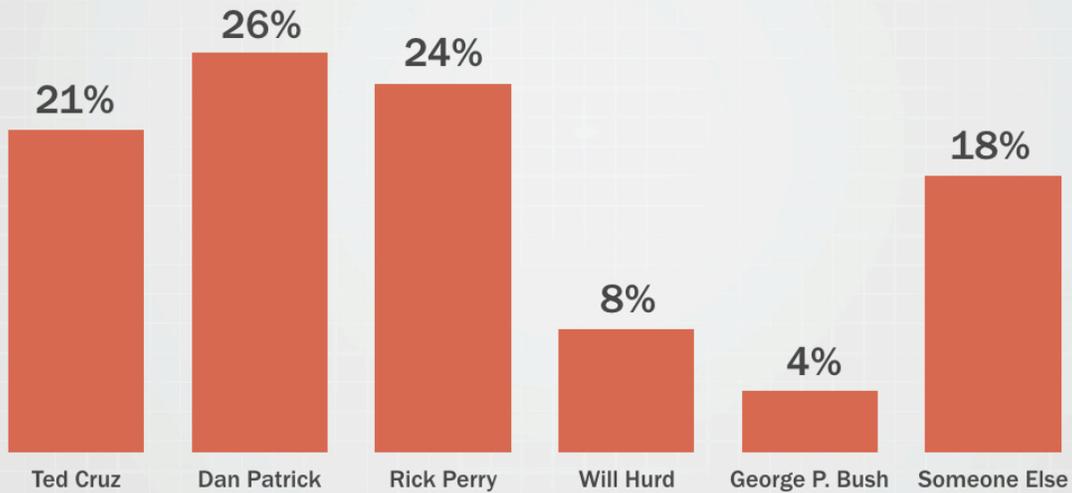


# “INSIDE” INTELLIGENCE

*The Texas Weekly/Texas Tribune insider poll  
for the week of 22 July 2016*

# INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

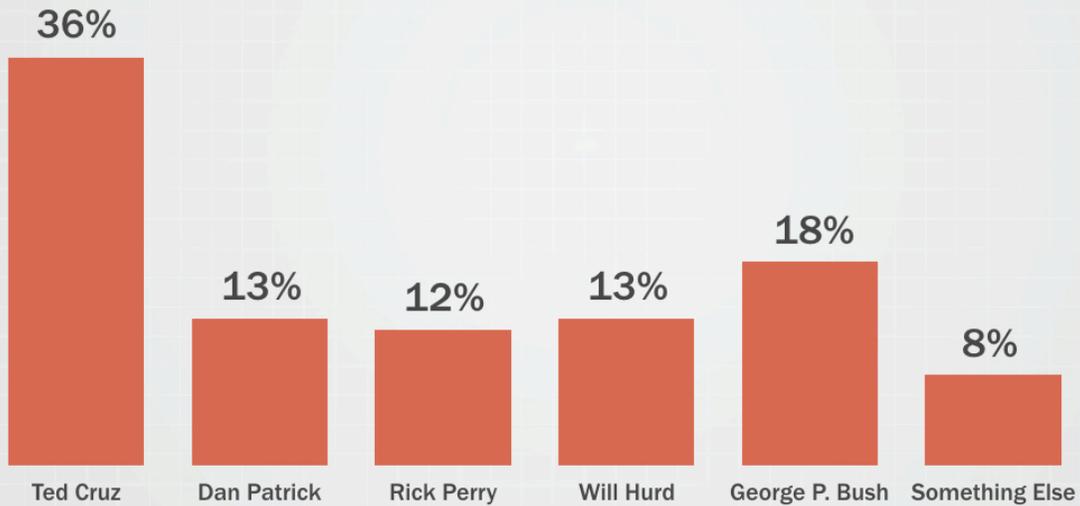
Who stands to gain the most from his time in Cleveland this week at the Republican National Convention?



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

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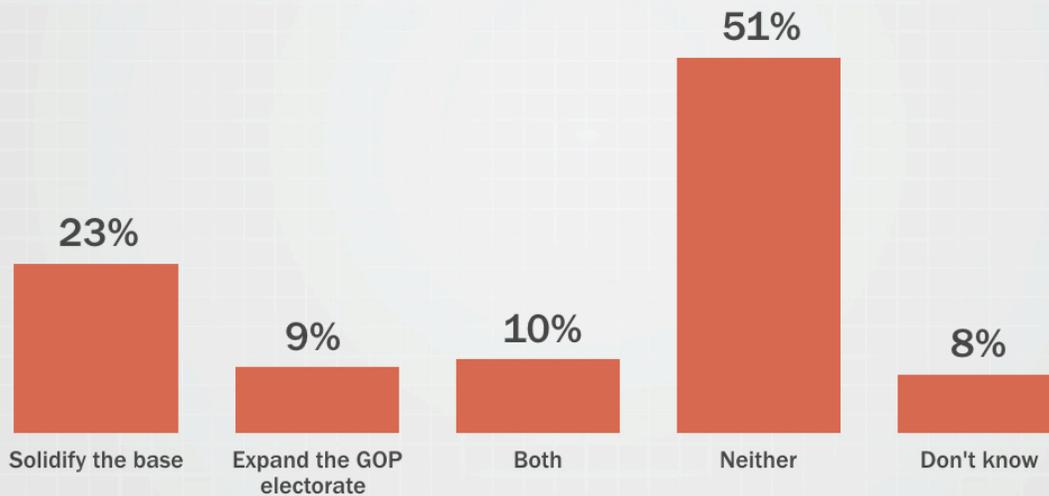
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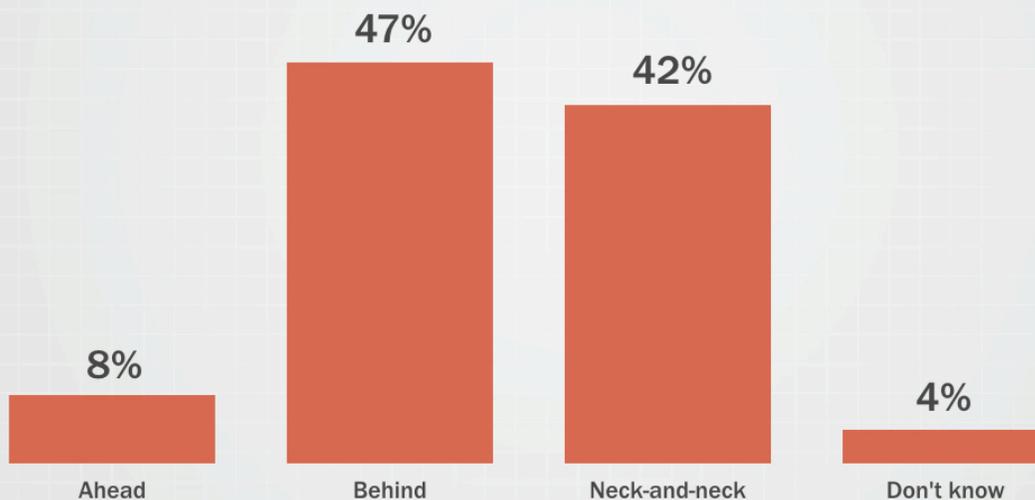
What effect will the GOP national convention have on the election?



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# INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

How will Donald Trump stand competitively with Hillary Clinton after the two conventions are over?



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## ***Who stands to gain the most from his time in Cleveland this week at the Republican National Convention?***

- "Patrick is on a roll! He is bold when others are MIA. Week after week, Patrick makes the news and drives the narrative."
- "Donald Trump. All those people who couldn't bear to be in the same room with him are jumping on the bandwagon."
- "As the presiding officer of a legislative body/chamber, Patrick is in a position to tap into the mistrust and anger of the GOP and do something about it (setting the agenda and moving bills)."
- "The only one who is going to stand out at the convention is Trump."
- "There's a rumor that there might be a role for Perry in a Trump administration. Of course, it could be that Perry started the rumor..."
- "Filled up his piggy bank, all the way full."

- "Uhhh, Trump? I mean, he is expected to get the nomination and all."
- "Next up if things go south in November."
- "Back from the dead. Loyal to Trump now, he'll be rewarded if Trump wins."
- "Perry is begging for a job. How humiliating. Abbott lucky to not be there."
- "But only from a contractual standpoint."
- "Perry is angling for a job — any job — in a Trump administration. He's

dutifully saying the exact opposite about Trump that he said previously."

- "Who cares about Rick Perry anymore?"
- "I picked Will Hurd ... who with some national exposure might just tap into some additional support in a very tough race."
- "None of the above."
- "Perry looks better and better."
- "Michael McCaul"

### ***Who stands to lose the most from his time in Cleveland this week at the Republican National Convention?***

- "His childish, sore loser behavior is on full display. He lost. Get over it and get on board to help defeat Hillary. Oh, and supporting Trump is the ONLY way to do that."
- "No Texan."
- "His presence will be seen (correctly) as pandering to a GOP aberration. He should stick with the free trade, internationalist, tradition of his family and party. That will come back into favor in time for him to get elected to something else."
- "He already has lost — he just doesn't seem to know it. Sycophants in Cruz cult are diminishing everyday. If he couldn't beat Trump, who could he beat?"
- "Maybe Straus due to the fact that he leads in an ultra-conservative state."

- "You only get one shot to kill the king. After that, your head gets lopped off!"
- "We all winced at Cruz's weakness as his supporters put a negative exclamation mark on his presidential campaign that now ends on a whimper."
- "It's over, relegated to a non-prime time introduction only."
- "Depends on how Cruz handles himself. If loyal, he'll move ahead a lot. If disloyal, he'll be badly hurt. There are a dozen folks who are serving as loyal soldiers who will be fine if Trump loses. But a sore loser will go nowhere."
- "I don't know what Bush is doing there. His father is totally off the reservation, and Bush is there in some never-never land."

- "Who cares about Rick Perry anymore?"

- "Will be interesting to watch how Senator Cruz plays this opportunity."

### ***What effect will the GOP national convention have on the election?***

- "It's all about beating Hillary."

- "Right now, very hard to say. Seems polarizing to me."

- "The over-50, white men (along with their fellow travelers) are being herding like lemmings onto the sinking ship that will continue to rack up solid majorities in Appalachia, Alabama, Mississippi and West Texas. The rest of the country will continue that strange phenomenon called 'evolution.'"

- "It'll bring the party closer together, but it's not a rock-solid party unified against Hillary. Still, it's better than it was a month ago. Trump's rhetoric and personality turn off as many people as it attracts, so it's hard to see it expanding the GOP electorate, notwithstanding the 40 percent new/first-time GOP primary voters in March (in Texas)."

- "Solidify the Trump base and make the down-ballot folks work extra hard."

### ***How will Donald Trump stand competitively with Hillary Clinton after the two conventions are over?***

- "I pray behind — he's not a leader and doesn't know how to get out of his own way to make things happen. I'm hoping the electorate votes, and votes with Hill!"

- "DP has the ability to provide leadership. However, he will fail."

- "Too early to tell."

- "Melania for president?"

- "It could be all of the above or none."

- "Conventions are a joke. With Trump the clown at the top of the ticket, I guess it fits."

- "Helps Hillary."

- "Still time for a miracle (this written on Monday afternoon), but with Trump denying votes to dissidents, and the campaign chairman dissing the popular Ohio governor, it's difficult to see how even a smooth show will help."

- "Who the heck knows? The Republicans have done an awesome job of snatching likely defeat from the jaws of virtually certain victory."

- "This election is over... done... finito!"

- "The country is deeply polarized. Hillary must recreate Obama's coalition. Donald Trump's narrow path can be widened through outside events. Terrorist attacks and assassins' bullets only feed his 'law and order' narrative. Think '68."

- "Seems to me that Trump could win the election before he leaves Cleveland if he delivers the right message in the right way. He won't do that, of course, but if he were calmly to deliver an upbeat message of competence, confidence and toughness, and do it without going overboard disrespecting Clinton he could walk away with the election in his pocket. Again, that ain't fixin' to happen."
- "Too early to tell."
- "Any Democrat but Hillary could win a 50-state blowout against Trump. To call his racist, Luddite appeal a clown car campaign would be an insult to clowns."
- "Hey it's a battle between who the voters dislike the least."
- "She is the weakest major party candidate in a couple of generations. Any of a dozen in the GOP field could have beaten her easily — but Trump is struggling."
- "It depends which Donald shows up; if he stays on script, and perhaps more importantly, how many more terrorist events we see over the next few months."
- "President Clinton thanks Trump for destroying the Republican Party."
- "Remember the song 'Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer,' the line about she had Claus tracks on her back, Clinton is going to wake up and have Trump tracks on her back when it's over. She'll look up asking where the hell did those come from because she won't realize she imploded after her implosion. Sing it with me kids, 'Hillary got run over by a Trump truck, runnin' hard for president... you may say there's no such thing as president Trump, but as for me and the majority, we agree.'"

***Our thanks to this week's participants:*** Gene Acuna, Jay Arnold, Dave Beckwith, Andrew Biar, Allen Blakemore, Tom Blanton, Chris Britton, Raif Calvert, Lydia Camarillo, Kerry Cammack, Elna Christopher, Kevin Cooper, Randy Cubriel, Curtis Culwell, Denise Davis, Glenn Deshields, Tom Duffy, David Dunn, Jon Fisher, Tom Forbes, Dominic Giarratani, Bruce Gibson, Kinnan Golemon, Daniel Gonzalez, Clint Hackney, Wayne Hamilton, Bill Hammond, Susan Hays, Kathy Hutto, Deborah Ingersoll, Mark Jones, Robert Kepple, Richard Khouri, Tom Kleinworth, Ramey Ko, Sandy Kress, Dale Laine, Nick Lampson, Pete Laney, Luke Legate, Myra Leo, Ruben Longoria, Vilma Luna, Jason McElvaney, Steve Minick, Bee Moorhead, Mike Moses, Nelson Nease, Todd Olsen, Gardner Pate, Robert Peeler, Jerry Philips, Tom Phillips, Wayne Pierce, Allen Place, Gary Polland, Tim Reeves, Patrick Reinhart, David Reynolds, Carl Richie, Grant Ruckel, Andy Sansom, Barbara Schlieff, Stan Schlueter, Robert Scott, Steve Scurlock, Ben Sebree, Christopher Shields, Ed Small, Larry Soward, Dennis Speight, Sherry Sylvester, Sara Tays, Trey Trainor, Corbin Van Arsdale, Ware Wendell, David White, Michael Williams, Peck Young, Angelo Zottarelli.