

2023

# HOUSTON ELECTION SURVEY

Mayor • Controller • Propositions



Hobby School of Public Affairs  
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON



## Houston Election 2023 Mayor, Controller and Propositions

October 2023

The Hobby School of Public Affairs at the University of Houston conducted a representative survey of City of Houston likely voters to identify their preferences and opinions regarding the November 7, 2023 municipal election. The survey was fielded between September 30 and October 6, 2023 by contacting likely voters via SMS messages through which the respondents were directed to an online survey platform with the option to complete the survey in English or in Spanish. The survey population of 800 has a margin of error of +/- 3.5% and is representative of those City of Houston residents who are likely to vote in the 2023 mayoral election.

The results of the survey will be presented in a series of two reports. This report examines the mayoral and controller races in November and the mayoral runoff in December, along with two local propositions on the ballot in the general election. The second report will focus on policy issues facing the City of Houston.

### Executive Summary

With less than four weeks to go before Election Day, the November 7, 2023 Houston mayoral election is effectively a two-candidate race between Texas State Senator John Whitmire and U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee.

In November, 34% of likely voters intend to cast a ballot for Whitmire and 31% for Jackson Lee. One in five (22%) likely voters is undecided and 13% intend to vote for one of 15 other candidates: The remaining 15 candidates have a November vote intention ranging from 4% to 0%: Gilbert Garcia (4%), Jack Christie (4%), Lee Kaplan (2%), Robert Gallegos (1%) and MJ Khan (1%), with each of the remaining candidates having support of less than 0.4%.

Among the undecided voters (22% of likely voters):

- 62% indicated they definitely or might consider voting for Whitmire, while 16% said they would never vote for Whitmire.
- 36% indicated they definitely or might consider voting for Jackson Lee, while 53% said they would never vote for Jackson Lee.
- 30% indicated they definitely or might consider voting for Garcia, while 8% said they would never vote for Garcia.

Between approximately one-half and two-thirds of likely voters did not know enough about Garcia (45%), Gallegos (56%), Christie (60%), Khan (60%) and Kaplan (64%) to have an opinion about potentially voting for them. This compares to a mere 5% who did not know enough about Jackson Lee to have an opinion about voting for her and 15% who did not know enough about Whitmire to have an opinion about voting for him.

In a December mayoral runoff election between Whitmire and Jackson Lee, Whitmire's vote intention is 50%, well ahead of Jackson Lee's at 36%. One in ten (9%) likely voters remains undecided in a Whitmire-Jackson Lee runoff, while 5% report they would not vote in the runoff if these were the two candidates.

43% of likely voters indicate they would never vote for Jackson Lee, compared to 15% who say they would never vote for Whitmire.

51% of likely voters hold an unfavorable opinion of Jackson Lee (41% very unfavorable), compared to 24% who hold an unfavorable opinion of Whitmire (13% very unfavorable).

Whitmire's runoff vote intention among men is 29 percentage points greater than that of Jackson Lee, 57% to 28%. The two are effectively tied among women (42% to 43%, respectively)

Whitmire holds a substantial advantage over Jackson Lee among white likely voters (69% to 18%) and among Latino likely voters (55% to 26%) in a runoff election.

Jackson Lee has a substantial advantage over Whitmire among Black likely voters (68% to 19%) in a runoff election.

Jackson Lee is the favored candidate among Democrats in a runoff, with a 59% to 29% advantage in vote intention over Whitmire.

Whitmire is the favored candidate among Republicans in a runoff, with an 82% to 1% advantage in vote intention over Jackson Lee.

Whitmire is the favored candidate of Independents in a runoff, with a 62% to 15% advantage over Jackson Lee.

In the November 2023 City of Houston controller election, almost half of likely voters (45%) remain undecided a month before Election Day.

Among the one-half (55%) of likely voters expressing a vote intention in the 2023 general election for city controller, 29% intend to vote for Chris Hollins, 14% for Orlando Sanchez, 8% for Dave Martin and 4% for Shannan Nobles.

Hollins' strongest support is among Black likely voters (46%), Democrats (46%) and women (32%). Sanchez's strongest support is among Republicans (23%), Latino likely voters (22%), and Independents (21%).

43% of likely voters report they definitely (25%) or might (18%) consider voting for Hollins, while 29% report they definitely (9%) or might (20%) consider voting for Sanchez.

57% of likely voters intend to vote for the City of Houston's Proposition A (to amend the City Charter to allow three council members to place an item on the council agenda), while 12% intend to vote against and 31% are undecided.

59% of the respondents who reside in Harris County intend to vote for the Harris County Hospital District's \$2.5 billion bond, while 25% intend to vote against and 16% are undecided. City of Houston voters (who were the only ones surveyed) are likely to account for approximately three out of five Harris County voters this November.

While 77% of Democrats intend to vote for (and 10% against) Harris County Proposition A, 34% of Republicans intend to vote for (and 46% against the proposition), with Independents relatively evenly divided (45% for and 38% against).

### **Survey Population Demographics**

White Houstonians account for 44% of this survey population of City of Houston likely voters, Black Houstonians 32%, Latino Houstonians 17%, and others 7% (2% Asian American, 5% Something Else). Women account for 51% of this population, men for 48%, and others for 1%. Regarding generations, 50% of this population belongs to the combined Silent Generation (born between 1928-1945) and Baby Boomer (1946-1964) cohort, 30% to Generation X (Gen-X) (1965-1980), and 20% to the combined Millennial (1981-1996) generation and Generation Z (1997-2012) cohort. A little more than one-half (53%) of this population identifies as Democrat and 32% as Republican, with 11% identifying as Independent and 4% unsure of their partisan identification or identifying with a minor party.



## Vote Intention in the November 2023 Houston Mayoral Election

Figure 1 provides the vote intention of likely voters in the November 2023 City of Houston mayoral election. Respondents had the option of selecting one of the 17 mayoral candidates or indicating that they did not know or were unsure who they would vote for at this time. John Whitmire is in first place with 34% of the intended vote, followed closely by Sheila Jackson Lee at 31%. The vote intention for the other candidates is in the low single digits, with Gilbert Garcia and Jack Christie each at 4%, Lee Kaplan at 2%, Robert Gallegos and MJ Khan each at 1% and the remaining 10 candidates with 1% combined (with each candidate's vote intention less than 0.4%). One in five likely voters (22%) remains undecided.

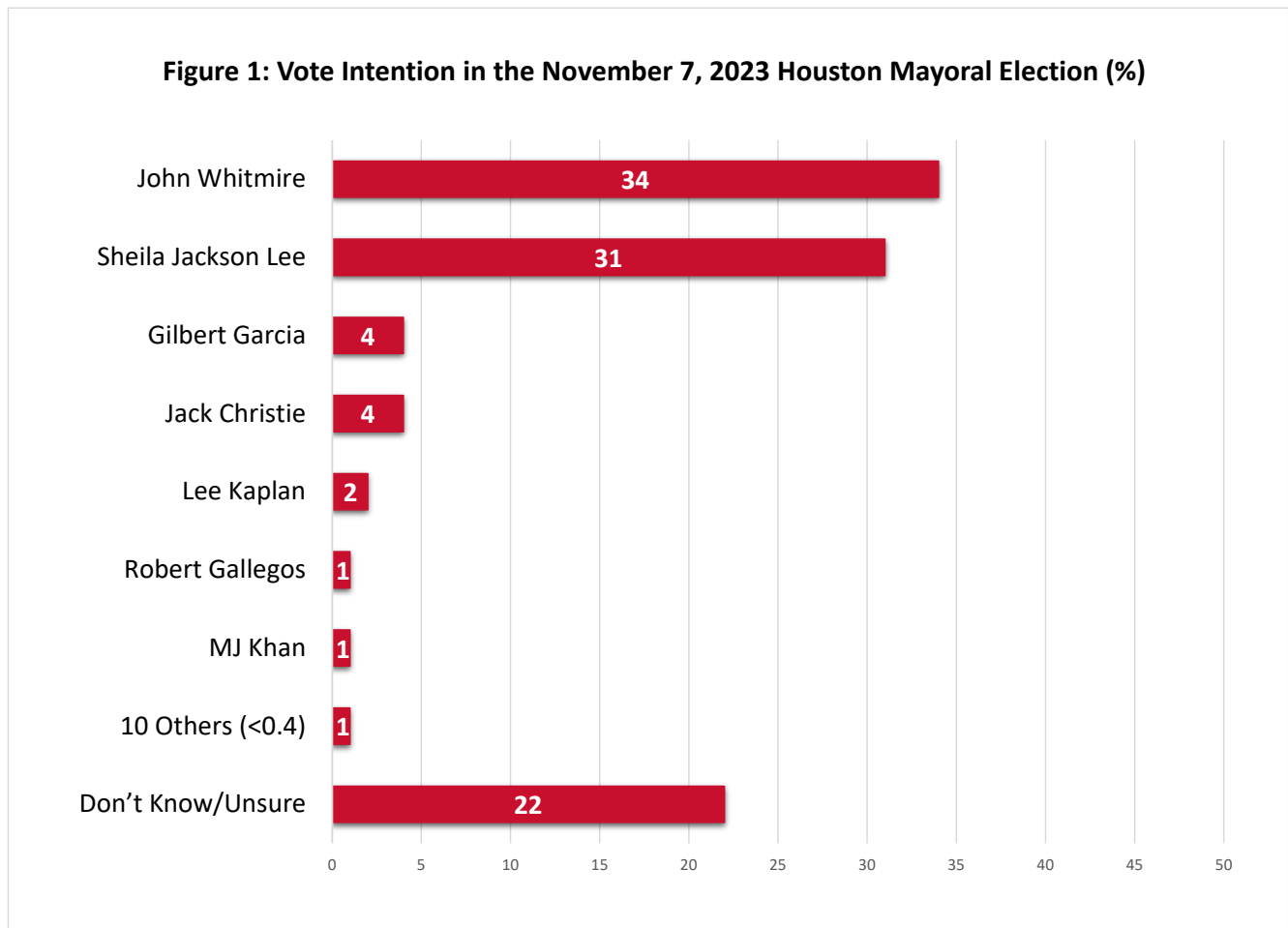


Table 1 provides the distribution of the November 2023 vote intention for the two leading mayoral candidates, Whitmire and Jackson Lee, the vote intention for the other candidates combined and the proportion indicating that they did not know who they would vote for, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation and partisanship.

**Table 1. Socio-Demographic Groups & Distribution of 2023 Houston Mayoral Vote Intention (%)**

Demographic	Sub-Group	Whitmire	Jackson Lee	Others	Don't Know
Gender	Women	28	37	11	24
	Men	40	25	13	22
Ethnicity/Race	White	46	15	15	24
	Black	15	64	4	17
	Latino	37	16	21	26
Generation	Silent/Boomer	34	31	12	23
	Generation X	36	32	12	20
	Millennial/Gen Z	31	29	13	27
Partisan	Democrat	24	51	9	16
	Republican	51	1	19	29
	Independent	37	15	15	33
Overall		34	31	13	22

In the November election, Jackson Lee (37%) holds a 9 percentage point lead over Whitmire (28%) among women, while Whitmire (40%) holds a 15 percentage point lead over Jackson Lee (25%) among men.

Jackson Lee’s vote intention among Black likely voters (64%) is more than four times that of Whitmire (15%), with the Black likely voters (17%) notably less likely than the non-Black likely voters (25%) to be undecided about for whom to vote in November.

Whitmire holds a three to one lead over Jackson Lee among white likely voters (46% to 15%) and a more than two to one lead among Latino likely voters (37% to 16%). Almost one in ten (9%) Latino likely voters intends to vote for Garcia.

There do not exist any salient differences in vote intention for Whitmire and Jackson Lee across the three generational groups.

Jackson Lee has a more than two to one lead over Whitmire among Democrats (51% to 24%) in November. Whitmire holds a 50 percentage point lead over Jackson Lee among Republicans (51% to 1%) and a more than two to one lead in vote intention over Jackson Lee among Independents (37% to 15%). One in three Independents (33%) remains undecided, as do 29% of Republicans, compared to only 16% of Democrats. One in twenty (19%) Republicans intends to vote for a candidate other than Whitmire or Jackson Lee, with more than half (10%) intending to vote for Christie.

## Propensity to Vote For and Knowledge of the 2023 Houston Mayoral Candidates

The respondents were provided with a list of the seven leading mayoral candidates (Whitmire, Jackson Lee, Garcia, Christie, Kaplan, Gallegos, Khan). Independent of their current voting intention, they were asked if this was a candidate they definitely would consider voting for, a candidate they might consider voting for, a candidate they never would vote for, or, if this was a candidate about whom they did not know enough to have an opinion.

Table 2 provides the results. Two candidates stand out in regard to the proportion of likely City of Houston voters who would definitely consider voting for them in the November 2023 City of Houston mayoral election: John Whitmire (43%) and Sheila Jackson Lee (36%). The candidates with the next highest proportion of likely voters who definitely would consider voting for them in November are Gilbert Garcia (13%), Lee Kaplan (9%), Jack Christie (9%), Robert Gallegos (8%), and MJ Khan (5%).

**Table 2. Proportion of Likely Houston Voters Who Definitely Would, Might or Never Would Vote for 2023 Mayoral Candidate (%)**

Mayoral Candidates	Definitely Would Consider Voting For	Might Consider Voting For	Never Would Vote For	Don't Know Enough About
John Whitmire	43	27	15	15
Sheila Jackson Lee	36	16	43	5
Gilbert Garcia	13	29	13	45
Lee Kaplan	9	15	12	64
Jack Christie	9	14	17	60
Robert Gallegos	8	23	13	56
MJ Khan	5	17	18	60

Table 2 also reveals that a majority or close to a majority of these likely voters do not know enough about any candidate other than Jackson Lee (5%) and Whitmire (15%) to have an opinion about them. For instance, after Jackson Lee and Whitmire, the best-known candidate is Garcia (45% of likely voters don't know enough about him to have an opinion), followed by Gallegos (56%), Christie (60%), Khan (60%), and Kaplan (64%).

Figure 2 provides the combined proportion of likely voters who indicated that they either would definitely consider voting for the candidate or might consider voting for the candidate. The candidate with the largest share of voters who definitely would or might consider voting for them is Whitmire (70%), followed by Jackson Lee (52%), Garcia (43%), Gallegos (31%), Kaplan (24%), Christie (23%), and Khan (22%).

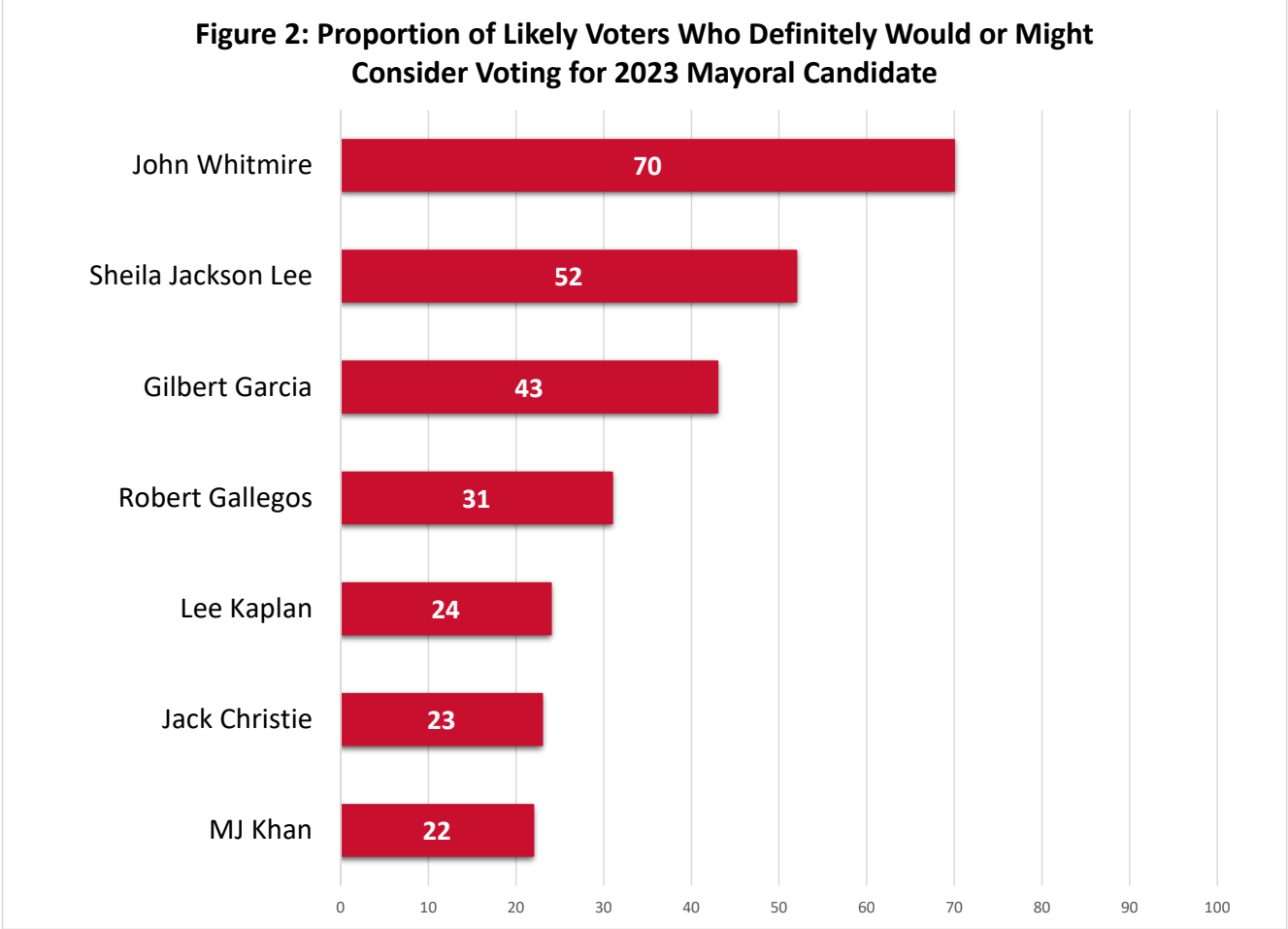




Figure 3 highlights the proportion of likely voters who indicate that they would never vote for the candidate in the 2023 Houston mayoral election. With one exception, the proportion of voters who indicate they would not vote for the candidates is very similar, ranging from a low of 12% (Kaplan) to a high of 18% (Khan), with 15% of likely voters saying they would never vote for Whitmire. The one exception is Jackson Lee, with 43% of likely Houston voters reporting that they would never vote for Jackson Lee in the 2023 mayoral election.

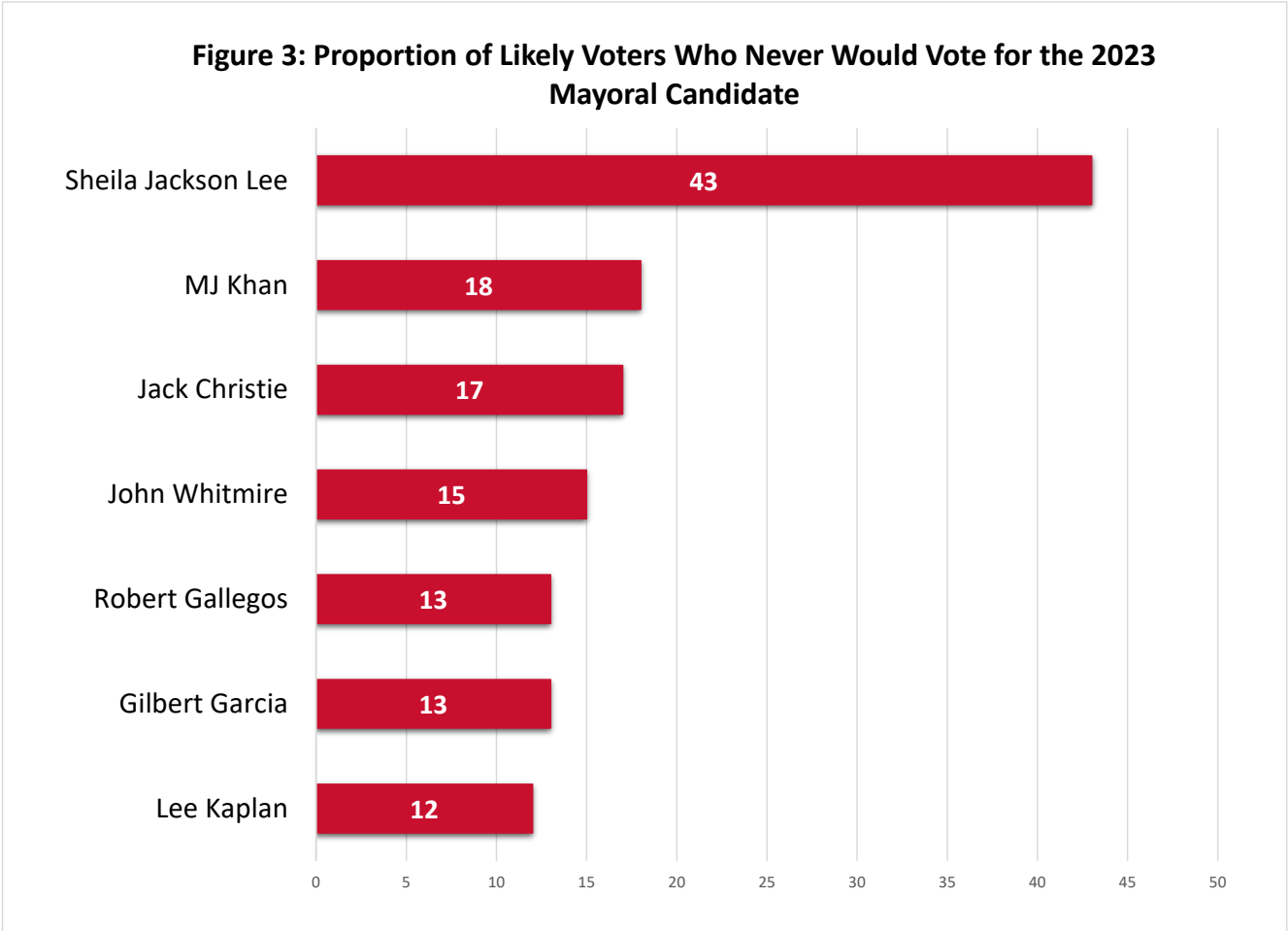


Table 3 provides the proportion of the 22% of likely voters who were still unsure about their November 2023 mayoral vote and their indication of whether they definitely would consider voting for, might consider voting for or never would vote for the seven leading mayoral candidates. A little more than half (52%) of these undecided voters indicated they definitely (12%) or might (40%) consider voting for Whitmire, with 16% saying they would never vote for Whitmire and 32% not knowing enough about Whitmire to have an opinion. More than one-third (36%) of these undecided voters indicated they definitely (11%) or might (25%) consider voting for Jackson Lee, with 53% saying they would never vote for Jackson Lee and 11% not knowing enough about Jackson Lee to have an opinion. More than a quarter (30%) of these undecided voters indicated they definitely (5%) or might (25%) consider voting for Garcia, with 8% saying they never would vote for Garcia and 62% not knowing enough about Garcia to have an opinion. The proportion of undecided voters indicating they definitely or might vote for the other four candidates was below 20%, with between 72% (Gallegos) and 78% (Christie) of undecided voters not knowing enough about the four to have an opinion about them.

**Table 3. Proportion of Unsure Mayoral Voters Who Definitely Would, Might or Never Would Vote for 2023 Mayoral Candidate (%)**

Mayoral Candidates	Definitely Would Consider Voting For	Might Consider Voting For	Never Would Vote For	Don't Know Enough About
John Whitmire	12	40	16	32
Sheila Jackson Lee	11	25	53	11
Gilbert Garcia	5	25	8	62
Robert Gallegos	5	14	9	72
Lee Kaplan	4	12	8	76
Jack Christie	3	10	9	78
MJ Khan	2	13	12	73

Note: 22% of voters indicated that they were still unsure about their November 7 mayoral vote intention.

## Vote Intention in a December 2023 Houston Mayoral Runoff Election

If no candidate obtains more than 50% of the vote on November 7, a runoff election will be held between the top two finishers in December (most likely on December 9, two days before the December 11 deadline to file for the 2024 primary elections for federal and state offices).

In a mayoral runoff election between Jackson Lee and Whitmire, as shown in Figure 4, 50% of likely voters would cast a ballot for Whitmire and 36% for Jackson Lee, with 9% undecided and 5% indicating that they would not vote in the mayoral runoff if Jackson Lee and Whitmire were the two on the runoff ballot.

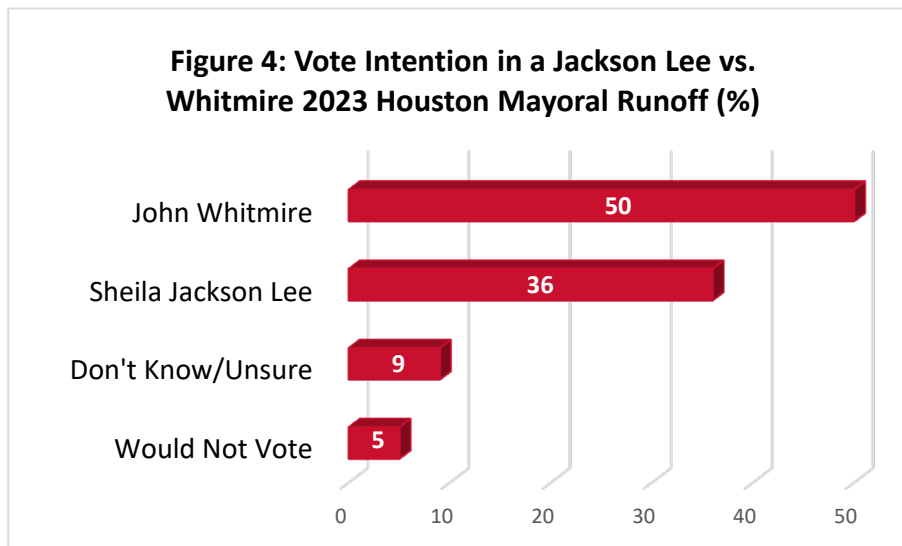


Table 4 provides the distribution of the runoff vote intention for Whitmire and Jackson Lee, and the proportion who are undecided and would not vote if these were the two runoff candidates, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation and partisanship.

**Table 4. Socio-Demographic Groups & Distribution of 2023 Houston Mayoral Runoff Vote Intention (%)**

Demographic	Sub-Group	Whitmire	Jackson Lee	Don't Know	Would Not Vote
Gender	Women	42	43	10	5
	Men	57	28	10	5
Ethnicity Race	White	69	18	6	7
	Black	19	68	12	1
	Latino	55	26	13	6
Generation	Silent/Boomer	52	34	9	5
	Generation X	52	36	9	3
	Millennial/Gen Z	42	38	13	7
Partisan	Democrat	29	59	10	2
	Republican	82	1	6	11
	Independent	62	15	16	7
Overall		50	36	9	5

In a runoff, Jackson Lee (43%) and Whitmire (42%) are effectively tied among women, with 10% undecided. Among men, Whitmire’s vote intention is 29 percentage points greater than that of Jackson Lee, 57% vs. 28%, with 10% undecided.

Jackson Lee bests Whitmire in runoff vote intention among Black likely voters by 49 percentage points, 68% vs. 19%. Whitmire bests Jackson Lee in runoff vote intention among white likely voters by 51 percentage points, 69% vs. 18%, and among Latino likely voters by 29 percentage points, 55% vs. 26%.

Whitmire enjoys a significant lead in runoff vote intention over Jackson Lee among the oldest two generational groups, with an 18 percentage point lead among the Silent/Boomer cohort (52% vs. 34%) and a 16 percentage point lead among Generation X (52% vs. 36%). Whitmire’s lead among the Millennial/Generation Z cohort is however only 4 percentage points (42% vs. 38%).

Jackson Lee’s runoff vote intention among Democrats is twice that of Whitmire (59% vs. 29%). Whitmire’s runoff vote intention among Republicans is 82 times that of Jackson Lee, 82% vs. 1%. Whitmire also holds a four to one advantage over Jackson Lee among Independents, 62% vs. 15%. While 10% of Democrats and 16% of Independents remain undecided in this hypothetical runoff race, the same is true for only 6% of Republican likely voters. Conversely, while only 2% of Democrats said they would not vote in a hypothetical Jackson Lee vs. Whitmire runoff, 11% of Republicans signaled they would not cast a ballot in a runoff between these two candidates.

Table 5 provides the voters’ December mayoral runoff vote intention broken down by their November mayoral vote intention. Both Jackson Lee (98%) and Whitmire (97%) retain virtually all of their November vote intention in a December runoff. A larger share of voters who intend to cast a ballot for one of the other five leading candidates intend to vote for Whitmire rather than Jackson Lee in a runoff: Garcia (58% vs. 21%), Christie (79% vs. 3%), Kaplan (63% vs. 11%), Gallegos (50% vs. 38%) and Khan (86% vs. 0%). Of those who were unsure of their November vote, 40% intend to vote for Whitmire in the runoff compared to 12% who intend to vote for Jackson Lee and 38% who remain undecided.

**Table 5. Comparison of November 7 and December Runoff Vote Intention Distribution (%)**

Nov. 7 Vote Intention	Supports Whitmire in Runoff (%)	Supports Jackson Lee in Runoff (%)	Don't Know/Would Not Vote in Runoff
John Whitmire	97	1	2
Sheila Jackson Lee	0	98	2
Gilbert Garcia	58	21	21
Jack Christie	79	3	18
Lee Kaplan	63	11	26
Robert Gallegos	50	38	12
MJ Khan	86	0	14
10 Others	11	67	22
Don't Know/Unsure	40	12	38

## Favorable & Unfavorable Evaluations of the Mayoral Candidates

Table 6 provides the proportion of likely 2023 City of Houston voters with a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, and very unfavorable opinion of the seven leading mayoral candidates, as well as the proportion that did not know enough about the candidate to have an opinion.

**Table 6. Distribution of Favorable & Unfavorable Evaluations of the 7 Leading 2023 Houston Mayoral Candidates (%)**

Mayoral Candidate	Very Favorable	Somewhat Favorable	Somewhat Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Don't Know Enough About
Sheila Jackson Lee	28	17	10	41	4
John Whitmire	27	36	11	13	13
Gilbert Garcia	7	27	8	7	51
Jack Christie	6	14	5	10	65
Robert Gallegos	4	20	8	6	61
Lee Kaplan	4	17	5	6	68
MJ Khan	3	16	9	9	63

More than three out of five (63%) City of Houston likely voters have either a very favorable (27%) or somewhat favorable (36%) opinion of Whitmire. Slightly less than half (45%) of likely voters have either a very favorable (28%) or somewhat favorable (17%) opinion of Jackson Lee. Half (51%) of these likely voters have either a very unfavorable (41%) or somewhat unfavorable (10%) opinion of Jackson Lee. One in four (24%) likely voters has either a very unfavorable (13%) or somewhat unfavorable (11%) opinion of Whitmire. Virtually all (96%) City of Houston likely voters know enough about Jackson Lee to have an opinion of her, compared to 87% who know enough about Whitmire to have an opinion of him.

Between one-half (51%, Garcia) and two-thirds (68%, Kaplan) of likely voters don't know enough about the other five leading candidates to have an opinion of them. Among those with an opinion of these five candidates, Garcia is viewed favorably by the largest share of likely voters (34%), followed by Gallegos (24%), Kaplan (21%), Christie (20%) and Khan (19%).

Table 7 provides the proportion of likely voters with a favorable and unfavorable opinion of Whitmire and Jackson Lee, along with the proportion who did not know enough about them to have an opinion, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation and partisanship.

**Table 7. Distribution of Favorable & Unfavorable Opinions of Whitmire & Jackson Lee in Socio-Demographic Groups (%)**

Demographic	Sub-Group	Favorable		Unfavorable		Don't Know Enough	
		Whitmire	Jackson Lee	Whitmire	Jackson Lee	Whitmire	Jackson Lee
Gender	Women	60 (27)	54 (33)	24 (13)	40 (31)	16	6
	Men	66 (27)	36 (23)	23 (13)	61 (50)	11	3
Ethnicity Race	White	69 (32)	26 (12)	23 (11)	71 (61)	8	3
	Black	57 (19)	78 (58)	24 (14)	16 (8)	19	6
	Latino	60 (31)	39 (20)	25 (15)	56 (41)	15	5
Generation	Silent/Boomer	70 (31)	45 (28)	20 (12)	50 (43)	10	4
	Generation X	63 (28)	48 (27)	20 (11)	49 (39)	17	3
	Millennial/Gen Z	44 (17)	38 (20)	39 (18)	54 (36)	17	8
Partisan	Democrat	59 (24)	73 (47)	28 (16)	23 (11)	13	4
	Republican	71 (34)	4 (1)	18 (9)	93 (87)	11	3
	Independent	66 (26)	27 (15)	15 (6)	66 (57)	19	7
Overall		63 (27)	45 (28)	24 (13)	52 (41)	13	4

Note: Proportion strongly favorable and strongly unfavorable in parentheses.

Whitmire is viewed favorably (very and somewhat) by comparable proportions of men (66%) and women (60%), while Jackson Lee is viewed favorably by a significantly larger proportion of women (54%) than men (36%). The same pattern exists in regard to unfavorable opinions, with comparable proportions among men and women vis-à-vis Whitmire (23% and 24%, respectively) and substantially more men (61%) than women (40%) with an unfavorable opinion of Jackson Lee. One-half (50%) of male likely voters hold a very unfavorable opinion of Jackson Lee.

An absolute majority of white (69%), Latino (60%) and Black (57%) likely voters have a favorable opinion of Whitmire, compared to 23%, 25% and 24%, respectively, who have an unfavorable opinion of the Dean of the Texas Senate. Nearly one in five Black likely voters (19%) and one in six Latino likely voters (15%) does not know enough about Whitmire to have an opinion of him.

Three out of four (78%) Black likely voters have a favorable opinion of Jackson Lee, including more than half (58%) who have a very favorable opinion of the Congresswoman. A little more than one-fourth of white (26%) and a little less than two-fifths of Latino (39%) likely voters have a favorable opinion of Jackson Lee. An absolute majority of white (71%) and Latino (56%) likely voters have an unfavorable opinion of Jackson Lee, with 61% and 41%, respectively, having a very unfavorable opinion of the Congresswoman. Fewer than one in six (16%) Black voters has an unfavorable opinion of Jackson Lee.

Whitmire is viewed favorably by an absolute majority of the members of the Silent/Boomer (70%) and Generation X (63%) cohorts and by close to a majority of members of the Millennial/Generation Z cohort (44%). Whitmire's unfavorable proportion among these three groups is 20%, 20% and 39%, respectively. Jackson Lee's favorable rating among the three generational cohorts ranges from 48% (Generation X) to 38% (Millennials/Generation Z). Jackson Lee's unfavorable rating ranges from 54% among the Millennial/Generation Z cohort to 49% among Generation X.



Absolute majorities of Republicans (71%), Independents (66%) and Democrats (59%) have a favorable opinion of Whitmire. Over a quarter of Democrats (28%) has an unfavorable opinion of Whitmire, as do 18% of Republicans and 15% of Independents. Close to three out of four Democrats (73%), but only one out of twenty-five Republicans (4%), have a favorable opinion of Jackson Lee, as does one in four Independents (27%). More than nine out ten Republicans (93%) have an unfavorable opinion of Jackson Lee (87% have a very unfavorable opinion of her), as do two-thirds (66%) of Independents. In contrast, less than one in four Democrats (23%) has a negative opinion of Jackson Lee.

**Vote Intention in the November 2023 Houston Controller Election**

Figure 5 contains the vote intention of likely voters for the November 2023 City of Houston controller election. With a little more than a month before election day, close to half of likely voters (45%) did not know for whom they would vote in this contest. Among the 55% who did indicate they intend to vote for one of the four candidates, 29% intend to vote for Chris Hollins, 14% for Orlando Sanchez, 8% for Dave Martin and 4% for Shannan Nobles.

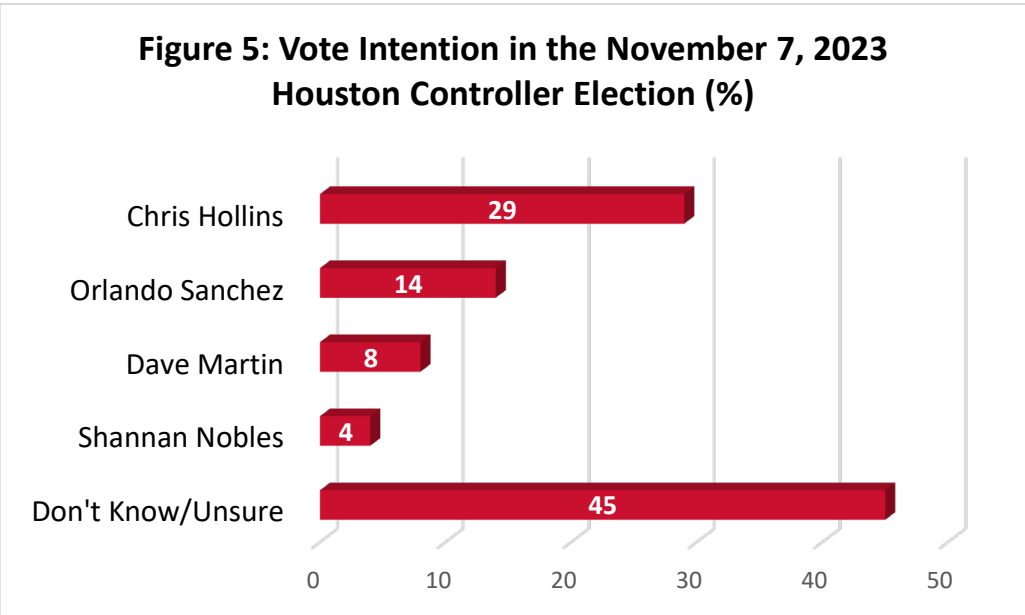


Table 8 provides the distribution of the vote intention for the two leading controller candidates, Hollins and Sanchez, the vote intention for the other two candidates combined, and the proportion of likely voters indicating that they did not know who they would vote for, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation and partisanship.

**Table 8. Socio-Demographic Groups & Distribution of 2023 Houston Controller Vote Intention (%)**

Demographic	Sub-Group	Hollins	Sanchez	Others	Don't Know
Gender	Women	32	10	13	45
	Men	26	17	12	45
Ethnicity Race	White	21	16	17	46
	Black	46	6	7	41
	Latino	23	22	10	45
Generation	Silent/Boomer	29	14	12	45
	Generation X	26	16	13	45
	Millennial/Gen Z	35	9	12	44
Partisan	Democrat	46	7	10	37
	Republican	7	23	19	51
	Independent	13	21	10	56
Overall		29	14	12	45

Hollins holds a notable 22 percentage point lead over Sanchez among women (32% vs. 10%), while the two are more evenly matched among men (26% vs. 17%).

Hollins holds a modest lead over Sanchez among white voters (21% vs. 16%) and the two are essentially tied among Latino voters (23% vs. 22%), with 46% of white voters and 45% of Latino voters still undecided. Almost half of Black likely voters (46%) intend to vote for Hollins compared to 6% who intend to vote for Sanchez and 41% who are undecided. One in eight (13%) white voters intend to vote for Martin.

Hollins holds a lead over Sanchez in all three generational groups, ranging from a high of 26 percentage points (35% to 9%) among the Millennial/Generation Z cohort to a low of 10% among the Generation X cohort (26% to 16%).

Hollins is the preferred candidate among Democrats, with 46% intending to vote for him, compared to 7% for Sanchez and 10% for the other two candidates, with 37% undecided. Sanchez is the preferred candidate among Republicans (23%) and Independents (21%), of whom 7% and 13% intend to vote for Hollins, respectively. One in five (19%) Republican voters intend to vote for one of the other two candidates, driven primarily by the 17% of Republicans who intend to vote for Martin. More than half of Republicans (51%) and Independents (56%) remain undecided in regard to their vote intention in the 2023 City of Houston controller election.

## Propensity to Vote For & Knowledge of the 2023 Houston Controller Candidates

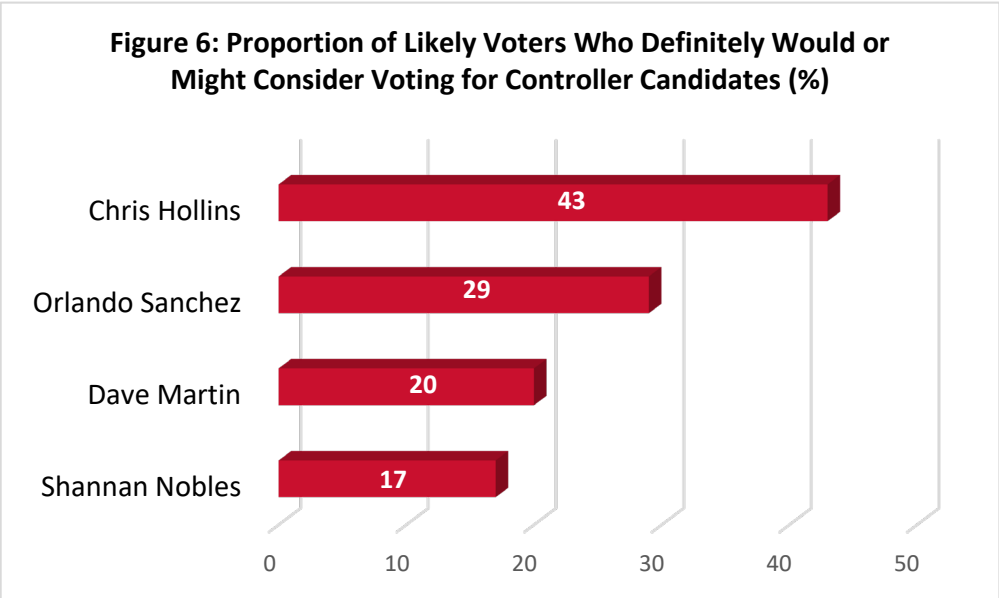
Table 9 provides the proportion of likely voters who definitely would consider voting for, might consider voting for, or never would vote for the four City of Houston controller candidates. It also provides the proportion of these likely voters who do not know enough about the controller candidate to have an opinion of them.

**Table 9. Proportion of Likely Houston Voters Who Definitely Would, Might or Never Would Vote for 2023 Controller Candidate (%)**

Controller Candidates	Definitely Would Consider Voting For	Might Consider Voting For	Never Would Consider Voting For	Don't Know Enough About
Chris Hollins	25	18	9	48
Orlando Sanchez	9	20	18	53
Dave Martin	8	12	8	72
Shannan Nobles	4	13	6	77

Between one-half and three-fourths of likely voters do not know enough about the four controller candidates to have an opinion about voting for them, ranging from lows of 48% for Hollins and 53% for Sanchez to highs of 72% for Martin and 77% for Nobles.

As Table 9 and Figure 6 illustrate, 25% of these likely voters would definitely consider voting for Hollins and 18% might consider voting for him, for a total of 43% of likely voters who definitely or might consider voting for Hollins. Second is Sanchez, for whom 9% would definitely consider voting and 20% might consider voting, for a total of 29% of likely voters who definitely or might consider voting for Sanchez. Third is Martin, for whom 8% would definitely consider voting and 12% might consider voting, for a total of 20% of likely voters who definitely or might consider voting for Martin. Fourth is Nobles, for whom 4% would definitely consider voting and 13% might consider voting, for a total of 17% of likely voters who definitely or might consider voting for Nobles. The only controller candidate with a double-digit proportion of likely voters indicating they would never vote for them is Sanchez, with 18% of likely voters holding that position.



## Vote Intention for the City of Houston's Proposition A

City of Houston voters will be voting on two amendments to the City Charter in November: Proposition A and Proposition B. Proposition B's ballot language is written at a college level of reading comprehension and any voter without the requisite background information regarding it would be challenged to provide a valid response regarding their vote intention. In contrast, Proposition A is written at a middle school level of reading comprehension. As a result, a question about vote intention for Proposition A was included in the survey while one about Proposition B was not.

Voters were asked if they are For or Against Proposition A which, on the ballot and in the survey instrument, reads:

*Proposition A. Shall the City Charter of the City of Houston be amended to enable three or more council members, by written request, to have item(s) placed on the agenda of a regular city council meeting and to have such item(s) considered by council?*

Figure 7 provides the vote intention of likely Houston voters on the City of Houston's Proposition A, with 57% indicating they intend to vote in favor and 12% against, while 31% remain undecided.

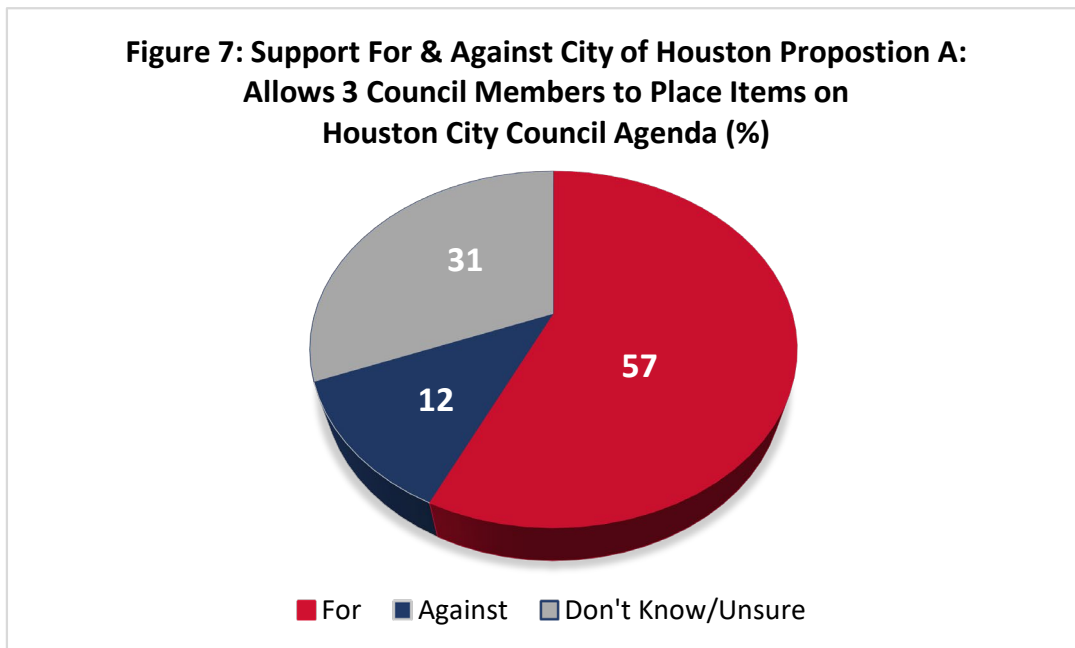


Table 10 provides the distribution of the vote intention for and against the City of Houston’s Proposition A, and the proportion of likely voters indicating that they were undecided, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation and partisanship.

**Table 10: Socio-Demographic Groups & Distribution of 2023 Houston Proposition A Vote Intention (%)**

Demographic	Sub-Group	For	Against	Don't Know
Gender	Women	55	10	35
	Men	59	14	27
Ethnicity Race	White	61	11	28
	Black	52	13	35
	Latino	57	11	32
Generation	Silent/Boomer	59	12	29
	Generation X	54	14	32
	Millennial/Gen Z	56	11	33
Partisan	Democrat	60	9	31
	Republican	53	16	31
	Independent	55	18	27
Overall		57	12	31

More than half of men (59%) and women (55%) intend to vote for Proposition A, compared to 14% and 10% who plan to vote against it. One-third of women (35%) and one-fourth of men (27%) remain undecided on Proposition A.

More than half of white (61%), Latino (57%) and Black (52%) likely voters intend to vote for Proposition A, compared to 11%, 11% and 13% who plan to vote against it. Slightly more than one in four white voters (28%) and one in three Black (35%) and Latino (32%) voters remain undecided on Proposition A.

More than half of members of all three generational cohorts (Silent/Boomer, Generation X, Millennial/Generation Z) intend to vote in favor of Proposition A (59%, 54%, 56%) compared to one in ten who intend to vote against the proposition (12%, 14%, 11%), and one in three (29%, 32%, 33%) who remain undecided.

More than half of Democrats (60%), Independents (55%) and Republicans (53%) intend to vote in favor of Proposition A, compared to 9%, 18% and 16% who intend to vote against it, and 31%, 27% and 31% who remain undecided.



## Vote Intention for Harris County's Proposition A

City of Houston voters who reside in Harris County, along with all other Harris County voters, will also be voting this fall on a Harris County Hospital District bond proposition. The proposition (Proposition A), on the ballot and on the survey instrument, reads:

*Harris County Hospital District, Proposition A. The issuance of \$2,500,000,000 Hospital District Bonds for acquiring, constructing, equipping and enlarging the district's hospital system, including improving, renovating and developing (A) the Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) Hospital campus, including a replacement hospital with a Level 1 capable trauma center, (B) the Ben Taub Hospital campus, and (C) district clinics and health centers; and the acquisition of land for authorized system purposes; and the levying of a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds and the costs of any credit agreements executed in connection with the bonds.*

Figure 8 provides the vote intention of likely Houston voters (who reside in Harris County) on Harris County's Proposition A, with 59% indicating they intend to vote in favor and 25% against, while 16% remain undecided.

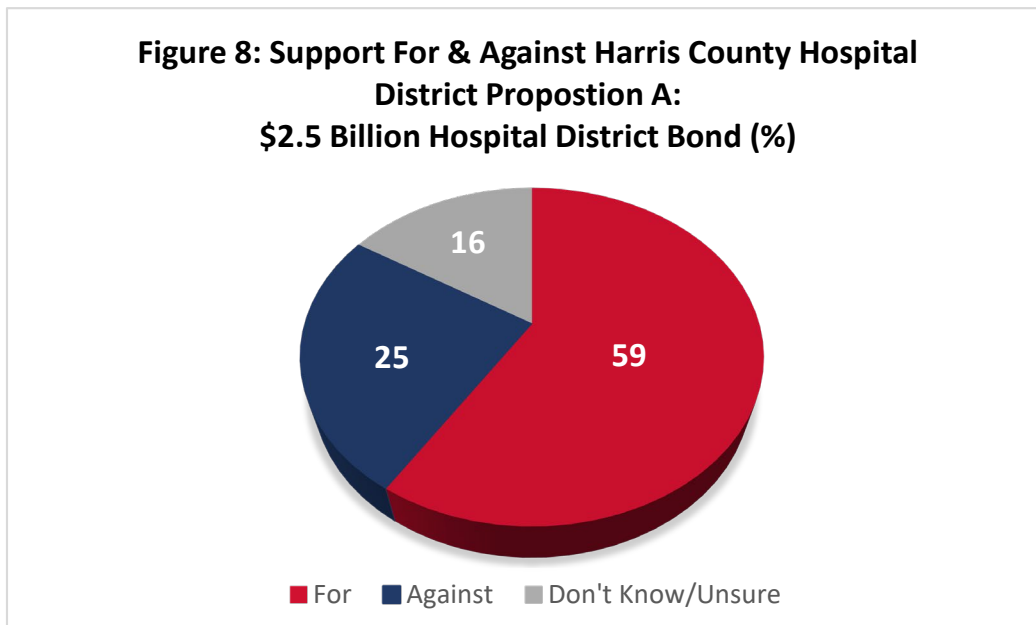


Table 11 provides the distribution of the vote intention for and against Harris County’s Proposition A, and the proportion of likely voters indicating that they were undecided, broken down by gender, ethnicity/race, generation and partisanship.

**Table 11: Socio-Demographic Groups & Distribution of 2023 Harris County Proposition A Vote Intention (%)**

Demographic	Sub-Group	For	Against	Don't Know
Gender	Women	64	19	17
	Men	54	31	15
Ethnicity Race	White	54	31	15
	Black	70	14	16
	Latino	58	28	14
Generation	Silent/Boomer	55	27	18
	Generation X	62	24	14
	Millennial/Gen Z	63	20	17
Partisan	Democrat	77	10	13
	Republican	34	46	20
	Independent	45	38	17
Overall		59	25	16

More than half of women (64%) and men (54%) intend to vote for Harris County’s Proposition A, compared to 19% and 31% who plan to vote against it. Less than one in five women (17%) and men (15%) remain undecided on Proposition A.

More than two-thirds of Black (70%) and more than half of Latino (58%) and white (54%) likely voters intend to vote for Harris County’s Proposition A, compared to 14%, 28% and 31%, respectively, who plan to vote against the proposition. Approximately one in seven Black (16%), white (15%) and Latino (14%) likely voters remain undecided.

More than half of members of all three generational cohorts (Silent/Boomer, Generation X, Millennial/Generation Z) intend to vote in favor of Harris County’s Proposition A (55%, 62%, 63%) compared to between two in ten and three in ten intend to vote against it (27%, 24%, 20%), with 18%, 14% and 17% remaining undecided.

There is a strong partisan split in the vote intention for Harris County’s Proposition A. While 77% of Democrats intend to vote for Proposition A, the same is true of only 34% of Republicans. And, conversely, while 46% of Republicans intend to vote against Proposition A, the same is true of only 10% of Democrats. Independents are more evenly split in their Proposition A vote intention, with 45% for and 38% against. One in five Republicans (20%) remains undecided about their Proposition A vote, compared to 13% of Democrats, and 17% of Independents.

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