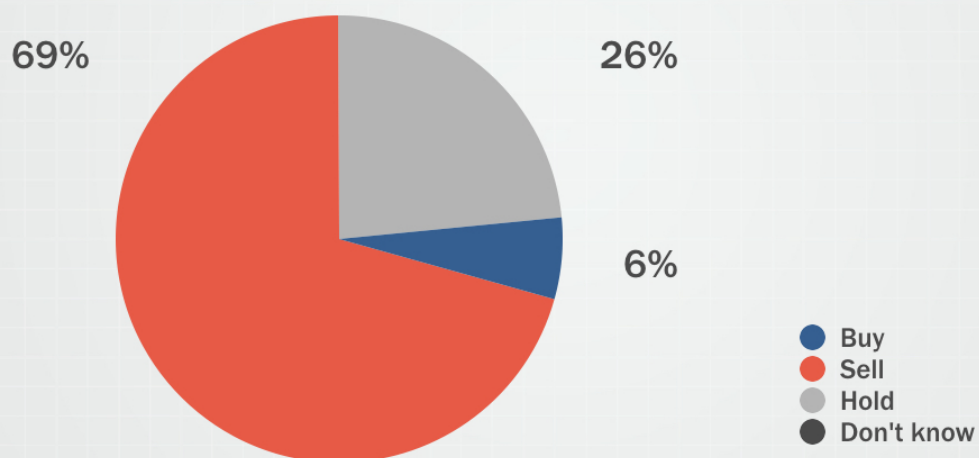


# “INSIDE” INTELLIGENCE

*The Texas Weekly/Texas Tribune insider poll  
for the week of 26 February 2016*

# INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

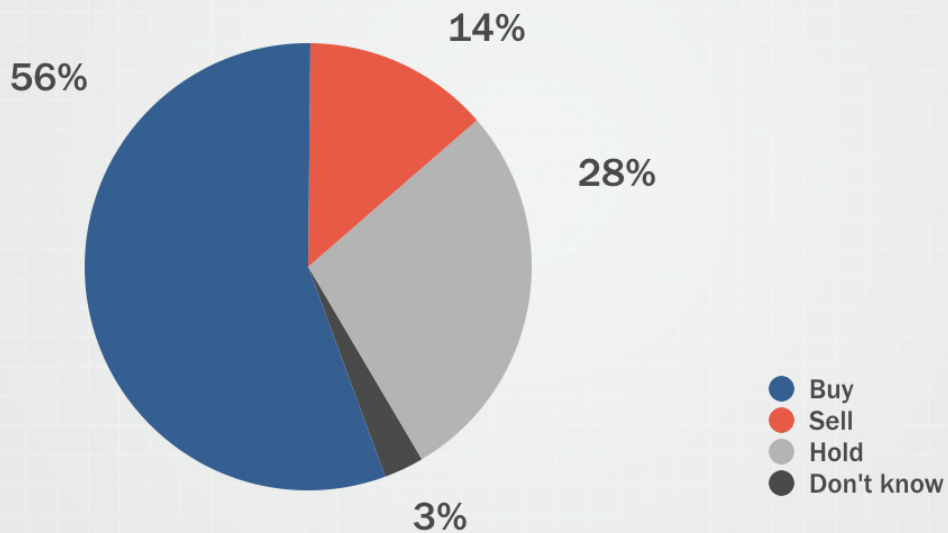
WHAT DO YOU DO THIS WEEK WITH YOUR  
STOCK IN TED CRUZ?



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# INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

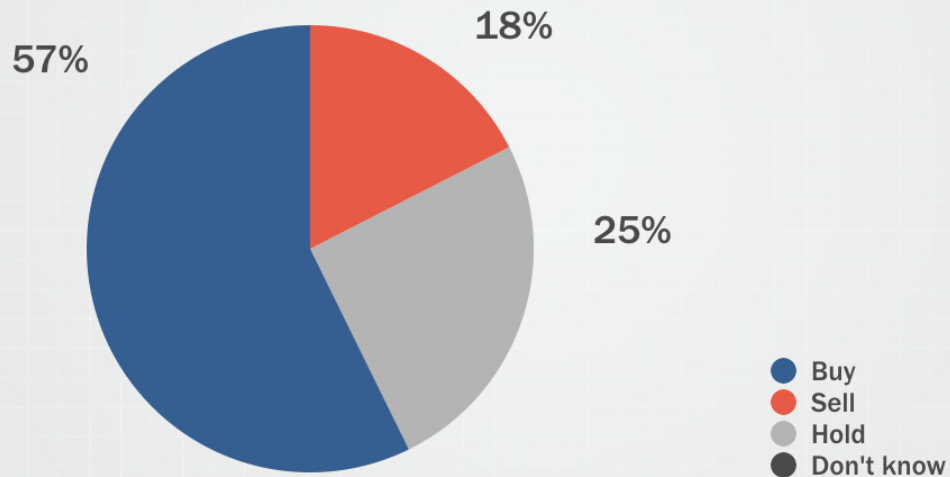
DONALD TRUMP?



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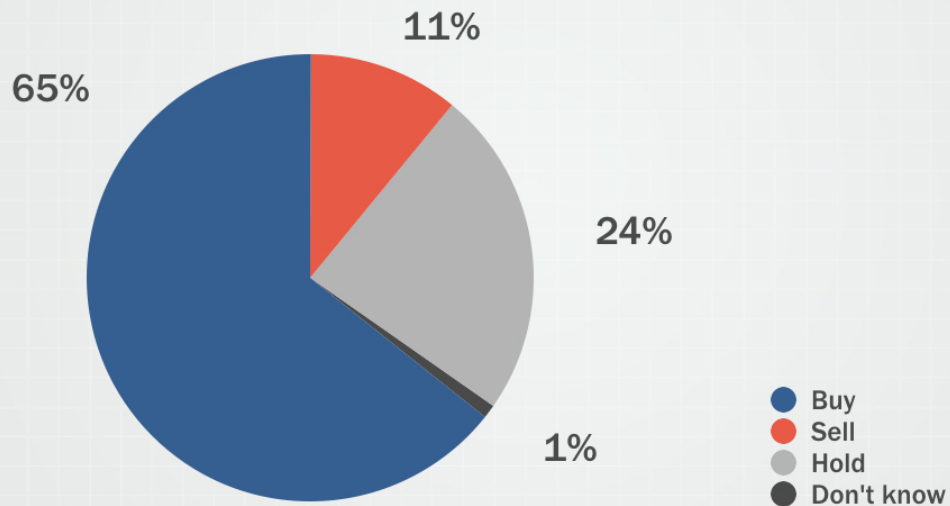
MARCO RUBIO?



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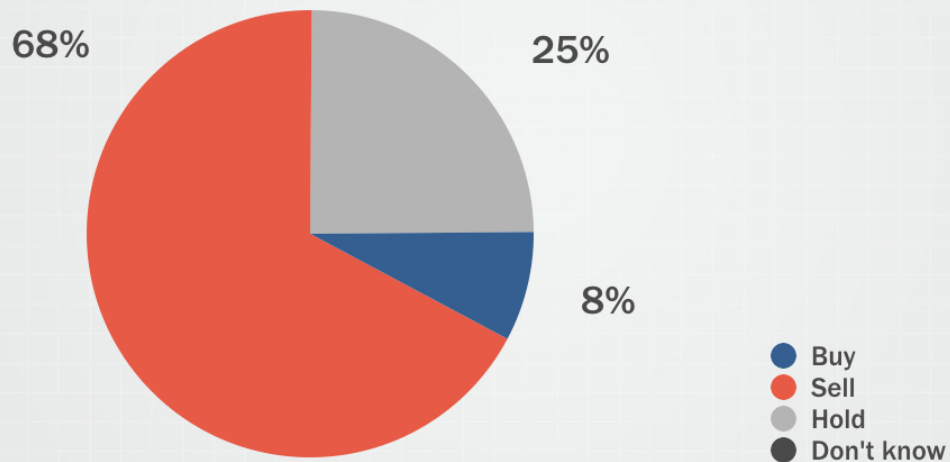
HILLARY CLINTON?



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# INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

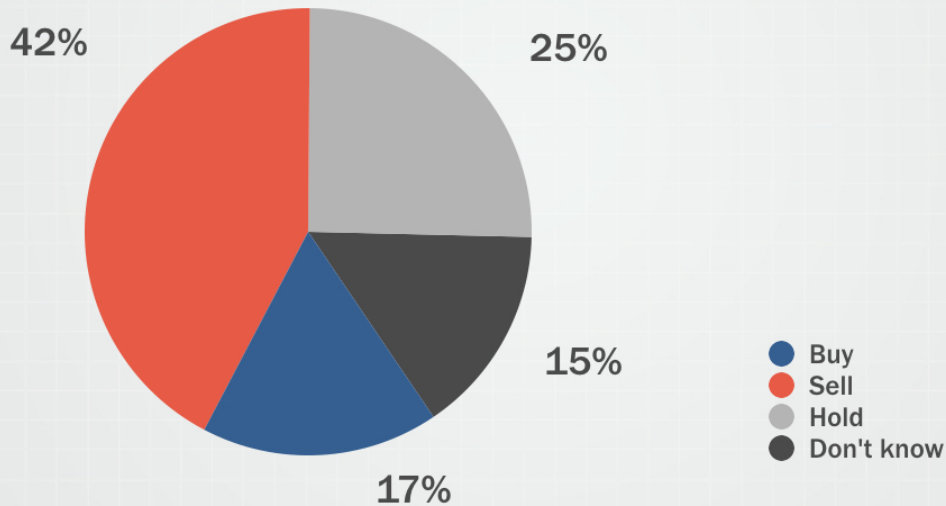
BERNIE SANDERS?



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# INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

## MICHAEL BLOOMBERG?



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### ***What do you do this week with your stock in Ted Cruz?***

- "Cruz is the next Ron Paul. He'll never get above a third, and even his friends don't like him."
- "He's had recent setbacks, but his chances of winning remain as strong as those of Trump and Rubio."
- "Guess Gov. Perry didn't have lot of impact."
- "No way he can win the nomination."
- "His early investment of time in the South and his home base of Texas should give him rise on Super Tuesday."
- "The late endorsements for Rubio won't work across the South- — as they did in S.C. The open primary was another factor that no one can know its impact for sure, but my guess is that they helped the Trumpster."
- "He has been tagged as a dirty trickster and he lost South Carolina that, with his supposed domination of evangelicals, he should've won. It's now hard to see how he wins this."
- "The low down sneaky, ok liar approach, is catching up with the campaign."

- "The dishonesty issue is a problem for Hillary Clinton and has become the same for Cruz."

- "Ben Carson is saving the Republic by staying in the race. Praise him for diverting votes from Rafael."

- "Never owned any."

- "He may frighten some and infuriate others, but he at least can string together a coherent response to a question, which is far more than Trump can do — assuming anyone is actually listening to him and cares."

- "If he can't win Texas, it's all over."

- "Depends on how well he does in Texas. If he scores a big win here, then it is a 2 person race and he can win a 2 person race if the choice is a sane person versus an insane person. He does not do as well against Rubio when voters can choose between Cruz and a person who is not condescending or prone to dirty tricks."

- "After coming in 3rd (THIRD!) in S.C., Ted's odds of securing the nominating is now slim to none. And slim just left the building. Pay no attention to the (excellent) Cruz spin machine, look at the numbers with your own eyes. Without the nomination, now what

### ***Donald Trump?***

- "Sigh. Buy."

- "Super Tuesday states have seen enough to know the difference between a bull and bull\*\*\*\*."

does Ted do? He hates the Senate and his colleagues don't care much for him. His future, while maybe not over, is not too bright at the moment. Sell."

- "Cruz is the supposed evangelical candidate. But could not win South Carolina — the evangelical state. He's toast."

- "He should do great in Texas, but I think nationally he peaked too soon."

- "Look at the chart — win Iowa, lose N.H., shock 3rd place in S.C."

- "He has no chance now for the nomination. He's been tarnished on the ethics issues. And should Trump and close get close to him in Texas or pass him his position (and Patrick's) could be weakened here at home for the future."

- "Aside from Texas and Canada, Cruz stock is headed toward Confederate currency value."

- "He's rounding first after focusing on a small ball (field, data) and hitting a single up the middle. But he's running into an inevitable squeeze play, trapped between Trump and Rubio."

- "Ted's true colors and tactics coming out..."

- "When it becomes a two-man race, Trump will lose."

- "When voters figure out that Hillary beats Trump, then his stocks will implode."

- "It is appalling that conservatives are supporting a truly non-conservative candidate."

- "I said from the beginning that Trump would do well. He was the first candidate to understand and reflect back the anger of the electorate. The nomination is his."

- "Never owned any."

- "Surely there are enough primary voters who will stop and just listen to him long enough to realize that he is not the answer — regardless of what the question may be."

- "Like it or not, here he comes."

- "It could happen. Get used to it."

- "At this point he is, sadly and unfortunately for reasonable, rational people, a virtual lock to secure the nomination. He's leading or within striking distance in pretty much every

### ***Marco Rubio?***

- "I hate to say it, but Rubio really is a big baby. A nice, but big, baby. Give him another two presidential cycles and we'll talk."

- "Still hasn't shown enough to be considered an endurance runner in this race. He may be done on Super Tuesday."

- "He is the only one who could stop Trump but needs the field to join him."

- "Best chance to be the alternative to Trump, and that candidate will win."

Super Tuesday state and those on the 15th (even Ohio!). Be like Trump--a winner, baby--and buy!!"

- "Trump's in it to win it."

- "Donald is incapable of melting down and has a motivated base. He's got it made."

- "He might win. But his win is the country's loss. Sell that mofo."

- "Close to the nomination."

- "Was he ever in a Twenty Mule Team Borax commercial? (Cryptic Reagan reference for you youngsters)"

- "Burn it and weep for Republican Party."

- "Keep waiting on him to explode... but seems to be Teflon Don."

- "He will be their nominee! YEAH"

- "All of these candidates have very little daylight between them with respect to policy positions. The biggest difference between Trump/ Cruz/ Rubio, etc. is their respective style or rhetoric. After 7 years of a President whose mission has been to divide America, Rubio offers a fresh alternative. "

- "He's met his highest potential. The whining won't carry him across the South."

- "His support will dissipate like 3 a.m. foam at a South Beach nightclub."
- "All in"
- "Wait and see if he can awaken those primary voters who are as concerned about winning in November and less concerned about purging the establishment in the primaries."
- "Too bad we can't place bets on him to place (as in win/place/show)."
- "He is the best of the 3 but there are still problems. He is not as sure of himself as he needs to be and he sweats too much."
- "He still has an outside shot of getting the nomination if certain folks will get out of the race so that the adults can coalesce around him. Even if he doesn't get the nod, he hasn't burned the Veep bridge. And even if he doesn't get the Veep nod, he can pursue a high-profile gig (talking head, RNC chair, etc.) to stay in the public's eye until the next go-round. Hold."
- "Rubio is the only one possible of building a coalition but GOP voters are not interested in coalitions right now."
- "With Ted's slow drop, now is the time to support Rubio. Please God, anybody but Trump."
- "Rising nicely, but does he have enough time?"
- "Why do the Floridians come across so bland and befuddled? Marco and Jeb seem so so-so."
- "Use it to wipe his crybaby tears."
- "Still not sure how he makes any waves with Kasich in the race..."
- "I just like the guy."

### ***Hillary Clinton?***

- "If the FBI and Justice Department were honest, I would sell; however, it is becoming clear that neither get past being corrupt."
- "She marches confidently on to victory."
- "Hillary returns to the White House."
- "The increase in minority voters on Super Tuesday should put an end to this quixotic, albeit fun to watch, campaign."
- "The fix is in; she will be the nominee unless the FBI bags her, which could happen."
- "A victory in Nevada, be it ever so heralded by the national media, is not necessarily an accurate predictor of momentum. To the surprise of no one, she continues to demonstrate the reasons people are so reluctant to embrace her."

- "She's apparently going to win the nomination, but she'll lose to any Republican in November."
- "The 'super' delegates win."
- "After the liberal, white, Democrat caucuses and primaries, it's all downhill for the Bern."
- "If Democratic voters don't deliver her, super delegates will."
- "All in"
- "How much does the current administration pursue her transgressions in order to further bolster the efforts of a real live Socialist?"
- "Inevitability works."
- "FBI wins this scrum..."
- "Sooner or later Bernie will realize the game was rigged from 'go.' The only thing that can stop her is the FBI's

### ***Bernie Sanders?***

- "He marches confidently on to glorious defeat, standing at the ramparts, taking the bullets, falling gallantly."
- "He's going down."
- "If he can survive March with any kind of momentum, he could well surge in the later primaries."
- "He's already won by pulling Hillary to the left."
- "He's not anointed. Hillary is."

investigation and possible DOJ prosecution."

- "Her lies are slowly catching up with her, and no amount of lawyering is going to cover her dirty tracks."
- "Hillary will be the nominee. It is rigged for her and there is nothing Sanders can do about it. That is the way the Democrats operate."
- "What other choice is there??"
- "Better position than before, but weaker than her folks portray."
- "Hillary needs to pick a strong running mate."
- "Not sure that 6,500 votes in Nevada constitutes a huge wave or endorsement of her candidacy in a state of 3 million people... we have more votes cast in most of our Texas House seats."
- "She will be the nominee."

• "Will kiddies on college campuses who have bought into the garbage about collectivism rather than freedom and capitalism actually vote? They might all be smoking pot, having sex and drinking instead."

- "Contrary to what the white, liberal, ultraleft want, there is no free lunch."
- "The world is burning. You can't run for president with no foreign policy."
- "I like his accent."

- "See above."
- "He's hit a nerve, but Hillary has a united Democratic Establishment behind her."
- "Old, white dude spewing resentment. Sell."
- "It's a hard buy, but if he puts in more effort with minorities he'll have a better chance at beating Clinton."
- "This is the make or break week for Bernie."
- "Bernie is delusional in both his economic theory and his politics. To

### ***Michael Bloomberg?***

- "Bloomberg has dropped the ball. He needed to act decisively, much earlier. Even if he gets in now, he can't stop the general push that Trump is making. Going independent would be shot down by the GOP establishment. Get the fork... he's done before starting."
- "\$1 Billion of his own money may make even Trump blanch."
- "Whom-berg?"
- "Would seem to be getting pretty late for an independent run. He probably could have made a difference and mounted a serious bid had he jumped in earlier."
- "No chance in hell."
- "Who knows?!?! Clearly, none of the rules apply this cycle."

think that Socialism works and to think that he could beat the rigged Democrat process shows his mental instability. But he seems to be an honest guy."

- "Rising, but may not quite have enough."
- "Why do I always think he is channeling Eugene V. Debs?"
- "Cards seem stacked against him."
- "His stock is as high as it will EVER be."
- "Wild card, but won't be seriously considered this late."
- "Michael who? His political stock has value? Go work your fascist plan to rid us of evil guns, sugar and bad food and drinks. No, find a hobby other than telling us how dumb we are and how smart you are because you think you know what is best. What did Ferris Bueller say? Go away, YOUR movie is over."
- "There is no real need for him to enter the race. In a Trump-Clinton match-up, business will find a friend in Clinton."
- "Wait, is he in? Buy the best and dump the rest."
- "Bloomberg vs. Trump?? God help us."
- "Wouldn't that be fun?"

- "Fire your adviser for buying Bloomberg stock in the first place. He cannot realistically make a third party run. He cannot get on the ballot in several states."
- "Who? Why is he being considered??? We already have a white rich billionaire in the race."
- "Bloomberg is too late to the game."
- "Don't buy."
- "Too late to get in the game. Money and all."
- "If it is Trump as the R, I would vote for Bloomberg."
- "Unless it's Trump/Sanders this is a non-starter."
- "I am not sure he is eligible to be President. Wasn't he born in a Swiss Bank?"
- "Potential spoiler..."
- "He will support Hillary as long as she is the nominee."

***Our thanks to this week's participants:*** Gene Acuna, Cathie Adams, Brandon Aghamalian, Jennifer Ahrens, Clyde Alexander, Jay Arnold, Dave Beckwith, Andrew Biar, Tom Blanton, Blaine Bull, Raif Calvert, Lydia Camarillo, Kerry Cammack, Elna Christopher, Kevin Cooper, Randy Cubriel, Beth Cubriel, Curtis Culwell, Denise Davis, June Deadrick, Nora Del Bosque, Holly DeShields, Glenn Deshields, Tom Duffy, Anne Dunkelberg, David Dunn, Richard Dyer, Jack Erskine, Tom Forbes, Dominic Giarratani, Bruce Gibson, Stephanie Gibson, Eric Glenn, Kinnan Golemon, Daniel Gonzalez, Clint Hackney, Wayne Hamilton, Bill Hammond, Susan Hays, Steve Holzheuser, Deborah Ingersoll, Mark Jones, Walt Jordan, Robert Kepple, Richard Khouri, Tom Kleinworth, Sandy Kress, Dale Laine, Nick Lampson, Pete Laney, Dick Lavine, James LeBas, Luke Legate, Myra Leo, Ruben Longoria, Matt Mackowiak, Jason McElvaney, Steve Minick, Bee Moorhead, Mike Moses, Nelson Nease, Gardner Pate, Robert Peeler, Jerry Philips, Tom Phillips, Wayne Pierce, Richard Pineda, Allen Place, Gary Polland, Jay Pritchard, Ted Melina Raab, Patrick Reinhart, David Reynolds, Carl Richie, A.J. Rodriguez, Jeff Rotkoff, Grant Ruckel, Tyler Ruud, Andy Sansom, Barbara Schlieff, Robert Scott, Bruce Scott, Steve Scurlock, Ben Seebree, Christopher Shields, Jason Skaggs, Ed Small, Martha Smiley, Mark Smith, Larry Soward, Leonard Spearman, Dennis Speight, Tom Spilman, Colin Strother, Sherry Sylvester, Jay Thompson, Trey Trainor, Vicki Truitt, Corbin Van Arsdale, Ware Wendell, David White, Darren Whitehurst, Seth Winick, Peck Young, Angelo Zottarelli.