories** featuring our people or mentioning our work this year.

Here's a sampling of this month's news stories:

- Axios - ["Building more high-quality career pathways in Texas and beyond"](#)
- Dallas Morning News - ["Bills aimed at bolstering Texas' workforce education advance"](#)
- Dallas Morning News - ["Water bills are flowing in Texas, and we need to get them right"](#)
- Houston Chronicle - ["Texas lawmakers reach deal to spend billions shoring up water supply"](#)
- KXAN-TV - ["\\$8.5 billion school finance bill heads to Governor's desk for signature"](#)
- Spectrum News - ["Legislature close to agreement on Texas-sized investment in water"](#)
- Texas Tribune - ["Texas' youngest learners are behind in math and reading. A pair of bills aims to get them back on track."](#)
- Texas Tribune - TribCast: ["Can Texas make its housing more affordable?"](#)
- The Comanche Chief - ["Opening College Doors Behind Bars: Why Higher Education in Texas Prisons Matters to Us All"](#)

More than 12k people are reading our newsletter!

Ring the alarm! Texas 2036's weekly newsletter has jumped to over 12,000 weekly readers during the month of May.

Know someone who can benefit from our newsletter? [Send them here.](#)