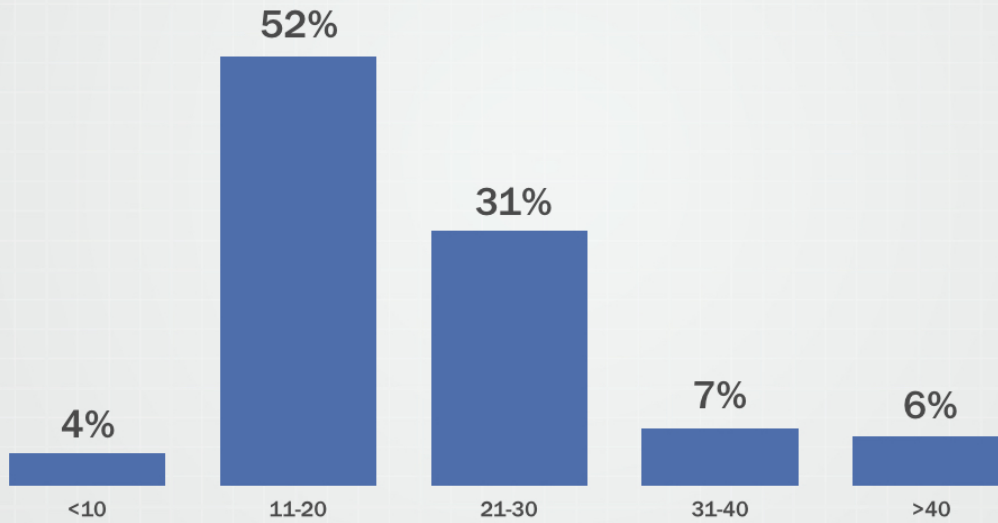


“INSIDE” INTELLIGENCE

*The Texas Weekly/Texas Tribune insider poll
for the week of 12 June 2015*

INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

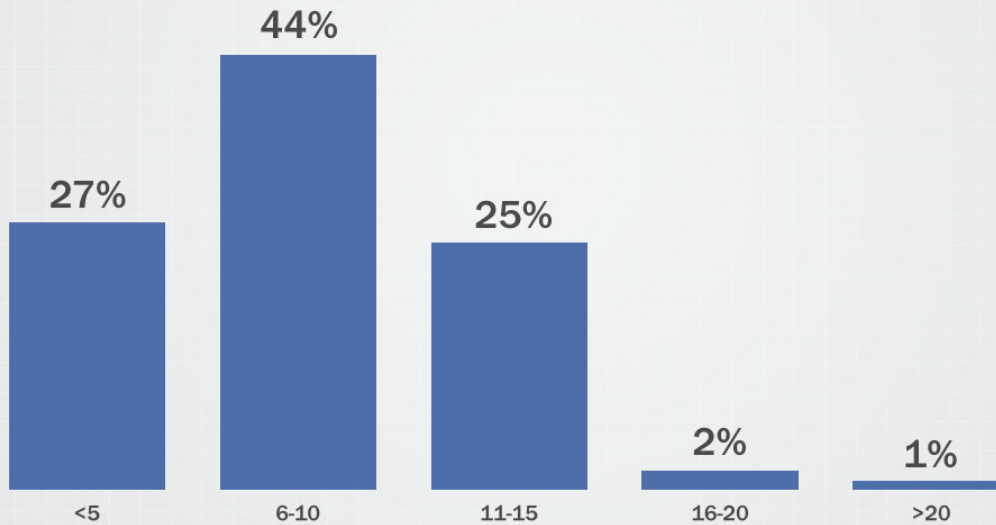
CONTESTED 2016 GOP LEGISLATIVE PRIMARIES?



Inside Intelligence is an informal survey of political and government insiders in Texas and is not meant to measure public opinion.

INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

CONTESTED 2016 DEMOCRATIC LEGISLATIVE PRIMARIES?



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Looking ahead to next spring, what's the number of contested Republican legislative primaries?

- "'Contested' means they'll have an opponent; not that the opponents will be serious challengers, right?"
- "School choice is top issue."
- "When faced with a certain challenge, several have already resigned."
- "About the same as last cycle."
- "Can you say Phoenix foundation?"
- "Of course, there are degrees of 'contested'. My response is based on the literal meaning."
- "And perhaps another Speaker challenger"

And what's the number of contested Democratic legislative primaries?

- "Sadly, they rarely challenge one another."
- "Presidential year"

Gold star time: who makes the best list for session?

- "Sylvester Turner, Nicole Collier, TMF, Joe Straus"
- "Dennis Bonnen"
- "Byron Cook"
- "Geren"
- "Dutton"
- "Sen. Eltife, Sen. Whitmire, Sen. Huffman, Rep. Dennis Bonnen, Rep. Darby, Rep. Sarah Davis, Rep. Keffer, Rep. Phil King, Rep. Morrison, Rep. Simmons"
- "Speaker, Eltife..."
- "Straus"
- "Biggest positive impact for the state: Jane Nelson, Kevin Eltife, Joe Straus and Dennis Bonnen"
- "Otto, Bonnen, Hunter, Huberty, Nelson, Jimmie Don, West, Hinojosa"
- "Joe Straus, Jimmie Don Aycock, Senfronia Thompson, Charlie Geren"
- "Sylvester Turner"
- "Stickland - His agenda is to advance Stickland and at this he is masterful."
- "Sen. Larry Taylor, Sen. Kevin Eltife, Rep. John Otto, Rep. John Zerwas, Rep. Senfronia Thompson"
- "Dennis Bonnen"
- "Patrick, Straus, Otto, S. Turner, Hinojosa, C. Turner, Geren, D. Bonnen, S. Thompson, Nichols"
- "Aycock; D. Bonnen; Howard; Keffer; Martinez Fischer; Straus; Villalba; Zerwas; Fraser; Nelson; Watson; West; Whitmire; Zaffirini"
- "Straus, Bonnen, Otto, Cook, Price, Ashby: House; Patrick, Nelson, Eltife: Senate"
- "House: Dennis Bonnen, John Otto, Sly Turner; Senate: Jane Nelson, Charles Schwertner, Judith Zaffirini (despite losing her leadership positions, she still passed more bills than anyone else)"
- "John Otto - Double Star, Drew Darby, Dennis Bonnen"
- "Kevin Eltife, Joe Straus, and Jane Nelson"
- "Dennis Bonnen, Garnet Coleman, Matt Rinaldi, Kevin Eltife, Charles Schwertner, Jane Nelson"
- "Huffman Seliger Kolkhorst"
- "Bonnen (he led the House)."
- "Four Price, Aycock"

- "Straus, Anchia, Otto, Aycock, Price in the House. Nelson (although I don't know why!), Watson, Seliger, Fraser (swan song), Hancock (because I need a 5th member of the Senate)."

- "Jonathan Stickland"

- "Eltime, Straus, Pickett, Moody, Watson"

- "Patrick, Abbott"

- "Straus, D. Bonnen, Anchia"

- "Joe Pickett, Senfronia Thompson, Trent Ashby, Drew Darby, Jane Nelson, Robert Nichols, Harold Dutton, Larry Gonzales, Celia Israel"

- "Nelson, Eltime, Nichols, Campbell, Bettencourt, D. Bonnen, S. Turner, Price, Aycock"

- "Paul Bettencourt, at least freshman of the year. An intelligent conservative."

- "The ones who are retiring because they don't want to be a part of the wheels coming off of good government."

- "Eltime"

- "DeWayne Burns, Four Price"

- "Sylvester Turner, Charlie Geren, John Zerwas, Kevin Eltime, Chuy Hinojosa, Four Price, Susan King, Jane Nelson, Drew Darby, Speaker Straus"

- "Dennis Bonnen, John Otto, Dan Patrick"

- "Otto, Darby, Bonnen, Geren, Thompson, Hunter, Price, Ashby, Keffer

Nelson, Hinojosa, Eltime, Rodriguez, L. Taylor"

- "Jonathan Stickland, Van Taylor, Matt Rinaldi, Tony Tinderholt, and Scott Turner"

- "Jane Nelson"

- "No list from me because, unlike past sessions, there are very, very few who would get an A. So, having a top ten with Bs at best isn't worth constructing. Maybe Otto and Nelson."

- "Senator Jane Nelson, Rep. Jimmie Don Aycock, Rep. Dennis Bonnen, Sen. Kolkhorst, Rep. Zerwas, Sen. Larry Taylor, Speaker Straus, Rep. Canales, Rep. Otto, Rep. Darby"

- "Joe Straus , Donna Howard, Greg Abbott , Kevin Eltime, Byron Cook, Kirk Watson"

- "Eltime, Whitmire, Garcia, Watson, Seliger Otto, Aycock, Price, Ashby, Geren"

- "Charlie Geren"

- "Cook, Darby, Keffer, Lucio III, Larson, Otto, Pickett, Straus, Nelson, Nichols, Perry, Schwertner, Watson, Whitmire"

- "Pickett, Bonnen, Straus, Sylvester Turner, Otto"

- "Nelson. Eltime. Otto. Ashby"

- "Straus, Hunter, Raney, Simpson, Whitmire"

- "Jane Nelson"

- "Dan Patrick; Best Freshman Senate - Paul Bettencourt; Best Freshman House - Mike Schofield"

- "Chairman Aycock"

- "Thompson, S."

- "Nelson, Otto"

- "Nelson, Otto, Zerwas, Hinojosa, Eltife, Patrick, Straus, Simmons, Zerwas, Darby"

- "Jimmie Don Aycock"

- "Eltife, Otto, Pickett, White, Seliger, Nichols, Darby, Smithee, Zerwas, Turner, E. Johnson, and Larson"

- "Eltife, Otto, Sarah Davis, J.D. Sheffield"

And who makes the worst list?

- "Donna Campbell, Jonathan Stickland, Matt Schafer"

- "Hall, Huffines, Molly White, Burton"

- "Huffines"

- "Stickland, and some other guys but I didn't learn their names."

- "Biggest negative impact on the state: Dan Patrick (earnest, straight-face proposal to change the accounting rules to Enron style bookkeeping)"

- "Don Huffines, Jonathan Stickland, Matt Rinaldi, Molly White"

- "Huffines"

- "Bonnen, Patrick, Nelson, Eltife, Otto, Gonzales, Straus, Hunter"

- "Dan Patrick, Van Taylor, Charles Perry"

- "Pass. It's always been a silly exercise when TM does it and it's silly here."

- "Joe Straus, John Otto, John Zerwas, Sylvester Turner"

- "No one"

- "Four Price"

- "Whitmire"

- "Bell; E. Johnson; Klick; Leach; Riddle; Rinaldi; Stickland; E.S. Turner; Zedler; Estes; Huffines; Huffman; V. Taylor"

- "I'm gonna go out on a limb and say Jonathan Stickland."

- "Konni Burton, Donna Campbell, Bob Hall, Jeff Leach, Jonathan Stickland (pretty much anyone from the 'out of touch with reality' caucus)."

- "Estes, Larson, Deshotel"

- "Schwertner"

- "Stickland"

- "Kolkhorst"

- "Sen. Hall, Sen. Huffines, Rep. Bell, Rep. Greg Bonnen, Rep. Phillips, Rep. Raymond, Rep. Sanford, Rep. Schofield, Rep. Spitzer, Rep. Tinderholt"
- "Huffines. Lucio (Sen.)"
- "Huffines, Schwertner, Y. Davis, TMF, Stickland, Hall, Schaefer, Watson"
- "Seriously, Stickland!"
- "Sen. Don Huffines, Rep Bill Zedler"
- "Campbell, Schwertner, Burrows, Canales, Hughes, Rinaldi, Schaefer, Simpson, Stickland, Tinderholt"
- "Stickland, S. Turner, Molly White, Campbell, Huffines, Hall, Lucio"
- "Stickland, Huffines (Congress called), Kolkhorst"
- "Stickland, Zedler"
- "Stickland, Rinaldi, Hall and Huffines."
- "Stickland, Rinaldi, Schaefer, Molly White, Tinderholt - in the House; Huffines, Hall, Huffman, Campbell, Lucio"
- "Stickland"
- "Debbie Riddle"
- "Patrick, Huffines, Stickland, Bonnen, Van Taylor, Schaefer"
- "Stickland: come on, dude, really, figure things out already; Schwertner (and staff): weenie of the session award for ignoring hospitals and in many cases refusing to even meet with them. Hey message to Chuckie, your job as the

chair of the committee is to work with and at a minimum listen to all involved in the healthcare process. Wait, I would give him LOSER OF THE SESSION AWARD! Sack him as chair!"

- "Campbell"
- "Jonathan Stickland, Trey Martinez Fisher, Poncho Nevárez, Dennis Bonnen, Dustin Burrows, Dawwna Dukes, Garnet Coleman"
- "Huffines Stickland, M. White"
- "Dennis Bonnen, for thinking a Happy Meal-size tax reduction was a good idea. What happened to sales tax reform broadened and really lowered. Also, anyone who runs as a conservative in the primary and grows squishy in Austin after winning."
- "Too many to make the list"
- "Larry Phillips"
- "Molly White"
- "Charles Schwertner, Donna Campbell, Don Huffines, Bob Hall, Lois Kolkhorst, Charles Perry, John Otto, Jonathan Stickland, Matt Rinaldi, Lt. Gov. Patrick"
- "Stickland, Huffines, White, Burton, TMF, Canales"
- "Schwertner, Stickland, M. White, Uresti"
- "Joe Straus, Byron Cook, Charlie Geren, Dennis Bonnen, Joan Huffman, and Sarah Davis"
- "Stickland"

- "So much mediocrity, so much mediocrity. Where does one start? The silliest? The stupidest? The most craven? The 'respectable' ones who hurt the state the most? I'll take a pass."
- "Senator Seliger, Senator Fraser, Rep Smithee, Rep Stickland, Rep. Molly White, Rep. Frullo, Rep. Tinderholt, Sen. Konni Burton, Sen. Huffines, Rep. Scott Turner"
- "Lucio, Campbell, Huffines, Bettencourt, Hall, Stickland, Rinaldi, Tinderholt, Dutton, Turner"
- "Mike Schofield"
- "Huffines , Taylor, Huffman, Campbell"
- "Stickland, Rinaldi, Schaefer, Sanford, Hall, Burton, Huffines, Huffman"
- "Lois, the clear winner for being against UT and A&M."
- "Larry Taylor, Huffines, Hall"
- "Don Huffines"
- "Dennis Bonnen, Worst Freshman Senate - Burton/Huffines/Hall"
- "Stickland"
- "Stickland, J."
- "Huffines, Taylor"
- "Stickland, Schaefer, Tinderholt, Burton, Huffines, Kolkhorst, Hall, Hughes, Rinaldi, Spitzer"
- "Matt Schaefer"
- "The usual suspects, Fraser, Huffines, Kolkhorst (the Queen), Schwertner (the King), Burton, and Bettencourt, D. Bonnen, Crownover (who admitted she didn't know anything about Health and worked very hard to prove it), Fletcher, Stickland, Krause, Leach, Molly White, Springer, Gutierrez, Herrero."
- "Burton, Huffines, Spitzer, Tinderholt, Krause"
- "Stickland, Huffines, Molly White, Burton"
- "Molly White, Jonathan Stickland, Byron Cook, Democrat Awards for Wasting Time: TMF, Kirk Watson"
- "See #3, supra."
- "Mike Schofield, Jonathan Stickland, Mary Gonzalez"
- "Mike Hailey"
- "Charles Schwertner, Don Huffines, Rinaldi"
- "Stickland"

Our thanks to this week's participants: Gene Acuna, Cathie Adams, Brandon Aghamalian, George Allen, Jay Arnold, Charles Bailey, Andrew Biar, Allen Blakemore, Tom Blanton, Chris Britton, Raif Calvert, Snapper Carr, Elna Christopher, Harold Cook, Kevin Cooper, Randy Cubriel, Curtis Culwell, Denise Davis, June Deadrick, Nora Del Bosque, Glenn Deshields, Tom Duffy, Jack Erskine, John Esparza, Jon Fisher, Tom Forbes, Bruce Gibson, Stephanie Gibson, Eric Glenn, Kinnan Golemon, John Greytok, Wayne Hamilton, Bill Hammond, Ken Hodges, Kathy Hutto, Deborah Ingersoll, Mark Jones, Robert Kepple, Richard Khouri, Tom Kleinworth, Sandy Kress, Nick Lampson, Pete Laney, James LeBas, Luke Legate, Vilma Luna, Matt Mackowiak, Steve Minick, Mike Moses, Gardner Pate, Robert Peeler, Tom Phillips, Allen Place, Gary Polland, Jay Pritchard, Jay Propes, Tim Reeves, Patrick Reinhart, David Reynolds, A.J. Rodriguez, Jeff Rotkoff, Grant Ruckel, Jason Sabo, Jim Sartwelle, Barbara Schlieff, Stan Schlueter, Bruce Scott, Robert Scott, Jason Skaggs, Ed Small, Martha Smiley, Larry Soward, Leonard Spearman, Dennis Speight, Colin Strother, Sherry Sylvester, Sara Tays, Jay Thompson, Trey Trainor, Vicki Truitt, David White, Darren Whitehurst, Seth Winick, Angelo Zottarelli.