

“INSIDE”

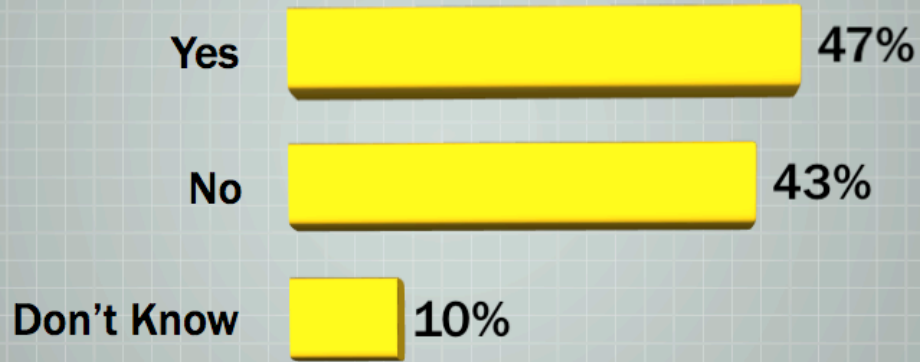
INTELLIGENCE

THE TEXAS TRIBUNE
TEXAS  WEEKLY

The insider's poll for the week of May 30.

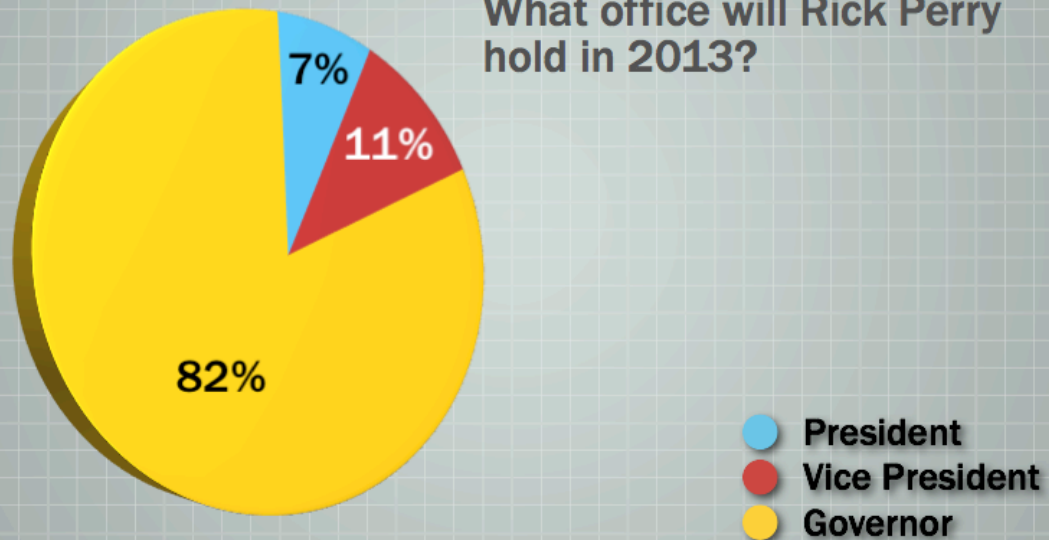
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Will Rick Perry run for president?



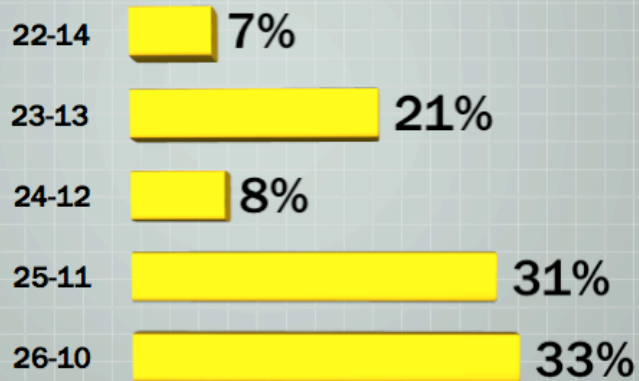
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What office will Rick Perry hold in 2013?



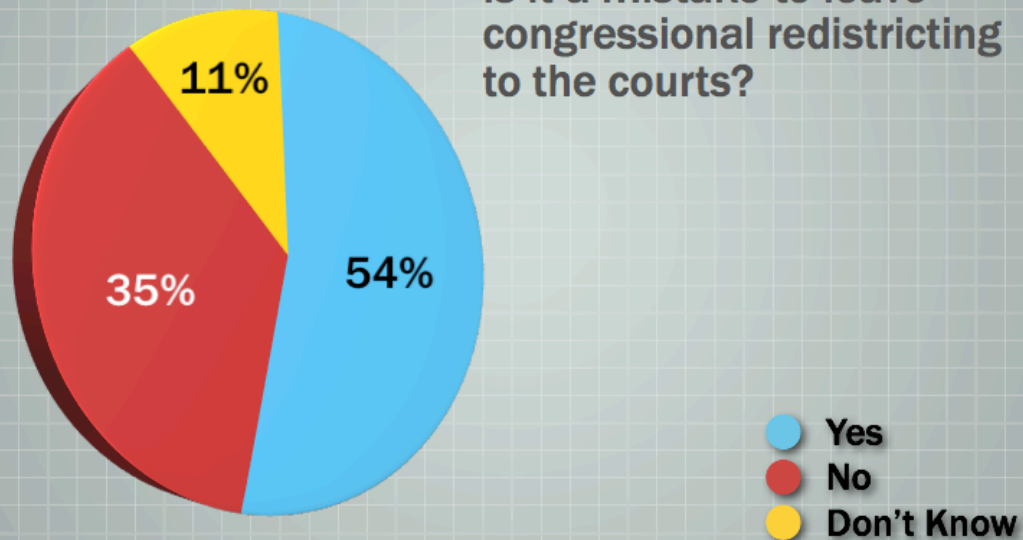
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How many R's and D's in the congressional delegation in 2013?



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Is it a mistake to leave congressional redistricting to the courts?



Will Rick Perry run for president?

- "He won't seek it, but it will seek him."
- "If he does run, you can count on 'You're So Vain' being the campaign war hymn"
- "Getting 4 percent from Texas Republican Primary Voters isn't a good way to kick off a national campaign."
- "H will wait until 2016 like several of the other wannabes."
- "This may be a good opportunity for him, but I do not think he'll go. Don't rule out VP."
- "No, he's still angling for VP. Last time, Perry endorsed the only pro-life candidate in the Republican field (Giuliani) and put his campaign guru Dave Carney to work for him. Now, Perry's guru and another aide are working for the serial adulterer Newt Gingrich in preparation for Newt picking Perry for his running mate. Why else would Gingrich be incorporating the 'Texas model' in his campaign stump speeches?"
- "He is Texas' Sarah Palin. All hat and no cattle."
- "Nothing to lose and everything to gain. And, he would be a compelling candidate."
- "Will run for Governor again and face three opponents in the general election."
- "Been part of Carney's agenda since 2002"
- "No real change here: he'll run if the field remains unresolved and/or Romney shows signs of weakness, and he is asked. Failing that, he remains available as a VP candidate. He'll take either. But despite the wearying conventional wisdom, he is not a good match for Romney."
- "He will run...in 2016. He will be the indispensable man during the next cycle, speaking for the nominee who will have the pleasure of losing to Obama. He will come back and run for Governor again in '14 and be the prohibitive favorite two years later."
- "I think he will have to jump in at some point."
- "There is a growing constituency of support, but it's too late to be 'drafted' in to the race with no national campaign infrastructure or name ID"
- "The planets are certainly lining up for a Perry run."
- "Its like Déjà vu 1997"
- "There are not any credible candidates running."
- "No, VP instead."
- "The field is wide open for him. The GOP is increasingly becoming a rump Southern party, and the primary demands a Southern candidate not named for a salamander. At worst, Perry raises his national profile, expands his fundraising base, and sells more books by running."

- "He will be a running mate...."
- "He wants to be drafted for president, but it won't happen; scared GOP money is not willing to bet on a coy candidate. But he CAN be drafted for veep, which he will only accept on the condition that he becomes the anti-federal czar."
- "Maybe setting the bar too high, but I think he's smarter than that."
- "God, I hope not. He's done enough to ruin Texas. Can't imagine what he'd do to this Nation."
- "I'd lean towards no, but on the horizon a Perry 'perfect storm' appears to be forming, thus I would not count the Governor out of the running yet."
- "He wants to run and will (is) testing the waters but will wait and see if he can create a groundswell first."
- "Is America ready for another Texas president when it comes right down to it? Vice President maybe and in the race after this one very possibly."
- "Why not? It is a free shot."
- "Exposure to national press will kill his chances. His past will come up."
- "He will be the President of Texas"
- "It is a real testament to anyone can become President!"
- "If the GOP field remains what it is, with Romney and Aplenty the top-tier candidates, Gov. Perry should run and he'd likely win the nomination. With very recent reports affirming that Texas has been the nation's top job engine nationally for the last ten years, the Governor's message on jobs and the economy can sell in swing states where unemployment will remain the top issue for the next two years."
- "Rick Perry is pitch perfect for Texas, but the act will not travel well and he appears to know that."
- "He will certainly keep his name in the mix, but being the choice of 4% of the Republican voters in your home state could well be the impetus for the national media taking a closer and more critical look at Perry."
- "Maybe v.p."
- "I think he has his eyes on the vice presidential nomination. He'll have to decide whether a presidential run enhances his chances to be selected. It may not."
- "That great sucking sound you hear is the draft coming from the churchy wing of the Republican Party."
- "Maybe VP"
- "Maybe not president but vice president."

What office do you think Rick Perry will hold in 2013?

- "Maybe an appointed position in a republican administration."
- "He'll run for Pres as a 'draftee' but will not win. He'll be Governor."
- "He'll run for Governor, but hasn't his luck run out yet?"
- "Still looks good to national Republican voters who don't know the 'real' Perry"
- "Perry has attached his hopes to the wrong presidential wannabe's coattails, but even if the eventual Republican nominee picks Perry as his running mate, Rick will awake from his dream of living in Washington, D.C. to find himself still in Texas in 2013."
- "None of the above. Will run for President (maybe just a quickie candidacy to get himself the VP slot); but Obama will be re-elected."
- "At least for a few day, but maybe longer."
- "Or he'll do a Sarah Palin and quit, ostensibly for the national campaign, but really to make millions throwing red meat to the faithful. Although he seems to have made plenty of money just being governor."
- "None of the above. He will resign but not be elected to higher office."
- "Perry will be a major player in the national scene whether he wants to or not."
- "Federal Cabinet Secretary"
- "Obviously a guess at this juncture."
- "Hopefully nothing"
- "He'll leverage his position and move into the private sector b/c he won't want to face the funding challenges (taxes and more cuts) that will be required in 2013"
- "If R's win White House, maybe Sec of Commerce"
- "If a republican becomes president, Perry will be in the cabinet...possibly head of Homeland Security."
- "We'd all be SHOCKED, SHOCKED if he ran for the US Senate. But anything is possible."
- "America doesn't want another Cowboy-in-Chief. We're still cleaning up after the last one."
- "I think he will hold a cabinet position in DC if the Republicans win in 2012...but more likely headed to lead the Republican National Committee."
- "He wants to be drafted for president, but it won't happen; scared GOP money is not willing to bet on a coy candidate. But he CAN be drafted for veep, which he will only accept on the condition that he becomes the anti-federal czar."
- "Dog Catcher, if we're lucky."
- "He is a very good politician and he will be in one of these offices in 2013-- which one will depend on where he thinks he win."

- "He would win the primary, but fail to reside in the White House."
- "Cabinet Secretary"
- "I don't know."
- "There is nobody in the current crop of GOP candidates who can beat Obama."

- "If he runs, he probably wins the nomination. But he ain't beating Obama."
- "If a R could beat President Obama, he could be a cabinet secretary or VP. But the President should win again."

The Texas congressional delegation currently has 23 Republicans and 9 Democrats, and the state is getting four new seats because of its growth. What will the partisan mix be in the new congressional maps?

- "The court will split the baby."
- "That is, after the election."
- "Maybe, 27-9"
- "The growth in the state is overwhelmingly minority, but the Rs will find a way to engineer at least two of the four new seats to their benefit."
- "It will start 26-10, but in four years it will be back to 22-14."

- "The new seats will split 2-2 and the Democrats will win back either Canseco or Farenthold's seat."
- "Even with a redrawn district, Blake Farenthold will have trouble holding his seat."
- "Especially if courts have to write the map, GOP will be fortunate to split the four new seats."
- "Lloyd Doggett, meet your new minority opportunity district."

Are legislative Republicans making a mistake in leaving congressional redistricting to the courts?

- "Absolutely not. If the courts draw a map that leadership dislikes, we'll have a special. Been there done that."
- "What ever the republicans do will end up in court or aggravate the base because the Senators did not draw a 3 R one D map."

- "Seliger needs to get a map out PRNTO"
- "When you consider the extreme lengths the redubs went to in 03, this may be their biggest failure of the session. Tom Delay is rolling over in his retirement."

- "Court will end up preparing it in any event."
- "Budget is too important."
- "Problematic as we know from long history; however, the conventional wisdom is that producing a map influences to some extent the court's determinations"
- "Courts don't seem to value incumbency the way politicians do."
- "The Governor will call a special session to deal with the congressional redistricting process."
- "Heck, there's a higher percentage of Rs on the bench than in the Texas House right now."
- "But if those DC Know-it-alls had just worked together as a team the State Legislature could have passed a map. But Lamar Smith working with Henry Cuellar was enough to make them all mad enough to try and draw their own maps."
- "They can't come back and replace judicial maps in 2013 like they did in '03."
- "Will wind up there anyway."
- "I heard speculation from a member that Perry would let the courts draw the districts because they are not subject to Justice department review...if he doesn't like the districts he will call the legislature back and let them draw a map. I think that would be a stupid plan but that doesn't mean it's not the plan."
- "They proved they're not up to the job with the State House map."
- "You don't let (typically) once-a-decade leverage slip through your fingers."
- "No mistake.... the real mistake would be take it up and allow all the internal feuding between Lamar Smith and Joe Barton be aired in public."
- "Will end up there anyway."
- "Leaving it to the courts allows the Republican leadership to avoid the backlash from the right wing of the party that would have occurred had they proposed a sensible plan that does not violate the VRA and therefore 'gives' two of the new seats to the Democrats. And of course if they don't like the court map, they can always redraw it in 2013. That said, Canseco and Farenthold can't be too happy about this going to the courts, since they need the extra advantage of the maps being drawn by Republicans to help them win in 2012."
- "It wouldn't be a mistake in this legislative session to leave EVERYTHING to the courts--or to a group of fifth graders."
- "They were going to draw them anyway. The only mistake here is not giving the courts a benchmark to start with."
- "These maps usually allow certain individuals to 'move up.' The republicans have punted on a once/decade opportunity to guarantee exporting Texas-brand republicanism to Washington."

- "Should be drawn by non-elected officials, as should the state maps."
- "The Senate Republicans are so weak that they would probably roll over for the Democrats. Republicans as a whole stand a better chance in court."
- "Avoiding congressional redistricting avoided a Senate filibuster that would have killed important bills. Also, legislators did not have to choose favorites or divest incumbents of substantial populations. The issue can be resolved in the courts or in a special session that the Legislature pretends is about something else."
- "It's always up to the courts. If the legislature draws it, the courts will re-draw it anyway."
- "Legislative leaders see little upside in getting involved in the fight between Lamar Smith and Joe Barton."
- "They haven't done it yet. If any budget matters bring them back in July, I think congressional maps will be on the agenda."
- "Ten years ago, the Texas Congressional delegation had unquestioned leaders, especially DeLay. Now they cannot get their act together and provide detailed guidance to the legislature. Instead of a GOP-tilted map for 2012, we're apt to get a neutral one. Not good for GOP."
- "The better question is, do any of them care?"
- "The Legislature never gets it right."

Our thanks to this week's participants: Cathie Adams, Victor Alcorta, Clyde Alexander, Doc Arnold, Jay Arnold, Charles Bailey, Tom Banning, Reggie Bashur, Walt Baum, Eric Bearse, Dave Beckwith, Mark Bell, Luke Bellsnyder, Allen Blakemore, Tom Blanton, Steve Bresnen, Chris Britton, Andy Brown, Jose Camacho, Lydia Camarillo, Kerry Cammack, Marc Campos, Snapper Carr, Janis Carter, William Chapman, George Cofer, Rick Cofer, John Colyandro, Hector De Leon, Scott Dunaway, David Dunn, Jeff Eller, Alan Erwin, Gay Erwin, John Esparza, Jon Fisher, Terry Frakes, Neftali Garcia, Dominic Giarratani, Bruce Gibson, Scott Gilmore, Eric Glenn, Daniel Gonzalez, Jim Grace, Michael Grimes, Billy Hamilton, Wayne Hamilton, Bill Hammond, Albert Hawkins, Jim Henson, Ken Hodges, Steve Holzheuser, Shanna Igo, Cal Jillson, Mark Jones, Robert Kepple, Richard Khouri, Tom Kleinworth, Ramey Ko, Sandy Kress, Tim Lambert, Nick Lampson, Pete Laney, Dick Lavine, James LeBas, Donald Lee, Luke Legate, Leslie Lemon, Vilma Luna, Matt Mackowiak, Dan McClung, Scott McCown, Robert Miller, Bee Moorhead, Craig Murphy, Keir Murray, Richard Murray, Sylvia Nugent, Todd Olsen, Gardner Pate, Jerry Philips, Tom Phillips, Kraege Polan, Ted Melina Raab, Bill Ratliff, Tim Reeves, Carl Richie, Kim Ross, Jeff Rotkoff, Jason Sabo, Luis Saenz, Mark Sanders, Jim Sartwelle, Stan Schlueter, Steve Scurlock, Bradford Shields, Christopher Shields, Dee Simpson, Ed Small, Martha Smiley, Terral Smith, Todd Smith, Larry Soward, Dennis Speight, Jason Stanford, Keith Strama, Bob Strauser, Colin Strother, Michael Quinn Sullivan, Jay Thompson, Russ Tidwell, Bruce Todd, Trey Trainor, Ware Wendell, Darren Whitehurst, Woody Widrow, Chad Wilbanks, Ellen Williams, Michael Wilt, Peck Young.