



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Republicans hold leads in early TX Sen. matchups

Raleigh, N.C. – In what is so far a low-information race for U.S. Senate in Texas, the GOP continues to have an early lead in any of what amount to generic matchups between little-known Democrats and little-known Republicans in a red state.

David Dewhurst looks like the strongest option to hold the seat for Republicans at this point, and former Rep. Chet Edwards on the other side of the aisle, but that is mainly because they are the best-known from their respective parties. 60% of voters have an opinion of the three-term Lieutenant Governor, compared to 38% of former Edwards, 31% of each former Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert (R) and former Army Lt. General Ricardo Sanchez (D), and only 29% of former state Solicitor General Ted Cruz (R). For what the favorability ratings are worth with such low name recognition, Dewhurst is seen the best, with 28% favorable toward him and 32% unfavorable, followed by Sanchez at 13-18, Edwards at 16-22, Leppert at 10-21, and Cruz at 9-20.

Republicans have an eight-point identification advantage over Democrats in the Lone Star State, and the GOP candidates have leads of four to 15 points over their rivals. Dewhurst leads Edwards by eight (43-35), and Sanchez by 15 (47-32). Leppert tops Edwards by six (39-33), and Sanchez by nine (41-32). Cruz edges Edwards by four (37-33), and Sanchez by 11 (42-31).

34-40% of them are undecided, but independents are generally leaning slightly Democrats' way, except in the Dewhurst-Sanchez matchup. But on top of their identification advantage, the Republicans are generally doing a better job of winning crossover support from Democrats than the other way around.

“Republicans have the early advantage here as you would expect in a red state like Texas,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “None of the candidates are very well known yet though so it’s hard to say how the race will ultimately play out.”

PPP surveyed 569 Texas voters from September 15th to 18th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.1%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company, but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.





Texas Survey Results

Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Ted Cruz?

Favorable..... 9%
Unfavorable 20%
Not sure 71%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of David Dewhurst?

Favorable..... 28%
Unfavorable 32%
Not sure 40%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Chet Edwards?

Favorable..... 16%
Unfavorable 22%
Not sure 62%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Tom Leppert?

Favorable..... 10%
Unfavorable 21%
Not sure 68%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Ricardo Sanchez?

Favorable..... 13%
Unfavorable 18%
Not sure 69%

Q6 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Republican Ted Cruz and Democrat Chet Edwards, who would you vote for?

Ted Cruz 37%
Chet Edwards 33%
Undecided..... 30%

Q7 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Republican Ted Cruz and Democrat Ricardo Sanchez, who would you vote for?

Ted Cruz 42%
Ricardo Sanchez..... 31%
Undecided..... 27%

Q8 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Republican David Dewhurst and Democrat Chet Edwards, who would you vote for?

David Dewhurst 43%
Chet Edwards 35%
Undecided..... 22%

Q9 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Republican David Dewhurst and Democrat Ricardo Sanchez, who would you vote for?

David Dewhurst 47%
Ricardo Sanchez..... 32%
Undecided..... 22%

Q10 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Republican Tom Leppert and Democrat Chet Edwards, who would you vote for?

Tom Leppert..... 39%
Chet Edwards 33%
Undecided..... 28%

Q11 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Republican Tom Leppert and Democrat Ricardo Sanchez, who would you vote for?

Tom Leppert..... 41%
Ricardo Sanchez..... 32%
Undecided..... 27%

Q12 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 50%
Barack Obama..... 42%
Someone else/Don't remember 8%





Q13 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

<i>Very liberal</i>	10%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i>	14%
<i>Moderate</i>	26%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i>	26%
<i>Very conservative</i>	23%

Q14 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

<i>Woman</i>	51%
<i>Man</i>	49%

Q15 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

<i>Democrat</i>	36%
<i>Republican</i>	44%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	20%

Q16 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

<i>Hispanic</i>	18%
<i>White</i>	64%
<i>African-American</i>	12%
<i>Other</i>	6%

Q17 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

<i>18 to 29</i>	10%
<i>30 to 45</i>	24%
<i>46 to 65</i>	43%
<i>Older than 65</i>	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Cruz Favorability				
Favorable	9%	9%	8%	15%
Unfavorable	20%	14%	29%	8%
Not sure	71%	77%	62%	77%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Dewhurst Favorability				
Favorable	28%	44%	11%	19%
Unfavorable	32%	17%	50%	26%
Not sure	40%	39%	38%	55%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Edwards Favorability				
Favorable	16%	11%	22%	9%
Unfavorable	22%	20%	28%	8%
Not sure	62%	68%	50%	82%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Leppert Favorability				
Favorable	10%	14%	8%	1%
Unfavorable	21%	12%	33%	17%
Not sure	68%	75%	59%	82%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Sanchez Favorability				
Favorable	13%	8%	19%	16%
Unfavorable	18%	16%	22%	12%
Not sure	69%	76%	59%	72%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Cruz/Edwards				
Ted Cruz	37%	60%	11%	25%
Chet Edwards	33%	11%	60%	27%
Undecided	30%	29%	29%	47%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Cruz/Sanchez				
Ted Cruz	42%	70%	10%	40%
Ricardo Sanchez	31%	4%	64%	21%
Undecided	27%	26%	26%	40%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Dewhurst/Edwards				
David Dewhurst	43%	73%	7%	45%
Chet Edwards	35%	8%	70%	25%
Undecided	22%	20%	23%	30%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Dewhurst/Sanchez				
David Dewhurst	47%	79%	8%	46%
Ricardo Sanchez	32%	5%	66%	24%
Undecided	22%	16%	26%	31%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Leppert/Edwards				
Tom Leppert	39%	65%	9%	28%
Chet Edwards	33%	5%	67%	28%
Undecided	28%	29%	24%	44%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Leppert/Sanchez				
Tom Leppert	41%	69%	9%	36%
Ricardo Sanchez	32%	4%	67%	25%
Undecided	27%	27%	24%	40%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cruz Favorability						
Favorable	9%	24%	13%	3%	8%	9%
Unfavorable	20%	21%	39%	22%	17%	8%
Not sure	71%	54%	48%	75%	75%	83%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Dewhurst Favorability						
Favorable	28%	18%	19%	15%	37%	44%
Unfavorable	32%	40%	44%	41%	23%	19%
Not sure	40%	42%	36%	44%	40%	37%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Edwards Favorability						
Favorable	16%	18%	27%	19%	13%	7%
Unfavorable	22%	23%	30%	24%	21%	18%
Not sure	62%	59%	42%	57%	66%	75%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Leppert Favorability						
Favorable	10%	12%	16%	9%	9%	10%
Unfavorable	21%	23%	32%	29%	18%	8%
Not sure	68%	65%	52%	61%	73%	83%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Sanchez Favorability						
Favorable	13%	25%	25%	17%	9%	3%
Unfavorable	18%	18%	25%	18%	20%	11%
Not sure	69%	57%	50%	66%	71%	85%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cruz/Edwards						
Ted Cruz	37%	20%	12%	19%	48%	66%
Chet Edwards	33%	56%	64%	49%	15%	6%
Undecided	30%	24%	24%	32%	37%	28%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cruz/Sanchez						
Ted Cruz	42%	18%	18%	20%	57%	76%
Ricardo Sanchez	31%	58%	57%	50%	11%	3%
Undecided	27%	24%	25%	29%	33%	21%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Dewhurst/Edwards						
David Dewhurst	43%	15%	15%	20%	61%	78%
Chet Edwards	35%	69%	66%	53%	13%	6%
Undecided	22%	16%	19%	27%	26%	15%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Dewhurst/Sanchez						
David Dewhurst	47%	10%	20%	22%	67%	83%
Ricardo Sanchez	32%	77%	59%	49%	9%	3%
Undecided	22%	13%	22%	29%	24%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Leppert/Edwards						
Tom Leppert	39%	14%	13%	19%	55%	69%
Chet Edwards	33%	66%	62%	52%	10%	6%
Undecided	28%	20%	25%	30%	35%	25%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Leppert/Sanchez						
Tom Leppert	41%	15%	15%	20%	59%	73%
Ricardo Sanchez	32%	67%	60%	50%	10%	4%
Undecided	27%	18%	25%	31%	31%	22%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cruz Favorability			
Favorable	9%	8%	11%
Unfavorable	20%	18%	22%
Not sure	71%	74%	67%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Dewhurst Favorability			
Favorable	28%	26%	31%
Unfavorable	32%	29%	34%
Not sure	40%	45%	35%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Edwards Favorability			
Favorable	16%	15%	17%
Unfavorable	22%	20%	25%
Not sure	62%	65%	58%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Leppert Favorability			
Favorable	10%	11%	10%
Unfavorable	21%	17%	25%
Not sure	68%	72%	65%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Sanchez Favorability			
Favorable	13%	12%	15%
Unfavorable	18%	13%	24%
Not sure	69%	75%	62%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cruz/Edwards			
Ted Cruz	37%	31%	43%
Chet Edwards	33%	35%	31%
Undecided	30%	35%	26%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cruz/Sanchez			
Ted Cruz	42%	40%	45%
Ricardo Sanchez	31%	29%	32%
Undecided	27%	31%	23%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Dewhurst/Edwards			
David Dewhurst	43%	40%	47%
Chet Edwards	35%	36%	34%
Undecided	22%	24%	19%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Dewhurst/Sanchez			
David Dewhurst	47%	44%	49%
Ricardo Sanchez	32%	31%	33%
Undecided	22%	25%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Leppert/Edwards			
Tom Leppert	39%	36%	42%
Chet Edwards	33%	33%	34%
Undecided	28%	31%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Leppert/Sanchez			
Tom Leppert	41%	38%	44%
Ricardo Sanchez	32%	30%	34%
Undecided	27%	31%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cruz Favorability				
Favorable	9%	12%	9%	5%
Unfavorable	20%	28%	13%	20%
Not sure	71%	60%	78%	75%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Dewhurst Favorability				
Favorable	28%	14%	42%	23%
Unfavorable	32%	45%	16%	41%
Not sure	40%	40%	42%	36%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Edwards Favorability				
Favorable	16%	20%	11%	19%
Unfavorable	22%	25%	20%	24%
Not sure	62%	56%	69%	57%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Leppert Favorability				
Favorable	10%	10%	11%	10%
Unfavorable	21%	27%	12%	32%
Not sure	68%	64%	77%	58%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Sanchez Favorability				
Favorable	13%	20%	6%	17%
Unfavorable	18%	18%	18%	19%
Not sure	69%	62%	76%	64%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cruz/Edwards				
Ted Cruz	37%	13%	59%	30%
Chet Edwards	33%	62%	10%	30%
Undecided	30%	25%	31%	40%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cruz/Sanchez				
Ted Cruz	42%	14%	71%	31%
Ricardo Sanchez	31%	62%	4%	33%
Undecided	27%	24%	26%	36%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Dewhurst/Edwards				
David Dewhurst	43%	11%	75%	32%
Chet Edwards	35%	73%	5%	32%
Undecided	22%	15%	20%	36%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Dewhurst/Sanchez				
David Dewhurst	47%	12%	80%	36%
Ricardo Sanchez	32%	67%	4%	30%
Undecided	22%	21%	16%	34%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Leppert/Edwards				
Tom Leppert	39%	10%	68%	27%
Chet Edwards	33%	71%	3%	29%
Undecided	28%	19%	28%	44%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Leppert/Sanchez				
Tom Leppert	41%	12%	71%	29%
Ricardo Sanchez	32%	66%	4%	32%
Undecided	27%	22%	25%	40%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Cruz Favorability					
Favorable	9%	15%	8%	10%	3%
Unfavorable	20%	24%	15%	33%	30%
Not sure	71%	61%	77%	58%	67%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Dewhurst Favorability					
Favorable	28%	18%	35%	15%	13%
Unfavorable	32%	33%	26%	43%	64%
Not sure	40%	49%	39%	42%	23%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Edwards Favorability					
Favorable	16%	11%	16%	15%	24%
Unfavorable	22%	27%	18%	33%	40%
Not sure	62%	62%	66%	52%	37%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Leppert Favorability					
Favorable	10%	2%	13%	14%	3%
Unfavorable	21%	31%	15%	26%	41%
Not sure	68%	67%	72%	60%	57%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Sanchez Favorability					
Favorable	13%	24%	10%	19%	8%
Unfavorable	18%	20%	15%	21%	43%
Not sure	69%	57%	76%	60%	48%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Cruz/Edwards					
Ted Cruz	37%	30%	43%	19%	22%
Chet Edwards	33%	43%	25%	55%	43%
Undecided	30%	27%	32%	26%	35%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Cruz/Sanchez					
Ted Cruz	42%	33%	53%	11%	14%
Ricardo Sanchez	31%	49%	18%	59%	48%
Undecided	27%	18%	28%	30%	38%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Dewhurst/Edwards					
David Dewhurst	43%	27%	57%	12%	11%
Chet Edwards	35%	54%	23%	66%	46%
Undecided	22%	20%	20%	22%	43%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Dewhurst/Sanchez					
David Dewhurst	47%	23%	62%	14%	19%
Ricardo Sanchez	32%	58%	19%	57%	35%
Undecided	22%	19%	19%	29%	46%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Leppert/Edwards					
Tom Leppert	39%	27%	49%	14%	17%
Chet Edwards	33%	49%	22%	65%	43%
Undecided	28%	24%	30%	20%	39%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Leppert/Sanchez					
Tom Leppert	41%	23%	53%	14%	26%
Ricardo Sanchez	32%	58%	19%	61%	39%
Undecided	27%	19%	28%	25%	36%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cruz Favorability					
Favorable	9%	10%	14%	8%	7%
Unfavorable	20%	20%	20%	22%	16%
Not sure	71%	70%	66%	70%	77%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Dewhurst Favorability					
Favorable	28%	20%	28%	27%	34%
Unfavorable	32%	37%	27%	37%	25%
Not sure	40%	43%	45%	36%	41%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Edwards Favorability					
Favorable	16%	7%	23%	14%	15%
Unfavorable	22%	21%	21%	24%	21%
Not sure	62%	72%	56%	62%	64%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Leppert Favorability					
Favorable	10%	7%	10%	13%	8%
Unfavorable	21%	17%	23%	23%	18%
Not sure	68%	77%	68%	64%	74%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Sanchez Favorability					
Favorable	13%	13%	8%	15%	15%
Unfavorable	18%	13%	20%	18%	18%
Not sure	69%	73%	72%	67%	66%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cruz/Edwards					
Ted Cruz	37%	43%	35%	34%	41%
Chet Edwards	33%	27%	31%	36%	32%
Undecided	30%	30%	34%	30%	28%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cruz/Sanchez					
Ted Cruz	42%	47%	35%	41%	49%
Ricardo Sanchez	31%	33%	28%	34%	25%
Undecided	27%	20%	37%	24%	26%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Dewhurst/Edwards					
David Dewhurst	43%	37%	35%	41%	58%
Chet Edwards	35%	47%	30%	37%	32%
Undecided	22%	17%	35%	22%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Dewhurst/Sanchez					
David Dewhurst	47%	37%	46%	43%	57%
Ricardo Sanchez	32%	40%	27%	35%	29%
Undecided	22%	23%	27%	22%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Leppert/Edwards					
Tom Leppert	39%	40%	31%	39%	47%
Chet Edwards	33%	50%	30%	32%	31%
Undecided	28%	10%	39%	29%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Leppert/Sanchez					
Tom Leppert	41%	40%	35%	41%	49%
Ricardo Sanchez	32%	47%	31%	31%	28%
Undecided	27%	13%	34%	28%	24%

