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POLL MUST BE SOURCED:
NBC News/Wall Street Journal/Marist Poll*

Michigan:
Trump and Clinton with Wide Leads
In Nomination Quests

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These NBC News/Wall Street Journal/Marist Polls report:

In a poll conducted prior to Thursday's GOP debate, businessman Donald Trump receives the support of 41% of likely Republican primary voters in Michigan including those who are undecided yet leaning toward a candidate or who voted by absentee ballot. Texas Senator Ted Cruz, 22%, Florida Senator Marco Rubio, 17%, and Ohio Governor John Kasich, 13%, trail far behind. Trump outpaces his opponents across the board except among those who identify as very conservative where Cruz has the advantage. Much of the poll was conducted prior to Carson's announcement that he did not see a path to a successful presidential bid. These results factor in the second choice candidate of Carson's supporters.

With Carson in the contest, Trump's lead is 21 points over Cruz and 25 points over Rubio.

"Trump is well-positioned to add the Wolverine State to his win column," says Dr. Lee M. Miringoff, Director of The Marist College Institute for Public Opinion.

*All references to the survey must be sourced as "NBC News/Wall Street Journal/Marist Poll."

2016 Republican Presidential Primary

Including those who are undecided yet leaning toward a candidate or voted absentee

Likely Republican Primary Voters March 2016

	Michigan	With Ben Carson
Donald Trump	41%	40%
Ted Cruz	22%	19%
Marco Rubio	17%	15%
John Kasich	13%	11%
Ben Carson		9%
Uncommitted	2%	2%
Other	2%	1%
Undecided	5%	3%

NBC News/W.S.J./Marist Poll
Michigan: Interviews conducted March 1st through March 3rd, 2016, n=482 MOE +/- 4.5 percentage points.
Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

61% of likely Republican primary voters with a candidate preference or who voted by absentee ballot strongly support their choice of candidate. 12% might vote differently, and 5% are undecided. Trump's supporters are the most likely to say they are firmly committed to him and are the least likely to report they might change their minds.

When it comes to the preferred second choice candidate of likely Republican primary voters with a candidate preference, Rubio and Cruz top the list with 22% each.

*All references to the survey must be sourced as "NBC News/Wall Street Journal/Marist Poll."

2016 Republican Presidential Primary Second Choice

Including those who are undecided yet leaning toward a candidate

Likely Republican Primary Voters with a Candidate Preference March 2016

	Michigan
Ted Cruz	22%
Marco Rubio	22%
John Kasich	18%
Ben Carson	15%
Donald Trump	13%
Uncommitted	4%
Other	0%
Undecided	6%

NBC News/WSJ/Marist Poll

Michigan: Interviews conducted March 1st through March 3rd, 2016, n=372 MOE +/- 5.1 percentage points.

Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

On the Democratic side, Clinton, 57%, outdistances Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders, 40%, among likely Democratic primary voters statewide including those who are undecided yet leaning toward a candidate or who voted by absentee ballot.

Clinton does especially well among African Americans, likely Democratic primary voters 45 years of age or older, Democrats, women, those who identify as moderate, or liberals. Sanders' support is fueled by independents, those under 45 years old, or those who describe themselves as very liberal.

72% of likely Democratic primary voters with a candidate preference or who voted by absentee ballot strongly support their choice of candidate. Similar proportions of Clinton's backers, 74%, and Sanders' supporters, 71%, report they are firmly committed to their choice of candidate.

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“Michigan is following a familiar storyline in the Clinton-Sanders matchup,” says Dr. Lee M. Miringoff, Director of The Marist College Institute for Public Opinion. “The greater the diversity of the Democratic electorate, the greater the Clinton lead.”

2016 Democratic Presidential Primary

Including those who are undecided yet leaning toward a candidate or voted absentee

Likely Democratic Primary Voters March 2016

	Michigan
Hillary Clinton	57%
Bernie Sanders	40%
Uncommitted	0%
Undecided	3%

NBC News/WSJ/Marist Poll

Michigan: Interviews conducted March 1st through March 3rd, 2016, n=546 MOE +/- 4.2 percentage points.
Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Looking at November’s general election, Clinton leads both Trump and Cruz, but Sanders does better against the GOP competition.

“The GOP’s worries about the Trump candidacy seem well-founded in the contest for Michigan’s 16 electoral votes,” says Dr. Lee M. Miringoff, Director of The Marist College Institute for Public Opinion. “Trump trails both Clinton and Sanders by substantially wider margins than Romney lost the state to Obama in 2012.”

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2016 Presidential General Matchups

Michigan Registered Voters March 2016

Hillary Clinton, the Democrat	52%
Donald Trump, the Republican	36%
Undecided	13%
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Hillary Clinton, the Democrat	48%
Ted Cruz, the Republican	41%
Undecided	11%
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Bernie Sanders, the Democrat	56%
Donald Trump, the Republican	34%
Undecided	10%
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Bernie Sanders, the Democrat	54%
Ted Cruz, the Republican	36%
Undecided	10%

NBC News/W.S.J./Marist Poll

Michigan: Interviews conducted March 1st through March 3rd, 2016, n=1705 MOE +/- 2.4 percentage points.
Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Looking at his job performance, President Barack Obama's approval rating is 50% among Michigan residents. 87% of likely Democratic primary voters in Michigan have this view.

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