



The 2009 Texas Lyceum Poll in the News

We are pleased to announce that this year's Texas Lyceum Poll garnered more news coverage than ever before. With timely information on topics from the economy to gay marriage to the 2010 elections, this year's poll continued the Lyceum tradition of measuring public attitudes about the direction of our state and our country. This year, more so than ever before, the Lyceum poll is becoming a true bell weather of Texans' opinions.

Results of the poll were released over two days. On Tuesday, June 23rd, the Lyceum held a press conference in Austin and released the results of public opinion on the economy, gay marriage, voter photo ID and other policy issues. On Wednesday, June 24th, we released the results of the 2010 election match-ups and approval ratings for elected officials.

Full results of the poll, including cross-tabular results, are available on the Texas Lyceum website, www.texaslyceum.org.

NEWS CLIPS FROM TUESDAY, JUNE 23 2009

1) *Houston Chronicle* and *San Antonio Express News*: Economy is the big issue in state poll

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/front/6494556.html>

AUSTIN — Most Texans rank the economy as the most pressing issue facing them, while voter ID — the issue that recently stalemated Texas lawmakers — holds little importance, according to a statewide poll by the Texas Lyceum.

2) *Burt Orange Report*: Texas Lyceum Shows Shifting Opinions on Civil Unions, Gay Marriage

<http://www.burmtorangereport.com/diary/8898/texas-lyceum-poll-shows-shifting-opinions-on-civil-unions-gay-marriage>

The 2009 Texas Lyceum Poll was released today and shows public support for some form of same-sex union may be higher in Texas than many think. If you trust the poll, less than four years after Texans overwhelmingly voted to put discrimination into our state constitution, opinions have changed dramatically.

3) *Austin, Houston* and *San Antonio Business Journals*: Poll: Economy, unemployment top concerns for Texans

<http://austin.bizjournals.com/austin/stories/2009/06/22/daily19.html>

Sixty-two percent of Texans surveyed by **Texas Lyceum** believe the economy and unemployment are the most important issues facing the country today, according to a survey released Tuesday by the nonprofit, non-partisan leadership organization.

4) KERA, NPR Radio Dallas

DALLAS, TX (KERA) - Concern for the economy has grown 58 percent in the three years the Texas Lyceum has conducted its statewide poll on politics and attitudes. But Texans are far more pessimistic about the federal economy than the state outlook as KERA's Shelley Kofler reports.

5) KLBJ Radio: Lyceum Poll: Majority of Texans support rights for same sex couples

AUSTIN - The Texas Lyceum's 3rd annual poll finds Texans concerned about the national economy and their retirement prospects, but relatively confident about the state economy and in most cases, about their immediate personal financial situations. After three years, the number of Texans who rank the economy as the most important issue facing the country has grown from 4 percent to 62 percent.

6) Quorum Report: Texas overwhelmingly back Voter ID, poll shows

www.quorumreport.com

But the Texas Lyceum survey suggests the issue lags far behind economic concerns.

7) Equality Texas: Texas Lyceum Poll - 57% of Texans Favor Either Civil Unions or Marriage Equality

<http://equalitytexas.typepad.com/blog/2009/06/texas-lyceum-poll-57-of-texans-favor-either-civil-unions-or-marriage-equality.html>

Sometimes, you look at numbers and try to make them fit your expectations - these numbers were a welcome surprise to conventional wisdom in Texas. The 2009 annual Texas Lyceum poll that came out today covered a wide variety of issues ranging from the economy to Voter ID and relationship equality.

8) KDFW-TV NBC Dallas: Poll: Texans Agree with Gov's Anti-Washington Stance

www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/Poll-Shows-Texans-Agree-with-Gov-Perrys-Anti-Washington-Stance.html

A new poll on Texans feel about the economy, government bailouts and stimulus money bodes well for Texas Gov. Rick Perry. The poll, conducted by the Texas Lyceum, shows Perry's anti-Washington stance is playing well with Texans.

9) KEYE, TV, CBS Austin

<http://www.keyetv.com/content/news/topnews/story/Poll-Texans-worried-about-economy-in-favor-of/DOtEbQ-ij06fLpGiv8cZKQ.csp>

Texas Lyceum's third annual poll reveals that Texans are not confident in the stock market, worried about their retirement funds, but still favor increased spending on healthcare, new energy technology, and education.

NEWS CLIPS FROM WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24 2009

1) *The Dallas Morning News*: Poll debunks Texas' conservative image

http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/texasouthwest/legislature/stories/DN-healthpoll_24tex.ART.State.Edition1.4af4ac8.html

AUSTIN – The conservative tilt of Texas is not as steep on some spending and social issues as many believe – with a majority favoring either civil unions or marriage rights for gay couples and almost half endorsing taxpayer money for embryonic stem cell research.

2) *Brownsville Herald*: Perry Praises Texas Economy in McAllen

<http://www.brownsvilleherald.com/news/perry-99379-veterans-texas.html>

McALLEN - Politicians in Washington wish they had taken a Texan - or noninterventionist - approach to the current economic crisis, Gov. Rick Perry told a gathering of veterans Friday at the McAllen Convention Center.

A poll released Wednesday by the Texas Lyceum - a nonprofit, nonpartisan statewide leadership organization - found that 33 percent of the 267 adult Texans who responded and said they were "certain" or "likely" to vote in the GOP primary favored Perry, compared to 21 percent in favor of Hutchison.

3) *Dallas Morning News*: GOP contenders move into campaign mode

<http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/APStories/stories/D99150C80.html>

Gov. Rick Perry is ready to raise campaign cash. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison appears finally ready to raise a ruckus in her bid to oust Texas' longest-serving chief executive.

At this point, the candidates need to get voters to pay attention. A Texas Lyceum poll, a nonpartisan survey conducted by University of Texas and released Wednesday, showed 45 percent of Republicans were undecided. Of the likely GOP primary voters who said they made up their minds, 33 percent supported Perry and 21 percent backed Hutchison. The poll had a margin of error of 3 percentage points

4) *Austin American Statesman*: Schieffer says he's like Sam Rayburn in declaring candidacy for governor

http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/politics/entries/2009/06/24/schieffer_says_hes_like_sam_ra.html

The poll by the non-partisan Texas Lyceum suggests that among Republicans, Gov. Rick Perry lately leads U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, his expected challenger in March's GOP primary, though the spread between them falls within the poll's margin of error of plus or minus 6.1 percentage points, meaning their tussle could be neck and neck.

5) *KFOX -TV El Paso*: Texans Remain Uncertain About Economy

EL PASO, Texas -- Today's economic uncertainties have El Pasoans paying close attention to their family's budget for the short and long term.

A poll recently conducted found for Texans, one of the top concerns continues to be the economy. On the economy, more than two-thirds don't have confidence in the stock market and almost half are not very confident about the safety of their retirement funds. Almost a third of respondents have even stopped putting money in their own retirement accounts, according to the nonpartisan Texas Lyceum Poll.

6) *Swing State Project*: Campaign and Election news covering key races around the country

<http://www.swingstateproject.com/>

TX-Sen : Texas Lyceum released a wide-ranging poll of Texans; one question they asked was who people were supporting in the event of a special election for the Senate.

7) Marshall News Messenger: Texans rate economy as top national issue, divided on gay rights and embryonic stem-cell research

<http://www.marshallnewsmessenger.com/news/content/region/legislature/stories/2009/06/24/0624poll.html>

The Texas Lyceum, a nonpartisan, nonprofit Austin group that promotes leadership, took the pulse of Texans on a range of issues in its latest poll, released Tuesday.

8) Dallas Morning News: Poll shows Perry with early lead over Hutchison

<http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/APStories/stories/D9913HSO0.html>

A new poll shows Gov. Rick Perry is leading his major primary challenger, U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, in his 2010 re-election campaign.

The Texas Lyceum Poll released Wednesday also found many Texans aren't paying much attention to next year's elections yet.

9) Texas Monthly: Burka Blog

<http://www.texasmonthly.com/blogs/burkablog/>

LYCEUM POLL: PERRY 33, HUTCHISON 21

posted by paulburka at 9:50 AM

10) Longview News Journal: Schieffer, Longtime Bush Associate declares for Democrat nod for Governor, says he's a democrat like Sam Rayburn without apology

<http://www.news-journal.com/news/content/region/legislature/stories/2009/06/25/0625govrace.html>

A former Fort Worth legislator whose past successes entwined with the rise of Republican George W. Bush declared his candidacy Wednesday for the Democratic nomination for governor of Texas.

11) Dallas Morning News: Trail Blazer Blog

<http://trailblazersblog.dallasnews.com/archives/2009/06/24/>

Former ambassador Tom Schieffer laughed off the Lyceum Poll, which colleague Christy Hoppe described **here** earlier.

The poll showed 80 percent of likely Democratic voters undecided on a candidate for governor. Humorist Kinky Friedman was at 10 percent, Schieffer at 6 and state Sen. Leticia van de Putte at 3 percent.

12) AHN – Global News for the Digital World: Former Texas Rangers President Tom Schieffer Launches Bid To Succeed Gov. Perry

<http://www.allheadlinenews.com/articles/7015604182#ixzz0K7Gx0iCg&C>

Austin, TX (AHN) - Former Ambassador and Texas Rangers president Tom Schieffer launched his campaign for governor on Wednesday. He is the first Democrat to officially challenge Texas Gov. Rick Perry, who is expected to have a tough re-election fight, according to a new poll.

News Clips from Thursday, June 25 2009

1) Dallas Morning News: Hutchison, Perry camp trading jabs

http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/texasouthwest/stories/DN-kbh_25tex.ART.State.Edition1.4bdb66c.html

WASHINGTON – ...Also Wednesday, the nonpartisan Texas Lyceum, a leadership development group, released a poll taken this month that shows Perry leading Hutchison among likely GOP voters 33 percent to 21 percent.

2) Amarillo Globe News: Governor's race: Pair adopt battle plans

http://www.amarillo.com/stories/062509/new_news9.shtml

AUSTIN - Gov. Rick Perry is ready to raise campaign cash. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison appears finally ready to raise a ruckus in her bid to oust Texas' longest-serving chief executive.

A Texas Lyceum poll, a nonpartisan survey conducted by the University of Texas and released Wednesday, showed 45 percent of Republicans were undecided.

News Clips from Saturday, June 27 2009

1) Houston Chronicle: White keeping eye on D.C., not Austin

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/metropolitan/casey/6500919.html>

Bill White has heard the question, and so has former Texas Comptroller John Sharp... One was the release of a poll indicating Gov. Rick Perry is ahead of Hutchison by 33 percent to 21 percent among Texans who expect to vote in the Republican primary. The conventional wisdom is that if Hutchison, who has the highest overall approval ratings

in the state, can win the primary, it would be almost impossible for a Democrat to beat her in the general election.

News Clips for Monday, June 29 2009

1) *The Economist*: The Once and Future Governor

http://www.economist.com/blogs/democracyinamerica/2009/06/the_once_and_future_governor_1.cfm

A new poll from the [Texas Lyceum](#) shows Rick Perry pulling ahead of Kay Bailey Hutchison by a 12-point margin—33% to 21%, with 40% of potential Republican-primary voters undecided.

2) *Dallas Voice*: Poll: Majority of Texans support civil unions or gay marriage

http://www.dallasvoice.com/artman/publish/article_11488.php

June 29, 2009

Most Texans favor some form of legal recognition for same-sex relationships, according to a new poll by the Texas Lyceum Association.

News Clips from Wednesday, July 1 2009

1) *The San Antonio Current*: I now pronounce you enfranchised Americans

<http://sacurrent.com/news/story.asp?id=70307>

What do we want?

A sane and compassionate law which recognizes the heart-and-soul unions of same-sex Texans!

The [2009 Texas] Lyceum Poll showed that 93 percent of single women and 59 percent of evangelicals approve of gay marriage.

2) *The Texas Pilgrim*: The Immigration Debate Isn't Going Away

<http://www.texaspilgrim.com/?p=447>

In the wake of the Texas legislative session which failed to produce a resolution of the "voter ID" issue, a recently released poll of Texans conducted by the Texas Lyceum Association revealed some interesting results. 71% of Texas voters support voter ID and 54% strongly support it.

News Clips from Thursday, July 2 2009

1) *Southern Political Report*: On same-sex marriage/ civil unions, the air is leaking out of the tire

Last month Texas Lyceum, a non-partisan, business-oriented group, released one of its periodic polls on current issues, and the results for the most part were what one would expect in a conservative state...But on one issue, the **poll** did raise some eyebrows. According to the survey, a majority would permit some form of same-sex union to be recognized: 25 percent favor same-sex marriage and 32 percent would allow civil unions, while 36 percent oppose either arrangement.

News Clips from Friday, July 3 2009

1) *Austin Chronicle*: Lyceum Poll: Texans Full of Surprises

<http://www.austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Issue/story?oid=oid%3A803443>

Rick Perry outpolls Kay Bailey Hutchison, Texans support voter ID, Republicans support gay unions, Democrats lack a ... wait, whoa, back up, what?!

Yes, buried among all sorts of opinion data on the economy and political candidates in the latest edition of the Texas Lyceum Poll's executive summary, that gay unions thing certainly jumped out and made our jaws drop.

And if the poll's numbers (taken from interviews with 860 Texas adults) are accurate, not only are 57% of Texans OK with some form of gay union, but a slim majority (51%) who identify with the party that has bashed on homosexuals the most say they favor either civil unions or same-sex marriage.

News Clips from Sunday, July 5 2009

1) *KHOU-TV CBS Houston*: Family remembers victims of hate crime on anniversary of his death

http://www.khou.com/news/local/stories/khou090705_gay-right-hate-crimes.1090bdac.html

A recent Texas Lyceum poll found that more Texans than ever supported same-sex marriage. Yet, it is still the largest city in Texas that doesn't have a law that prevents discrimination based on sexual orientation.
