

TEXAS STATEWIDE SURVEY

BASELICE & ASSOCIATES, INC.
CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT
N equals 1,001 respondents

STUDY # 21987 Texas 2036 v%

TELEPHONE:

Hello, I am _____ of Baselice & Associates, a national survey research firm, and we're talking to people long distance today about issues facing us all. We would like to include your responses to this survey, which will be kept confidential, with the responses of several hundred other people such as yourself.

INTERNET:

Thank you for helping us with this brief survey. Your responses will be kept confidential. Please do not try to go back and change your answers as doing so may invalidate your responses.

A. To begin, are you registered to vote in Texas?

If No, ask: Is there someone else at home who is registered to vote in Texas?

If Yes, ask: May I speak with him/her? And return to introduction)

Yes (continue)

No (thank & terminate)

B. In which county do you currently reside?

Programming to provide interviewer with a drop down box of all 254 counties in alpha order.

IF QB IS BEXAR, DALLAS, HARRIS OR TARRANT COUNTY, ASK:

B2. In what ZIP code do you reside?

____ _

QUOTAS TO USE B AND B2 (Do not use FIPS on file).

B3. Are you employed in the news media, a market research firm, an elected official, or actively involved with political campaigns?

Yes (thank & terminate)

No (continue)

GEND. (Phone: Gender by observation) (Web: Are you...)

45% Male
55% Female

EMP. Are you...

40% Currently employed outside the home
15% Employed but working from home
2% Not working because of the coronavirus
13% Not employed
27% Retired
1% Prefer not to answer (vol option for the phone / not shown on web)

D1. **Phone:** In what year were you born? (Make into 9 9 9 9)
Web: In what year were you born? (Provide a drop down box from 2003 back to 1900)
____ ____ ____ ____ (Must be answered to continue on the Web version)

21%	18 to 34
16%	35 to 44
17%	45 to 54
20%	55 to 64
25%	65 or older
1%	Prefer not to answer (vol option for the phone version only)

D3.A Thinking about past November general elections for a moment -- which party's candidates have you tended to vote for most often...
(Rotate first two choices) [Note: Record libertarian, reform party or other parties as value 3]

42%	Republican (skip D3C)
36%	Democrat (skip D3C)
18%	Or do you tend to vote independent of party (Go to D3C)
5%	(Phone: Unsure / refused (vol) / Web: Unsure) (skip D3C)

IF VALUE 3 (Independent) IN QUESTION D3A, ASK:
D3.C Although you vote for the person and not one of the major parties -- when you have had to choose between two candidates of whom you knew little about, have you tended to vote for... **(Rotate choices)**

6%	The Republican candidate
5%	The Democrat candidate
4%	Other / won't vote for either (vol)
2%	(Phone: Unsure / refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)
82%	Not asked

The combination of the D3A and D3C questions is displayed below:

42%	Solid Republican
6%	A few more Republicans than Democrats
48%	TOTAL REPUBLICAN
6%	Independent / Undecided
5%	A few more Democrats than Republicans
36%	Solid Democrat
41%	TOTAL DEMOCRAT
5%	Unsure / Refused

D5. Do you consider yourself to be of Hispanic or Latino descent, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Central or Latin American background?

22% Yes
 77% No
 1% Unsure (vol option for the phone version only / not shown on web)
 1% Prefer not to answer (vol option for the phone version only / not shown on web)

D6. And do you identify your main race as (randomize first five choices)

60% Anglo / White
 14% African-American / Black
 2% Asian
 17% Hispanic / Latino
 1% American Indian
 4% Other (vol option for the phone version only / show on web)
 0% Unsure (vol option for the phone version only / not shown on web)
 2% Prefer not to answer (vol option for the phone version only / not shown on web)

1. In your own words, please (Phone: tell me / Web: indicate) the one issue Texas needs to address to be **successful** 15 years from now?

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Immigration / Border	204	20.4%
Political / Government / Civility	106	10.6%
Economy / Jobs / Trade / Wages	84	8.3%
Education	63	6.3%
Energy / Power / Oil / Gas	59	5.9%
COVID-19	44	4.4%
Healthcare / Social Security	42	4.2%
Climate Change / Environment / Water	41	4.1%
Voting rights / Voting restrictions	38	3.8%
Infrastructure / Transportation / Traffic	37	3.7%
Spending / Budgets / Taxes	30	3.0%
Housing / Homelessness / Poverty / Welfare	28	2.8%
Civil rights / Equality	28	2.8%
Crime / Gun control	26	2.6%
Legalize marijuana	25	2.5%
Secession / Independence	12	1.2%
Abortion / Women's rights	11	1.1%
Population / California	9	0.9%
Prison reform / Criminal Justice	7	0.7%
Police brutality / Funding / Reform	3	0.3%
Other	25	2.5%
Unsure / Refused	79	7.9%

2. Compared to this time last year, would you say that you are: **(Randomize first two choices)**

20%	Better off financially
26%	Worse off financially
53%	About the same
1%	(Phone: Unsure / refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)

3. Compared to this time last year, would you say the State of Texas is... **(Randomize first two choices)**

<u>Ver X</u>	<u>Ver Y</u>	<u>Total</u>	
12%	15%	13%	(Ver X: Better off / Ver Y: headed in a better direction)
54%	51%	52%	(Ver X: Worse off / Ver Y: headed in a worse direction)
32%	32%	32%	About the same
2%	2%	2%	(Phone: Unsure / refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)

4. Compared to last year, do you feel as if the cost of living in **(Ver X: Texas / Ver Y: your community)** has...(read **top-to-bottom / bottom-to top**)

<u>Ver X</u>	<u>Ver Y</u>	<u>Total</u>	
38%	43%	41%	increased a lot
49%	39%	44%	increased some
87%	83%	85%	TOTAL INCREASED
10%	14%	12%	stayed the same
1%	1%	1%	decreased some
1%	2%	1%	decreased a lot
2%	3%	2%	TOTAL DECREASED
1%	1%	1%	(Phone: Unsure / refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)

5. Which best describes your level of concern regarding the future of Texas?

(Read top-to-bottom / bottom-to-top)

25% Extremely concerned
33% Very concerned
34% Somewhat concerned
92% TOTAL CONCERNED

7% Not at all concerned
1% **(Phone: Unsure / refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)**

6. Would you rate the Texas state government's performance this year in solving problems and serving the needs of its residents as...**(Read top-to-bottom / bottom-to-bottom)**

7% Excellent
22% Good
28% Fair
41% Poor
2% **(Phone: Unsure / refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)**

7. Shifting to weather events, do you think the climate in Texas compared to ten years ago has...

(Read top-to-bottom / bottom-to-top)

32% changed dramatically
40% changed somewhat
23% not changed
4% **(Phone: Unsure / refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)**

8. Which best describes how well prepared you believe the State of Texas is for extreme weather events?

(Read top-to-bottom / bottom-to-top)

7% Very well prepared
32% Somewhat well prepared
40% TOTAL WELL PREPARED

33% Not very well prepared
26% Not at all well prepared
59% TOTAL NOT WELL PREPARED

1% **(Phone: Unsure / refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)**

Please (**phone:** tell me / **web:** indicate) if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with each of the following actions designed to improve funding of community colleges. Here is the first one... (**Randomize questions**)

	AGREE			DISAGREE			Depends		Net
	<u>Strong</u>	<u>Smwht</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Smwht</u>	<u>Strong</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>/ Neutral</u>	<u>Unsure</u>	<u>Favor</u>
	(Phone: vol)								
9. About 20% of community college funding comes from the State of Texas. It should be a priority to ensure no Texas community college loses state funding, even if student enrollment declines.	28%	36%	64%	17%	11%	27%	5%	4%	+36%
10. Community colleges should receive (Ver X: additional state funding / Ver Y: outcome-based bonuses) each time a student earns a workforce-aligned degree or credential.	Ver X: 22%	40%	62%	17%	10%	27%	6%	5%	+35%
	Ver Y: 16%	39%	55%	20%	13%	33%	5%	6%	+22%
	Total: 19%	39%	59%	19%	11%	30%	6%	6%	+29%
11. The State of Texas should link community college funding levels to whether students can find good paying jobs after completing their educational programs.	35%	34%	69%	15%	8%	23%	5%	3%	+46%
12. Community colleges should focus on offering course programs that match the needs of the local workforce.	50%	37%	87%	6%	3%	9%	2%	2%	+78%
13. Property tax collections for community colleges can vary widely based on the size of the local tax base. The State of Texas should ensure that all community colleges receive similar (Ver Y: per student) funding, regardless of local tax collections.	Ver X: 30%	38%	68%	13%	9%	22%	6%	4%	+47%
	Ver Y: 28%	37%	65%	14%	9%	23%	6%	6%	+42%
	Total: 29%	37%	67%	14%	9%	22%	6%	5%	+44%
(End randomization)									

14. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Schools in (**Ver X:** your community / **Ver Y:** Texas) handled the COVID-19 pandemic situation well over the past 18 months.
(Phone: If choice made, ask: Is that strongly or somewhat agree / disagree?)
(Web: Read top-to-bottom / bottom-to-top)

Ver X	Ver Y	Total	
18%	13%	15%	Strongly agree
30%	32%	31%	Somewhat agree
48%	45%	46%	TOTAL AGREE
23%	21%	22%	Somewhat disagree
21%	29%	25%	Strongly disagree
44%	49%	47%	TOTAL DISAGREE
8%	6%	7%	(Phone: Unsure / refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)

15. Do you think (**Ver A:** virtual education / **Ver B:** online learning) during the pandemic has been a success or a (**Ver X:** disappointment / **Ver Y:** failure) for Texas students? **(Record only)**

Ver A	Ver B	Ver X	Ver Y	Total	
22%	24%	22%	24%	23%	Success
52%	47%	53%	46%	50%	(Ver X: Disappointment / Ver Y: Failure)
19%	21%	17%	23%	20%	Mixed (vol)
8%	7%	8%	7%	8%	(Phone: Unsure / refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)

16. As you may know, there is an annual, standardized test called the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness or STAAR test that has been administered to all public school children starting in third grade. Do you favor or oppose Texas public schools administering standardized testing such as the STAAR test in Texas public schools? **If choice made, ask: Is that strongly or somewhat (favor / oppose)?**

19%	Favor / Strongly
22%	Favor / Somewhat
41%	TOTAL FAVOR
19%	Oppose / Somewhat
33%	Oppose / Strongly
51%	TOTAL OPPOSE
3%	Depends (vol)
5%	(Phone: Unsure / refused / Web: Unsure)

Rotate next two questions

17. Standardized tests show 62% of our state's third graders cannot read at grade level. By having this data, Texas can target resources to help students improve their reading. Which best describes how important it is for Texas to have this data? **(Read top-to-bottom / bottom-to-top)**

43%	Extremely important
27%	Very important
23%	Somewhat important
93%	TOTAL IMPORTANT
5%	Not important
2%	(Phone: Unsure / refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)

18. Do you agree or disagree that we need to (**Ver X:** care / **Ver Y:** know) enough about how all students are learning to measure their progress (**Ver Q:** with standardized testing) so we can help them improve.
If choice made, ask: Is that strongly or somewhat (agree / disagree)?

Ver P	Ver Q	Ver X	Ver Y	Total	
63%	41%	53%	51%	52%	Strongly agree
25%	30%	27%	28%	27%	Somewhat agree
88%	71%	80%	79%	80%	TOTAL AGREE
4%	12%	7%	9%	8%	Somewhat disagree
4%	13%	8%	8%	8%	Strongly disagree
8%	25%	15%	18%	16%	TOTAL DISAGREE
4%	4%	5%	3%	4%	(Phone: Unsure / refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)

19. After steadily rising since the 1990s, Texas standardized test scores began a steady decline a decade ago. Putting aside any impacts from COVID related closures, please describe in your own words what you believe caused the decline in test scores?

	Cases	Percent
Students or parents not caring	180	17.9%
Teaching to the test / Test related	171	17.1%
Teachers / Teachers Unions	111	11.1%
Got away from basics / Traditional teaching	100	10.0%
Funding / Resources	77	7.7%
Population / Immigration / Overcrowding	70	6.9%
Non-academic & other distractions	48	4.8%
Districts / Local gov't / School politics	39	3.9%
COVID related	24	2.4%
No Child Left Behind	18	1.8%
Criteria / Curriculum related	16	1.6%
Special needs / Learning disabilities	6	0.6%
Poverty / Crime	5	0.5%
Other	22	2.2%
Unsure / Refused	115	11.5%

20. How many years should a school (**Ver X:** not meet state accountability standards / **Ver Y:** fail) before the State of Texas (**Ver P:** takes over / **Ver Q:** replaces the school district's leadership) to ensure every child in that school has access to a high-quality education? (**Record only**)

Ver P	Ver Q	Ver X	Ver Y	Total	
10%	7%	9%	8%	9%	Less than a year
18%	18%	14%	22%	18%	One year
25%	26%	27%	24%	25%	Two years
17%	20%	19%	19%	19%	Three years
9%	10%	10%	10%	10%	4 to 5 years
1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	6 to 7 years
5%	4%	6%	3%	4%	8 or more years
14%	14%	15%	14%	14%	(Phone: Unsure / refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)

21. Which one of the following should the State of Texas do when a school has only one-third of its students reading at grade level (**Ver Q**: on state standardized tests) for multiple years?
(Read top-to-bottom / bottom-to-top)

Ver P	Ver Q	Ver X	Ver Y	Total	
31%	30%	32%	30%	31%	Provide additional funding and leave current leadership in place, with more time to improve outcomes
47%	51%	44%	54%	49%	Ver X : Provide additional funding and replace current leadership / Ver Y : Intervene to reform the school's leadership and learning strategies
12%	10%	12%	10%	11%	It is a local issue so the state should do nothing
10%	8%	12%	6%	9%	(Phone : Unsure / refused (vol) / Web : Unsure)

22. Which viewpoint comes closest to your own? (Read and rotate options 1 and 2)

Ver A	Ver B	Ver X	Ver Y	Total	
43%	48%	47%	45%	46%	Supporters of (Ver A : the STAAR test / Ver B : standardized testing) say it is necessary to understand if (Ver Y : school dollars are being effectively spent and) our students are learning at grade level by monitoring their progress and ensuring that students in all Texas communities have access to a high-quality education.
45%	42%	42%	45%	43%	Opponents of (Ver A : the STAAR test / Ver B : standardized testing) say it is unnecessary because it is too stressful and disruptive for students and teachers, and that they can lead teachers to teach to the test.
12%	10%	12%	10%	11%	(Phone : Unsure / refused (vol) / Web : Unsure)

23. Many rural schools do not offer access to advanced coursework, including 8th grade Algebra and high school AP courses. Without these courses, students can face obstacles to reaching their full potential in math and science. Using the recent investments in online learning, do you agree or disagree that all students – regardless of where they live -- should have the option to take courses online offered by other school districts when those courses are not offered at their school? **If choice made, ask**: Is that strongly or somewhat (agree / disagree)?

67%	Strongly agree
21%	Somewhat agree
88%	TOTAL AGREE
4%	Somewhat disagree
3%	Strongly disagree
7%	TOTAL DISAGREE
2%	Depends / neutral (vol)
3%	(Phone : Unsure / refused (vol) / Web : Unsure)

Please (**phone:** tell me / **web:** indicate) if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with each of the following actions or legislative proposals. (**Phone:** Here is the first one...) (**Randomize questions**)

		AGREE			DISAGREE			Depends		Net
		<u>Strong</u>	<u>Smwht</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Smwht</u>	<u>Strong</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>/ Neutral</u>	<u>Unsure</u>	
								(Phone: vol)		
								(Web: show)		
24.	The state is piloting changes to annual, standardized testing so students take smaller, less intrusive tests throughout the school year. These tests can help teachers and parents target assistance earlier, while ensuring the state can monitor student progress and ensure accountability. Texas should make these changes statewide so all students can benefit.	46%	35%	81%	7%	5%	12%	3%	3%	+69%
25.	If the public school a student is zoned to (Ver A: is failing / Ver B: fails to adequately educate the student), then the family should have the option to enroll their child in another public (Ver X: or private) school (Ver Q: of the parents' choice).	Ver A: 55%	25%	81%	7%	5%	13%	4%	2%	+68%
		Ver B: 59%	24%	83%	7%	4%	11%	3%	3%	+72%
		Ver P: 60%	24%	83%	6%	5%	10%	3%	3%	+73%
		Ver Q: 55%	25%	80%	8%	5%	13%	4%	3%	+67%
		Ver X: 58%	23%	80%	7%	5%	13%	4%	3%	+68%
		Ver Y: 57%	26%	83%	7%	4%	11%	3%	3%	+72%
		Total: 57%	24%	82%	7%	5%	12%	4%	3%	+70%
26.	This past spring, the legislature considered but did not act on providing financial bonuses to schools that successfully brought students who were behind grade level up to grade level on annual, standardized state tests. The State of Texas should provide financial bonuses to schools and teachers that help students catch up and reach grade level on state tests.	32%	35%	67%	11%	13%	24%	5%	4%	+43%

(End randomization)

Please (**phone:** tell me / **web:** indicate) if you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose each of the following possible uses of the \$16 billion in federal stimulus funds that the State of Texas must spend over the next few years. (**Phone:** Here is the first one...) (**Randomize questions**)

		FAVOR			OPPOSE			Depends		Net
		<u>Strong</u>	<u>Smwht</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Smwht</u>	<u>Strong</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>/ Neutral</u>	<u>Unsure</u>	<u>Favor</u>
		(Phone: vol)								
27.	Using \$1 billion or about 6% of the federal funds to build new state parks and improve existing parks.	28%	40%	68%	15%	9%	24%	5%	2%	+44%
28.	Using \$3 billion or about 19% of the federal funds to make upgrades to the state’s electrical grid and generation, including weatherization, new energy technologies, and transmission improvements.	60%	23%	83%	7%	5%	12%	3%	3%	+71%
29.	Using \$1 billion or about 6% of the federal funds to improve the state’s cybersecurity and technology systems (Ver X: , which would improve customer service and protect your data).	Ver X: 48%	32%	80%	9%	4%	14%	4%	2%	+67%
		Ver Y: 44%	34%	78%	9%	4%	13%	5%	4%	+64%
		Total: 46%	33%	79%	9%	4%	13%	4%	3%	+66%
30.	Using \$3 billion or about 19% of the federal funds for state water projects that (Ver X: improve the cleanliness of drinking water and access to water during drought conditions / Ver Y: increase our supply of safe, clean water).	Ver X: 54%	35%	89%	3%	3%	6%	3%	2%	+83%
		Ver Y: 57%	30%	86%	5%	3%	8%	3%	3%	+79%
		Total: 55%	32%	88%	4%	3%	7%	3%	3%	+81%
31.	Using \$2 billion or about 13% of the federal funds to improve the state’s broadband and emergency communications infrastructure, increasing access to the internet in rural and under-served areas, and enhancing disaster response capabilities.	47%	34%	81%	8%	4%	13%	3%	3%	+69%
32.	Using \$7 billion or about 44% of the federal funds to replenish the state’s unemployment trust fund, which will (Ver X: reduce the likelihood that employers will face increased taxes / Ver Y: help prevent the need to increase taxes on employers) in the future.	Ver X: 24%	34%	58%	18%	15%	32%	6%	4%	+25%
		Ver Y: 23%	35%	58%	17%	13%	30%	7%	4%	+28%
		Total: 23%	35%	58%	17%	14%	31%	7%	4%	+27%
33.	Using \$1 billion or about 6% of the federal funds to (Ver X: improve flood prevention capabilities / Ver Y: better prepare for and prevent flooding).	Ver X: 44%	35%	79%	8%	5%	13%	3%	4%	+66%
		Ver Y: 46%	32%	78%	9%	5%	14%	5%	3%	+64%
		Total: 45%	34%	79%	8%	5%	14%	4%	3%	+65%

(End randomization)

Now just a few questions to make sure we have a representative sample --

D2. What is the highest level of education you have completed? **(Do not read, record only)**

2%	Less than high school
14%	High school grad
32%	Some college / vocational school
32%	College graduate
19%	Post graduate (masters or higher)
1%	Unsure (Phone: vol / Web: show)

D4. Do you own or rent your place of residence? **(Do not read, record only)**

73%	Own
25%	Rent
1%	Unsure (Phone: vol / Web: do not show)
1%	Refused (Phone: vol / Web: do not show)

D9. We want to classify people into broad income groups only. Would you estimate your total household income last year before taxes to be above or below **(Phone: seventy-five thousand dollars / Web: \$75,000)?**

47%	Below \$75,000
49%	Above \$75,000
1%	Unsure (Phone: vol / Web: show)
4%	Prefer not to answer (Phone: vol / Web: show)

D9a. IF VALUE 1 in D9, ASK: And was your total household income above or below **(Phone: thirty-five thousand dollars / Web: \$35,000)?**

17%	Below \$35,000
28%	Above \$35,000
1%	Unsure (Phone: vol / Web: show)
0%	Prefer not to answer (Phone: vol / Web: show)
53%	Not asked

D9b. IF VALUE 2 in D9, ASK: And was your total household income above or below **(Phone: one hundred and twenty thousand dollars / Web: \$120,000)?**

23%	Below \$120,000
24%	Above \$120,000
1%	Unsure (Phone: vol / Web: show)
1%	Prefer not to answer (Phone: vol / Web: show)
51%	Not asked

Combination of D9 above is displayed below:

17%	Below \$35,000
28%	\$35,000 - \$74,999
23%	\$75,000 - \$119,999
24%	\$120,000 or over
7%	Income unknown

D11. How many children do you have under the age of 19?
(Record 3 children as 0 3) (Record UNSURE / REFUSED AS 9 9)

31%	Has children
69%	No children
1%	Unsure / refused

D12. (Randomize questions)

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Unsure</u>	
86%	14%	0%	A. Do you read emails on your cell phone?
71%	28%	1%	B. Do you have a Facebook account?
34%	65%	1%	C. Do you have a Twitter account?
47%	52%	1%	D. Do you have an Instagram account?

D13.

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Uns.</u>	<u>Not Asked</u>	
60%	40%	0%	0%	A. Were you born in Texas?
35%	5%	0%	60%	B. If value 2 or 3 in D13A, ask: Were you born in the United States?
82%	18%	1%	0%	C. Were both of your parents born in the United States?

D14. In your household, do you speak... (rotate top-to-bottom/bottom-to-top)

72%	English only
17%	Mostly English
9%	English and Spanish equally
1%	Mostly Spanish
0%	Spanish only
1%	Other (Phone: vol / Web: do not show)
0%	(Phone: Unsure / Refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)

D6_1. Do you prefer to get most of your political news and information from... (Randomize choices)?
If response given, ask: And which of these is your next most preferred source?
(Randomize remaining choices)

<u>Most</u>	<u>Next Most</u>	<u>Total</u>	
6%	11%	17%	the newspaper
25%	20%	45%	local TV news
18%	21%	39%	cable news networks
36%	19%	54%	the Internet
2%	12%	14%	blogs and emails
3%	1%	4%	Two responses / equal (vol) (Web: do not show)
5%	0%	5%	All of them (vol) (Web: do not show)
4%	7%	12%	(Phone: Unsure / Refused (vol) / Web: Unsure)
	9%		No second response