The background of the entire page is a photograph of the Texas State Capitol dome in Austin, Texas. The dome is a large, ornate, white structure with a central statue on top. The sky is a clear, bright blue with some light clouds. The dome is illuminated by warm, golden light, suggesting it is either early morning or late afternoon. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent blue rectangular area in the lower half of the image.

# TEXAS POLL

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*A poll administered from February 16-18, 2022 on various issues of importance to Texans.*

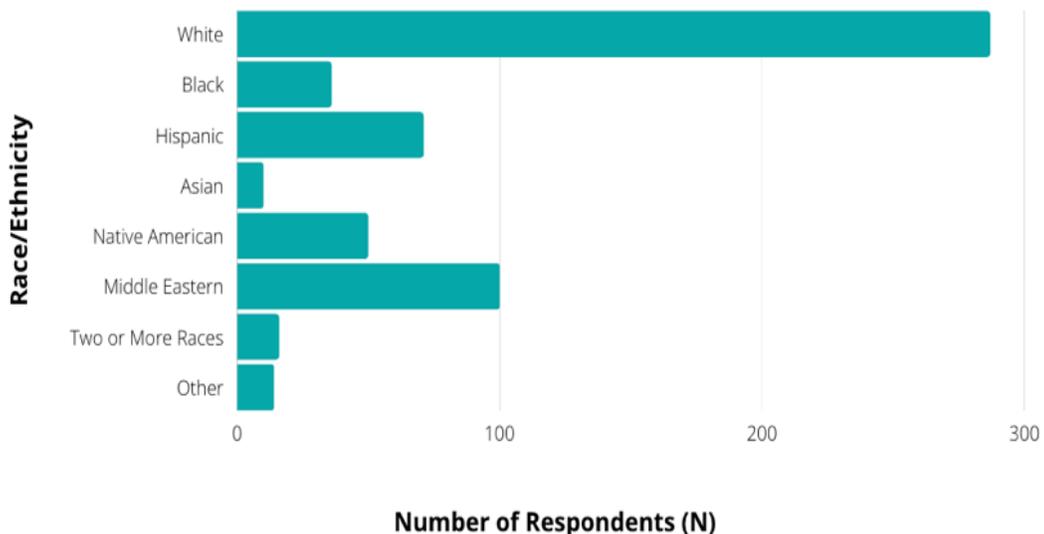
## The Texas Poll

Houston, Texas—A recent public opinion poll developed by Michael O. Adams, Ph.D., with contributions to poll questions from Carroll G. Robinson, Esq., and conducted by YouGov asked Texans their views on the overall performance of the state and a number of issues of importance including; cost of living, taxes on goods and services, support for immigration and support for diversity in the public and private sectors. As Texas gears up for the May 24, 2022 runoff election, these results provide valuable insight into; what issues are of importance to Texans; what candidates can elevate to reach Texans on the campaign trail; and perhaps, what issues might require clearer communications strategies to demonstrate to Texans what their platforms have achieved and/or will achieve if given the opportunity. By examining the results through demographic factors including age, race/ethnicity and party identification, an even more in-depth look is made possible to understand diverse views held among Texans. The 9-question public opinion poll surveyed 434 respondents between February 16-18, 2022. The confidence level is 95% with a margin of error of  $\pm 4.7$ .

### Demographic Summary

Among respondents, 66% [N=287] identify as White, 16% [N=71] as Hispanic, 8% [N=36] as Black, 2% [N=10] as Asian, and 4% [N=16] identify as being of Two or More Races. Racial/ethnic groups with 10 respondents or less are combined to form a new Other category 3% [N=14] inclusive of Native American 0.92% [N=4], Middle Eastern 0.46% [N=2], and Other 1% [N=8] of total respondents.<sup>1</sup>

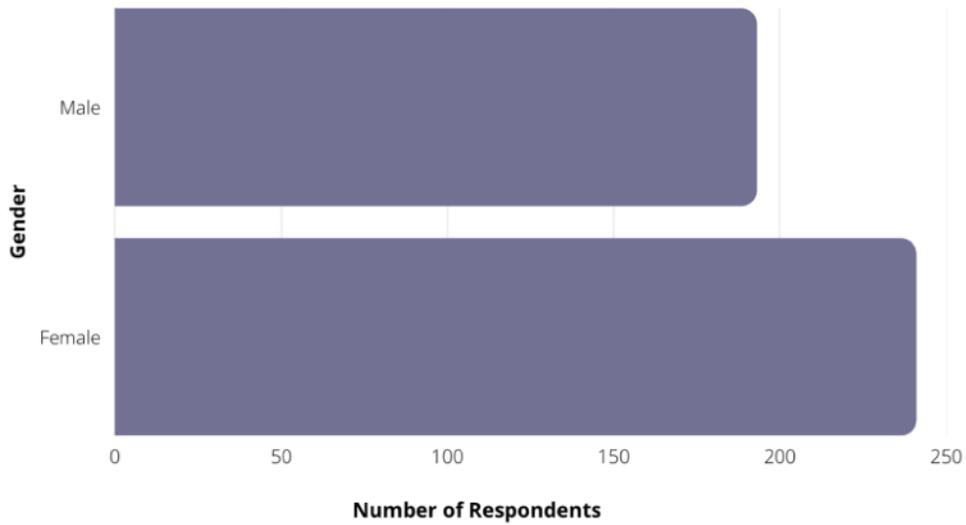
Figure 1.1: Race/Ethnicity of Poll Respondents



<sup>1</sup> Right now, Yougov does not ask a branching question for respondents who identify as Other. Therefore, additional information on racial breakdown in this category include some limitations.

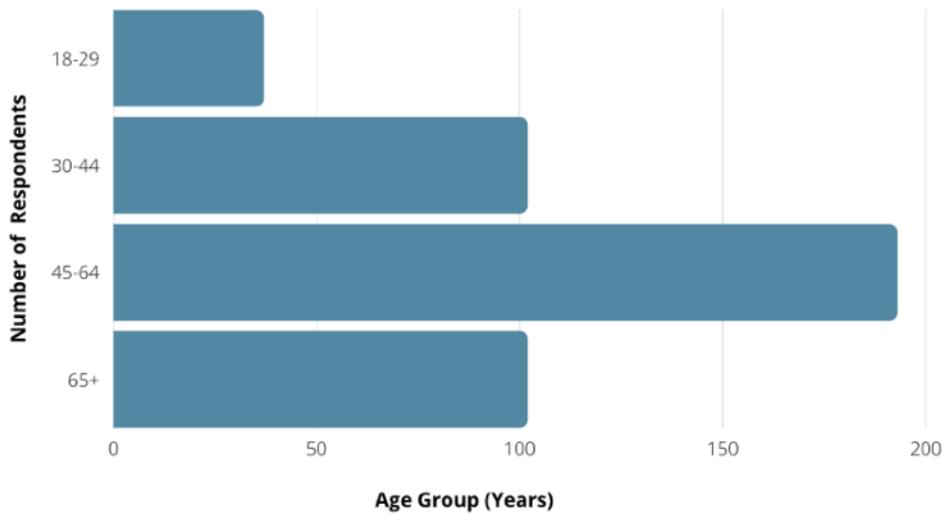
In terms of gender split, 44% [N=193] identify as male respondents while 56% [N=241] identify as female respondents.

**Figure 1.2:** Gender of Poll Respondents



In the survey, respondents are also categorized by a series of age groups 18-29 (9%) [N=37], 30-44 (24%) [N=102], 45-64 (44%) [N=193], 65+ (24%) [N=102].

**Figure 1.3:** Age Group of Poll Respondents

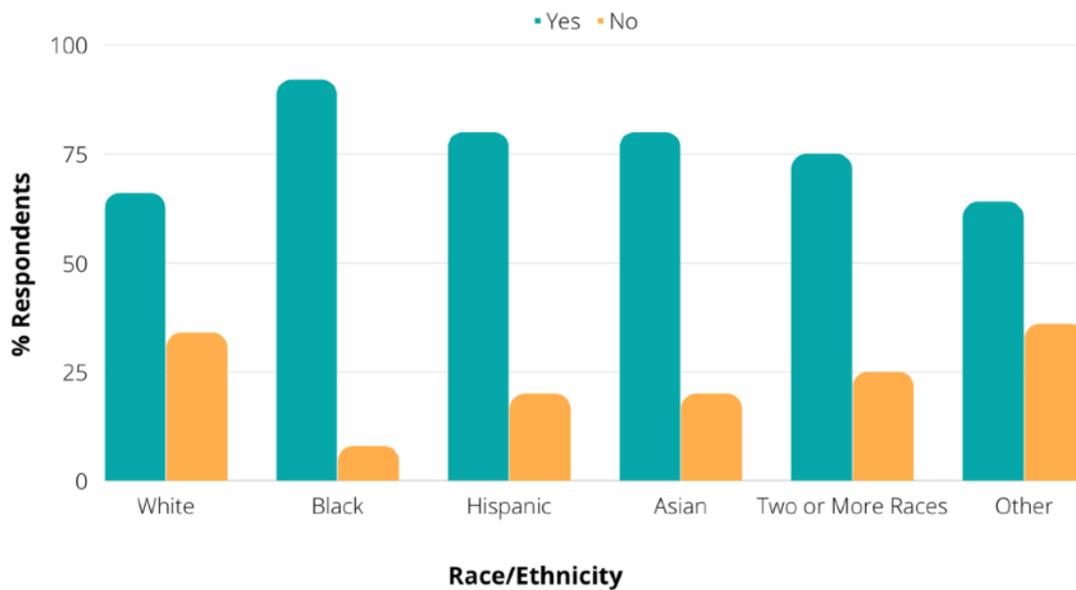


### Cost of Utilities

The survey finds that a majority of respondents (71%) say that the Texas Legislature should be called back into a special session to lower the cost of utilities.

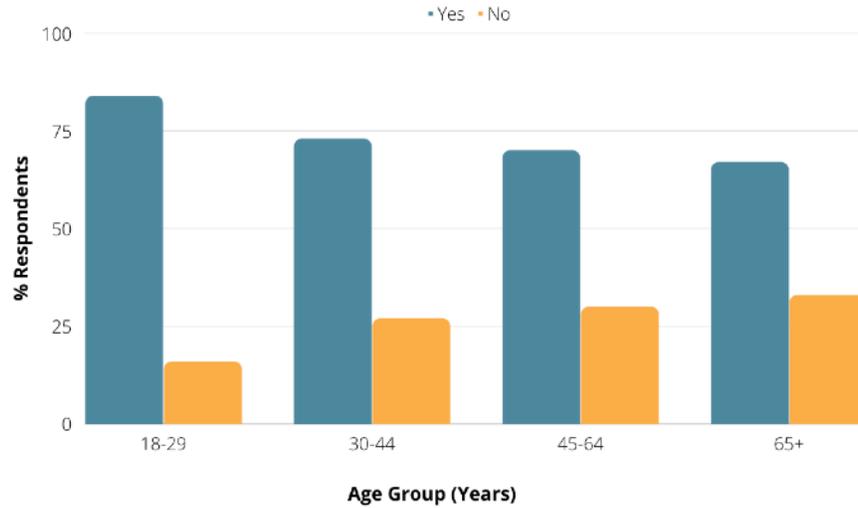
When race/ethnicity are considered, all groups support calling a special session to lower the cost of utilities. Black (92%) respondents are overwhelmingly in favor of calling a special session to lower the cost of utilities followed by Asian (80%) and Hispanic (80%) respondents and those identifying as being of Two or More Races (75%). White respondents (66%) and those who identify as Other (64%) on the other hand are least likely to support calling a special session to address reducing the cost of utilities (Figure 1.4).

**Figure 1.4:** Should the legislature be called back into special session to lower monthly electric utility bills? (Race/Ethnicity)



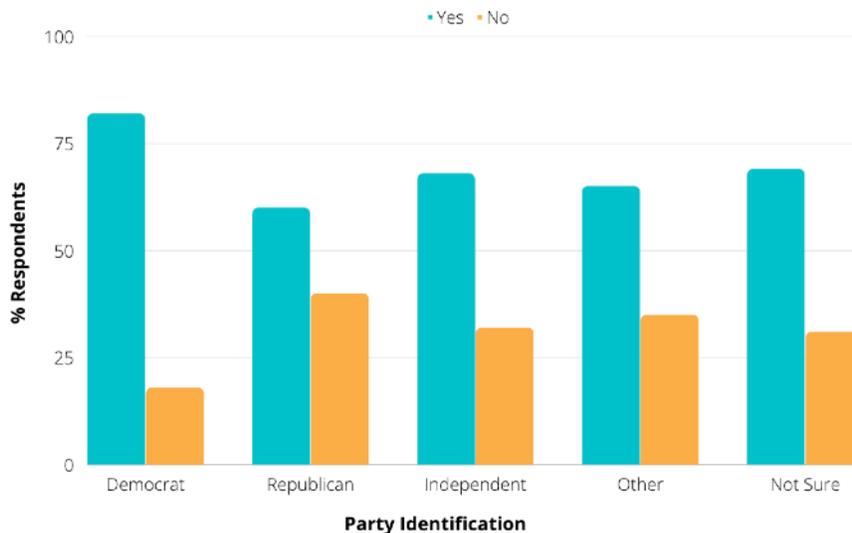
As shown in Figure 1.5, a significant majority of younger respondents 18-29 (84%) are more likely than older respondents to support calling a special session while respondents 65+ (67%) are the least likely among all age groups to support calling a special session. Respondents ages 30-44 (73%) and respondents 45-64 (70%) are but a few points off from older respondents in their support. Support for a special session to address lowering utility bills decreases as the age of respondents increases—suggesting an inverse relationship between age and support for a special session to address this issue.

**Figure 1.5:** Support for a special session to lower utility bills by Age Group



In considering political party affiliation, a large majority of respondents who identify as Democrat (82%) support calling a special session while Republican (60%) respondents are the least likely to favor calling a special session to lower utility bills. Respondents who identify as Independent (68%), Other (65%), and Not Sure (69%) are less likely to support calling a special session but only slightly more than Republican respondents (Figure 1.6). The data suggest that respondents who identify as Democrat hold a more diverging view on calling a special session than respondents who belong to all other political parties.

**Figure 1.6:** Support for a special session to lower utility bills by Party Identification

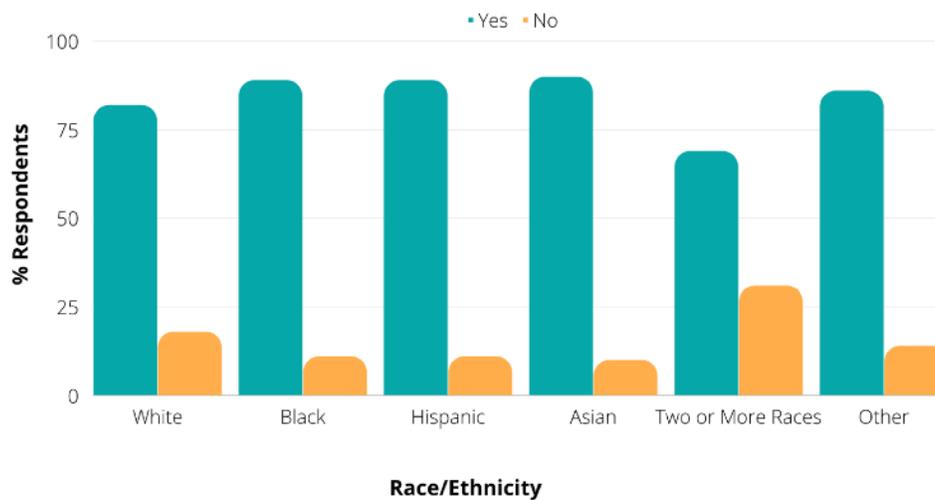


## Sales Taxes

The survey finds that 84% of respondents believe the Texas Legislature should eliminate sales taxes on all groceries and medical services and equipment to reduce the cost for Texas consumers.

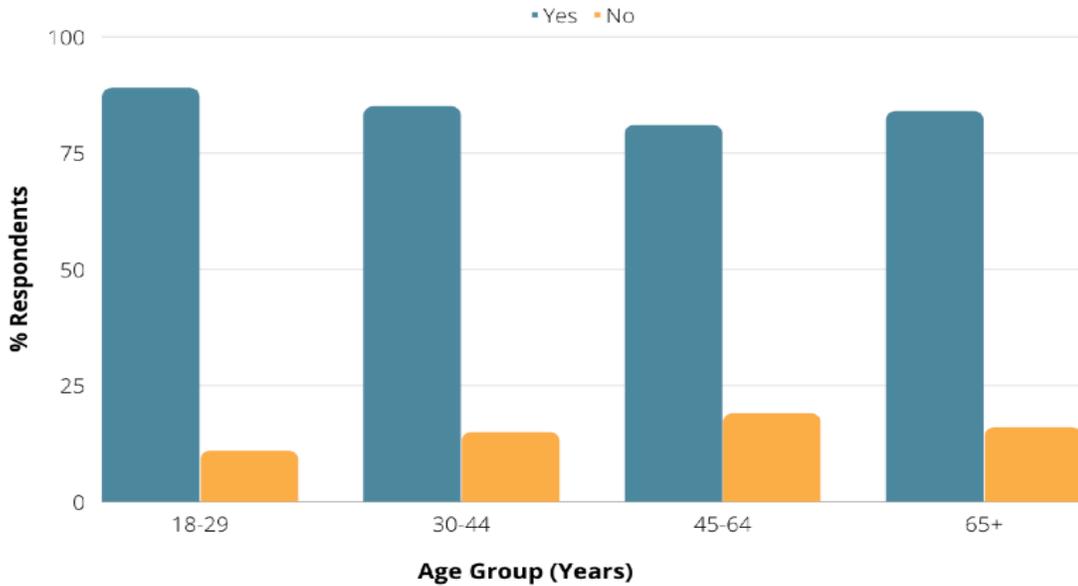
When examining views across racial/ethnic groups on the issue, Asian (90%) respondents are most likely to support eliminating sales taxes followed by Black (89%) and Hispanic (89%) and those who identify as Other (86%). White (82%) respondents are slightly less likely to support the intervention of the legislature to address sales taxes but respondents who identify as being of Two or More Races (69%) are the least likely to support eliminating sales taxes (Figure 1.7). At least two-thirds of all respondents by racial and ethnic group, support suspending sales taxes for consumers. This suggests that sales taxes are an important for most racial/ethnic groups.

**Figure 1.7:** Should the legislature eliminate sales taxes on all groceries and medical services and equipment to reduce cost for Texas consumers? (Race/Ethnicity)



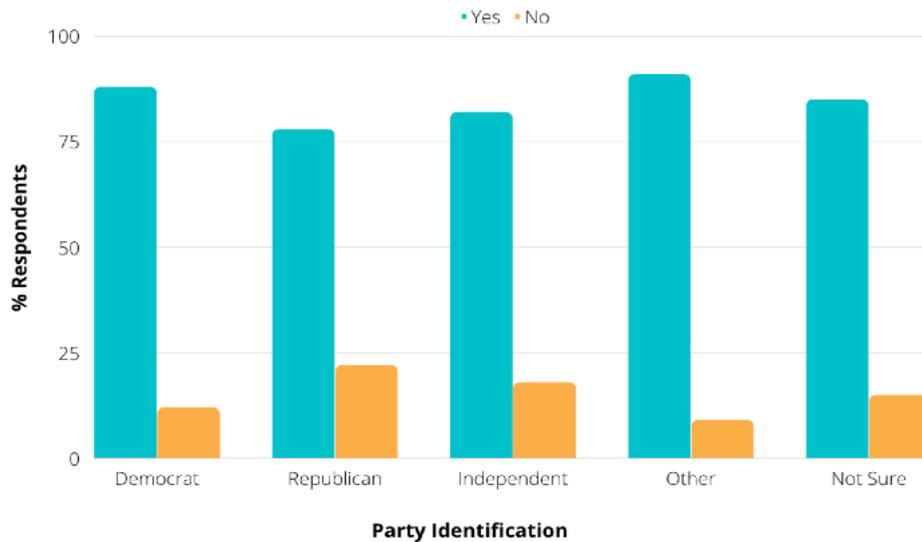
Across age groups, there is no more than an eight-point difference between respondents in support of a government intervention to eliminate sales taxes. Younger respondents 18-29 (89%) are most likely to support an intervention by the legislature to remove sales taxes followed by respondents ages 30-44 (85%) and respondents 65+ (84%) (Figure 1.8). Although respondents ages 45-64 (81%) are least likely to support removing sales taxes, the data suggests that age is not a significant factor in determining support to eliminate sales taxes.

**Figure 1.8:** Support for legislature to eliminate sales taxes on all groceries and medical services and equipment to reduce cost for Texas consumers by Age Group



The survey finds that those who do not identify with a specific political party—Other (91%) widely support eliminating sales taxes followed by Democrat (88%), Not Sure (85%) and Independent (82%) respondents while Republican (78%) respondents are the least likely to support an intervention from the Texas Legislature to eliminate sales taxes on groceries and medical services and equipment (Figure 1.9).

**Figure 1.9:** Support for the Texas Legislature to eliminate sales taxes by Party Identification

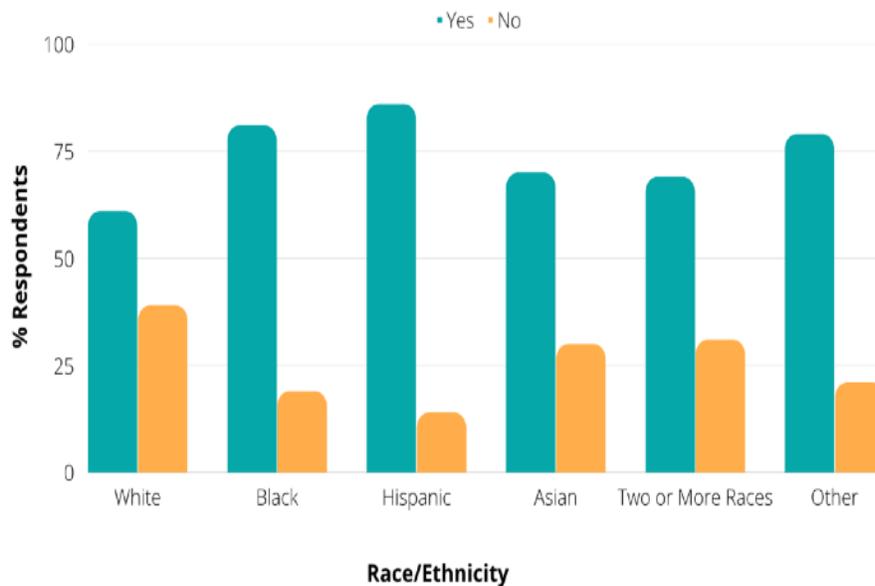


## Gas Tax

When asked whether the State of Texas and Congress should intervene and suspend the gasoline tax to make it cheaper at the pump for Texans, a small majority (68%) of respondents indicate support for suspending the gas tax.

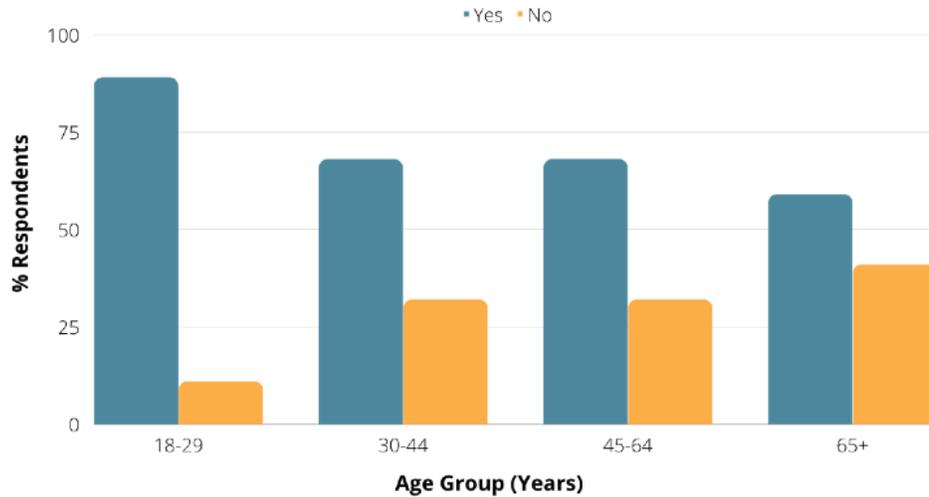
Among racial/ethnic groups, Hispanic (86%) respondents are most likely to agree that the State of Texas and Congress should temporarily remove the gas tax followed by those identifying as Black (81%), and Asian (70%). White (61%) respondents and those identifying as being of Two or More Races (69%) are least likely to support an intervention from the State of Texas and Congress to suspend the gasoline tax (Figure 2.0). With the exception of White respondents, at least two-thirds of all respondents by racial/ethnic group support suspending the sales tax to reduce the cost of goods and services for consumers. The results suggest that race/ethnicity do determine a likelihood of support.

**Figure 2.0:** Should the state and Congress suspend the gas tax to make gasoline at the pump cheaper to buy? (Race/Ethnicity)



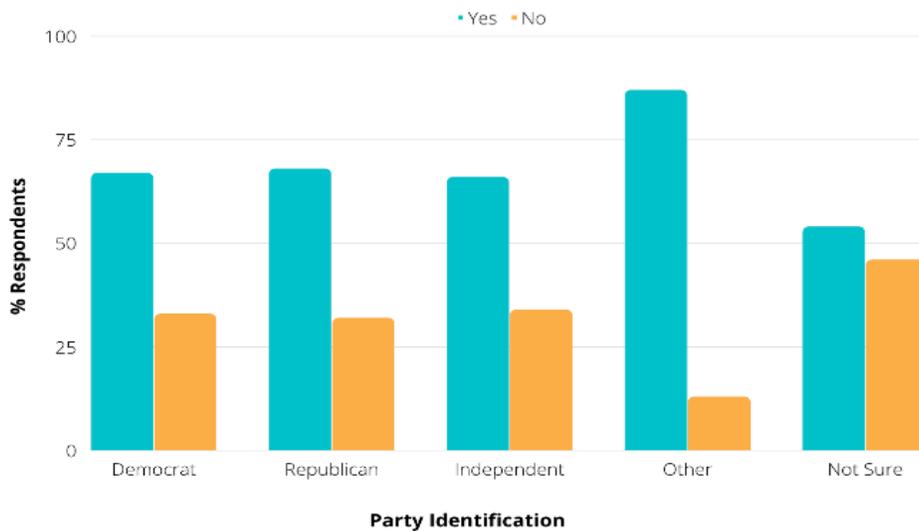
Examining support to suspend the gas tax by age group reveals that respondents ages 18–29 (89%), are most likely to believe the state and Congress should intervene to temporarily reduce the tax for consumers followed by respondents ages 30-44 (68%) and respondents 45-64 (68%). Respondents ages 65+ (59%) are least likely to support a government intervention to suspend the gas tax (Figure 2.1) while young people are noticeably more concerned lowering the price of gas than all older groups by a 21-point minimum difference.

**Figure 2.1:** Support to suspend the gas tax in Texas by Age Group



When exploring support by party, the data suggests that respondents who do not identify with a specific political party—Other (87%) are very likely to support suspending the gas tax to lower the price of gas. Respondents who identify as Democrat (67%), Republican (68%), and Independent (66%) share a similar sentiment in being less likely to support suspending the current gasoline tax at the pump in Texas. Respondents who selected Not Sure (54%) when indicating their political party identification are the least likely to support a temporary removal of the gas tax (Figure 2.2).

**Figure 2.2:** Support to suspend the gas tax in Texas by Party Identification

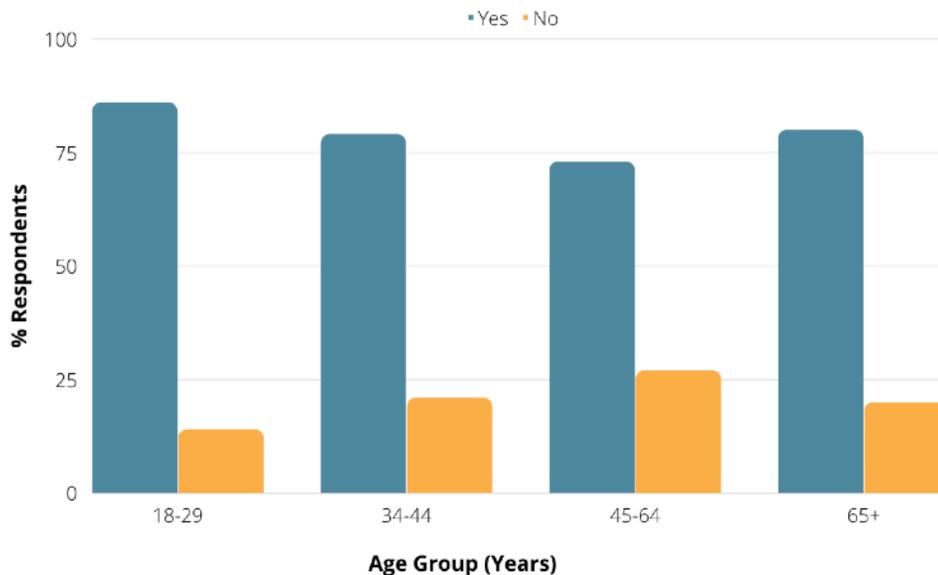


## Property Taxes

Looking at housing costs, more than two-thirds (77%) of all respondents support getting rid of the annual appraised value property tax increase in Texas.

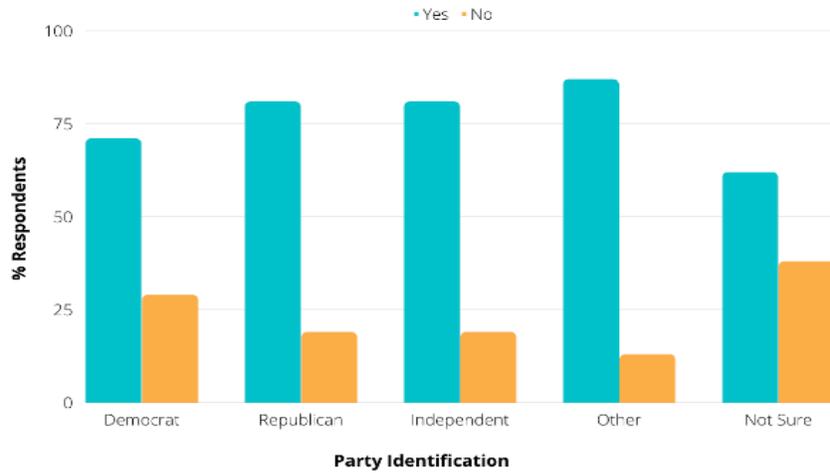
Across age groups, the majority of respondents shared similar views in their support for removing the appraised-based increase. Younger respondents; however, are most likely 18-29 (86%) to support suspending this type of property tax increase followed by respondents 65+ (80%) and respondents 34-44 (79%) years of age. Respondents ages 45-64 (73%) are least likely to support suspending this type of property tax increase (Figure 2.3). Still, there is no more than a six-point difference between respondents, suggesting that the issue of an appraised-value property tax increase is a shared concern for respondents of all age groups.

**Figure 2.3:** Should annual increases in property taxes from appraised value increases be eliminated? (Age Group/Years)



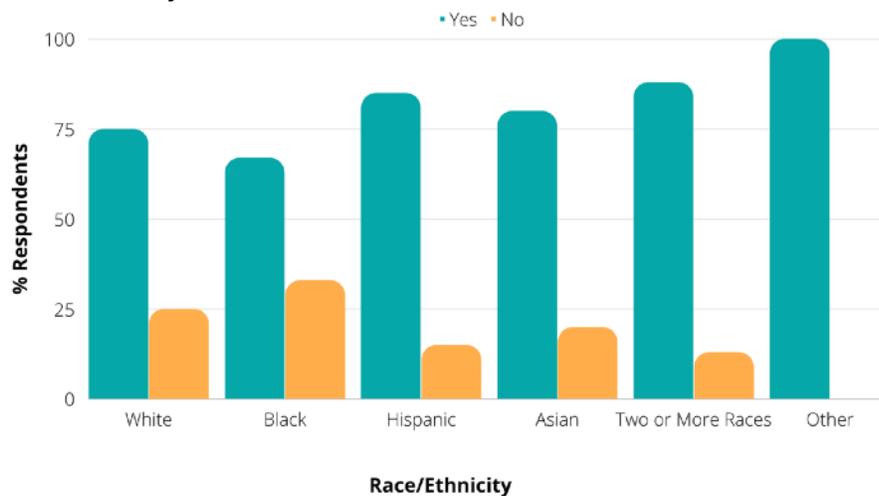
As illustrated in Figure 2.4, the data suggest that respondents who identify as Other (87%), in terms of party affiliation, are most likely to agree that the annual property tax increase from an appraised value approach should be eliminated. There is little difference in sentiment when looking at respondents who identify as Republican (81%), Independent (81%), and Democrat (71%). Respondents who identify as Not Sure (62%) are the least likely to support getting rid of the annual increase for property taxes based on the appraised value approach. With the exception of those who are unsure of their party identification, the cost of property taxes is an issue of importance that appears to transcend party lines.

**Figure 2.4:** Support to eliminate appraised value increases on property taxes by Party Identification



Respondents across ethnic/racial groups share similar views on support for eliminating the appraisal-based property tax increase. Respondents who identify as Other (100%) are most likely to support the removal of the increase followed by respondents who identify as being of Two or More Races (88%), Hispanic (85%), Asian (80%), and White (75%) (Figure 2.5). Black respondents are the least likely to support eliminating the appraised value increase but respondents from all racial/ethnic groups have a response rate of two-thirds majority or higher in support of doing away with this method of increasing property taxes. The data then suggests that property taxes are an issue of importance across racial/ethnic groups.

**Figure 2.5:** Support to eliminate appraised value increases on property taxes by Race/Ethnicity

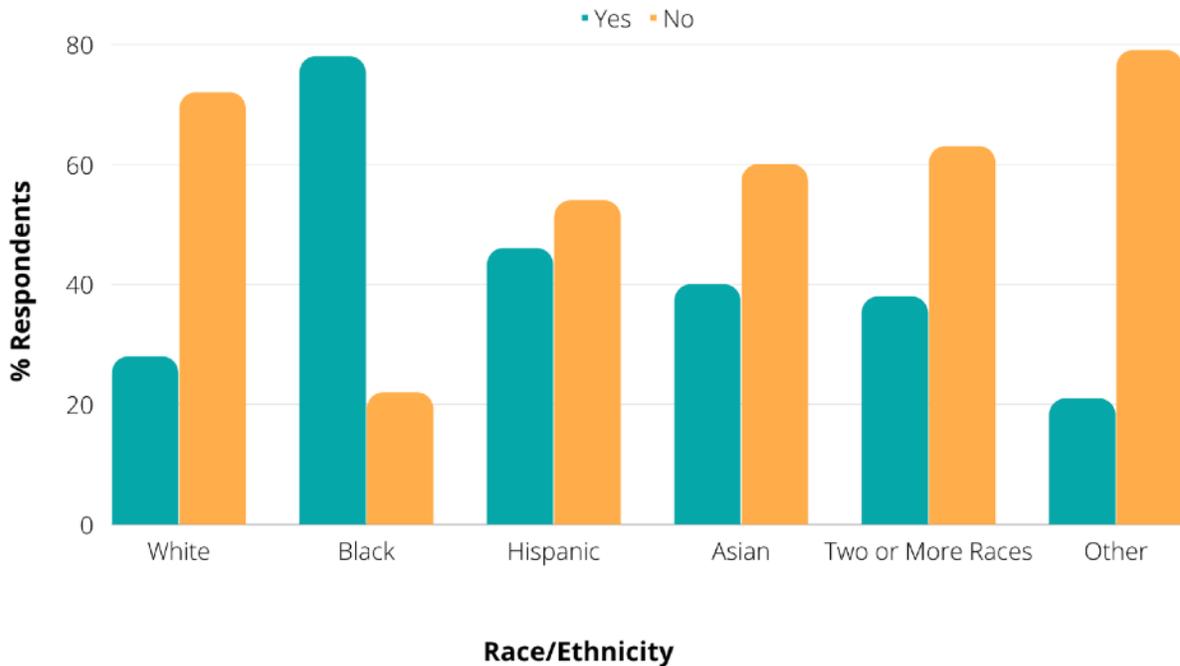


### Diversity Quotas in the Private Sector

According to survey results, respondents are not very likely to favor of a law that requires private corporation to have a Black member on their board of directors. Only 36% of respondents support this type of regulation.

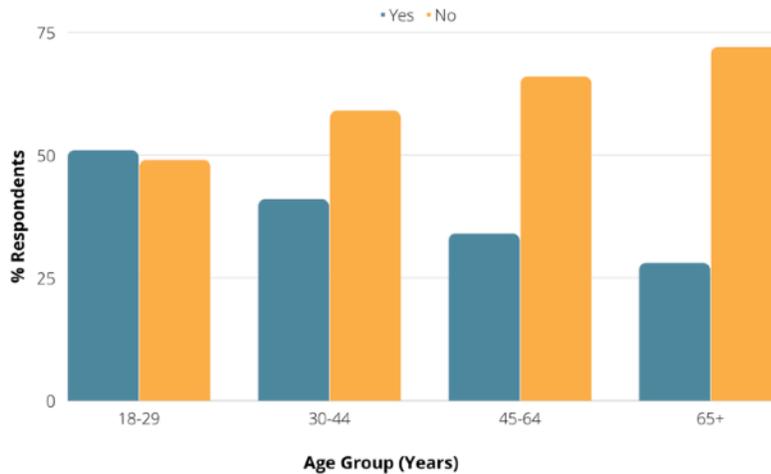
Also, the data reveals that Black (78%) respondents are most likely to support this type of quota followed by Hispanic (46%) and Asian (40%) respondents, and respondents identifying as being of Two or More Races (38%). White (28%) respondents and those who identify as Other are least likely to support a private sector quota for a Black board member (Figure 2.6). With the exception of Black respondents, all racial groups have a response rate of 50% or less in support of a Black private sector quota. This suggests that generally little support exists for a private sector quota of this nature across most racial/ethnic groups.

**Figure 2.6:** Should corporations in Texas be required by law to have Black members on their board of directors?



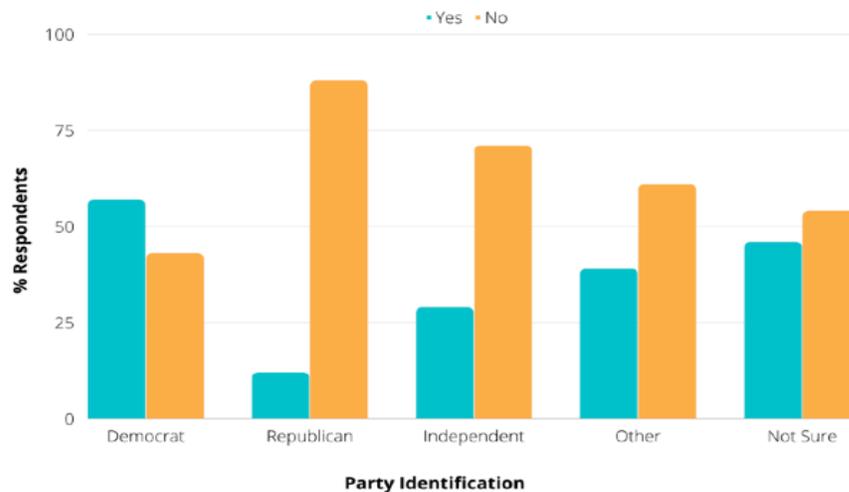
When considering survey responses by age groups, younger respondents 18-29 (51%) are much more inclined to support a private sector quota for Black board members than any other age group followed by respondents 30-44 (41%) and 45-64 (34%). Respondents 65+ (28%) are overwhelmingly opposed to such a private sector quota (Figure 2.7). The data reveals an inverse relationship with age and support—as age groups increase support for a quota decreases.

**Figure 2.7:** Support for diversity quotas on private sector board of directors by Age Group



Looking at respondents by political affiliation, Democrat (57%) respondents tend to be most in favor by a small majority followed by those who identify as Not Sure (46%), Other (39%), and Independent (29%). Republican (12%) respondents tend to be the least supportive of a private sector board quota (Figure 2.8). Generally, support across party lines is extremely low as respondents are more likely to not support a quota. Only respondents who identify as Democrat demonstrate a majority support but by just seven points.

**Figure 2.8:** Support for diversity quotas on private sector board of directors by Party Identification

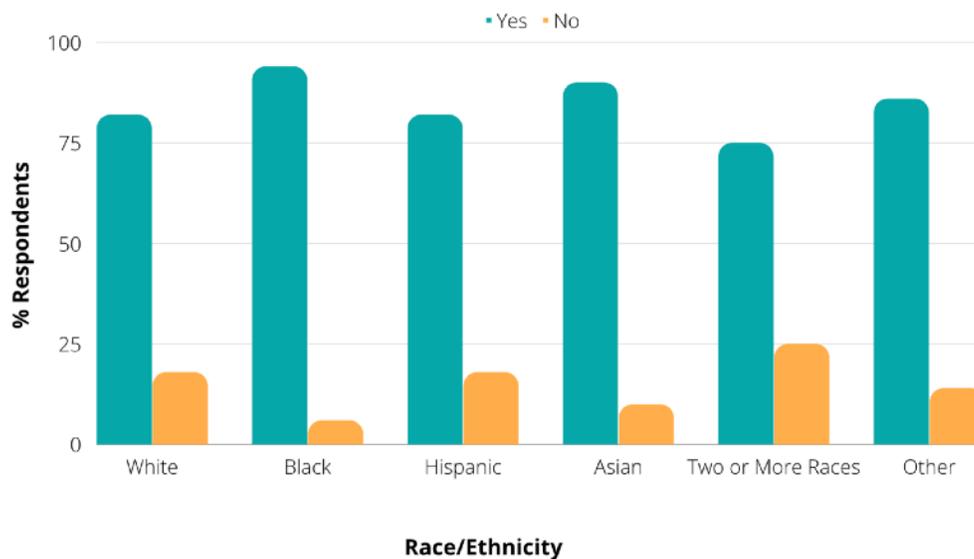


### Support for A Black Female Supreme Court Appointment

A majority (83%) of respondents indicate support for appointing a Black woman to the United States Supreme Court.

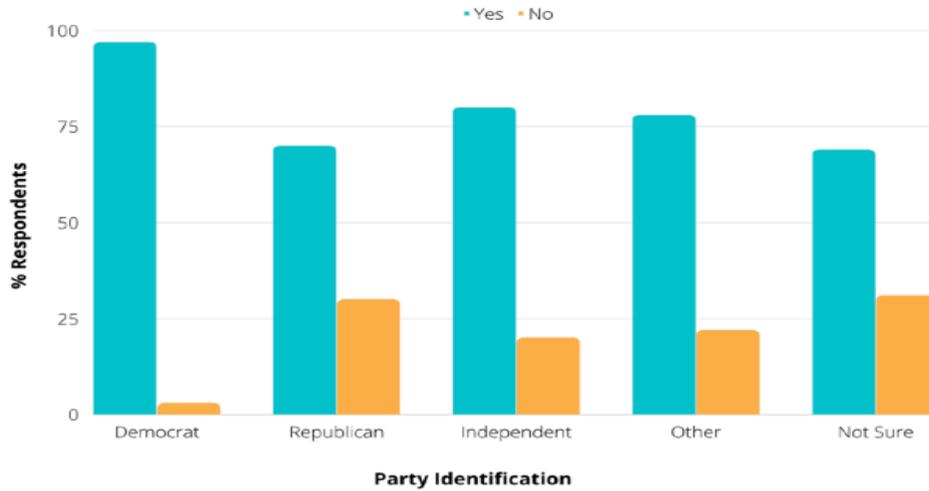
Across racial/ethnic groups, Black (94%), Asian (90%), Other (86%), White (82%), and Hispanic (82%) respondents are among those most in support of appointing a Black woman to the Supreme Court while those who identify as being of Two or More Races (75%) are the least likely to support a Black female appointment (Figure 2.9). At least three-fourths of respondents from each racial group indicate support for the appointment of a Black woman to the Supreme Court. The results suggest that race/ethnicity are not significant factors in determining support.

**Figure 2.9:** Do you support a Black woman being appointed to the United States Supreme Court? (Race/Ethnicity)



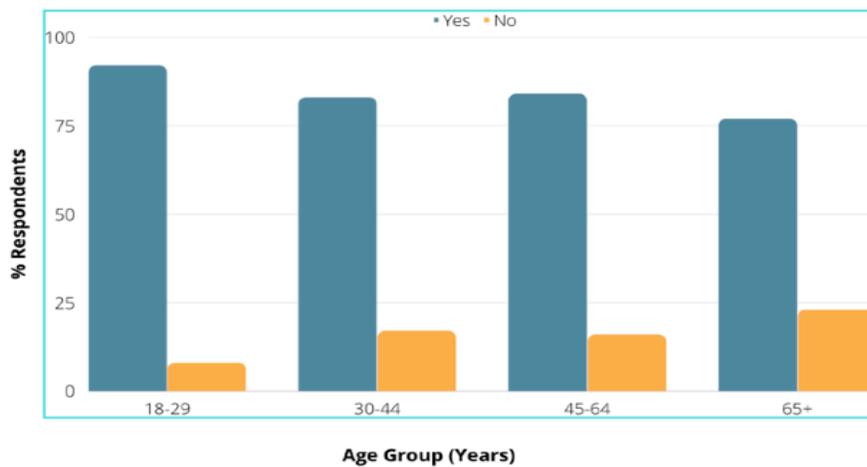
Respondents who identify as Democrat (97%) are most likely among party affiliates to support the appointment of a Black woman to the highest court in the United States followed by Independent (80%) and Other (78%) respondents while Republican (70%) respondents and those identifying as Not Sure (69%) are least likely to support the appointment of a Black woman to this position with just a one-point difference (Figure 3.0). The data suggests that political affiliation is a factor when support is considered but not a widely significant one as all party identifying groups have support that exceeds two-thirds in support across the identified political party groups.

**Figure 3.0:** Support for appointing a Black woman to the Supreme Court by Party Identification



Younger respondents 18–29 (92%) are most likely among age groups to support the appointment of a Black woman to the Supreme Court followed by respondents ages 45-64 (84%) and 30-44 (83%) while respondents 65+ (77%) are least likely to support the appointment of a Black woman to the Supreme Court (Figure 3.1). The data suggests a slight inverse relationship between support and age. As age increases support decreases but only by a maximum of nine points between groups. Also, each age group indicates, at least a, three-fourth majority support for the appointment.

**Figure 3.1:** Support for appointing a Black woman to the Supreme Court by Age

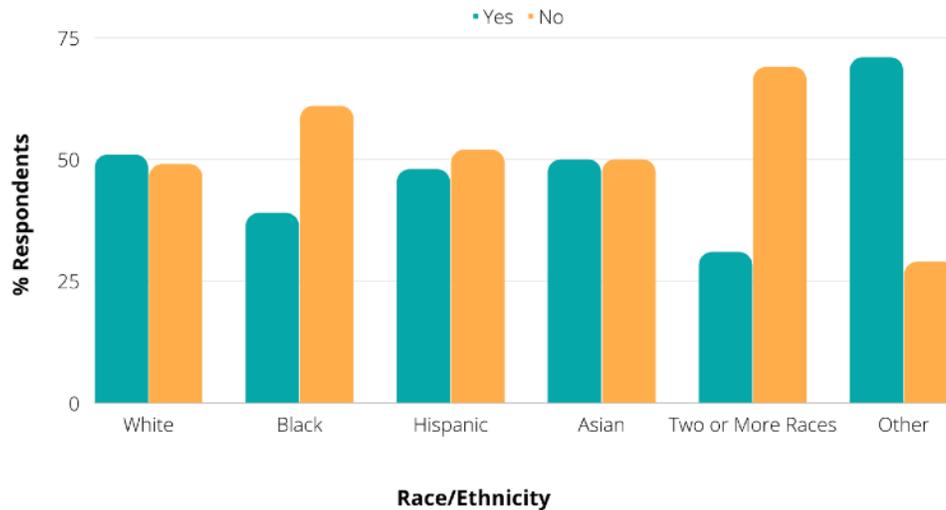


### General State of Texas

Respondents were asked generally whether they believe the State of Texas is headed in the right direction. The data suggests that most respondents (49%) do not believe the state is headed in the right direction.

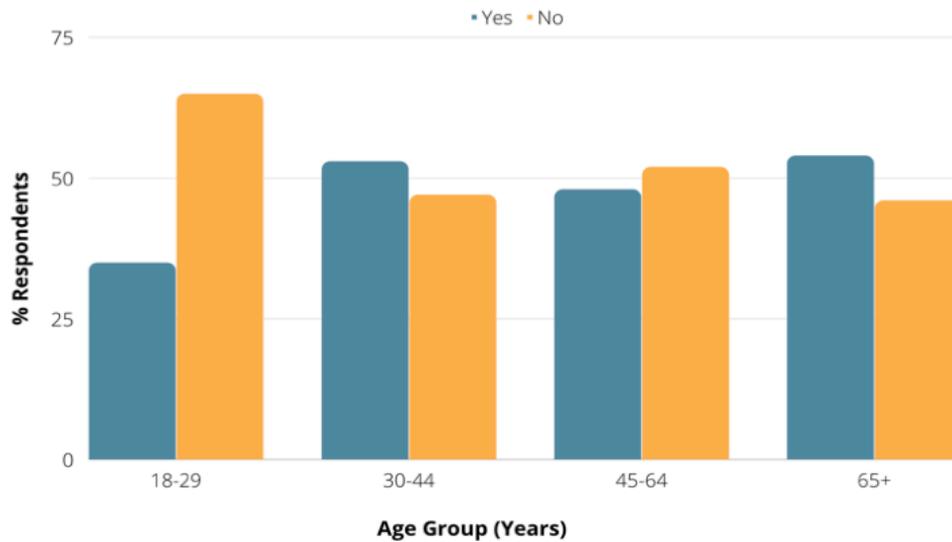
Among racial/ethnic groups, those who identify as Other (75%) are most likely to believe the state is heading in the right direction followed by White (51%), Asian (50%), and Hispanic (48%) respondents. Black respondents (39%) and those identify as being of Two or More Races (31%) are least likely to agree with the direction the state is heading in (Figure 3.2). The data suggests that overall, most racial/ethnic groups with the exception of those who identify as Other are not satisfied with the direction of the state.

**Figure 3.2:** Do you believe the State of Texas is moving in the right direction? (Race/Ethnicity)



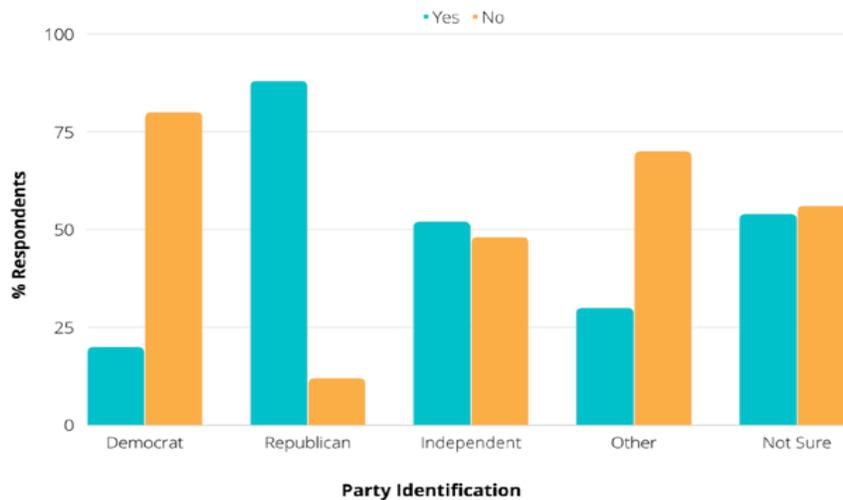
When examining satisfaction by age group, respondents 65+ (54%) are most satisfied with the direction of the State of Texas while respondents ages 30-44 (53%) and 45-64 (48%) show only a 6-points difference or less in sentiment to older respondents. Younger respondents are least satisfied with the direction the state is heading in, with just over a third of respondents ages 18-29 (35%) indicate being satisfied with the direct of the state (Figure 3.3).

**Figure 3.3:** View on whether Texas is moving in the right direction by Age Group



Among party groups, Republican respondents (88%) are most likely to agree with the direction of the state followed by those identifying as Not Sure (54%)—indicating a 34-point difference among the top two most satisfied party identifiers. Independent (52%) respondents are not far off in their level of satisfaction while those identifying as Other (30%) and Democrat (20%) are the least likely to agree with the direction of the state (Figure 3.4).

**Figure 3.4:** View on whether Texas is moving in the right direction by Party Identification

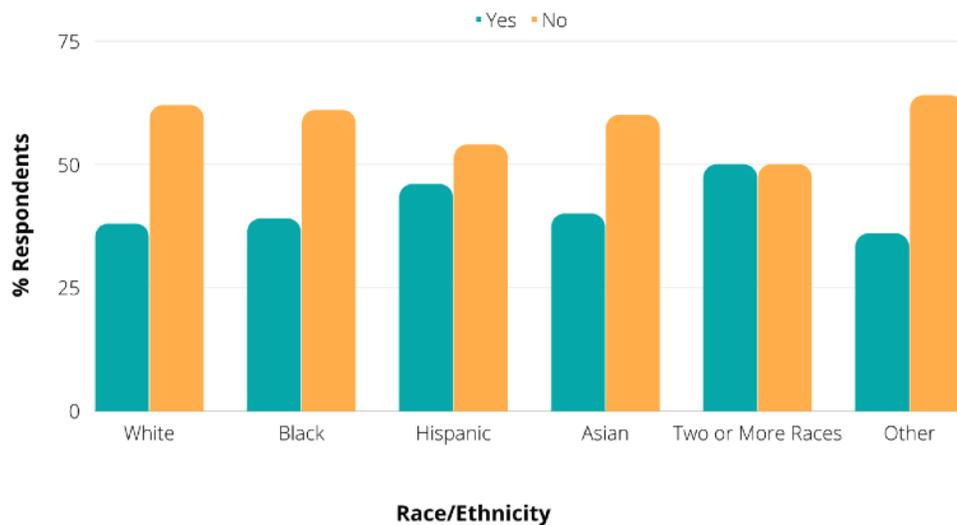


### Support for Immigration

When asked about supporting a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, only 40% of respondents indicate support.

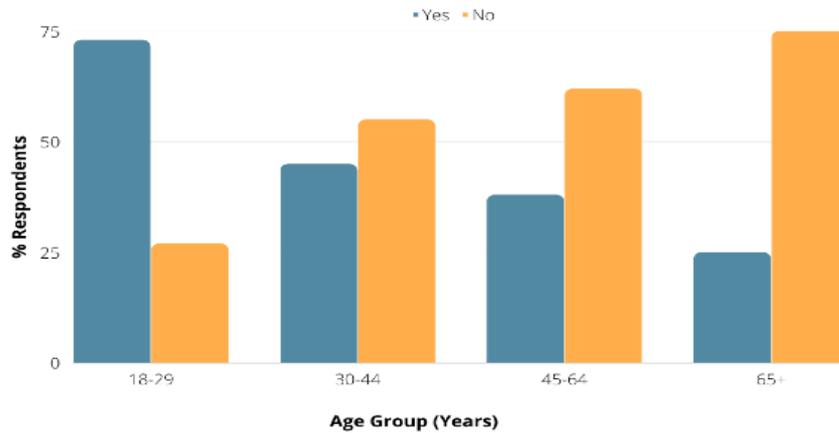
Across racial/ethnic groups, there is little support across the board. Those who identify as being of Two or More Races (50%) are most likely to support a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants followed by Hispanic (46%), Asian (40%), Black (39%), and White (38%) respondents (Figure 3.5). Respondents who identify as Other are least likely to support a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants but no group indicates a percent majority support.

**Figure 3.5:** Do you support citizenship for immigrants who entered the country without going through the proper process? (Race/Ethnicity)



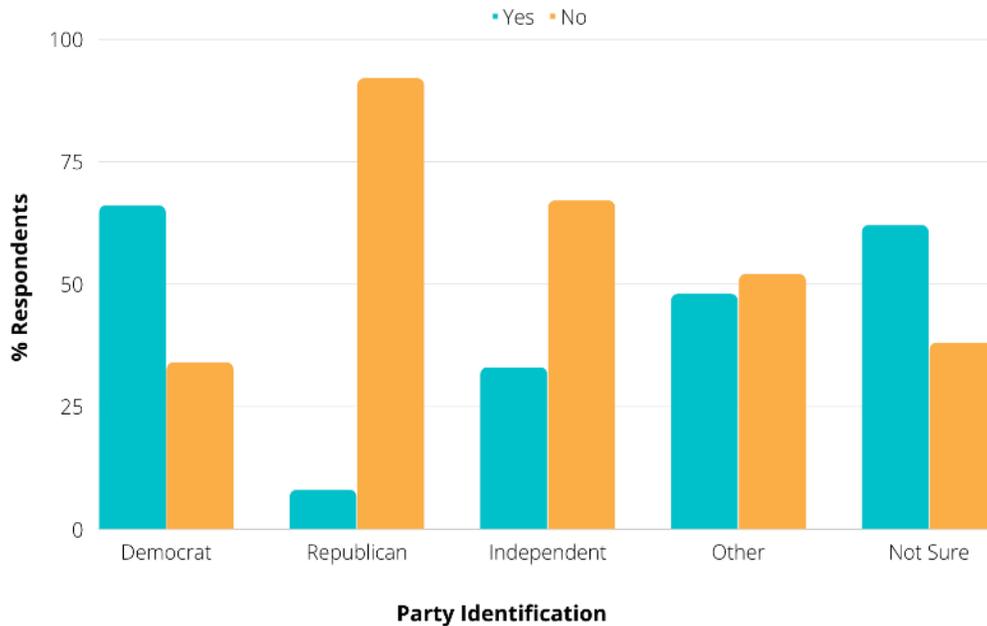
Younger respondents 18–29 (73%) are most likely to support a pathway to citizenship for immigrants who enter the country without going through the proper process followed by respondents ages 30–44 (45%) and 45–64 (38%) while respondents 65+ (25%) and older are the least likely to support a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants in the United States (Figure 3.6).

**Figure 3.6:** Support for citizenship of undocumented immigrants by Age Group



When considering party affiliation, those who identify as Democrat (66%) are most likely to support the immigration for undocumented immigrants followed by respondents who selected Not Sure (62%). Those who identify as Other (48%) and Independent (33%) demonstrate a small level of support, while Republican (8%) respondents are noticeably unlikely to support a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants (Figure 3.7).

**Figure 3.7:** Support for citizenship of undocumented immigrants by party identification

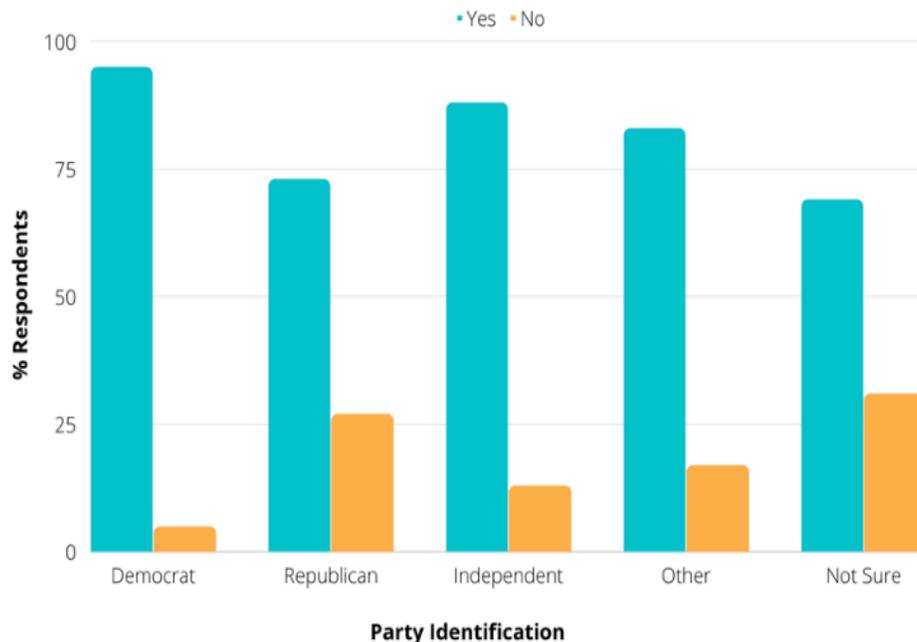


### Support for A Female President

When asked about views on supporting a woman for president, a large majority (85%) of respondents expressed support.

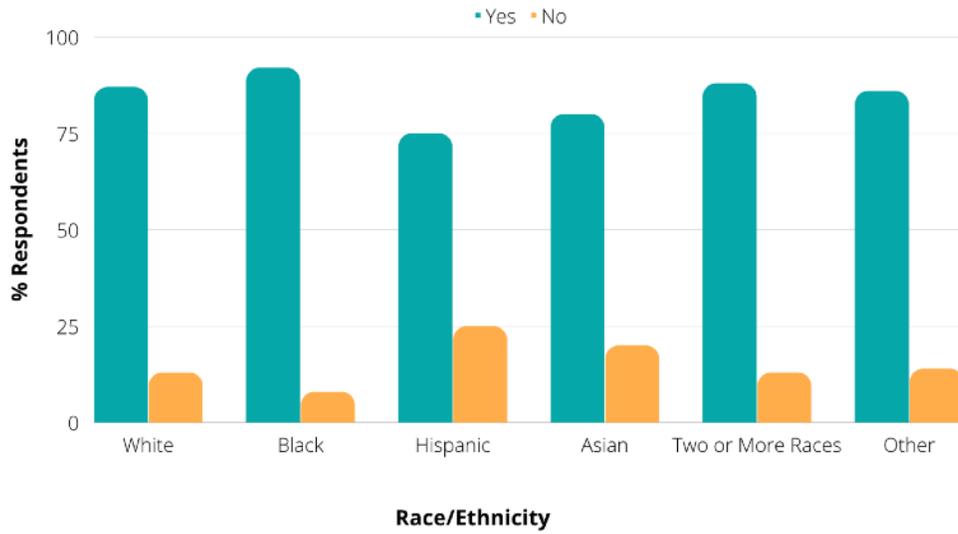
When examining results by party affiliation, respondents who identify as Democrat (95%), are most likely to support a woman candidate for president followed by Independent (88%), Other (83%), and Republican (73%) respondents while respondents unsure of their political affiliation (69%) are least likely to support a woman candidate for President (Figure 3.8).

**Figure 3.8:** Would you vote to elect a woman President of the United States? (Party Identification)



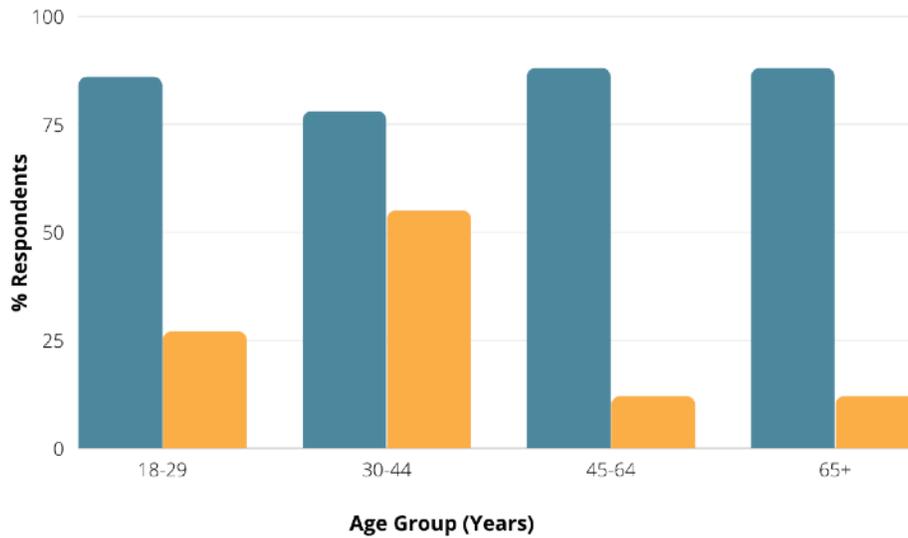
When examining responses by racial group, Black (92%) respondents are most likely to support a woman candidate for president followed by respondents identifying as being of Two or More Races (88%) and White (87%) respondents. Other (86%), Asian (80%) and Hispanic (75%) respondents are least likely to support a female candidate for president but by a small margin (Figure 3.9).

**Figure 3.9:** Support to elect a woman President in the United States by Race/Ethnicity



Respondents ages 45-64 (88%) and respondents 65+ are most likely to support a female candidate followed by respondents ages 18-29 (73%). Respondents ages 30-44 (45%) are the least likely to support a female candidate for president (Figure 4.0).

**Figure 4.0:** Support to elect a woman President in the United States by Age Group



# Appendix

Survey Questions

### **Survey Questions: Texas Poll**

1. Should the legislature be called back into special session to lower monthly electric utility bills?
2. Should the legislature eliminate sales taxes on all groceries and medical services and equipment to reduce cost for Texas consumers?
3. Should the state and Congress suspend the gas tax to make gasoline at the pump cheaper to buy?
4. Should annual increases in property taxes from appraised value increases be eliminated?
5. Should corporations in Texas be required by law to have Black members on their board of directors?
6. Do you support a Black woman being appointed to the United States Supreme Court?
7. Do you believe the State of Texas is moving in the right direction?
8. Do you support citizenship for immigrants who entered the country without going through the proper process?
9. Would you vote to elect a woman President of the United States?