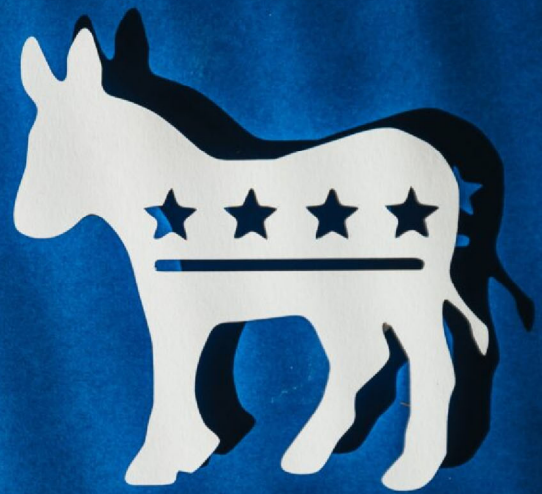
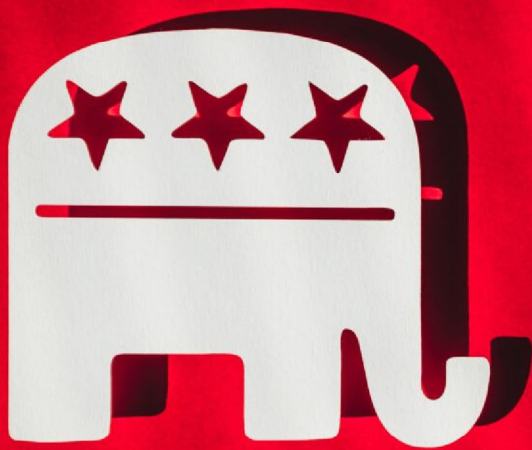


HARRIS COUNTY PRIMARIES 2026

DEMOCRATIC & REPUBLICAN COUNTYWIDE RACES



Hobby School of Public Affairs
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON



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Harris County Primaries 2026 Democratic & Republican Countywide Races February 2026

The Hobby School of Public Affairs at the University of Houston conducted representative surveys of likely March 2026 Democratic and Republican primary voters in Harris County to assess their preferences and opinions about candidates in the March 2026 Democratic primary election. A person's likelihood of voting in the March Democratic and Republican primaries was determined based on a combination of their prospective intention to participate combined with their record of past primary election participation in 2024 and in 2022.

Voters were contacted via SMS text message and directed to an online survey platform with the option to answer the survey in English or Spanish. The surveys were fielded between February 3 and February 10. Representative of voters who are likely to participate in the 2026 Harris County Democratic primary, the sample population for the Democratic survey is 2,000 (with a margin of error of +/- 2.19%). Representative of voters who are likely to participate in the 2026 Harris County Republican primary, the sample population for the Republican survey also is 2,000 (with a margin of error of +/- 2.19%).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the Democratic primary for the position of County Judge of Harris County, Annise Parker leads Letitia Plummer among likely voters by a 21 percentage point margin (46% to 25%), with Matt Salazar in third place with 5% and 24% undecided.

61% and 42% of likely voters have a favorable opinion of Parker and Plummer, respectively, while 20% and 51% do not know enough about Parker and Plummer, respectively, to have an opinion of them.

In the Democratic primary for the position of County Attorney of Harris County, 61% of likely voters are unsure how they would vote in the contest while 26% intend to vote for Abbie Kamin and 13% for Audrie Lawton Evans.

65% and 76% of likely primary voters do not know enough about Kamin and Lawton Evans, respectively, to have an opinion of them.

In the races for Harris County Democratic Party Chair and Harris County District Clerk, 77% and 82% of likely voters are unsure for whom they would vote for in these contests, respectively.

This year, Harris County voters are likely to cast about one out of every six votes in the Texas U.S. Senate Democratic primary. Among Harris County Democratic primary likely voters, Jasmine Crockett leads James Talarico by two percentage points, 45% to 43%, with 1% supporting Ahmad Hassan and 11% undecided.

The three Democrats who hold elective office in Harris County government who have the highest net-favorability ratings (percentage favorable minus percentage unfavorable) among likely Democratic primary voters are Rodney Ellis (50%), Adrian Garcia (45%), and Ed Gonzalez (45%).

In the Republican primary for the position of County Judge of Harris County, more than half (54%) of likely primary voters are unsure whom they would vote for, while 21% intend to vote for Orlando Sanchez, 10% for Marty Lancton, 7% for Aliza Dutt and 8% for three other candidates combined.

More than half (54%) of likely primary voters don't know enough about Sanchez to have an opinion of him, with 74% and 77% not knowing enough about Lancton and Dutt, respectively, to have an opinion of them.

64%, 66% and 75% of likely Republican primary voters are unsure whom they would vote for in the Harris County Republican primaries for County Clerk, Treasurer, and Harris County Republican Party Chair, respectively.

About one out of every ten votes cast in the Texas U.S. Senate Republican primary will be cast by Harris County voters this year. Among these likely Harris County Republican primary voters, John Cornyn is in first place in the U.S. Senate primary with 32%, 5 percentage points ahead of Ken Paxton (27%) and 7 percentage points ahead of Wesley Hunt (25%), with 14% undecided.

HARRIS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

White likely voters account for 44% of this population of Harris 2026 Democratic primary likely voters, Black likely voters for 30%, Latino likely voters for 19%, and others for 7%. Women represent 61% of this population, men 38%, and those who identify as "other" 1%. More than three-fifths (63%) of these likely voters are age 55 and older, while 26% are between the ages of 35 and 54, and 11% are between the ages of 18 and 34. A little more than two-fifths (45%) of these likely voters possess a four-year college degree while 55% do not. Democrats account for 72% of this population, Independents for 15% and Republicans for 6%, with 6% identifying as something else and 1% unsure about their partisanship.

HARRIS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY FOR COUNTY JUDGE

Three candidates are on the ballot in the March 2026 Democratic primary for County Judge of Harris County: Annise Parker, Letitia Plummer, and Matt Salazar.

Figure 1 provides the proportion of likely Harris County Democratic primary voters with a favorable and unfavorable opinion of the three candidates, along with the proportion who do not know enough about the candidate to have an opinion, one way or another. More than three-fifths (61%) of likely voters have a favorable opinion of Parker, 42% of Plummer, and 14% of Salazar. Less than one-fifth (19%) of likely voters have an unfavorable opinion of Parker, 7% of Plummer, and 6% of Salazar. While 80% of likely primary voters know enough about Parker to have an opinion of her, the same is true for only 49% in regard to Plummer and 20% in regard to Salazar. Parker has a net-favorability rating (percentage favorable minus percentage unfavorable) of 42%, Plummer of 35%, and Salazar of 8%.

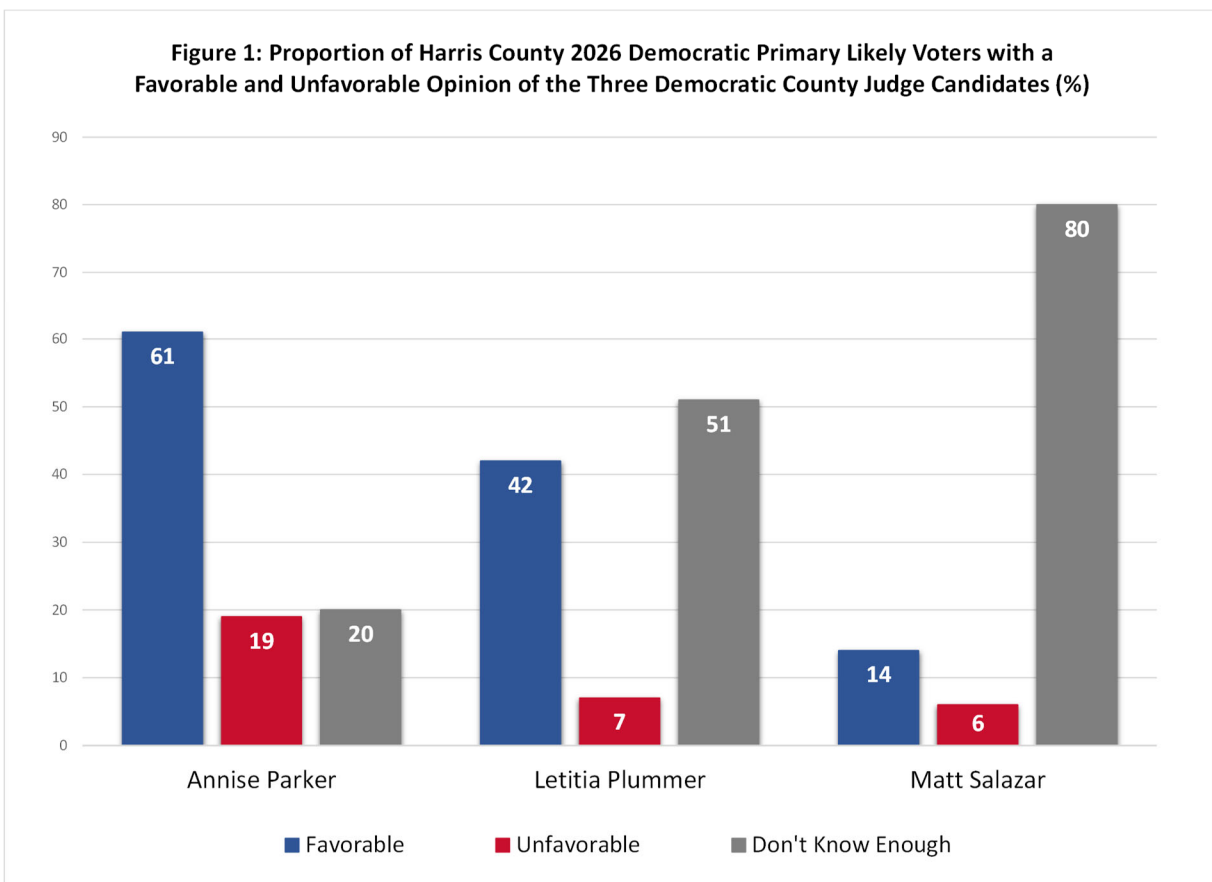


Figure 2 provides the vote intention among likely voters in the Harris County Democratic primary for county judge. Parker is in first place with 46%, 21 percentage points ahead of Plummer at 25%, with Salazar in third with 5% and 24% unsure how they would vote in this election.

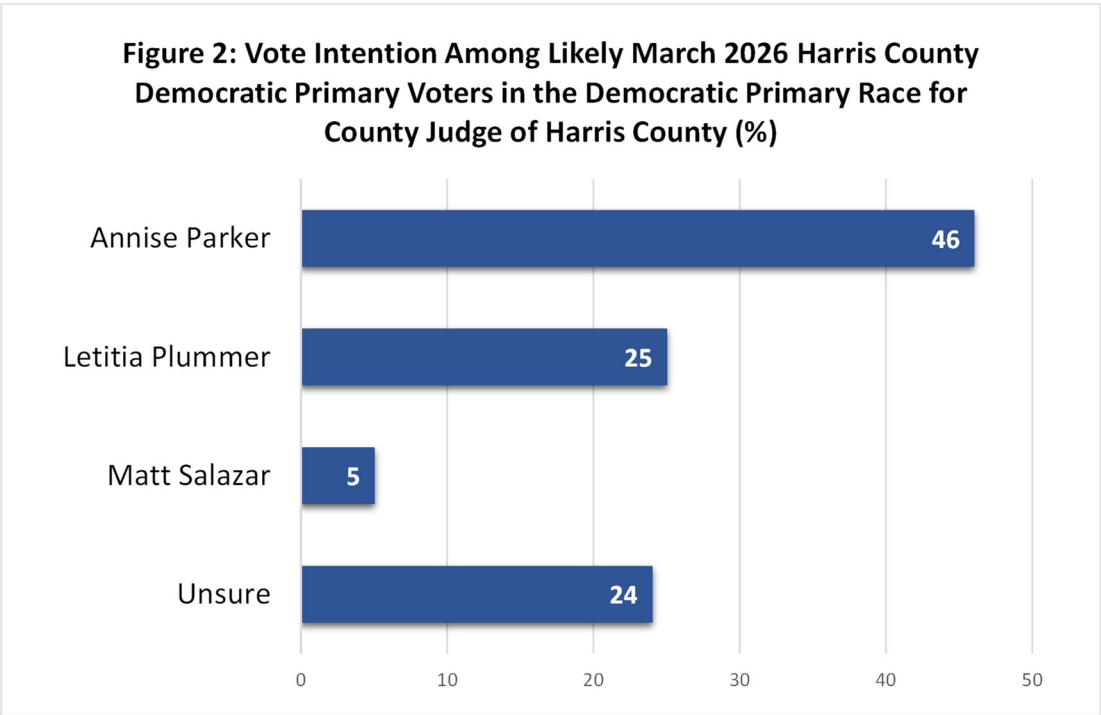


Table 1 provides the vote intention in the 2026 Harris County Democratic primary election for County Judge, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, age, education, and partisanship. There are three noteworthy socio-demographic sub-group differences in support for the candidates revolving around ethnicity/race, age, and, to a lesser extent, education.

Table 1. Vote Intention in the March Democratic County Judge of Harris County Primary, Among Key Groups (%)

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Parker	Plummer	Salazar	Unsure
Overall		46	25	5	24
Gender	Women	45	27	4	24
	Men	48	23	5	24
Ethnicity/Race	White	58	12	2	28
	Latino	50	16	13	21
	Black	27	52	1	20
Age	18 to 34	33	24	5	38
	35 to 54	36	29	4	31
	55 and Older	52	24	5	19
Education	4 Year College Degree	51	27	3	19
	No 4 Year College Degree	41	24	6	29
Partisanship	Democrat	47	26	5	22
	Independent/Republican	46	23	5	26

First, Parker holds a substantial lead over Plummer among White (58% to 12%) and Latino (50% to 16%) likely Democratic primary voters, while Plummer holds a substantial lead over Parker among Black (52% to 27%) likely Democratic primary voters. Second, while Parker holds single-digit leads over Plummer among voters ages 18 to 34 (33% to 24%) and ages 35 to 54 (36% to 29%), her lead over Plummer among voters 55 and older is 28 percentage points (52% to 24%). Third, Parker holds a 24 percentage point lead over Plummer among likely voters with a four-year college degree (51% to 27%) and a 17 percentage point lead among those who do not have a four-year college degree (41% to 24%).

HARRIS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY FOR COUNTY ATTORNEY

Two candidates are on the ballot in the March 2026 Democratic primary for County Attorney of Harris County: Abbie Kamin and Audrie Lawton Evans.

Figure 3 provides the proportion of likely Harris County Democratic primary voters with a favorable and unfavorable opinion of the two candidates, along with the proportion who do not know enough about the candidate to have an opinion. A large proportion of Harris County likely voters do not know enough about either Kamin (65%) or Lawton Evans (76%) to have an opinion of them. Among those with an opinion, 32% have a favorable opinion of Kamin and 20% of Lawton Evans, and 3% an unfavorable opinion of Kamin and 4% of Lawton Evans. Kamin's net-favorability rating is 29% while Lawton Evans' is 16%.

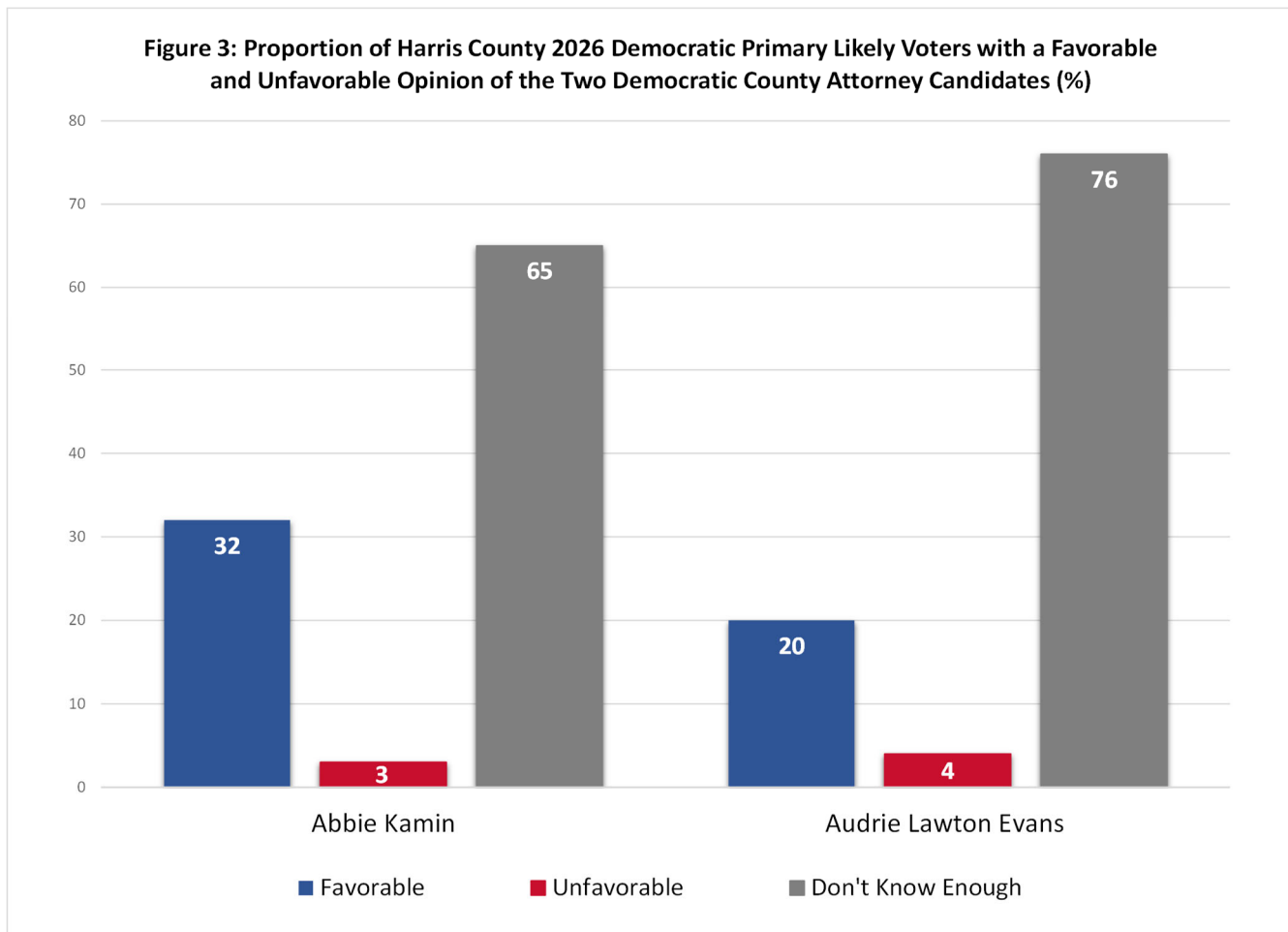
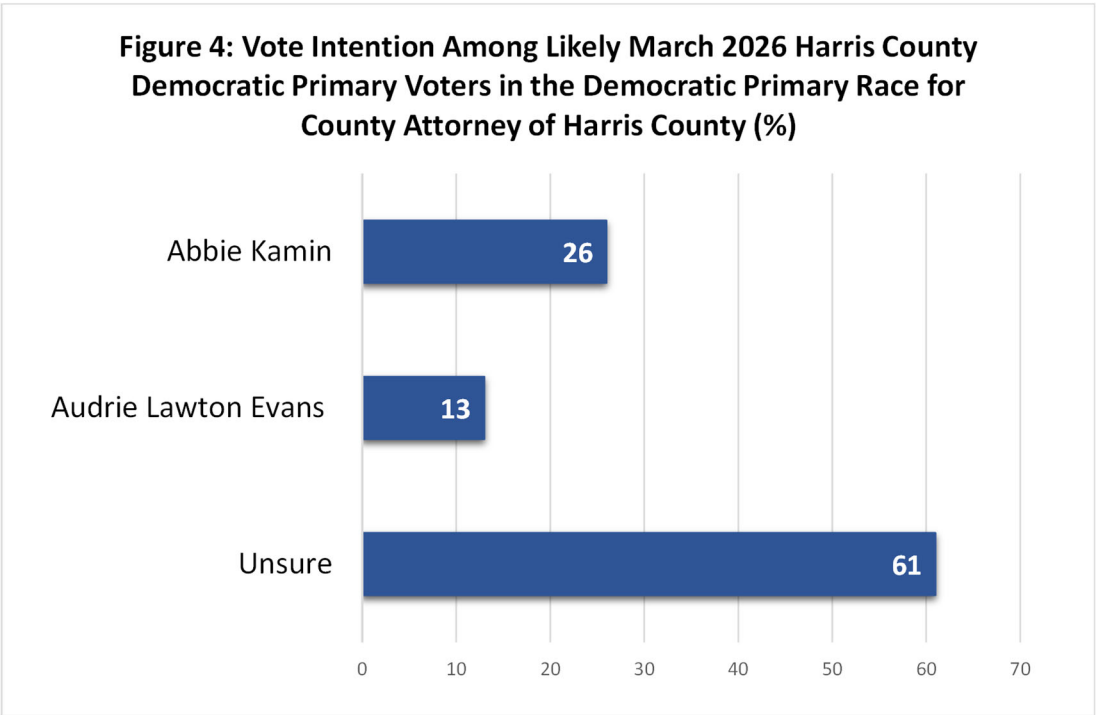


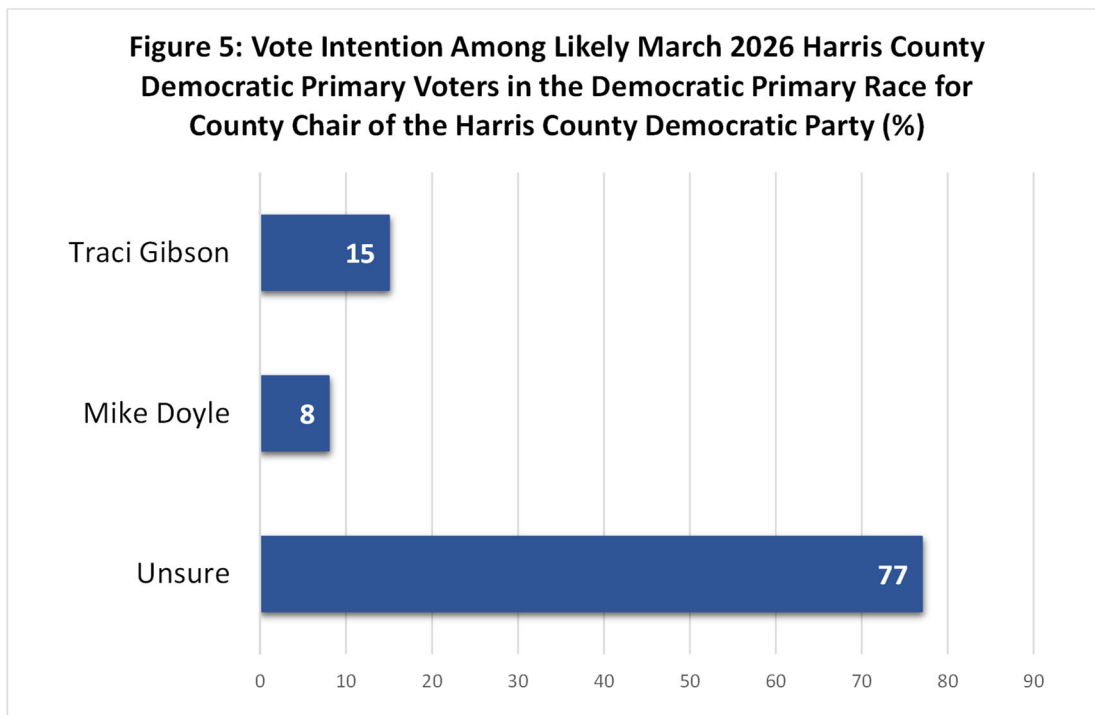
Figure 4 provides the vote intention among likely voters in the Harris County Democratic primary for County Attorney. More than three-fifths (61%) of likely voters are unsure whom they would vote for in this race, while 26% intend to vote for Kamin and 13% for Lawton Evans.



HARRIS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PRIMARIES FOR PARTY CHAIR AND DISTRICT CLERK

Two candidates are on the ballot in the March 2026 Democratic primary for Chair of the Harris County Democratic Party: Mike Doyle and Traci Gibson.

Figure 5 provides the vote intention among likely voters in the Harris County Democratic primary for Harris County Democratic Party Chair. More than three-fourths (77%) of likely voters are unsure whom they would vote for in this race, while 15% intend to vote for Gibson and 8% for Doyle.



Eight candidates are on the ballot in the March 2026 Democratic primary for Harris County District Clerk: Desiree Broadnax, Pernell Davis, Angie Dozier, Donna Glover, Darrell Jordan Jr., Carlis Lollie, Jose “Alex” Maldonado, and Rozlyn “Rozzy” Shorter.

More than four-fifths (82%) of likely Democratic primary voters remain unsure who for whom they would vote in this contest. The remaining 18% are relatively evenly distributed across the eight candidates: Maldonado (4%), Broadnax (3%), Davis (3%), Dozier (2%), Shorter (2%), Jordan (2%), Lollie (1%) and Glover (1%).

TEXAS U.S. SENATE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY (HARRIS COUNTY VOTERS)

Three candidates are on the ballot in the statewide March 2026 Texas U.S. Senate Democratic primary: Jasmine Crockett, Ahmad Hassan and James Talarico.

Here we examine the vote intention in the Texas U.S. Senate Democratic primary in Harris County, the most populous county of the state’s 254 counties. In 2024, 17% of all votes cast in the March Texas Democratic primary were cast by voters in Harris County and in 2022, 15% of all votes cast in the March Texas Democratic primary were cast by Harris County voters.

Figure 6 provides the vote intention in the Texas U.S. Senate Democratic primary. Crockett leads Talarico by a 2 percentage point margin among Harris County likely voters, 45% to 43%, with 1% supporting Hassan and 11% unsure about for whom they would vote in this contest.

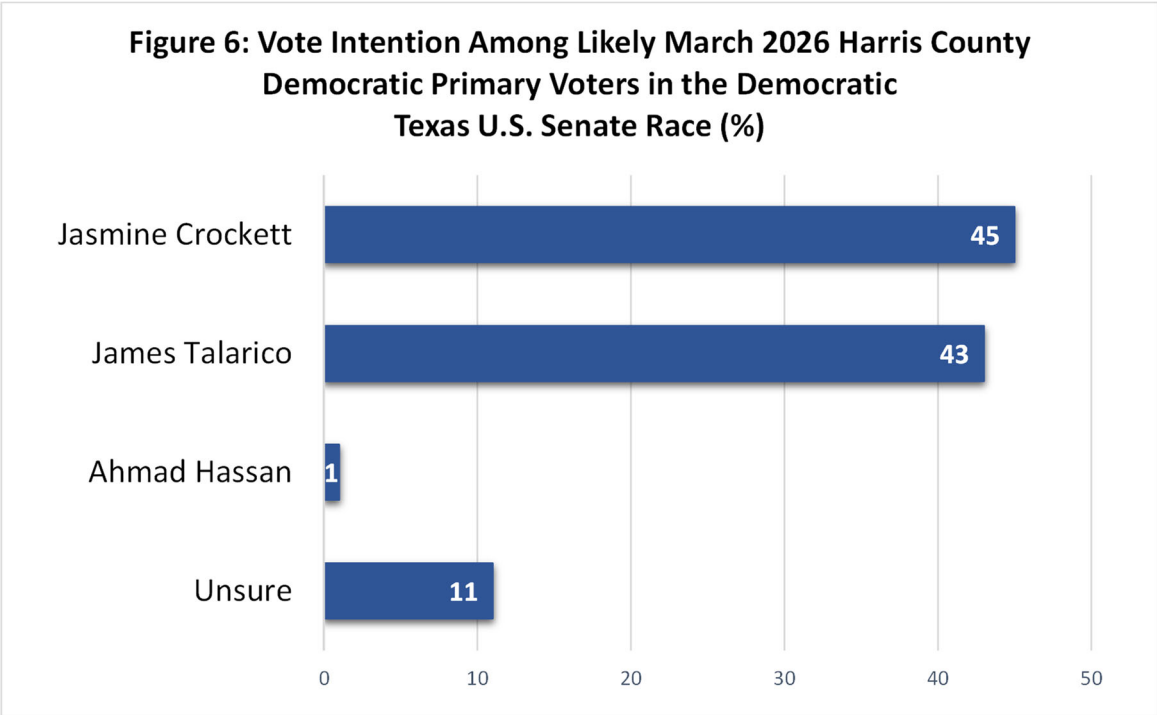


Table 2 provides the vote intention of Harris County likely voters in the 2026 Texas U.S. Senate Democratic primary, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, age, education, and partisanship. There are three noteworthy socio-demographic sub-group differences in support for the candidates revolving around gender, ethnicity/race, and education.

Table 2. Vote Intention in the March Democratic U.S. Senate Primary, Among Key Groups (%)

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Crockett	Talarico	Unsure
Overall		45	43	11
Gender	Women	50	39	11
	Men	39	49	11
Ethnicity/Race	White	29	61	10
	Latino	32	52	14
	Black	82	10	8
Age	18 to 34	33	52	13
	35 to 54	45	46	9
	55 and Older	48	40	12
Education	4 Year College Degree	38	51	11
	No 4 Year College Degree	51	37	11
Partisanship	Democrat	48	43	9
	Independent/Republican	38	45	16

First, Crockett leads Talarico by 11 percentage points among women (50% to 39%), but Talarico leads Crockett by 10 percentage points among men (49% to 39%). Second, Talarico holds a substantial lead over Crockett among White (61% to 29%) and Latino (52% to 32%) likely Democratic primary voters, while Crockett holds an even more substantial lead over Talarico among Black (82% to 10%) likely Democratic primary voters. Third, Talarico has a 13 percentage point advantage over Crockett among voters who have a four-year college degree (51% to 38%) and Crockett has a 14 percentage point advantage over Talarico among voters who do not have a four-year college degree (51% to 37%).

FAVORABLE AND UNFAVORABLE EVALUATIONS OF NINE HARRIS COUNTY DEMOCRATS

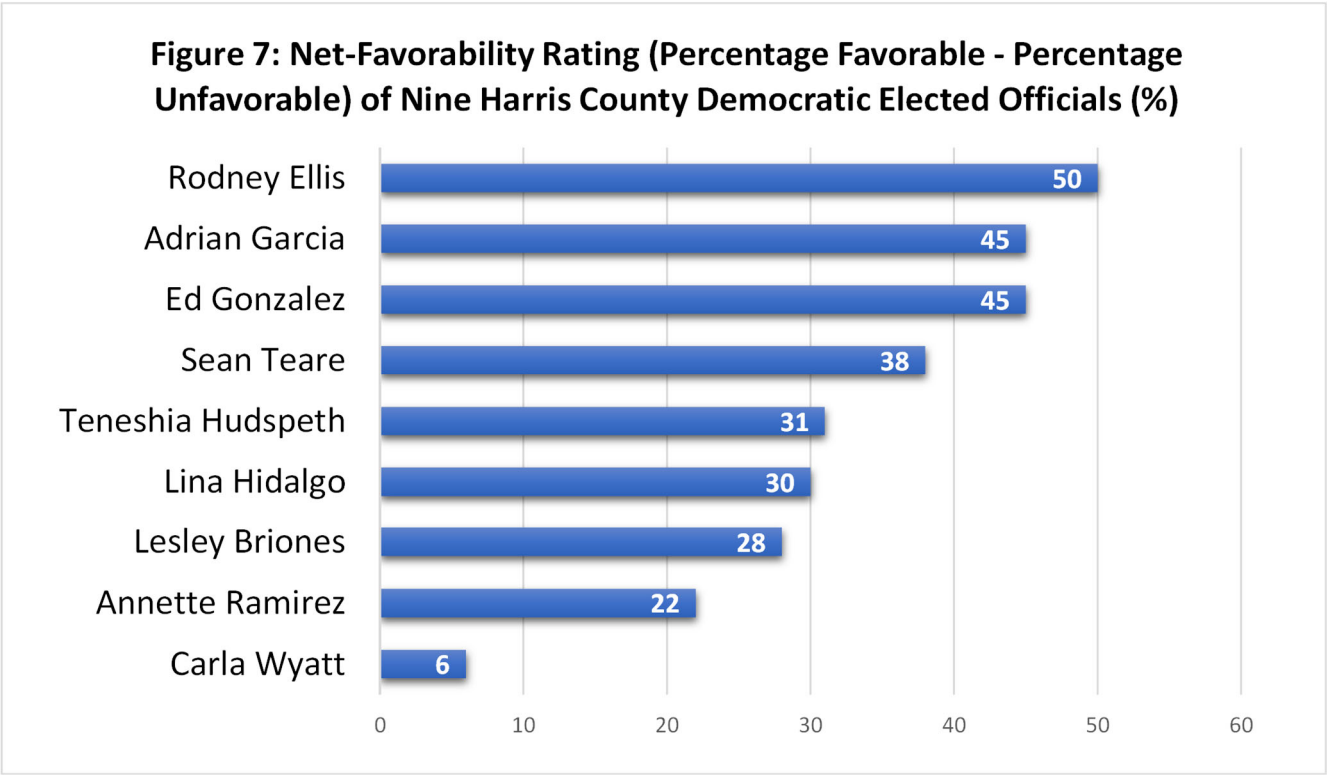
Table 3 provides the proportion of likely Harris County Democratic primary voters with a favorable and unfavorable opinion of nine Harris County Democratic elected officials, along with the proportion who do not know enough about the elected official to have an opinion. The nine Democrats who hold elective office in Harris County government who were evaluated are County Commissioner Lesley Briones, County Commissioner Rodney Ellis, County Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, County Judge Lina Hidalgo, County Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth, Tax Assessor-Collector Annette Ramirez, District Attorney Sean Teare, and Treasurer Carla Wyatt.

Table 3. Proportion of Likely Harris County Democratic Primary Voters with a Favorable & Unfavorable Opinion of Nine Harris County Democratic Elected Officials (%)

Elected Officials	Favorable	Unfavorable	Don't Know Enough
Rodney Ellis	62	12	26
Adrian Garcia	60	15	25
Lina Hidalgo	60	30	10
Ed Gonzalez	57	12	31
Sean Teare	47	9	44
Teneshia Hudspeth	35	4	61
Lesley Briones	35	7	58
Annette Ramirez	27	5	68
Carla Wyatt	12	6	82

More than one-half of Harris County likely Democratic primary voters have favorable opinions of Ellis (62%), Garcia (60%), Hidalgo (60%) and Gonzalez (57%), and more than one-third have favorable opinions of Teare (47%), Hudspeth (35%) and Briones (35%). With one exception, Hidalgo (30%), fewer than one-fifth of these likely voters have an unfavorable opinion of these elected officials. More than two-thirds of likely Democratic primary voters know enough about Hidalgo (90%), Garcia (75%), Ellis (74%) and Gonzalez (69%) to have an opinion of them. More than one-half know enough about Teare to have an opinion of him (56%), with between 42% (Briones) and 18% (Wyatt) knowing enough about the other four Democrats, with Hudspeth (39%) and Ramirez (32%) in between.

Figure 7 provides the net-favorability rating (percentage favorable minus percentage unfavorable) for these nine Democratic Harris County elected officials. Ellis (50%), Garcia (45%) and Gonzalez (45%) have the three highest net-favorability ratings, followed by Teare (38%), Hudspeth (31%), Hidalgo (30%), Briones (28%), Ramirez (22%), and Wyatt (6%).



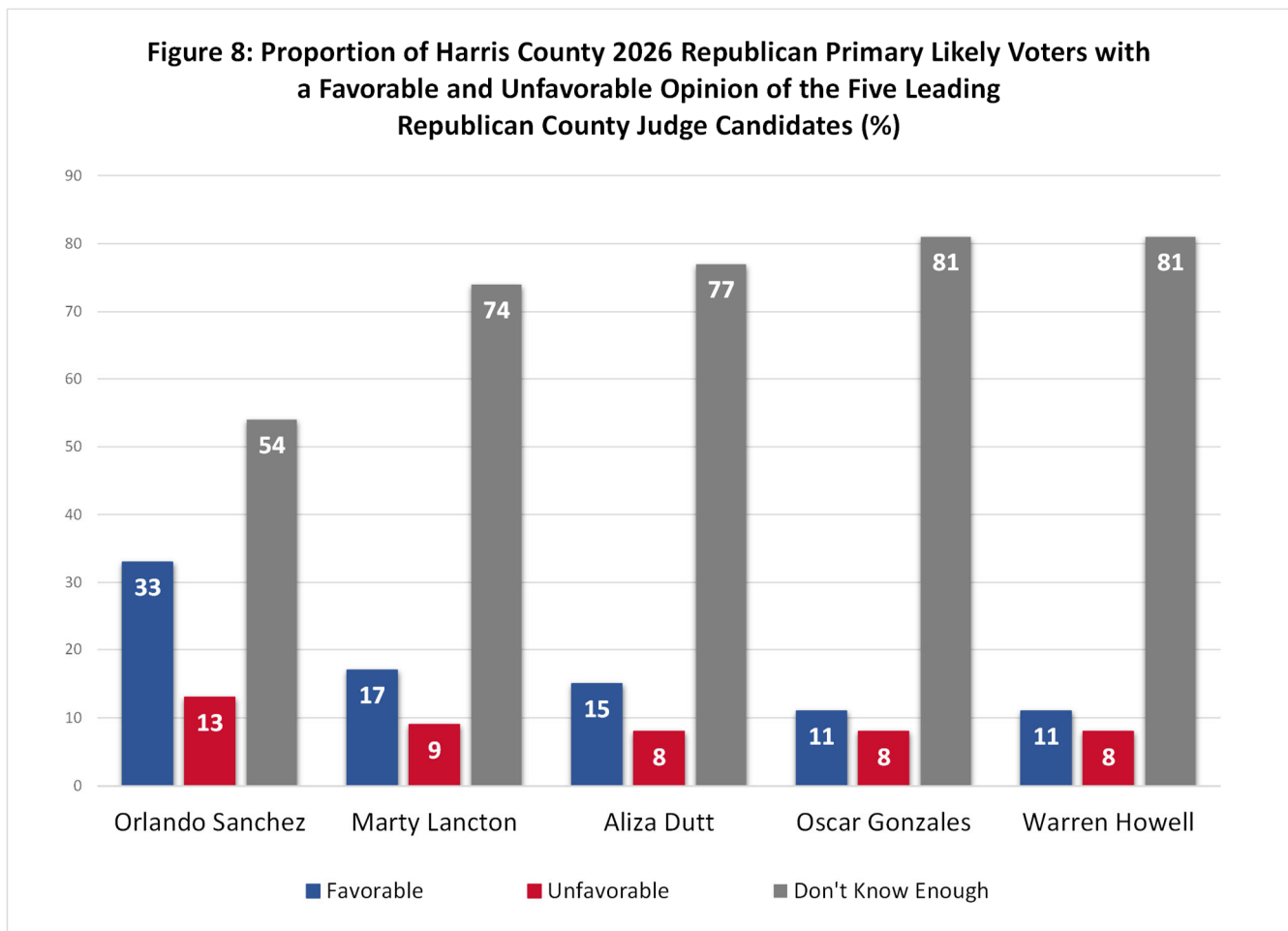
HARRIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

White likely voters account for 76% of this population of Harris County 2026 Republican primary likely voters, Latino likely voters for 15%, Black likely voters for 3%, and others for 8%. Women represent 50% of this population and men also 50%. More than three-fifths (68%) of these likely voters are age 55 and older, while 23% are between the ages of 35 and 54, and 9% are between the ages of 18 and 34. A little more than half (56%) of these likely voters possess a four-year college degree while 44% do not. Republicans account for 69% of this population, Independents for 22% and Democrats for 4%, with 4% identifying as something else and 1% unsure about their partisanship.

HARRIS COUNTY PRIMARY FOR COUNTY JUDGE

Six candidates are on the ballot in the March 2026 Republican primary for County Judge of Harris County: Aliza Dutt, Oscar Gonzales, Warren Howell, Marty Lancton, Orlando Sanchez, and George Zoes.

Figure 8 provides the proportion of likely Harris County Republican primary voters with a favorable and unfavorable opinion of the five leading county judge candidates, along with the proportion who do not know enough about the candidate to have an opinion, one way or another. Note that this favorable/unfavorable question was asked after the vote intention question.



More than one-half of likely Republican primary voters don't know enough about the county judge candidates to have an opinion of them, ranging from lows of 54% (Sanchez) and 74% (Lancton) to highs of 81% (Gonzales and Howell), with Dutt (77%) in between. Sanchez is viewed favorably by 33% of likely Republican primary voters, Lancton by 17%, Dutt by 15%, Gonzales by 11% and Howell by 11%. Sanchez is viewed unfavorably by 13% of likely Republican primary voters, Lancton by 9% and Dutt, Gonzales and Howell all by 8%.

Figure 9 provides the vote intention among likely voters in the Harris County Republican primary for county judge. More than half (54%) of likely voters are unsure for whom they would vote in the contest, with 21% intending to vote for Sanchez, 10% for Lancton, 7% for Dutt, 4% for Howell, 3% for Gonzales and 1% for Zoes.

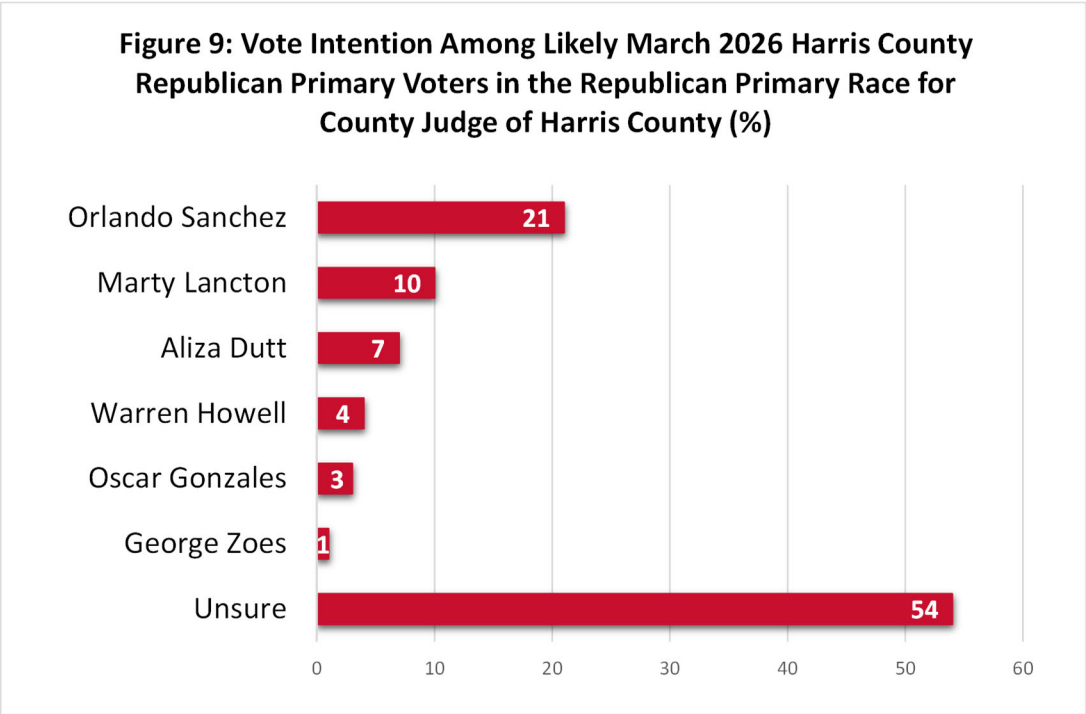


Table 4 provides the vote intention in the 2026 Harris County Republican primary election for County Judge, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, age, education, and partisanship. Overall, there are not any noteworthy socio-demographic sub-group differences in support for the candidates, with one modest exception. The exception is that Sanchez’s vote intention among likely GOP primary voters with a four-year college degree is 10 percentage points greater than his vote intention among likely voters who do not have a four-year degree (25% to 15%).

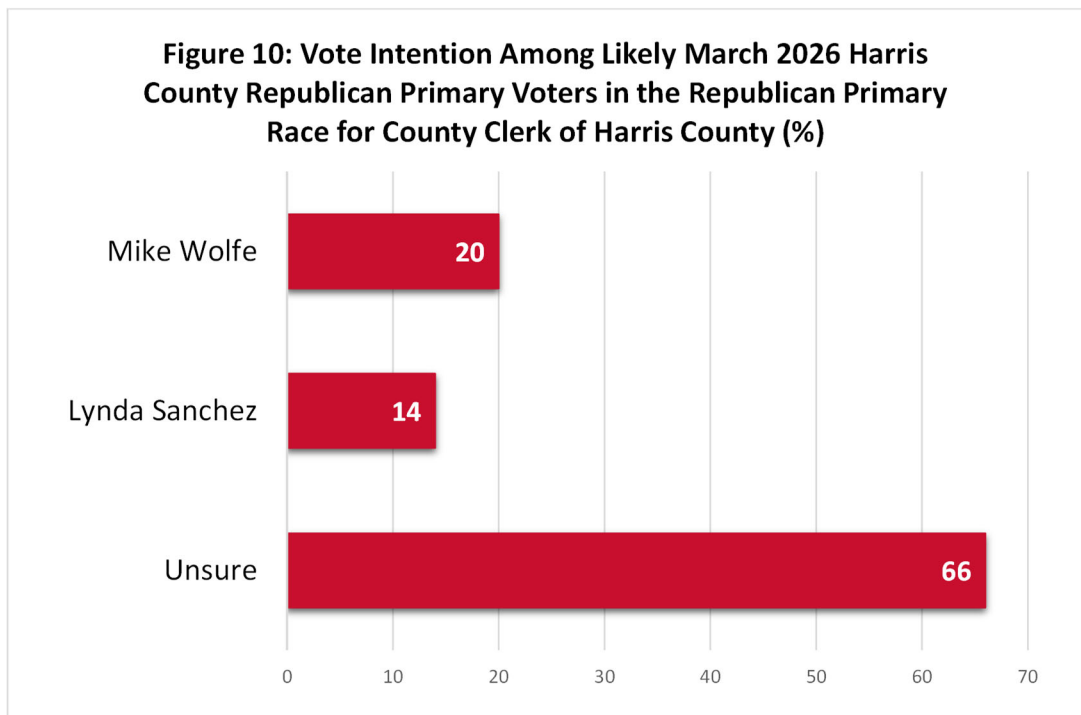
Table 4. Vote Intention in the March Republican Primary for County Judge of Harris County, Among Key Groups (%)

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Sanchez	Lancton	Dutt	Unsure
Overall		21	10	7	54
Gender	Women	20	7	8	58
	Men	22	12	6	51
Ethnicity/Race	White	19	10	7	57
	Latino	29	11	6	43
Age	18 to 34	10	10	4	67
	35 to 54	19	11	6	55
	55 and Older	23	9	8	53
Education	4 Year College Degree	25	9	7	52
	No 4 Year College Degree	15	10	7	58
Partisanship	Republican	22	10	8	52
	Independent/Democrat	20	9	5	61

HARRIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PRIMARIES FOR COUNTY CLERK, TREASURER AND PARTY CHAIR

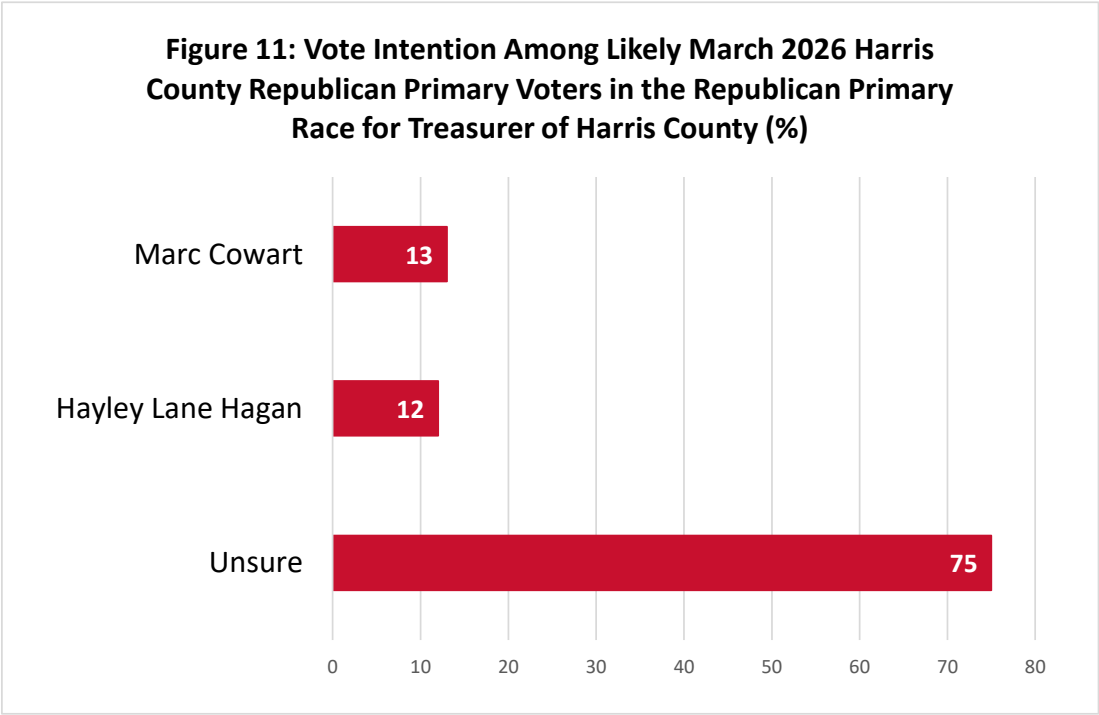
Two candidates are on the ballot in the March 2026 Republican primary for County Clerk of Harris County: Lynda Sanchez and Mike Wolfe.

Figure 10 provides the vote intention among likely voters in the Harris County Republican primary for county clerk. Two-thirds (66%) of likely voters are unsure how they would vote in this contest, while 20% intend to vote for Wolfe and 14% for Sanchez.



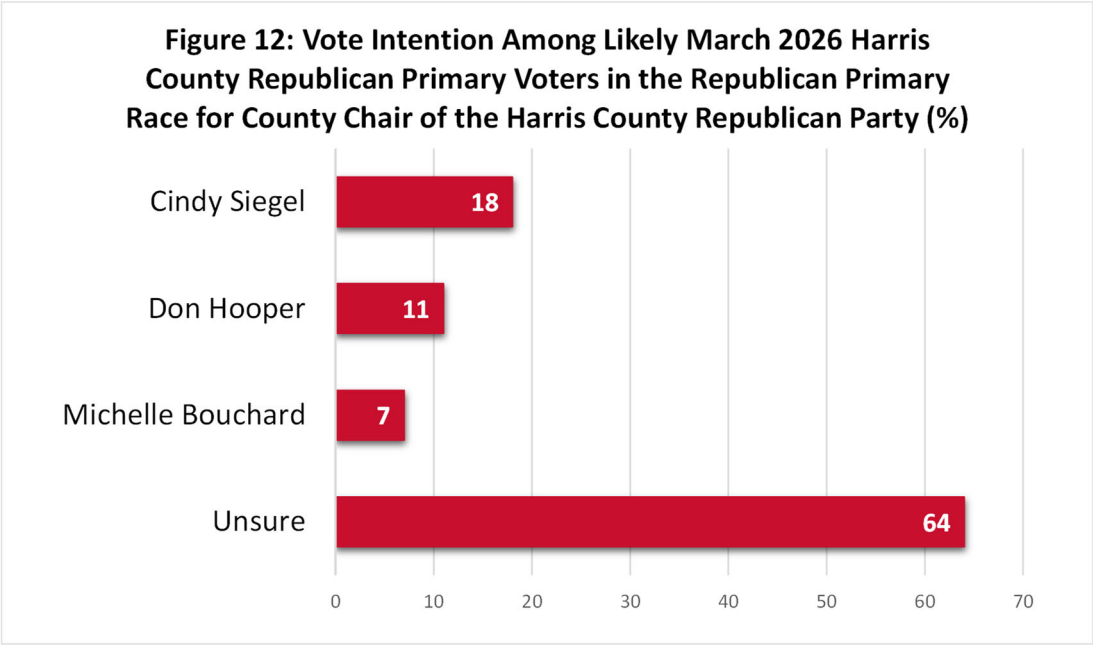
Two candidates are on the ballot in the March 2026 Republican primary for Harris County Treasurer: Marc Cowart and Hayley Lane Hagan.

Figure 11 provides the vote intention among likely voters in the Harris County Republican primary for Treasurer. Three-fourths (75%) of likely voters are unsure how they would vote in this contest, while 13% intend to vote for Cowart and 12% for Hagan.



Three candidates are on the ballot in the March 2026 Republican primary for County Chair of the Harris County Republican Party: Michelle Bouchard, Don Hooper, and Cindy Siegel.

Figure 12 provides the vote intention among likely voters in the Harris County Republican primary for Republican Party Chair. Close to two-thirds (64%) of likely voters are unsure how they would vote in this contest, while 18% intend to vote for Siegel, 11% for Hooper and 7% for Bouchard.



TEXAS U.S. SENATE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY (HARRIS COUNTY VOTERS)

Eight candidates are on the ballot in the statewide March 2026 Texas U.S. Senate Republican primary: John Adefope, Anna Bender, Virgil Bierschwale, Sara Canady, John Cornyn, Wesley Hunt, Gulrez “Gus” Khan, and Ken Paxton.

Here we examine the vote intention in the Texas U.S. Senate Republican primary in one of Texas’s 254 counties, Harris County. In 2024, 9% of all votes cast in the March Texas Republican primary were cast by voters in Harris County and in 2022, 10% of all votes cast in the March Texas Republican primary were cast by voters in Harris County.

Figure 13 provides the vote intention among likely Harris County Republican primary voters in the Texas U.S. Senate Republican primary race. Cornyn is in first place with 32%, 5 percentage points ahead of Paxton (27%) and 7 percentage points ahead of Hunt (25%), with 2% supporting one of the other five candidates and 14% unsure how they would vote in this contest.

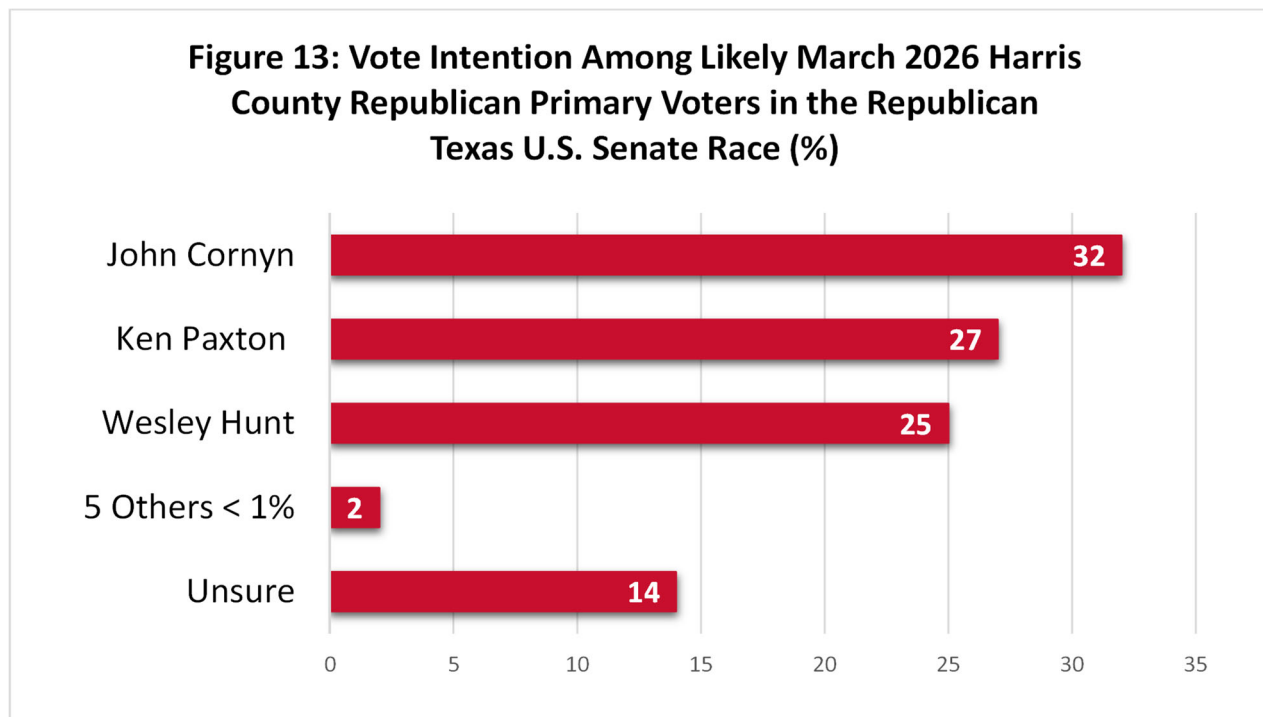


Table 5 provides the vote intention of likely Harris County Republican primary voters in the Texas U.S. Senate Republican primary, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, age, education, and partisanship. There are three noteworthy socio-demographic sub-group differences in support for the candidates revolving around gender, education and partisanship.

Table 5. Vote Intention in the March Republican Primary for U.S. Senate, Among Key Groups (%)

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Cornyn	Paxton	Hunt	Unsure
Overall		32	27	25	14
Gender	Women	33	23	25	17
	Men	32	31	25	10
Ethnicity/Race	White	35	26	25	12
	Latino	25	30	25	19
Age	18 to 34	35	15	26	22
	35 to 54	27	25	31	15
	55 and Older	34	30	24	12
Education	4 Year College Degree	38	22	26	11
	No 4 Year College Degree	25	33	25	16
Partisanship	Republican	31	29	28	11
	Independent/Democrat	40	19	20	19

First, while Cornyn (32%) and Paxton (31%) are effectively tied among men, Cornyn holds a 10 percentage point lead over Paxton among women primary voters, 33% to 23%. Second, Cornyn leads Paxton by 16 percentage points among likely primary voters who have a four-year college degree (38% to 22%), but Paxton leads Cornyn by 8 percentage points among likely primary voters who do not have a four-year college degree (33% to 25%). Third, Cornyn leads Paxton by 2 percentage points (31% to 29%) among Republican primary voters who self-identify as a Republican and by 21 percentage points (40% to 19%) among Republican primary voters who self-identify as an Independent (the vast majority) or as a Democrat.

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RECOMMENDED CITATION

University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs, February 2026, "Harris County Primaries 2026: Democratic & Republican Countywide Races"