

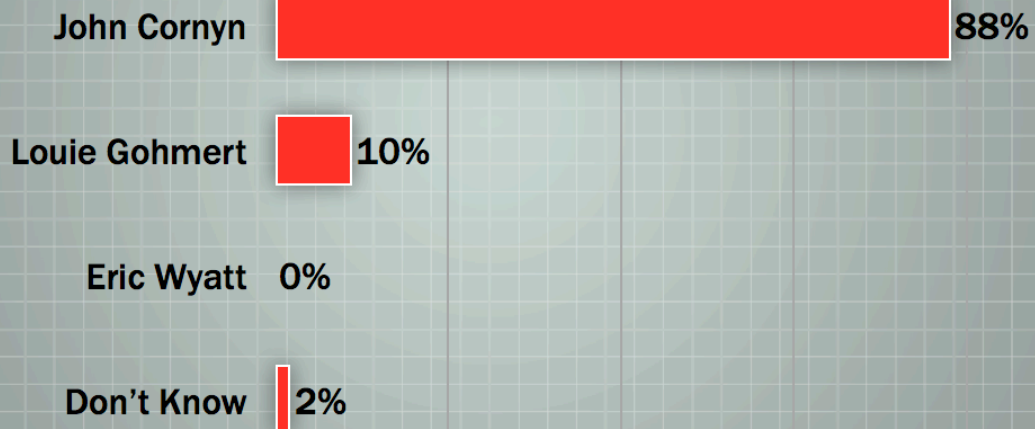
“INSIDE” INTELLIGENCE

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*The Texas Weekly/Texas Tribune insider poll
for the week of August 26*

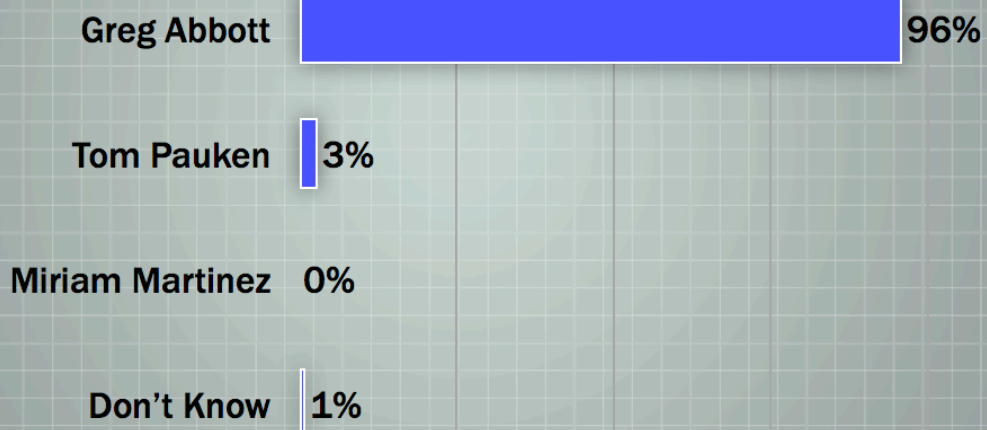
INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

Who will win the Republican primary
for U.S. Senate?



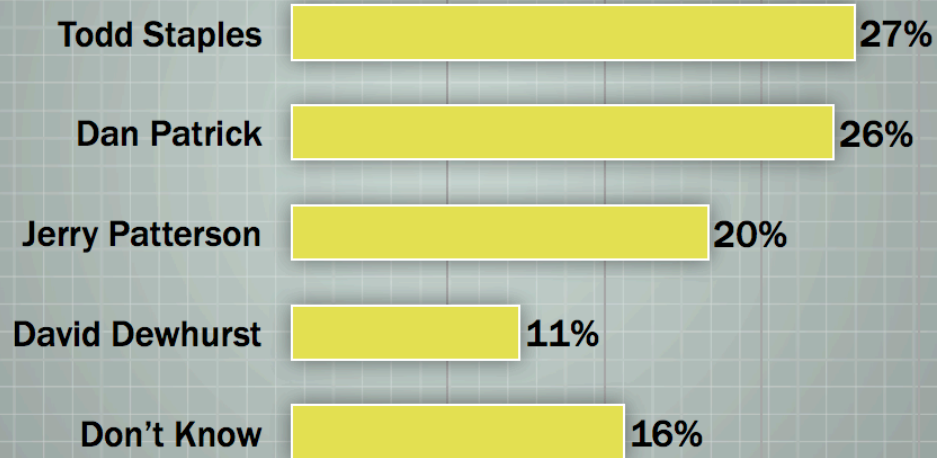
INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

Who will win the Republican primary
for governor?



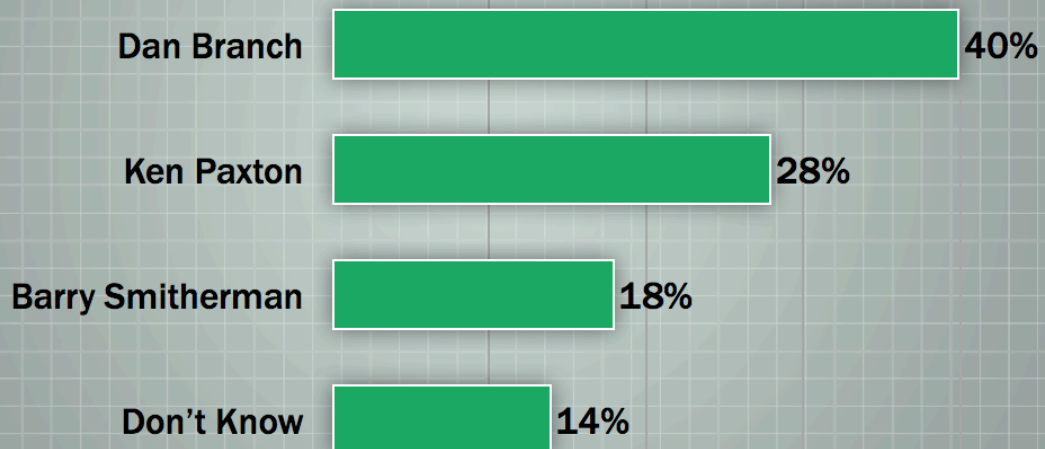
INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

Who will win the Republican primary
for lieutenant governor?



INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

Who will win the Republican primary
for attorney general?



Who do you think would win the Republican primary for U.S. Senate?

- Other than liberal pundits and TEA Party cranks, who is spending any time thinking about this race? This is and will be Cornyn's seat as long as the state votes Republican.
- If Gohmert would win, the Texas GOP will need to lobotomize itself.
- He has the crazies on his side and the crazies run the Republican primary!
- I think Gohmert could give Cornyn a run for his money but Cornyn has been tacking to the right for a while now and that's probably enough for him to survive a primary run.
- Despite appearances sometimes to the contrary, a majority of Texas Republicans remains sane and pragmatic. Gohmert is neither!
- "Is it too late to convince Jerry Patterson to run for U.S. Senate?"
He's going to finish last in a LG race Staples will win, but could give Cornyn a run for his money for Senate."
- If Louie "Crazy" Gohmert would win, God help us all!
- The stars and planets would have to be perfectly aligned to take out Senator John Cornyn. He will take every threat seriously and destroy it.
- Cornyn still has the cache and the team. He's got to be a little nervous of a more extreme challenger but let's be honest the potentials so far lack the gravitas (or common sense) to mount a real threatening run.
- Tricky stuff here
- This will not be close. Cornyn will wipe the floor with the lot of them.
- A pretty easy win. but...I hope Gohmert runs just for pure entertainment value and to see just how far, far right they both will go.
- But I bet before its over his hair gets ruffled
- Mr. Gohmert is not running, he would lose and risks his seat in Congress, no way.
- Cornyn wins easily. Although if Gohmert runs, it will be a fun campaign to watch.
- Gohmert might give him a run for his money, but would be beat in the long run.

Who do you think would win the Republican primary for governor?

- Pauken's past his prime.
- Experience, results, message and money. Unless Abbott moves out of state, this race is over.

- for the same reason as above.
- who'd of thought Pauken would be the voice of reason
- Abbott is defeatable, not strong and a duplicate of Rick Perry. Pauken really needs to take advantage of it and set-up himself as the anti-establishment candidate and win this mother out.
- Seriously? Is Evan Smith allowing the interns to come up with these questions? The primary is Abbott's warm-up match before the main event.
- Did you subcontract to The Onion this week to come up with the questions?
- In a total runaway. Ah, Texas will finally see the end of Tom Pauken. No governor will ever be so foolish as to extend the his career, as the previous two mistakenly did.
- It's a layup. Please.
- He will roll to victory
- Pauken is a decent fellow, but he can't compete
- General Abbott will wipe the floor with anyone else. Pauken should get out now and save face.
- Abbott has to run with a sense of urgency.

Who do you think would win the Republican primary for lieutenant governor?

- I don't think Patrick makes it into the runoff, will either be Staples or Patterson against Dewhurst (these three have experience running statewide and support across the state that Patrick doesn't). Look for Staples/Patterson to win.
- The establishment guys are either quietly backing Dewhurst or shilling for Staples. If Patterson can raise some money, he will surge to the top.
- Just going to watch the circus.
- Runoff
- If its delayed Dan Patrick, if it's in March, Jerry Patterson.
- Patrick, Patterson and Dewhurst split the Houston base. Staples pulls off a run off victory.
- Despite his problems among party activists, the others will divide the opposition vote, and that, combined with the Dew's money, will likely get him there.
- Although Dewhurst is a man without a base of voters, maybe there will be enough leftovers out there after Patrick, Staples and Patterson split up the right-wing nuts, rural conservatives, and NRA members to let Dewhurst win the primary.
- I don't want to even think about what a sideshow the Senate would become if Patrick won. Dewhurst should have never granted any

exceptions to the 2/3 rule. Patrick will dump it in a minute if he has to.

- Frequently underestimated and has the statewide experience. Kinda depends on how many flat earthers show up in the probably delayed primary
- Depends on who votes in the primary. I think Patrick and Patterson my split the wacky vote, and by the time the candidates finish the brutal attacks of wounded Dewhurst, he's likely to be dead in the water. Therefore, Staples could be last man standing - unless the state's Yankee imports don't like his East Texas drawl.
- This one is really, really tough to call. I think my selection is more a "hope" will win rather than a "think" will win...
- Too early to guess on this one. It won't be Dewhurst tho.
- Dewhurst is weak...very weak, but all the others have enough baggage to make it very entertaining. Senator Patrick could be the one that retires the Dew from politics.
- Patterson is a natural politician (in the best sense of the word). He's the best communicator in the party.
- Governor Dewhurst should retire and let the rest duke it out. #getaclue #timetogo
- The power of that radio presence in such a huge population center should do it for Danny. I don't know how Staples/Patterson can overcome that, and • Dewhurst is already burnt and discarded toast.

• I wouldn't altogether count out Patterson or Staples.

- This will be better than the Cornyn/Gohmert All American Weird Show.
- Todd Staples is a unique leader who has shown a penchant for tackling tough issues in the Legislature (Workers' Comp, Transportation, Water, Education, • Redistricting and the budget, to name a few). Although three of the candidates have served in the Texas Senate, Staples is easily the most effective but also served in the House and local office, which gives him a broad perspective and ability to work well with others.
- Governor Dewhurst does not even make it to the runoff.
- I see a runoff between Dewhurst (money gets him there) and Patrick (right wing support). In a runoff, I see Patrick beating Dewhurst with more hard-core right wing supporters.
- Staples is the best of all of the candidates and will govern. He will eventually come out as the consensus for the establishment as well as most of the base. And for all of those who say Patrick has it because of the base and the tea party think again. As Lee Corso says on College Game Day, "Not so fast my friend!" Patrick pissed off Cruz and Cruz has already signaled to the tea party that Patrick is a no go.
- This one is going to be fun to watch.

Who do you think would win the Republican primary for attorney general?

- Smitherman's more pugnacious than the other two and that'll win favor and support in the primary.
- Dan Branch has done a lot of work in the past few weeks to make this a toss-up between him and Smitherman. Paxton chose a painful way to retire from the Senate.
- Paxton in a runoff
- Runoff
- tea party consolidates around paxton.
- Dallas trumps Austin in this one.
- Branch will need to win it outright.
- Like the others, he has the crazies support.
- Smitherman has the name ID but he looks kind of flaky jumping out of the RRC so quickly.
- Another very tough call...
- Smitherman is slowly being pushed out of contention; Branch is considered the front runner; Paxton is the wildcard with most Tea Party support. If it's a summer run-off, Paxton will surprise everyone. If it's a May run-off, say hello to General Branch.
- Branch's pro choice votes will come back to bite him hard,
- Fascinating.
- As long as this remains a low-key, non-TV fight, Paxton should prevail based on message. He lacks the presence of the other two, but his supporters are more committed than those of Branch and Smitherman. If it does become a high-profile, TV fight, then Branch's chances are improved because of his magnetism and because Paxton is so painfully dull in person.
- Any of the four could win.
- Paxton is going to surprise. He has the "I challenged the Speaker" and has a large base.
- I see a runoff with Branch and Smitherman, where Smitherman gets to the right of Branch. I think Paxton doesn't make the runoff because he hasn't yet started working the grassroots, and Smitherman is beating him to the punch.
- He will out work the others. They will be looking at Barry's back side. He is tenacious and wants it more than the others.

Our thanks to this week's participants:

Allen Blakemore, Allen Place, Andrew Biar, Andy Sansom, Anthony Haley, Blaine Bull, Beth Cubriel, Bill Hammond, Bill Stevens, Bill Jones, Bill Ratliff, Bruce Gibson, Bruce Scott, Tom Duffy, Cathie Adams, Chris Britton, Charles Bailey, Cal Jillson, Clyde Alexander, Colin Strother, Clint Hackney, Christopher Shields, Dennis Speight, Dale Laine, Dan Shelley, Darren Whitehurst, David White, David Cabrales, David Dunn, Deborah Ingersoll, Debra Medina, Denise Davis, Doc Arnold, Dominic Giarratani, Mike McKinney, Robert Kepple, Elna Christopher, Ed Small, Gary Polland, Gene Acuna, George Allen, Gerard Torres, Gardner Pate, Grant Ruckel, Harold Cook, Hector De Leon, Jack Erskine, Jenny Aghamalian, James LeBas, Jim Henson, Jason Johnson, Jay Arnold, Jay Pritchard, Jeff Eller, Pete Laney, John Greytok, Jim Grace, Janis Carter, John Esparza, Jon Fisher, Jim Sartwelle, Jason Skaggs, Jay Thompson, June Deadrick, Keats Norfleet, Kevin Cooper, Kinnan Golemon, Ken Hodges, Kim Ross, Keir Murray, Kerry Cammack, Karen Reagan, Nick Lampson, Laura Huffman, Dick Lavine, Lydia Camarillo, Lisa Kaufman, Leslie Lemon, Louis Bacarisse, Larry Soward, Luke Marchant, Luke Legate, Marc Campos, Mark Smith, Matt Mackowiak, Dan McClung, Mike Moses, Mark Jones, Michael Quinn Sullivan, Myra Leo, Nora Del Bosque, Neftali Garcia, Nef Partida, Nelson Nease, Norman Garza, Pat Nugent, Patrick Reinhart, Wayne Pierce, Peck Young, Ramey Ko, Randy Cubriel, Brian Rawson, Richard Pineda, Richard Dyer, Richard Khouri, Richie Jackson, Richard Levy, Robert Miller, Bob Strauser, Robert Jones, Robert Scott, Royce Poinsett, Robert Peeler, Russ Tidwell, Ruben Longoria, Seth Winick, Shanna Igo, Sandy Kress, Snapper Carr, Stan Schlueter, Jason Stanford, Steve Murdock, Steve Holzheuser, Sherry Sylvester, Tom Banning, Tom Blanton, Thure Cannon, Tim Reeves, Tom Kleinworth, Todd Smith, Tom Phillips, Tom Spilman, Trey Trainor, Eric Glenn, Vicki Truitt, Victor Alcorta, Vilma Luna, William Chapman, Wil Galloway, Wayne Hamilton, Ware Wendell, Angelo Zottarelli