

TX-34 District Primer

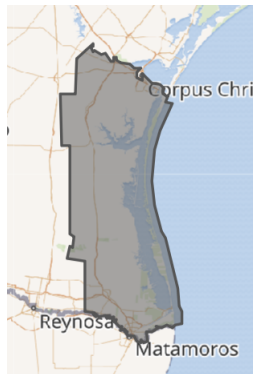
In 2024, Democrat Vicente Gonzalez won this seat by 5,117 votes. *That’s close!* With a winning margin of just 2 votes per precinct, we can’t afford to lose a single vote. With your help, we’re going to **HOLD** this key seat and secure a Democratic House majority in 2026.

Key dates
Filing Deadline: Dec. 8, 2025
Primary: March 3
Midterms: November 3

Recent Election Results

2024 Presidential Election	2024 House Election	2022 House Election
Harris: 96,992 (47.4%) Trump: 106,061 (51.8%)	Vicente Gonzalez (D): 102,780 (51.3%) Mayra Flores (R): 97,603 (48.7%)	V. Gonzalez (D): 70,896 (52.7%) M. Flores (R): 59,464 (44.2%)

District Facts & Stats



Largest Cities

- Corpus Christi (parts), pop. 317,000
- Brownsville, 186,738
- Harlingen, 71,829

Geography

This South Texas district runs along the Gulf Coast from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande Valley. The district shares a border with Mexico. Military installations NAS Corpus Christi and the Corpus Christi Army Depot are in the district. The newly gerrymandered TX district map has increased GOP strength in TX-34 relative to 2024 results.

Citizenry

Approximately 796,178 people live in the district, of whom 90.5% are Latino. 71.5% are native born, and almost three quarters of households speak a language other than English, primarily Spanish. The district is young (median age is 32) and largely urban and suburban. Agriculture is important here, particularly cattle ranching, and there are aerospace and food processing industries as well. One quarter of district residents live below the poverty line, and 20,000 district residents are veterans.

The Local Vibe

Trump’s tariffs and the war with Iran have hurt farmers in the district by driving up production costs, and trade wars are limiting export markets. The combination of DOGE cuts to the USDA and USAID, and Trump’s unilateral decision to increase livestock imports from Mexico and Argentina without the previous level of monitoring and containment has left the region’s ranchers vulnerable to an outbreak of New World Screwworm, a devastating cattle parasite. DOGE and federal cuts to FEMA, NOAA and the US Corps of Engineers have hampered disaster planning, flood protection, and response to extreme weather along the vulnerable Gulf Coast. Brownsville has seen a series of small anti-ICE demonstrations and several hundred participated in the No Kings III rallies. There will also be elections for Governor and US Senator in 2026.

Key Issues

- **Agriculture:** Farmers and ranchers are being squeezed by rising costs, loss of markets and severe regional water shortages. Cattle ranchers are confronting an outbreak of New World Screwworm.
 - **Immigration:** A large majority of residents here are Latino, and many are the children of immigrants.
 - **Disaster preparedness:** Texas is vulnerable to severe weather events, especially in this coastal area.
-

About the Candidates

Vicente Gonzales | Democratic Incumbent

Vicente Gonzalez represented TX-15 from 2017 to 2023. He was elected to represent the redrawn TX-34 in November of 2022. He is considered a conservative Democrat and serves as co-chair of the Blue Dog Coalition. Gonzalez was born in 1967 in Corpus Christi. His father was a merchant seaman who served in the Korean War. His mother was born and raised in Mexico. He serves on the Financial Services Committee in Congress.

Gonzalez has a strong reputation for bipartisanship, often finding middle positions on highly divisive issues, including immigration, climate and energy, abortion and foreign policy. He has an “all of the above” approach to energy issues and is the chairman of the Congressional Oil and Gas Caucus. He wants to lower health care costs and provide better coverage for more people, particularly in rural areas, and he advocates maintaining a positive relationship with Mexico and Canada. He believes in a strong national defense and in improving infrastructure, especially in rural areas. His endorsements include the AFL-CIO Texas, the Texas AFT (American Federation of Teachers), and the Latino Victory Project.

Eric Flores | Republican Challenger

Eric Flores (no relation to Mayra) is a veteran, a former federal prosecutor, and a municipal judge from Mission, TX. A pro-gun border hawk, he won the GOP primary in a landslide although he does not live in TX-34. As a US attorney, he has claimed that prosecuting transnational human smuggling is a priority for him. As a lawyer, he defended [a local Texas](#) coach who was accused of forcing at least four students to exercise naked. Flores’ defense didn’t claim that the abuse never happened, but that forcing minors to exercise nude did not constitute “excessive force.” He voted for Trump’s budget which severely cut Medicaid and SNAP, and celebrated Trump’s tariffs which have had adverse effects on the South Texas economy.

The contrast: Vicente Gonzalez has shown himself to be an honest legislator who can effectively represent the people of TX-34 in Washington. Unlike his opponent, he actually lives in the district, and he is in touch with the desires of his constituents. He has successfully represented working families who’ve been hurt by corporations and insurance companies who shirk accountability, and he has recovered millions in tax dollars for South Texas school districts. While his opponent talks about protecting the rights of the residents of TX-34, Flores’s actions have shown that he’s more interested in getting and keeping Trump’s approval.