

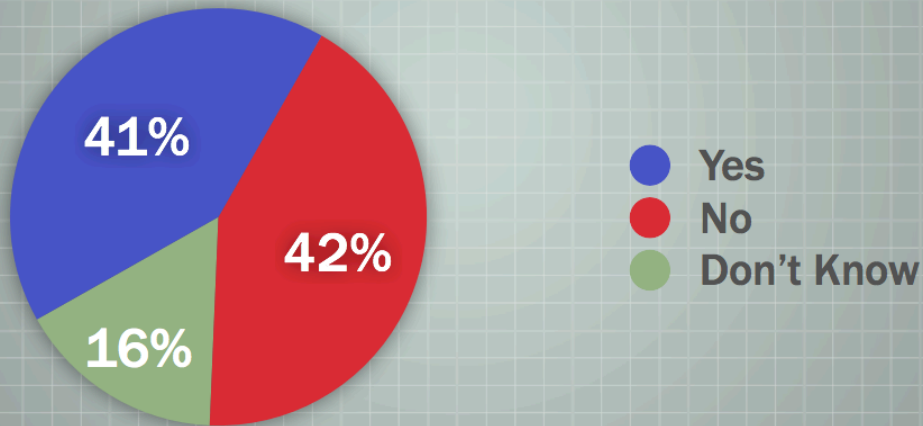
“INSIDE” INTELLIGENCE

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*The Texas Weekly/Texas Tribune insider poll
for the week of September 23*

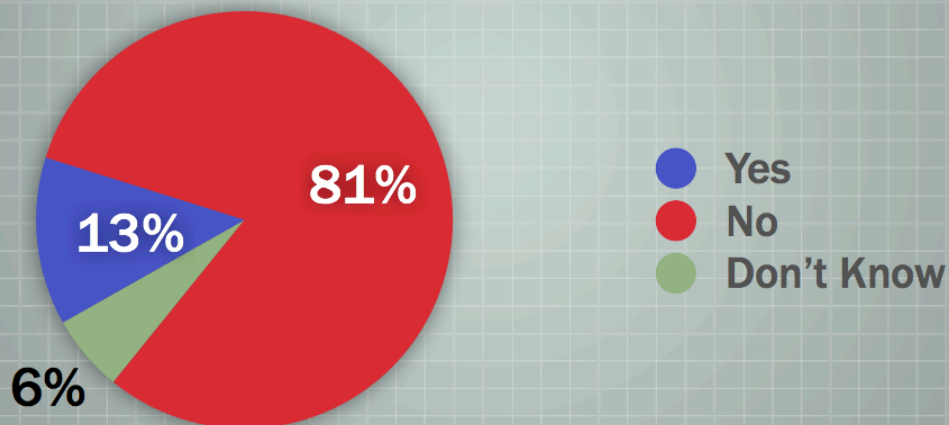
INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

Will Leticia Van de Putte run for lieutenant governor?



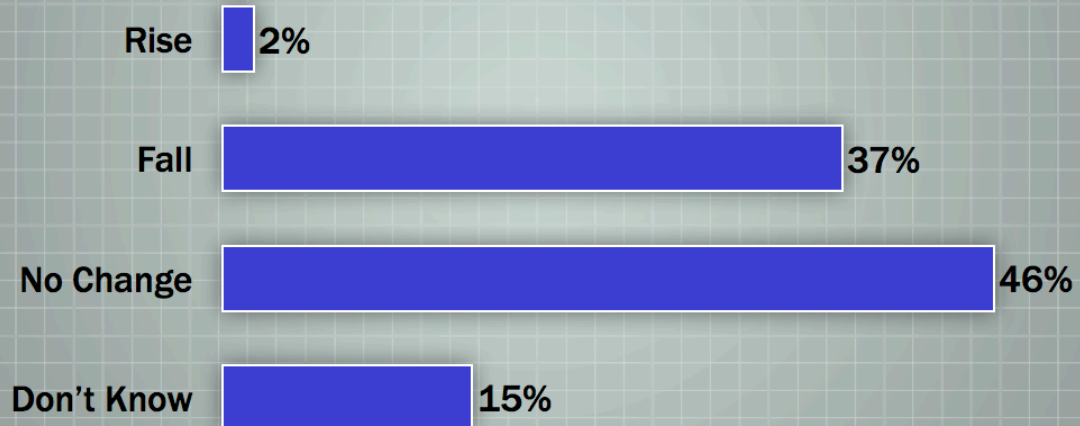
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Could Van de Putte win a general election?



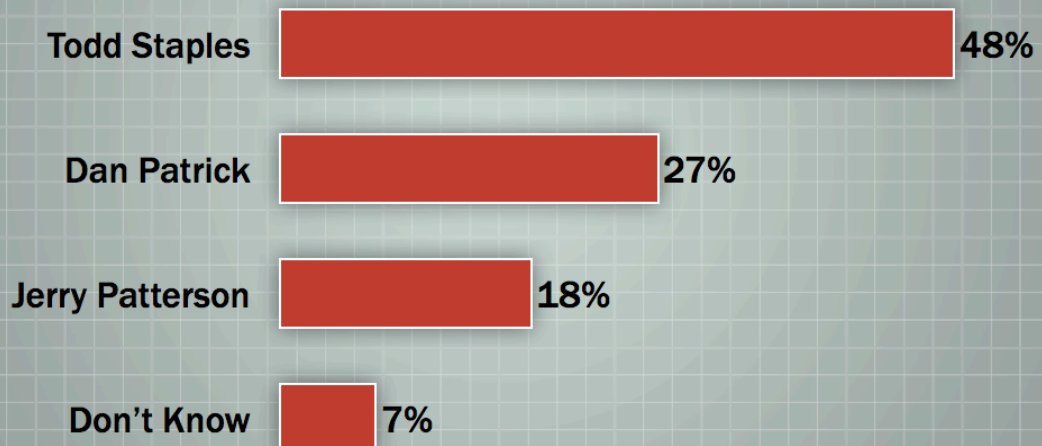
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If the new Lt. Gov. is Republican, the number of Democrats chairing committees will:



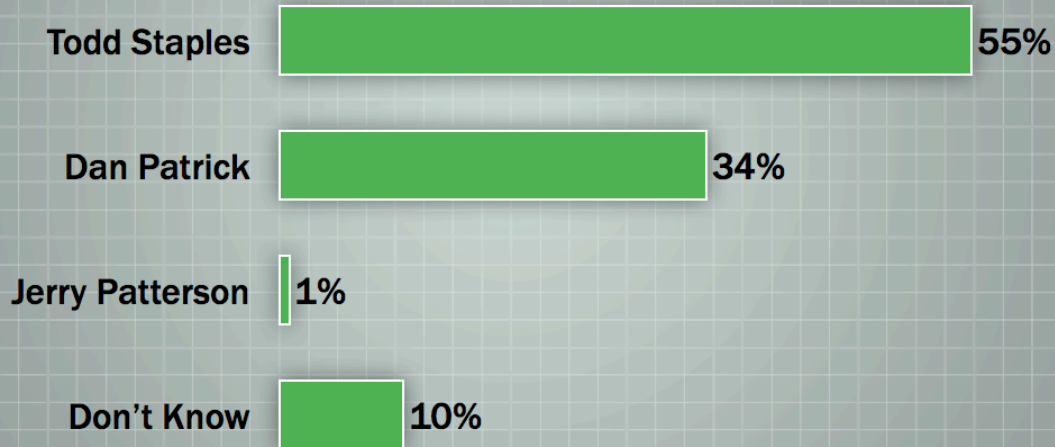
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If Lt. Gov. Dewhurst dropped out, who would Republicans nominate?



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Who would raise the most money?



Do you think Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, D-San Antonio, will run for lieutenant governor?

- "Unless the Ds are privy to polling data no one else in TX has seen, why would they risk losing an experienced D in the Senate?"
- "If she's smart she'll let Davis test the water and stay in the senate."
- "But her peers in the senate would be glad if she ran and didn't come back"
- "The passing of her father could ignite a fire for her to run state wide. Even if she loses, she will know she left it all in the political arena."
- "Although she would bring great fundraising capability from across the country to the ticket"
- "If Davis goes Guv, VDP goes LtG."
- "She has said she will not decide until Wendy does."
- "Don't care"
- "Most of us who know LVD, like her. A lot. We also know that she's experienced an especially calamitous year. I suspect that she could use her heart more than her head on making these big-ticket item decisions. So there's more of a wildcard in play here. Life and opportunity are fickle and fleeting."
- "She can't win, and losing won't help her achieve any other political

ambitions in San Antonio or nationally."

- "I'd love for her to run, but more importantly for her to win especially to oversee a legislative body that has proven to be misogynistic and out-of-touch with the real issues."

- "She likes being a senator too much."

- "Ultimately no. If she has higher aspirations but doesn't take defeat well, this is not the race to get into. If the goal is to raise her state name ID for a potential race down the road, it's a calculated risk. Don't want to lose too many times."

- "Why not? She's not up in the Senate until 2016 (so if she loses, she can go back to the Senate), and besides--who else will the Dems run?"

- "She risks too much and her influence in the Senate grows substantially each session."

- "Sen. Van De Putte has no history of taking on a tough political challenge, plus she has tons of embarrassing political baggage that she won't want to revisit at this point in her career. She has nothing to gain from a suicide mission and quite a lot to lose in terms of what she views is her legacy."

- "She apparently is running behind Davis."

- "Getting smoked in a LtG race and then having to go back to the Senate -- sure fire way to be a back bencher next session."

- "On Oct. 4 she will announce by actually talking with reporters and supporters."

- "Why would she give up her Senate seat when she knows she'll lose statewide?"

- "Who cares?"

- "Would be destroyed in the general."

- "She does a great job serving Bexar County, so hopping into that race would just take her back to San Antonio permanently."

- "I sure hope she will run and I hope Davis runs the race for governor so the Dems will plow money into both races and take a loss. Then they have less money to spend in other places. Run baby run!"

- "She likes the attention and that is what she is doing."

- "Sen. Van de Putte would be an excellent Lt. Gov., but it would be a severely uphill battle. I would hate to lose her as a Senator!"

Do you think Van de Putte could win a general election for lieutenant governor?

- "Dan Patrick is going to win the primary, and it's always the wild cards that make the biggest mistakes - it's happened in places just as conservative as Texas. Can she? Yes. Will she?"
- "Texas may turn blue someday, but today isn't that day."
- "With potential general election opponents like Patrick or Staples, it sure looks possible."
- "No, unless her opponent provides a Clayton Williams oops moment."
- "It depends on who wins the Republican primary. A 'too-far-to-the-right' candidate could provide a small window of opportunity for the senator."
- "Major uphill battle for any D in a statewide race"
- "VDP will make Texas history (by being first Hispanic female to run for Lt. Guv - and lose...handily)."
- "Stalwart abortion supporters lose"
- "But she'll get as close as 3 points from to the magic number."
- "She can win. Likely? No. But the Republican base is divided on this race, and if Dan Patrick wins the nomination, his glorious extremism creates an opportunity."
- "Largely depends on her ability to raise money among the Hispanic wealthy and her ability to appeal to the enthusiasm of white and black Dems."
- "It'll be hard to win as a democrat but it is not impossible."
- "Are you freaking kidding?"
- "Doubtful she could raise the money to be a viable contender. Plus, is Texas ready for a wise Latina with a Dutch surname?"
- "She would help diversify the ticket so that Wendy doesn't look so much like Democrat Barbie -- but she wouldn't help her much."
- "Of course she *could* win. Anything is possible. But it's very unlikely. The way this question is worded, you have to answer 'yes,' even if you think it's an unlikely outcome."
- "Democrats are still years away from being competitive statewide."
- "I say this as a Republican: Sen. Van de Putte is one of those people who you just like, which goes a long way in politics. She can win a general election statewide--just not this cycle."
- "Evan Smith said it well on KUT. A Democrat might over perform and get 46% of the vote. LdP will over perform the D ticket and could get 49%."
- "Only if Dan Patrick is the R candidate"
- "It's not her, it's them - too many republican voters."

- "Let's see, the insurance commercial with the pig in the airplane and the flight attendant says something, what was it, oh yeah, 'when pigs fly!'"

- "If Dan Patrick wins R primary, she has a chance"

- "44%"

- "Anything is possible, but doubtful for now."

If the next lieutenant governor is a Republican, will the number of Democrats heading committees rise, fall, or stay more or less in proportion to their numbers in the Senate?

- "Patrick will decrease the number of appointments; but R's and D's hate Patrick, and would just go around him and change some Senate rules to decrease his power."

- "There are a finite number of experienced Senators to lead committees and Senate tradition is well established regarding how power is shared."

- "If the next lieutenant governor is Patrick or Staples, the number of Democrats heading committees will fall just so they can say they can tell their supporters they stuck it to the Democrats. If it's Dewhurst or Patterson, the number will stay more or less the same."

- "Depends upon who is elected. If Dan Patrick is elected, the number of Democrats heading committees will surely fall."

- "Depends on who wins"

- "Patterson and Staples would recognize the seniority and collegiality of the body, so very little change due to partisanship. If Patrick were to win (and many think he will not actually run) it's Katie bar the

door for Ds. Patrick would probably close the long fought for women's Senate lounge."

- "Depends on who wins. Less if Patrick or Dewhurst, same with Todd; probably more or the same with Patterson"

- "No change...unless Patrick wins. A win by Patrick would result in a lite guv stripped of his power by his own party."

- "Depends on WHICH republican is elected lieutenant governor. If Dewhurst, likely stay the same. If Patterson or Staples, also likely to remain quite similar as today. If Patrick, certainly less democrats."

- "Based on early rhetoric, a Republican Lite Gov will be hard pressed to hand out more committee chairs to Dems (even if those committees aren't important)."

- "Depends on who the next lite guv is."

- "Depends on who wins the R primary."

- "Stay same if it's Dewhurst. Fall if it's Patrick. Don't know if it's Staples"
- "They only got the unimportant committees anyway. Like Veterans Affairs."
- "All depends upon who the Republican is. Patrick or Staples probably yes. Patterson or Dewhurst, I doubt it."
- "I don't think any of the Republican candidates gives a rat's butt about the democrats so it'll definitely fall. Even if Dewhurst wins, one could see democratic chairs and positions on Finance dropping."
- "It's it Patrick it will fall."
- "Depends on 1) *which* Republican wins and 2) whether Wendy runs and the Repubs pick up SD-10. If Patrick wins (or if a miracle occurs and Dewhurst is reelected), look for Dems to lose seats. If it's Jerry or Todd, look for the number to stay about the same."
- "GOP Primary voters cannot fathom why a Republican would appoint Democrat committee chairs. All of the challengers to Dewhurst will pledge to reduce or eliminate entirely the number of Democrats who head committees."
- "They'll stay roughly the same unless Dan Patrick wins, in which case you can expect a decline in D chairs."
- "'IF the next lieutenant governor is a republican'???"
- "Depends on the LT. Gov. Patterson and Staple about the same because they understand the Senate. Patrick they fall because he has no appreciation of the Senate or its traditions"
- "I wasn't aware that they were proportionate now."
- "No change with Dewhurst or Staples, fewer Democrats with Patterson or Patrick"
- "Republicans want to lead, not scream 'fire' in an empty Senate Chamber. Unless it's Patrick."
- "The obvious answer is it depends on who wins the primary."
- "Depends on who wins."
- "Depends on which faction of the Republican Party of Texas is leading the Senate (Tea or otherwise)."
- "Dems will loose leadership roles in the senate regardless of who the Lite Guv. Is if it is a Republican."
- "There will be 1 less Democrat Senator, Ms. Davis will be a lobbyist by then."
- "Depends which one."

If David Dewhurst were to drop out of the Republican primary for lieutenant governor, who do you think would win the GOP nomination?

- "Patterson IS Texas."
- "Jerry Patterson's reputation as a straight shooter (no pun intended) could result in a blunt comment that blows up his campaign, but if Dewhurst is out of the race, he should pick up the R's who can't stomach Patrick or Staples to go along with his base of gun supporters and veterans."
- "I think it's too soon to know who wins. Depends on their performance during the primary campaign season."
- "Staples needs dew and Patrick to stay n the race so they split votes and he gets into a runoff."
- "First, it is still too early to determine the outcome of this race, but the candidate with the most to gain would be Todd Staples."
- "We would then need a new candidate."
- "If Patrick should win, God help us all!"
- "Why would he do that?"
- "We're insiders. We want a smooth knowable transition. Former Senator Staples would bring a sense of knowledge and appreciation for the institution."
- "On the other hand, Jerry Patterson could accidentally shoot the other two and win outright."
- "Staples and Patterson both have experience in the Senate, but Patterson to me seems to be only candidate that has actually had to go out there and work the people for votes. Staples has eased into public office from his house days to an open seat in the senate. I don't think he even had a serious challenger for Ag Commissioner."
- "I think Todd Staples REGARDLESS of Dewhurst dropping out"
- "Patrick would have an initial advantage due to name recognition, but both Staples and Patterson have solid candidacies."
- "Anybody but Patrick..."
- "If Dewhurst gets out, business and their money goes to Comm. Staples. Staples can beat Sen. Patrick, but the others can't."
- "Staples is running a smart campaign."
- "DD won't drop out and will win."
- "He has a statewide infrastructure, he understands the base and he understands that we need to have balance on the immigration issue, outside of the Dew he is raising most of the money, plus the business community likes him. That would be a winning formula. If I were Todd I would quietly be working with Cruz to get the base firmed up with me. Heck who knows, Ted and Todd might already be talking, wink wink."
- "I don't answer hypotheticals."

Who would raise the most money?

- "Staples would raise the lion's share of establishment money."
- "Patrick's money would be in small denominations, like \$25, but he'd have tens of thousands donors of his ilk."
- "The race will be to see who has the most traction with the Dewhurst existing contributors."
- "As long as The Dew is in the race, no candidate will have a clear fundraising advantage. Once the Dew is out, expect Staples to start showing us the money."
- "The winner will raise the most."
- "Todd Staples will be the lobby's best friend."
- "Is 'raise' money mean money that was contributed from sources other than one's own self, then staples... but clearly Dewhurst has the most money and can loan himself the most"
- "None of the three are doing exceptionally well now...if one pulled away in the polls, it would attract front-running money."
- "All the business money would flow to Comm. Staples if Gov. Dewhurst gets out of the race. Until then, however, I think they'll stay on the sidelines or provide light support for Gov. Dewhurst."
- "Patrick will show multiple six figure gifts and thousands of \$5 checks written in wobbly script."

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