

# TEXAS VOTES

# 2024

Harris County



Hobby School of Public Affairs  
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON



**Texas Votes 2024**  
**Harris County**  
October 2024

The Hobby School of Public Affairs at the University of Houston conducted an online survey of likely Texas voters, with an oversample of Harris County voters, to assess their preferences and opinions about candidates and issues in the November 2024 election. The survey was fielded between September 26 and October 10, 2024, in English and Spanish, via a YouGov panel of registered voters who were considered likely to vote in the 2024 General Election. The likely voters were selected using a series of questions related to past and expected future voting behavior. The statewide analysis population of 1,329, with a margin of error of +/- 2.69%, was matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race/ethnicity, education, and partisanship, and is representative of the Texas likely voter population. The same process was followed for the analysis population of 491 Harris County likely voters, contained within this larger statewide population, which was utilized for all of the analysis contained in this report, with this population representative of the 2024 Harris County likely voter population. The margin of error for this report's Harris County population of 491 likely voters is +/- 4.42%. With a population of more than 4.8 million, Harris County is the third most populous county in the United States, with more residents than 26 states.

The Texas Votes 2024 study includes four reports. This first report focused on the statewide races for president, U.S. Senate and the Texas Railroad Commission, along with issues influencing vote intention, and candidate favorability. This report focuses on county-wide non-judicial elections and candidates in Harris County along with policy issues affecting Harris County that are of concern to voters. Forthcoming reports will cover election integrity and administration statewide and attitudes about electricity infrastructure and distribution in Harris County.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In the 2024 Harris County Sheriff election, Democrat Ed Gonzalez (53%) leads Republican Mike Knox (37%) by a 16 percentage point margin, with 10% undecided.

In the 2024 Harris County District Attorney election, Democrat Sean Teare (52%) leads Republican Dan Simons (38%) by a 14 percentage point margin, with 10% undecided.

In the 2024 Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector election, Democrat Annette Ramirez (50%) leads Republican Steve Radack (38%) by a 12 percentage point margin, with 12% undecided.

In the 2024 County Attorney election in Harris County, Democrat Christian Menefee (48%) leads Republican Jacqueline Lucci Smith (37%) by an 11 percentage point margin, with 15% undecided.

An absolute majority of Harris County likely voters do not know enough about Simons (56%), Lucci Smith (56%), Knox (52%), Ramirez (52%) or Menefee (51%) to have an opinion of them.

More than two-fifths of Harris County likely voters do not know enough about Radack (42%) and Teare (42%) to have an opinion of them.

Distinct from the other seven candidates, only one-fourth (26%) of Harris County likely voters do not know enough about Gonzalez to have an opinion of him, with 74% having either a favorable (46%) or unfavorable (28%) opinion of the incumbent sheriff.

The four Democratic candidates are effectively tied with their Republican rival in regard to vote intention among men, but hold an advantage among women of between 20 and 27 percentage points.

The four Democratic candidates are effectively tied with their Republican rival in regard to vote intention among white and Latino likely voters, but hold an advantage among Black likely voters of between 39 and 51 percentage points.

Among Harris County likely voters, in the 2024 presidential race Democrat Kamala Harris (54%) leads Republican Donald Trump (41%) by a 13 percentage point margin, with 2% supporting third party candidates and 3% undecided.

Among Harris County likely voters, in the 2024 Texas U.S. Senate race Democrat Colin Allred (52%) leads Republican Ted Cruz (39%) by a 13 percentage point margin, with 2% supporting Libertarian Ted Brown and 7% undecided.

51% of Harris County likely voters intend to vote for the Harris County Flood Control District's Proposition A, while 30% intend to vote against the proposition, with 19% undecided.

The four policy issues cited by Harris County likely voters as being the issue affecting Harris County about which they are most concerned are crime (16%), rising property taxes (16%), electricity service reliability (12%) and housing affordability (11%).

The eight issues cited by Harris County likely voters as being among the top three issues affecting Harris County about which they are most concerned are electricity service reliability (36%), rising property taxes (33%), housing affordability (32%), flooding (30%), condition of roads & streets (26%), crime (23%), public school quality (23%) and traffic congestion (21%).

## **HARRIS COUNTY LIKELY VOTER POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS**

White likely voters account for 45% of this population of Harris County likely voters, Latino likely voters for 28%, Black likely voters for 21%, and others for 6%. Women represent 52% of this population, men 47%, and those who identify as non-binary or other 1%. Regarding generations, 33% of this population belongs to the combined Silent Generation (born between 1928-1945) and Baby Boomer (1946-1964) cohort, 23% to Generation X (Gen-X) (1965-1980), 28% to the Millennial (1981-1996) generation, and 16% to Generation Z (1997-2012). The highest level of educational attainment of 42% of the population is a four-year college degree or a post-graduate degree, of 31% of the population is a two-year college degree or some college, and of 27% of the population is a high school degree or less. Democrats account for 51% of this population, Republicans for 37% and Independents for 11%, with 1% unsure of their partisan identification. In the 2020 presidential election, among those who cast a ballot that year

(16% did not), 55% of these likely voters voted for Democrat Joe Biden and 43% for Donald Trump, with 2% supporting a third party candidate. In the 2022 Texas gubernatorial election, among those who cast a ballot (22% did not), 55% voted for Democrat Beto O'Rourke and 44% for Republican Greg Abbott, with 1% supporting a third party candidate.

**FAVORABLE & UNFAVORABLE EVALUATIONS OF EIGHT 2024 HARRIS COUNTY CANDIDATES**

These Harris County likely voters were asked if they had a favorable (very or somewhat) or unfavorable (very or somewhat) opinion of the eight non-judicial 2024 Harris County county-wide candidates: District Attorney candidates Sean Teare (Democrat) and Dan Simons (Republican), County Sheriff candidates Ed Gonzalez (Democrat) and Mike Knox (Republican), Tax Assessor-Collector candidates Annette Ramirez (Democrat) and Steve Radack (Republican), and County Attorney candidates Christian Menefee (Democrat) and Jacqueline Lucci Smith (Republican). The respondents also had the option of responding that they did not know enough about the candidate to have an opinion about them.

Table 1 reveals that the two candidates with the highest proportion of likely voters with a very favorable opinion of them are Gonzalez (19%) and Teare (15%), who also, though, happen to be the two candidates with the largest proportion of likely voters with a very unfavorable opinion of them (13% and 10%), along with Radack (10%).

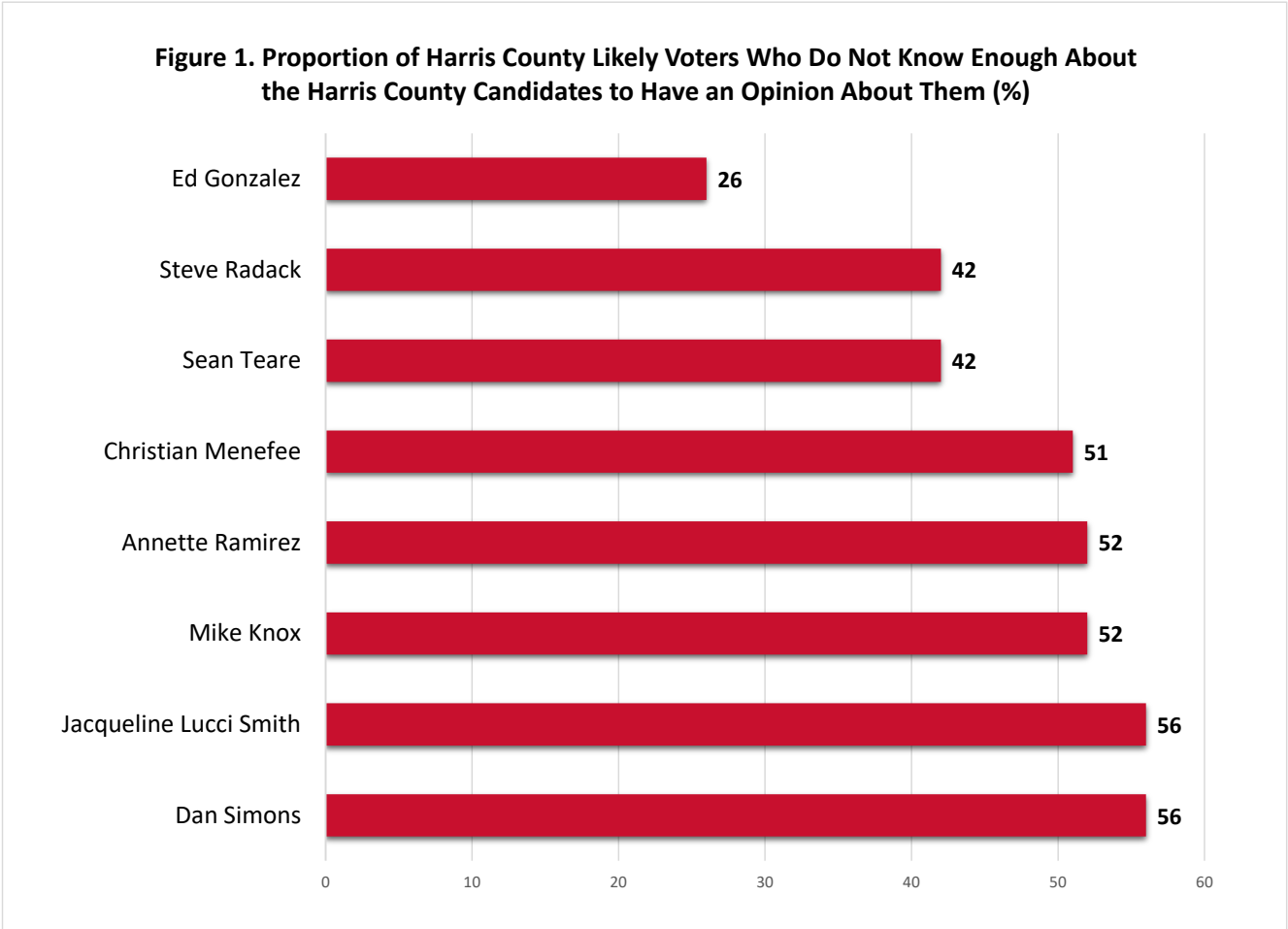
**Table 1. Favorable and Unfavorable Evaluations of Eight Harris County Candidates (%)**

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Very Favorable</b>	<b>Somewhat Favorable</b>	<b>Somewhat Unfavorable</b>	<b>Very Unfavorable</b>	<b>Don't Know Enough About</b>
Ed Gonzalez	19	27	15	13	26
Sean Teare	15	20	13	10	42
Annette Ramirez	13	20	9	6	52
Christian Menefee	13	20	10	6	51
Mike Knox	12	19	9	8	52
Steve Radack	11	26	11	10	42
Dan Simons	9	19	9	7	56
Jacqueline Lucci Smith	8	20	10	6	56

Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

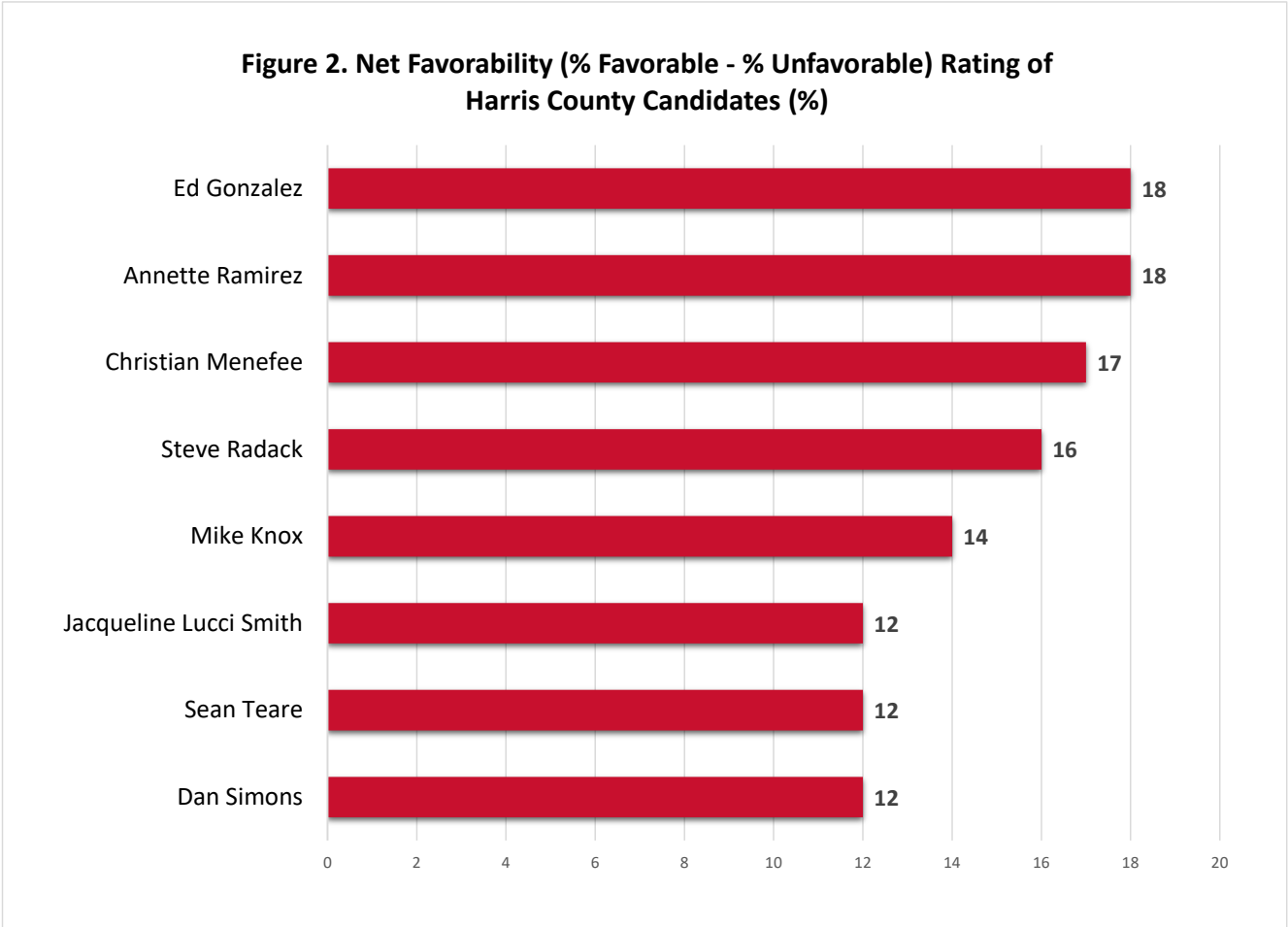


Table 1 also underscores the very large proportion of Harris County likely voters who, approximately four weeks prior to election day and two weeks prior to the start of early voting, still did not know enough about the candidates to have an opinion of them, favorable or unfavorable. Figure 1 highlights the reality of the limited knowledge likely voters have about most of these candidates, with more than one-half of likely voters not knowing enough about Simons (56%), Lucci Smith (56%), Knox (52%), Ramirez (52%) and Menefee (51%) to have an opinion about them, with more than two-fifths not knowing enough about Radack (42%) or Teare (42%) to have an opinion of them. Gonzalez, the Democratic candidate for county sheriff, is the only candidate who is a known quantity for more than two-thirds of Harris County likely voters, with only 26% not knowing enough about him to have an opinion.



Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Figure 2 provides the net favorability rating for these eight candidates (the proportion with a favorable opinion minus the proportion with an unfavorable opinion). The net favorability ratings are all positive, indicating that once likely voters know something about these candidates, they are more likely to have a favorable rather than an unfavorable opinion of them. The net favorability ratings are also narrowly bounded, underscoring substantively little difference among the candidates, with values that range from a high of 18% (Gonzalez and Ramirez) to a low of 12% (Lucci Smith, Teare, Simons).



Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Table 2 provides the proportion of likely voters who do not know enough about the district attorney (Teare and Simons) and county sheriff (Gonzalez and Knox) candidates to have an opinion of them, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, educational attainment, and partisan identification.

**Table 2. Proportion of Key Socio-Demographic Groups Unfamiliar with DA & Sheriff Candidates (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Teare	Simons	Gonzalez	Knox
Overall		42	56	26	52
Gender	Women	46	62	28	59
	Men	37	49	22	44
Ethnicity/Race	White	38	51	23	46
	Latino	48	56	29	59
	Black	38	61	29	55
Generation	Silent/Boomer	47	62	21	56
	Generation X	39	58	21	52
	Millennial	39	48	27	49
	Generation Z	42	54	40	49
Education	High School	47	58	32	58
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	42	59	22	51
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	39	52	24	48
Partisanship	Democratic	38	60	25	58
	Independent	49	70	34	59
	Republican	44	45	23	40

Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Across the board, women are more likely than men to respond that they are not familiar with these four candidates, with the gap the largest for Knox (59% vs. 44%, respectively).

There are not any notable differences in the proportion of likely voters who do not know enough about the four candidates to have an opinion about them related to voter ethnicity/race, generation, or level of educational attainment. There are however two noteworthy partisan differences, with Democrats significantly more likely than Republicans to not know enough about Knox (58% vs. 40%) and Simons (60% v. 45%) to have an opinion about them.

Table 3 provides the proportion of likely voters who do not know enough about the tax assessor-collector (Ramirez and Radack) and county attorney (Menefee and Lucci Smith) candidates to have an opinion of them, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, educational attainment, and partisan identification.

**Table 3. Proportion of Key Socio-Demographic Groups Unfamiliar with Tax Assessor-Collector & County Attorney Candidates (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Ramirez	Radack	Menefee	Lucci Smith
Overall		52	42	51	56
Gender	Women	56	51	57	63
	Men	46	31	44	46
Ethnicity/Race	White	49	33	50	51
	Latino	54	46	51	59
	Black	51	52	47	59
Generation	Silent/Boomer	58	36	52	60
	Generation X	55	47	62	60
	Millennial	45	44	45	51
	Generation Z	46	41	46	48
Education	High School	56	47	58	59
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	55	40	52	56
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	47	40	46	53
Partisanship	Democratic	46	47	45	61
	Independent	68	55	60	63
	Republican	54	30	57	45

Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

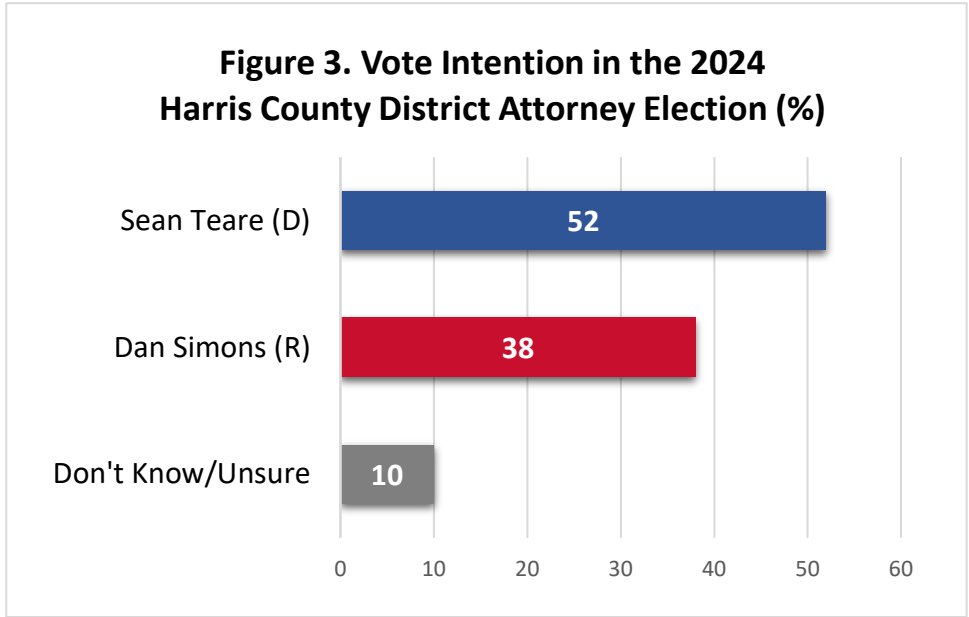
Across the board, women are more likely than men to respond that they are not familiar with these four candidates, with the gap the largest for Radack (51% vs. 31%, respectively).

With one exception, there are not any notable differences in the proportion of likely voters who do not know enough about the four candidates to have an opinion about them related to voter ethnicity/race, generation, or level of educational attainment. The one exception is related to ethnicity/race, with Black likely voters (52%) significantly more likely than white likely voters (33%) to not know enough about Radack to have an opinion of him. There are however also two noteworthy partisan differences, with Democrats significantly more likely than Republicans to not know enough about Radack (47% vs. 30%) and Lucci Smith (61% v. 45%) to have an opinion about them.



**VOTE INTENTION IN THE 2024 DA, SHERIFF, TAX ASSESSOR & COUNTY ATTORNEY ELECTIONS**

Figure 3 provides the vote intention of Harris County likely voters in the 2024 District Attorney election. Democrat Sean Teare (52%) leads Republican Dan Simons (38%) by a 14 percentage point margin, with 10% undecided.



Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Table 4 provides the vote intention in the district attorney race broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, educational attainment, partisanship, 2024 presidential vote (Republican Donald Trump and Democrat Kamala Harris), 2024 U.S. Senate vote (Republican Ted Cruz and Democrat Colin Allred), 2024 Texas Railroad Commissioner vote (Republican Christi Craddick, Democrat Katherine Culbert and those who remain unsure), and 2022 Texas gubernatorial vote (Republican Greg Abbott, Democrat Beto O'Rourke, and those who did not vote).

**Table 4. Likely Voter District Attorney Election Vote Intention Among Key Socio-Demographic Groups (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Teare	Simons	Don't Know
Overall		52	38	10
Gender	Women	56	31	13
	Men	46	47	7
Ethnicity/Race	White	48	47	5
	Latino	48	43	9
	Black	61	18	21
Generation	Silent/Boomer	46	47	7
	Generation X	51	42	7
	Millennial	55	29	16
	Generation Z	57	30	13
Education	High School	43	45	12
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	53	38	9
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	57	34	9
Partisanship	Democratic	86	4	10
	Independent	40	29	31
	Republican	7	89	4
2024 Presidential Vote	Trump	8	86	6
	Harris	85	4	11
2024 US Senate Vote	Cruz	5	90	5
	Allred	89	3	8
2024 Railroad Com. Vote	Craddick	7	91	2
	Culbert	95	3	2
	Don't Know/Unsure	39	15	46
2022 Gubernatorial Vote	Abbott	9	88	3
	O'Rourke	90	5	5
	Did Not Vote	46	28	26

Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Teare holds a substantial 25 percentage point lead over Simons among women (56% to 31%), while the two candidates are effectively tied among men (46% and 47%), respectively.

Teare holds a substantial 43 percentage point lead over Simons among Black likely voters (61% to 18%), while the two candidates are deadlocked among white (48% and 47%) and Latino (48% and 43%) likely voters. Of note, 21% of Black likely voters remain undecided in this race, compared to 9% of Latino and 5% of white likely voters.

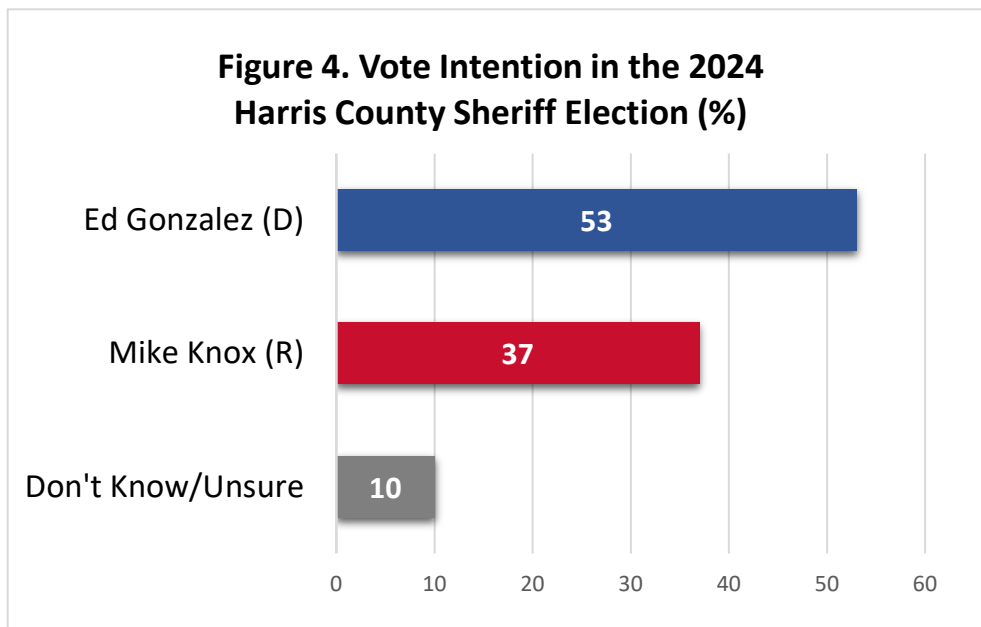
Teare and Simons are relatively even among the older Silent Generation/Baby Boomer (46% and 47%) and Generation X (51% and 42%) cohorts, but Teare enjoys a significant lead among Millennials (55% to 29%) and Generation Z (57% to 30%).

Teare and Simons are effectively tied among likely voters whose highest level of educational attainment is a high school degree or less (43% and 45%), while Teare holds a substantial lead among likely voters whose highest level of educational attainment is two-year degree or some college (53% to 38%) or a four-year or postgraduate degree (57% to 34%).

An overwhelming majority of Democrats intend to vote for Teare (86%), just as an overwhelming majority of Republicans intend to vote for Simons (89%). Teare (40%) enjoys a slight advantage over Simons (29%) among Independents.

Teare is supported by 85% of 2024 Harris voters, 89% of 2024 Allred voters, 95% of 2024 Culbert voters and 90% of 2022 O'Rourke voters. Simons is supported by 86% of 2024 Trump voters, 90% of 2024 Cruz voters, 91% of 2024 Craddick voters and 88% of 2022 Abbott voters. The three highest cross-party voters are 2022 Abbott voters for Teare (9%), 2024 Trump voters for Teare (8%) and 2024 Craddick voters for Teare (7%).

Figure 4 provides the vote intention of Harris County likely voters in the 2024 Harris County Sheriff election. Democrat Ed Gonzalez (53%) leads Republican Mike Knox (37%) by a 16 percentage point margin, with 10% undecided.



Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Table 5 provides the vote intention in the county sheriff race broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, educational attainment, partisanship, 2024 presidential vote, 2024 U.S. Senate vote, 2024 Texas Railroad Commissioner vote, and 2022 Texas gubernatorial vote.

**Table 5. Likely Voter County Sheriff Election Vote Intention Among Key Socio-Demographic Groups (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Gonzalez	Knox	Don't Know
Overall		53	37	10
Gender	Women	57	30	13
	Men	47	44	8
Ethnicity/Race	White	50	44	6
	Latino	47	42	11
	Black	66	15	19
Generation	Silent/Boomer	49	46	5
	Generation X	45	42	13
	Millennial	62	27	11
	Generation Z	55	26	19
Education	High School	44	40	16
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	58	35	7
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	55	35	10
Partisanship	Democratic	87	2	11
	Independent	39	38	23
	Republican	10	86	4
2024 Presidential Vote	Trump	9	83	8
	Harris	88	2	10
2024 US Senate Vote	Cruz	6	88	6
	Allred	91	2	7
2024 Railroad Com. Vote	Craddick	8	88	4
	Culbert	95	1	4
	Don't Know/Unsure	39	17	44
2022 Gubernatorial Vote	Abbott	10	89	1
	O'Rourke	90	3	7
	Did Not Vote	51	24	25

Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Gonzalez holds a substantial 27 percentage point lead over Knox among women (57% to 30%), while the two candidates are effectively tied among men (47% and 44%).

Gonzalez holds a substantial 51 percentage point lead over Knox among Black likely voters (66% to 15%), while the two candidates are nearly even among white (50% and 44%) and Latino (47% and 42%) likely voters. Of note, 19% of Black likely voters remain undecided in this race, compared to 11% of Latino and 6% of white likely voters.

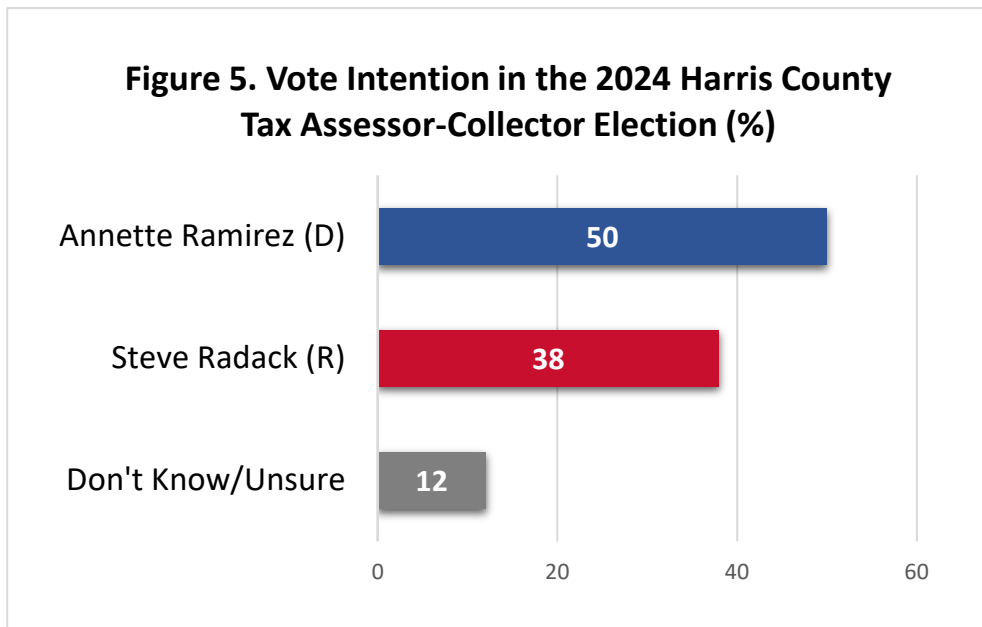
Gonzalez and Knox are relatively even among the older Silent Generation/Baby Boomer (49% and 46%) and Generation X (45% and 42%) cohorts, but Gonzalez enjoys a significant lead among Millennials (62% to 27%) and Generation Z (55% to 26%).

Gonzalez and Knox are near even among likely voters whose highest level of educational attainment is a high school degree or less (44% and 40%), while Gonzalez holds a substantial lead among likely voters whose highest level of educational attainment is two-year degree or some college (58% to 35%) or a four-year or postgraduate degree (55% to 35%).

An overwhelming majority of Democrats intend to vote for Gonzalez (87%), just as an overwhelming majority of Republicans intend to vote for Knox (86%). The two are deadlocked among Independents (39% and 38%, respectively).

Gonzalez is supported by 88% of 2024 Harris voters, 91% of 2024 Allred voters, 95% of 2024 Culbert voters and 90% of 2022 O'Rourke voters. Knox is supported by 83% of 2024 Trump voters, 88% of 2024 Cruz voters, 88% of 2024 Craddick voters and 89% of 2022 Abbott voters. The three highest cross-party voters are 2022 Abbott voters for Gonzalez (10%), 2024 Trump voters for Gonzalez (9%) and 2024 Craddick voters for Gonzalez (8%).

Figure 5 provides the vote intention of Harris County likely voters in the 2024 Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector election. Democrat Annette Ramirez (50%) leads Republican Steve Radack (38%) by a 12 percentage point margin, with 12% undecided.



Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Table 6 provides the vote intention in the county tax assessor-collector race broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, educational attainment, partisanship, 2024 presidential vote, 2024 U.S. Senate vote, 2024 Texas Railroad Commissioner vote, and 2022 Texas gubernatorial vote.

**Table 6. Likely Voter County Tax Assessor-Collector Election Vote Intention Among Key Socio-Demographic Groups (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Ramirez	Radack	Don't Know
Overall		50	38	12
Gender	Women	54	31	15
	Men	46	46	8
Ethnicity/Race	White	45	48	7
	Latino	45	41	14
	Black	66	15	19
Generation	Silent/Boomer	44	50	6
	Generation X	44	45	11
	Millennial	56	29	15
	Generation Z	63	18	19
Education	High School	44	40	16
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	50	39	11
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	54	36	10
Partisanship	Democratic	87	3	10
	Independent	28	44	28
	Republican	5	87	8
2024 Presidential Vote	Trump	9	82	9
	Harris	84	5	11
2024 US Senate Vote	Cruz	6	87	7
	Allred	87	6	7
2024 Railroad Com. Vote	Craddick	6	88	6
	Culbert	96	2	2
	Don't Know/Unsure	28	22	50
2022 Gubernatorial Vote	Abbott	7	89	4
	O'Rourke	87	5	8
	Did Not Vote	50	25	25

Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Ramirez holds a substantial 23 percentage point lead over Radack among women (54% to 31%), while the two candidates are tied among men (46% and 46%).

Ramirez holds a substantial 51 percentage point lead over Radack among Black likely voters (66% to 15%), while the two candidates are nearly even among white (45% and 48%) and Latino (45% and 41%) likely voters. Of note, 19% of Black likely voters remain undecided in this race, compared to 14% of Latino and 7% of white likely voters.



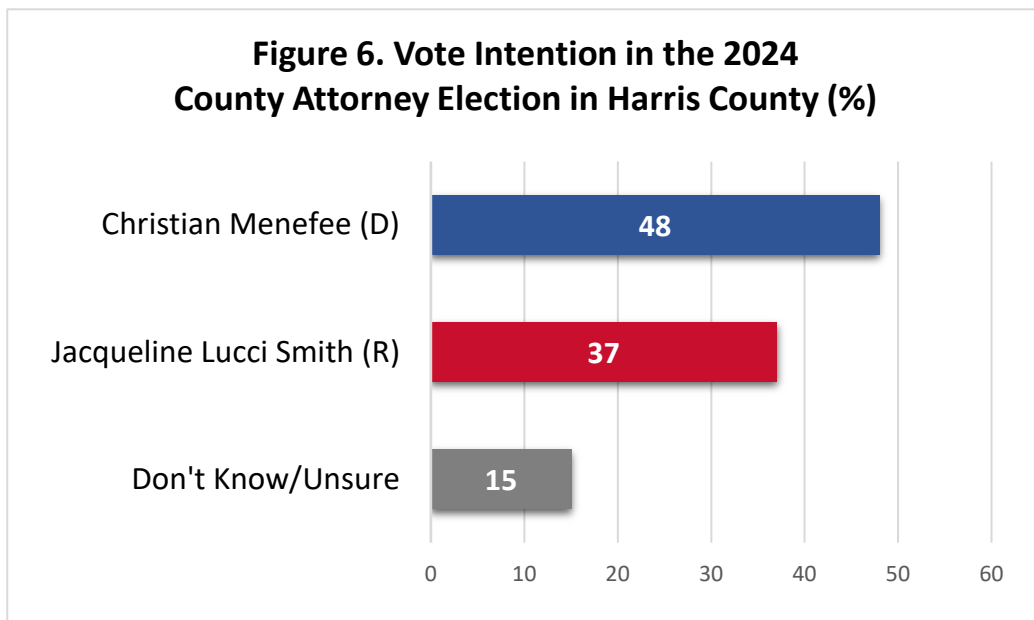
Ramirez and Radack are relatively even among the older Silent Generation/Baby Boomer (44% and 50%) and Generation X (44% and 45%) cohorts, but Ramirez enjoys a significant lead among Millennials (56% to 29%) and Generation Z (63% to 18%).

Ramirez and Radack are near even among likely voters whose highest level of educational attainment is a high school degree or less (44% and 40%), while Ramirez holds a more notable lead among likely voters whose highest level of educational attainment is two-year degree or some college (50% to 39%) or a four-year or postgraduate degree (54% to 36%).

An overwhelming majority of Democrats intend to vote for Ramirez (87%), just as an overwhelming majority of Republicans intend to vote for Radack (87%). Radack holds a modest lead over Ramirez among Independents (44% to 28%).

Ramirez is supported by 84% of 2024 Harris voters, 87% of 2024 Allred voters, 96% of 2024 Culbert voters and 87% of 2022 O'Rourke voters. Radack is supported by 82% of 2024 Trump voters, 87% of 2024 Cruz voters, 88% of 2024 Craddick voters and 89% of 2022 Abbott voters. The three highest cross-party voters are 2024 Trump voters for Ramirez (9%), 2022 Abbott voters for Ramirez (7%) and 2024 Craddick and 2024 Cruz voters for Ramirez (6%, 6%).

Figure 6 provides the vote intention of Harris County likely voters in the 2024 County Attorney election. Democrat Christian Menefee (48%) leads Republican Jacqueline Lucci Smith (37%) by an 11 percentage point margin, with 15% undecided.



Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Table 7 provides the vote intention in the county attorney race broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, educational attainment, partisanship, 2024 presidential vote, 2024 U.S. Senate vote, 2024 Texas Railroad Commissioner vote, and 2022 Texas gubernatorial vote.

**Table 7. Likely Voter County Attorney Election Vote Intention Among Key Socio-Demographic Groups (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Menefee	Lucci Smith	Don't Know
Overall		48	37	15
Gender	Women	50	30	20
	Men	45	45	10
Ethnicity/Race	White	46	44	10
	Latino	43	42	15
	Black	58	19	23
Generation	Silent/Boomer	44	46	10
	Generation X	45	37	18
	Millennial	51	30	19
	Generation Z	56	27	17
Education	High School	44	36	20
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	48	38	14
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	51	36	13
Partisanship	Democratic	84	4	12
	Independent	27	34	39
	Republican	4	86	10
2024 Presidential Vote	Trump	6	83	11
	Harris	82	4	14
2024 US Senate Vote	Cruz	5	84	11
	Allred	85	4	11
2024 Railroad Com. Vote	Craddick	5	88	7
	Culbert	95	2	3
	Don't Know/Unsure	22	13	65
2022 Gubernatorial Vote	Abbott	6	88	6
	O'Rourke	87	4	9
	Did Not Vote	44	23	33

Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Menefee holds a substantial 20 percentage point lead over Lucci Smith among women (50% to 30%), while the two candidates are tied among men (45% and 45%). Twice as many women (20%) as men (10%) remain undecided in this race.

Menefee holds a substantial 39 percentage point lead over Lucci Smith among Black likely voters (58% to 19%), while the two candidates are nearly even among white (46% and 44%) and Latino (43% and 42%) likely voters. Of note, 23% of Black likely voters remain undecided in this race, compared to 15% of Latino and 10% of white likely voters.

Menefee and Lucci Smith are relatively even among the older Silent Generation/Baby Boomer (44% and 46%) and Generation X (45% and 37%) cohorts, but Menefee enjoys a significant lead among Millennials (51% to 30%) and Generation Z (56% to 27%).

Menefee and Lucci Smith are relatively close among likely voters whose highest level of educational attainment is a high school degree or less (44% and 36%) and among likely voters whose highest level of educational attainment is two-year degree or some college (48% and 38%), while Menefee holds a notable lead among likely voters with a four-year or postgraduate degree (51% to 36%).

An overwhelming majority of Democrats intend to vote for Menefee (84%), just as an overwhelming majority of Republicans intend to vote for Lucci Smith (86%). The two are effectively tied among Independents (27% and 34%).

Menefee is supported by 82% of 2024 Harris voters, 85% of 2024 Allred voters, 95% of 2024 Culbert voters and 87% of 2022 O'Rourke voters. Lucci Smith is supported by 83% of 2024 Trump voters, 84% of 2024 Cruz voters, 88% of 2024 Craddick voters and 88% of 2022 Abbott voters. The three highest cross-party voters are 2024 Trump voters and 2022 Abbott voters for Menefee (6%, 6%) and 2024 Craddick and 2024 Cruz voters for Menefee (5%, 5%).

The likely voters were also asked if they were certain about their vote choice for Harris County district attorney, sheriff, tax assessor-collector and county attorney, or, if they might change their mind between now and November 5. Table 8 reveals that between 80% and 89% of these likely voters are certain about their specific vote decisions for the eight candidates in these four Harris County elections, while, depending on the candidate, between 11% and 20% might change their mind between now and election day. Within this narrow nine percentage point range, the candidate with the highest proportion of likely voters who are certain about their vote choice is Republican Mike Knox (89%) in the race for county sheriff while the candidate with the lowest proportion of likely voters who are certain about their vote choice is Democrat Sean Teare (80%) in the race for district attorney.

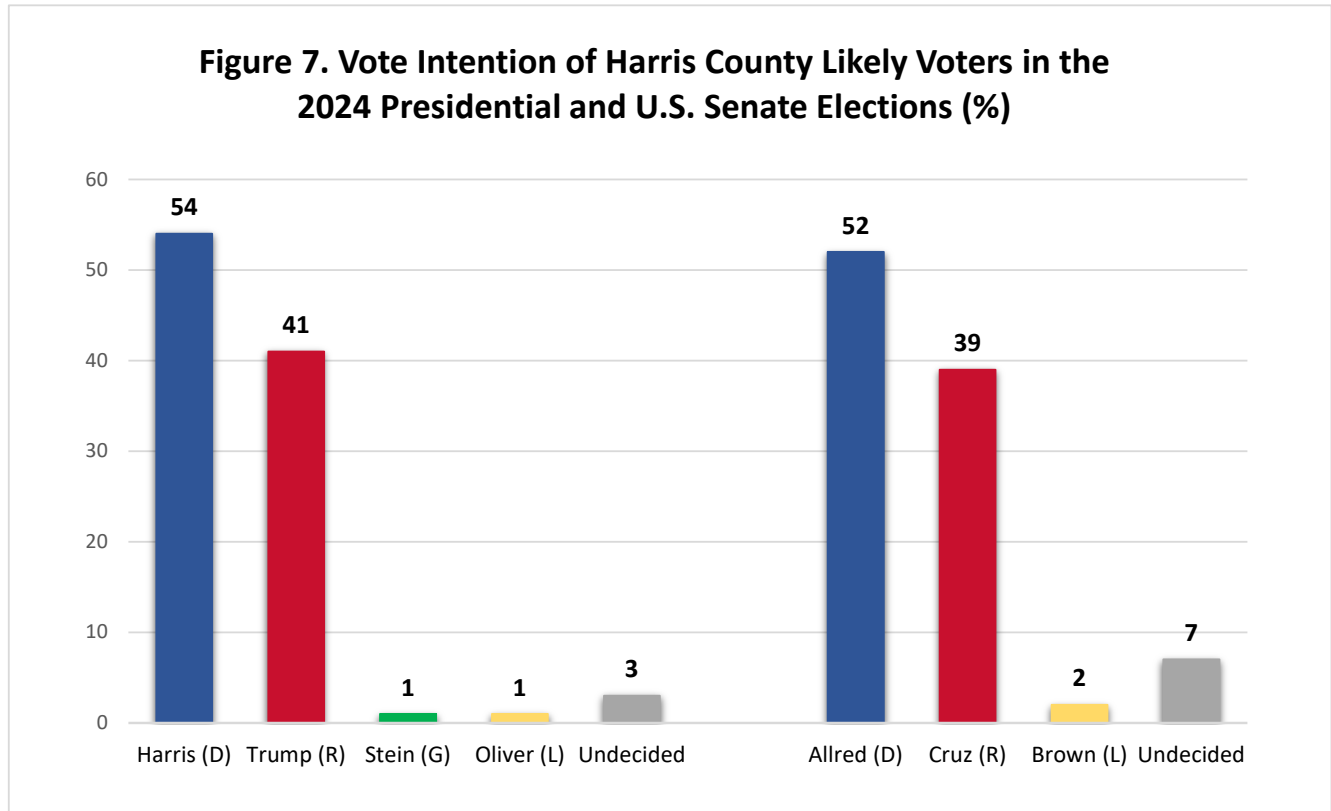
**Table 8. Proportion of Voters Who Are Certain About Harris County Election Vote Choice & Who Might Change Their Mind (%)**

Office	Candidates	Certain About Vote Choice	Might Change Mind
District Attorney	Sean Teare	80	20
	Dan Simons	84	16
Sheriff	Ed Gonzalez	85	15
	Mike Knox	89	11
Tax Assessor-Collector	Annette Ramirez	86	14
	Steve Radack	85	15
County Attorney	Christian Menefee	85	15
	Jacqueline Lucci Smith	85	15

Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

## 2024 PRESIDENTIAL AND U.S. SENATE VOTE INTENTION AMONG HARRIS COUNTY VOTERS

Figure 7 provides the vote intention of Harris County likely voters in the statewide Texas elections for president and U.S. Senate. In the presidential race, Democrat Kamala Harris (54%) leads Republican Donald Trump (41%) by a 13 percentage point margin, with the Green Party's Jill Stein and Libertarian Chase Oliver with 1% each, and with 3% undecided. In the U.S. Senate race, Democrat Colin Allred (52%) leads Republican Ted Cruz (39%) by a 13 percentage point margin, with 2% intending to vote for Libertarian Ted Brown and 7% undecided.



Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Table 9 provides the vote intention in the presidential contest broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, educational attainment, partisanship, 2020 presidential vote (Republican Donald Trump, Democrat Joe Biden, and those who did not vote), and 2022 Texas gubernatorial vote.

**Table 9. Likely Voter Presidential Vote Intention Among Key Socio-Demographic Groups (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Trump	Harris	Don't Know
Overall		41	54	3
Gender	Women	35	60	3
	Men	49	46	3
Ethnicity/Race	White	49	49	1
	Latino	48	45	4
	Black	20	74	5
Generation	Silent/Boomer	49	48	2
	Generation X	42	51	4
	Millennial	34	60	4
	Generation Z	35	61	4
Education	High School	47	47	5
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	39	56	3
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	39	57	2
Partisanship	Democratic	5	91	2
	Independent	47	35	9
	Republican	91	6	2
2020 Presidential Vote	Trump	92	5	3
	Biden	4	90	3
	Did Not Vote	37	58	5
2022 Gubernatorial Vote	Abbott	91	6	2
	O'Rourke	4	92	2
	Did Not Vote	36	55	6

Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Harris holds a substantial 25 percentage point lead over Trump among women (60% to 35%), while the two candidates are near-even among men (46% and 49%).

Harris holds a substantial 54 percentage point lead over Trump among Black likely voters (74% to 20%), while the two candidates are even or near even among white (49% and 49%) and Latino (45% and 48%) likely voters.

Harris and Trump are relatively close among the older Silent Generation/Baby Boomer (48% and 49%) and Generation X (51% and 42%) cohorts, but Harris enjoys a significant lead among Millennials (60% to 34%) and Generation Z (61% to 35%).

Harris and Trump are tied among likely voters whose highest level of educational attainment is a high school degree or less (47% and 47%), while Harris holds a notable lead among likely voters whose

highest level of educational attainment is two-year degree or some college (56% to 39%) or a four-year or postgraduate degree (57% to 39%).

An overwhelming majority of Democrats intend to vote for Harris (91%), just as an overwhelming majority of Republicans intend to vote for Trump (91%). The two are effectively tied among Independents (35% and 47%, respectively). Among voters who did not cast a ballot in the 2020 presidential election and in the 2022 Texas gubernatorial election, 58% and 55% intend to vote for Harris and 37% and 36% for Trump, respectively.

Table 10 provides the vote intention in the U.S. Senate contest broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, educational attainment, partisanship, 2024 presidential vote, and 2022 Texas gubernatorial vote.

**Table 10. Likely Voter Texas U.S. Senate Vote Intention Among Key Socio-Demographic Groups (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Cruz	Allred	Don't Know
Overall		39	52	7
Gender	Women	31	57	10
	Men	49	45	3
Ethnicity/Race	White	46	50	2
	Latino	42	45	10
	Black	22	63	12
Generation	Silent/Boomer	48	47	2
	Generation X	41	47	12
	Millennial	29	59	9
	Generation Z	35	57	6
Education	High School	47	42	8
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	39	51	7
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	35	58	6
Partisanship	Democratic	4	88	7
	Independent	41	34	15
	Republican	88	6	4
2024 Presidential Vote	Trump	88	3	7
	Harris	3	91	6
2022 Gubernatorial Vote	Abbott	92	5	3
	O'Rourke	2	93	4
	Did Not Vote	34	48	12

Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Allred holds a substantial 26 percentage point lead over Cruz among women (57% to 31%), while the two candidates are near-even among men (45% and 49%).

Allred holds a substantial 41 percentage point lead over Cruz among Black likely voters (63% to 22%), while the two candidates are near even among white (50% and 46%) and Latino (45% and 42%) likely voters. Of note, 12% of Black and 10% of Latino likely voters remain undecided in this race, compared to 2% of white likely voters.



Allred and Cruz are relatively close among the older Silent Generation/Baby Boomer (47% and 48%) and Generation X (47% and 41%) cohorts, but Allred enjoys a significant lead among Millennials (59% to 29%) and Generation Z (57% to 35%).

Allred and Cruz are near even among likely voters whose highest level of educational attainment is a high school degree or less (42% and 47%), while Allred holds a notable lead among likely voters whose highest level of educational attainment is two-year degree or some college (51% to 39%) or a four-year or postgraduate degree (58% to 35%).

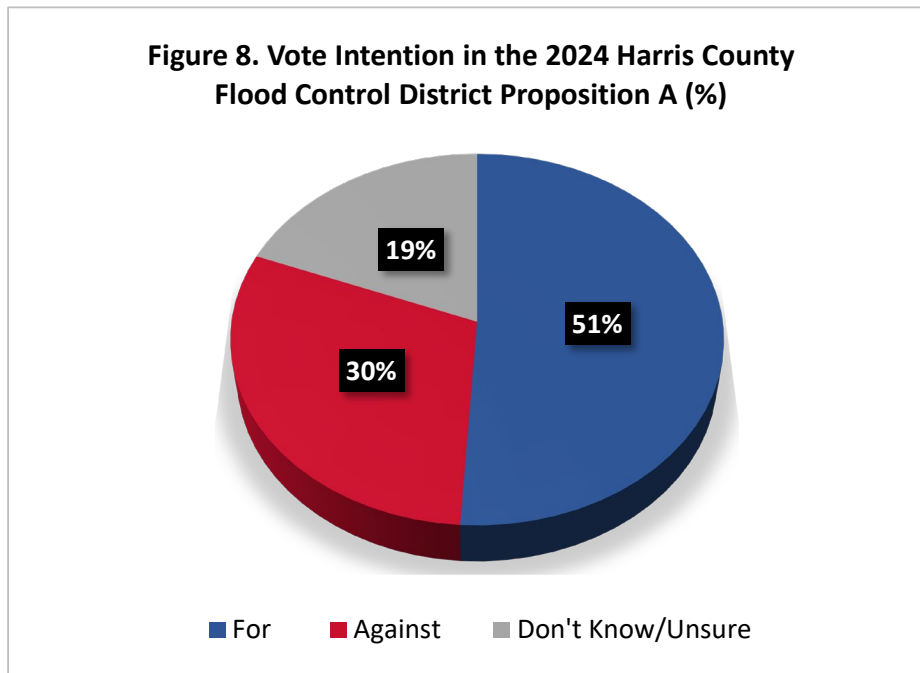
An overwhelming majority of Democrats intend to vote for Allred (88%), just as an overwhelming majority of Republicans intend to vote for Cruz (88%). The two are effectively tied among Independents (34% and 41%, respectively).

### VOTE INTENTION FOR HARRIS COUNTY'S 2024 FLOOD CONTROL PROPOSITION A

Harris County likely voters were asked about Proposition A, which addresses flood mitigation:

*Are you FOR or AGAINST the proposition that if approved by voters this November would increase the Harris County Flood Control District's property tax rate from \$0.03 to \$0.05 (2 cents) per \$100 of property valuation to fund ongoing and future flood mitigation infrastructure and projects?* The response options were For, Against and Don't Know/Unsure.

Figure 8 highlights that 51% of these likely voters plan to vote for Proposition A while 30% intend to vote against the proposition, with 19% still undecided about how they would vote.



Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Table 11 provides the vote intention in for Harris County’s 2024 Proposition A broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, educational attainment, partisanship, 2024 presidential vote, 2024 U.S. Senate vote, and 2024 Texas Railroad Commissioner vote.

**Table 11. Likely Voter Harris County Proposition A Vote Intention Among Key Socio-Demographic Groups (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	For	Against	Don't Know/Unsure
Overall		51	30	19
Gender	Women	47	27	26
	Men	55	32	13
Ethnicity/Race	White	55	30	15
	Latino	47	31	22
	Black	43	28	29
Generation	Silent/Boomer	46	37	17
	Generation X	49	33	18
	Millennial	60	20	20
	Generation Z	50	21	29
Education	High School	33	36	31
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	54	28	18
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	60	27	13
Partisanship	Democratic	66	18	16
	Independent	34	28	38
	Republican	34	48	18
2024 Presidential Vote	Trump	30	49	21
	Harris	67	16	17
2024 US Senate Vote	Cruz	31	46	23
	Allred	70	14	16
2024 Railroad Com. Vote	Craddick	36	46	18
	Culbert	68	17	15
	Don't Know/Unsure	40	25	35

Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

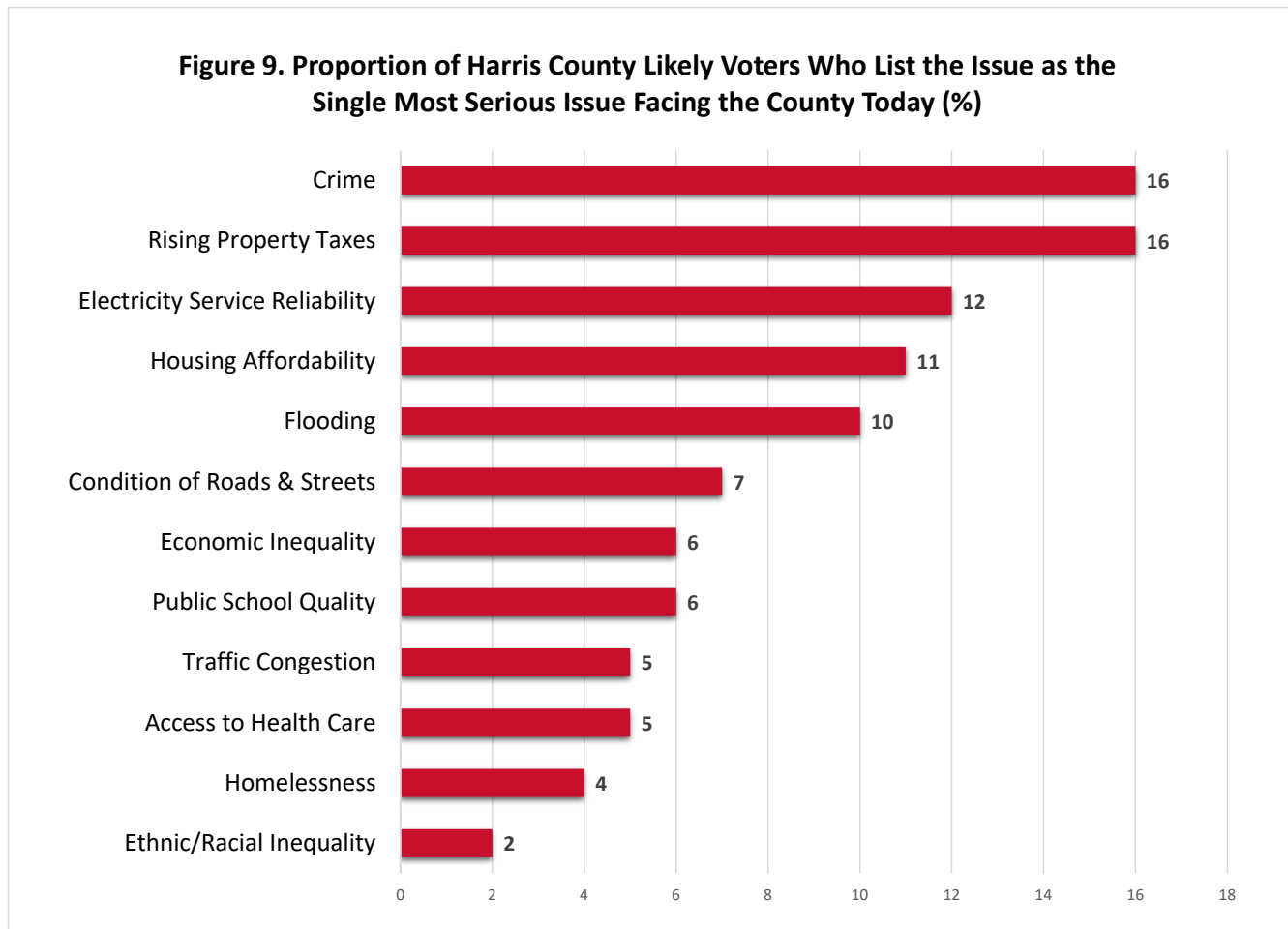
There are not any noteworthy gender, ethnic/racial or generational differences in the proportion of people who plan to vote for or against Proposition A. Likely voters whose highest level of educational attainment is a high school degree or less are notably less likely than other voters to intend to vote for the proposition, but this difference is in large part the product of the very large proportion of these likely voters (31%) who are undecided about how they are going to vote.

Partisan difference in support for and opposition to Proposition A are however more noteworthy, with 66% of Democrats, but only 34% of Republicans, intending to vote for the proposition, and 48% of Republicans, but only 18% of Democrats, intending to vote against Proposition A. Similar partisan related findings are present in Table 11 in regard to the 2024 presidential, U.S. Senate and Texas Railroad Commissioner vote intention of these likely voters

## ISSUES AFFECTING HARRIS COUNTY OF GREATEST CONCERN TO LIKELY VOTERS

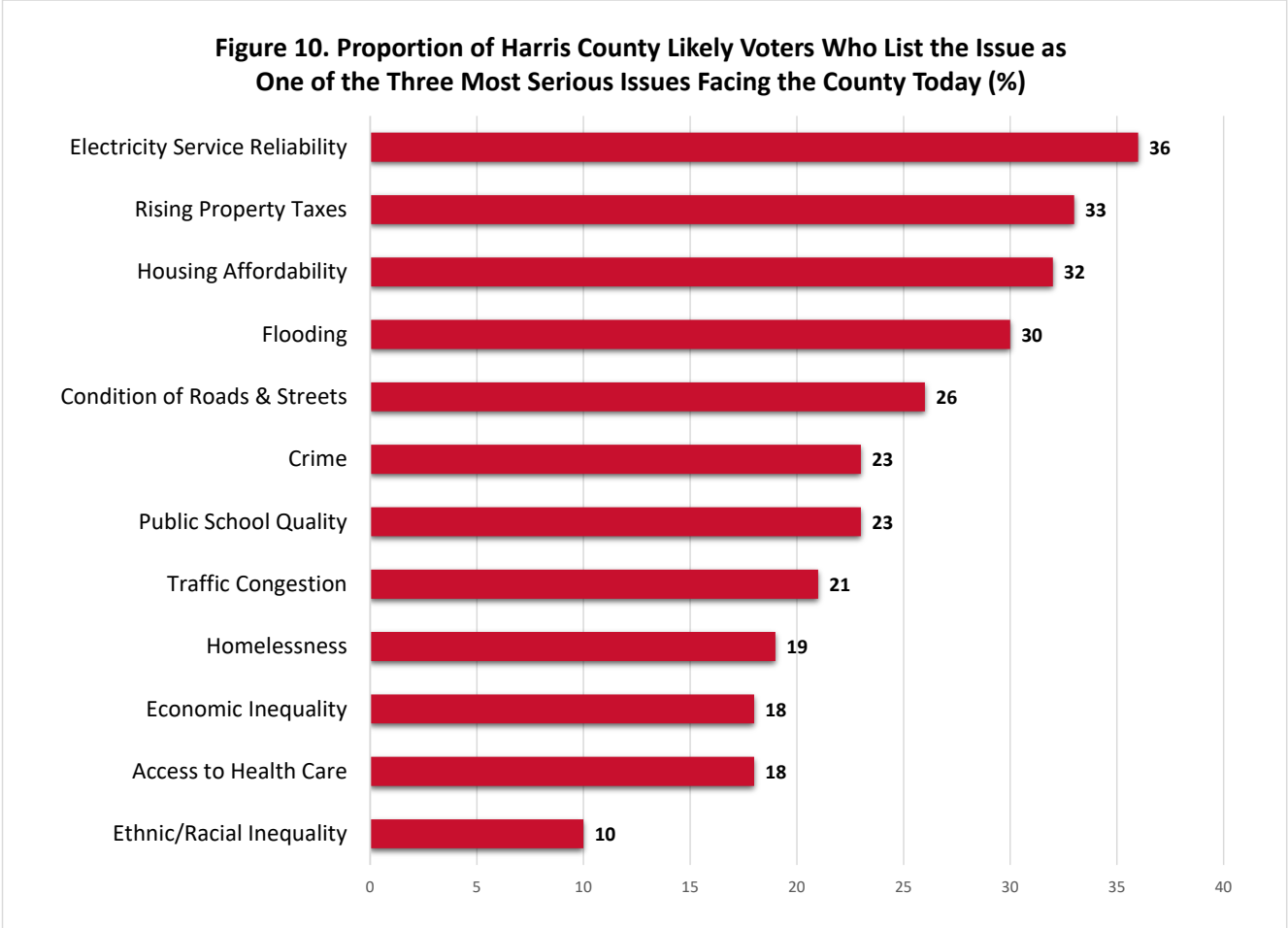
The Harris County likely voters were presented with a list of 12 issues affecting Harris County and asked to identify which issue they are most concerned about, second most concerned about, and third most concerned about. The 12 (rotated) issues are as follows: access to health care, condition of roads & streets, crime, economic inequality, electricity service reliability, ethnic/racial inequality, flooding, homelessness, housing affordability, public school quality, rising property taxes, and traffic congestion.

Figure 9 provides the proportion of the likely voters which cited each of the 12 issues as the one issue affecting Harris County that they are most concerned about. The two issues listed by the highest proportion of likely voters are crime (16%) and rising property taxes (16%), with electricity service reliability (12%), housing affordability (11%) and flooding (10%) rounding out the issues in the double digits. Ethnic/racial inequality (2%) and homelessness (4%) are the issues of most concern to the lowest proportion of likely voters, followed closely by access to health care (5%), traffic congestion (5%), public school quality (6%), economic inequality (6%) and the condition of roads & streets (7%).



Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Figure 10 provides the proportion of the likely voters who listed each of the 12 issues as one of the three issues affecting Harris County that they are most concerned about. The four issues that the largest proportion of Harris County likely voters rank among their top three concerns are electricity service reliability (36%), rising property taxes (33%), housing affordability (32%) and flooding (30%). The four issues that the smallest proportion of Harris County likely voters rank among their top three concerns are ethnic/racial inequality (10%), access to health care (18%), economic inequality (19%) and homelessness (19%). In between these two extremes are the condition of roads & streets (26%), crime (23%), public school quality (23%) and traffic congestion (21%).



Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

Table 12 provides the proportion of likely voters who list each of the six most cited issues (electricity service reliability, rising property taxes, housing affordability, flooding, condition of roads & streets, crime) as among the three issues affecting Harris County that they are most concerned about, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, educational attainment and partisanship.

**Table 12. Proportion of Socio-Demographic Groups Listing Issue as One of Three Issues Affecting Harris County They Are Most Concerned About (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Electricity Service Reliability	Rising Property Taxes	Housing Affordability	Flooding	Condition of Roads & Streets	Crime
Overall		36	32	32	30	26	23
Gender	Women	34	24	36	28	26	24
	Men	38	41	26	31	26	21
Ethnicity/Race	White	38	39	26	33	27	21
	Latino	37	30	32	26	27	22
	Black	31	21	47	33	21	22
Generation	Silent/Boomer	51	39	22	32	29	22
	Generation X	45	31	34	27	21	28
	Millennial	25	25	38	31	22	17
	Generation Z	13	29	38	29	30	25
Education	High School	34	36	34	30	29	23
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	39	32	31	32	20	24
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	35	30	31	28	28	21
Partisanship	Democratic	39	22	43	33	24	12
	Independent	20	40	20	26	33	14
	Republican	37	44	19	26	26	39

Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

There are not any noteworthy gender, ethnic/racial, education or even partisan differences in the proportion of Harris County likely voters who list electricity service reliability as among the three issues about which they are most concerned. For instance, 38% of white likely voters, 37% of Latino likely voters and 31% of Black likely voters list the issue as among the three they are most concerned about, as do 39% of Democrats and 37% of Republicans. The only notable socio-demographic sub-group differences revolve around generation, with members of the older Silent Generation/Baby Boomer and Generation X cohorts more likely to be concerned about this issue than the younger Millennials and Gen-Zs.

No noteworthy ethnic/racial, generation and education differences exist in the proportion of Harris County likely voters who list rising property taxes as among the three issues about which they are most concerned. Notable sub-group differences do however exist based on gender, with men (41%) significantly more likely than women (24%) to be concerned about rising property taxes, and based on partisanship, with Republicans (44%) significantly more likely than Democrats (22%) to be concerned about rising property taxes.

There are not any noteworthy gender, education or generation differences in the proportion of Harris County likely voters who list housing affordability as among the three issues about which they are most concerned. Notable sub-group differences do however exist based on ethnicity/race, with Black likely voters (47%) significantly more likely than white likely voters (26%) to be concerned about the effect of housing affordability on Harris County, with a similar noteworthy split existing between Democrats (43%) and Republicans (19%).

Additionally, no noteworthy gender, ethnicity/race, generation, education or partisan differences are found in the proportion of Harris County likely voters who list flooding and the condition of roads & streets as being among the three issues affecting Harris County about which they are the most concerned. Similarly, there also do not exist any significant differences in regard to the issue of crime, with the one exception of Republicans (39%) significantly more likely to list this as a top three issue of concern than Democrats (12%).

Table 13 provides the proportion of likely voters who list each of the six least cited issues (public school quality, traffic congestion, homelessness, economic inequality, access to health care, ethnic/racial inequality) among the three issues affecting Harris County that they are most concerned about, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, educational attainment and partisanship.

**Table 13. Proportion of Socio-Demographic Groups Listing Issue as One of Three Issues Affecting Harris County They Are Most Concerned About (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Public School Quality	Traffic Congestion	Homelessness	Economic Inequality	Access to Health Care	Ethnic & Racial Inequality
Overall		23	20	19	18	18	10
Gender	Women	23	24	22	19	22	10
	Men	23	17	16	17	13	10
Ethnicity/Race	White	27	19	12	17	13	10
	Latino	28	23	20	13	20	8
	Black	11	16	27	23	25	13
Generation	Silent/Boomer	17	21	17	7	10	6
	Generation X	19	18	22	13	14	9
	Millennial	34	22	20	26	22	10
	Generation Z	17	20	17	33	36	19
Education	High School	14	18	22	15	21	7
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	25	22	20	16	17	8
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	27	21	16	21	16	13
Partisanship	Democratic	22	18	21	21	23	11
	Independent	27	24	23	18	19	7
	Republican	22	23	14	13	11	9

Source: University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, Texas Votes 2024

There are not any noteworthy gender, ethnicity/race, generation, education or partisan differences in the proportion of Harris County likely voters who list public school quality, traffic congestion, homelessness, economic inequality, access to health care and ethnic/racial inequality as being among the three issues affecting Harris County about which they are the most concerned.



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## **RECOMMENDED CITATION**

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