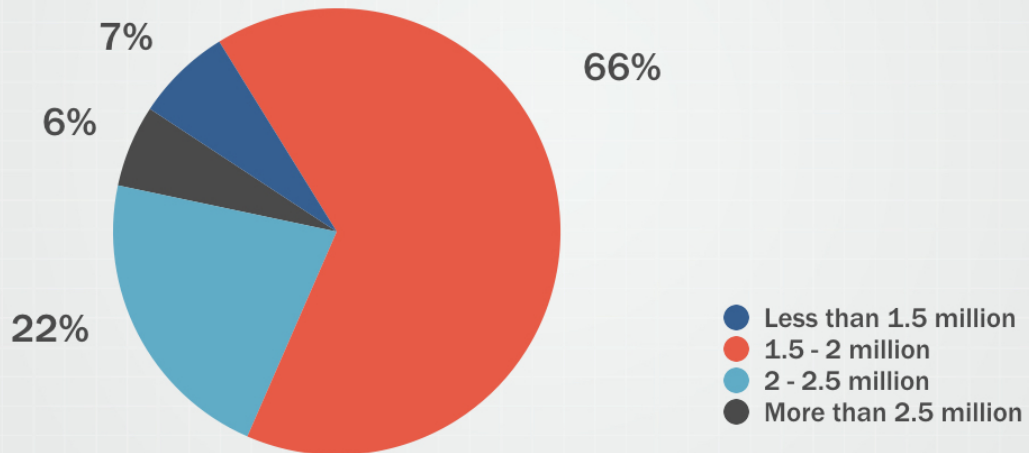


“INSIDE” INTELLIGENCE

*The Texas Weekly/Texas Tribune insider poll
for the week of 29 January 2016*

INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

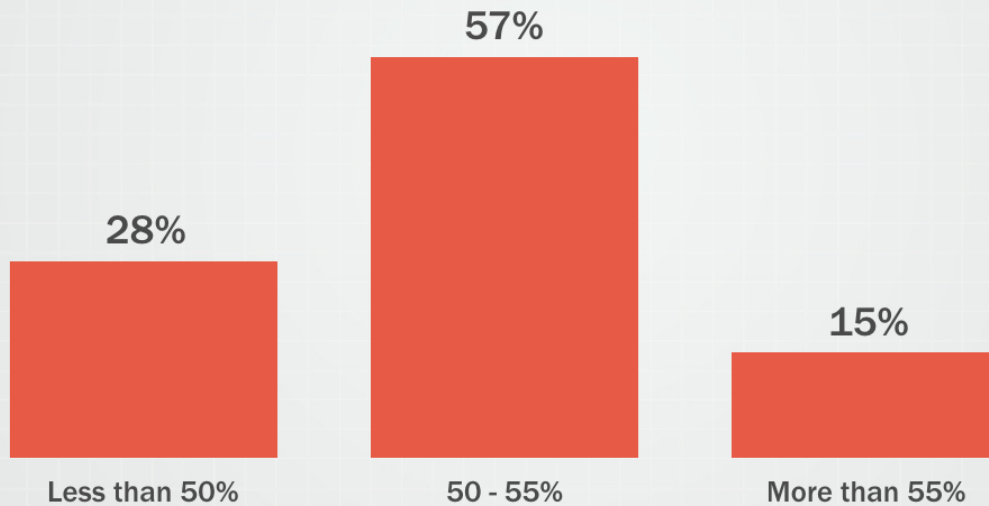
HOW MANY VOTERS WILL TURN OUT FOR
THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY?



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INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

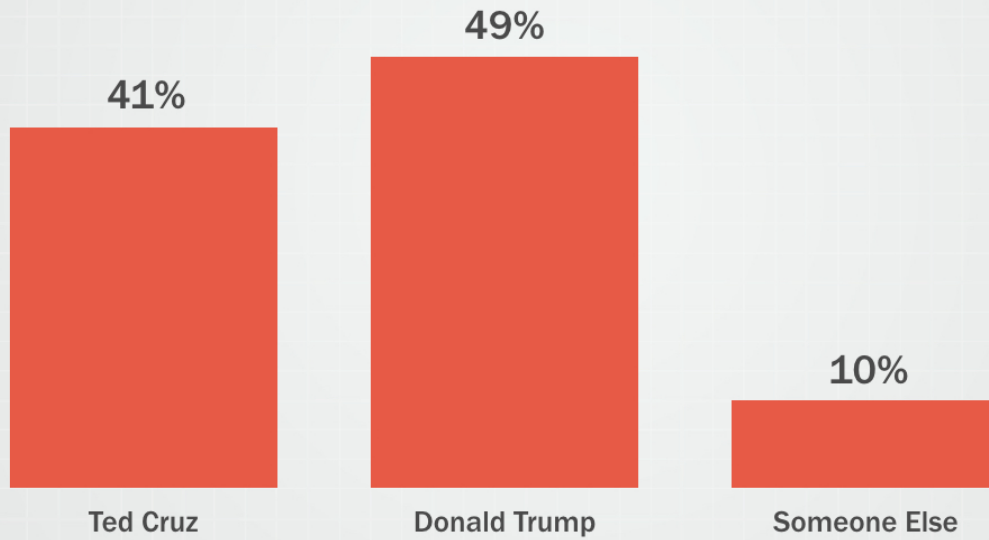
HOW MUCH OF THE VOTING FOR THE PRIMARIES
WILL TAKE PLACE DURING EARLY VOTING?



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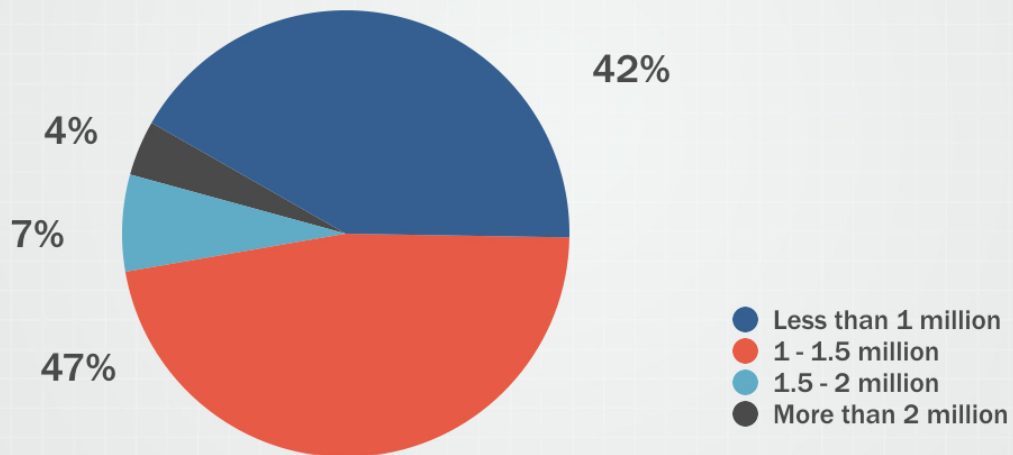
WHO BENEFITS MORE FROM HIGHER TURNOUT?



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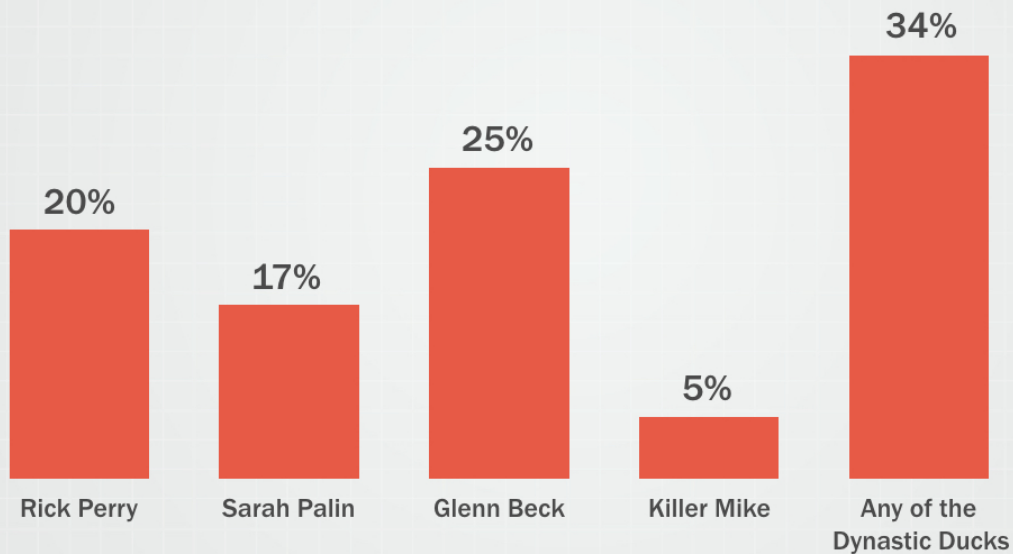
HOW MANY VOTERS WILL TURN OUT FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY?



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WHOSE ENDORSEMENT BRINGS MORE VOTES?



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In 2012, nearly 1.5 million Texas Republicans voted in the presidential primary. How will turnout this year compare to that?

- "There's blood in the water and the sharks are hungry. Eight years of crumbs make people do crazy things like vote."
- "With a still contested race by the time our primary rolls around and actual delegates up for grabs, you can expect more interest and turnout by Republican primary voters. But here's the better question: will those additional Republican voters be tea party hard-liners or traditional GOPers?"
- "With Cruz, Bush, Rand Paul and other Texas-connected entrants, and the stakes higher, participation should go up."
- "Ask me the day after Iowa."
- "Obviously Texas is a must-win state for Cruz, but Bush will expect to be competitive here and Trump's appeal to non-traditional or non-frequent voters will likely drag the number higher — especially considering that 2012 primary votes were cast in late May, not on the historical primary date."

- "Texans will excitedly vote for Ted Cruz."
- "Lots of choices."
- "Texas actually counts this time."
- "2.21M. It will be an unprecedented year."

How much of the voting for the primaries will take place during early voting?

- "We have gotten really, really good at GOTV and old folks continue to vote by mail."
- "There's gonna a lot of first-time voters who don't know about early voting so Election Day is going to see a big surge."
- "Both EV and mail-ins from 65+ have been trending up since at least '04 and that trend will continue and eclipse the '14 Primary and General."
- "If you are voting in a primary you are likely driven by top of the ticket races and, therefore, not unsure of your choice. This means voting early is more probable in a presidential election. Republican primary voters will represent a larger number during early voting than will Democrats who are traditionally election day voters."
- "Things are going to be very fluid, so folks will wait to make up their minds."
- "Same as before..."

Who benefits more from higher turnout?

- "Depends on how many Texans are 'angry' and siding with Trump."
- "Any of the rational Republicans would see some benefit, but it won't be high enough to matter. Cruz runs away with it."
- "Trump for sure."
- "Who knows? Three months ago, I would have said Bush. But now? Higher turnout probably means that Trump will get still even more votes. Must be a satisfying feeling thinking you can gun down anyone you want and still get elected President. Hell, even Aaron Burr couldn't do that."
- "But Cruz still wins."
- "Higher turnout means that more non-traditional voters showed up, and at this point we must assume they aren't showing up to vote for Bush."
- "Most Texans don't like NY values."
- "Trump will get voters who otherwise would have stayed home."
- "Jebby benefits from higher turnout. Still loses."
- "Rubio and Bush also benefit from a higher turnout. A much younger voter will come out."
- "About the same"

In 2008, increased interest in the Democratic primary battle between Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama also increased turnout on the Republican side. What will turnout be among Democrats this year?

- "Texans typically don't like to feel the burn, unless it's from chips and salsa."
- "Dems will also get a healthy turnout."
- "Are there even a million Democrats in this state?"
- "Hillary will spend a ton on the ground in SoTx, RGV, and urban African American communities. In these communities, voting will normally begat voting which should push our number through the stratosphere approaching 2008 numbers in those communities."
- "No excitement for Hillary."
- "It would have helped to know the 2008 number. But my guess is the Ds will edge up over 2008, although

Whose endorsement brings more votes?

- "None of the above. They're all small potatoes. The real endorsement they'll want is Max Lucado's."
- "LOL! Really?"
- "Endorsements mean almost nothing in races where voters get a good opportunity to make their own evaluation of the candidates. In a race for dog catcher between two unknowns, an endorsement might well matter — but not for president."

Bernie's voters are the type who may not get it together to vote."

- "Bernie is kicking Clinton's can all over the road she's more scared than a mouse in a room filled with cats. They will both drive up turnout."
- "The Democrats are still a party?"
- "Democrats have a losing message — and they keep trying to fix it with some new thing — this time it's the first woman — which, didn't work for Wendy Davis, of course. It's not who is saying it, it is what they are saying that keeps potential Democratic voters at home."
- "If they were smart, they'd realize they should be voting in the R primary... in most sections of Texas."

"The only endorsements that would translate into votes would be Billy Graham or the Pope."

- "Evangelical quacks. Repubs are lost."
- "I'm not sure that these endorsements directly translate to votes. They do give the campaign an earned media story, which is obviously an outlet for the campaign's message to reach potential voters. God help the person who thinks 'I like Palin. Palin likes Trump. I'll vote for Trump.'"

- "You accidentally left Genghis Khan and Reagan off the list. And Jesus Christ. Oversight, I'm sure."
- "Reality Showmen are kicking ass this year."
- "In reality, in terms of moving the needle in a substantive way, the right answer is 'none of the above.'"
- "Who the hell is Killer Mike?"
- "Nationally, Palin. In Texas, Perry."
- "This does not deserve my time."
- "Sarah Palin's endorsement speech was embarrassing."
- "But it won't matter much."
- "Sigh"
- "How much do endorsement really matter anymore. Not much. They can be bought. Think Houston and Hotze."
- "They all make you want to throw up."
- "Homer Simpson"
- "I give up."
- "He is still well liked in Texas. Hell, people think he is still Governor."
- "I refuse to answer this question."
- "Run the Jewels making a political statement (FYI, Killer Mike is an activist rapper given that a good 90 percent of readers will have no idea who he is but their kids will)!"
- "Palin's endorsement would have been no help to Cruz, but it was a big help in bringing Trump legitimacy. The impact of the others is all negligible."
- "Perry will hurt u."
- "What has our country become?????"

Our thanks to this week's participants: Gene Acuna, Cathie Adams, Brandon Aghamalian, Brandon Alderete, Clyde Alexander, Jay Arnold, Charles Bailey, Dave Beckwith, Andrew Biar, Allen Blakemore, Tom Blanton, Chris Britton, Raif Calvert, Lydia Camarillo, Kerry Cammack, Snapper Carr, Corbin Casteel, Elna Christopher, Kevin Cooper, Randy Cubriel, Beth Cubriel, Denise Davis, June Deadrick, Nora Del Bosque, Tom Duffy, Richard Dyer, Jack Erskine, John Esparza, Tom Forbes, Dominic Giarratani, Bruce Gibson, Stephanie Gibson, Kinnan Golemon, Daniel Gonzalez, Clint Hackney, Wayne Hamilton, Bill Hammond, Jim Henson, Steve Holzheuser, Deborah Ingersoll, Mark Jones, Walt Jordan, Robert Kepple, Richard Khouri, Tom Kleinworth, Pete Laney, Dick Lavine, James LeBas, Luke Legate, Ruben Longoria, Matt Mackowiak, Jason McElvaney, Steve Minick, Mike Moses, Nef Partida, Gardner Pate, Robert Peeler, Jerry Philips, Tom Phillips, Wayne Pierce, Allen Place, Gary Polland, Jay Pritchard, Patrick Reinhart, David Reynolds, Carl Richie, A.J. Rodriguez, Grant Ruckel, Jason Sabo, Andy Sansom, Barbara Schlieff, Stan Schlueter, Robert Scott, Bruce Scott, Christopher Shields, Ed Small, Martha Smiley, Larry Soward, Leonard Spearman, Dennis Speight, Colin Strother, Sherry Sylvester, Sara Tays, Trey Trainor, Vicki Truitt, Corbin Van Arsdale, Ware Wendell, David White, Seth Winick, Peck Young, Angelo Zottarelli.