

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the Texas State Capitol building in Austin, Texas. The building is a grand, classical-style structure with a prominent central dome topped by a statue. The dome is surrounded by a colonnade of columns. Below the dome is a large arched entrance. The building is flanked by trees and a paved walkway leads towards the entrance. The entire image has a semi-transparent red overlay.

Texas Legislative Issues 2025

Abortion & Gun Control



Hobby School of Public Affairs
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON



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February 2025

The Hobby School of Public Affairs at the University of Houston conducted an online survey of Texans age 18 and older to assess their preferences and opinions about legislation being considered by the Texas Legislature during the 2025 regular session along with other salient political issues. The survey was fielded between January 13-21 2025, in English and Spanish, via a YouGov panel of Texas adults. Representative of the Texas adult population, the analysis population of 1,200, with a margin of error of +/- 2.83%, was matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race/ethnicity and education.

The Texas Legislative Issues 2025 study includes six reports. The first report examined Texans' top priorities for using the state's \$24 billion dollar budget surplus and their positions on Education Savings Account (ESA) and sales tax exemption legislation. The second report focused on Texans' attitudes on immigration and border security. The third report examined the opinions of Texans on legislation which would legalize different forms of gambling and marijuana use in Texas. This report analyzes Texans' opinions on proposed legislation in the policy areas of abortion and gun control. The remaining two reports will explore Texans' opinions on proposed election reforms as well as assess their attitudes on the 2024 presidential election and the 2026 Republican U.S. Senate primary.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

23% of Texans believe that a woman should never be allowed to obtain an abortion without restrictions.

48% of Texans believe a woman should not be allowed to obtain an abortion without restrictions after 6 weeks of pregnancy.

71% of Texans believe a woman should not be allowed to obtain an abortion without restrictions after 12 weeks of pregnancy.

85% of Texans believe a woman should not be allowed to obtain an abortion without restrictions after 20 weeks of pregnancy.

90% of Texans believe a woman should not be allowed to obtain an abortion without restrictions after 24 weeks of pregnancy.

34% of Republicans and 7% of Democrats believe a woman should never be allowed to obtain an abortion without restrictions.

40% of Democrats and 6% of Republicans believe a woman should be allowed to obtain an abortion without restrictions through at least 20 weeks of pregnancy.

84% of Texans support legalizing abortion in Texas if there exists a lethal fetal anomaly or diagnosis.

83% of Texans support legalizing abortion in Texas if the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest.

82% of Texans support legalizing abortion in Texas to preserve the woman's physical health.

70% of Texans support legalizing abortion in Texas to preserve the woman's mental health.

49% of Texans want the Texas Legislature to pass legislation to make it easier to obtain an abortion in Texas, 13% want legislation passed to make it harder to obtain an abortion, and 38% want to maintain the status quo under which abortion is only legal if the woman's life is at risk.

32% of Republicans would be more likely to vote for a Republican state legislator in the 2026 GOP primary if the legislator voted in favor of legalizing abortion in the case of rape/incest, while 21% would be less likely to vote for them.

22% of Republicans would be more likely to vote for a Republican state legislator in the 2026 GOP primary if the legislator voted in favor of legalizing abortion through 12 weeks, while 38% would be less likely to vote for them.

91% of Texans support requiring a criminal background check on all gun buyers at gun shows.

90% of Texans support a ban on the possession of a gun by anyone with a restraining order filed against them for stalking or domestic violence.

89% of Texans support requiring a criminal background check on all gun buyers (including those buying via private sales).

88% of Texans support allowing judges to take guns away from people shown to be a danger to themselves or to others.

85% of Texans support raising the age to purchase an AR-15 style assault rifle from 18 to 21.

83% of Texans support raising the age to purchase any firearm from 18 to 21.

82% of Texans support requiring a three-day mandatory waiting period between the purchase of a firearm and when a person can take possession of it.

70% of Texans support a ban on the sale of high-capacity magazines.

70% of Texans support a ban on the sale of AR-15 style assault rifles.

SURVEY POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

White Texans account for 45% of this survey population, Latino Texans for 36%, Black Texans for 12%, and others for 7%. Women represent 51% of this population, and men 49%. Regarding generations, 26% of this population belongs to the combined Silent Generation (born between 1928-1945) and Baby Boomer (1946-1964) cohort, 26% to Generation X (Gen-X) (1965-1980), 29% to the Millennial (1981-1996) generation, and 19% to Generation Z (Gen-Z) (1997-2012). The highest level of educational attainment of 32% of the population is a four-year college degree or a post-graduate degree, of 28% of the population is a two-year college degree or some college, and of 40% of the population is a high school degree or less. The annual household income of 41% of the population is less than \$50,000, that of 33% is between \$50,000 and \$100,000, and that of 26% of the population is greater than \$100,000 (these numbers do not include the 12% of the population who declined to report their family income). Republicans account for 44% of this population, Democrats for 36% and Independents for 17%, with 3% unsure of their partisan identification.

NUMBER OF WEEKS OF PREGNANCY THROUGH WHICH ABORTION SHOULD BE LEGAL IN TEXAS

The respondents were presented with a brief description of the current Texas abortion law and then asked:

What is the latest point in the pregnancy that Texas should allow a woman who is pregnant to obtain a legal abortion for any reason (choose one):

- *0 weeks into the pregnancy (never).*
- *6 weeks into the pregnancy.*
- *12 weeks into the pregnancy.*
- *15 weeks into the pregnancy.*
- *20 weeks into the pregnancy.*
- *24 weeks into the pregnancy.*
- *After 24 weeks of pregnancy.*

Figure 1 provides the distribution of the proportion of Texans who listed the time period as the maximum number of weeks of pregnancy through which abortion should be legal for any reason in Texas. Almost one in four Texans (23%) believe that unrestricted abortion should never be legal in Texas, while 25% believe abortion should be legal for any reason through 6 weeks of pregnancy. Another 23% believe abortion should be legal through 12 weeks of pregnancy, with the remaining one-third (34%) of Texans favoring legislation under which abortion for any reason in Texas would be legal through 15 weeks (9%), 20 weeks (5%), 24 weeks (5%), and after 24 weeks of pregnancy (10%).

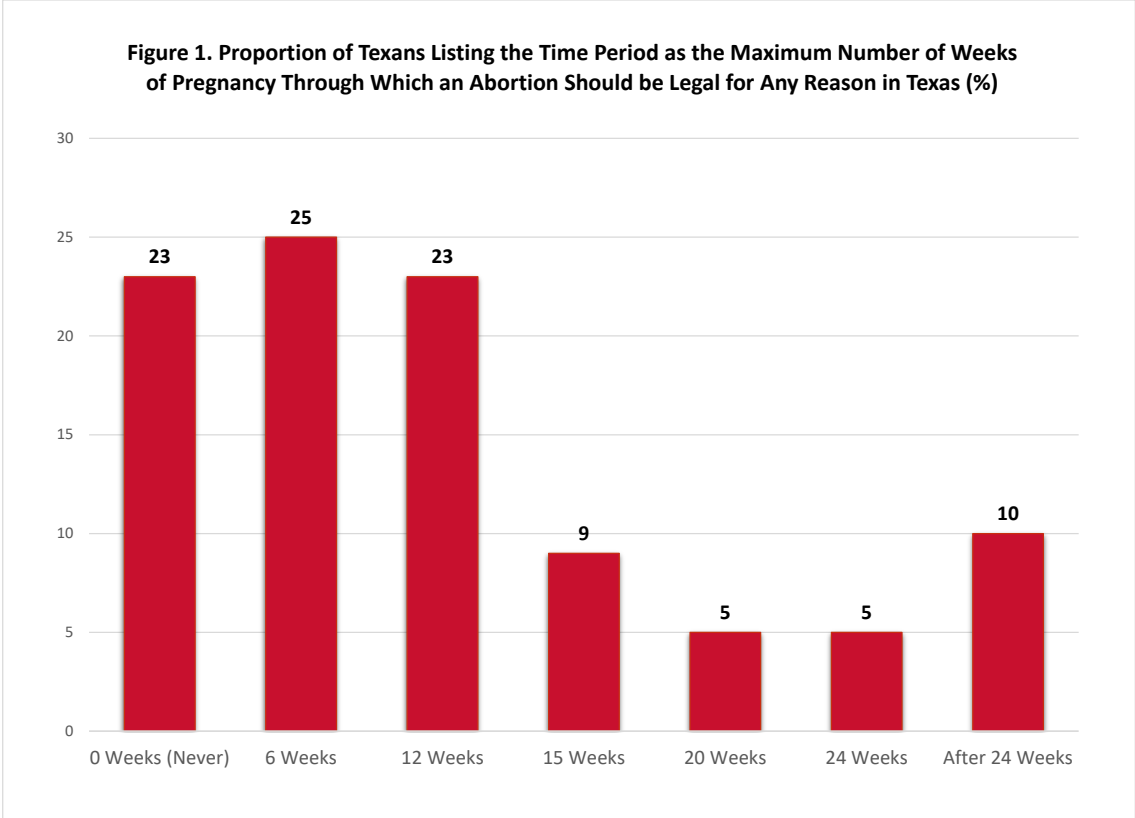


Figure 2 provides the proportion of Texans who believe that abortion for any reason should not be legal in Texas after different numbers of weeks of pregnancy. Close to a quarter (23%) believe abortion for any reason should never be legal, while nearly one-half (48%) believe abortion for any reason in Texas should not be legal after 6 weeks of pregnancy. More than two-thirds (71%) are of the opinion that unrestricted abortion should not be legal in Texas after 12 weeks, while four-fifths (80%) believe unrestricted abortion should not be legal after 15 weeks, and 85% after 20 weeks. Only one out of every ten Texans would like abortion with no restrictions to be legal in Texas after 24 weeks of pregnancy.

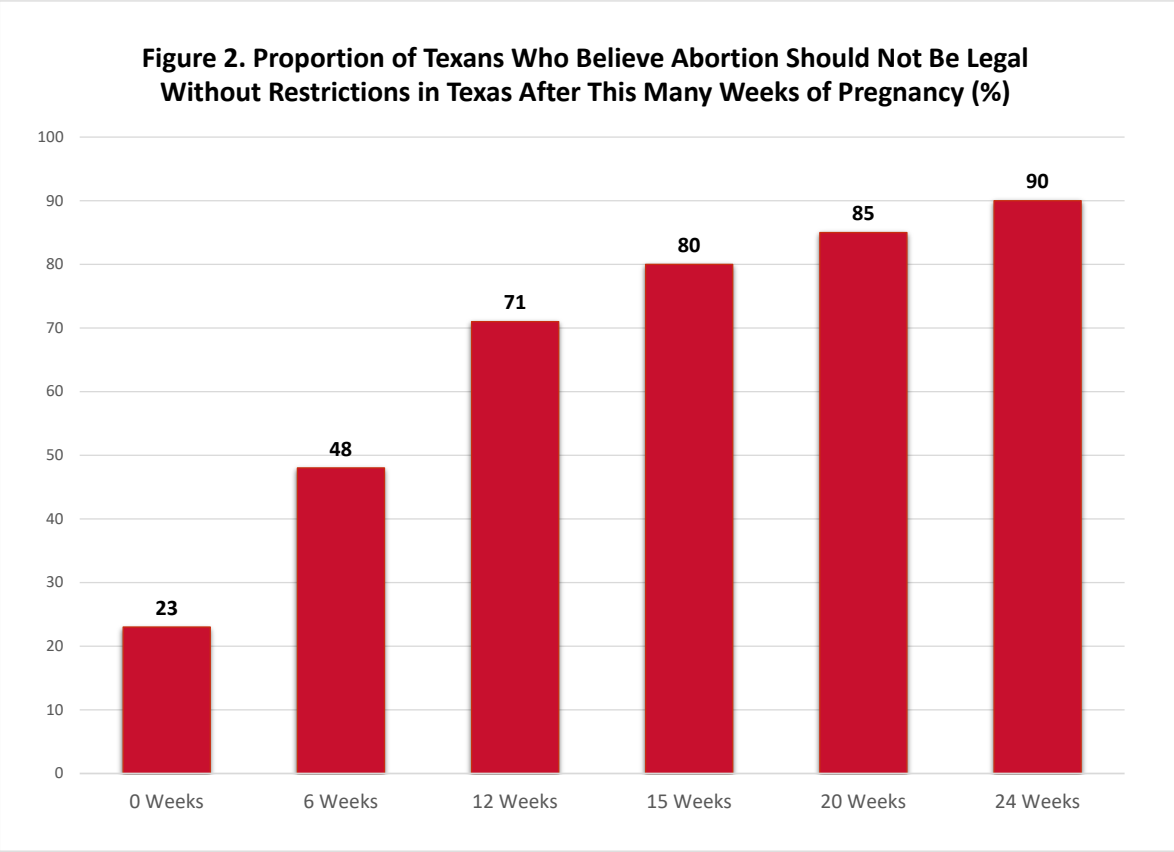


Table 1 provides the distribution of the preferences for four temporal options (0 weeks, 6 weeks, 12 to 15 weeks, 20 or more weeks) regarding the latest point that the respondent believes it should be legal for a woman to obtain an abortion in Texas for any reason broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, level of educational attainment, family income, religion and partisanship.

Table 1: Distribution of Position on the Maximum Number of Weeks Through Which Abortion Should Be Legal Without Restrictions Among Key Socio-Demographic Groups (%)

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	0 Weeks (Never)	6 Weeks	12 to 15 Weeks	20+ Weeks
Overall		23	25	32	20
Gender	Women	23	23	35	19
	Men	23	26	30	21
Ethnicity/Race	White	25	21	33	21
	Latino	21	25	34	20
	Black	21	34	27	18
Generation	Silent/Boomer	28	17	36	19
	Generation X	24	24	27	25
	Millennial	19	28	35	18
	Generation Z	17	33	32	18
Education	High School	23	26	34	17
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	24	21	35	20
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	22	26	29	23
Income	Lower Income	22	28	30	20
	Middle Income	21	19	36	24
	Higher Income	26	25	32	17
Religion	Born-Again Protestant	41	26	23	10
	Other Protestant	11	30	37	22
	Roman Catholic	17	28	39	16
	Nonreligious	18	20	32	30
Partisanship	Democratic	7	22	31	40
	Independent	29	25	33	13
	Republican	34	26	34	6

The most noteworthy sub-group differences in regard to the number of weeks through which abortion for any reason should be legal in Texas revolve around partisanship and religion. Republicans (34%) are significantly more likely than Democrats (7%) to believe that unrestricted abortion should never be permitted in Texas. Conversely, Democrats (40%) are significantly more likely than Republicans (6%) to believe that abortion should be permitted without restrictions through at least 20 weeks. Born-Again Protestants (41%) are significantly more likely than other Texans to believe that unrestricted abortion should never be legal in Texas, with no salient differences existing among the other prominent religious groups in regard to their support for this option: other Protestant (11%), Roman Catholic (17%), nonreligious (18%).

SUPPORT FOR EXCEPTIONS UNDER WHICH ABORTION WOULD BE ALLOWED IN TEXAS

The survey respondents were asked:

Presently abortion is illegal in Texas unless the woman's life is at risk.

Would you support or oppose legislation that would allow a legal abortion to take place in Texas under the following circumstances.

- *To preserve the woman's physical health.*
- *To preserve the woman's mental health.*
- *If the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest.*
- *If there exists a lethal fetal anomaly or diagnosis.*

Table 2 provides the proportion of respondents who strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, and strongly oppose each of the proposed exceptions under which abortion would be legal under Texas law if the legislation was adopted. Figure 3 summarizes support (strongly and somewhat) and opposition (strongly and somewhat) for each of the four exceptions under which abortion would be permitted under Texas law, which presently only allows an abortion to legally be performed if the woman's life is at risk.

Table 2. Support For & Opposition To Four Exceptions to Current Texas Abortion Law (%)

Exception Under Which Abortion Allowed	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose
Pregnancy Resulting from Rape or Incest	61	22	8	9
To Preserve the Woman's Physical Health	56	26	9	9
If a Lethal Fetal Anomaly Exists	56	28	9	7
To Preserve the Woman's Mental Health	41	29	16	14

More than eight out of ten (84%) Texans support legislation that would allow a legal abortion to take place in Texas if there exists a lethal fetal anomaly or diagnosis. This includes 56% who strongly support this legislation compared to 7% who strongly oppose it.

More than eight out of ten (83%) Texans support legislation that would allow a legal abortion to take place in Texas if the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest. This includes 61% who strongly support this legislation compared to 9% who strongly oppose it.

More than eight out of ten (82%) Texans support legislation that would allow a legal abortion to take place in Texas to preserve the woman's physical health. This includes 56% who strongly support this legislation compared to 9% who strongly oppose it.

Seven out of ten (70%) Texans support legislation that would allow a legal abortion to take place in Texas to preserve the woman's mental health. This includes 41% who strongly support this legislation compared to 14% who strongly oppose it.

Table 3 provides the proportion of Texans who support each of the four proposed exceptions to current Texas abortion law broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, level of educational attainment, family income, religion and partisanship.

Table 3. Support For Four Exceptions To Texas Abortion Law Among Key Socio-Demographic Groups (%)

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Lethal Fetal Anomaly	Pregnancy Due to Rape/Incest	Preserve Physical Health	Preserve Mental Health
Overall		84	83	82	70
Gender	Women	85	85	82	72
	Men	83	81	83	68
Ethnicity/Race	White	84	82	85	65
	Latino	84	84	78	72
	Black	88	83	89	80
Generation	Silent/Boomer	76	80	82	61
	Generation X	85	81	84	68
	Millennial	84	82	80	75
	Generation Z	94	91	85	78
Education	High School	84	86	82	73
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	80	80	80	65
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	88	82	85	71
Income	Lower Income	83	85	82	72
	Middle Income	84	83	77	68
	Higher Income	85	80	89	70
Religion	Born-Again Protestant	72	66	74	47
	Other Protestant	93	90	93	78
	Roman Catholic	78	89	83	77
	Nonreligious	90	90	89	79
Partisanship	Democratic	96	94	92	90
	Independent	81	88	79	64
	Republican	75	75	75	55

There is a strong consensus in favor of these exceptions across most socio-demographic sub-groups, with the only noteworthy sub-group differences revolving around partisanship, religion, and, to a lesser extent, generation. In contrast, salient sub-group differences in support based on gender, ethnicity/race, education and income are, for all intents and purposes, non-existent.

Democrats are significantly more likely than Republicans, respectively, to support legislation which would make abortion legal in Texas if there exists a lethal fetal anomaly (96% vs. 75%), if the pregnancy is due to rape or incest (94% vs. 75%), to preserve the woman’s physical health (92% vs. 75%), and to preserve the woman’s mental health (90% vs. 55%). While Republicans are notably less likely than Democrats to support this legislation, the first three abortion exceptions are supported by an overwhelming majority (75%) of Republicans. In contrast, Republican support for legislation that would make it legal to perform an abortion to preserve a woman’s mental health is much more muted, with 55% supporting this exception and 45% opposing it.

Other (i.e., not Born-Again) Protestants and nonreligious Texans are significantly more likely than Born-Again Protestants to support legislation which would make abortion legal in Texas if there exists a lethal fetal anomaly (93% and 90% vs. 72%), if the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest (90% and 90% vs. 66%), to preserve the woman's physical health (93% and 89% vs. 74%), and to preserve the woman's mental health (78% and 79% vs. 47%). Roman Catholics are also significantly more likely than Born-Again Protestants to support legislation which would make abortion legal in Texas if the pregnancy is due to rape or incest (89% vs. 66%) and to preserve the woman's mental health (77% vs. 47%).

Members of Generation Z are significantly more likely than members of the Silent Generation/Baby Boomer cohort to support legislation which would make abortion legal in Texas if there exists a lethal fetal anomaly (94% vs. 76%) and to preserve the woman's mental health (78% vs. 61%).

SHOULD THE LAW BE CHANGED TO MAKE IT EASIER OR HARDER TO OBTAIN AN ABORTION IN TEXAS

The survey respondents were asked:

Presently abortion is illegal in Texas unless the woman's life is at risk. If you were able, would you modify Texas law during this year's legislative session to make it easier or to make it harder for a woman to obtain an abortion, or would you leave the law as it is now?

- *Make it easier*
- *Leave the law as it is now*
- *Make it harder*

Note: the response options of "Make it easier" and "Make it harder" were rotated as was the location of the two phrases in the question stem.

Figure 4 provides the distribution of the responses. Close to half (49%) of Texans believe that the Texas Legislature should modify Texas law during the legislature’s 2025 regular session to make it easier for a woman to obtain an abortion, while 13% would like to see legislation passed this year to make it harder to obtain an abortion, and 38% prefer leaving the legislation governing abortions in Texas unchanged.

Figure 4. Should the Texas Legislature Modify Existing Abortion Law to Make it Easier or Harder to Obtain an Abortion in Texas, or, Should it Leave the Law Unchanged (%)

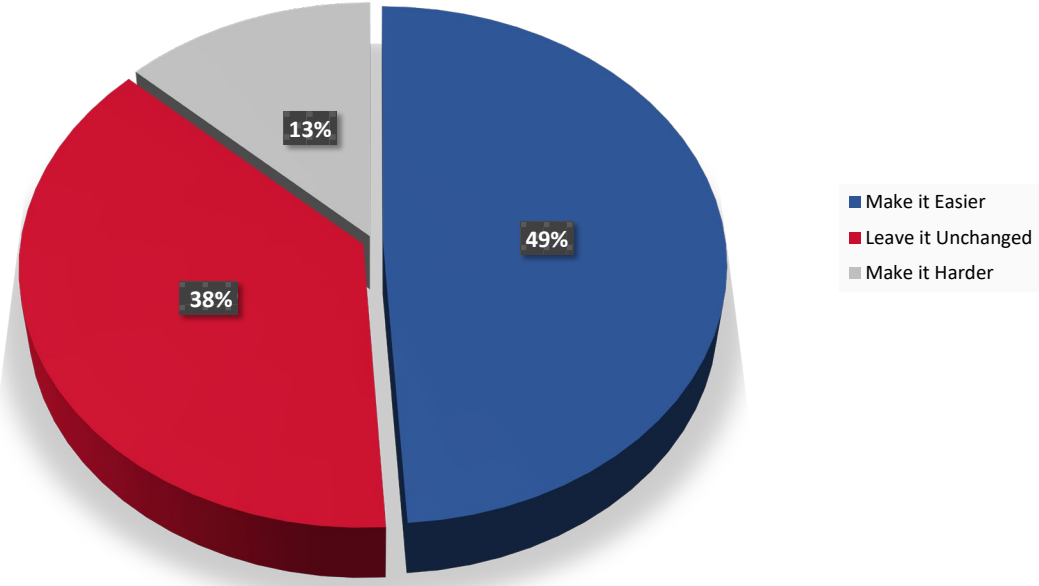


Table 4 provides the proportion of Texans who would like the Texas Legislature to make it easier and harder for a woman to obtain an abortion in Texas, as well as the proportion who believe the current abortion law should be left unchanged, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, level of educational attainment, family income, religion and partisanship.

Table 4. Distribution of Position on Modifying Texas Abortion Law to Make it Easier or Harder to Obtain an Abortion Among Key Socio-Demographic Groups (%)

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Make It Easier	Leave Unchanged	Make It Harder
Overall		49	38	13
Gender	Women	53	36	11
	Men	45	39	16
Ethnicity/Race	White	49	40	11
	Latino	46	38	16
	Black	55	32	13
Generation	Silent/Boomer	51	37	12
	Generation X	48	36	16
	Millennial	49	37	14
	Generation Z	48	41	11
Education	High School	48	39	13
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	53	32	15
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	47	41	12
Income	Lower Income	53	33	14
	Middle Income	48	40	12
	Higher Income	43	43	14
Religion	Born-Again Protestant	34	46	20
	Other Protestant	64	29	7
	Roman Catholic	45	43	12
	Nonreligious	66	23	11
Partisanship	Democratic	72	22	6
	Independent	50	34	16
	Republican	27	51	19

There are not any noteworthy sub-group differences in preferences across these three options tied to ethnicity/race, generation, education, or income. In contrast, as was the case previously, there are notable sub-group differences based on partisanship and religion.

Democrats (72%) are significantly more likely than Republicans (27%) to want the Texas Legislature to pass legislation this year to make it easier for a woman to obtain an abortion. In contrast, Republicans (51%) are significantly more likely than Democrats (22%) to prefer that the state’s abortion legislation be left unchanged, as well as significantly more likely to want the Texas Legislature to make it harder for woman to obtain an abortion (19% vs. 6%, respectively).

Nonreligious (66%) Texans and other (i.e., not Born-Again) Protestants (64%) are significantly more likely than Born-Again Protestants (34%) to want the Texas Legislature to make it easier for a woman to obtain an abortion. Born-Again Protestants (46%) and Roman Catholics (43%) are significantly more likely than nonreligious Texans (23%) to want Texas abortion law to remain unchanged, while Born-Again Protestants (20%) are significantly more likely than other Protestants (7%) to want the legislature to make it harder for a woman to obtain an abortion in Texas.

REPUBLICANS, REPUBLICAN LEGISLATORS, & HYPOTHETICAL VOTES ON ABORTION LEGISLATION

Respondents who identify as Republican were presented with two hypothetical scenarios and then asked how it would affect their vote for an incumbent Republican legislator in the 2026 Republican primary. The language used was:

1. *If a Republican state legislator voted in favor of legislation that would allow a woman to obtain an abortion during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy if the pregnancy were the result of rape or incest, would this make you:*

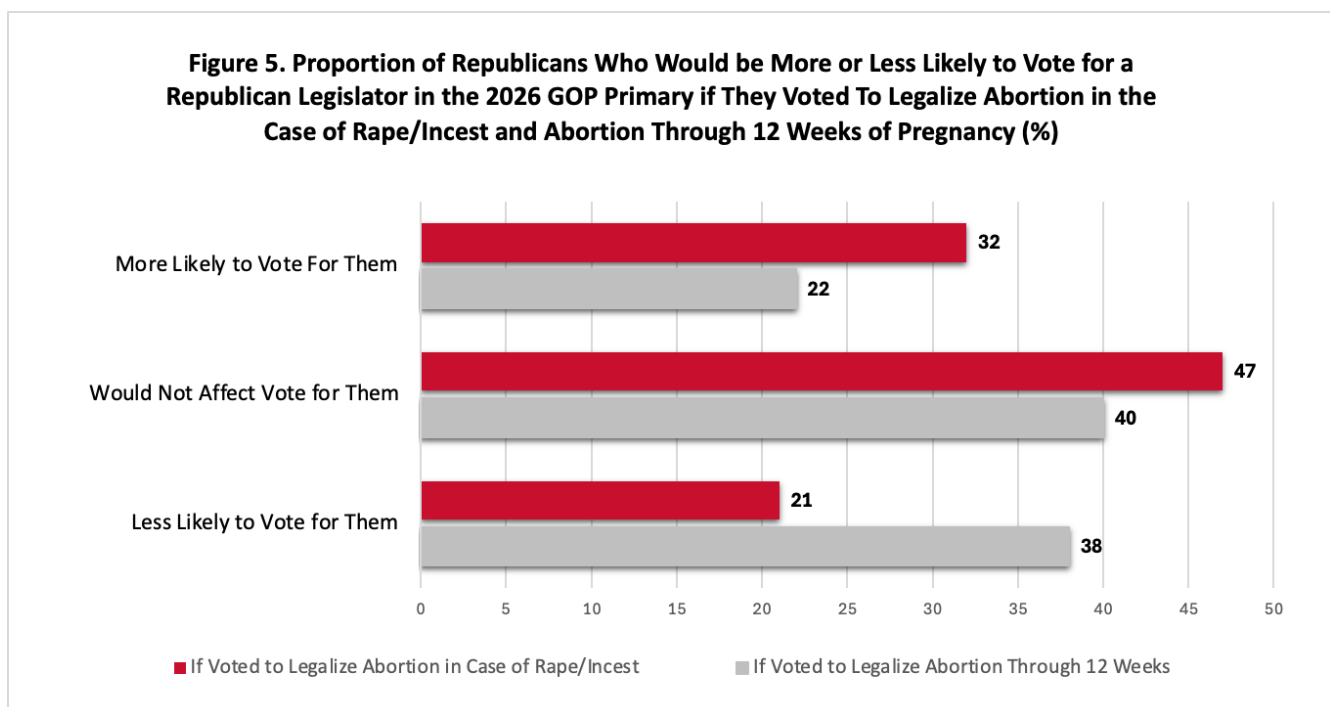
- *More likely to vote for them in the 2026 Republican Party Primary.*
- *Less likely to vote for them in the 2026 Republican Party Primary.*
- *It would not affect my decision to vote for them in the 2026 Republican Party Primary.*

2. *If a Republican state legislator voted in favor of legislation that would allow a woman to obtain an abortion during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy for any reason, would this make you:*

- *More likely to vote for them in the 2026 Republican Party Primary.*
- *Less likely to vote for them in the 2026 Republican Party Primary.*
- *It would not affect my decision to vote for them in the 2026 Republican Party Primary.*

Note: the response options of “More likely ...” and “Less likely ...” were rotated.

Figure 5 provides the distribution of the response by Texas Republicans to these two questions.



In the event that a Texas Republican legislator voted in favor of legislation which would make it legal for a woman to obtain an abortion during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy if the pregnancy were the result of rape or incest, 32% of Republicans would be more likely to vote for them in the 2026 GOP primary, 21% would be less likely to vote for them, and 47% say that the legislator's vote on the Texas House or Senate floor in favor of a rape/incest exception would have no impact on their 2026 primary vote.

In the event that a Texas Republican legislator voted in favor of legislation which would make it legal for a woman to obtain an abortion during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy for any reason, 38% of Republicans would be less likely to vote for them in the 2026 GOP primary, 22% would be more likely to vote for them, and 40% say that the legislator's vote on the Texas House or Senate floor in favor of legal abortion through 12 weeks of pregnancy would have no impact on their 2026 primary vote.

In sum, a Republican who voted for the rape/incest exception could be seen as potentially benefiting from this vote come primary season, with the proportion that is more likely to vote for them (32%) greater than the proportion that is less likely to vote for them due to their vote for this exception (21%). In sharp contrast, a Republican who voted to legalize abortion through 12 weeks of pregnancy for any reason would potentially be adversely affected by this vote come primary season, with the proportion less likely to vote for them (38%) greater than the proportion more likely to vote for them (22%).

SUPPORT FOR & OPPOSITION TO NINE GUN CONTROL REFORM LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

The survey respondents were asked:

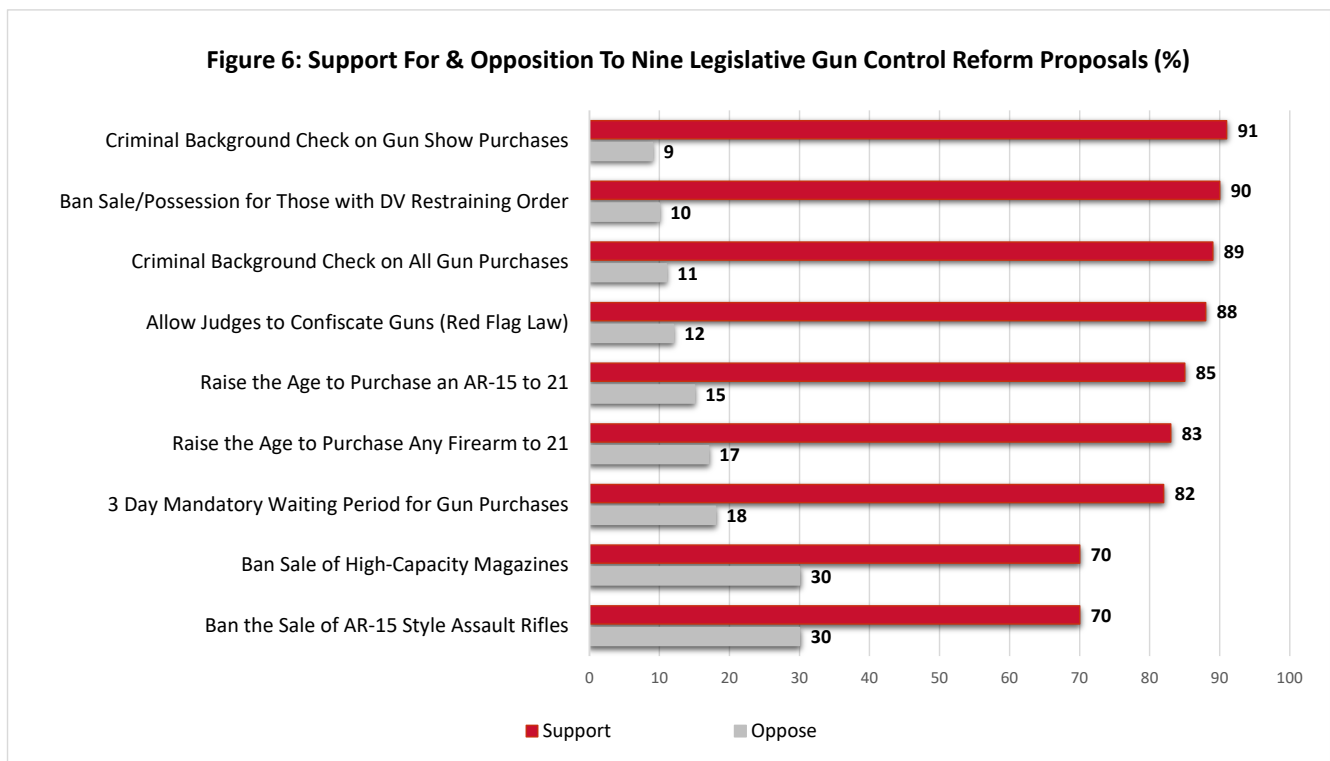
Do you support or oppose the following legislation proposed to reduce gun violence in Texas?

- *Raise the age to purchase an AR-15 style assault rifle from 18 to 21.*
- *Raise the age to purchase any firearm from 18 to 21.*
- *Ban the sale of AR-15 style assault rifles.*
- *Allow judges to take guns away from people shown to be a danger to themselves or others.*
- *Require a three-day mandatory waiting period between the purchase of a firearm and when a person can take possession of it.*
- *Require criminal background checks on all gun buyers, including those buying via private sales.*
- *Require criminal background checks on all gun buyers purchasing a weapon at gun shows.*
- *Ban the sale of high-capacity magazines.*
- *Ban the possession or purchase of a gun by any individual with a restraining order filed against them for stalking or domestic violence.*

Table 5 provides the proportion of respondents who strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, and strongly oppose each one of these nine legislative proposals, while Figure 6 provides a summary of the proportion which supports (strongly and somewhat) and opposes (strongly and somewhat) the nine gun reform proposals.

Table 5. Support For & Opposition to Nine Legislative Gun Control Reform Proposals (%)

Gun Control Reform Proposals	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose
Criminal Background Check on Gun Show Purchases	73	18	5	4
Ban Sale/Possession for Those with DV Restraining Order	71	19	6	4
Criminal Background Check on All Gun Purchases	71	18	6	5
Raise the Age to Purchase an AR-15 to 21	66	19	6	9
Allow Judges to Confiscate Guns (Red Flag Law)	64	24	7	5
Raise the Age to Purchase any Firearm to 21	64	19	8	9
3 Day Mandatory Waiting Period for Gun Purchases	58	24	9	9
Ban the Sale of AR-15 Style Assault Rifles	50	20	11	19
Ban the Sale of High-Capacity Magazines	49	21	13	17



91% of Texans support requiring a criminal background check on all gun buyers purchasing a weapon at gun shows, with 73% strongly supporting this legislation.

90% of Texans support a ban on the possession or purchase of a gun by any individual with a restraining order filed against them for stalking or domestic violence, with 71% strongly supporting this legislation.

89% of Texans support requiring a criminal background check on all gun buyers (including those buying via private sales), with 71% strongly supporting this legislation.

88% of Texans support allowing judges to take guns away from people shown to be a danger to themselves or others (i.e., a red flag law), with 64% strongly supporting this legislation.

85% of Texans support raising the age to purchase an AR-15 style assault rifle from 18 to 21, with 66% strongly supporting this legislation.

83% of Texans support raising the age to purchase any firearm from 18 to 21, with 64% strongly supporting this legislation.

82% of Texans support requiring a three-day mandatory waiting period between the purchase of a firearm and when a person can take possession of it, with 58% strongly supporting this legislation.

70% of Texans support a ban on the sale of high-capacity magazines, with 49% strongly supporting this legislation.

85% of Texans support raising the age to purchase an AR-15 style assault rifle from 18 to 21, with 66% strongly supporting this legislation.

83% of Texans support raising the age to purchase any firearm from 18 to 21, with 64% strongly supporting this legislation.

82% of Texans support requiring a three-day mandatory waiting period between the purchase of a firearm and when a person can take possession of it, with 58% strongly supporting this legislation.

70% of Texans support a ban on the sale of high-capacity magazines, with 49% strongly supporting this legislation.

70% of Texans support a ban on the sale of AR-15 style assault rifles, with 50% strongly supporting this legislation.

Table 6 provides the proportion of Texans who support each of the five most popular gun control reform proposals, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, level of educational attainment, family income, religion and partisanship.

Table 6: Support For the Five Most Popular Gun Control Reform Proposals Among Key Socio-Demographic Groups (%)

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Background Check for All Gun Show Purchases	Ban Gun Possession By Those With Restraining Order for Domestic Violence	Background Check for All Gun Purchases (including Private Sales)	Allow Judges to Confiscate Guns (Red Flag Law)	Raise Age to Purchase an AR-15 Style Assault Rifle to 21
Overall		91	90	89	88	85
Gender	Women	94	94	93	91	90
	Men	87	86	84	85	79
Ethnicity/Race	White	88	88	83	84	79
	Latino	94	92	93	91	90
	Black	95	94	95	94	93
Generation	Silent/Boomer	91	92	87	86	84
	Generation X	90	90	88	86	83
	Millennial	88	86	86	87	84
	Generation Z	96	95	96	95	92
Education	High School	94	92	90	92	88
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	89	89	85	85	83
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	89	89	89	86	84
Income	Lower Income	90	90	89	89	87
	Middle Income	91	91	86	87	84
	Higher Income	92	90	89	86	81
Religion	Born-Again Protestant	87	90	85	87	81
	Other Protestant	95	94	91	92	84
	Roman Catholic	93	93	91	92	90
	Nonreligious	90	90	88	85	83
Partisanship	Democratic	96	95	96	97	94
	Independent	90	87	84	86	82
	Republican	88	88	84	81	78

While there exists strong majority support for all five legislative proposals, there are significant differences in the level of support when considering some socio-demographic factors.

First, there are significant gender differences in support for three of these five legislative proposals. Women are significantly more likely than men to support three of these five proposals, although it is important to note that more than three-quarters of men support all five reforms. Women (94%) are significantly more likely than men (86%) to support a ban on gun possession by anyone with a restraining order for domestic violence. Women (93%) are also significantly more likely than men (84%) to support requiring a background check on all gun purchases (including private sales) and to support raising the age to purchase an AR-15 style assault rifle from 18 to 21 (90% vs. 79%, respectively).

There are significant ethnic/racial differences in support for one of these five proposals. Black (93%) and Latino (90%) Texans are significantly more likely than white Texans (79%) to support legislation which would raise the age to purchase an AR-15 style assault rifle from 18 to 21.

Lastly, significant partisan differences in support for three of these five proposals exist. It is important to note that more than three-quarters of Republicans support all five reforms, while Democrats are significantly more likely than Republicans to support three of these five proposals. Democrats (96%) are significantly more likely than Republicans (84%) to support requiring a background check on all gun purchases (including while private sales). Democrats (97%) are also significantly more likely than Republicans (81%) to support legislation which would allow judges to take guns away from people shown to be a danger to themselves or others, and Democrats (94%) are furthermore significantly more likely than Republicans (78%) to support legislation that would raise the age to purchase an AR-15 style assault rifle from 18 to 21. In contrast, Democrats are not significantly more likely than Republicans to

support legislation which would require a criminal background check on all gun buyers purchasing a weapon at gun shows (96% vs. 88%, respectively), nor are they significantly more likely to support the establishment of a three-day waiting period between the purchase and possession of a firearm (95% vs. 88%, respectively).

There are no significant sub-group differences in support for these five proposals related to generation, education, income, or religion.

Table 7 provides the proportion of Texans who support each of the four least popular gun control reform proposals, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation, level of educational attainment, family income, religion and partisanship.

Table 7: Support For the Four Least Popular Gun Control Reform Proposals Among Key Socio-Demographic Groups (%)

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Raise Age to Purchase Any Firearm to 21	3 Day Mandatory Waiting Period After Purchase	Ban Sale of High-Capacity Magazines	Ban Sale of AR-15 Style Assault Rifles
Overall		83	82	70	70
Gender	Women	89	87	86	78
	Men	78	77	64	62
Ethnicity/Race	White	78	78	63	61
	Latino	89	85	73	76
	Black	92	91	88	88
Generation	Silent/Boomer	83	82	65	61
	Generation X	80	78	64	68
	Millennial	84	81	74	76
	Generation Z	90	91	79	80
Education	High School	87	84	73	72
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	81	81	66	64
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	82	82	70	73
Income	Lower Income	85	86	73	72
	Middle Income	84	85	67	68
	Higher Income	79	74	67	69
Religion	Born-Again Protestant	80	78	64	61
	Other Protestant	85	81	61	58
	Roman Catholic	87	88	79	83
	Nonreligious	83	81	70	69
Partisanship	Democratic	94	94	90	92
	Independent	82	78	73	72
	Republican	76	75	52	52

There are significant gender differences in support for all four of these gun reform proposals. Women (89%) are significantly more likely than men (78%) to support legislation which would raise the age to purchase any firearm to 21. Women (87%) are also significantly more likely than men (77%) to support legislation establishing a three-day mandatory waiting period between the purchase of a firearm and when someone can take possession of it. Women (78%) are significantly more likely than men (62%) to support a ban on the sale of AR-15 style assault rifles in Texas. Finally, the largest gender gap in support for these four proposals is for a ban on the sale of high-capacity magazines, which 86% of women, but only 64% of men, support.

Significant ethnic/racial differences in support for three of the four gun-control reform proposals exist. Black (92%) and Latino (89%) Texans are significantly more likely than white Texans (78%) to support raising the age to purchase any firearm to 21. Black (88%) and Latino (73%) Texans are also significantly more likely than white Texans (63%) to support a ban on the sale of high-capacity magazines. Lastly,

Black (88%) and Latino (76%) Texans are significantly more likely than white Texans (61%) to support a ban on the sale of AR-15 style assault rifles in Texas.

Significant generation differences in support for two of the four gun-control reform proposals are present. Members of Generation Z (79%) are significantly more likely than the members of the oldest two generational cohorts to support a ban on high-capacity magazines and also are significantly more likely than members of the Silent Generation/Baby Boomer cohort to support a ban on the sale of AR-15 style assault rifles, 80% vs. 61%.

There are significant income differences in support for one of the four gun-control reform proposals. Lower (86%) and middle (85%) income Texans are significantly more likely than higher income Texans (74%) to support a three-day mandatory waiting period between the purchase of a firearm and when someone can take possession of it.

Significant partisan differences in support for all four of these gun reform proposals exist. Democrats (94%) are significantly more likely than Republicans (76%) to support legislation which would set raise the age to purchase any firearm to 21. Democrats (94%) are also significantly more likely than Republicans (75%) to support legislation establishing a three-day mandatory waiting period between the purchase of a firearm and when someone can take possession of it. Finally, Democrats are dramatically more likely than Republicans to support both a ban in Texas on the sale of high-capacity magazines (90% vs. 52%, respectively) as well as a ban on the sale of AR-15 style assault rifles (92% vs. 52%, respectively).

Significant sub-group differences in support for these four proposals related to education or to religion do not exist.

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RECOMMENDED CITATION

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