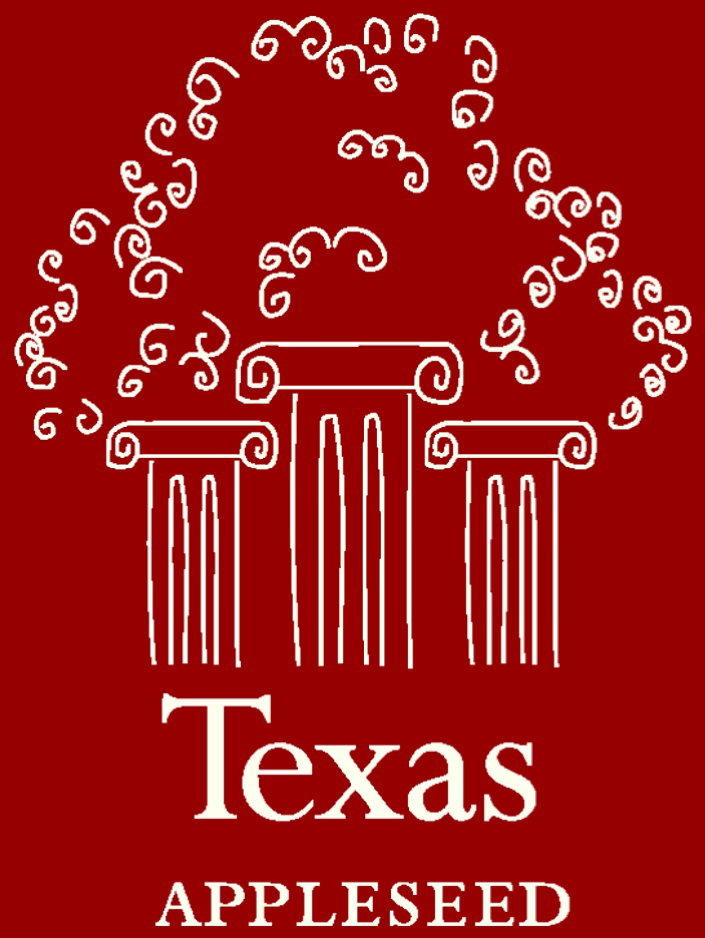


Affordability and Consumer Financial Protection: 2027 Priorities

TACDC Community Economic Development Policy Summit 2026

Thursday, November 5, 2026

Texas Appleseed



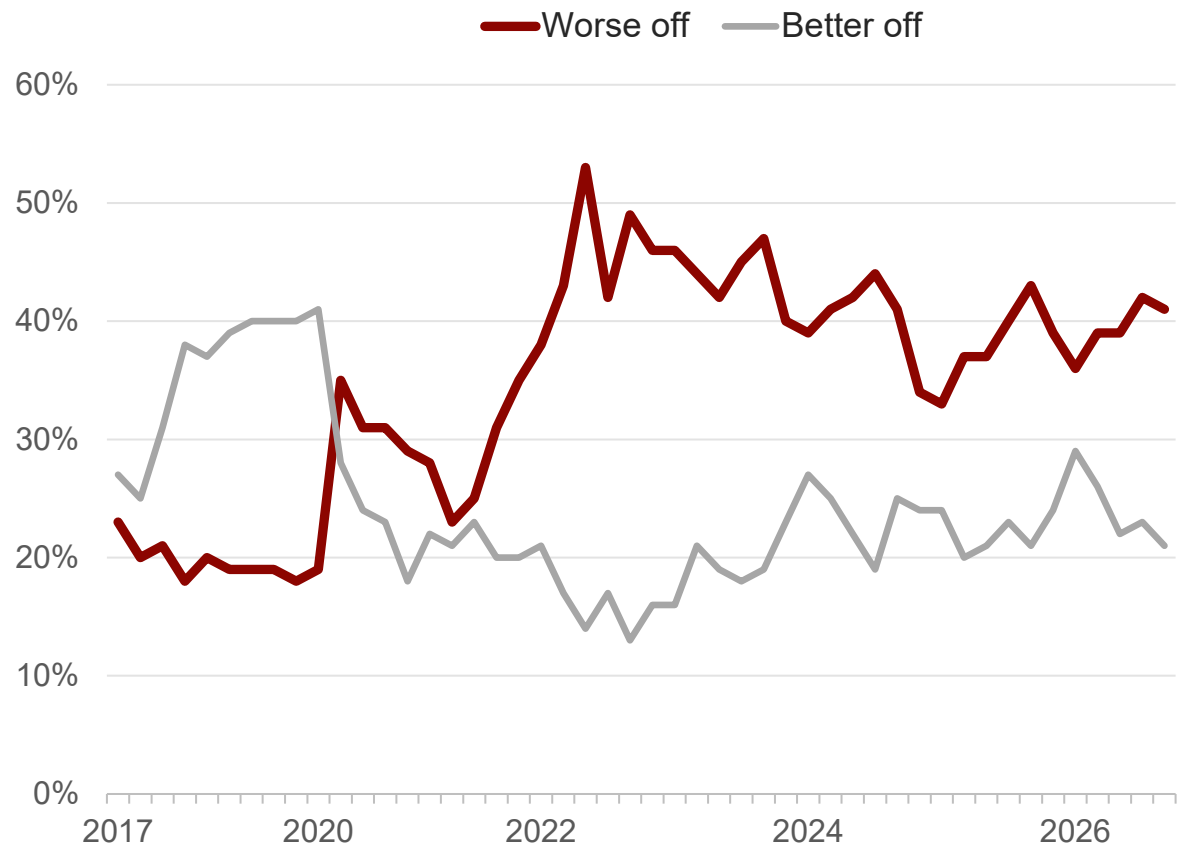
Texas Appleseed's mission is to promote social, economic, and racial justice for all Texans by leveraging the skills and resources of volunteer lawyers, other professionals, and community partners to identify practical solutions to difficult, systemic problems.



Fair Financial Services: 2027 Priorities

Brennan Griffin
Senior Deputy Director

Since 2020, More Texans Say They're Falling Behind Than Getting Ahead



Source: [Texas Politics Project, UT Austin, polls of Texas registered voters, Feb. 2017 to Oct. 2026]

41%

of Texas voters say their family is worse off than a year ago. Only 21% say better off.

38 polls in a row

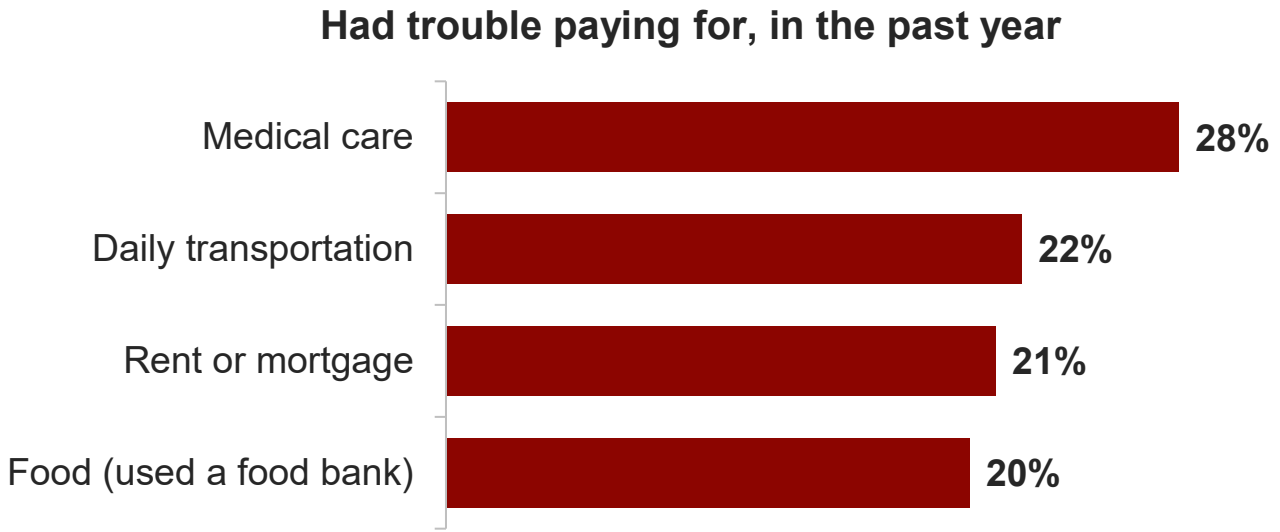
with more Texans worse off than better off, April 2020 to October 2026

Nearly Half of Americans Struggled to Pay for a Basic Necessity This Year

44%

of U.S. adults had trouble paying for a basic necessity

71% of lower-income adults



Where people turn: those who struggled were 8x as likely to use a payday or short-term loan (31% vs. 4%).

Source: Pew Research Center survey of U.S. adults, released Oct. 14, 2026

Five Priorities to Make Texas More Affordable

1. **High-cost loans** Limit loans with excessive fees and support successful repayment
2. **Debt collection** Leave people enough to pay bills while they repay debts
3. **Insurance** Price coverage on driving and home risk, not on a credit score or social factors
4. **Fraud and scams** Stop the drain on older Texans' savings
5. **Sensitive Data and AI powered pricing** Let the market set prices, not personal data and protect sensitive data from sale.

Build Greater Protections to Guard Against High-Cost Loans and Certain Digital Financial Products

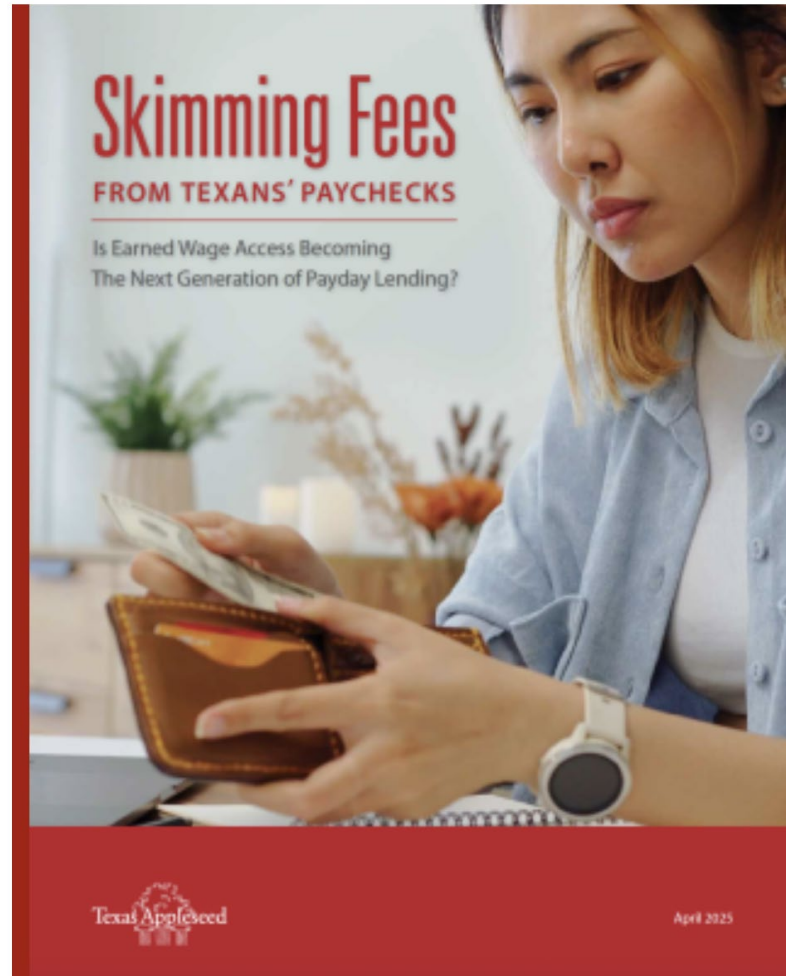
PRIORITY 1 | HIGH-COST LENDING

What it costs Texans

- Some of the nation's highest payday and auto title charges--**$23.7 billion** drained since 2012
- **28%** of Texas auto title borrowers lose their car
- New wage advance apps working to skirt Texas lending laws. Average over **200% APR.**

What we support in 2027

- Cap excessive charges; require loans built for repayment
- Bring paycheck advance apps under consumer-loan law, keeping military lending and other key protections.



Sources: Texas Appleseed, 2025 auto tile data (Aug. 2026); Texas Appleseed, Skimming Fees From Texans' Paychecks, Apr. 2025, Center for Responsible Lending, App-Based Payday Loans in Texas (Oct. 2026)

Modernize Wage Protections Related to Debt Collection

PRIORITY 2 | DEBT COLLECTION

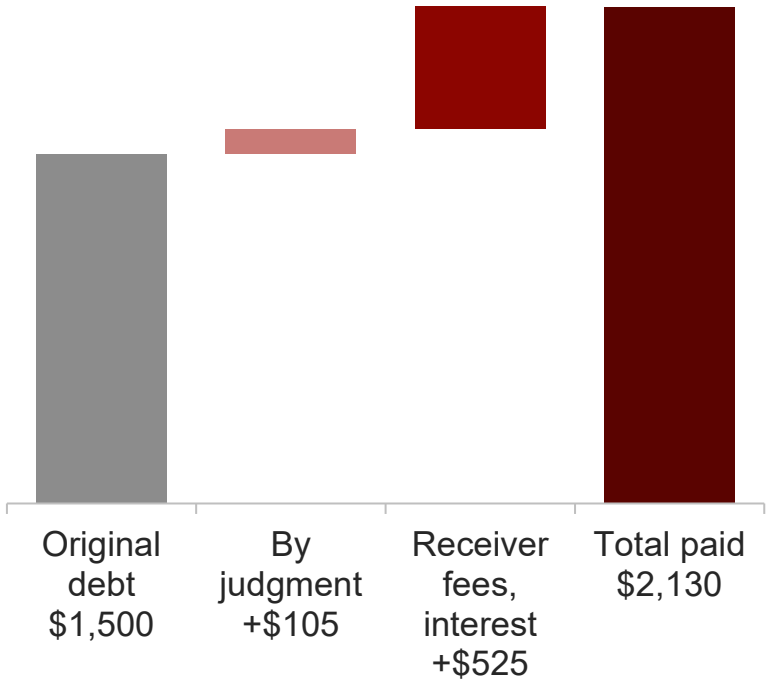
What it costs Texans

- **40%** of consumer debt lawsuits with default judgments in Texas' largest county had a court-appointed turnover receiver
- Receivers empty bank accounts and **add a 25% fee on top** of the debt, leaving nothing for rent

What we support in 2027

- A basic cost-of-living exemption that protects money for necessities

How a $1,500 debt becomes $2,130



Source: Texas Appleseed, How Turnover Receivers are Used in Harris County Debt Cases, Aug. 2026. Data based on new cases filed in Harris County Justice Courts in 2023 and 2024.

Ensure Fair Pricing Standards for Property Insurance

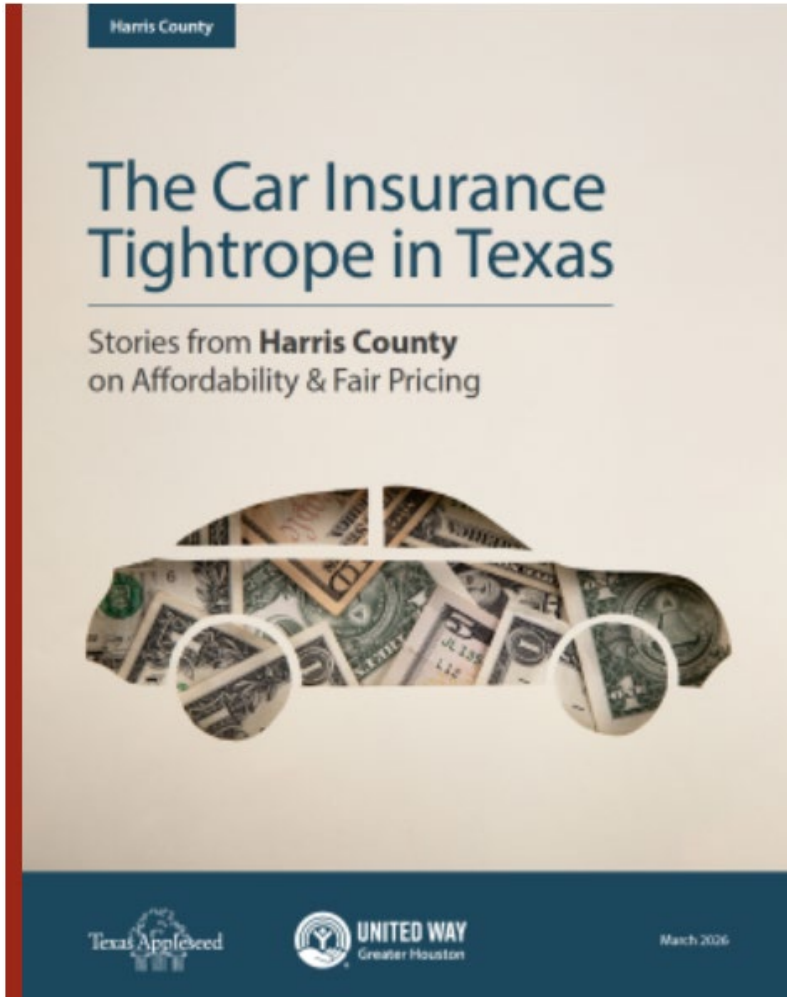
PRIORITY 3 | INSURANCE

What it costs Texans

- **2-10x** premium cost for homeowners and drivers with poor credit vs. excellent credit
- Auto coverage is required by law; home coverage, to get a mortgage

What we support in 2027

- Limit how social factors and credit scoring can be used by insurers to set rates
- Accountability for big data and AI in rates and claims



Enhance Fraud and Scams Protections

PRIORITY 4 | PROTECTING SENIORS FROM FINANCIAL ABUSE

What it costs:

- **$261B** lost to scams that start online
- Older adults are fewer of the victims but lose far more money

What we support in 2027

- More accountability from platforms used by scammers to boost their exploitative efforts



Source: *Federal Trade Commission, A Report of Protecting Older Americans 2025-2026*

Empower Texans to Control Personal Data and Support Fair and Transparent Pricing

PRIORITY 5 | DATA PRIVACY AND AI

What it costs Texans

- **Surveillance pricing:** personal data, not the market, sets the price
- Abusers and scammers use personal and location data to target victims



What we support in 2027

- Guardrails on the collection and sale of personal data
- Fair, transparent pricing as AI spreads

TEXAS APPLESEED

sowing the seeds of justice

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