



All results are for release after 6PM/ET Thursday, October 1, 2026.

TEXAS SENATE AND GOVERNOR

Methodology

Conducted September 24-28, 2026 under the joint direction of Beacon Research (D) and Shaw & Company Research (R), this Fox News Poll includes interviews with a sample of 1,203 Texas registered voters randomly selected from a statewide voter file. Respondents spoke with live interviewers on landlines (127) and cellphones (789) or completed the survey online by following a link received via text message (287).

Telephone numbers were randomly selected from a statewide voter file of registered Texas voters using a probability proportionate to size method, which means phone numbers are proportionally representative to the number of voters in all regions across the city. Telephone fieldwork conducted by Braun Research, Inc. of Princeton, NJ.

Results based on the full sample have a margin of sampling error of ± 2.5 percentage points. A subsample of 881 has been defined as likely voters (LV), with a margin of error of ± 3 percentage points. Sampling error associated with subgroup results is higher. In addition to sampling error, question wording and order can influence results. Results among subgroups are only shown when the sample size is at least $N=100$. Interviews were conducted by bilingual interviewers. Respondents were given the option of completing the interview in English or Spanish.

When necessary, weights are generally applied to age, race, education, and area variables to ensure the demographics of survey respondents are representative of the registered voter population. Sources for developing weight targets include the most recent American Community Survey, Fox News Voter Analysis, and voter file data.

Results are of registered voters, unless otherwise noted. Likely voters are based on a probabilistic statistical model that relies on past vote history, interest in the current election, intention to vote, age, education, race, ethnicity, and marital status.

Web-based survey wording may differ slightly from telephone wording for improved clarity.

An asterisk () is used for percentages of less than one-half percent. A dash (-) represents a value of zero. Some percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. In the same way, percentages in "total" columns may be one point more or less than the sum of their parts due to rounding.*

1. How interested are you in the 2026 midterm elections? Are you:

		-----Interested-----			-----Not interested-----			(Don't know)
		<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Extremely</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Not very</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	
Likely Voters								
24-28 Sep 26	90%	62	29	9	7	2	*	
Registered Voters								
24-28 Sep 26	85%	55	30	15	10	4	*	
23-27 July 26	80%	48	32	20	16	4	*	

2. There are a range of reasons why people do or do not vote. Thinking about November's election for senate, governor, and other offices, please tell me how likely it is that you will vote on a scale from zero to 10, where 10 means you're certain you will vote and zero means there is no chance you will vote.

Likely Voters

	<u>24-28 Sep 26</u>
10 – Certain to vote	72%
9	8
8	8
7	3
6	2
5	4
4	2
3	1
2	*
1	*
0 – No chance will vote	*
(Don't know / Refused)	*

Registered Voters

	<u>24-28 Sep 26</u>	<u>23-27 July 26</u>
10 – Certain to vote	66%	60%
9	6	7
8	8	9
7	5	6
6	2	4
5	6	5
4	2	2
3	1	2
2	*	1
1	1	1
0 – No chance will vote	3	3
(Don't know / Refused)	*	*

3. If the Texas election for U.S. Senator were today, would you vote for: **[IF DON'T KNOW: Do you lean closer to one candidate?]** **[RANDOMIZE NAMES]**

Likely Voters

	<u>24-28 Sep 26</u>
Democrat James Talarico	51%
Republican Ken Paxton	49
(Other)	-
(Wouldn't vote)	-
(Don't know)	1

Registered Voters

	<u>24-28 Sep 26</u>	<u>23-27 July 26</u>
Democrat James Talarico	53%	51%
Republican Ken Paxton	46	48
(Other)	*	*
(Wouldn't vote)	-	*
(Don't know)	1	1

[SKIP IF OTHER, WOULDN'T VOTE, OR DON'T KNOW IN Q3 AND CODE AS DON'T KNOW. SKIP IF LEAN TOWARD CANDIDATE IN Q3 AND CODE AS MAY CHANGE MIND.] [TALARICO SUPPORTERS LV $\pm 4\%$ RV $\pm 3.5\%$, PAXTON SUPPORTERS LV $\pm 5\%$ RV $\pm 4.5\%$]

4. Are you certain to support **[Q3 ANSWER: Talarico / Paxton]**, or do you think you may change your mind and support someone else? **[IF DON'T KNOW: Re-read question and probe for answer]**

	<u>Certain to support</u>	<u>May change mind</u>	<u>(Don't know)</u>
Likely Voters			
24-28 Sep 26	87%	13	1
Talarico supporters	89%	11	-
Paxton supporters	85%	15	1
Registered Voters			
24-28 Sep 26	82%	17	1
Talarico supporters	85%	15	-
Paxton supporters	80%	19	1
23-27 July 26	78%	20	1
Talarico supporters	81%	19	*
Paxton supporters	77%	22	1

[ROTATE NEXT TWO QUESTIONS]

5. Regardless of how you plan to vote, how concerned are you that James Talarico's positions on the issues are too liberal?

	-----Concerned-----			-----Not concerned-----			(Don't
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Extremely</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Not very</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>know</u>)
24-28 Sep 26 LV	53%	35	18	46	20	26	1
24-28 Sep 26 RV	51%	32	19	48	22	27	1

For reference: Regardless of how you plan to vote, how concerned are you that James Talarico is too extreme?

	-----Concerned-----			-----Not concerned-----			(Don't
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Extremely</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Not very</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>know</u>)
23-27 July 26	47%	25	22	52	29	23	1

6. Regardless of how you plan to vote, how concerned are you that Ken Paxton is too close to Donald Trump?

	-----Concerned-----			-----Not concerned-----			(Don't
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Extremely</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Not very</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>know</u>)
24-28 Sep 26 LV	51%	37	14	48	20	29	1
24-28 Sep 26 RV	52%	37	15	47	21	26	1

For reference: Regardless of how you plan to vote, how concerned are you that Ken Paxton lacks the personal character to serve as a U.S. Senator?

	-----Concerned-----			-----Not concerned-----			(Don't
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Extremely</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Not very</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>know</u>)
23-27 July 26	59%	33	25	40	25	15	1

7. Which political party do you want to win control of the U.S. Senate in the upcoming election? **[ROTATE]**

	<u>Democratic Party</u>	<u>Republican Party</u>	<u>(Don't know)</u>
24-28 Sep 26 LV	49%	50	1
24-28 Sep 26 RV	51%	48	1

8.-11. How important will [ITEM] be to your vote for Senate? [RANDOMIZE]

	-----Important-----			-----Not important-----			(Don't know)
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Extremely</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Not very</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	
The cost of living							
24-28 Sep 26 LV	92%	68	24	8	5	2	*
24-28 Sep 26 RV	93%	70	23	7	5	2	*
Immigration							
24-28 Sep 26 LV	79%	47	32	20	16	5	*
24-28 Sep 26 RV	79%	46	33	20	15	5	*
Artificial intelligence technology							
24-28 Sep 26 LV	68%	34	34	31	22	9	1
24-28 Sep 26 RV	67%	33	34	32	22	9	1
Donald Trump							
24-28 Sep 26 LV	67%	48	19	32	14	19	1
24-28 Sep 26 RV	63%	44	19	36	16	21	1

Moving on...

12. If the Texas election for governor were today, would you vote for: [IF DON'T KNOW: Do you lean closer to one candidate?] [ROTATE NAMES]

Likely Voters

	<u>24-28 Sep 26</u>
Democrat Gina Hinojosa	47%
Republican Greg Abbott	52
(Other)	-
(Wouldn't vote)	-
(Don't know)	1

Registered Voters

	<u>24-28 Sep 26</u>	<u>23-27 July 26</u>
Democrat Gina Hinojosa	49%	49%
Republican Greg Abbott	50	50
(Other)	*	*
(Wouldn't vote)	-	-
(Don't know)	1	*

13. Thinking about your personal financial situation, do you feel like you are getting ahead financially, holding steady, or falling behind?

	<u>Getting ahead</u>	<u>Holding steady</u>	<u>Falling behind</u>	<u>(Don't know)</u>
Likely Voters				
24-28 Sep 26	16%	48	35	*
Registered Voters				
24-28 Sep 26	15%	46	39	*
23-27 July 26	16%	49	35	*

- 14.-15. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the following? If you've never heard of one, please just say so. **[IF FAVORABLE/UNFAVORABLE: Is that strongly (favorable / unfavorable) or only somewhat?]** **[ROTATE]**

	<u>-----Favorable-----</u>			<u>-----Unfavorable-----</u>			<u>(Can't Never</u>	
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>say)</u>	<u>heard of</u>
James Talarico								
Likely Voters								
24-28 Sep 26	52%	35	17	44	10	35	1	3
Registered Voters								
24-28 Sep 26	52%	34	19	43	12	31	1	4
23-27 July 26	49%	25	24	43	14	30	1	6
Ken Paxton								
Likely Voters								
24-28 Sep 26	40%	18	21	58	14	44	1	2
Registered Voters								
24-28 Sep 26	38%	17	21	59	16	43	1	3
23-27 July 26	45%	19	26	51	15	36	1	4

16. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Donald Trump is doing as president? **[IF APPROVE / DISAPPROVE: Is that strongly (approve/disapprove), or only somewhat?]**

	<u>-----Approve-----</u>			<u>-----Disapprove-----</u>			<u>(Don't</u>
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>know)</u>
Likely Voters							
24-28 Sep 26	44%	26	18	55	11	44	1
Registered Voters							
24-28 Sep 26	41%	23	18	58	13	45	1
20-23 Jun 20	50%	34	17	48	8	40	2

17. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Greg Abbott is doing as governor? **[IF APPROVE / DISAPPROVE: Is that strongly (approve/disapprove), or only somewhat?]**

		-----Approve-----			-----Disapprove-----			(Don't know)
		<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	
Likely Voters								
	24-28 Sep 26	52%	29	23	47	14	33	1
Registered Voters								
	24-28 Sep 26	48%	25	23	50	15	35	1
	20-23 Jun 20	63%	36	28	32	16	17	4

POLITICAL IDENTIFICATION

		-----Democrat-----			-----Republican-----			Independent /
		<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Solid</u>	<u>Lean</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Solid</u>	<u>Lean</u>	<u>Other</u>
Likely Voters								
	24-28 Sep 26	41%	35	6	51	44	7	7
Registered Voters								
	24-28 Sep 26	41%	34	7	48	41	7	12
	23-27 July 26	40%	33	7	50	42	8	11
	20-23 June 20	40%	34	6	46	37	9	14