

CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS AND IMMIGRATION POLITICS IN TEXAS

Latino  **Decisions**
Everything Latino Politics

February 26, 2014

Hispanic influence in Texas

- Demographic trends
- Participation and party competition
- Immigration Politics

The Texas Population Today

Total 26 Million

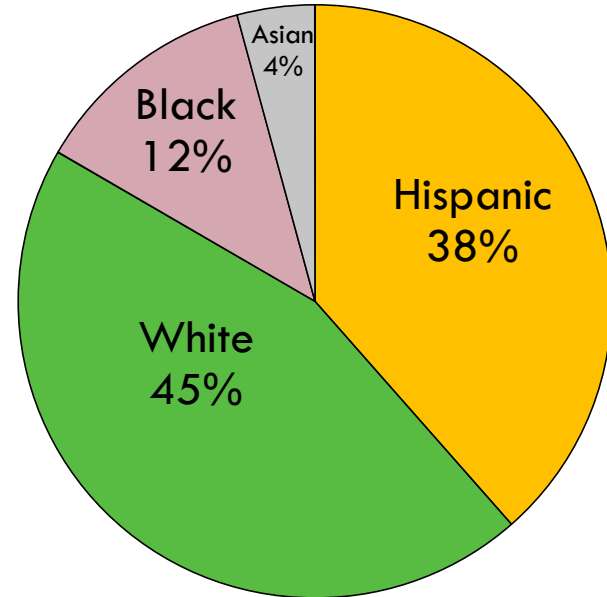
White non-Hispanic
11.6 million

Hispanic
10 million

African American
3.3 million

Asian American
1.1 million

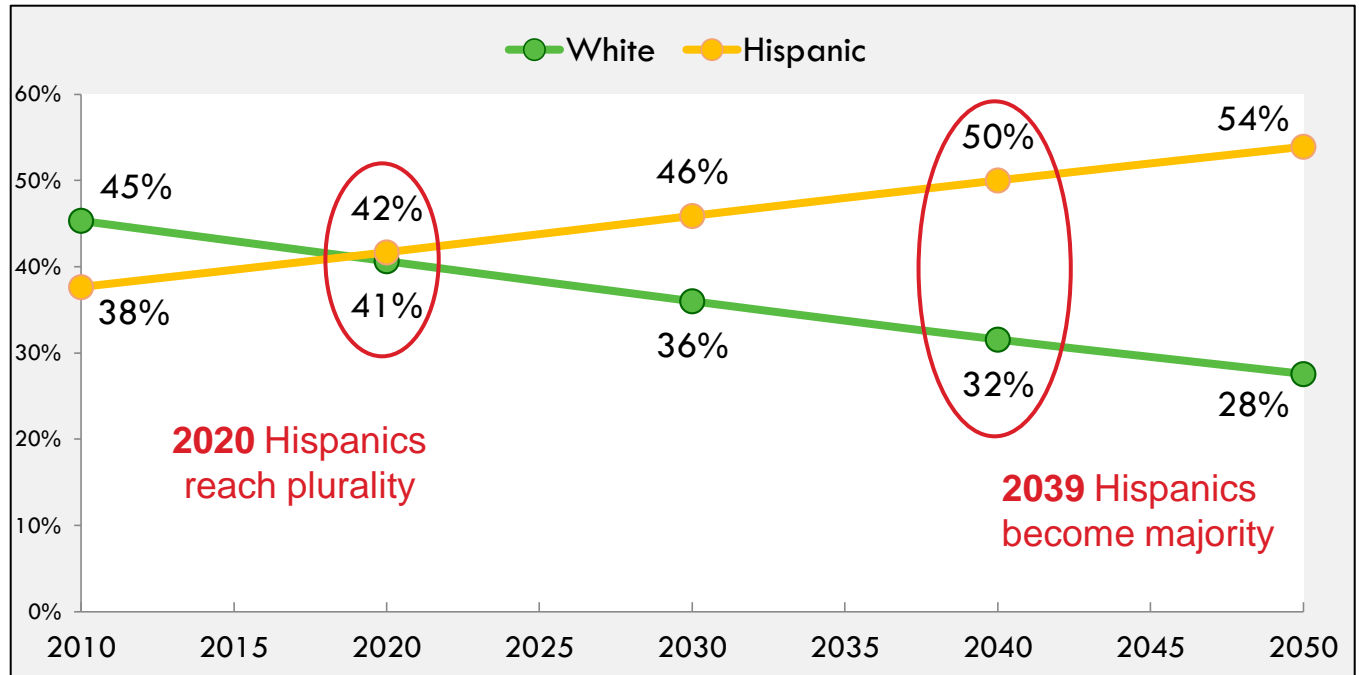
Texas is one of four
majority-minority states.
(CA, HI, NM, TX)



Texas population projections 2000-2050

The median age for Texas Hispanics is 27.

The median age for Texas Anglos is 41.



Texas Hispanics Today

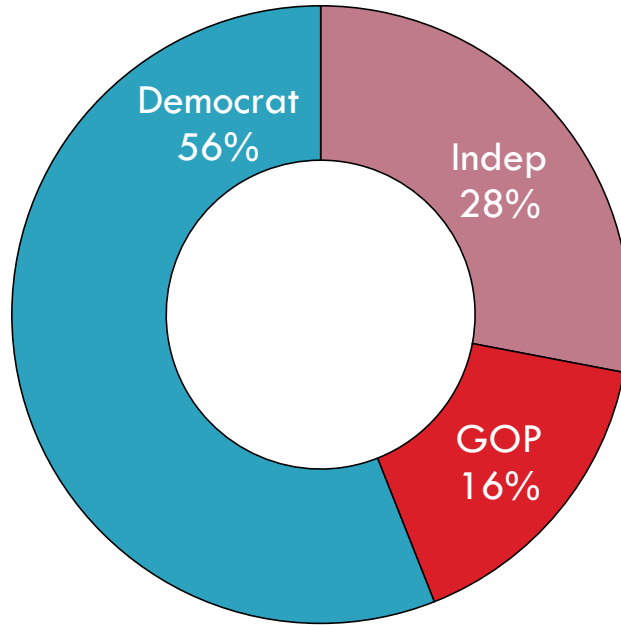
- 70% U.S. Born
- 77% American citizens
- 88% Mexican-origin
- 65% of foreign born have lived in U.S. 15+ years

PARTISANSHIP AND PARTICIPATION



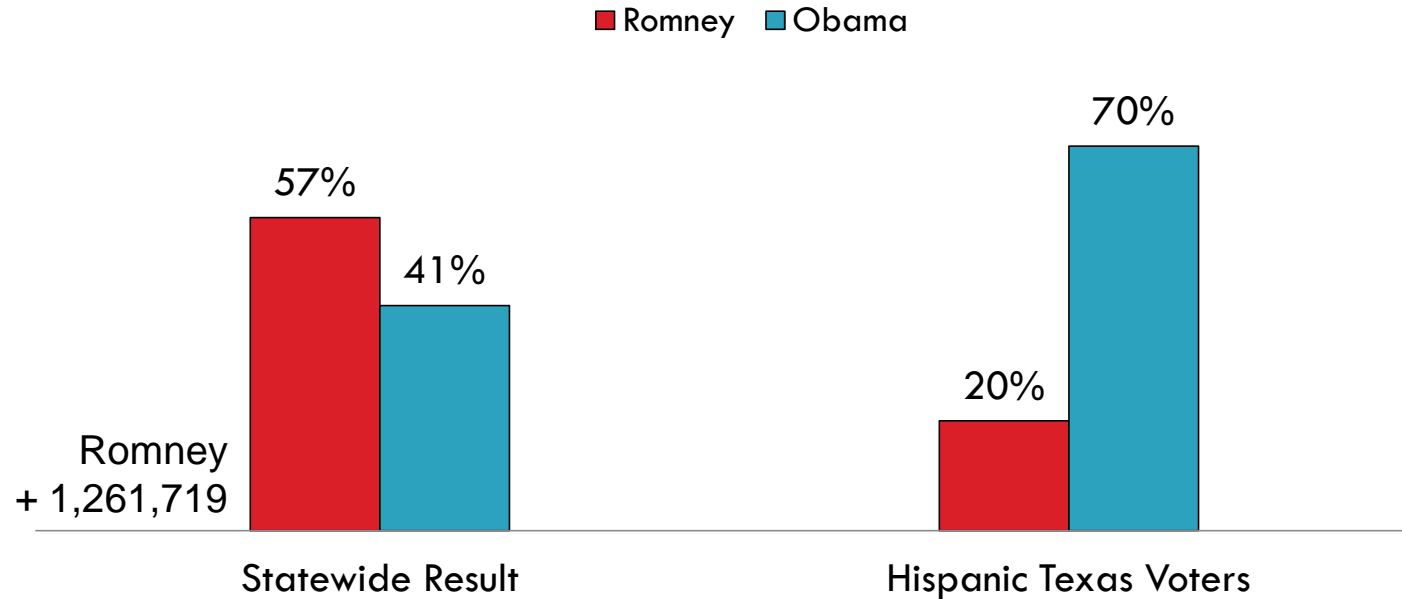
Texas Partisanship and Latino Voters

Texas became more GOP *despite* Latino population/electorate increases.



Adding “leaners”
67% Democrat
26% Republican

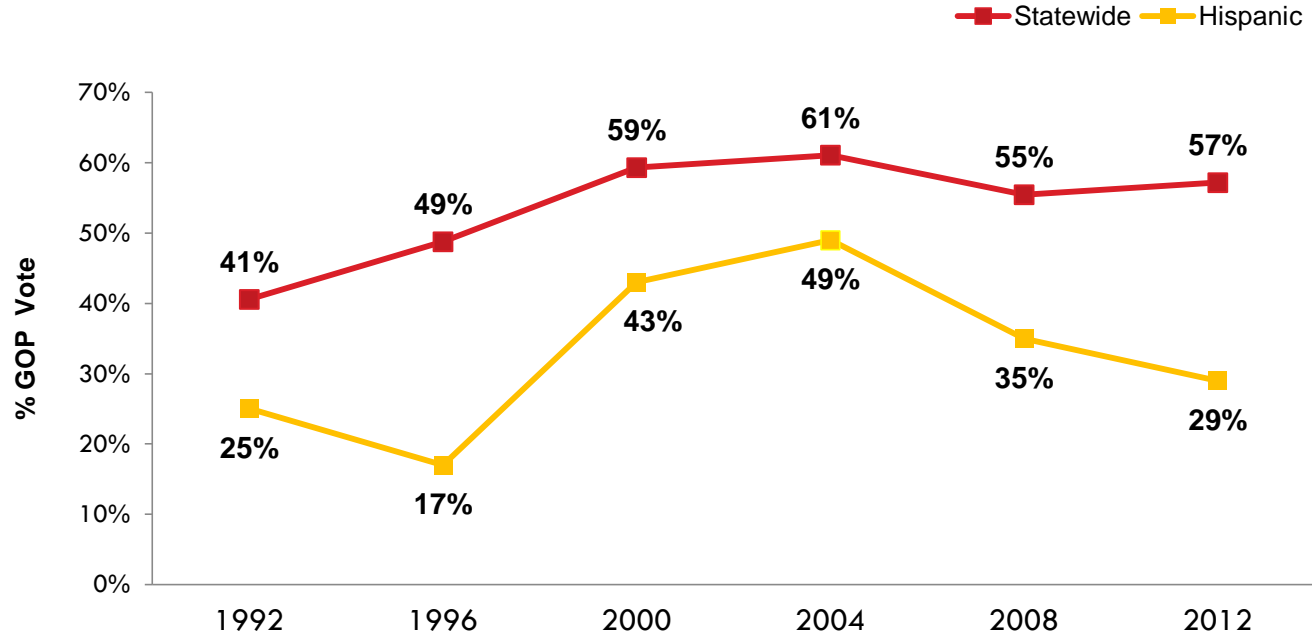
Presidential Vote



Texas Presidential GOP Vote 1992-2012

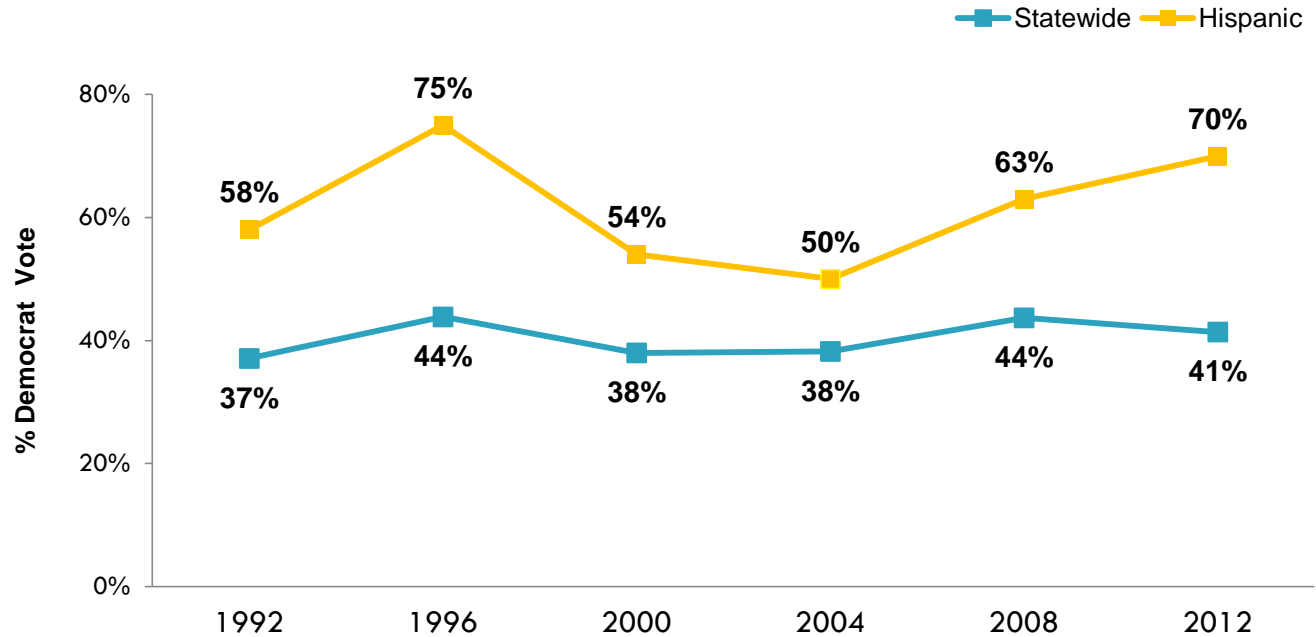
Latino voters
trending away
from GOP.

Inroads
President W.
Bush made
with Latino
voters have
eroded.



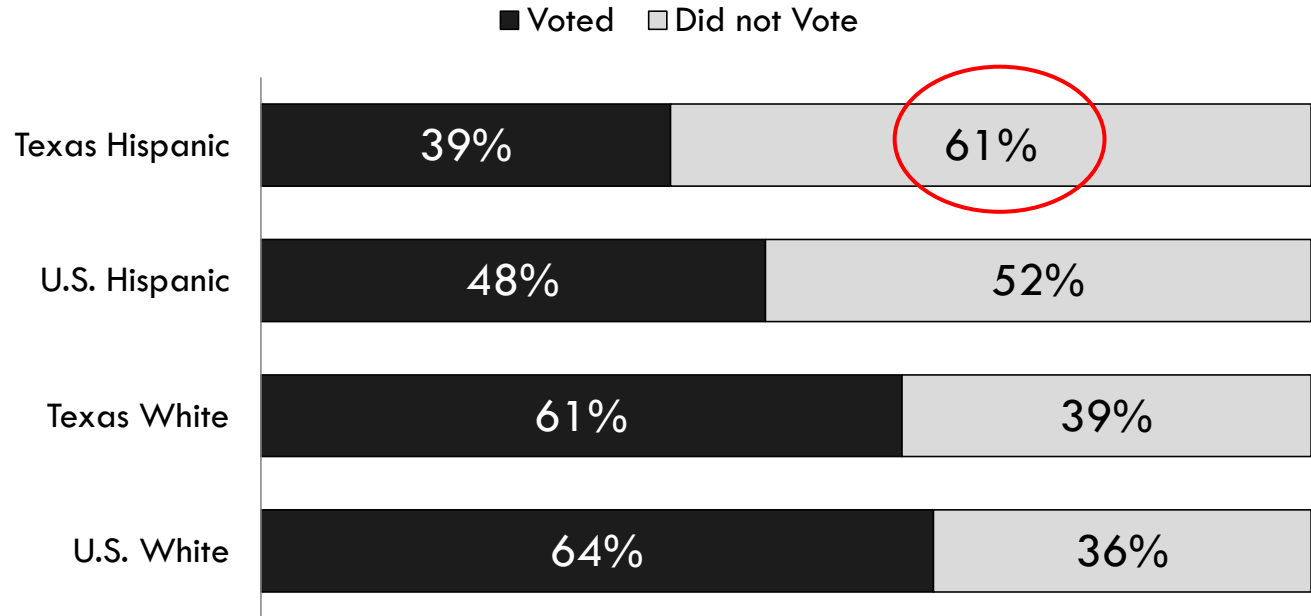
Texas Democratic Vote 1992-2012

The majority of Hispanic Texans have long voted for Democrats, but turnout remains low.



Voter Participation Among Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP)

Nearly 3
MILLION
Texas Latinos
eligible to
vote did not
cast a ballot
in 2012.

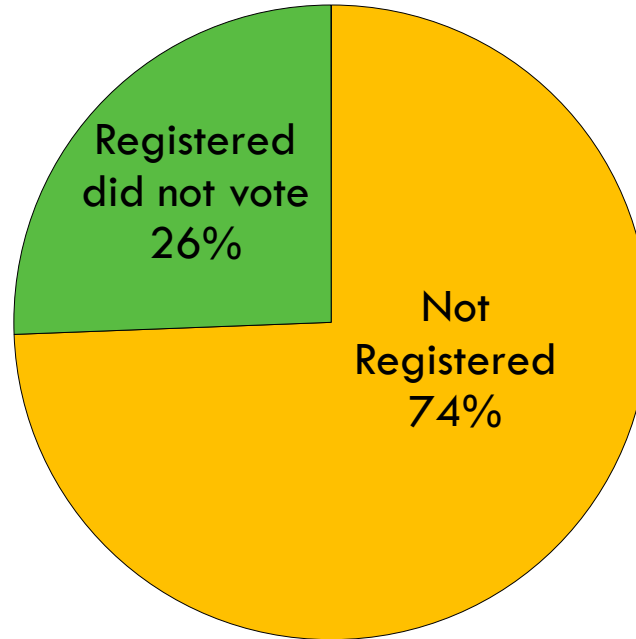


The Potential Texas Hispanic Electorate

2.9 MILLION
eligible non-
voters:

Not
registered:
2,215,000

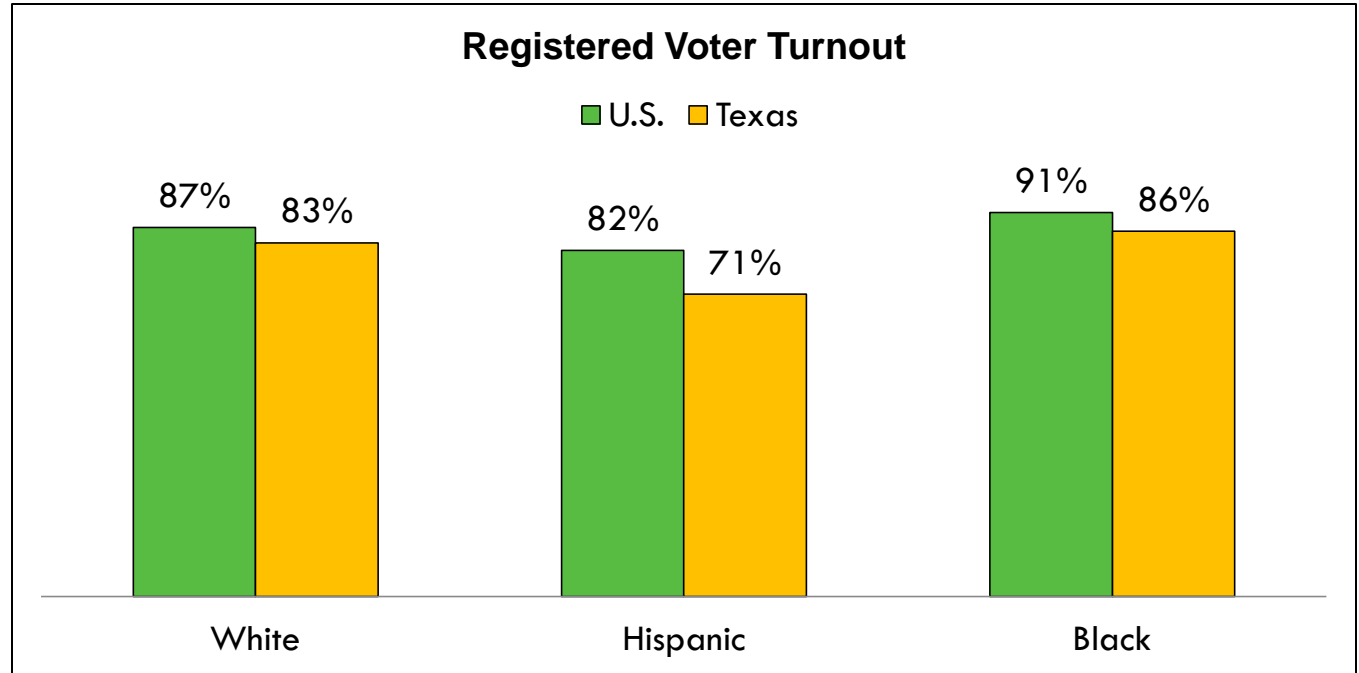
Registered
did not vote:
762,000



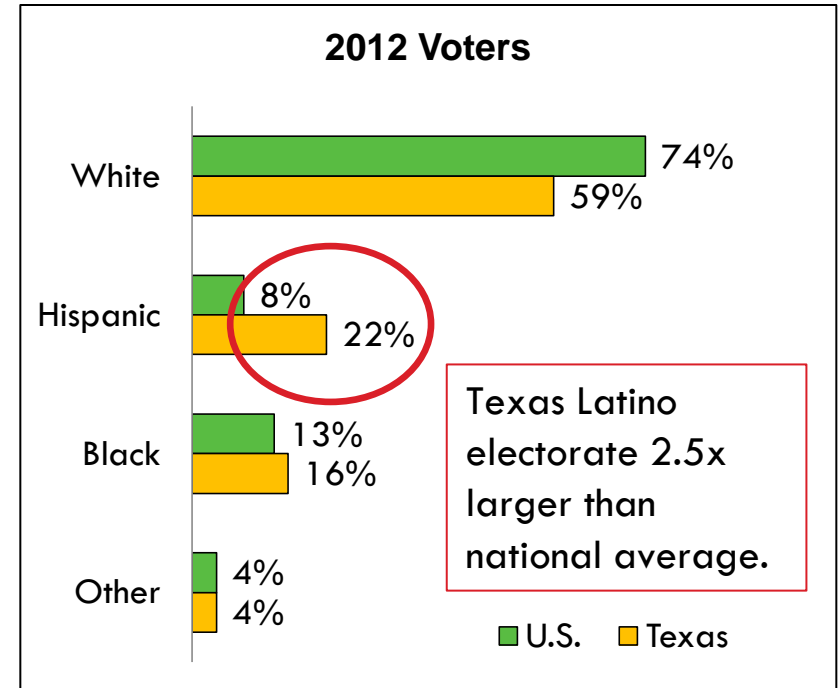
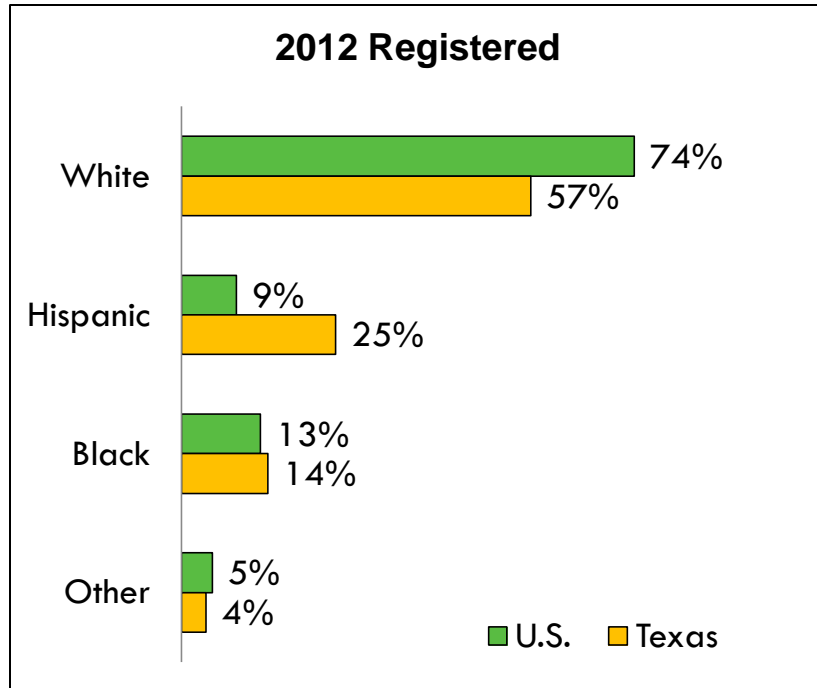
2012 Voter Participation Among Registered Voter Population

Once registered, turnout is relatively high for all groups.

Still, Texas Latinos significantly less than national average.



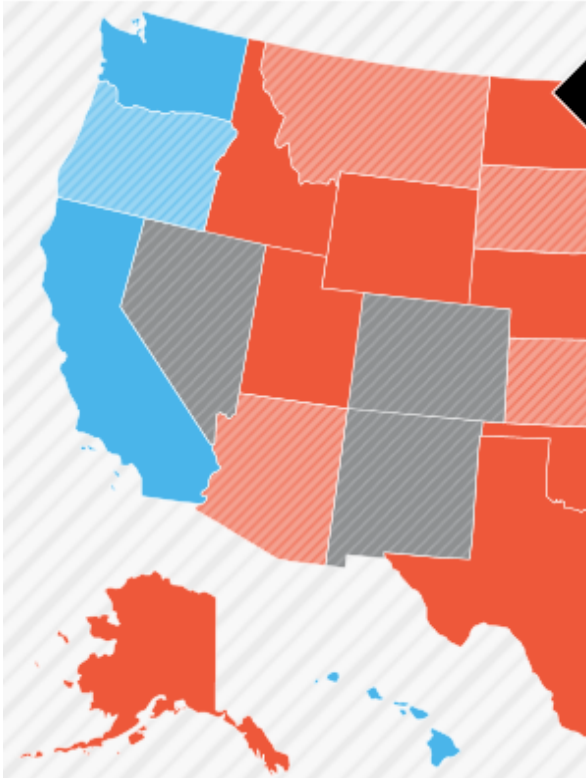
Texas Electorate Composition



Texas Hispanic Voter Impact Scenarios

Presidential vote outcome adjusting two variables:

1. Hispanic voter turnout rate
2. Percent Hispanic vote for Republican candidates
3. Both parties stand to secure their future based on those two factors.



Reset Values

Texas is strongly Romney

Electoral Votes:
Romney : 38 Obama : 0

Estimated Vote Share For:

Romney: 57.7%	Obama: 37.4%
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2002 Lt. Gov race, Dewhurst (R) defeated Sharp (D) by 5.7%, or 259,594 votes

2000-2010 Growth in Latino Eligible Voters: **38%**

Total Latino Eligible Voters: **4,376,000**

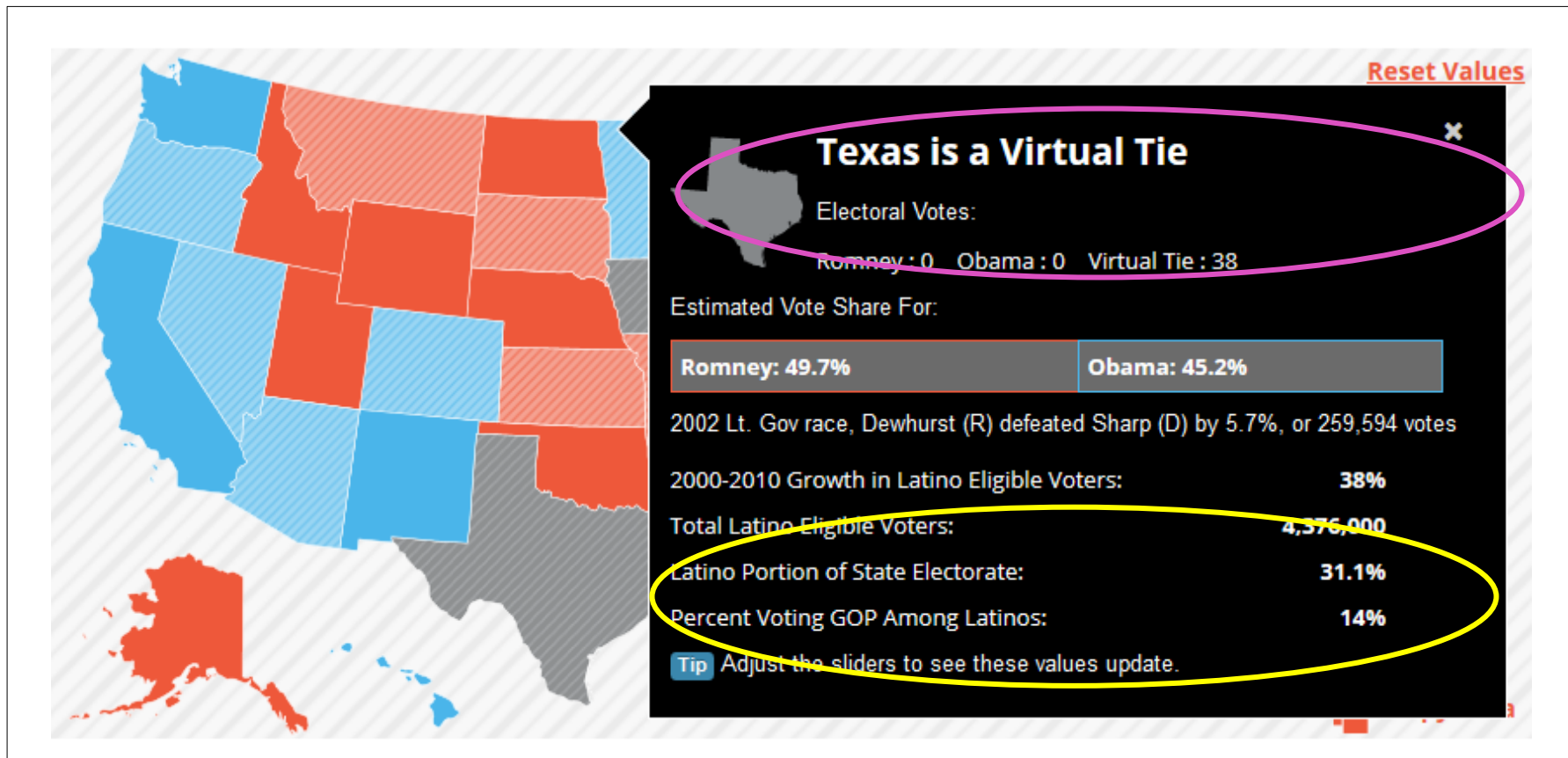
Latino Portion of State Electorate: **22.1%**

Percent Voting GOP Among Latinos: **29%**

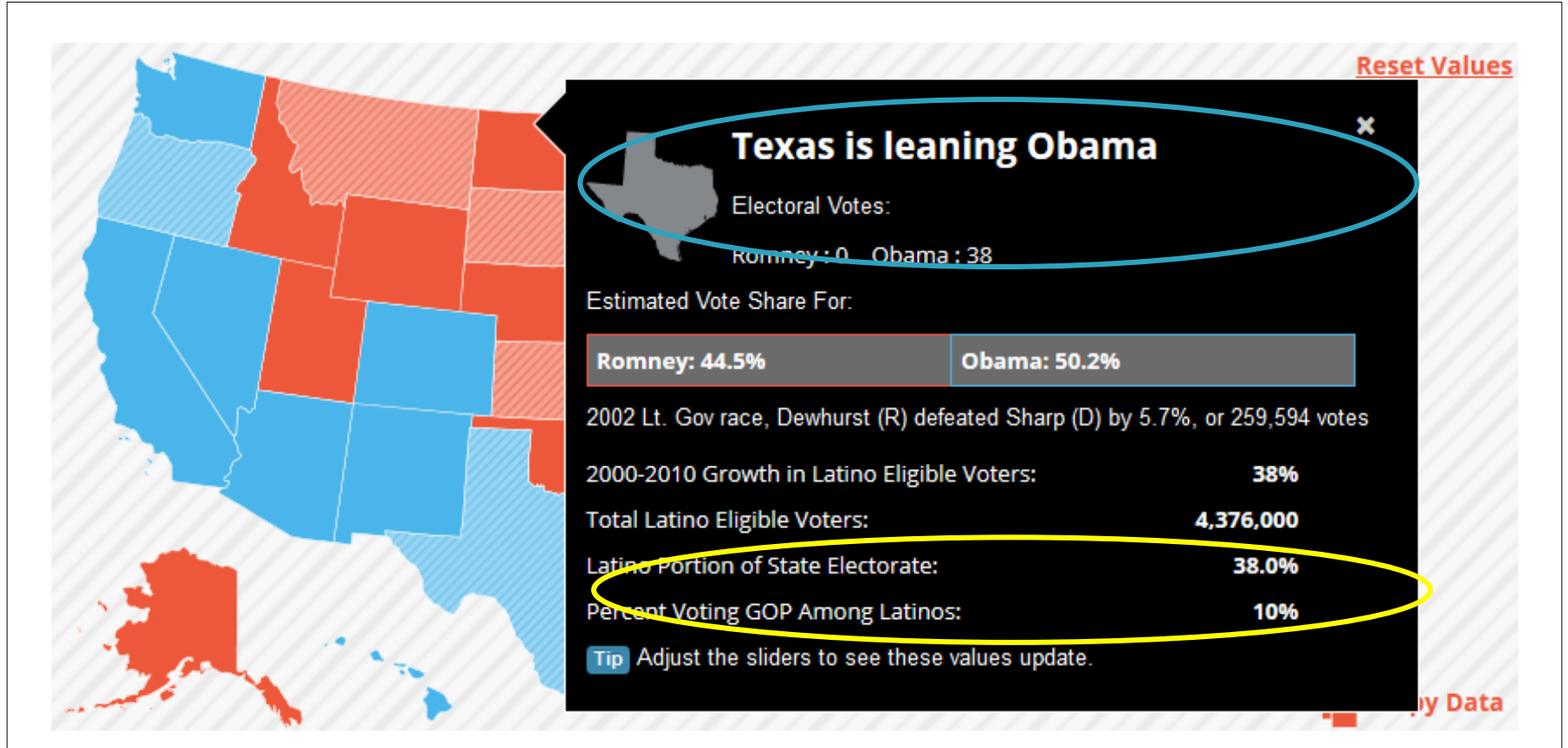
Tip Adjust the sliders to see these values update.

by Data

Scenario 2: Larger Latino electorate, GOP Latino share shrinks



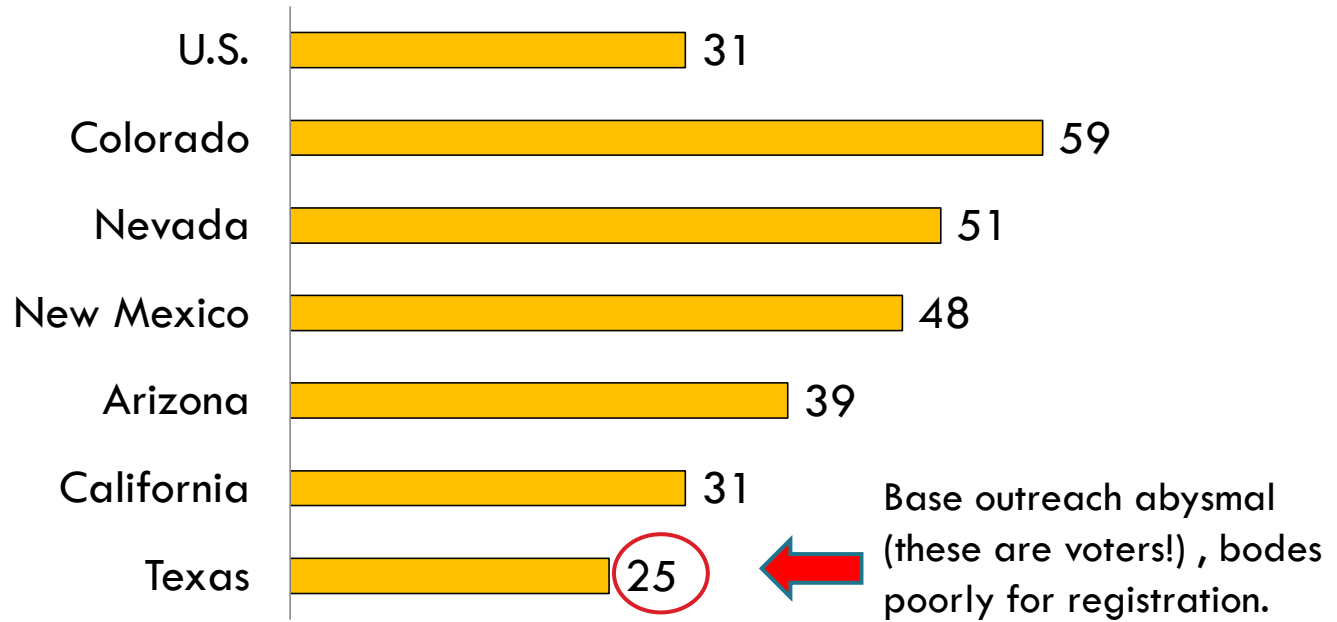
Scenario 3: Larger Latino electorate, GOP Latino share similar to Colorado 2012



2012 Latino Voter Mobilization

(% contacted) Comparing Western states with similar Hispanic demography

Did anyone from a campaign, political party, or community organization ask you to vote, or register to vote?



IMMIGRATION POLITICS AND TEXAS HISPANIC VOTERS



2012 Latino Voter Reason for Voting

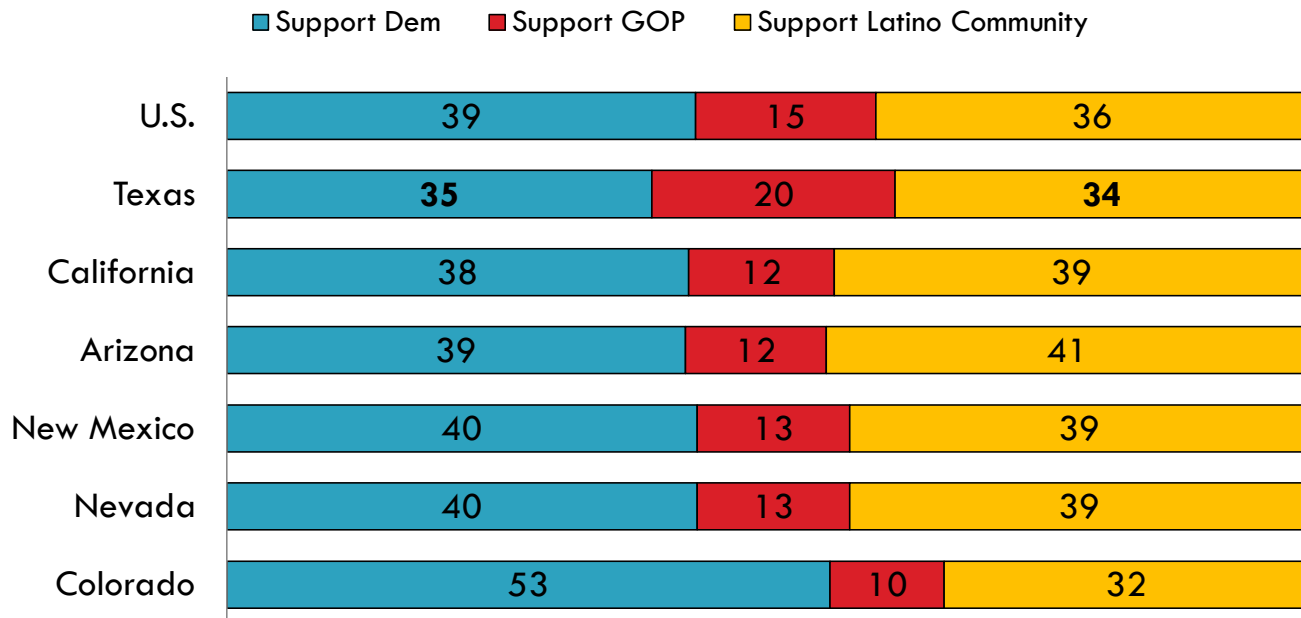
Comparing Western states with similar Hispanic demography

Which do you agree with most:
I'm voting in
2012 to support:

Democratic
candidate

Republican
Candidate

Latino community

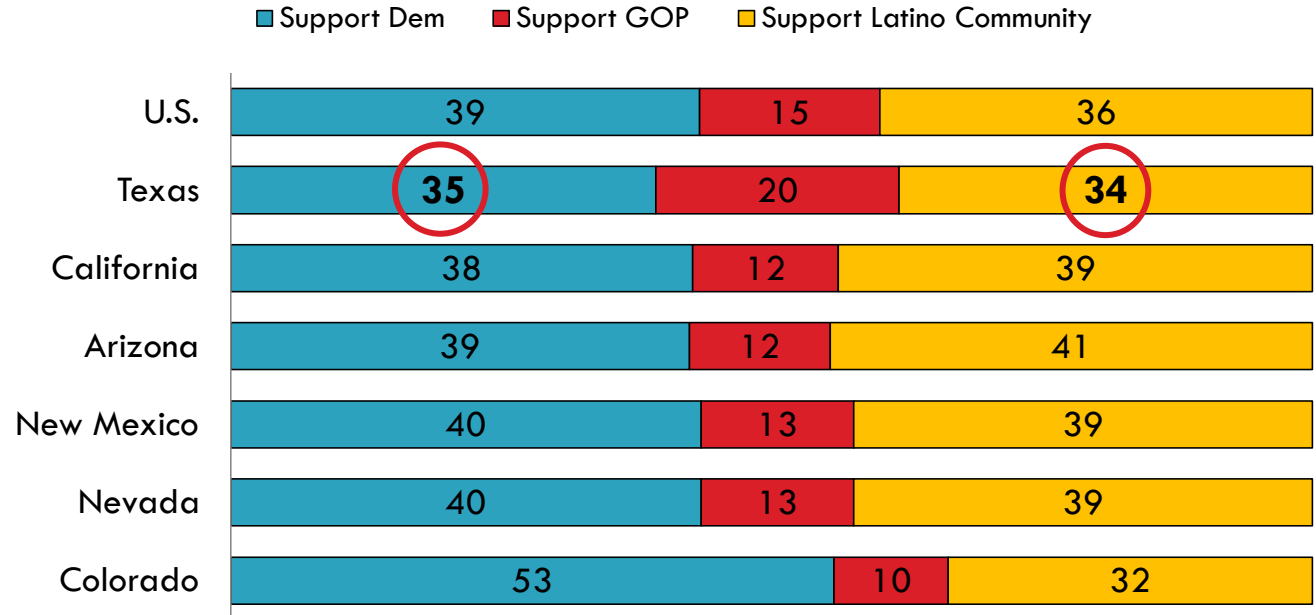


2012 Latino Voter Reason for Voting

Comparing Western states with similar Hispanic demography

Co-ethnic support motivation essentially even with Democratic party support in Texas.

Clear outreach opportunities.

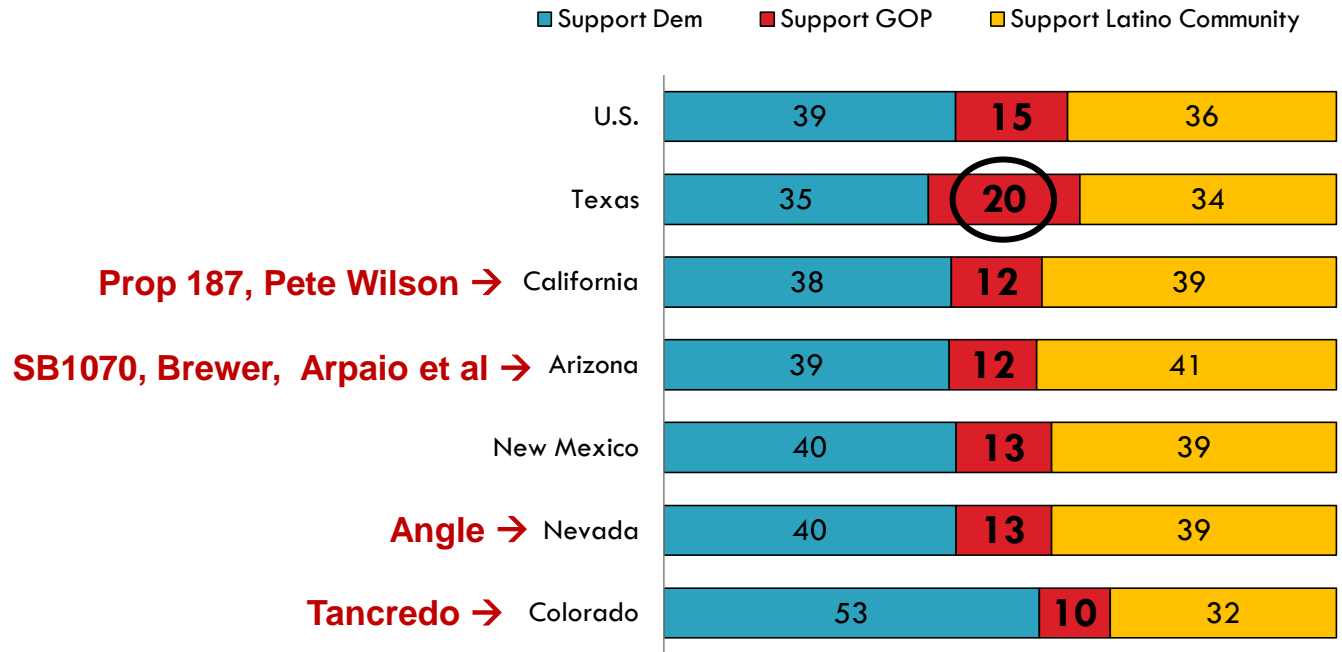


2012 Latino Voter Reason for Voting

Comparing Western states with similar Hispanic demography

Texas retained more Hispanic GOP support relative to other Western states with similar Latino demography.

Absence of anti-immigrant pied piper, or signature punitive policy buffered Texas GOP.



Until now....

State Senator Dan Patrick

GOP Lt. Governor Candidate



Dan Patrick @DanPatrick · Jan 30

Fellow conservatives RETWEET if you agree: we won't back down 2 Pres.Obama & his buddy @JulianCastro on Immigration:
pic.twitter.com/AbZytBB7gY



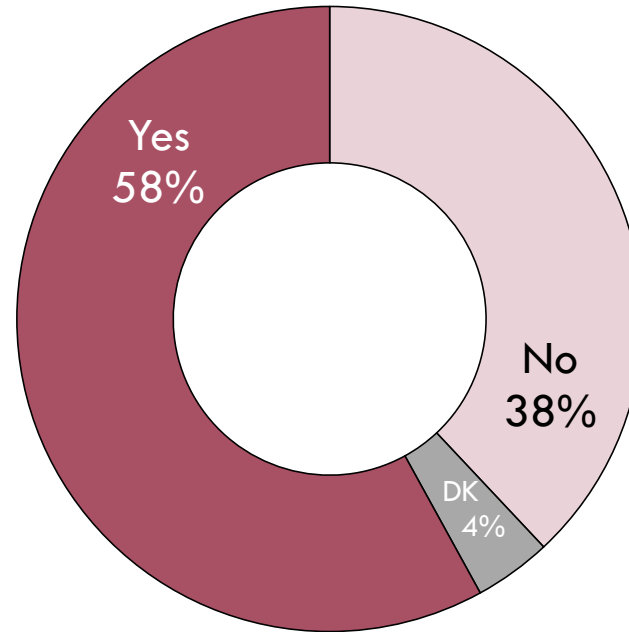
Texas Republican Primary Candidates on Immigration Policy and Border Region

Perry and W. Bush-era policy positions and overtures out of favor with 2014 GOP candidates, and influential segments of state party.

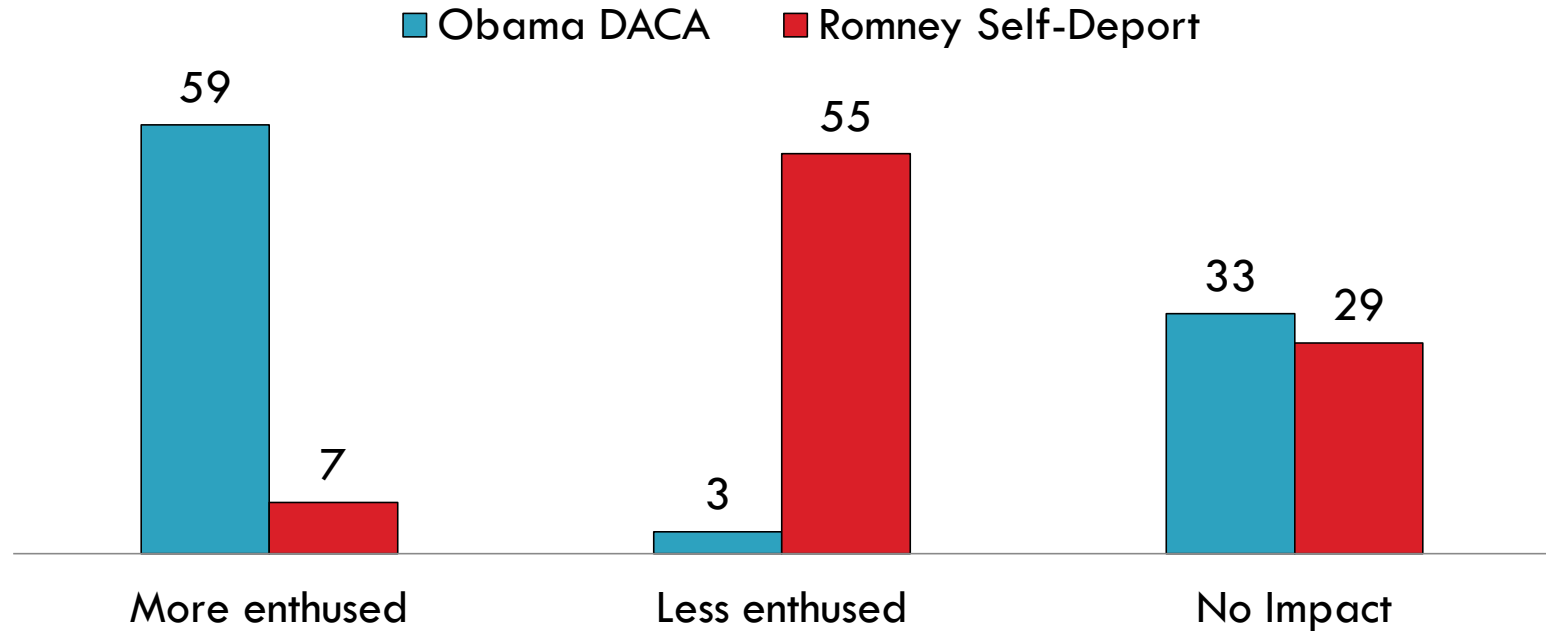
- **Tough talk on immigration and border a cornerstone of GOP primary campaigns**
 - ▣ Repeal in-state tuition
 - ▣ Calls to rescind 14th Amendment
 - ▣ Ads, debates, interviews, social media emphasis on ills of illegal immigration
 - ▣ Frequent pejorative references to South Texas and Border despite much higher crime rates in other parts of state: third world, fraudulent voters, crime, lack law and order

Texas Latino voter ties to undocumented

Considering all your family, friends, co-workers, and others you know, do you happen to know someone who is an undocumented immigrant?



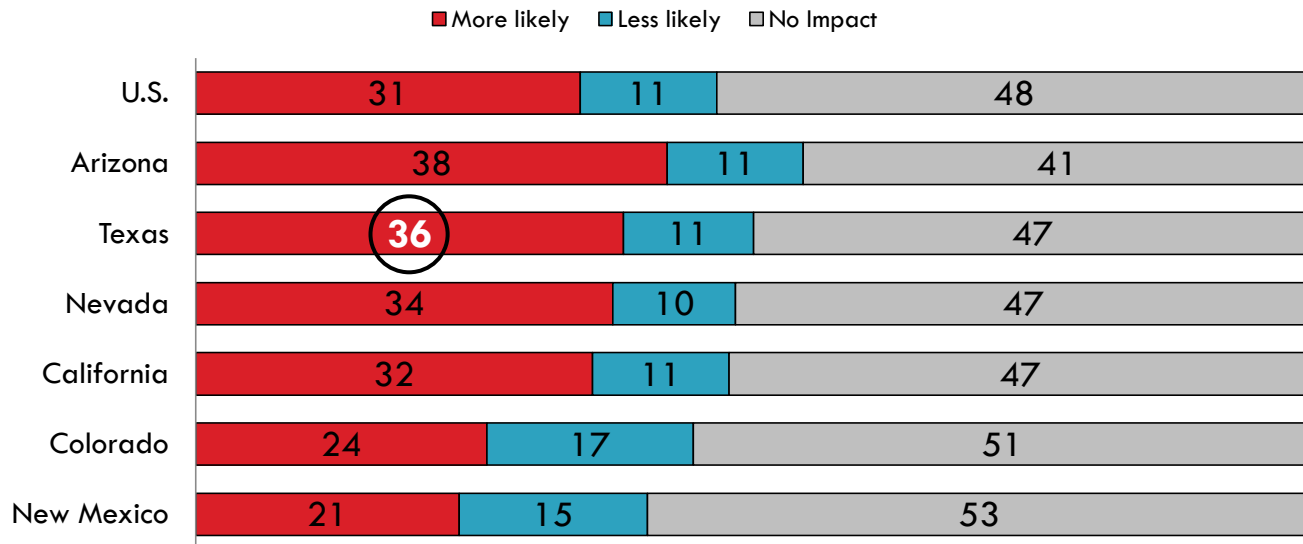
Texas Latino voter enthusiasm and 2012 candidate immigration positions



GOP vote if party supports CIR

Texas GOP has much to gain, 36% of Hispanic voters more likely to vote for Republican if they pass CIR, second only to Arizona.

If the GOP took a leadership role in supporting CIR with a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, would you be more/less likely to support future GOP candidates?



Texas GOP: Model No More?

- ❑ **Current slate of candidates using distinctly non-Texas campaign tactics that spurn Hispanic voters.**
 - ▣ National party brand further damaged
 - ▣ Over-estimate appeal to non-Latinos, industry (deep ties)
- ❑ **Texas used to be the party example for outreach, right the course with Hispanic voters.**
 - ▣ George W. Bush Hispanic-majority county wins

The Future of Party Competition in Texas: Come and Take It

- ❑ **Expanded Hispanic electorate can leverage future of either party**
 - ❑ GOP could secure a bright-red future: return to model outreach and policy.
 - ❑ Democrats could make it competitive: invest in infrastructure, voters.
- ❑ **Latino voters motivated by community interest, not party enthusiasm**
 - ❑ 20 yrs GOP statewide control didn't win over Hispanics.
 - ❑ No evidence Hispanic voters are waiting to surge for Democrats either.
- ❑ **Extensive, long-term investment in voter engagement**
 - ❑ Demographics alone will not make Texas competitive.
 - ❑ Establishing relationships with new and alienated voters.

Thank you!

Report, Deck, and Map links, other materials at:

[LatinoDecisions.com](https://www.LatinoDecisions.com)

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