



## TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

### Spectrum News/Ipsos - Texas Back to School/COVID-19 Poll

Conducted by Ipsos using KnowledgePanel®  
**A survey of Texas Residents (ages 18+)**

*Interview dates: August 6-13, 2021*

*Number of interviews: 1,358*

*Number of interviews among parents of children age 4-17: 406*

*Margin of error: +/-3.4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level*

*Margin of error among parents of children age 4-17: +/- 6.2 percentage points at the 95% confidence level*

*NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled. Reduced bases are unweighted values.*

*NOTE: \* = less than 0.5%, - = no respondents*

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#### Annotated Questionnaire:

S1. What state do you live in? [*Terminated if not Texas*]

	<b>Total (N=1358)</b>
Texas	100

S2. Are you the parent of a child or children under the age of 18?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes	30
No	70
Skipped	*



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1. Which of the following do you consider to be the main problem facing Texas today? You may select up to three.

	Total	10/7/20-10/14/20
COVID-19/coronavirus	47	57
Immigration	40	26
Crime or violence	21	21
Gun control	16	11
Healthcare	14	24
Homelessness	13	N/A
Education	12	14
Unemployment	10	25
Racial injustice	10	20
Affordable housing	10	13
Taxes	9	10
Climate change/natural disasters	9	11
Opioid or drug addiction	7	7
Abortion	5	N/A
Other	5	2
Police reform	3	N/A
None of these	2	2
Agriculture	1	N/A
Air quality	1	N/A
Skipped	*	-

2. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Greg Abbott is handling his job as governor?

	Total	10/7/20-10/14/20
Strongly approve	19	20
Somewhat approve	27	31
Somewhat disapprove	19	18
Strongly disapprove	34	19
Don't know	N/A	13
Skipped	1	-
<i>Total Approve (net)</i>	46	51
<i>Total Disapprove (net)</i>	53	37



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3. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Greg Abbott is handling the following?

<b>Total Approve Summary (Strongly + Somewhat approve)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>10/7/20-10/14/20</b>
Jobs and the economy	58	53
Crime and public safety	53	52
Plans for sending children back to school	49	45
Climate change	49	40
COVID-19	43	48

<b>Jobs and the economy</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>10/7/20-10/14/20</b>
Strongly approve	23	19
Somewhat approve	35	34
Somewhat disapprove	21	19
Strongly disapprove	19	15
Don't know	N/A	13
Skipped	1	-
<b>Total Approve (net)</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Total Disapprove (net)</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>35</b>

<b>Crime and public safety</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>10/7/20-10/14/20</b>
Strongly approve	20	20
Somewhat approve	33	32
Somewhat disapprove	21	22
Strongly disapprove	24	14
Don't know	N/A	12
Skipped	1	-
<b>Total Approve (net)</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Total Disapprove (net)</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>35</b>

<b>Plans for sending children back to school</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>10/7/20-10/14/20</b>
Strongly approve	25	17
Somewhat approve	24	29
Somewhat disapprove	19	21
Strongly disapprove	32	23
Don't know	N/A	11
Skipped	1	-
<b>Total Approve (net)</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Total Disapprove (net)</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>44</b>



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3. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Greg Abbott is handling the following?

<b>Climate change</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>10/7/20-10/14/20</b>
Strongly approve	19	15
Somewhat approve	30	25
Somewhat disapprove	19	17
Strongly disapprove	30	18
Don't know	N/A	25
Skipped	2	-
<b>Total Approve (net)</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Total Disapprove (net)</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>35</b>

<b>COVID-19</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>10/7/20-10/14/20</b>
Strongly approve	22	19
Somewhat approve	21	29
Somewhat disapprove	16	18
Strongly disapprove	41	25
Don't know	N/A	9
Skipped	1	-
<b>Total Approve (net)</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Total Disapprove (net)</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>43</b>

4. How much trust do you have in each of the following to provide you with accurate information about coronavirus or COVID-19?

<b>A great deal/A fair amount Summary</b>	<b>Total</b>
The Centers for Disease Control, or CDC	66
Dr. Anthony Fauci	55
Joe Biden	50
The Texas Education Agency, or TEA	46
Greg Abbott	40
Donald Trump	33

<b>The Centers for Disease Control, or CDC</b>	<b>Total</b>
A great deal	26
A fair amount	40
Not very much	19
None at all	14
Skipped	1
<b>A great deal/ A fair amount (net)</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>Not very much/None at all (net)</b>	<b>33</b>

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4. How much trust do you have in each of the following to provide you with accurate information about coronavirus or COVID-19?

<b>Dr. Anthony Fauci</b>	<b>Total</b>
A great deal	27
A fair amount	28
Not very much	19
None at all	25
Skipped	1
<i>A great deal/ A fair amount (net)</i>	55
<i>Not very much/None at all (net)</i>	44

<b>Joe Biden</b>	<b>Total</b>
A great deal	17
A fair amount	34
Not very much	18
None at all	30
Skipped	1
<i>A great deal/ A fair amount (net)</i>	50
<i>Not very much/None at all (net)</i>	49

<b>The Texas Education Agency, or TEA</b>	<b>Total</b>
A great deal	7
A fair amount	39
Not very much	37
None at all	16
Skipped	1
<i>A great deal/ A fair amount (net)</i>	46
<i>Not very much/None at all (net)</i>	53

<b>Greg Abbott</b>	<b>Total</b>
A great deal	14
A fair amount	26
Not very much	26
None at all	33
Skipped	1
<i>A great deal/ A fair amount (net)</i>	40
<i>Not very much/None at all (net)</i>	59

<b>Donald Trump</b>	<b>Total</b>
A great deal	16
A fair amount	17
Not very much	18
None at all	48
Skipped	1
<i>A great deal/ A fair amount (net)</i>	33
<i>Not very much/None at all (net)</i>	66



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5. How much do you support or oppose mask requirements in the following places in Texas?

<b>Total Support Summary (Strongly +Somewhat Support)</b>	<b>Total</b>
Transit hubs, such as airports and train stations	79
Sports stadiums/arenas	73
Grocery and retail stores	73
K-12 schools	72
Offices or workplaces	71
Restaurants and bars	69

<b>Transit hubs, such as airports and train stations</b>	<b>Total</b>
Strongly support	60
Somewhat support	19
Somewhat oppose	8
Strongly oppose	12
Skipped	*
<i>Total Support (net)</i>	79
<i>Total Oppose (net)</i>	21

<b>Sports stadiums/arenas</b>	<b>Total</b>
Strongly support	51
Somewhat support	22
Somewhat oppose	12
Strongly oppose	15
Skipped	1
<i>Total Support (net)</i>	73
<i>Total Oppose (net)</i>	27

<b>Grocery and retail stores</b>	<b>Total</b>
Strongly support	51
Somewhat support	23
Somewhat oppose	11
Strongly oppose	15
Skipped	*
<i>Total Support (net)</i>	73
<i>Total Oppose (net)</i>	26

<b>K-12 schools</b>	<b>Total</b>
Strongly support	54
Somewhat support	18
Somewhat oppose	11
Strongly oppose	17
Skipped	*
<i>Total Support (net)</i>	72
<i>Total Oppose (net)</i>	28



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5. How much do you support or oppose mask requirements in the following places in Texas?

Offices or workplaces	Total
Strongly support	48
Somewhat support	23
Somewhat oppose	12
Strongly oppose	15
Skipped	1
<b>Total Support (net)</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Total Oppose (net)</b>	<b>28</b>

Restaurants and bars	Total
Strongly support	44
Somewhat support	25
Somewhat oppose	13
Strongly oppose	17
Skipped	*
<b>Total Support (net)</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Total Oppose (net)</b>	<b>30</b>

6. In which of the following age groups are your children? Please select as many as apply.

Base: Parents	Total (N=443)
Under 4 years old	24
4 to 11 years old	53
12 to 17 years old	56
18 or older	9
Skipped	-

7. Thinking about the upcoming K-12 school year in Texas, how much do you support or oppose the following proposals?

Total Support Summary (Strongly +Somewhat Support)	Total	Parents to kids 4-17 (N=406)
Schools should be required to notify parents if a child or teacher in their child's classroom tests positive <b>[Half of respondents saw this prompt]</b>	92 (N=678)	94 (N=204)
Schools should be required to notify parents if a child or teacher in their child's school tests positive <b>[Half of respondents saw this prompt]</b>	89 (N=680)	88 (N=202)
Local school districts providing virtual learning as an option	77	80
Teaching high school students about racism and its impact in the United States	70	72
Requiring teachers and administrators to be vaccinated against COVID-19 before returning to school	68	68
Requiring students 12 and over to be vaccinated against COVID-19 before returning to school	60	60
Students who test positive for COVID-19 should not have to quarantine	17	22



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7. Thinking about the upcoming K-12 school year in Texas, how much do you support or oppose the following proposals?

<b>Schools should be required to notify parents if a child or teacher in their child's classroom tests positive</b> <i>[Only half of respondents saw this prompt]</i>	<b>Total (N=678)</b>	<b>Parents to kids 4-17 (N=204)</b>
Strongly support	73	75
Somewhat support	19	19
Somewhat oppose	4	3
Strongly oppose	3	3
Skipped	1	-
<i>Total Support (net)</i>	92	94
<i>Total Oppose (net)</i>	8	6

<b>Schools should be required to notify parents if a child or teacher in their child's school tests positive</b> <i>[Only half of respondents saw this prompt]</i>	<b>Total (N=680)</b>	<b>Parents to kids 4-17 (N=202)</b>
Strongly support	70	72
Somewhat support	19	16
Somewhat oppose	6	11
Strongly oppose	4	2
Skipped	*	-
<i>Total Support (net)</i>	89	88
<i>Total Oppose (net)</i>	10	12

<b>Local school districts providing virtual learning as an option</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Parents to kids 4-17</b>
Strongly support	43	48
Somewhat support	34	32
Somewhat oppose	13	13
Strongly oppose	9	7
Skipped	*	*
<i>Total Support (net)</i>	77	80
<i>Total Oppose (net)</i>	22	20

<b>Teaching high school students about racism and its impact in the United States</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Parents to kids 4-17</b>
Strongly support	46	49
Somewhat support	24	23
Somewhat oppose	11	13
Strongly oppose	18	15
Skipped	1	1
<i>Total Support (net)</i>	70	72
<i>Total Oppose (net)</i>	29	28





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7. Thinking about the upcoming K-12 school year in Texas, how much do you support or oppose the following proposals?

<b>Requiring teachers and administrators to be vaccinated against COVID-19 before returning to school</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Parents to kids 4-17</b>
Strongly support	52	48
Somewhat support	16	20
Somewhat oppose	14	14
Strongly oppose	18	18
Skipped	*	*
<i>Total Support (net)</i>	68	68
<i>Total Oppose (net)</i>	32	32

<b>Requiring students 12 and over to be vaccinated against COVID-19 before returning to school</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Parents to kids 4-17</b>
Strongly support	41	39
Somewhat support	19	21
Somewhat oppose	15	13
Strongly oppose	24	27
Skipped	*	-
<i>Total Support (net)</i>	60	60
<i>Total Oppose (net)</i>	39	40

<b>Students who test positive for COVID-19 should not have to quarantine</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Parents to kids 4-17</b>
Strongly support	9	12
Somewhat support	9	10
Somewhat oppose	16	14
Strongly oppose	66	64
Skipped	*	-
<i>Total Support (net)</i>	17	22
<i>Total Oppose (net)</i>	82	78

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8. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

<b>Total Agree Summary (Strongly + Somewhat Agree)</b> <b>Base: Parents to children age 4-17</b>	<b>Parents to kids 4-17 (N=406)</b>
My child will be able to make up any lost ground in school from the past year	68
I am worried that my child will catch COVID-19 when they go back to school	66
I feel that my child is, or would be, safe attending school in person	64
I am worried about my child right now	49
I do not/would not have enough time during the day to help my child with remote or at-home learning	49
My child's mental health has suffered during the COVID-19 pandemic	47
My child is falling behind in school because of COVID-19	40

<b>My child will be able to make up any lost ground in school from the past year</b> <b>Base: Parents to children age 4-17</b>	<b>Parents to kids 4-17 (N=406)</b>
Strongly agree	29
Somewhat agree	39
Somewhat disagree	19
Strongly disagree	5
Don't know	7
Skipped	*
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	68
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	25

<b>I am worried that my child will catch COVID-19 when they go back to school</b> <b>Base: Parents to children age 4-17</b>	<b>Parents to kids 4-17 (N=406)</b>
Strongly agree	30
Somewhat agree	35
Somewhat disagree	14
Strongly disagree	17
Don't know	3
Skipped	*
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	66
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	31



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8. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

<b>I feel that my child is, or would be, safe attending school in person</b> <i>Base: Parents to children age 4-17</i>	<b>Parents (N=406)</b>	<b>10/7/20-10/14/20 Parents to kids 5-17* (N=270)</b>
Strongly agree	24	17
Somewhat agree	40	27
Somewhat disagree	22	24
Strongly disagree	10	26
Don't know	4	6
Skipped	-	-
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	64	44
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	32	50

\*Please note that in the 10/7/20-10/14/20 poll, parents referred to those with children ages 5-17 in the household, whereas for this poll it was children ages 4-17

<b>I am worried about my child right now</b> <i>Base: Parents to children age 4-17</i>	<b>Parents to kids 4-17 (N=406)</b>
Strongly agree	23
Somewhat agree	26
Somewhat disagree	24
Strongly disagree	25
Don't know	2
Skipped	-
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	49
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	48

<b>I do not/would not have enough time during the day to help my child with remote or at-home learning</b> <i>Base: Parents to children age 4-17</i>	<b>Parents to kids 4-17 (N=406)</b>
Strongly agree	23
Somewhat agree	27
Somewhat disagree	21
Strongly disagree	27
Don't know	2
Skipped	-
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	49
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	49



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8. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

<b>My child's mental health has suffered during the COVID-19 pandemic</b> <i>Base: Parents to children age 4-17</i>	<b>Parents to kids 4-17 (N=406)</b>
Strongly agree	12
Somewhat agree	35
Somewhat disagree	18
Strongly disagree	31
Don't know	4
Skipped	-
<b>Total Agree (net)</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Total Disagree (net)</b>	<b>49</b>

<b>My child is falling behind in school because of COVID-19</b> <i>Base: Parents to children age 4-17</i>	<b>Parents to kids 4-17 (N=406)</b>	<b>10/7/20-10/14/20 Parents to kids 5-17* (N=270)</b>
Strongly agree	14	21
Somewhat agree	27	27
Somewhat disagree	26	26
Strongly disagree	29	22
Don't know	4	5
Skipped	1	-
<b>Total Agree (net)</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Total Disagree (net)</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>47</b>

\*Please note that in the 10/7/20-10/14/20 poll, parents referred to those with children ages 5-17 in the household, whereas for this poll it was children ages 4-17

9. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

<b>Total Agree Summary (Strongly + Somewhat Agree)</b>	<b>Total</b>
The state of Texas should invest more in improving its power grid	88
Recent droughts, flooding, and high temperatures in Texas are due to climate change	61
Federal unemployment benefits should be extended until the COVID-19 pandemic ends	40
Policymakers in Texas are making decisions about COVID-19 that are based on science	39
I support reducing my local police department's budget in order to increase investment in social programs	30
I am having trouble, or have had trouble, paying my bills as a result of COVID-19	26



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9. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

<b>The state of Texas should invest more in improving its power grid</b>	<b>Total</b>
Strongly agree	62
Somewhat agree	26
Somewhat disagree	5
Strongly disagree	3
Don't know	4
Skipped	*
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	88
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	8

<b>Recent droughts, flooding, and high temperatures in Texas are due to climate change</b>	<b>Total</b>
Strongly agree	35
Somewhat agree	25
Somewhat disagree	12
Strongly disagree	19
Don't know	9
Skipped	*
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	61
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	30

<b>Federal unemployment benefits should be extended until the COVID-19 pandemic ends</b>	<b>Total</b>
Strongly agree	21
Somewhat agree	19
Somewhat disagree	20
Strongly disagree	34
Don't know	5
Skipped	*
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	40
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	54

<b>Policymakers in Texas are making decisions about COVID-19 that are based on science</b>	<b>Total</b>
Strongly agree	12
Somewhat agree	27
Somewhat disagree	20
Strongly disagree	27
Don't know	15
Skipped	*
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	39
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	46



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9. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

<b>I support reducing my local police department's budget in order to increase investment in social programs</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>10/7/20-10/14/20</b>
Strongly agree	14	17
Somewhat agree	17	19
Somewhat disagree	16	17
Strongly disagree	46	36
Don't know	7	12
Skipped	*	-
<b>Total Agree (net)</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Total Disagree (net)</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>53</b>

<b>I am having trouble, or have had trouble, paying my bills as a result of COVID-19</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>10/7/20-10/14/20</b>
Strongly agree	10	23
Somewhat agree	16	23
Somewhat disagree	16	20
Strongly disagree	55	28
Don't know	4	6
Skipped	*	-
<b>Total Agree (net)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Total Disagree (net)</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>48</b>

10. Do you personally know anyone who has already received the COVID-19 vaccine? Select all that apply.

	<b>Total</b>
Yes, I have received the vaccine	68
Yes, a member of my immediate family	62
Yes, someone else	56
No	5
Skipped	*

11. Are you partially vaccinated, that is have you receive one dose out of a two-dose vaccine, or are you fully vaccinated?

<b>Base: Yes, I have received the vaccine</b>	<b>Total (N=998)</b>
Partially vaccinated (received one dose of two)	7
Fully vaccinated (received two doses, or a single-dose vaccine like J&J)	93
Skipped	*



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12. How likely, if at all, are you to have your child get the COVID-19 vaccine, as soon as it's available for their age group?

<b>Base: Parent to child under 18</b>	<b>Parents to kids &lt;18 (N=443)</b>
Very likely	31
Somewhat likely	18
Not very likely	12
Not at all likely	21
My child has already received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine <b><i>[shown if child is ages 12-17]</i></b>	18
Skipped	1
<i>Total Likely (net)</i>	49
<i>Total Unlikely (net)</i>	33



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### About the Study

This Spectrum News/Ipsos Texas poll was conducted August 6-13, 2021, by Ipsos using the KnowledgePanel®. This poll is based on a representative sample of 1,358 residents of Texas, age 18 or older.

The study was conducted in both English and Spanish. The data were weighted to adjust for gender by age, race/ethnicity, education, household income, language proficiency, party ID, parent status by gender, parent status by age, and parent status by education. The demographic benchmarks came from the 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) from the US Census Bureau. The weighting categories were as follows:

- Gender (Male, Female) by Age (18–29, 30-44, 45-59 and 60+)
- Race/Hispanic Ethnicity (White Non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Other Non-Hispanic Hispanic)
- Education (High School graduate or less, Some College, Bachelor and beyond)
- Census Region (Northeast, Midwest, South, West)
- Household Income (Under \$25,000, \$25,000-\$49,999, \$50,000-\$74,999, \$75,000-\$99,999, \$100,000-\$149,999, \$150,000+)
- Language proficiency (English proficient, Bilingual, Spanish proficient, Non-Hispanic, not asked)
- Party ID (Republican, Democrat, Independent, Other/Refused)
- Parent status (Parent, non-parent) by Gender (Male, Female)
- Parent status (Parent, non-parent) by Age (18-44, 45+)
- Parent status (Parent, non-parent) by Education (Some College or less, Bachelor and beyond)

The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level, for results based on the entire sample of adults. Among parents of children age 4-17, the margin of error is plus or minus 6.2 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. The margin of error takes into account the design effect, which was 1.66 for all adults and 1.60 among parents of children age 4-17. In our reporting of the findings, percentage points are rounded off to the nearest whole number. As a result, percentages in a given table column may total slightly higher or lower than 100%. In questions that permit multiple responses, columns may total substantially more than 100%, depending on the number of different responses offered by each respondent.

This poll is trended with a Spectrum News/Ipsos Texas poll, conducted October 7-14, 2021. That poll contained n=1,000 residents of Texas and n=270 parents to children ages 5-17. Note that this study was conducted using opt-in sample and therefore has a credibility interval, a measure of precision used for Ipsos online polls, of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for all respondents and plus or minus 6.8 percentage points for parents. While significant changes in data points can largely be attributed to the rapidly changing landscape of the COVID-19 pandemic, the methodological shift may have also generated a slight mode effect.





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### About Ipsos

Ipsos is the world's third largest Insights and Analytics company, present in 90 markets and employing more than 18,000 people.

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