

Civis Analytics fielded a survey with 753 Texas respondents on July 17-20, 2020. Below are some key takeaways from this wave’s research.

## Texas Highlights

### Attitudes toward Student Data

Of parents of K-12 students in Texas, 52.4% say that they know how their children’s school or teachers are using the data collected about their students, similar to 53.9% of parents across the entire US reporting the same. 50.9% of Texan parents say that they understand more about the data collected about their children since school closures earlier this year (compared to 53.8% in the US), and 37.0% say they feel more comfortable than before with the data collected about their children since school closures and starting educational activities at home earlier this year (compared to 36.5% in the US).

In terms of what data Texas parents have received from schools or teachers, 57.8% were provided grades on report cards (51.7% in US), followed by 33.1% who see attendance and/or class participation (39.7% in US) and 31.6% who see scores on standardized tests (30.1% in US). 7.3% report not receiving data about their children’s progress and performance over the last school year (6.3% in US).

### **What kind of data did your children’s school or teachers provide you on your child’s progress and performance during this past school year? Please select all that apply.**

US Margin of Error = 2.6%, TX Margin of Error = 9.4%

Data source (% response)	US	TX	FL	NY	OH	WA
Grades on report cards	51.7%	57.8%	49.3%	58.3%	56.6%	47.4%
Scores on standardized tests	30.1%	31.6%	30.3%	28.8%	31.2%	31.8%
Attendance and/or class participation	39.7%	33.1%	41.9%	44.9%	39.5%	47.0%
Qualitative student profile	31.5%	31.2%	33.4%	28.3%	30.7%	31.6%
Sample work	30.8%	27.5%	26.7%	37.3%	21.3%	35.8%
Data over time	25.8%	24.0%	27.1%	26.3%	28.3%	22.3%
None of the above	6.4%	7.3%	12.8%	1.2%	6.8%	5.0%

52.3% of Texas parents of K-12 students (compared to 52.5% in US) think that their children’s school or teachers have used collected data to help their students’ academic progress after school closures, up from 48.3% prior to school closures (compared to 53.0% in US). 46.0% of Texas parents of K-12 students (compared to 47.5% in US) say they themselves have used collected data to help their students’

academic progress after school closures, up from 41.1% prior to school closures (compared to 46.3% in US).

46.9% of Texas parents are interested in seeing their children’s school collect more data about their children’s progress and performance in the next school year (compared to 44.6% in the US), whereas 6.8% would like to see less data collected (compared to 7.5% in the US). 49.6% want schools and teachers to share more data with parents in the next school year (compared to 46.4% in the US), and 44.0% would like to see the same amount of data in the next school year (compared to 47.5% in the US).

The majority of Texas parents (84.9%) strongly or somewhat agree that a school’s overall performance rating helps them make a decision about their child’s education, compared to 83.2% of parents in the US. 82.7% of Texas parents strongly or somewhat agree that they trust their children’s school to keep their children’s data private and secure, compared to 76.8% of parents in the US. 78.3% of Texas parents strongly or somewhat agree that they know what information their children’s school collects on their children, compared to 65.3% of parents in the US.

**Attitudes toward Coronavirus**

Compared to the US overall, Texans are more concerned (63.7% vs. 61.7% nationally) in response to news about increasing coronavirus (COVID-19) cases in some states (e.g. Arizona, Florida, Texas, California). 54.4% of Texans believe that state governments reopening too quickly is one of the most important factors contributing toward some states experiencing a surge in COVID-19 cases, followed by 54.0% of Texans believing that people living in those states not following guidelines on social distancing and mask wearing is one of the most important factors, and 35.5% believing that the federal government has not set appropriate guidelines for states to follow.

Overall, 48.8% of Texans are very concerned about coronavirus (compared to 46.6% of US), which is about the same as late June when 46.0% of Texans were very concerned. Of the specific effects of COVID-19, Floridians are most concerned about transmitting the virus to others (40.0% very concerned vs. 38.3% in US), followed by the long term health impacts of COVID-19 (39.4% very concerned vs. 36.8% in US).

**How concerned are you about Coronavirus (COVID-19)?**

US MOE = 1.4%  
TX MOE = 4%

Coronavirus Attitudes Concern Level	US	TX
Very concerned	46.6%	48.8%
Somewhat concerned	30.3%	27.0%
Slightly concerned	13.4%	16.1%
Not at all concerned	9.7%	8.1%

In the news, Texans report the most common topic that they've read or heard about is coronavirus, with 53.9% of reporting they've heard a lot about it (compared to 53.7% in the US). The next most common topic is racial justice demonstrations and protests, with 44.5% reporting they've heard a lot about this topic (compared to 42.4% in the US).

### Protective Measures Highlights

Compared to the US overall, Texans are about as likely to always wear a mask in public, with 76.5% of Texans report always wearing a mask in public compared to 72.2% of the US overall. 91.0% of Texans report always or sometimes staying at home/limiting trips (88.1% US overall), 94.9% report always or sometimes staying 6 feet apart from others (92% US overall), and 94.2% report always or sometimes washing hands frequently for at least 20 seconds (91.4% US overall).

#### How often do you do each of the following?

US MOE = 1.5%  
TX MOE = 5%

Action	Always		Sometimes		Rarely		Never	
	US	TX	US	TX	US	TX	US	TX
Wear a cloth face covering or face mask while in public	72.2%	76.5%	17.7%	17.7%	6.2%	3.4%	3.9%	2.4%
Stay home and limiting trips to only essentials	58.1%	60.0%	30.0%	31.0%	8.0%	6.3%	3.9%	2.7%
Stay 6 feet apart from others	64.6%	69.8%	27.4%	25.1%	5.3%	2.9%	2.6%	2.1%
Wash hands frequently for at least 20 seconds	67.9%	67.0%	24.4%	27.2%	5.3%	3.7%	2.4%	2.1%

Of Texans who report rarely or never wearing a face mask, the most common reason for not doing so is that it's uncomfortable (26.6% in TX, compared to 35.5% in the US overall).

A majority (59.4%) of Texans have heard about contact tracing as a way of helping slow the spread of COVID-19. For Texans, the most compelling reason to take part in such a program is that contact tracing helps slow the spread of COVID-19, with 44.3% of Texans citing this reason compared to 45.6% of respondents nationally. The next most compelling reasons are that that information from contact tracing is strictly confidential and used only to slow the spread of the virus (34.7% of Floridians selected) and contact tracing finds and isolates new infections before they spread (33.6% Floridians selected).

**Methodology:** Responses were gathered through online web panels and weighted to accurately reflect the entire adult population of Texas. Questions were fielded July 17-20, 2020 (753 respondents).