



# DCCC★TEXAS

**TO:** Interested Parties  
**FROM:** DCCC Targeting and Analytics Department  
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## REPUBLICANS INCUMBENTS IN TEXAS ARE VULNERABLE

New polling in Texas’s 10<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup> congressional districts shows they are prime for pickup in 2020. Republican incumbents in these districts start out in a weak position among voters, with less than 50% name ID, an especially tenuous position for Representatives Michael McCaul and Kenny Marchant who have been in office for 15 years.

District	Incumbent	Name ID	Net Fav
TX-10	Michael McCaul	45%	+17 net
TX-21	Chip Roy	47%	+9 net
TX-24	Kenny Marchant	45%	+7 net

Similarly, when voters are asked whether these sitting Republicans should be re-elected, we see further vulnerabilities emerge. Larger shares of voters would vote to either replace the Republican incumbent or consider voting for someone else, rather than voting to reelect the Republican incumbent.

District	Incumbent	Reelect	Consider Someone Else/Replace	Unsure
TX-10	Michael McCaul	39%	46%	15%
TX-21	Chip Roy	37%	51%	12%
TX-24	Kenny Marchant	34%	54%	13%

## POLLING MIRRORS WHAT WE SAW IN 2017 IN DISTRICTS DEMS FLIPPED

Data from 2017 shows that these results put us in a prime position to win. In 2017 we tested a number of districts including AZ-02, IA-01, and TX-07 – all of which we won by more than 5% - and we found Democrats in a similar place in both the generic ballot and Trump’s approval rating. Given the outcomes in those districts, recent history provides a clear marker that Democrats start in a strong position to flip these emerging TX districts in 2020.

District	Generic Vote	Trump Approval	Year
<b>TX-10</b>	<b>R+7</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>2019</b>

<b>TX-21</b>	<b>R+7</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>TX-24</b>	<b>R+4</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>2019</b>
AZ-02	R+7	40%	2017
CA-25	R+4	43%	2017
CA-39	R+9	33%	2017
IA-01	R+7	40%	2017
MI-11	R+6	40%	2017
NY-11	R+3	45%	2017
TX-07	R+13	41%	2017
VA-07	R+11	44%	2017
WA-08	R+3	36%	2017

## **TRUMP IS A DRAG ON THE REPUBLICAN TICKET**

Notably, despite winning all three of these districts less than four years ago, President Trump fails to earn a net-positive job approval rating where he was once a political asset. In TX-10, 44% of respondents approve of the job Trump is doing as President, while 45% disapprove. In TX-21, 45% approve, while 48% disapprove, and in TX-24, 41% approve and 44% disapprove.

## **TX-10, TX-21, TX-24 HIGHLIGHT HOW TEXAS DISTRICTS ARE TRENDING DEMOCRATIC**

In the 2018 election, Representatives Michael McCaul (TX-10), Chip Roy (TX-21), and Kenny Marchant (TX-24) won their districts by 5 points or less. Additionally, Beto O'Rourke came within 2.6 points of beating Sen. Cruz statewide, but won the 10<sup>th</sup> congressional district, earning 49.8%, and the 24<sup>th</sup> congressional district, with 51.3%. He narrowly lost the 21<sup>st</sup> congressional district, earning 49.4%.

These results suggest a trend of a changing electorate in Texas more favorable to Democrats, and these highly educated, suburban, and exurban districts reflect the types of districts that moved dramatically away from Republicans and delivered the House majority to Democrats in 2018. This shift began in 2016 when Clinton outperformed Obama's 2012 performance across all three districts and, in 2018, these districts continued to see large shifts in the vote in favor of Democratic House candidates. Given they will be at the core of our offensive battlefield in 2018, these Republican incumbents are sure to face stiffer, better funded challenges this cycle as Democrats compete heavily in these districts for the first time.

In concert with the suburban re-alignment happening across the country, shifting demographics have made these districts significantly more competitive in less than a decade. American Community Survey data confirms the changing electorate in these districts. From 2010 to 2016, TX-10, TX-21, and TX-24 (among others) have seen enormous growth in the Citizen Voting Age Population of African Americans, Hispanic/Latinos, and Asian American Pacific Islanders, as outlined below.



District	African American change in CVAP: 10 to 16	Percent Change	Hispanic/Latino change in CVAP: 10 to 16	Percent Change	Asian American change in CVAP: 10 to 16	Percent Change
TX-10	+13,088	28.9%	+31,049	51.0%	+7,331	53.5%
TX-21	+4,526	31.0%	+30,475	30.3%	+3,167	32.7%
TX-24	+11,566	26.4%	+15,655	28.7%	+12,417	44.2%

## METHODOLOGY

*TX-10: The results are based on a survey of 393 likely 2020 general election voters in TX-10 conducted by the DCCC fielded April 3-6, 2019. Respondents' information came from the voter file and this poll was conducted through a standard blend of live cell phone and automated calls. The margin of error is +/- 4.9%.*

*TX-21: The results are based on a survey of 401 likely 2020 general election voters in TX-21 conducted by the DCCC fielded April 4-6, 2019. Respondents' information came from the voter file and this poll was conducted through a standard blend of live cell phone and automated calls. The margin of error is +/- 4.9%.*

*TX-24: The results are based on a survey of 452 likely 2020 general election voters in TX-24 conducted by the DCCC fielded April 3-6, 2019. Respondents' information came from the voter file and this poll was conducted through a standard blend of live cell phone and automated calls. The margin of error is +/- 4.6%.*

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