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New Poll Shows Biden Leading Trump in Texas

Statewide poll shows down-ballot races in contention, with Texas voters more likely to support candidates that pledge bold climate actions

AUSTIN TX--A new <u>Data for Progress statewide poll</u> of likely Texas voters released in conjunction with the Texas Youth Power Alliance shows that Joe Biden leads Donald Trump by a 3-point margin. The U.S. Senate race and control of the Texas State House are also up in the air with two more months to go until election day. In addition, the polling shows that Texas voters support a broad range of policies to transition away from fossil fuels and towards a clean energy economy and ensure that frontline communities receive the benefits of new clean energy investments.

Key findings from the poll:

- Biden leads Trump by 3 points statewide (48% Biden, 45% Trump)
- Democrat MJ Hegar trails Republican incumbent John Cornyn by six points in the U.S. Senate race (40% Hegar, 46% Cornyn), with 15% of voters undecided
- In competitive state House districts, Democrats lead Republicans by 3 points (45% Democrats, 42% Republicans), with Biden leading by seven points in those districts (49% Biden, 42% Trump)
- Democrat Chrysta Castañeda trails Republican Jim Wright by six points in the Texas
 Railroad Commission race (33% Castañeda, 39% Wright), with 25% of voters undecided
- A majority of voters (65%) say they are more likely to support a candidate for office who pledges to achieve 100% clean energy by 2035 and create millions of new clean energy jobs as America transitions to a clean energy economy
- A majority of voters (58%) say they are more likely to support a candidate if they refused to take money from fossil fuel companies, executives, or lobbyists

Comments from Texas Youth Power Alliance groups:

"Young Latino voters overwhelmingly support climate justice, and they are demanding bold action this November. Our youth understand the urgency of this moment and are seeking to position Texas as a climate justice leader nationally by electing climate change champions that

will tap into and activate the Lone Star State's renewable energy resources," said **Antonio Arellano, Interim Executive Director of Jolt Initiative.**

"Young Texans recognize that the climate crisis is real and that it must be addressed now. These polling results show that climate justice is an issue that will motivate a rising generation of Texans as they cast ballots this November and for many years to come. If politicians won't act on the climate crisis, young people will, starting with their votes," said **Texas Rising Director Rae Martinez**.

"Young Texans know climate justice is on the ballot this November. This generation of voters isn't mobilizing for campaigns or political parties, but for the issues that matter most. *Young* people are ready to show up for candidates up and down the ballot who are championing climate justice and will push Texas into a new era of clean energy," **said H. Drew Galloway**, **MOVE Texas Executive Director.**

The full poll with additional insights on the state of the race in Texas and other key climate policy issues will be released next week.

Methodology: From August 20 to August 25, 2020, Data for Progress conducted a survey of 2,295 likely general election voters in Texas using online web panels. The responses were weighted to be representative of likely voters by age, gender, education, race, geography and voting history. The survey was conducted in English and has a Margin of Error of +/- 2 percentage points.

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About Texas Youth Power Alliance

Texas Youth Power Alliance is a collaboration of the state's largest youth civic engagement organizations with operations and chapters across Texas, including Jolt Initiative, Texas Rising (a project of Texas Freedom Network Education Fund) and MOVE Texas, with the shared purpose of harnessing the full power of young people of color in Texas to transform the state.

About Jolt

<u>Jolt Initiative</u> is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization founded in 2016 to increase the civic participation and leadership of young Latinos in Texas, with the goal of building a stronger democracy and state. Jolt Initiative focuses on registering young voters and building their leadership.

About MOVE Texas

<u>MOVE Texas</u> is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, grassroots organization building power in underrepresented youth communities through civic education, leadership development, and issue advocacy.

About Texas Rising

<u>Texas Rising</u>, a project of the Texas Freedom Network, builds the power of a rising generation of young Texans, with an emphasis on communities of color, by advocating for change in the cities and towns where they live and at the ballot box. To learn more, visit txrising.org.

About Data For Progress

Data for Progress a multidisciplinary group of experts using state-of-the-art techniques in data science to support progressive activists and causes.