

Civis Analytics fielded a survey with 754 respondents in Texas on May 8-10, 2020. Below are some key takeaways from this week’s research.

Texas Education Highlights

- Respondents from Texas are split on whether or not to promote all students to the next school year, regardless of their performance, with 43.7% of respondents supporting, 42.8% opposing, and 13.4% saying they don’t know. Nationally, 40.7% of respondents support and 42.9% of respondents oppose this measure. A majority of respondents (61.5%) in Texas support determining students’ grade placement based on their performance as of March.
- Texans are generally more supportive of easing testing and grading policies for the remainder of the year. 65.9% of Texans support cancelling all standardized testing this year, compared to 60.0% nationally. 61.9% of Texans support converting grades to Pass/Fail for the remainder of the year, compared to 53.0% nationally.

Policy (% support)	US	FL	NY	TX	WA
Promoting all students to the next grade regardless of performance	40.7%	37.5%	40.0%	43.7%	42.2%
Determining grade placement based on March performance	57.4%	56.3%	58.5%	61.5%	57.2%
Cancelling all standardized testing this year	60.0%	57.1%	63.9%	65.9%	62.8%
Converting grades for the remainder of the year to Pass/Fail	53.0%	47.7%	58.2%	61.9%	53.5%
Cancelling grades for the remainder of the year	47.9%	42.3%	48.6%	50.5%	47.7%
Having all students repeat their current grade next year	18.3%	17.1%	24.5%	19.8%	15.9%
Providing summer school for all students if it is safe to do so	57.9%	56.9%	59.9%	61.4%	62.5%

Texas State Highlights

- Concern for coronavirus in Texas is very similar to that of the overall US population. 43.1% of Texans say they’re very concerned about coronavirus in general (compared to 43.0% of the overall US). 43.4% of Texans say they’re very concerned about the effects of the coronavirus on people in their community, compared to 39.7% nationally.

- Compared to the overall US population, a higher portion of Texans would like to see more investment from the state itself in areas like PPE, medical equipment, access to testing, and social services.

How do you feel about your state government's response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in each of the following areas?

US MARGIN OF ERROR = 1.9%, FL MARGIN OF ERROR = 6.5%

Area	I Would Like To See More Investment In This Area		I Believe Investment In This Area Has Been Adequate		I Believe We've Invested Too Many Resources In This Area		I Don't Know Enough To Say	
	US	TX	US	TX	US	TX	US	TX
Personal Protective Equipment	46.0%	51.5%	34.4%	30.6%	4.9%	2.7%	14.7%	15.2%
Medical Equipment	39.1%	46.0%	38.8%	34.1%	6.9%	5.2%	15.1%	14.7%
Access to Testing	46.1%	50.8%	32.5%	31.7%	8.4%	5.9%	13.0%	11.6%
Social Services	47.1%	53.5%	29.1%	26.6%	5.7%	4.9%	18.1%	15.0%

- However, Texans are more likely than the overall US population to report that they believe the Federal government's investment in PPE, medical equipment, and access to testing has been adequate.

How do you feel about the Federal government's response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in each of the following areas?

US MARGIN OF ERROR = 2%, FL MARGIN OF ERROR = 6.5%

Area	I Would Like To See More Investment In This Area		I Believe Investment In This Area Has Been Adequate		I Believe We've Invested Too Many Resources In This Area		I Don't Know Enough To Say	
	US	TX	US	TX	US	TX	US	TX
Personal Protective Equipment	54.4%	49.7%	27.5%	32.8%	4.6%	3.8%	13.4%	13.7%
Medical Equipment	50.0%	47.7%	31.1%	34.6%	6.6%	4.2%	12.3%	13.5%
Access to Testing	54.1%	47.9%	27.1%	33.0%	6.6%	6.8%	12.2%	12.3%

- Texans are taking social distancing recommendations seriously, with 83.3% of respondents saying they definitely or probably intend to social distance, compared to 81.5% nationally. Once restrictions are lifted, most Texans plan to continue social distancing, with 84.6% of respondents definitely or somewhat agreeing that they plan to social distance once formal restrictions are lifted.
- 43.6% of Texans strongly or somewhat agree that the severity of the outbreak has been over exaggerated, compared to 37.0% nationally. That being said, most (78.5%) strongly or somewhat agree that the outbreak will come back and get worse if we don't continue social distancing, and even more (80.3%) strongly or somewhat agree they can lower their risk of catching COVID-19 through the way they act.

Other Notable State Differences

- A larger portion of Texans (41.0%) strongly trust the WHO compared to the overall US population (32.7%). Similarly, Texans are more likely to strongly trust their physicians (55.2% compared to 49.7% nationally) and broadcast news (27.7% compared to 21.1% nationally).