

City of Austin Survey

April 24 - 25, 2017

n = 1909

MOE = +/- 2.2

Executive Summary

Littlefield Consulting was retained to conduct a public opinion survey of likely voters in Austin TX.

The survey was put into the field on April 24 and 25, 2017. 1909 voters responded to the survey, n = 1909. The margin of error (MOE) is based on a City of Austin voter population of 566,253 and n = 1909. The MOE is +/- 2.2 and the confidence level is 95%.

There was an over-sampling of females and older voters and an under-sampling of males and younger voters.

For more information or for complete cross tabs, please contact Mark Littlefield at mark@MarkLittlefield.com.

Q1. This is Southwest Voter Research with a quick survey about important issues in Texas. If you are over 18 years old and registered to vote in the City of Austin - press 1 on your phone now. [IF 1 IS NOT SELECTED, END SURVEY]

Yes 100%

Q2. If you are female, press 1 on your phone now. If you are male, press 2 on your phone now.

Female59%
Male41%

Q3. In the November 2016 General Election, did you vote for mostly republican candidates or did you vote for mostly democratic candidates?

Mostly Rep 32%
Mostly Dem 61%
Mixed 6%
Unsure 1%

Q4. Later in the survey, I am going to ask you your opinion of President Donald Trump, but first let me ask you about the City of Austin. Overall, do you think Austin is on the right track or wrong track?

Right Track 42%
Wrong Track46%
Unsure 12%

Q5. Now I am going to ask you a couple of short questions about crime in Austin. When thinking about your neighborhood or your specific part of the city, do you think that recently there is more or less property crime like home or car break-ins?

More Property Crime37%
Less Property Crime 36%
Unsure27%

Q6. Again, when thinking about your neighborhood or your specific part of the city, do you think that recently there is more or less violent crime?

More Violent Crime 22%
Less Violent Crime 48%
Unsure29%

Q7. Two recent studies commissioned by the Austin city council show that cities the size of Austin should already have one-hundred more police officers than Austin currently has. Other reports presented to the city council show that Austin police department response times have increased 15% over the past several years. Do you think increasing the number of patrol officers would help lower response times?

Would Help 75%
Would Not Help 17%
Unsure 8%

Q8. Some law enforcement stakeholders believe that the police staffing shortage is resulting in less community engagement and less community policing. Do you think increasing the number of patrol officers would result in more community engagement and more community policing?

Would Result 65%
Would Not Result 21%
Unsure 14%

Q9. Some law enforcement stakeholders believe that police officers would be more successful in combatting the K-2 crisis occurring in downtown Austin among the homeless population if there was NOT a staffing shortage of police officers. Do you think increasing the number of patrol officers would cause the police department to be more successful in combatting the K-2 crisis?

Would Help 56%
Would Not Help 30%
Unsure 15%

Q10. Some law enforcement stakeholders believe that police officers would have a better chance to avoid using force in interactions with the community increase when there are staffing shortages. Do you think increasing the number of patrol officers would lead to a decrease in officers using force in interactions with the community?

Would Lead 37%
Would Not Lead 40%
Unsure 22%

Q11. The most recent Austin Police Department staffing report indicated that the City of Austin is already short more than one-hundred police officers. City officials say the addition of more than one-hundred officers would add \$10 million a year to the budget. Some stakeholders are urging the Council to immediately find the funds in the next budget to hire these officers. Other stakeholders are recommending the Council hire these officers over 3 to 4 years. Other stakeholders are urging the council to not hire any additional officers at this time. Which one of these positions is closer to your opinion?

Immediately 37%
Over 3-4 Years 47%
Not Right Now 12%
Unsure 4%

Q12. Last question before we ask about the President. Some law enforcement stakeholders in Austin say the police department is already short more than one-hundred officers and this shortage is resulting in an increase in crime, slower response times, and a reduction in community policing and community engagement. Other stakeholders in our community say the police department salaries and retirement benefits already eat up too much of our budget and that implementing other policies and procedures is better than expanding the number of officers. Which one of these positions is closer to your opinion?

APD Staff Short 47%
Use Other Policies 24%
Unsure 29%

Q13. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump?

Favorable **29%**
Unfavorable **64%**
Unsure **7%**

Q14. Last question - for demographic purposes - how old are you?

Over 65 **54%**
50 to 64 **25%**
40 to 49 **13%**
Und 40 **8%**

DEMOGRAPHICS

BY COA DIST	RESPONSES	%	MOE	REG VOTERS	%	NOV '16 BALLOTS	%
D01	180	9%	+/- 7.3	49,438	9%	27,127	7%
D02	117	6%	+/- 9.1	39,943	7%	20,437	6%
D03	83	4%	+/- 10.8	49,418	9%	24,239	7%
D04	156	8%	+/- 7.8	31,744	6%	16,964	5%
D05	196	10%	+/- 7.0	66,258	12%	47,272	13%
D06	209	11%	+/- 7.3	62,900	11%	41,239	11%
D07	260	14%	+/- 6.8	60,162	11%	40,983	11%
D08	238	12%	+/- 6.3	61,230	11%	45,992	13%
D09	127	7%	+/- 8.7	79,305	14%	49,100	13%
D10	343	18%	+/- 5.3	65,855	12%	52,244	14%
	1,909			566,253		365,597	

BY GENER	RESPONSES	%	REG VOTERS	%	NOV '16 BALLOTS	%
FEMALE	1,134	59%	296,765	52%	200,347	55%
MALE	775	41%	269,488	48%	165,250	45%
	1,909		566,253		365,597	

BY GENER	RESPONSES	%	REG VOTERS	%	NOV '16 BALLOTS	%
OVER 65	1,029	54%	80,974	14%	58,216	16%
50 TO 64	479	25%	121,178	21%	72,698	20%
40 TO 49	248	13%	99,661	18%	142,969	39%
UND 40	153	8%	264,440	47%	91,714	25%
	1,909		566,253		365,597	

Q2. If you are female, press 1 on your phone now. If you are male, press 2 on your phone now.

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D01	D02	D03	D04	D05
FEMALE	59%	62%	53%	63%	64%	59%
MALE	41%	38%	47%	37%	36%	41%

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D06	D07	D08	D09	D10
FEMALE	59%	58%	58%	56%	61%	58%
MALE	41%	42%	42%	44%	39%	42%

BY PARTISANSHIP	AUSTIN	MOSTLY REP	MOSLTY DEM	MIXED
FEMALE	59%	54%	66%	48%
MALE	41%	46%	34%	52%

BY AGE	AUSTIN	OVER 65	50 TO 64	40 TO 49	UND 40
FEMALE	59%	61%	56%	53%	62%
MALE	41%	39%	44%	47%	38%

Q3. In the November 2016 General Election, did you vote for mostly republican candidates or did you vote for mostly democratic candidates?

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D01	D02	D03	D04	D05
MOSTLY REP	32%	18%	31%	20%	25%	29%
MOSTLY DEM	61%	72%	59%	72%	66%	62%
MIXED	6%	6%	7%	8%	9%	6%
NOT SURE	1%	4%	3%	0	0	3%

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D06	D07	D08	D09	D10
MOSTLY REP	32%	39%	35%	43%	20%	39%
MOSTLY DEM	61%	53%	58%	52%	75%	56%
MIXED	6%	8%	6%	3%	4%	4%
NOT SURE	1%	0	2%	1%	1%	0

BY GENDER	AUSTIN	FEMALE	MALE
MOSTLY REP	32%	28%	38%
MOSTLY DEM	61%	66%	53%
MIXED	6%	4%	7%
NOT SURE	1%	1%	1%

BY AGE	AUSTIN	OVER 65	50 TO 64	40 TO 49	UND 40
MOSTLY REP	32%	35%	24%	30%	22%
MOSTLY DEM	61%	60%	67%	49%	75%
MIXED	6%	4%	8%	15%	3%
NOT SURE	1%	1%	1%	5%	0

Q4. Later in the survey, I am going to ask you your opinion of President Donald Trump, but first let me ask you about the City of Austin. Overall, do you think Austin is on the right track or wrong track?

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D01	D02	D03	D04	D05
RIGHT TRACK	42%	46%	33%	48%	32%	43%
WRONG TRACK	46%	34%	50%	40%	53%	41%
NOT SURE	12%	20%	17%	12%	15%	12%

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D06	D07	D08	D09	D10
RIGHT TRACK	42%	47%	42%	31%	51%	44%
WRONG TRACK	46%	41%	45%	59%	39%	47%
NOT SURE	12%	12%	13%	10%	11%	9%

BY GENDER	AUSTIN	FEMALE	MALE
RIGHT TRACK	42%	44%	38%
WRONG TRACK	46%	41%	53%
NOT SURE	12%	15%	9%

BY PARTISANSHIP	AUSTIN	MOSTLY REP	MOSLTY DEM	MIXED
RIGHT TRACK	42%	18%	55%	30%
WRONG TRACK	46%	74%	31%	54%
NOT SURE	12%	8%	14%	16%

BY AGE	AUSTIN	OVER 65	50 TO 64	40 TO 49	UND 40
RIGHT TRACK	42%	41%	41%	50%	41%
WRONG TRACK	46%	45%	50%	41%	47%
NOT SURE	12%	14%	9%	9%	12%

Q5. Now I am going to ask you a couple of short questions about crime in Austin. When thinking about your neighborhood or your specific part of the city, do you think that recently there is more or less property crime like home or car break-ins?

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D01	D02	D03	D04	D05
MORE CRIME	37%	31%	40%	42%	49%	39%
LESS CRIME	36%	52%	38%	30%	30%	36%
NOT SURE	27%	17%	22%	28%	22%	25%

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D06	D07	D08	D09	D10
MORE CRIME	37%	36%	36%	39%	36%	35%
LESS CRIME	36%	40%	35%	31%	35%	33%
NOT SURE	27%	25%	30%	29%	38%	32%

BY GENDER	AUSTIN	FEMALE	MALE
MORE CRIME	37%	39%	35%
LESS CRIME	36%	33%	39%
UNSURE	27%	32%	26%

BY PARTISANSHIP	AUSTIN	MOSTLY REP	MOSLTY DEM	MIXED
MORE CRIME	37%	51%	30%	39%
LESS CRIME	36%	26%	42%	25%
UNSURE	27%	23%	28%	36%

BY AGE	AUSTIN	OVER 65	50 TO 64	40 TO 49	UND 40
MORE CRIME	37%	36%	38%	43%	44%
LESS CRIME	36%	38%	31%	29%	36%
UNSURE	27%	26%	31%	27%	24%

Q6. Again, when thinking about your neighborhood or your specific part of the city, do you think that recently there is more or less violent crime?

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D01	D02	D03	D04	D05
MORE CRIME	22%	25%	28%	26%	39%	28%
LESS CRIME	48%	56%	48%	48%	40%	43%
NOT SURE	29%	19%	24%	26%	22%	29%

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D06	D07	D08	D09	D10
MORE CRIME	22%	18%	22%	19%	19%	17%
LESS CRIME	48%	49%	49%	47%	52%	49%
NOT SURE	29%	33%	30%	34%	29%	34%

BY GENDER	AUSTIN	FEMALE	MALE
MORE CRIME	22%	21%	25%
LESS CRIME	48%	47%	49%
NOT SURE	29%	32%	25%

BY PARTISANSHIP	AUSTIN	MOSTLY REP	MOSLTY DEM	MIXED
MORE CRIME	22%	34%	16%	25%
LESS CRIME	48%	38%	55%	33%
NOT SURE	29%	29%	28%	42%

BY AGE	AUSTIN	OVER 65	50 TO 64	40 TO 49	UND 40
MORE CRIME	22%	22%	21%	29%	38%
LESS CRIME	48%	50%	45%	41%	44%
NOT SURE	29%	28%	34%	29%	18%

Q7. Two recent studies commissioned by the Austin city council show that cities the size of Austin should already have one-hundred more police officers than Austin currently has. Other reports presented to the city council show that Austin police department response times have increased 15% over the past several years. Do you think increasing the number of patrol officers would help lower response times?

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D01	D02	D03	D04	D05
WOULD HELP	75%	71%	67%	74%	83%	76%
NOT HELP	17%	22%	24%	18%	10%	16%
NOT SURE	8%	7%	9%	8%	7%	9%

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D06	D07	D08	D09	D10
WOULD HELP	75%	73%	69%	78%	76%	78%
NOT HELP	17%	15%	22%	16%	14%	14%
NOT SURE	8%	12%	9%	6%	9%	8%

BY GENDER	AUSTIN	FEMALE	MALE
WOULD HELP	75%	79%	70%
NOT HELP	17%	12%	24%
NOT SURE	8%	10%	6%

BY PARTISANSHIP	AUSTIN	MOSTLY REP	MOSLTY DEM	MIXED
WOULD HELP	75%	83%	72%	70%
NOT HELP	17%	13%	18%	22%
NOT SURE	8%	3%	11%	7%

BY AGE	AUSTIN	OVER 65	50 TO 64	40 TO 49	UND 40
WOULD HELP	75%	78%	69%	78%	50%
NOT HELP	17%	14%	21%	14%	35%
NOT SURE	8%	7%	10%	8%	15%

Q8. Some law enforcement stakeholders believe that the police staffing shortage is resulting in less community engagement and less community policing. Do you think increasing the number of patrol officers would result in more community engagement and more community policing?

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D01	D02	D03	D04	D05
WOULD RESULT	65%	66%	53%	70%	66%	71%
NOT RESULT	21%	23%	31%	22%	19%	19%
NOT SURE	14%	12%	16%	8%	15%	10%

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D06	D07	D08	D09	D10
WOULD RESULT	65%	74%	62%	69%	54%	66%
NOT RESULT	21%	15%	25%	18%	26%	17%
NOT SURE	14%	11%	13%	12%	20%	18%

BY GENDER	AUSTIN	FEMALE	MALE
WOULD RESULT	65%	69%	60%
NOT RESULT	21%	15%	29%
UNSURE	14%	16%	10%

BY PARTISANSHIP	AUSTIN	MOSTLY REP	MOSLTY DEM	MIXED
WOULD RESULT	65%	71%	63%	60%
NOT RESULT	21%	17%	22%	22%
UNSURE	14%	11%	15%	18%

BY AGE	AUSTIN	OVER 65	50 TO 64	40 TO 49	UND 40
WOULD RESULT	65%	69%	59%	68%	44%
NOT RESULT	21%	16%	28%	24%	41%
UNSURE	14%	15%	13%	8%	15%

Q9. Some law enforcement stakeholders believe that police officers would be more successful in combatting the K-2 crisis occurring in downtown Austin among the homeless population if there was NOT a staffing shortage of police officers. Do you think increasing the number of patrol officers would cause the police department to be more successful in combatting the K-2 crisis?

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D01	D02	D03	D04	D05
WOULD HELP	56%	54%	50%	54%	55%	61%
NOT HELP	30%	32%	38%	34%	30%	28%
NOT SURE	15%	12%	12%	12%	16%	11%

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D06	D07	D08	D09	D10
WOULD HELP	56%	55%	50%	53%	59%	59%
NOT HELP	30%	27%	36%	31%	26%	24%
NOT SURE	15%	18%	14%	16%	15%	17%

BY GENDER	AUSTIN	FEMALE	MALE
WOULD HELP	56%	60%	49%
NOT HELP	30%	24%	39%
NOT SURE	15%	16%	12%

BY PARTISANSHIP	AUSTIN	MOSTLY REP	MOSLTY DEM	MIXED
WOULD HELP	56%	62%	53%	48%
NOT HELP	30%	28%	30%	39%
NOT SURE	15%	10%	17%	13%

BY AGE	AUSTIN	OVER 65	50 TO 64	40 TO 49	UND 40
WOULD HELP	56%	61%	44%	54%	26%
NOT HELP	30%	24%	42%	32%	53%
NOT SURE	15%	15%	14%	14%	21%

Q10. Some law enforcement stakeholders believe that police officers would have a better chance to avoid using force in interactions with the community increase when there are staffing shortages. Do you think increasing the number of patrol officers would lead to a decrease in officers using force in interactions with the community?

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D01	D02	D03	D04	D05
WOULD LEAD	37%	37%	36%	40%	38%	34%
NOT LEAD	40%	45%	45%	42%	43%	45%
NOT SURE	22%	18%	19%	18%	19%	21%

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D06	D07	D08	D09	D10
WOULD LEAD	37%	40%	34%	36%	39%	40%
NOT LEAD	40%	34%	46%	41%	35%	33%
NOT SURE	22%	26%	20%	23%	26%	26%

BY GENDER	AUSTIN	FEMALE	MALE
WOULD LEAD	37%	40%	33%
NOT LEAD	40%	33%	52%
NOT SURE	22%	26%	16%

BY PARTISANSHIP	AUSTIN	MOSTLY REP	MOSLTY DEM	MIXED
WOULD LEAD	37%	43%	35%	31%
NOT LEAD	40%	35%	42%	48%
NOT SURE	22%	21%	22%	21%

BY AGE	AUSTIN	OVER 65	50 TO 64	40 TO 49	UND 40
WOULD LEAD	37%	41%	31%	32%	26%
NOT LEAD	40%	36%	48%	43%	68%
NOT SURE	22%	23%	20%	25%	6%

Q11. The most recent Austin Police Department staffing report indicated that the City of Austin is already short more than one-hundred police officers. City officials say the addition of more than one-hundred officers would add \$10 million a year to the budget. Some stakeholders are urging the Council to immediately find the funds in the next budget to hire these officers. Other stakeholders are recommending the Council hire these officers over 3 to 4 years. Other stakeholders are urging the council to not hire any additional officers at this time. Which one of these positions is closer to your opinion?

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D01	D02	D03	D04	D05
IMMEDIATELY	37%	33%	33%	34%	44%	40%
3-4 YEARS	47%	47%	47%	48%	41%	44%
NOT NOW	12%	14%	14%	14%	13%	13%
NOT SURE	4%	6%	7%	4%	2%	2%

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D06	D07	D08	D09	D10
IMMEDIATELY	37%	29%	35%	36%	42%	40%
3-4 YEARS	47%	63%	47%	49%	40%	46%
NOT NOW	12%	7%	15%	12%	11%	11%
NOT SURE	4%	1%	3%	3%	7%	3%

BY GENDER	AUSTIN	FEMALE	MALE
IMMEDIATELY	37%	39%	35%
3-4 YEARS	47%	48%	45%
NOT NOW	12%	9%	17%
NOT SURE	4%	4%	3%

Q11. The most recent Austin Police Department staffing report indicated that the City of Austin is already short more than one-hundred police officers. City officials say the addition of more than one-hundred officers would add \$10 million a year to the budget. Some stakeholders are urging the Council to immediately find the funds in the next budget to hire these officers. Other stakeholders are recommending the Council hire these officers over 3 to 4 years. Other stakeholders are urging the council to not hire any additional officers at this time. Which one of these positions is closer to your opinion?

BY PARTISANSHIP	AUSTIN	MOSTLY REP	MOSLTY DEM	MIXED
IMMEDIATELY	37%	46%	32%	39%
3-4 YEARS	47%	41%	50%	42%
NOT NOW	12%	10%	13%	18%
NOT SURE	4%	3%	4%	1%

BY AGE	AUSTIN	OVER 65	50 TO 64	40 TO 49	UND 40
IMMEDIATELY	37%	40%	32%	34%	24%
3-4 YEARS	47%	47%	48%	48%	32%
NOT NOW	12%	9%	18%	12%	29%
NOT SURE	4%	3%	2%	7%	15%

Q12. Last question before we ask about the President. Some law enforcement stakeholders in Austin say the police department is already short more than one-hundred officers and this shortage is resulting in an increase in crime, slower response times, and a reduction in community policing and community engagement. Other stakeholders in our community say the police department salaries and retirement benefits already eat up too much of our budget and that implementing other policies and procedures is better than expanding the number of officers. Which one of these positions is closer to your opinion?

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D01	D02	D03	D04	D05
APD STAFF SHORT	47%	45%	43%	46%	55%	49%
NOT HELP	24%	24%	29%	30%	19%	29%
NOT SURE	29%	31%	28%	24%	26%	22%

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D06	D07	D08	D09	D10
APD STAFF SHORT	47%	44%	42%	46%	48%	49%
NOT HELP	24%	25%	29%	24%	24%	20%
NOT SURE	29%	32%	29%	31%	28%	31%

BY GENDER	AUSTIN	FEMALE	MALE
APD STAFF SHORT	47%	50%	41%
NOT HELP	24%	18%	35%
NOT SURE	29%	32%	24%

BY PARTISANSHIP	AUSTIN	MOSTLY REP	MOSLTY DEM	MIXED
APD STAFF SHORT	47%	55%	44%	39%
NOT HELP	24%	21%	27%	16%
NOT SURE	29%	23%	29%	45%

BY AGE	AUSTIN	OVER 65	50 TO 64	40 TO 49	UND 40
APD STAFF SHORT	47%	51%	39%	42%	35%
NOT HELP	24%	21%	32%	26%	38%
NOT SURE	29%	28%	29%	32%	26%

Q13. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump?

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D01	D02	D03	D04	D05
FAVORABLE	29%	16%	34%	20%	24%	33%
UNFAVORABLE	64%	72%	59%	70%	68%	64%
NOT SURE	7%	12%	7%	10%	8%	3%

BY COA DIST	AUSTIN	D06	D07	D08	D09	D10
FAVORABLE	29%	34%	33%	37%	18%	29%
UNFAVORABLE	64%	64%	63%	57%	75%	63%
NOT SURE	7%	1%	5%	6%	7%	8%

BY GENDER	AUSTIN	FEMALE	MALE
FAVORABLE	29%	25%	35%
UNFAVORABLE	64%	69%	58%
NOT SURE	7%	7%	7%

BY PARTISANSHIP	AUSTIN	MOSTLY REP	MOSLTY DEM	MIXED
FAVORABLE	29%	79%	3%	24%
UNFAVORABLE	64%	13%	93%	57%
NOT SURE	7%	8%	4%	19%

BY AGE	AUSTIN	OVER 65	50 TO 64	40 TO 49	UND 40
FAVORABLE	29%	32%	20%	27%	41%
UNFAVORABLE	64%	63%	73%	59%	53%
NOT SURE	7%	6%	7%	14%	6%