

Hotline Presidential Update

Top Hotline Presidential Campaign
Stories of the Month

March 25, 2016

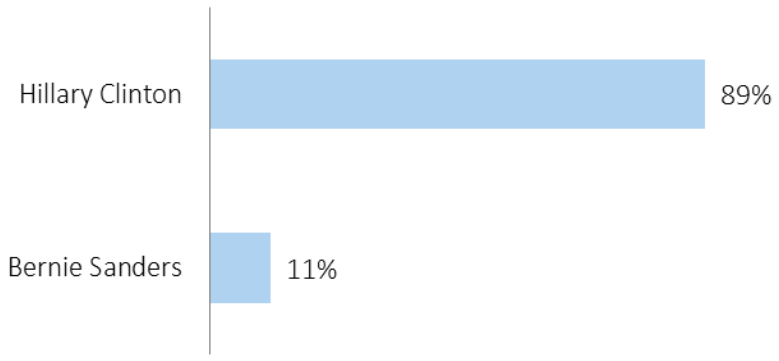
Producer: Owen Minott Jr.
Edited by: Katharine Conlon
Director: Afzal Bari

Clinton Fares Better Among African Americans in the South Than in the Mid-West

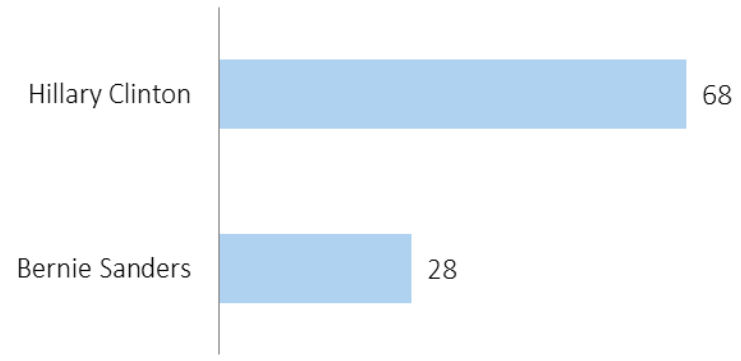
Based on headlines from National Journal's Hotline

Percent of the Black Vote

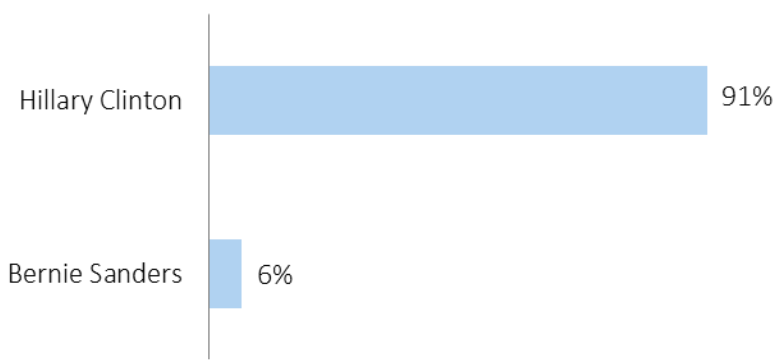
Mississippi



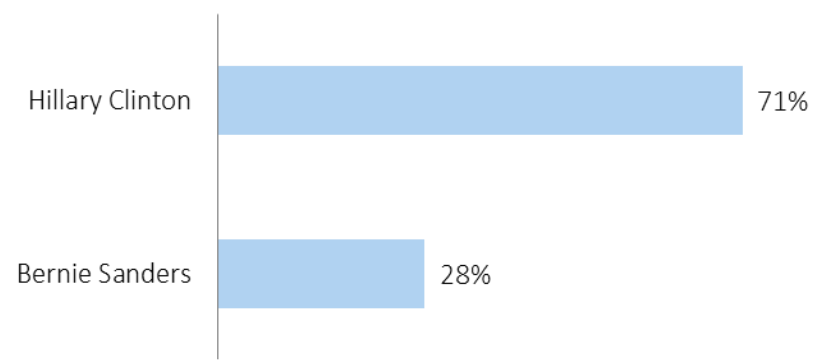
Michigan



Alabama



Ohio



Sources: Ally Mutnick, "Clinton Struggles With Black Voters in Midwest," National Journal, March 22, 2016; Victoria Massie, "Why Did Bernie Sanders Do Better with Black Voters in the Midwest? We Asked 4 Experts," Vox, March 21, 2016.

Gov. Gary Johnson (L)



Biography

Current: Honorary Chairman, Our America Initiative

Education: University of New Mexico, B.S., 1975

Religion: Lutheran

Libertarian Candidacy for President

In a normal election year, Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson would garner very little attention and support, like most third candidates do. However, with the GOP establishment at odds with their own frontrunner, some are starting to speculate whether Republican party leaders are starting to look for their own ‘Naderian’ spoiler candidate to prevent real estate mogul Donald Trump (R) from winning the presidency. It’s unlikely that Republican elites would ever rally round someone like Johnson, but as a firewall to prevent Mr. Trump from taking over the Oval Office, the Libertarian Party nominee — whom they disagree with on many subjects — may be their best shot.

Previous Experience

- Governor of New Mexico, 1995-2003
- President and Co-Founder, Big J Enterprises. 1976-1999

Major Milestones

- Climbed to the summit of Mt. Everest 2003
- Publishes Book: Seven Principles of Good Government: Gary Johnson on Politics, People and Freedom 2010

Stance on Issues

- Supports expansion of free trade
- Opposes Obamacare
- Strongly favors gun rights
- Supports privatization of Social Security
- Strongly favors same-sex marriage, abortion rights and the legalization of cannabis

Election Results

| 2012 General | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Barack Obama (D) | Votes: 65,899,660 | Percent: 51.3% |
| Mitt Romney (R) | Votes: 60,932,152 | Percent: 47.4% |
| Gary Johnson (L) | Votes: 1,275,804 | Percent: 1% |

Based on headlines from National Journal's Hotline

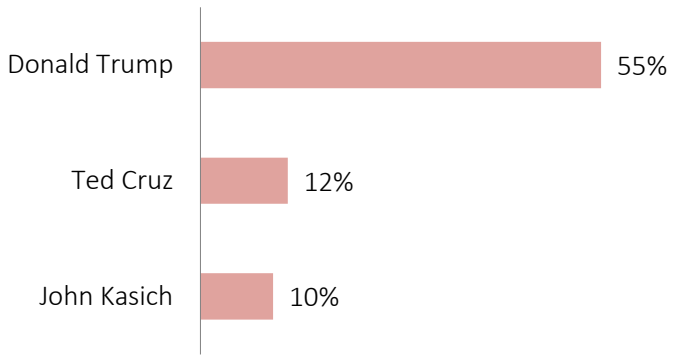
Sources: National Journal Research, 2016; LinkedIn, 2016; Fox News, 2016; Zach Montellar, "Johnson's Libertarian Party Preps for Battle as Third Party," National Journal, March 23, 2016.

Trump, Clinton Have Huge Leads in New York and California

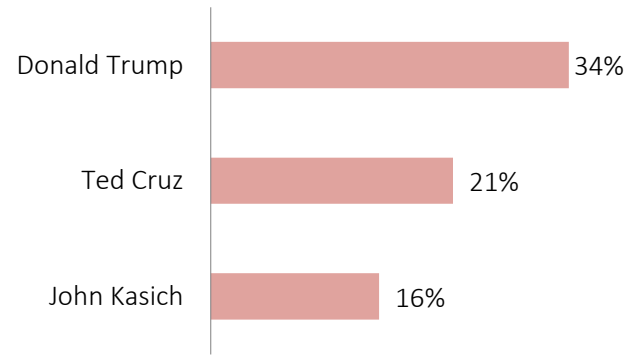
Based on headlines from National Journal's Hotline

Polling in Remaining States With the Most Delegates

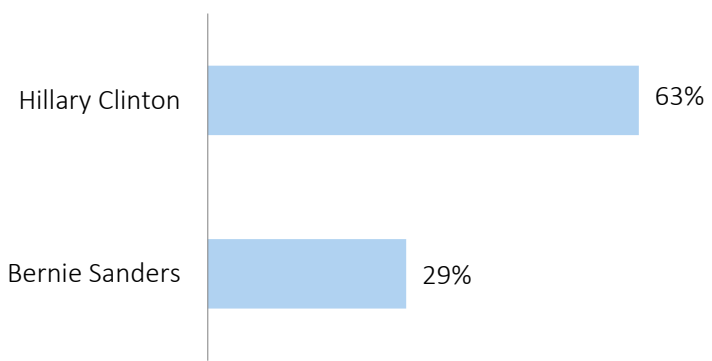
New York (GOP)



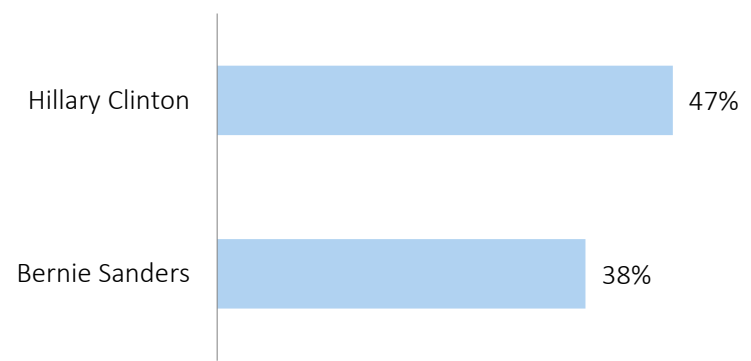
California (GOP)



New York (Democrats)



California (Democrats)



Sources: Zach Montellarp, "Obama Telling Donors That it's Time to Back Clinton," National Journal, March 18, 2016; RealClearpolitics, 2016.

With Rubio Out, Cruz Surges to the Lead in the Endorsements Race

Trump and Cruz Endorsements

Based on headlines from National Journal's Hotline



Donald Trump:

- For most of the campaign Trump had no congressional or gubernatorial endorsements, but recently he has picked up endorsements from **5 Representatives, a Senator and 3 Governors**.
- Key among his endorsements are those from **Governor Chris Christie (R-NJ)** and **Dr. Ben Carson**, both who dropped out of the race
- Trump also received an endorsement from **Ku Klux Klan member David Duke**, which he initially declined to reject but has since disavowed.

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Reps | 5 |
| Senators | 1 |
| Governors | 3 |
| Total | 9 |

Ted Cruz:

- With Rubio out of the race, **Ted Cruz has taken the lead in terms of endorsements**, despite the fact that much of the GOP establishment detests him.
- Former Presidential Candidate **Jeb Bush** recently endorsed Cruz.
- It is unclear how much endorsements help Cruz, with Trump positioning himself as the **anti-establishment candidate**.



| | |
|-----------|----|
| Reps | 28 |
| Senators | 2 |
| Governors | 3 |
| Total | 31 |

Sources: Ally Mutnick, "More Endorsements Roll In For Rubio," National Journal, February 29, 2016; National Journal, February, 2016.

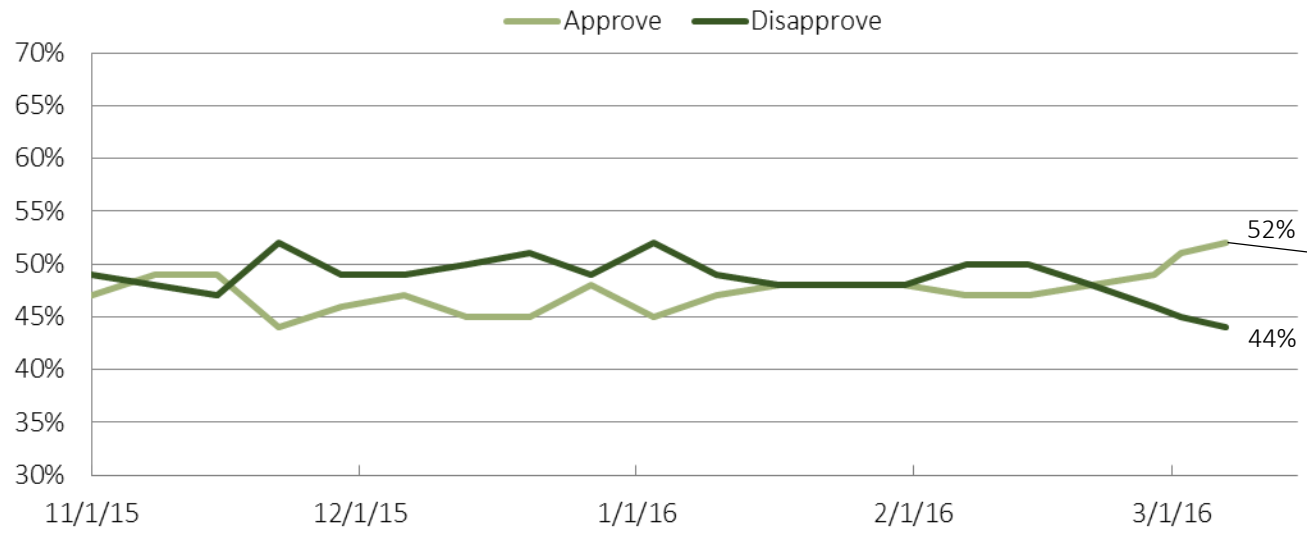
Obama Poised to Be an Active Campaigner for Democratic Nominee

Based on headlines from National Journal's Hotline

Obama's Plans to Campaign

- President Obama privately told a group of donors that Sanders' chances of winning the nomination were dying down and that the party must come together to back Clinton
- "Obama and his top aides have been strategizing about how they can reprise his successful 2008 and 2012 approaches to help elect a Democrat to replace him," to make sure real estate mogul Donald Trump (R) or Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX) can't roll back his legacy
- Obama is poised to be the most active sitting president on the campaign trail in decades; Obama will work to mobilize his coalition of racial minorities, young people and women while Vice President Biden is preparing to campaign heavily in the Rust Belt to appeal to the white, working-class voters who may be drawn to Trump

Obama's Approval Ratings

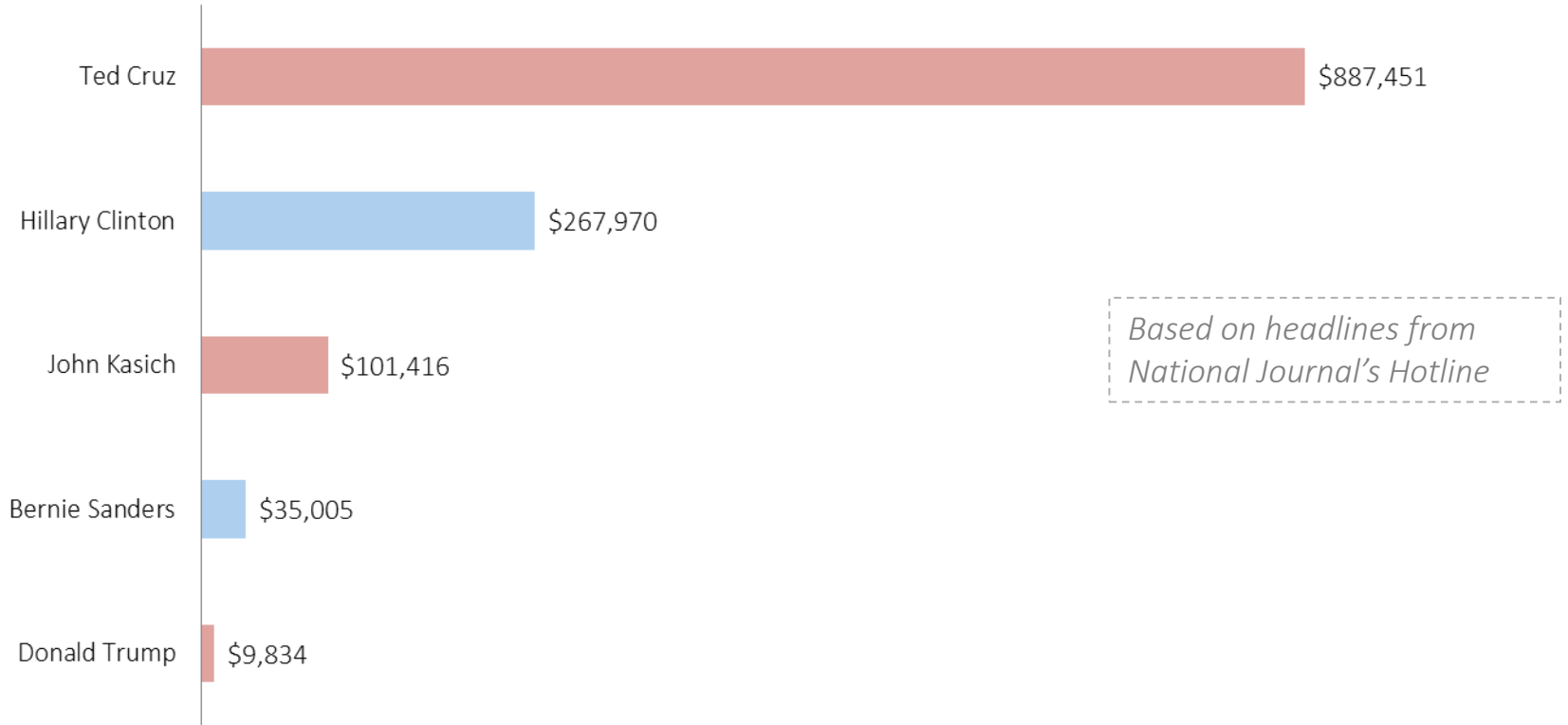


Obama's recent spike in popularity is likely to make him a more effective campaigner

Sources: Zach Montellaro, "Obama Telling Donors That it's Time to Back Clinton." National Journal, March 18, 2016; Gallup, March 9, 2016.

Cruz, Clinton Accepted Most Donations From Oil and Gas Industry

Amount the Campaigns Received in Donations From Oil and Gas Industry Employees



Sources: Ally Mutnick, "Cruz Leads Pack In Donations From Big Oil," National Journal, February 18, 2016; Center For Responsible Politics, February 2016.