



Polls Reveal the Path to a Democratic Majority in the Texas State House Goes Through Tarrant County

Recent polls conducted in four Republican-held Texas State House districts in Tarrant County show that Democratic challengers in each district are well positioned to win their general elections. In a fifth Tarrant County district that is currently being polled, demographics along with the extreme ideology and divisive actions of the Republican incumbent telegraph likely similar results.

The polls of Districts 92 (Stickland-open), 93 (Krause), 96 (Zedler-open), and 97 (Goldman) were conducted over the last month by respected polling firms EMC Research and Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research. Polling in District 94 (Tinderholt) is currently in the field.

Each district has been held by a Republican since 2011. Donald Trump carried the five districts in 2016, while Beto O'Rourke very nearly won the districts in 2018. All five districts are racially diverse with growing Latino, African American and Asian American populations.

Key findings in the surveys conducted in House Districts 92, 93, 96, and 97 include:

- Joe Biden holds a lead in all four districts and an average lead of 11 points.

Biden 4-district Average	53
Trump 4-district Average	42
Undecided/Refused	5
- A generic match-up of a State House Democrat vs a State House Republican reveals a lead or a virtual tie in all four districts.

Democratic 4-district Average	46
Republican 4-district Average	43
Undecided/Refused	11
- In initial head-to-head matchups without any information provided about either candidate, the Democratic challengers are ahead or in a virtual tie.

Democrat 4-district Average	49
Republican 4-district Average	44
Undecided/Refused	7

Important Note: In racially diverse District 94, which is currently being polled, Republican Tony Tinderholt has a voting record equally or more out-of-the-mainstream as the other incumbents and is equally or more tightly affiliated with Donald Trump.

Conclusion: Texas Democrats saw a net gain of 12 seats in 2018 and are now within just 9 seats of a Democratic majority and the ability to elect a Democratic Speaker. Tarrant County is rapidly changing both demographically and politically. The five harshly partisan, Donald Trump-affiliated Republicans in State House Districts 92, 93, 94, 96, and 97 are highly vulnerable to the mainstream Democratic candidates nominated in 2020. It is possible that Democrats could gain more than half the seats needed for a Democratic State House majority in Tarrant County alone.