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RESULTS FROM BEXAR COUNTY REGISTERED VOTER POLL PILOT STUDY—MARCH 5TH PRIMARY

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Executive Summary

SAN ANTONIO, TX - The Bexar County Registered Voter Poll Pilot Study was conducted from February 26th to March 4th, 2024. The purpose of the pilot study was to test methodology for subsequent election polling in Bexar County, TX. The survey was sponsored by the University of Texas at San Antonio.

The pilot study accurately predicted vote choice in the Democratic and Republican presidential primaries and suggests a competitive environment heading into the general election, with a slight edge for Democrats (Part 1).

The survey also shows Bexar County voters give relatively high marks to local government and local officials, mixed marks to the state government and Governor Abbott, and low marks for the federal government and President Biden. Bexar County voters are more optimistic about the direction the city is going in than they are the state and country (Part 2).

The pilot study's methodology is included in Part 3, and question wording and tabulations are included in the appendix.

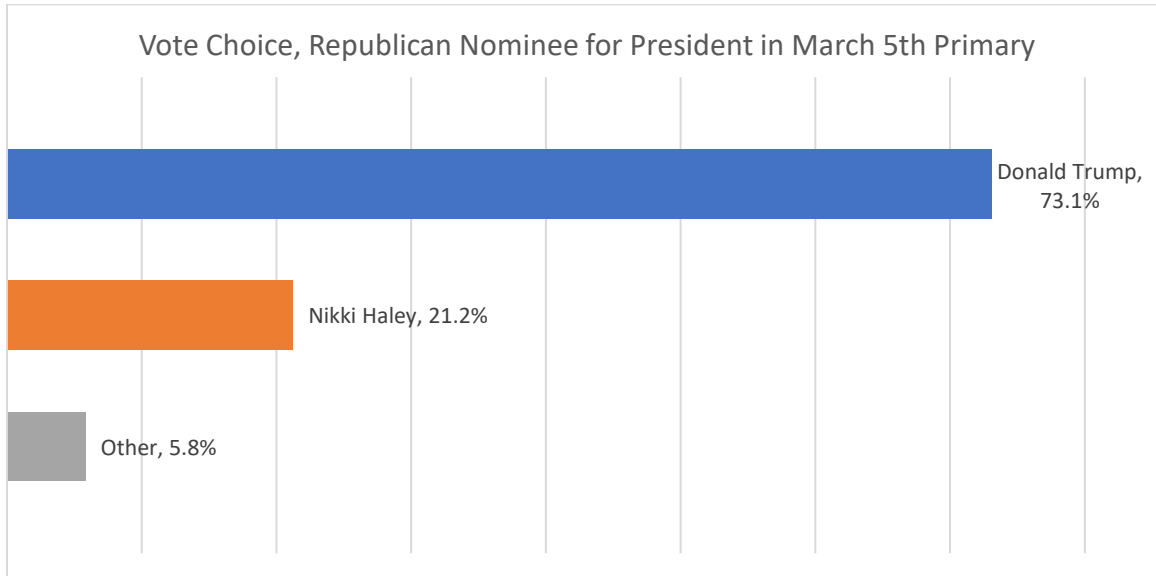
Part 1. Primary Election Predictions

As a test of the polling methodology, a comparison was made between election predictions and official election outcomes in the March 5th, 2024 primary.

The poll's predictions about voters' choices in the presidential election were accurate. Among those who said they had or would vote in the Republican primary, 73% of respondents pledged to vote for Donald Trump, 21% said Nikki Haley, and about 6% identified another candidate. This distribution was very close to actual Bexar County numbers: 74% for Trump, 22% for Haley, and about 4% for another candidate.

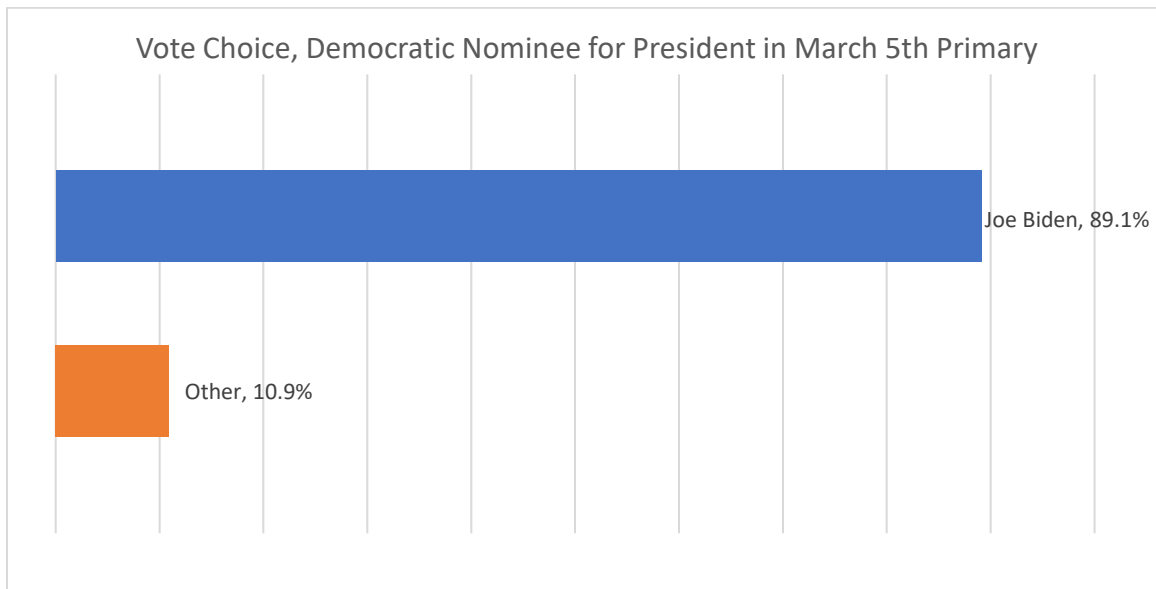
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Note: values may not add up exactly to 100% due to rounding

The poll's numbers were similarly precise for the Democratic presidential primary, predicting 89% for Joe Biden, with about 11% split among other candidates. The actual Bexar County numbers were 87% Biden and 13% for someone else.



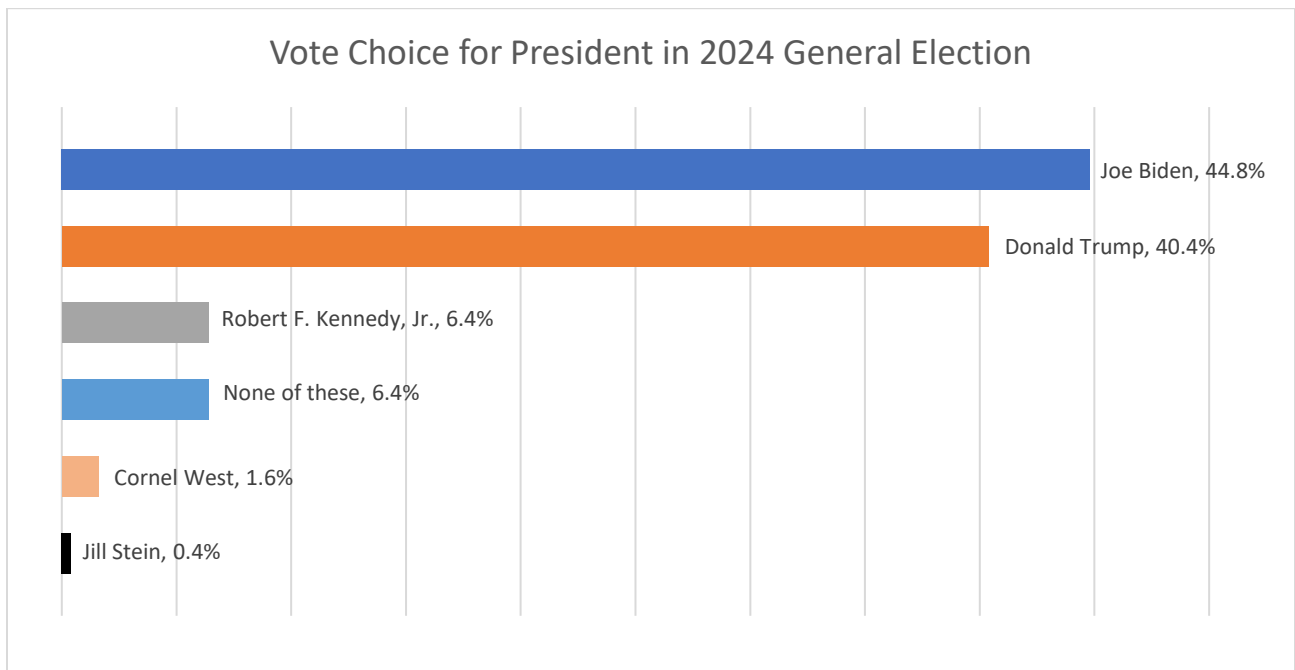
Note: values may not add up exactly to 100% due to rounding

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Vote Choice in November General Elections

Looking ahead to the general election for President of the United States in November, Bexar County voters have a slight preference for Joe Biden (44.8%) over Donald Trump (40.85). However, a non-trivial percentage (14.8%, or more than 1 in 7) stated they are not likely to vote for Biden or Trump in the November 2024 election.

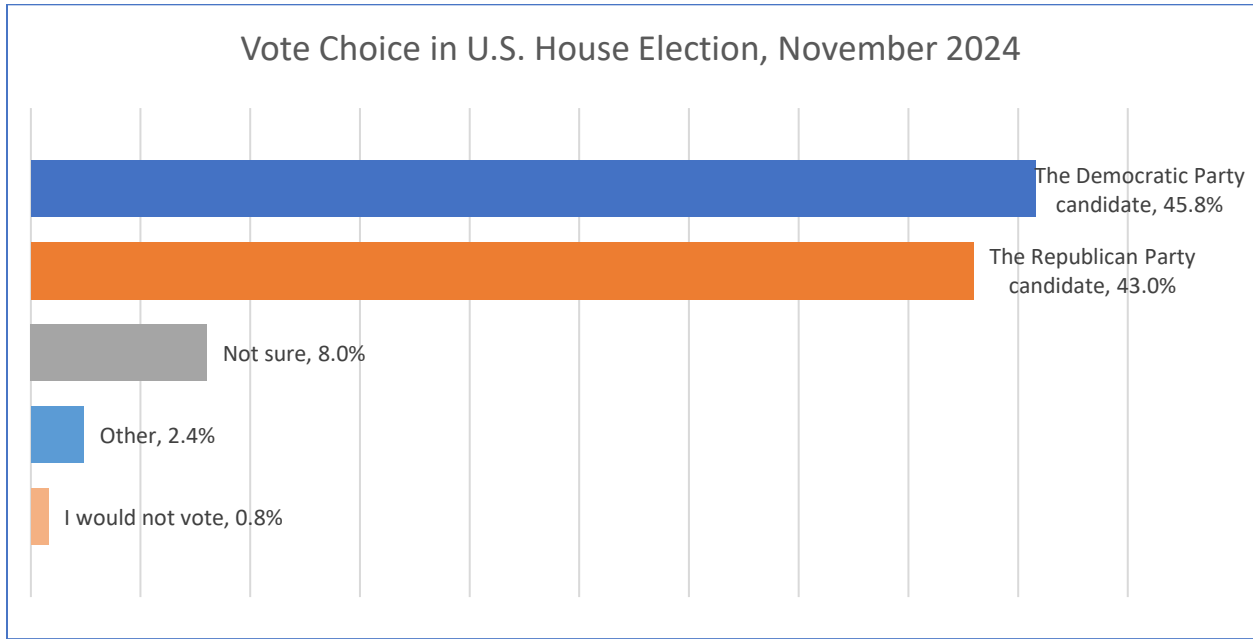


Note: values may not add up exactly to 100% due to rounding

Bexar County voters were also asked about how they planned to vote in U.S. House races in November. Respondents gave a slight edge to Democrats over Republicans, with 8 percent unsure how they would vote at this time.

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Part 2. Evaluations of City, State, and National Government

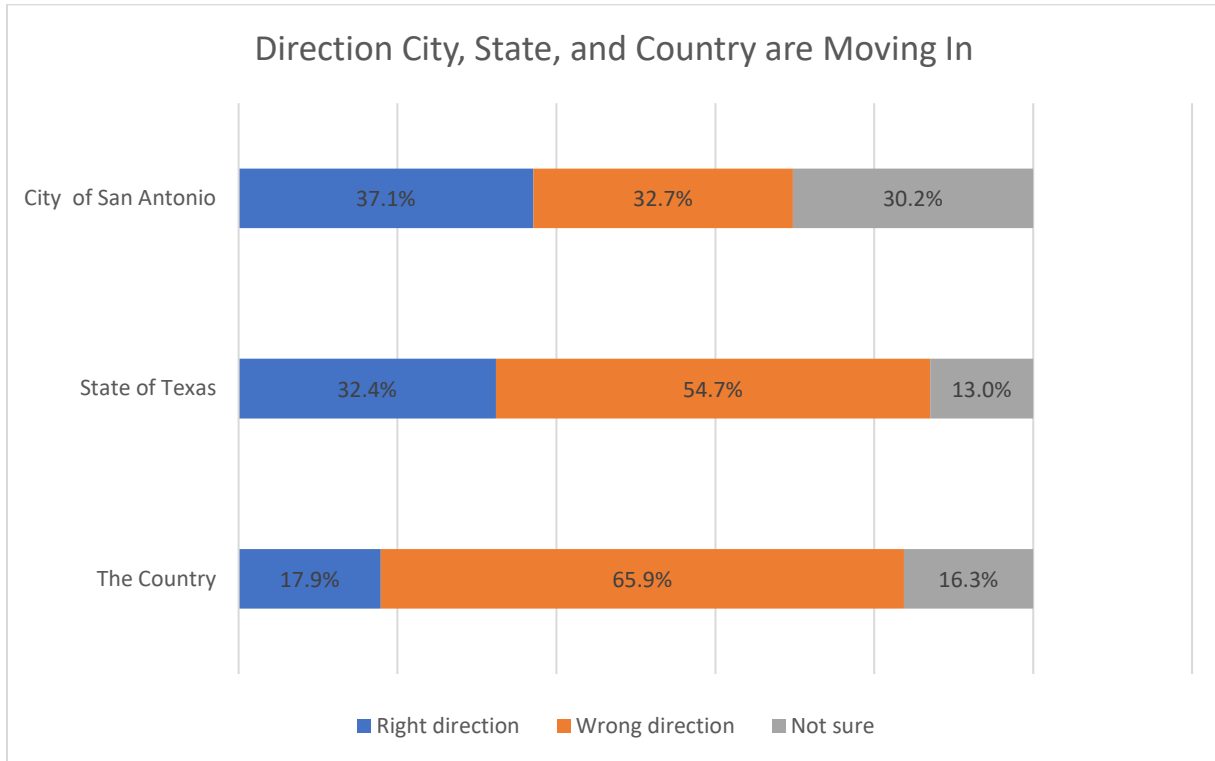
Direction City, State, and Country are Heading In

Respondents were asked to assess the direction they thought the City of San Antonio, the State of Texas, and the country were headed in. Bexar County voters were the most sanguine about the direction of the City the San Antonio: about 37 percent selected “right direction” and 33 percent selected “wrong direction.” However, more than 30 percent were not sure.

Bexar County voters were more certain about the direction the state and country were moving in—and they were not optimistic. Nearly 55 percent thought the state was moving in the wrong direction, with less than a third believing it was moving in the right direction. Nearly 66 percent thought the country was moving in the wrong direction, with only about 18 percent selecting “right direction.”

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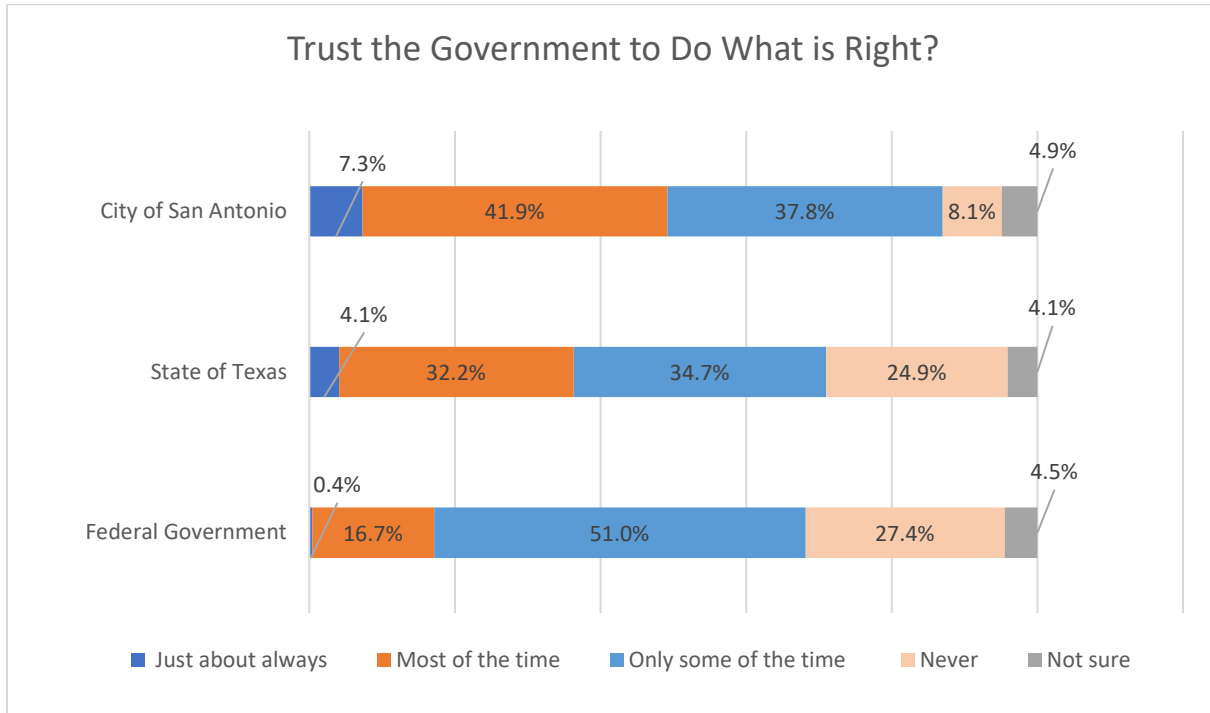
Note: values may not add up exactly to 100% due to rounding

Trust in Government: National, State, and Local

Respondents were asked how much of the time they thought they could trust the city government of San Antonio, the state government of Texas, and the federal government to do what is right. Bexar County voters again gave the highest marks to local government, with almost half (49.2%) believing they could trust the government of the City of San Antonio to do the right thing just about always or most of the time. Slightly over a third (36.3 %) said the same about the State of Texas. This number fell to just 18.1 percent for the federal government, with almost no one believing they could just about always trust the government in Washington to do what was right.

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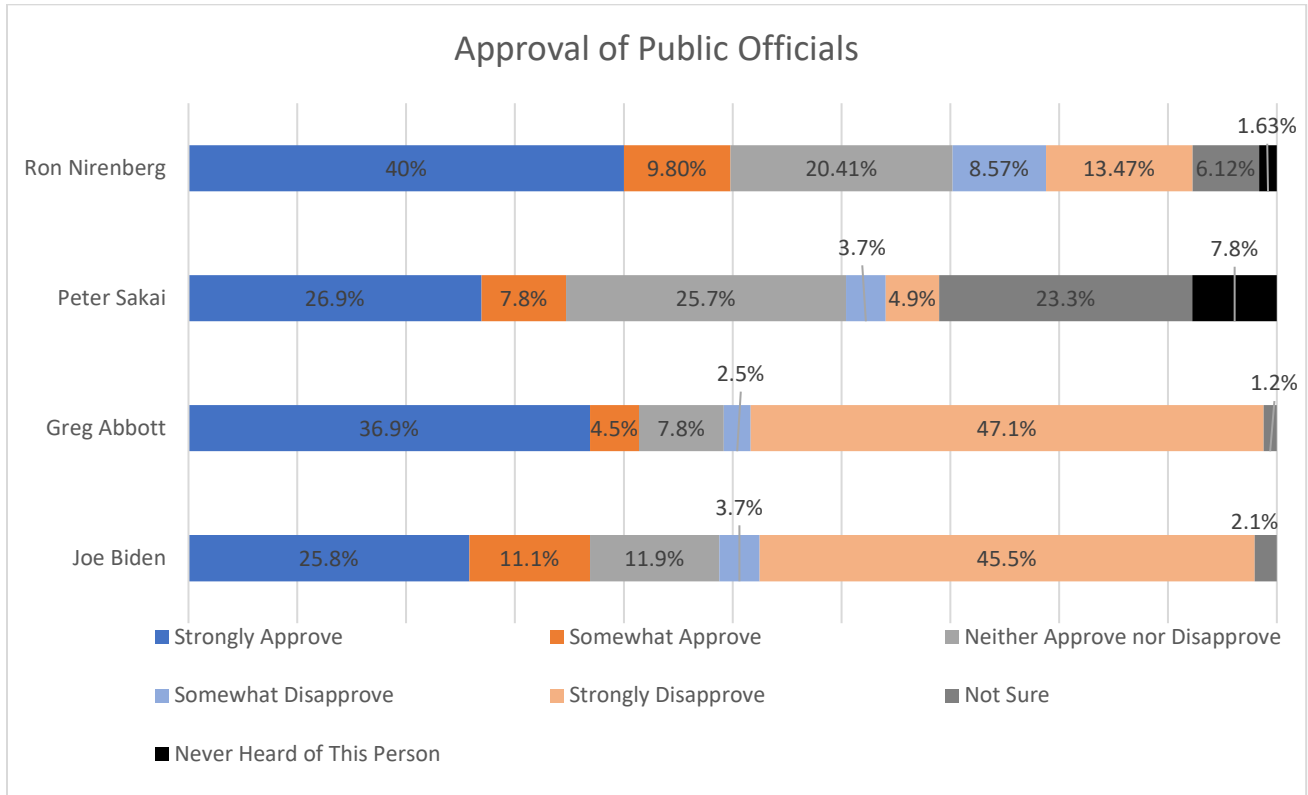
Approval of Local, State, and National Leaders

Higher marks for government at the local level extends to approval of public officials, as well. Nearly 50 percent of respondents (49.8 percent) strongly approved or somewhat approved of the job Rob Nirenberg was doing as mayor of San Antonio. Less than a quarter (22 percent) strongly or somewhat disapproved of his job performance. Familiarity with Peter Sakai, the Bexar County Judge, was higher than it was for Nirenberg; 31 percent had never heard of Sakai or were not sure about his performance, while less than 8 percent were unfamiliar with or unsure about Nirenberg. However, a plurality approved of Sakai’s job performance (about 35 percent) while only about 9 percent disapproved.

Disapproval of both Governor Greg Abbott and President Joe Biden was much higher. Close to half (49.6 percent) of respondents disapproved of Abbott’s performance as governor of Texas, with about 41 percent approving. President Biden fared slightly worse, with only 37 percent approving and almost half (49.2 percent) disapproving of his job performance. A slightly larger percentage were unsure or neutral about Biden than they were Abbott (about 14 percent versus 9 percent).

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Part 3. Methodology

Sample and Sampling Frame

The sample consisted of registered voters in Bexar County, TX. The sampling frame consisted of all registered voters in Bexar County, TX with verified email addresses. Information on registered voters, voter history, and their verified contact information came from a list purchased from the data broker, L2. The survey was fielded from February 26th to March 4th, 2024.

Sampling Methodology and Recruitment

Summary answer: registered voters were randomly selected from three strata in proportion to how much of the 2024 primary electorate each stratum was expected to make up. This expectation was based on analysis of previous presidential primary elections in Bexar County.

Detailed answer: Stratified registration-based sampling (RBS) was used to select the sample. Bexar County registered voters with verified email addresses were stratified into three categories, based on personal vote history in presidential primaries: voters, abstainers, and new registrants with no vote history. Estimates of the rates at which each of the three strata were expected to vote in the March 5th primary were then produced based on an analysis of previous primary elections. The number of registered voters in each stratum were then multiplied by the estimated voting rates to produce the fraction of the sample each stratum should make up.¹

Mode and Language

Respondents were recruited via email, which provided a link to the survey, hosted on the computer-assisted self-interviewing platform, Qualtrics. Reminder emails were sent out to subjects who had not completed the survey several days after the initial recruitment email was sent out. The survey was bilingual. Respondents were given the option to complete the survey in either English or Spanish.

Sample Size, Sampling Error, and Response Rate

25,000 voters were randomly selected in total for participation in the poll. 263 respondents completed the survey. The response rate was approximately 1 percent, and the completion rate was approximately 73 percent. The (unadjusted) margin of error for the poll was +/- 6.0%. For the subsample of (likely) Democratic primary voters, the margin of error was +/- 9.8%. For the subsample of (likely) Republican primary voters, the margin of error was +/- 9.6%.

For more information about the poll's methodology, contact Dr. Bryan Gervais via email at bryan.gervais@utsa.edu or phone at (210)458-5644.

¹ For additional information on this practice, see: Green, Donald P., and Alan S. Gerber. 2006. "Can Registration-Based Sampling Improve the Accuracy of Midterm Election Forecasts?" *Public Opinion Quarterly* 70(2): 197–223.

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Appendix. Question Wording and Tabulations

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	As you may know, early voting has begun for the March 5th primary elections in Texas. Have you already cast a ballot during Early Voting?	1.00	2.00	1.52	0.50	0.25	263

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes, I have voted in the primary election during Early Voting	47.53%	125
2	No, I have not voted in the primary election during Early Voting	52.47%	138
	Total	100%	263

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you plan to vote in the Texas primary elections on or before March 5th?	1.00	2.00	1.77	0.42	0.18	133

#	Answer	%	Count
1	No	23.31%	31
2	Yes	76.69%	102
	Total	100%	133

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you intend to vote in the Democratic primary, the Republican primary, or are you unsure?	1.00	3.00	1.70	0.75	0.57	101

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#	Answer	%	Count
1	Democratic primary	47.52%	48
2	Republican primary	34.65%	35
3	Unsure	17.82%	18
	Total	100%	101

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Did you vote in the Democratic primary or Republican primary?	1.00	2.00	1.57	0.50	0.25	123

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Democratic Primary	43.09%	53
2	Republican Primary	56.91%	70
	Total	100%	123

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Here is a list of people who are running for the Democratic nomination for president in 2024. Which of the following candidates did you vote for in the Democratic primary?	1.00	5.00	1.24	0.83	0.69	51

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Joseph R. Biden	92.16%	47

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2	Gabriel Cornejo	0.00%	0
3	Frankie Lozada	1.96%	1
4	Armando "Mando" Perez-Serrato	3.92%	2
5	Dean Phillips	1.96%	1
6	Star Locke	0.00%	0
7	Cenk Uygur	0.00%	0
8	Marianne Williamson	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	51

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Here is a list of people who are running for the Republican nomination for president in 2024. Which of the following candidates did you vote for in the Republican primary?	4.00	9.00	7.16	1.67	2.80	69

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Ryan Binkley	0.00%	0
2	Chris Christie	0.00%	0
3	Ron DeSantis	0.00%	0
4	Nikki Haley	21.74%	15
5	Asa Hutchinson	0.00%	0
6	Vivek Ramaswamy	0.00%	0
7	David Stuckenberg	0.00%	0
8	Donald J. Trump	75.36%	52

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9	Uncommitted (No Comprometido)	2.90%	2
	Total	100%	69

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Here is a list of people who are running for the Democratic nomination for president in 2024. Which of the following candidates are you most likely to vote for in the Democratic primary?	1.00	8.00	1.30	1.18	1.40	47

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Joseph R. Biden	91.49%	43
2	Gabriel Cornejo	2.13%	1
3	Frankie Lozada	2.13%	1
4	Armando "Mando" Perez-Serrato	0.00%	0
5	Dean Phillips	2.13%	1
6	Star Locke	0.00%	0
7	Cenk Uygur	0.00%	0
8	Marianne Williamson	2.13%	1
	Total	100%	47

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Here is a list of people who are running for the Republican nomination for president in 2024. Which of the following candidates do you intend to vote for in the Republican primary?	4.00	9.00	7.31	1.69	2.84	35

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#	Answer	%	Count
1	Ryan Binkley	0.00%	0
2	Chris Christie	0.00%	0
3	Ron DeSantis	0.00%	0
4	Nikki Haley	20.00%	7
5	Asa Hutchinson	0.00%	0
6	Vivek Ramaswamy	0.00%	0
7	David Stuckenberg	0.00%	0
8	Donald J. Trump	68.57%	24
9	Uncommitted (No Comprometido)	11.43%	4
	Total	100%	35

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Thinking ahead to the general election, let's assume all of the current frontrunners win their party's nomination for president. In this case, which of the following candidates are you most likely to vote for in the general election for President of the United States this November?	1.00	6.00	1.94	1.32	1.75	251

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Joe Biden	44.62%	112

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2	Donald Trump	40.24%	101
3	Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.	6.37%	16
4	Jill Stein	0.40%	1
5	Cornel West	1.59%	4
6	None of these	6.77%	17
	Total	100%	251

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	If the election for U.S. Congress were being held today, who would you vote for in the district where you live?	1.00	5.00	1.76	0.90	0.82	250

#	Answer	%	Count
1	The Democratic Party candidate	45.60%	114
2	The Republican Party candidate	42.80%	107
3	Other	2.80%	7
4	Not sure	8.00%	20
5	I would not vote	0.80%	2
	Total	100%	250

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Next, we'd like to learn about how you think things are going. Generally speaking, would you say things in San Antonio are headed in the right direction, the	1.00	3.00	1.93	0.82	0.67	249

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wrong direction, or are you not sure?

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Right direction	36.95%	92
2	Wrong direction	32.93%	82
3	Not sure	30.12%	75
	Total	100%	249

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Generally speaking, would you say things in the state of Texas are headed in the right direction, the wrong direction, or are you not sure?	1.00	3.00	1.81	0.64	0.41	248

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Right direction	32.26%	80
2	Wrong direction	54.84%	136
3	Not sure	12.90%	32
	Total	100%	248

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	And finally, generally speaking, would you say things in the country are headed in the right direction, the wrong direction, or are you not sure?	1.00	3.00	1.98	0.58	0.34	247

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#	Answer	%	Count
1	Right direction	17.81%	44
2	Wrong direction	65.99%	163
3	Not sure	16.19%	40
	Total	100%	247

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How much of the time do you think you can trust the San Antonio city government to do what is right? Just about always, Most of the time, Only some of the time, Never, or are you not sure?	1.00	5.00	2.61	0.91	0.84	247

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Just about always	7.29%	18
2	Most of the time	42.11%	104
3	Only some of the time	37.65%	93
4	Never	8.10%	20
5	Not sure	4.86%	12
	Total	100%	247

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How much of the time do you think you can trust the	1.00	5.00	2.93	0.94	0.89	246

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government of the State of Texas
in Austin to do what is right? Just
about always, Most of the time,
Only some of the time, Never, or
are you not sure?

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Just about always	4.07%	10
2	Most of the time	32.11%	79
3	Only some of the time	34.96%	86
4	Never	24.80%	61
5	Not sure	4.07%	10
	Total	100%	246

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How much of the time do you think you can trust the federal government in Washington to do what is right? Just about always, Most of the time, Only some of the time, Never, or are you not sure?	1.00	5.00	3.19	0.77	0.60	246

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Just about always	0.41%	1
2	Most of the time	16.67%	41
3	Only some of the time	51.22%	126
4	Never	27.24%	67

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5		Not sure	4.47%	11
		Total	100%	246

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ron Nirenberg is handling his job as mayor of the City of San Antonio or are you not sure?	1.00	5.00	1.88	1.04	1.07	246

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Approve	49.59%	122
2	Disapprove	22.36%	55
3	Neither approve nor disapprove	20.33%	50
4	Not sure	6.10%	15
5	Never heard of this person	1.63%	4
	Total	100%	246

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you strongly approve or only somewhat approve of the job Ron Nirenberg is doing?	1.00	2.00	1.20	0.40	0.16	122

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly approve	80.33%	98
2	Somewhat approve	19.67%	24

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	Total	100%	122
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#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you strongly disapprove or only somewhat disapprove of the job Ron Nirenberg is doing?	1.00	2.00	1.38	0.49	0.24	55

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly disapprove	61.82%	34
2	Somewhat disapprove	38.18%	21
	Total	100%	55

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you approve or disapprove of the way Peter Sakai is handling his job as Bexar County Judge, or are you not sure?	1.00	5.00	2.60	1.37	1.87	246

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Approve	34.96%	86
2	Disapprove	8.54%	21
3	Neither approve nor disapprove	25.61%	63
4	Not sure	23.17%	57
5	Never heard of this person	7.72%	19
	Total	100%	246

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#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you strongly approve or only somewhat approve of the job Peter Sakai is doing?	1.00	2.00	1.22	0.41	0.17	86

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly approve	77.91%	67
2	Somewhat approve	22.09%	19
	Total	100%	86

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you strongly disapprove or only somewhat disapprove of the job Peter Sakai is doing?	1.00	2.00	1.43	0.49	0.24	21

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly disapprove	57.14%	12
2	Somewhat disapprove	42.86%	9
	Total	100%	21

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you approve or disapprove of the way Greg Abbott is handling his job as governor of Texas, or are you not sure?	1.00	4.00	1.69	0.67	0.44	245

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#	Answer	%	Count
1	Approve	41.22%	101
2	Disapprove	49.80%	122
3	Neither approve nor disapprove	7.76%	19
4	Not sure	1.22%	3
5	Never heard of this person	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	245

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you strongly approve or only somewhat approve of the job Greg Abbott is doing?	1.00	2.00	1.11	0.31	0.10	101

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly approve	89.11%	90
2	Somewhat approve	10.89%	11
	Total	100%	101

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you strongly disapprove or only somewhat disapprove of the job Greg Abbott is doing?	1.00	2.00	1.06	0.23	0.05	122

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly disapprove	94.26%	115

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2	Somewhat disapprove	5.74%	7
	Total	100%	122

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as president of the United States, or are you not sure?	1.00	4.00	1.79	0.72	0.52	245

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Approve	36.73%	90
2	Disapprove	49.39%	121
3	Neither approve nor disapprove	11.84%	29
4	Not sure	2.04%	5
5	Never heard of this person	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	245

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you strongly approve or only somewhat approve of the job Joe Biden is doing?	1.00	2.00	1.30	0.46	0.21	90

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly approve	70.00%	63
2	Somewhat approve	30.00%	27
	Total	100%	90

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#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you strongly disapprove or only somewhat disapprove of the job Joe Biden is doing?	1.00	2.00	1.08	0.28	0.08	121

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly disapprove	91.74%	111
2	Somewhat disapprove	8.26%	10
	Total	100%	121

What do you think is the most important problem facing the City of San Antonio today? If you aren't sure or haven't thought about this much, you can say "no opinion."

[Open-ended]

What do you think is the most important problem facing Texas today? If you aren't sure or haven't thought about this much, you can say "no opinion."

[Open-ended]

What do you think is the most important problem facing the country today? If you aren't sure or haven't thought about this much, you can say "no opinion."

[Open-ended]

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Are you Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino or none of these?	1.00	2.00	1.61	0.49	0.24	242

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#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	39.26%	95
2	None of these	60.74%	147
	Total	100%	242

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Are you Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino?	1.00	3.00	2.01	0.54	0.29	94

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Spanish	13.83%	13
2	Hispanic	71.28%	67
3	Latino	14.89%	14
	Total	100%	94

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	What is your sex?	1.00	5.00	1.50	0.59	0.35	241

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Male	52.28%	126
2	Female	46.89%	113
3	Other	0.00%	0
5	Prefer not to say	0.83%	2
	Total	100%	241

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#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?	2.00	8.00	4.79	1.42	2.00	242

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Less than high school degree	0.00%	0
2	High school graduate (high school diploma or equivalent including GED)	4.96%	12
3	Some college but no degree	18.60%	45
4	Associate degree in college (2-year)	13.22%	32
5	Bachelor's degree in college (4-year)	30.58%	74
6	Master's degree	24.79%	60
7	Doctoral degree	4.55%	11
8	Professional degree (JD, MD)	3.31%	8
	Total	100%	242

Choose one or more races that you consider yourself to be:

#	Answer	%	Count
1	White	71.91%	192
2	Black or African American	3.75%	10
3	American Indian or Alaska Native	4.87%	13
4	Asian	2.62%	7
5	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.37%	1

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6		Other	16.48%	44
		Total	100%	267

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?	1.00	3.00	1.95	0.80	0.64	241

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Republican	34.85%	84
2	Democrat	35.68%	86
3	Independent	29.46%	71
	Total	100%	241

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Would you call yourself a strong Republican or a not very strong Republican?	1.00	2.00	1.31	0.46	0.21	84

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strong	69.05%	58
2	Not very strong	30.95%	26
	Total	100%	84

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#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Would you call yourself a strong Democrat or a not very strong Democrat?	1.00	2.00	1.23	0.42	0.18	86

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strong	76.74%	66
2	Not very strong	23.26%	20
	Total	100%	86

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or Democratic party?	1.00	3.00	1.89	0.81	0.66	71

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Republican	39.44%	28
2	Democratic	32.39%	23
3	Neither	28.17%	20
	Total	100%	71

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. Here is a seven-point scale on which the political views that people might hold are arranged from extremely liberal to	1.00	8.00	4.59	1.85	3.41	241

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extremely conservative. Where would you place yourself on this scale, or haven't you thought much about this?

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Extremely liberal	3.32%	8
2	Liberal	15.77%	38
3	Slightly liberal	9.54%	23
4	Moderate; middle of the road	20.33%	49
5	Slightly conservative	8.71%	21
6	Conservative	31.95%	77
7	Extremely conservative	4.15%	10
8	Haven't thought much about this	6.22%	15
	Total	100%	241