



TEXAS TRENDS 2022

Criminal Justice & Immigration



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Executive Summary

Hobby School/TSU Texas Trends Survey 2022

The second survey of this five-year project focused on the 2022 general election in Texas, gun safety, the economy and inflation, criminal justice and immigration, and health care. The survey was fielded between August 11 and August 29, 2022 in English and Spanish. A total of 2,140 respondents who were registered to vote in Texas and 18 years of age and older took the survey, resulting in a margin of error of $\pm 2.1\%$ at the 95% confidence level. Respondents were matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race/ethnicity, and education and are representative of the Texas adult population.¹ This is the sixth report from the second survey.² In this report we examine Texans' attitudes related to criminal justice and immigration, including opinions on bail reform, law enforcement, and immigration reform policies. The analysis revealed these key findings.

Political ideology emerged as an important factor that explains variation in attitudes towards criminal justice and immigration issues.

- On criminal justice reform chapter, Republicans had very high trust in local law enforcement. Conservatives also strongly agreed that local law enforcement is overall fair. An overwhelming majority of conservatives also supported Senate Bill 6, which covered bail reform.
- The level of support for the Senate Bill 6 among liberals and those who said they were very liberal is near 40% for each group, and a majority or more of moderates (55.5%) and those who identified as being conservative (79.2%) or very conservative (85.1%) supported the reform.
- Liberals were more likely to support immigration reforms to increase the number of judges and courts, to expedite asylum cases, and to increase the number of work visas. In contrast, conservatives were more likely to support what may be characterized as a harsher stance on immigration reform—a majority of them agreed that asylum seekers with unsuccessful application should immediately return to their home country, border patrol should expel immigrants crossing the borders regardless of their intent, and asylum should be harder to obtain.

Party identification and the candidate who the respondent supported in the 2020 presidential election were also indicative of respondents' attitudes towards criminal justice and immigration reforms.

- Regarding Senate Bill 6, which changed bail procedures, supporters of Donald Trump were the most likely to support the policy (83.5%). However, a large percentage of those that voted for Joe Biden supported SB6 (42.4%), as well. This implies that Biden supporters seemed to be gridlocked where almost half supported and almost half are either ambivalent or against the policy.

¹ See Appendix A for respondent demographic information.

² Previous reports can be found here: <https://uh.edu/hobby/txtrends/>

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- Those who voted for Joe Biden in 2020 and those who identify as a Democrat were slightly more likely to support increasing the number of immigration judges and courts and reducing wait time for asylum cases than Trump supporters or those identifying as Republican (by about 10 percentage points).
 - The percentage of respondents who strongly supported the proposition to increase the number of work visas was more than twice as high among Biden voters (70.3%) compared to Trump voters (31.2%). Among those who voted for Donald Trump in 2020, stricter immigration reforms were rather popular. For example, 84.2% supported the idea that asylum seekers should return home immediately, 72.8% supported that border patrol should expel all immigrants crossing the border, and 67% supported asylum status should be made harder to obtain.

Respondent's race was also an important factor for both criminal justice and immigration attitudes.

- Pertaining to respondents' attitudes towards local law enforcement, we found that 58.6% of all respondents trust local law enforcement.
- When examining attitudes towards law enforcement by race and ethnicity, a majority of respondents (50% or more of all race or ethnic categories, except Black) strongly agreed or somewhat agreed that law enforcement can be trusted. Blacks were the least likely to agree that they trusted their local law enforcement: about 31% of all Black respondents had some level of distrust.
- White respondents generally had the highest percentages supporting more restrictive immigration reforms. Hispanics were less likely to support some restrictive immigration reforms compared to whites.
- We found 65.8% of white respondents supported the idea that asylum seekers who are not granted asylum must at once return to their country of origin, while 47.6% of Hispanics supported this idea.
- A majority of Asians supported the need for immigration reform in the courts and legal immigration, but they appeared to be more ambivalent regarding the more "controversial" statements on asylum cases, with a majority expressing they neither agree nor disagree with them.

There is a difference of opinions across generations, particularly regarding immigration reforms.

- Silent and Baby Boomer generations (born between 1946-1964) expressed the highest level of support for increasing the number of immigration courts and judges (75.4%) and expediting asylum hearings (70.7%), whereas Generation X (born between 1965-1980) had relatively lower number of respondents who agreed with these ideas. The lowest level of support for them came from Millennials and Generation Z (born between 1997-2014) respondents (about 61% for increasing immigration judges and courts and expediting asylum seeker hearings).
- The Silent/Boomer generation were the most likely to support asylum seekers having to immediately return to their country of origin if not granted asylum (72.3%), expelling immigrants crossing the borders even if seeking asylum (54.9%), and for the US government making it harder for asylum seekers to be granted legal status (54.7%). They were also the most likely to disagree that the US government is doing a good job at handling asylum seekers at the US-Mexico border (68.8%).
- The youngest generation (Millennial/Gen Z) were less likely to agree with having asylum seekers immediately return to their home country if not granted asylum (45.3%), but were slightly more likely to disagree with expelling immigrants crossing the border to seek asylum (37.1%), and for making it harder for asylum seekers to be granted legal status in the US (36.8%). However, there was not a significant difference among the Millennial/Gen Z group in agreement or disagreement with regard to asylum seekers.

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Chapter 1: Introduction

Among the key issues to be considered in context of the upcoming 2022 midterm election on November 8, Texans, like other voters across the country, will weigh their opinions and policy preferences on criminal justice and immigration and border security issues. In Texas, the topic of gun control and effectiveness of law enforcement in communities has been under scrutiny, especially in the wake of the mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas last May.³ While public opinion is divided over police behavior and effectiveness across some communities, there is some consensus among Texas voters on trust in the law enforcement officers in their communities and police funding. For instance, many Texans do not think that police funding should be cut: an issue that has been a key discussion point for gubernatorial candidates, Greg Abbott and Beto O'Rourke.⁴ Along those lines, other criminal justice issues like bail reform have also been on the table, particularly after Governor Abbott signed Senate Bill 6 into law last year which now requires those with prior violent crime records to post cash bail in order to be released and for prior criminal histories to be reviewed before setting bail.

Additionally, immigration will continue to be a contentious topic across the US, and especially in Texas. About 40% of Americans and about a third of Texans are concerned about the issue of illegal immigration and border security, a topic that many feel is being masked by the current inflation issues for the upcoming 2022 midterm election.^{5,6,7,8} With the recent increase of migrants and asylum seekers arriving at the borders, and a congested immigration court system, many Texans (especially those along the southern border) have concerns over border security and immigration as a whole.⁹

In this report, we examine Texans' political attitudes related to criminal justice and immigration, including opinions on bail reform, law enforcement, and immigration reform policies. The results featured in this report are based on a survey conducted between August 11 and August 29, 2022 across Texas by the Hobby School of Public Affairs at the University of Houston, in collaboration with the Barbara Jordan–Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs at Texas Southern University. The survey was conducted both in English and Spanish and included 2,140 registered voters in Texas aged 18 years and older. The margin of error was $\pm 2.1\%$ at the 95% confidence level. Respondents were matched to a sampling frame based upon gender, age, race/ethnicity, and education and are representative of the Texas adult

³See the Hobby School of Public Affairs' recent [Texas Trends 2022: Gun Safety Report](#).

⁴Ramsey, Ross. March 3, 2021. "[Most white Texas voters believe the deaths of Black people in police custody aren't a systemic problem](#)". University of Texas/Texas Tribune Polls.

⁵Saad, Linda. April 19, 2022.2 "[Four in 10 Americans Still Highly Concerned About Illegal Immigration](#)." GALLUP.

⁶Cillizza, Chris. April 19, 2022. "[This could be the new sneaky big issue of the 2022 election](#)." CNN Politics.

⁷For information on how Texans rank the issue of immigration and border security, please see the Hobby School of Public Affairs' [Texas 2022 Elections & Issues: Direction, Issues, Favorability & January 6 2021 Report](#)

⁸Pérez-Moreno, Heidi. June 28, 2021. "[Immigration and border security remain top concerns of Texas voters, UT/TT Poll finds](#)." University of Texas/Texas Tribune Polls.

⁹Gramlich, John and Alissa Scheller. November, 2021. "[What's happening at the U.S.-Mexico border in 7 charts](#)." Pew Research Center.

population.¹⁰ Numbers in figures and tables might not add up to 100% because of weighting and rounding.

This report is organized into two chapters. Following this section, we discuss opinions on criminal justice including attitudes of respondents with regard to bail reform, trust and effectiveness of law enforcement officers in their communities, and whether or not increasing funding to law enforcement agencies would have an impact on crime levels. Then, in Chapter 3, we discuss attitudes and opinions about immigration, including reforming the court system, how the US government is handling asylum seekers, and topics related to legal immigration.

¹⁰Ibid. fn.1

Chapter 2: Criminal Justice

This chapter addresses the items in the Texas Trends survey related to criminal justice policies and reform. These include opinions on bail reform and perceptions of law enforcement in respondents' communities.

Respondents were first asked the following about Senate Bill 6:

1. In September 2021, Governor Greg Abbott signed Senate Bill 6, the Damon Allen Act, into law requiring individuals with previous convictions for violent crimes to post a cash bail before released. To what degree do you support this policy?

Then, they were asked the following: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about law enforcement in your community?

2. I trust law enforcement officers in my community.
3. Law enforcement officers in my community are responsive to my community's concerns.
4. Law enforcement officers in my community treat people fairly.
5. Increasing funding for law enforcement officers would help to reduce crime in my community.
6. Law enforcement officers are proactive at preventing crime in my area.

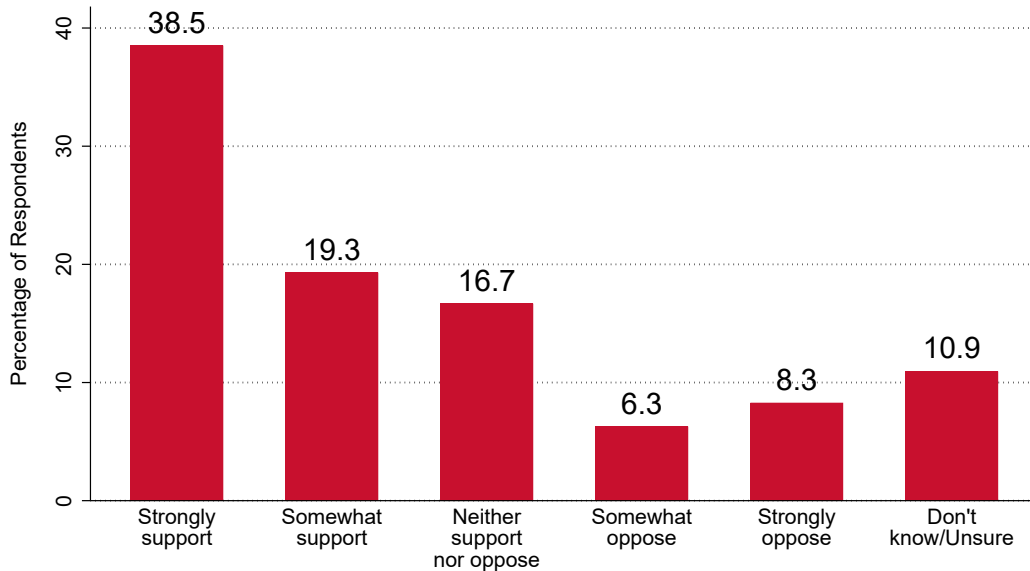
This chapter analyzes responses to these questions in general, as well as in relation to a variety of demographic and political variables. The analysis is broken down into two main sections of this chapter: Section 2.1 analyzes Senate Bill 6 and section 2.2 looks at attitudes towards community law enforcement. Under Senate Bill 6, the subtopic of support for Senate Bill 6 across ideological preferences and voting records can be found. Community law enforcement attitudes covers two subtopics: 1) trust and perception of fairness in local law enforcement, and 2) local law enforcement responsiveness and crime prevention effectiveness.¹¹

2.1 Senate Bill 6

Senate Bill 6 was a 2021 bill that covered bail reform, specifically requiring those with prior violent crimes to post cash bail to be released. The following Figure 2.1 explores general levels of support for this policy. As shown below, 38.5% of all respondents strongly supported this bill and 19.3% somewhat supported it, making support for the bill a majority opinion. Only 8.3% strongly opposed, while 6.3% somewhat opposed. There is a notable percentage of respondents that either were not sure (10.9%) or had position of neither supporting nor opposing the bill (16.7%).

¹¹For the complete summary of responses to criminal justice questions, see Appendix B.

Figure 2.1: In September 2021, Governor Greg Abbott signed Senate Bill 6 into law requiring individuals with previous convictions for violent crimes to post a cash bail before released. To what degree do you support this policy?



Support for Senate Bill 6, ideological preferences, and voting record

This section explores support for Senate Bill 6, conditional on the ideological leaning and voting records of respondents. Overall, we find support for Senate Bill 6 across all ideological groups, more so among respondents who said they were conservative, with higher opposition among those who said they were liberal. For voting records, we find that Trump voters demonstrated the highest levels of support for Senate Bill 6, Howie Hawkins voters are the most opposed, while Joe Biden supporters are the most unsure.

Figure 2.2 reveals that the majority of support for Senate Bill 6 was from ideologically conservative and very conservative respondents. To elaborate, 79.2% of conservatives supported the bill, while 85.1% of very conservative respondents supported it. Furthermore, 30% of respondents, who said they were very liberal, opposed the bill, while nearly a quarter (24.1%) of those who said they were liberal opposed it. However, many liberal and very liberal respondents are also in support of Senate Bill 6. This is demonstrated by the 37% of very liberal and 39.8% of liberal respondents that support Senate Bill 6. Majority of moderate respondents, 55.5%, also supported the policy.

Figure 2.2: Support for Senate Bill 6 by ideology

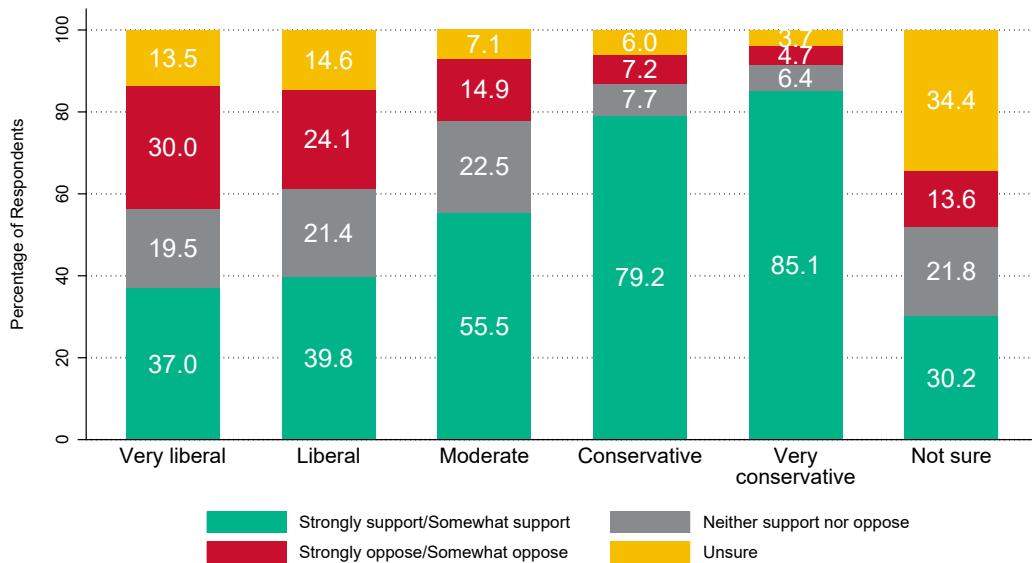


Table 2.1 graphs percentage of support for Senate Bill 6 based on respondents’ voting records in the 2020 presidential election. Overall, Trump supporters are the most likely to support Senate Bill 6, while Howie Hawkins supporters are the most likely to oppose the policy. Trump supporters are the strongest supporters for Senate Bill 6, where 68.5% strongly supported the policy. Interestingly, respondents in the “other” category are closely second to Trump supporters, where 34.5% strongly supported Senate Bill 6. Further, closely behind, Jo Jorgenson supporters also strongly support Senate Bill 6 by 29.5%. Only 19% of Biden supporters strongly support the policy.

Table 2.1: Support for Senate Bill 6 and vote choice in the 2020 Presidential Election

	Joe Biden		Donald Trump		Jo Jorgensen		Howie Hawkins		Other	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Strongly support	171	19.0	424	68.5	4	29.5	0	0.0	7	34.5
Somewhat support	211	23.4	93	15.0	3	23.3	3	31.3	4	18.6
Neither support nor oppose	186	20.7	40	6.4	4	25.4	1	6.8	4	18.5
Somewhat oppose	96	10.7	22	3.6	1	3.0	1	17.0	1	4.8
Strongly oppose	121	13.5	13	2.2	1	7.1	3	36.1	3	14.5
Unsure	113	12.6	27	4.4	2	11.7	1	8.8	2	9.2
Total	899	100.0	619	100.0	15	100.0	8	100.0	20	100.0

Note: Numbers and percentages are weighted and rounded to the nearest tenth

Strong opposition to Senate Bill 6 seems to be highest among those that voted for Howie Hawkins at 36.1%. Notably, the category with the second-highest level of strong opposition for Senate Bill 6 is those in the “other” category at 14.5%. Only 13.5% of Biden voters strongly opposed this policy. Finally, respondents that voted for Trump only strongly opposed Senate Bill 6 by 2.2%. Biden voters also seem to be the least certain about their support for Senate Bill 6 (by 12.6%), whereas only 4.4% of Trump supporters were unsure of their support for this bill.

2.2 Community law enforcement attitudes

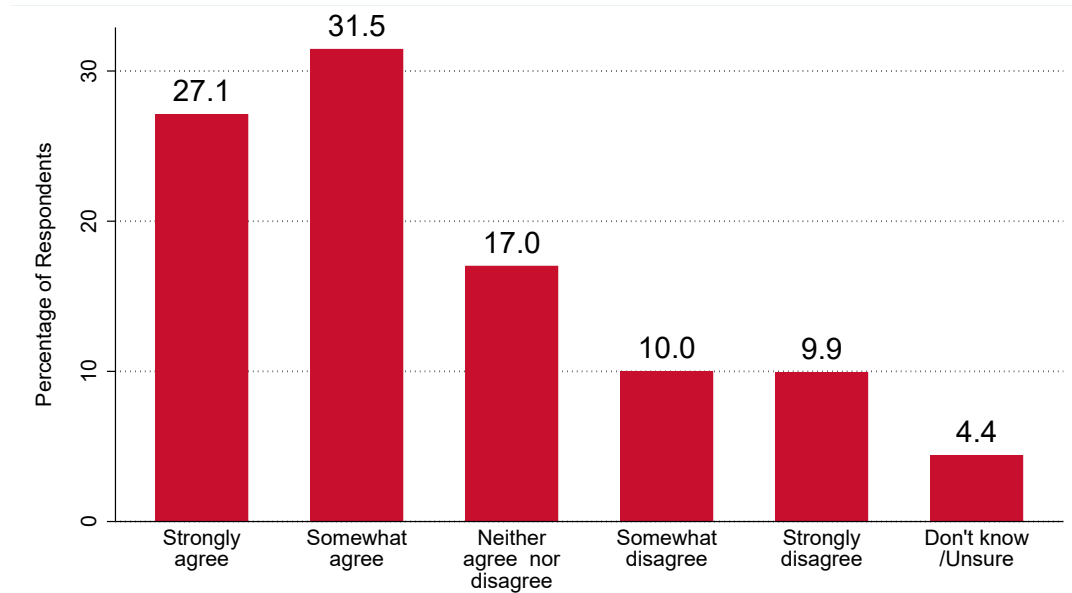
This section deals with how respondents evaluate various aspects of law enforcement in their community. Respondents were asked: How much do you agree or disagree in the following statements about law enforcement in your community? The statements that respondents were asked to evaluate cover topics, such as trust, responsiveness, fairness, funding, and crime.

Trust and perception of fairness in local law enforcement

The following part explores respondents' trust and perception of fairness in local law enforcement practices. Respondents, if Republican or white, are more likely to strongly support the ideas that law enforcement is trustworthy. However, respondents who are Democrat and Independent also exhibit high support for the somewhat agreed that law enforcement are trustworthy category, similar to Republicans. All race categories (White, Black, Hispanic, Asian, and other) have at least 25% support for the somewhat agree category that law enforcement is trustworthy. Respondents who identify as Black are the most likely to strongly disagree that law enforcement is trustworthy. Conservative respondents were most likely to agree that law enforcement is fair, whereas liberal respondents were more likely to disagree. Further, a gender divide is not found among male and females, as they show similar levels of agreement about law enforcement fairness. However, non-binary respondents were more likely to choose strongly disagree that local law enforcement is fair.

As seen in the Figure 2.3, most respondents agreed that they can trust law enforcement in their local community (27.1% strongly and 31.5% somewhat agreed). Only 10% of respondents somewhat disagreed, and 9.9% of respondents strongly disagreed that they can trust local law enforcement. Nearly a fifth (17%) of respondents neither agreed nor disagreed on the issue of trusting local law enforcement. Below, we explore the issue of trust further based on party identification and race.

Figure 2.3: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about law enforcement in your community? **I trust law enforcement officers in my community.**



As shown in Figure 2.4, Republicans place the highest trust in law enforcement at 47.8%. There is also a clear pattern where Democrats, Republicans, Independents, and “other” converge in the somewhat agree category, where they are all around the 30% mark (Democrat 34.8%, Republican 31.5%, Independent 30.3%, other 30.9%). The “other” category of party identification seems to have the highest levels of distrust in law enforcement at 24.9%, while independents have the second-strongest distrust at 11.5%. Democrats are close behind at 11.2% and those who were not sure of their ideology is at 11.1%, while Republicans are the least likely to strongly disagree at only 4.7%.

2.2. Community law enforcement attitudes

Figure 2.4: Trust in local law enforcement by party identification

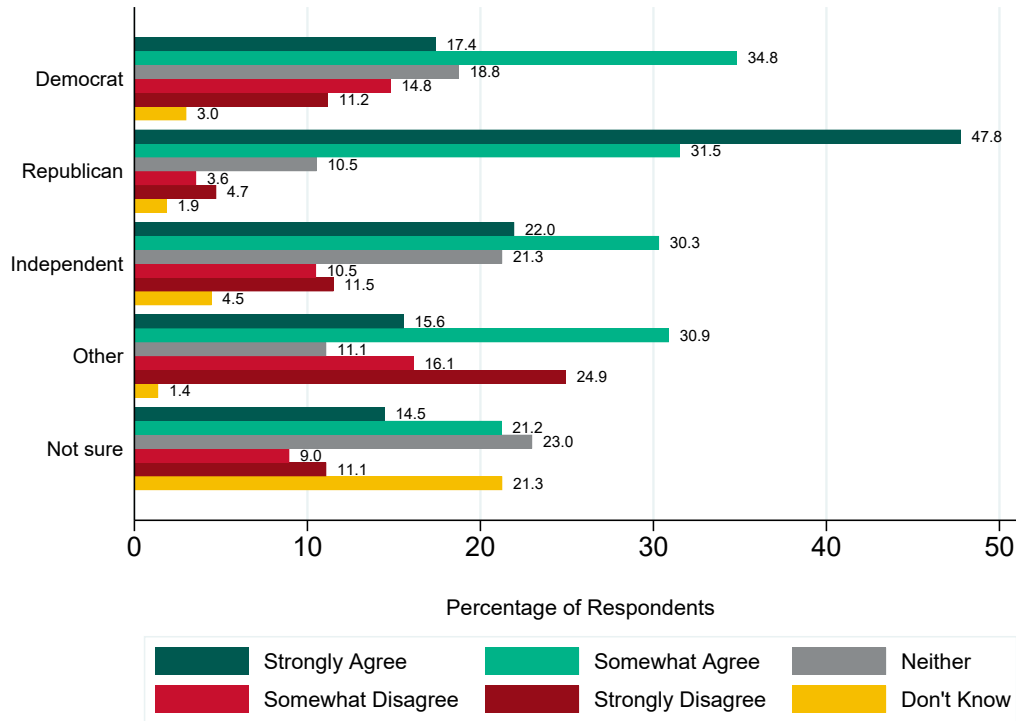
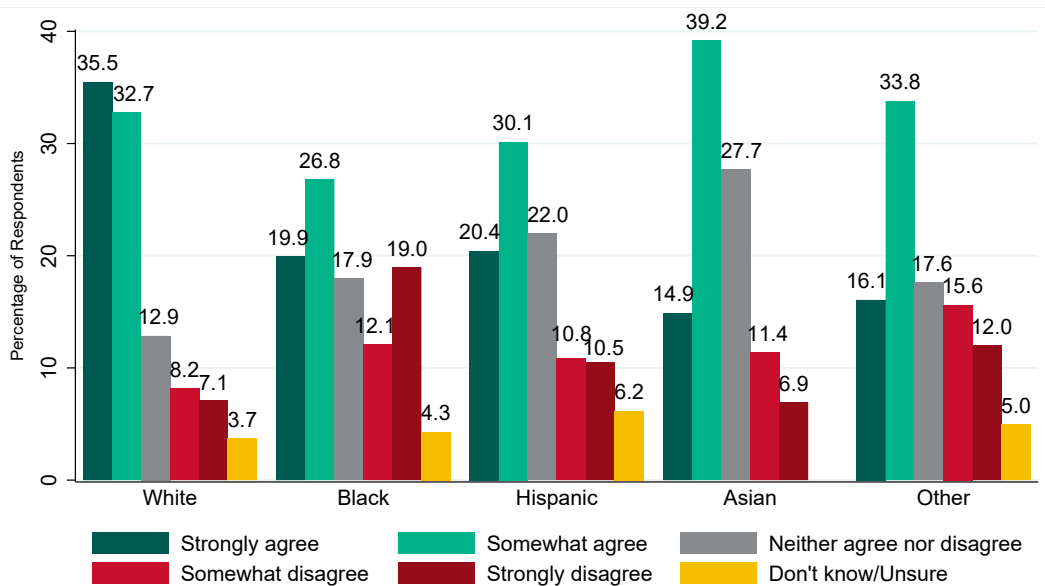


Figure 2.5 shows that 35.5% of white respondents strongly trusted local law enforcement, which is the highest among all races. Interestingly, there seems to be more convergence in opinion on somewhat agree with some races only about 10% apart from each other (white: 32.7%, Black: 26.8%, Hispanic 30.1%, and other 33.8%). However, Asian respondents somewhat agree at a higher level than the aforementioned categories (39.2%). Furthermore, 19% of Black respondents strongly disagreed that local law enforcement can be trusted, which is the highest among all races. The “other” category is the second highest, where 12% of respondents who strongly disagreed. Hispanic respondents were the third highest in the strongly disagree category at 10.5%. The least likely to strongly disagree that law enforcement could be trusted were white (7.1%) and Asian (6.9%) respondents.

2.2. Community law enforcement attitudes

Figure 2.5: Trust in local law enforcement by race and ethnicity



As seen in Table 2.2, 24.8% of respondents strongly supported the statement that local law enforcement treat people in the community fairly. Most respondents either strongly supported, somewhat supported, or are indifferent on this statement. Only 9.5% somewhat opposed this statement and 8.9% strongly opposed.

Table 2.2: How much do you agree or disagree the following statements about law enforcement in your community? **Law enforcement officers in my community treat people fairly.**

	No.	%
Strongly agree	529	24.8
Somewhat agree	622	29.1
Neither agree nor disagree	445	20.8
Somewhat disagree	203	9.5
Strongly disagree	190	8.9
Don't know/Unsure	148	6.9
Total	2,138	100.0

Figure 2.6 demonstrates that men and women seem to not have much of a difference in their perceptions of local law enforcement fairness. Overall, the majority of men and women agreed that law enforcement officers in their community treat people fairly. We found that 27.4% of men and 24.5% of women strongly agreed to the statement. Additionally, 30.7% of men and 27.9% of women somewhat agreed that local law enforcement treats their community members fairly.

However, interestingly, respondents that identified as non-binary were the most likely to strongly disagree (45.8%) and somewhat disagree (19.2%). Furthermore, there were zero non-binary respondents who strongly agreed with the statement. Another interesting finding is that those in the “other” category are the most likely to neither agree nor

2.2. Community law enforcement attitudes

disagree (40.7%).

Figure 2.6: How much do you agree or disagree the following statements about law enforcement in your community? **Law enforcement officers in my community treat people fairly** by gender

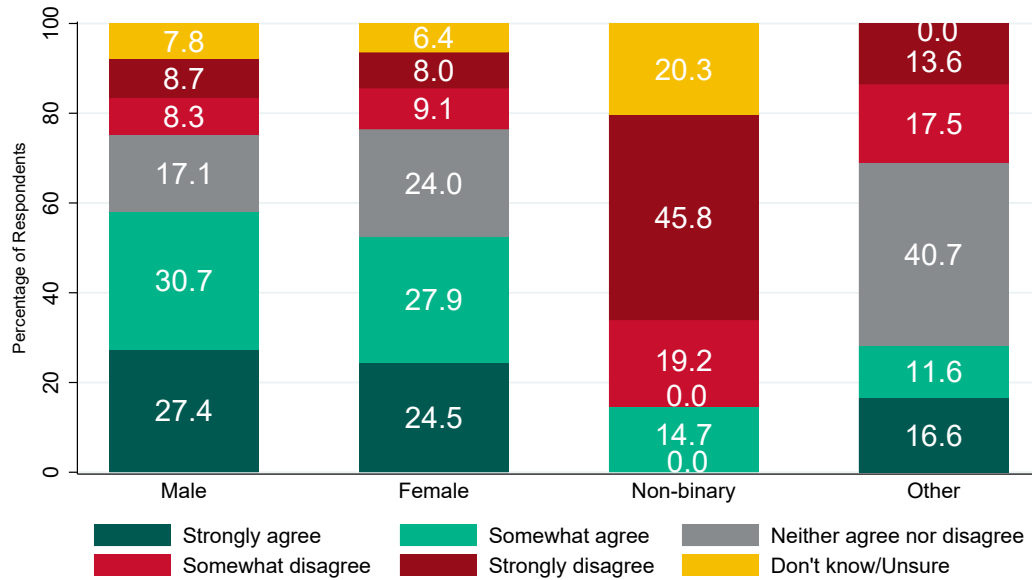
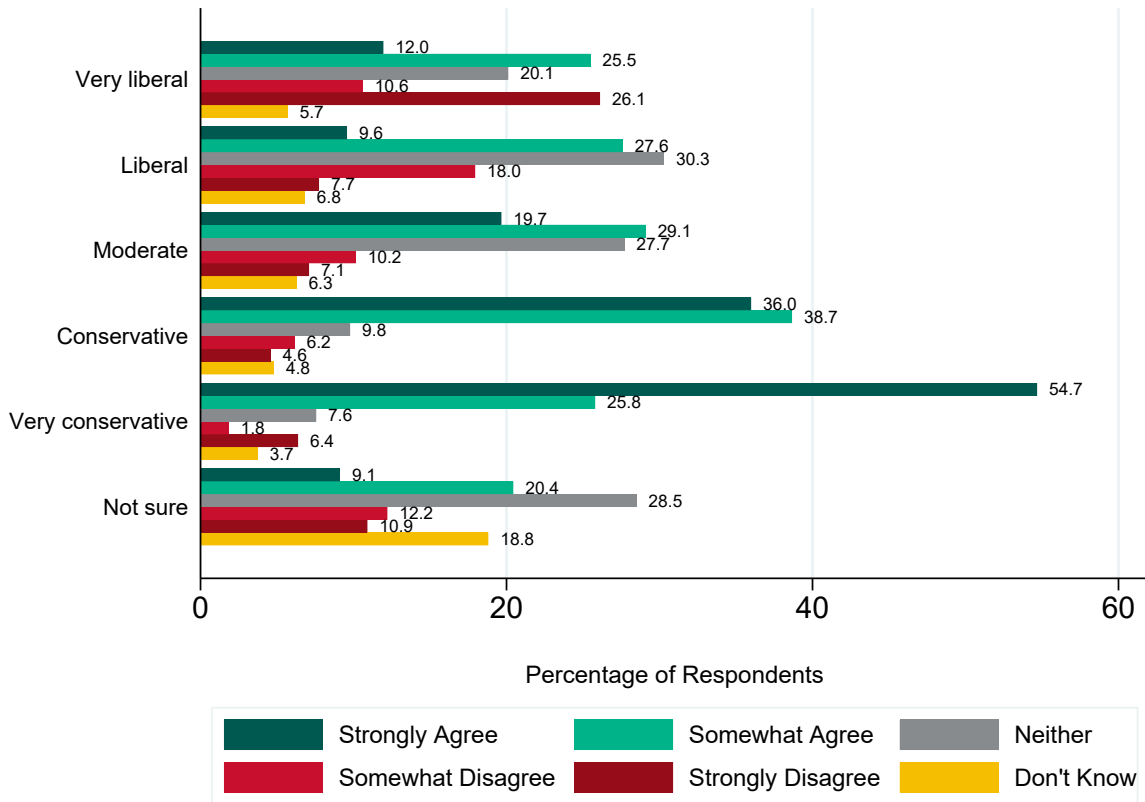


Figure 2.7 shows that very conservative respondents were the most likely to strongly agree that law enforcement is fair, at 54.7%. Conservative respondents were the second most likely to strongly agree (36%). A notable 38.7% of conservative respondents somewhat agreed, while 25.8% of very conservative respondents somewhat agreed that law enforcement is fair.

2.3. Local law enforcement responsiveness and crime prevention effectiveness

Figure 2.7: Perception that local law enforcement is fair across ideological groups



Whereas, 26.1% of very liberal and 18% of liberal respondents strongly disagreed that law enforcement is fair. Liberals exhibited the highest propensity to disagree among all respondent ideological groups. Liberal (30.3%), very liberal (20.1%), and not sure (28.5%) respondents are also the highest on the “neither” category, making them more likely to be ambivalent in their opinion of local law enforcement fairness.

2.3 Local law enforcement responsiveness and crime prevention effectiveness

This subsection explores respondents’ beliefs about local law enforcement responsiveness and crime prevention effectiveness, as well as one question about increasing funding for local law enforcement to reduce crime.

Table 2.3 reveals that the majority of respondents either strongly supported (22.9%) or somewhat supported (33.3%) the claim that law enforcement officers are responsive to community concerns. A fifth of respondents neither supported nor opposed (20.4%) the statement. Only 8.9% somewhat opposed, while 7.9% strongly opposed. The smallest amount (6.6%) of respondents were in the “unsure” category.

2.3. Local law enforcement responsiveness and crime prevention effectiveness

Table 2.3: How much do you agree or disagree the following statements about law enforcement in your community? **Law enforcement officers in my community are responsive to my community’s concerns.**

	No.	%
Strongly agree	490	22.9
Somewhat agree	712	33.3
Neither agree nor disagree	437	20.4
Somewhat disagree	190	8.9
Strongly disagree	169	7.9
Don’t know/Unsure	140	6.6
Total	2,139	100.0

The results in Table 2.4 are similar to those in Table 5.3. Most respondents supported the statement that law enforcement officers are proactive in preventing crime in their area (21.5% strongly supported, 28.2% somewhat supported), while only 10.9% of respondents somewhat opposed and 10.1% strongly opposed. Overall, it seems for both Table 5.3 and Table 5.6 the majority of respondents agreed that law enforcement is both responsive and proactive.

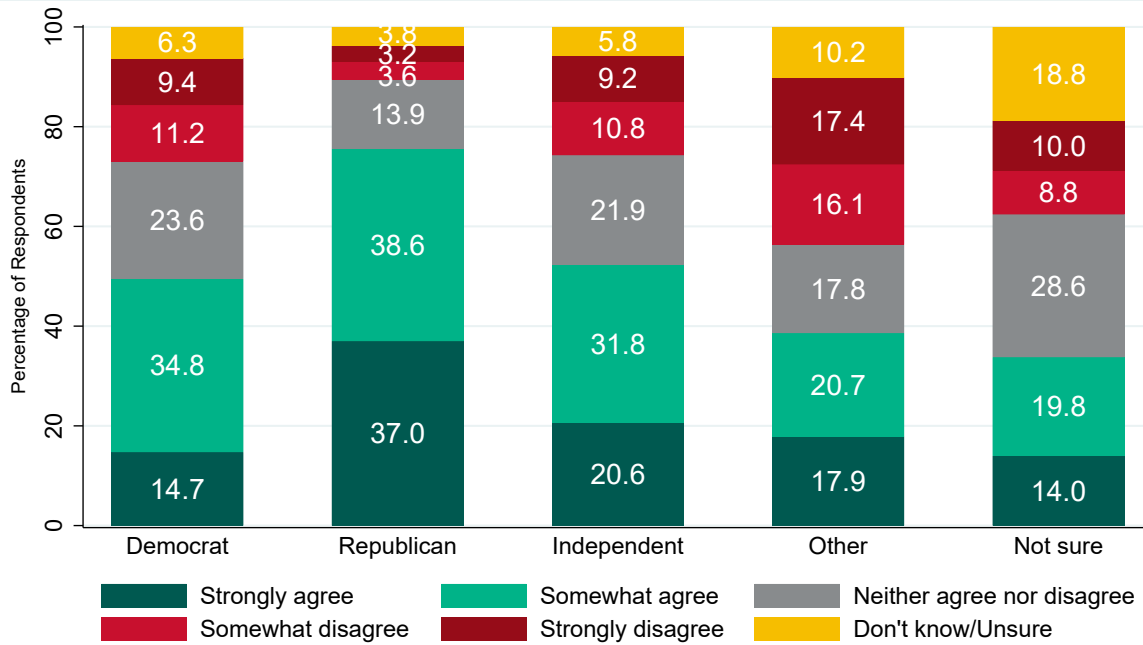
Table 2.4: How much do you agree or disagree the following statements about law enforcement in your community? **Law enforcement officers are proactive at preventing crime in my area.**

	No.	%
Somewhat agree	605	28.2
Neither agree nor disagree	480	22.4
Strongly agree	459	21.5
Somewhat disagree	233	10.9
Strongly disagree	217	10.1
Don’t know/Unsure	145	6.8
Total	2,140	100.0

Figure 2.8 shows that the majority of Republicans agreed that law enforcement is responsive (37% strongly agreed, 38.6% somewhat agreed). However, while still less than Republicans, the majority of Democrats also agreed that law enforcement is responsive (14.7% strongly agreed, 34.8% somewhat agreed). Independents are also relatively supportive at almost the majority (20.6% strongly supported, 31.8% somewhat supported). The level of disagreement among Democrats, Republicans, and Independents is quite low in juxtaposition to their levels of support. Further, the “other” and “not sure” categories are more evenly divided in terms of support levels than the other categories.

2.3. Local law enforcement responsiveness and crime prevention effectiveness

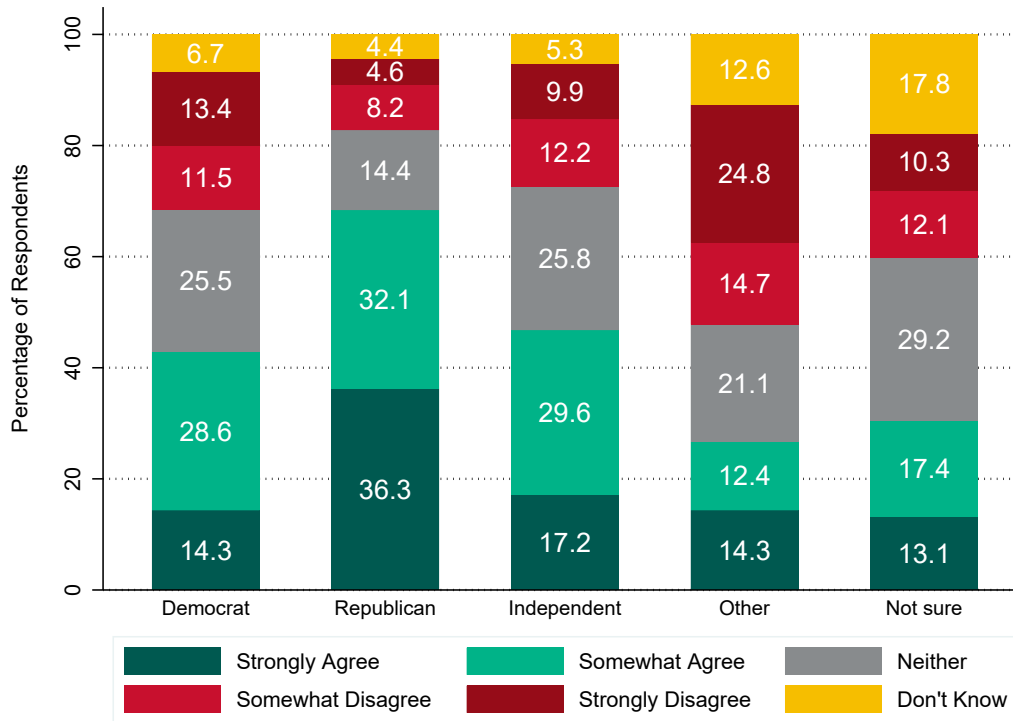
Figure 2.8: Perception that local law enforcement is responsive by party identification



For Figure 2.9, the trends are similar to those shown in Figure 2.8—the majority of Republican respondents (36.3% strongly, 32.1% somewhat) supported the idea that law enforcement is proactive against crime. Whereas, quite a bit of respondents that are Democrats supported the statement (14.3% strongly, 28.6% somewhat), but not as much as in Figure 2.8. Also, the trends found in Figure 2.9 for Independents, “other”, and “not sure” are similar to those seen in Figure 2.8.

2.3. Local law enforcement responsiveness and crime prevention effectiveness

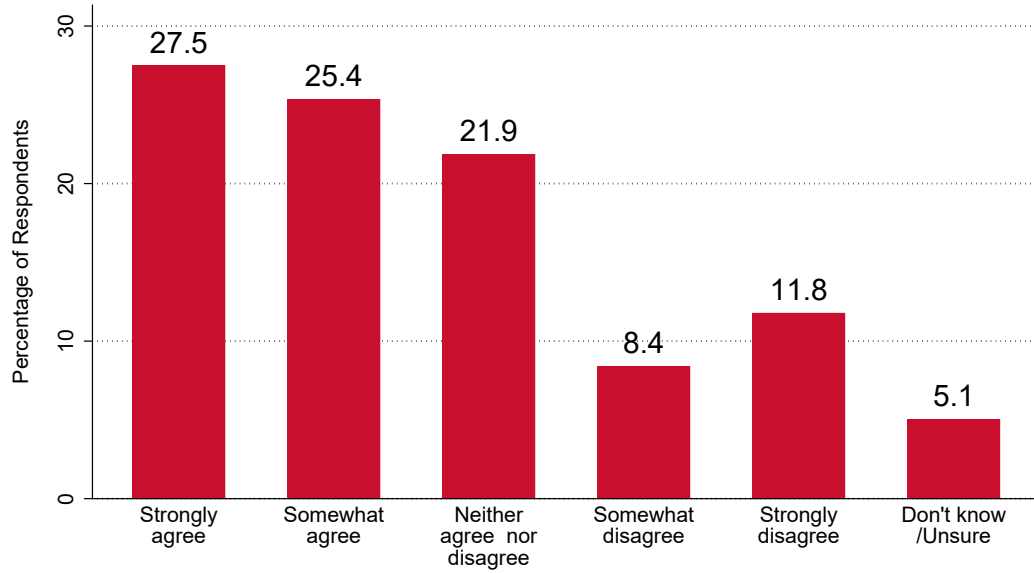
Figure 2.9: Perception that local law enforcement is proactive against crime by party identification



Respondents' opinions about if increasing funding can reduce crime can be found in Figure 2.10. Overall, the majority of respondents agreed that an increase in funding would help to reduce crime in the community. This is reflected in the 27.5% that strongly agreed and the 25.4% that somewhat agreed. In juxtaposition, only 8.4% of respondents somewhat disagreed and 11.8% strongly disagreed.

2.3. Local law enforcement responsiveness and crime prevention effectiveness

Figure 2.10: How much do you agree or disagree in the following statements about law enforcement in your community? **Increasing funding for law enforcement officers would help to reduce crime in my community.**



Chapter 3: Immigration

This chapter examines Texans' opinions on issues related to immigration reform as reflected in the Texas Trends survey. Respondents expressed their views on how the US government did and should manage immigrants and asylum seekers at the border and in the administrative and legal systems.¹²

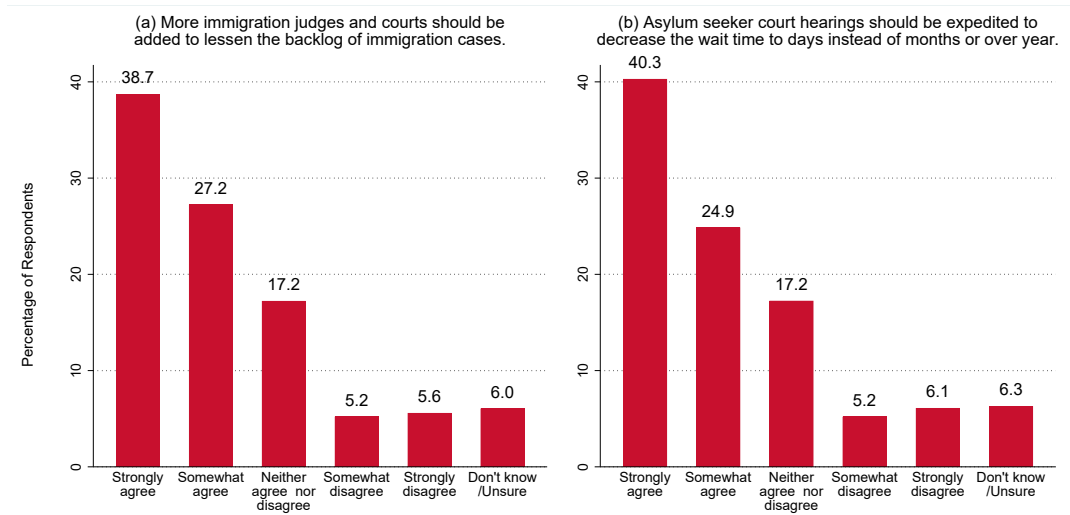
3.1 Reform in the court system

Survey participants were asked to express the degree to which they agree with two statements regarding reform in the court system. The first states that “More immigration judges and courts should be added to lessen the backlog of immigration cases.” As Figure 3.1 shows, 65.9% of respondents either strongly or somewhat agreed with this statement. In contrast, 10.7% either strongly or somewhat disagreed. 17.2% said they neither agree nor disagree with the statement, while 6% did not know or are unsure.

The second statement refers to “Asylum seeker court hearings should be expedited to decrease the wait time to days instead of months or over year.” Figure 3.1 reflects the overwhelming support for this statement—40.3% of survey takers strongly agreed with this statement, while 24.9% somewhat agreed. Only 6.1% of respondents strongly disagreed in addition to the 5.2% who somewhat disagreed.

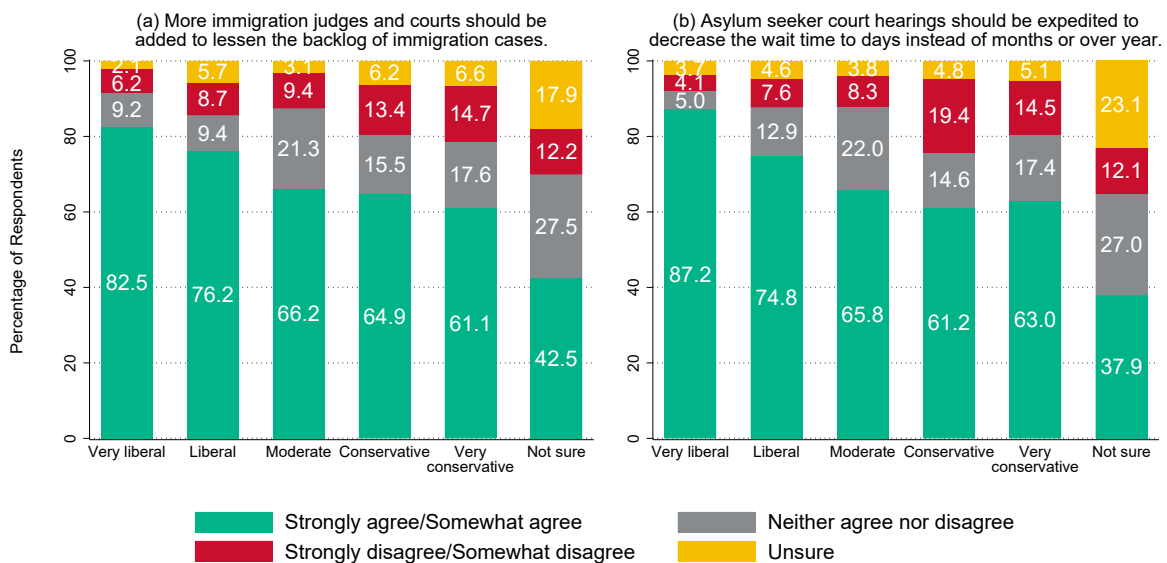
¹²For the complete summary of responses to immigration questions, see Appendix B.

Figure 3.1: To what extent do you agree with this statement?



How does Texans' support for these two specific reforms vary across political and ideological factors? The general support for adding more immigration judges to reduce backlog and expediting asylum court hearings remained evident across ideological groups as seen in Figure 3.2. These reforms were most popular among respondents who identify themselves as "very liberal" or "liberal." The level of support for both reforms are similar among moderates and conservatives/very conservatives. Those who are not sure of their ideological orientation seem to support these reforms the least—only 42.5% either strongly or somewhat supported the idea that the legal system should have more immigration judges and courts and 37.9% agreed somewhat or strongly that asylum seekers should have expedited hearings.

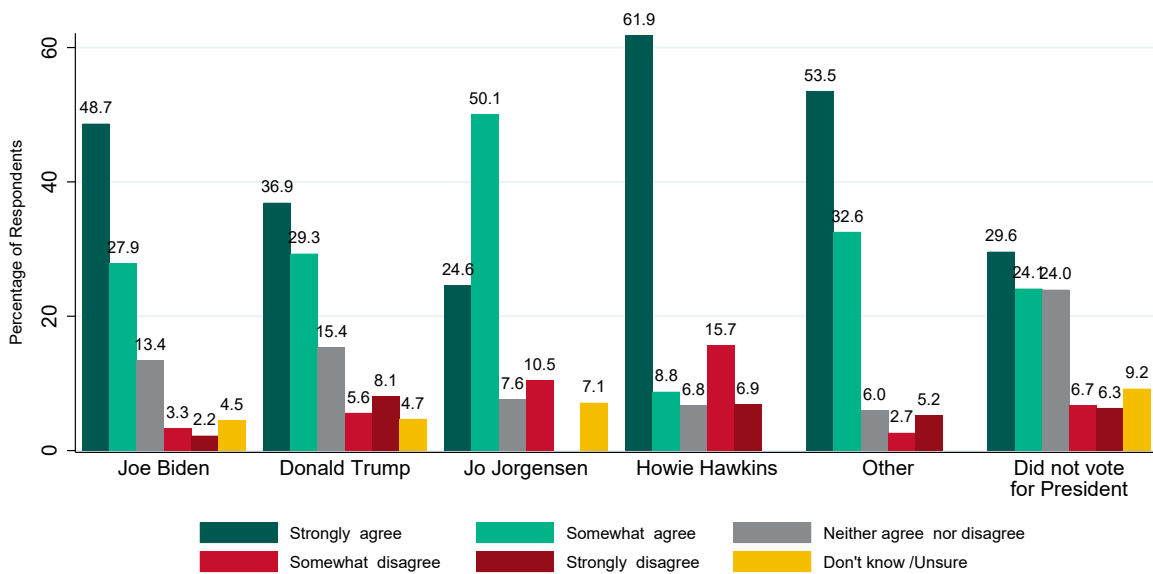
Figure 3.2: "To what extent do you agree with this statement?" across ideological groups



3.1. Reform in the court system

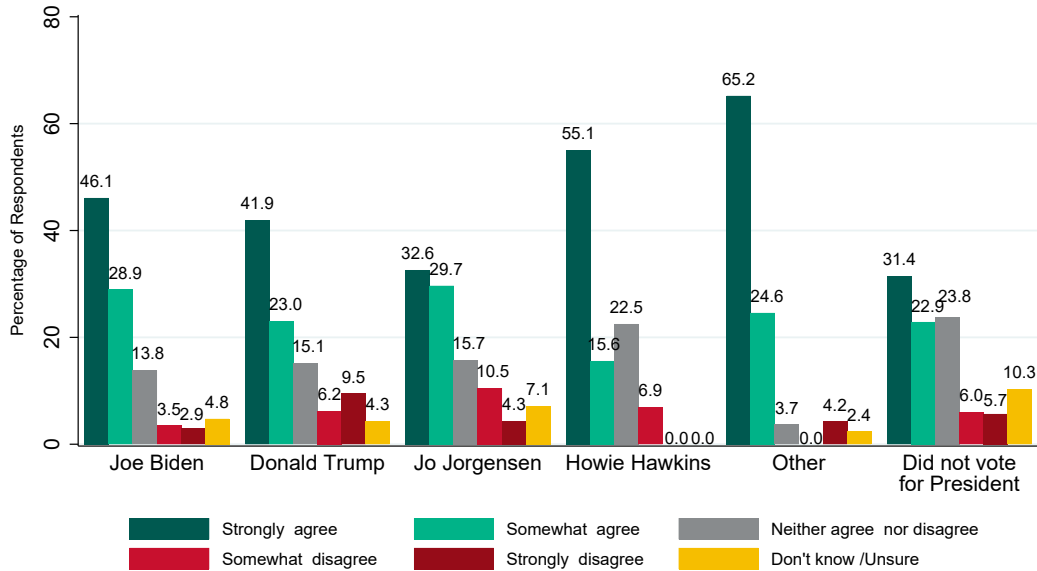
The majority of respondents who voted for Joe Biden (76.6% strongly or somewhat agreed) and Donald Trump (66.2% strongly or somewhat agreed) in the 2020 presidential election supported both reform ideas. However, this support is higher and more consistent across the two statements among Biden supporters compared to Trump supporters (Figures 3.3 and 3.4). Specifically, 48.7% of Biden supporters strongly agreed and 27.9% somewhat agreed with the statement, “More immigration judges and courts should be added to lessen the backlog of immigration cases” (Figure 3.3). The support for the statement is relatively lower among Trump voters with 36.9% who strongly agreed and 29.3% somewhat agreed.

Figure 3.3: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about immigration reform? **More immigration judges and courts should be added to lessen the backlog of immigration cases.**



The results show that 46.1% of Biden supporters strongly agreed and 28.9% somewhat agreed with “Asylum seeker court hearings should be expedited to decrease the wait time to days instead of months or over year” (Figure 3.4). Similar to the first statement, Trump voters’ support for the second statement is notably lower than Biden voters’, while the number of respondents who strongly agreed is higher. As seen in Figure 3.4, 41.9% of the Trump supporters strongly agree and 23.0% somewhat agree with the second statement.

Figure 3.4: How much do you agree or disagree in the following statements about immigration reform? **Asylum seeker court hearings should be expedited to decrease the wait time to days instead of months or over year.**



Party identifications also seem to play a role in the likelihood of respondents to agree with the given two statements of court reform related to immigration. Table 3.1 shows that self-identified Democrats are much more in agreement with the statement that, “More immigration judges and courts should be added to lessen the backlog of immigration cases,” than Republicans and Independents. A notable 46.4% of Democrats strongly and 27.6% somewhat agreed with this statement, whereas 36.8% of Republicans strongly and 26.6% somewhat agreed with it. Independents’ support for this statement is comparable to that of Republicans—38.3% of Independents strongly and 27.6% somewhat agreed that the number of immigration judges and courts should increase.

Table 3.1: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about immigration reforms? **More immigration judges and courts should be added to lessen the backlog of immigration cases.**

	Democrat		Republican		Independent		Not sure	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Strongly agree	378	46.4	195	36.8	207	38.3	27	28.0
Somewhat agree	225	27.6	141	26.6	149	27.6	24	25.0
Neither agree nor disagree	119	14.6	99	18.7	90	16.6	17	18.3
Somewhat disagree	42	5.1	26	4.9	25	4.6	10	10.4
Strongly disagree	21	2.6	40	7.6	33	6.1	10	10.4
Don't know/Unsure	31	3.8	29	5.4	37	6.9	7	7.9
Total	815	100.0	530	100.0	541	100.0	95	100.0

Note: Numbers and percentages are weighted and rounded to the nearest tenth.

3.1. Reform in the court system

We see similar divergence across party identifications regarding the second statement. When asked to express the extent to which they agree with the statement, “Asylum seeker court hearings should be expedited to decrease the wait time to days instead of months or over year,” 72.6% of Democrats strongly or somewhat agreed with it whereas 62.1% of Republicans and 66.9% of Independents strongly or somewhat agreed with it as reflected in Table 3.2.

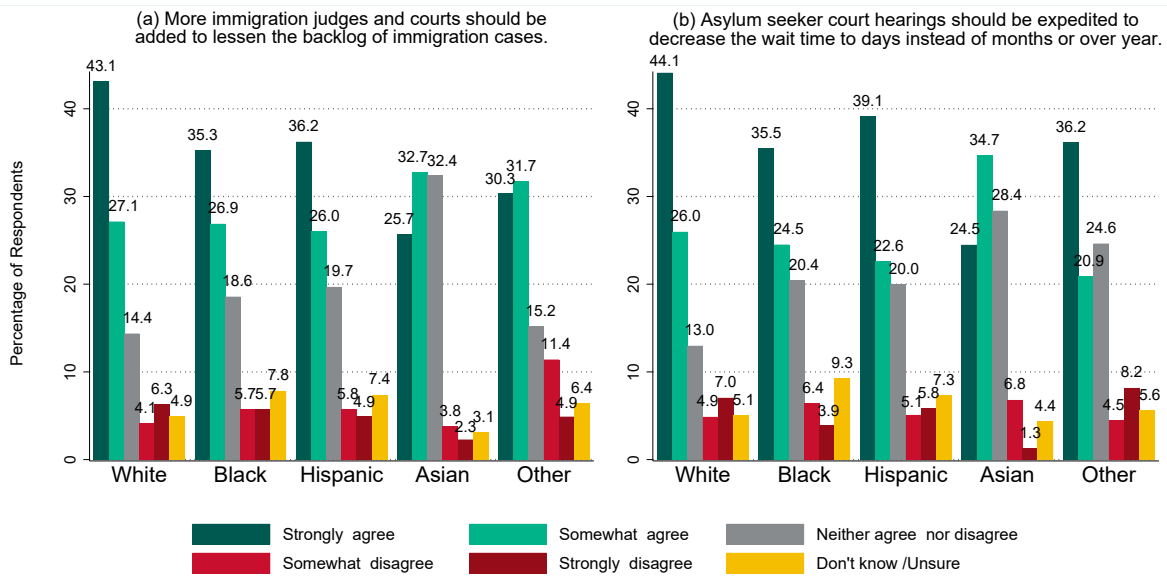
Table 3.2: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about immigration reforms? **Asylum seeker court hearings should be expedited to decrease the wait time to days instead of months or over year.**

	Democrat		Republican		Independent		Not sure	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Strongly agree	363	44.5	206	38.8	220	40.6	40	42.4
Somewhat agree	229	28.1	23	23.3	142	26.3	15	16.0
Neither agree nor disagree	132	16.1	84	15.9	88	16.3	16	16.4
Somewhat disagree	34	4.2	44	8.2	19	3.6	7	7.2
Strongly disagree	23	2.9	46	8.6	37	6.8	12	12.5
Don't know/Unsure	35	4.2	27	5.2	35	6.4	4	4.6
Total	815	100.0	530	100.0	541	100.0	95	100.0

Note: Numbers and percentages are weighted and rounded to the nearest tenth.

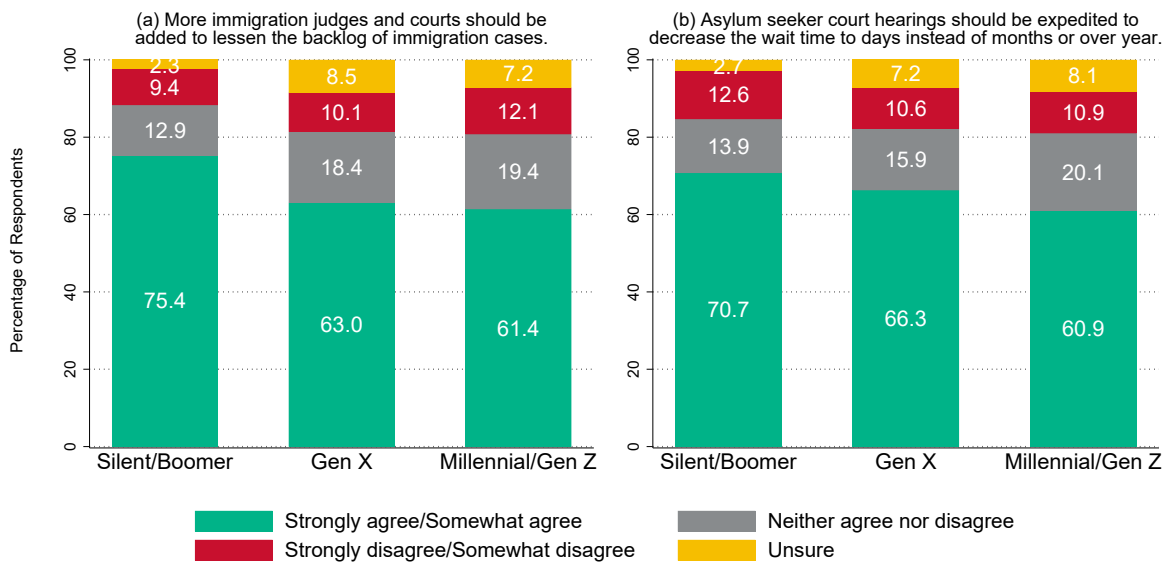
Respondents' racial identities are also reflected in their opinions about immigration-related issues. Figure 3.5 shows that the highest percentage of white respondents strongly supported the two statements on court reforms, 43.1% and 44.1%, respectively. The second highest level of strong support is found among Hispanic participants, though this support is not considerably different from the level of support among Black survey takers. Asian respondents appear to be somewhat tepid in their support for these reforms—a about a third of Asians somewhat agreed (32.7% (a) and 34.7% (b)) with the two statements, rather than a quarter who strongly agreed with them (25.7% (a) and 24.5% (b)).

Figure 3.5: “To what extent do you agree with this statement?” across race/ethnicity groups



A noteworthy and surprising pattern regarding these two statements that the survey revealed was that the younger generation appears less supportive of immigration reforms in the court system. As Figure 3.6 shows, respondents from the Silent and Baby Boomer generations (born between 1946-1964) expressed the highest level of support for both of the statements regarding immigration judges and courts (75.4%) as well as asylum seeker court hearings (70.7%). Generation X (born between 1965-1980) had notably lower number of respondents, who strongly or somewhat agreed with the two statements. The lowest level of support came from Millennials (born between 1981-1996) and Generation Z (born between 1997-2014) respondents.¹³

¹³The Gen X group had 515 respondents compared to 637 respondents in the Silent/Boomer generation and 987 from the Millennial/Gen Z group; each group was weighted and rounded to the nearest whole number.

Figure 3.6: “To what extent do you agree with this statement?” across generational groups

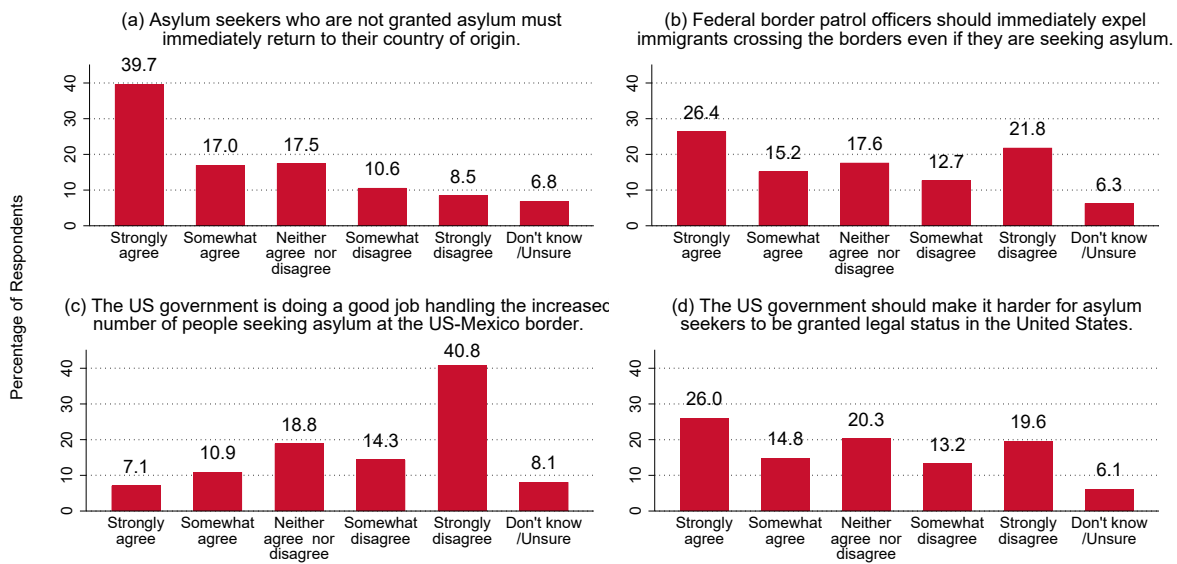
3.2 Reform related to asylum cases

A majority of the questions on immigration reform in this survey pertained to the government’s management of asylum seekers on different administrative levels. There were four statements in this category. Figure 3.7 lists each of these questions and demonstrates the overall level of support for each of these statements among survey takers.

Compared to the two questions on court reforms regarding immigration in the previous section, which enjoyed clear support from the majority of respondents, the asylum-related questions appear to be more divisive. When asked to what extent they agreed with the statement, “Asylum seekers who are not granted asylum must immediately return to their country of origin,” 39.7% of respondents strongly agreed and 17% somewhat agreed, compared to 8.5% who strongly disagreed and 10.6% who somewhat disagreed (Figure 3.7(a)). The question with regard to whether federal border patrol officers should immediately expel immigrants crossing the borders even if they are seeking asylum is even more divisive. As Figure 3.7(b) shows, 26.4% strongly agreed and 15.2% somewhat agreed while 21.8% strongly disagreed and 12.7% somewhat disagreed. A somewhat high percentage of respondents, 17.6%, say they neither agree nor disagree with this statement. We observe similar patterns for the question about if the US government should make it harder for asylum seekers to be granted a legal status in the U.S (Figure 3.7(d)). Additionally, we found that 26% strongly agreed and 14.8% somewhat agreed that asylum status should be harder to obtain. On the other end of the spectrum, 19.6% strongly and 13.2% somewhat disagreed that should be the case.

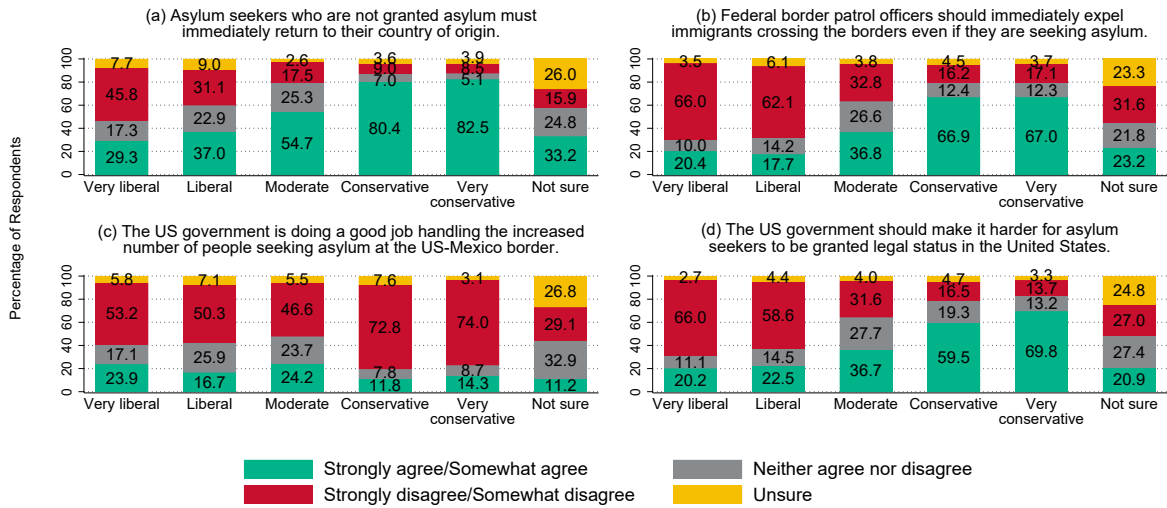
One statement the response to which is an exception to this pattern of disagreement among survey takers is, “The US government is doing a good job handling the increased number of people seeking asylum at the US-Mexico border.” As seen in Figure 3.7(c), 40.8% of respondents strongly and 14.3% somewhat disagree with this statement. Only 7.1% strongly and 10.9% somewhat agree that the government’s handling of increased asylum seekers at the southern border is effective. A non-negligible 18.8% neither agree nor disagree.

Figure 3.7: Responses to “To what extent do you agree with this statement?”



When we consider how support for the four statements regarding asylum seekers vary across ideological groups, we find that there is a strong ideological divergence across three of these statements. Figure 3.8 reveals that large majority of conservative or very conservative respondents strongly or somewhat agreed that asylum seekers who did not receive asylum must immediately return to their country of origin (80.4% and 82.5%, respectively) (Figure 3.8(a)), that federal border patrol should expel immigrants at the border regardless of whether they are seeking asylum or not (66.9% and 67%, respectively) (Figure 3.8(b)), and that asylum status should be harder to obtain (59.5% and 69.8%, respectively) (Figure 3.8(d)). Conversely, majority of liberal or very liberal participants disagreed with all three statements. There is a higher degree of consensus across ideological groups on whether the “US government is doing a good job handling the increased number of people seeking asylum at the US-Mexico border.” Almost a majority of each ideological group (excluding those who were not sure) think that the US was doing a good job (Figure 3.8(c)). Nonetheless, conservatives (72.8%) and those who said they were very conservative (74%) are still more critical of the government’s handling of the higher number of asylum seekers along Texas’ southern border compared to liberals.

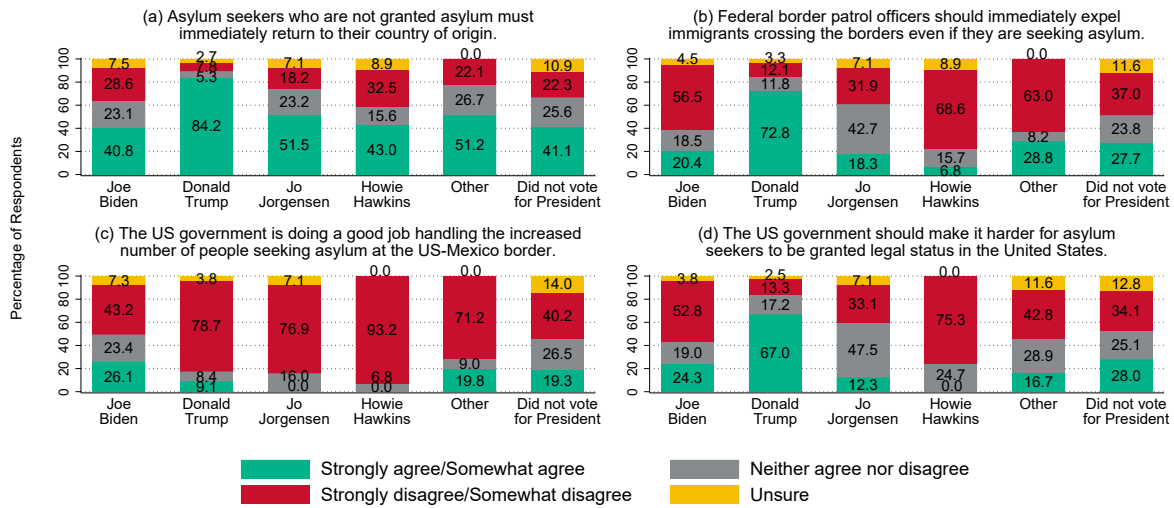
Figure 3.8: Responses to “To what extent do you agree with this statement?” across ideological groups



There is notable correlations between who the respondent voted for in the 2020 presidential election and how much they supported various ideas for asylum reform. In Figure 3.9(a), we observe that overwhelming majority of Trump voters (84.2%) agreed that asylum seekers must return to their home country as soon as their petition for asylum is denied compared to 40.8% of Biden voters. Figure 3.9(b) shows that the nearly three-fourths (72.8%) of Trump voters agreed that border officials should expel immigrants regardless of their intent, whereas none of the other voter groups had majority supporters for this idea. Similarly, 67% of Trump voters wanted tougher requirements for asylum seekers to be granted legal status in the US compared to about a quarter (24.3%) of Biden voters who shared the same sentiment (Figure 3.9(d)). Overall, most respondents did not feel that the government is doing a good job in handling the increased number of asylum seekers at the US-Mexico border (Figure 3.9(c)). Biden voters had the highest percentage of support that the government was handling the asylum seeker situation at the border well (26.1%) while less than a tenth of Trump supports shared this sentiment and no Jorgensen or Hawkins supporters thought the government was doing a good job.

3.2. Reform related to asylum cases

Figure 3.9: Responses to “To what extent do you agree with this statement?” across voting decisions in the 2020 presidential election



Similar to the case of immigration reforms in the court and justice system, race appears to correlate with opinions on asylum reforms. Nearly two-thirds of white respondents (65.7%) either strongly or somewhat supported the idea that asylum seekers with unsuccessful applications should at once return to their home countries (Figure 3.10(a)). This idea is less popular among Hispanic survey takers—47.6% strongly or somewhat supported it. The highest percentage of Asian participants neither agreed nor disagreed with the statement. Black respondents had the lowest support for it with 45.5% strongly or somewhat agreeing with the proposition.

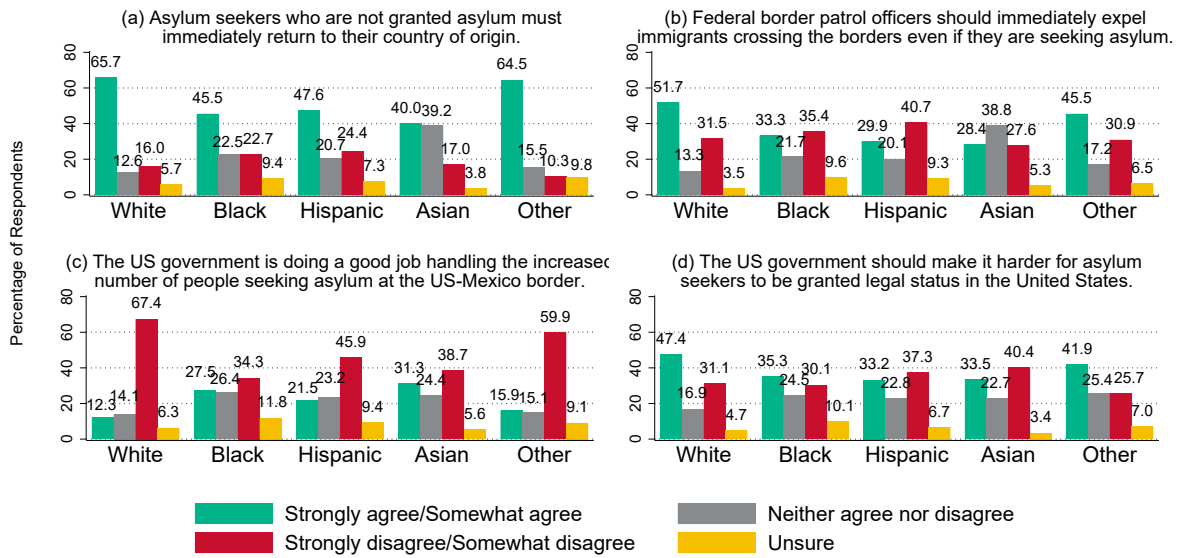
The second statement regarding asylum reform—“Federal border patrol officers should immediately expel immigrants crossing the borders even if they are seeking asylum”—has lower support across all racial groups (Figure 3.10(b)) compared to the first statement. Among white participants, 51.7% strongly or somewhat agreed with this statement, while 31.5% of them strongly or somewhat disagreed with it. Slightly more than two-fifths of Hispanic respondents disliked this idea (40.7%). Notably, 20.1% of them neither agreed nor disagreed. A larger percentage of Asian respondents (38.8%) also neither agreed nor disagreed with this idea.

How do different racial groups view the government’s effectiveness in handling increased number of asylum seekers at the US-Mexico border? Figure 3.10(c) provides some insight. Most of white respondents, 67.4%, indicate that they disagree that the government is doing a good job. Similarly, most of the Hispanic individuals taking part in the survey disagree with it, though the levels are lower than whites—45.9% of them strongly or somewhat disagreed with it. A considerable percentage of Black (34.3%) and Asian (38.7%) respondents disagreed with the statement that the government is handling the increased number of asylum seekers well, though a large percentage of these groups also neither agreed nor disagreed.

Finally, the distribution of support for the statement that, “The US government should make it harder for asylum seekers to be granted legal status in the United States,” seems to be relatively equal across specific racial groups (Figure 3.10(d)). One notable exception is among white respondents where there was close to a majority (47.4%) who supported this statement, while slightly more than a third of Hispanic survey participants (37.3%) and two-fifths of Asian respondents (40.4%) disagreed.

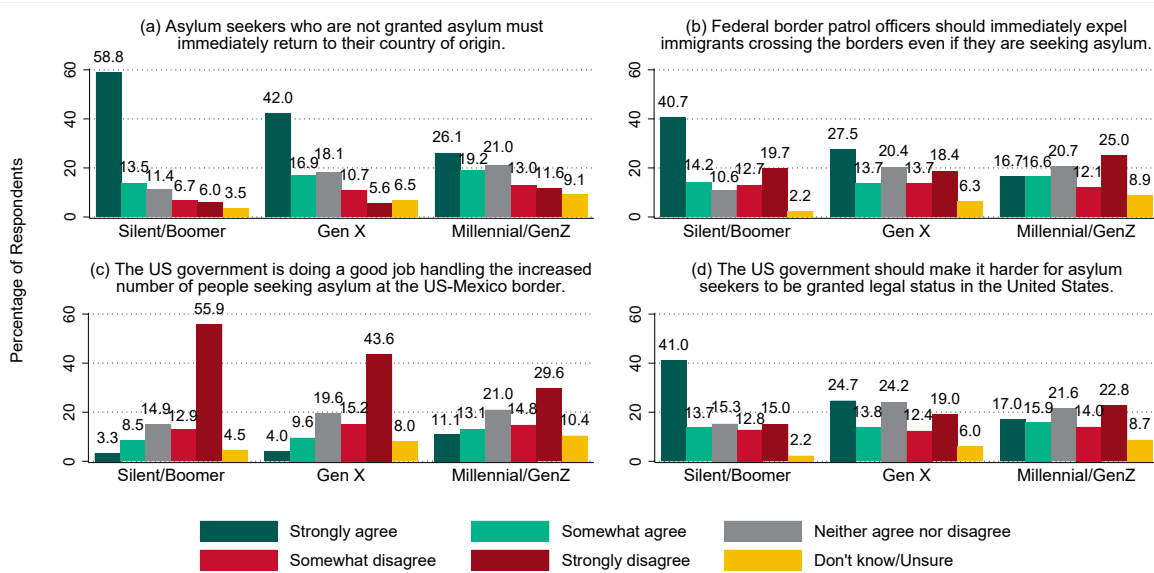
3.2. Reform related to asylum cases

Figure 3.10: Responses to “To what extent do you agree with this statement?” across racial/ethnic groups



Given that the court reform ideas examined in the previous section had a strong generational component, we explore how responses to the asylum statements diverge across age groups (Figure 3.11). The generation to which a respondent belongs to seems to have correlation with their responses. For example, as seen in Figure 3.11(a), an overwhelming majority of Silent/Boomer generation respondents agree (72.3% strongly or somewhat agreed) that asylum seekers who are not granted asylum should return to their home country immediately. Generation X had relatively fewer respondents who supported this reform idea (58.9% strongly or somewhat agreed); Millennial and Generation Z survey takers had the fewest number of supporters for it (45.3% strongly or somewhat agreed). The second statement that seems to have a strong generational component is whether the US government is handling the increased number of people seeking asylum at the US-Mexico border. Respondents from older generation (Silent/Boomer) were more critical of the government (68.8% strongly or somewhat disagreed) than the youngest generation (44.4% strongly or somewhat disagreed) (Figure 3.11(c)). There is some generational difference regarding the other two statements, but the extent of the difference is smaller.

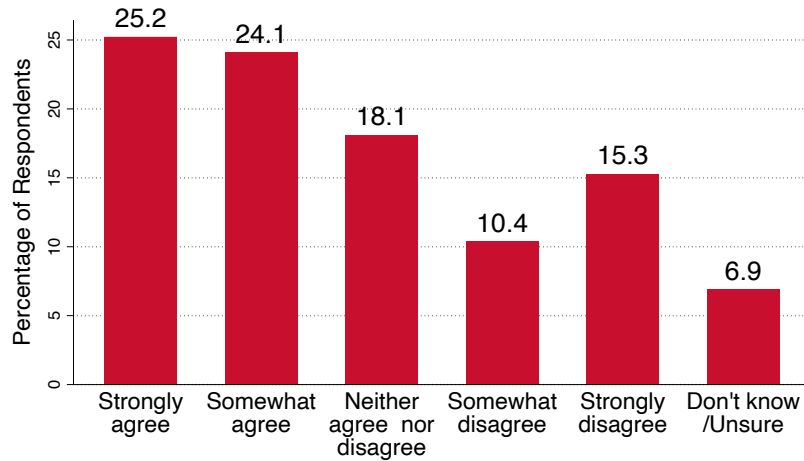
Figure 3.11: Responses to “To what extent do you agree with this statement?” across age groups



3.3 Reform related to legal immigration

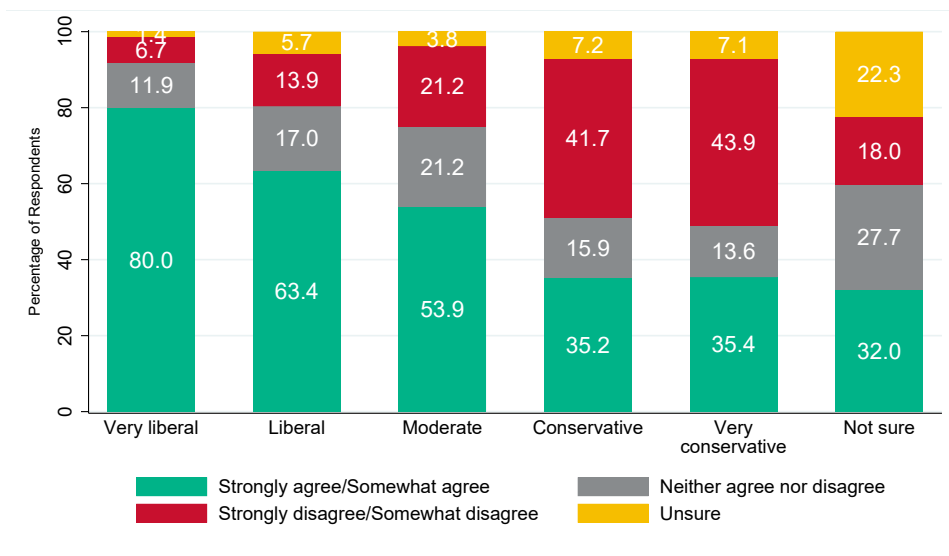
In this wave of the Texas Trends survey, we asked respondents about their opinions regarding legal immigration (Figure 3.12). Specifically, respondents were asked to express the extent they agreed with “The number of work visas should be increased for immigrants to enter the country legally.” Similar to the asylum questions in the previous section, the support for this statement is widely distributed. We found that 25.2% of all survey participants strongly and 24.1% somewhat agreed with this statement, while 15.3% strongly and 10.4% somewhat disagreed with this statement. Almost a fifth, 18.1%, neither agreed nor disagreed.

Figure 3.12: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about immigration reform? **The number of work visas should be increased for immigrants to enter the country legally.**



Similar to the asylum issues, the question about increasing work visas has strong ideological component—a majority of people who are very liberal, liberal, or moderate agreed that work visas numbers should go up (Figure 3.13). We found 35.2% of conservatives and 35.4% of very conservatives similarly agreed, however, a larger percentage of conservatives (41.7%) and very conservative respondents (43.9%) strongly or somewhat opposed this idea.

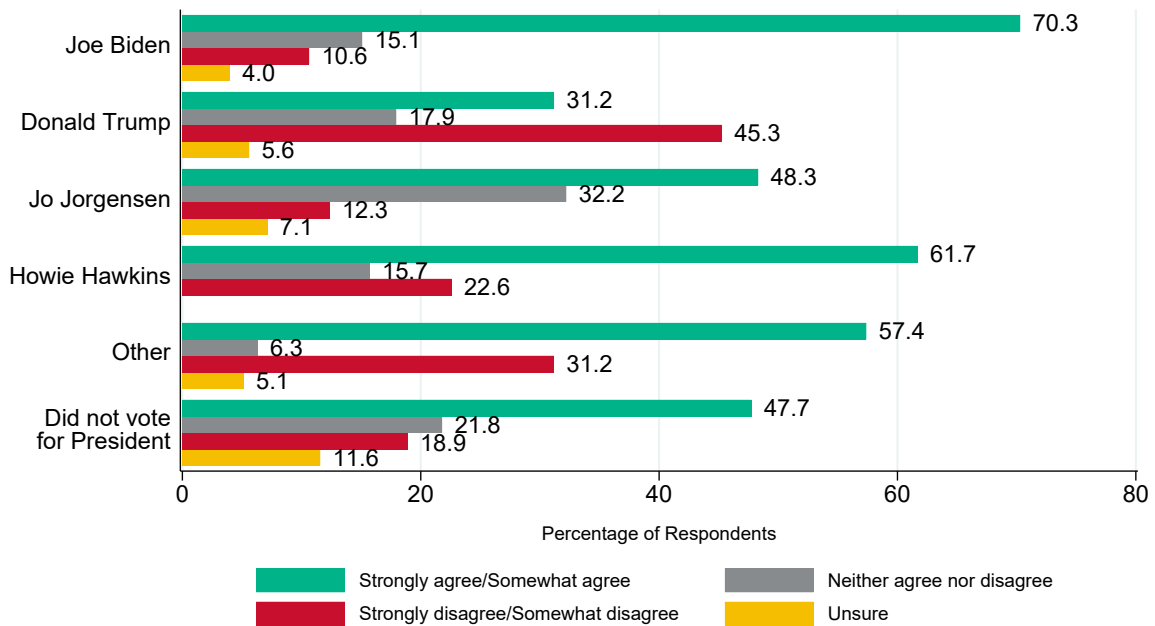
Figure 3.13: Responses to “To what extent do you agree with this statement?” across ideological groups: **The number of work visas should be increased for immigrants to enter the country legally.**



3.3. Reform related to legal immigration

To the extent that ideological groups correspond to votes in elections, we expected to find correlation between support for increased work visa and vote for 2020 presidential election. Figure 3.14 confirms this expectation—42.7% of Biden voters strongly agreed and 27.6% somewhat agreed (totalling 70.3%) that the government should increase the number of work visas, compared to 10.4% of Trump voters who strongly agreed and 19.8% who somewhat agreed.

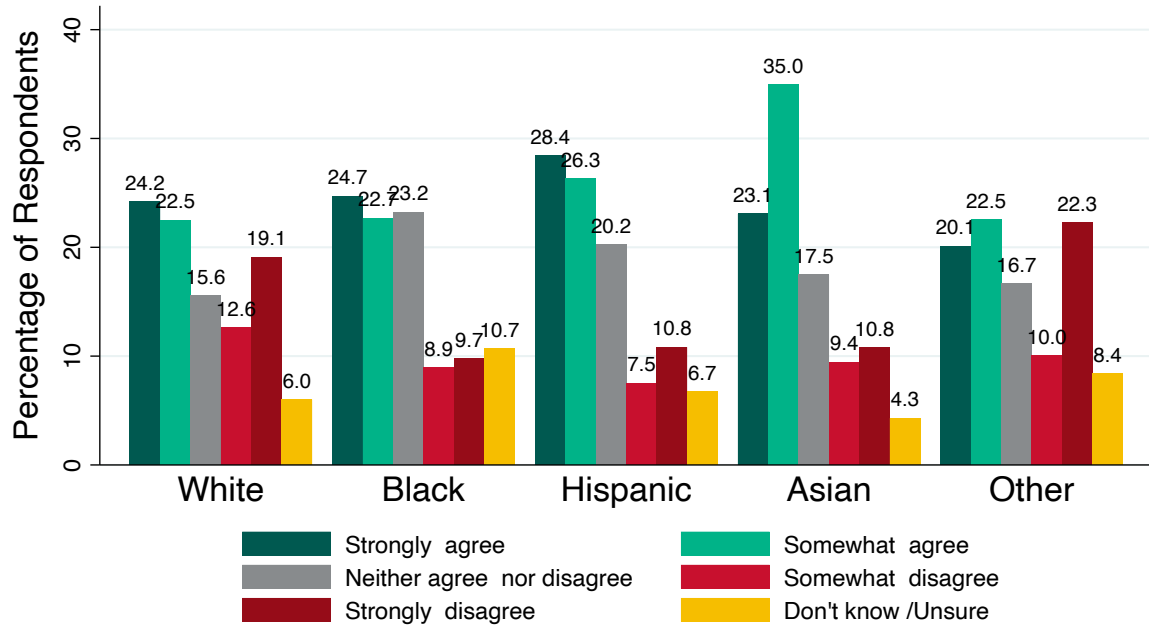
Figure 3.14: Agreement or disagreement of immigration policy reform by support for various candidates in the 2020 presidential election: **The number of work visas should be increased for immigrants to enter the country legally.**



Do views on work visa vary along with racial and ethnic identity? Figure 3.15 shows that it may not—close to a majority of all specific racial/ethnic groups supported the idea that the number of work visas should be increased to expand opportunities for legal immigration. Nevertheless, Hispanics had the highest percentage of those who strongly agreed (28.4%) with the statement, while Asians somewhat agreed with 35%. Conversely, white respondents had the highest percentage who strongly disagreed with 19.1%.

3.3. Reform related to legal immigration

Figure 3.15: Agreement or disagreement with immigration policy reform across racial groups: **The number of work visas should be increased for immigrants to enter the country legally.**



Conclusion

The criminal justice portion of this report sheds light on Texans' opinions on Senate Bill 6 and attitudes regarding local law enforcement. There were differences among groups on these issue dimensions depending on ideology, party identification, voting record, gender, and race. Conservatives seemed to be the most favorable of Senate Bill 6. However, there was still substantial support for Senate Bill 6 among liberals (albeit less than conservatives). Overall, support for Senate Bill 6 as a policy outweighed the disagreement on the issue. Further, conservatives and Republicans were the most supportive of statements regarding fairness and responsiveness of law enforcement. There was still considerable levels of support for local law enforcement among Democrats as well. Furthermore, almost or half of respondents who identified as a Republican or Democrat that agreed that law enforcement was responsive and effective. As far as racial/ethnic categories, white respondents placed the most trust in local law enforcement and Black respondents placed the least. Lastly, over half of the survey respondents believed that one way to decrease crime in their communities was to increase funding for law enforcement officers.

This round of the Texas Trends Survey also revealed Texans' opinions on several critical issues related to immigration reform ranging from expanding immigration courts to tightening guidelines for border patrol to increasing the number of available work visas. Views on aspects of immigration reform diverged along several dimensions including: ideology, party identification, age, and race. Liberals tend to be more supportive of reforms in the courts, whereas conservatives tend to take a tougher stance regarding asylum cases on various levels of governance. Democrats and those who voted for the Democratic Party candidate in the 2020 presidential election were more in favor of expanding legal immigration opportunities and reforming the court, while Republicans were more critical of the government's effectiveness at the US-Mexico border. Survey takers from the older generation (Silent/Boomer) tend to be tougher and more critical too when it came to asylum cases, but they were also in agreement that courts needed to expand to process immigration cases faster, similar to liberals. Most reform ideas presented in the survey seemed to find the highest level of support among white respondents.

However, there appeared to be a baseline understanding among Texans that there is a need for immigration reform, as reflected in questions such as the one that asked whether the US government is doing a good job handling increased number of asylum seekers at the southern border of Texas. There was a higher degree of agreement that the government is not managing it well among various types of respondents compared to agreement on other questions. It is important to note that although there are differences among different demographic and political groups, there is baseline support for most of them across the different groups that we examined.

Appendix A: Demographics

Note: Tables have been weighted and all numbers and percents have been rounded.

Table 4.1: Gender

	No.	%
Male	885	41.4
Female	925	43.2
Non-binary	10	0.5
Other	8	0.4
Did not answer	312	14.6
Total	2,140	100.0

Table 4.2: Age

	No.	%
18 to 29	549	25.6
30 to 44	544	25.4
45 to 64	677	31.6
65 or older	371	17.3
Total	2,140	100.0

Table 4.3: Generation

	No.	%
Millennial (1981-1996)/Generation Z (1997-2014)	987	46.1
Generation X (1965-1980)	515	24.1
Silent (1928-1945)/Boomer (1946-1964)	637	29.8
Total	2,140	100.0

Table 4.4: Race and Ethnicity

	No.	%
White	1,028	48.0
Black	293	13.7
Hispanic	622	29.1
Asian	82	3.8
Native American	21	1.0
Middle Eastern	6	0.3
Other	49	2.3
Mixed	39	1.8
Total	2,140	100.0

Table 4.5: Race and Ethnicity Recoded

	No.	%
White	1,028	48.0
Black	293	13.7
Hispanic	622	29.1
Asian	82	3.8
Other	115	5.4
Total	2,140	100.0

Table 4.6: Hispanic Origin (if respondent did not answer that they were Hispanic for race or ethnicity)

	No.	%
Yes	152	10.0
No	1,366	90.0
Total	1,518	100.0

Table 4.7: Educational Attainment

	No.	%
Less than High School diploma	113	5.3
High school diploma or GED	738	34.5
Some college, no degree	419	19.6
Associate's Degree	197	9.2
Bachelor's Degree	444	20.8
Master's, Doctoral, or Professional degree	229	10.7
Total	2,140	100.0

Table 4.8: Employment Status

	No.	%
Full-time	807	37.7
Part-time	249	11.6
Temporarily laid off	28	1.3
Unemployed	208	9.7
Retired	372	17.4
Permanently disabled	123	5.8
Homemaker	165	7.7
Student	136	6.4
Other	43	2.0
Did not answer	7	0.3
Total	2,140	100.0

Table 4.9: Household Income

	No.	%
Less than \$10,000	173	8.1
\$10,000 - \$19,999	161	7.5
\$20,000 - \$29,999	260	12.2
\$30,000 - \$39,999	177	8.3
\$40,000 - \$49,999	175	8.2
\$50,000 - \$59,999	163	7.6
\$60,000 - \$69,999	124	5.8
\$70,000 - \$79,999	120	5.6
\$80,000 - \$99,999	168	7.9
\$100,000 - \$119,999	106	4.9
\$120,000 - \$149,999	113	5.3
\$150,000 - \$199,999	93	4.3
\$200,000 - \$249,999	35	1.6
\$250,000 - \$349,999	25	1.2
\$350,000 - \$499,999	13	0.6
\$500,000 or more	10	0.5
Prefer not to say	217	10.2
Did not answer	7	0.3
Total	2,140	100.0

Table 4.10: Marital Status

	No.	%
Married	972	45.4
Separated	42	2.0
Divorced	225	10.5
Widowed	86	4.0
Never married	687	32.1
Domestic/Civil partnership	121	5.6
Did not answer	7	0.3
Total	2,140	100.0

Table 4.11: Party Identification

	No.	%
Democrat	699	32.7
Republican	617	28.8
Independent	555	26.0
Not sure	170	7.9
Other	91	4.3
Did not answer	7	0.3
Total	2,140	100.0

Table 4.12: Ideology

	No.	%
Very liberal	221	10.3
Liberal	300	14.0
Moderate	652	30.5
Conservative	447	20.9
Very conservative	293	13.7
Not sure	219	10.3
Did not answer	8	0.4
Total	2,140	100.0

Appendix B: Survey Responses

Note: Tables have been weighted and all numbers and percents have been rounded.

Criminal Justice

Table 5.1: In September 2021, Governor Greg Abbott signed Senate Bill 6 into law requiring individuals with previous convictions for violent crimes to post a cash bail before released. To what degree do you support this policy?

	No.	%
Strongly support	824	38.5
Somewhat support	413	19.3
Neither support nor oppose	357	16.7
Somewhat oppose	134	6.3
Strongly oppose	177	8.3
Don't know/Unsure	234	10.9
Total	2,140	100.0

Table 5.2: How much do you agree or disagree the following statements about law enforcement in your community? **I trust law enforcement officers in my community.**

	No.	%
Strongly agree	581	27.1
Somewhat agree	674	31.5
Neither agree nor disagree	364	17.0
Somewhat disagree	214	10.0
Strongly disagree	213	9.9
Don't know/Unsure	95	4.4
Total	2,140	100.0

Table 5.3: How much do you agree or disagree the following statements about law enforcement in your community? **Law enforcement officers in my community are responsive to my community’s concerns.**

	No.	%
Strongly agree	490	22.9
Somewhat agree	712	33.3
Neither agree nor disagree	437	20.4
Somewhat disagree	190	8.9
Strongly disagree	169	7.9
Don’t know/Unsure	140	6.6
Total	2,139	100.0

Table 5.4: How much do you agree or disagree the following statements about law enforcement in your community? **Law enforcement officers in my community treat people fairly.**

	No.	%
Strongly agree	529	24.8
Somewhat agree	622	29.1
Neither agree nor disagree	445	20.8
Somewhat disagree	203	9.5
Strongly disagree	190	8.9
Don’t know/Unsure	148	6.9
Total	2,138	100.0

Table 5.5: How much do you agree or disagree the following statements about law enforcement in your community? **Increasing funding for law enforcement officers would help to reduce crime in my community.**

	No.	%
Strongly agree	588	27.5
Somewhat agree	543	25.4
Neither agree nor disagree	468	21.9
Somewhat disagree	180	8.4
Strongly disagree	252	11.8
Don’t know/Unsure	108	5.1
Total	2,139	100.0

Table 5.6: How much do you agree or disagree the following statements about law enforcement in your community? **Law enforcement officers are proactive at preventing crime in my area.**

	No.	%
Somewhat agree	605	28.2
Neither agree nor disagree	480	22.4
Strongly agree	459	21.5
Somewhat disagree	233	10.9
Strongly disagree	217	10.1
Don't know/Unsure	145	6.8
Total	2,140	100.0

Immigration Reform

Table 5.7: Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree for statements related to immigration reform: **More immigration judges and courts should be added to lessen the backlog of immigration cases.**

	No.	%
Strongly agree	828	38.7
Somewhat agree	583	27.2
Neither agree nor disagree	368	17.2
Somewhat disagree	111	5.2
Strongly disagree	120	5.6
Don't know/Unsure	129	6.0
Total	2,139	100.0

Table 5.8: Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree for statements related to immigration reform: **Asylum seeker court hearings should be expedited to decrease the wait time to days instead of months or over year.**

	No.	%
Strongly agree	861	40.3
Somewhat agree	531	24.9
Neither agree nor disagree	369	17.2
Somewhat disagree	111	5.2
Strongly disagree	131	6.1
Don't know/Unsure	135	6.3
Total	2,138	100.0

Table 5.9: Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree for statements related to immigration reform: **Asylum seekers who are not granted asylum must immediately return to their country of origin.**

	No.	%
Strongly agree	849	39.7
Somewhat agree	363	17.0
Neither agree nor disagree	374	17.5
Somewhat disagree	226	10.6
Strongly disagree	182	8.5
Don't know/Unsure	146	6.8
Total	2,139	100.0

Table 5.10: Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree for statements related to immigration reform: **The number of work visas should be increased for immigrants to enter the country legally.**

	No.	%
Strongly agree	540	25.2
Somewhat agree	516	24.1
Neither agree nor disagree	387	18.1
Somewhat disagree	222	10.4
Strongly disagree	327	15.3
Don't know/Unsure	148	6.9
Total	2,139	100.0

Table 5.11: Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree for statements related to immigration reform: **Federal border patrol officers should immediately expel immigrants crossing the borders even if they are seeking asylum.**

	No.	%
Strongly agree	565	26.4
Somewhat agree	325	15.2
Neither agree nor disagree	377	17.6
Somewhat disagree	271	12.7
Strongly disagree	467	21.8
Don't know/Unsure	134	6.3
Total	2,139	100.0

Table 5.12: Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree for statements related to immigration reform: **The US government is doing a good job handling the increased number of people seeking asylum at the US-Mexico border.**

	No.	%
Strongly agree	151	7.1
Somewhat agree	233	10.9
Neither agree nor disagree	403	18.8
Somewhat disagree	306	14.3
Strongly disagree	872	40.8
Don't know/Unsure	173	8.1
Total	2,138	100.0

Table 5.13: Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree for statements related to immigration reform: **The US government should make it harder for asylum seekers to be granted legal status in the United States.**

	No.	%
Strongly agree	555	26.0
Somewhat agree	315	14.8
Neither agree nor disagree	434	20.3
Somewhat disagree	283	13.2
Strongly disagree	418	19.6
Don't know/Unsure	130	6.1
Total	2,134	100.0