## 

INDEPENDENTS IN FOCUS

ROAD TO THE
APRIL
CONTESTS

March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. Although we've all heard this adage, it in no way applies to the 2016 political season. As we turn our attention toward the April contests, Democrat and Republican candidates continue to fight, scratch and claw for state victories and delegates. The Philadelphia and Cleveland conventions are still a long way away.


The Local Vote 2016 continues to unearth important insights to help candidates, political strategists and interested parties effectively use media to engage the local electorates. In this third report, we shine a spotlight on Wisconsin. Because the Badger State is holding an "open primary" on April 5, citizens are free to vote regardless of party affiliation. This places great importance on courting Independent voters who could make the difference between winning or losing.
Independents have already been a major factor in the primaries, particularly for the Trump and Sanders campaigns. But as we look toward the November general election, Independents will play an even more pivotal role - as no candidate can win the Presidency without their support.

## MEDIA INSIGHTS <br> BY PARTY LINE

- Across the 9 states that Katz Radio Group has studied to date, Radio is consistently the \#1 reaching media platform with primary-goers regardless of their party affiliation: Democrats (94\%), Republicans (94\%) and Independents (95\%).
- Among Independents, Radio is used by a larger percentage each week (95\%) than Broadcast TV (88\%) or Cable TV (86\%).
- Independents engage with a diverse set of Radio formats, many of which are used more than national Cable News options. More Independents listen to News/Talk/Sports radio stations (41\%) and music formats such as Adult Contemporary (38\%), Rock (36\%) and Country (32\%) than watch Cable News channels CNN (25\%), Fox News (19\%) and MSNBC (12\%).
- Democrats are far more likely to listen to a broad set of radio formats such as Adult Contemporary (39\%), Contemporary Hits (36\%), News/Talk/Sports (34\%), Urban (29\%), Classic Hits (29\%) and Rock (26\%) than watch news outlets like CNN (25\%) and MSNBC (18\%).
- More Republicans listen to Adult Contemporary (50\%), News/Talk/Sports (46\%) and Country (37\%) radio stations than watch FOX News (34\%) or CNN (19\%) in a given week.


## WISCONSIN INSIGHTS

- Nearly 4 out of 10 eligible Wisconsin voters (38\%) are undecided about their choice of candidate or whether they will go to the polls. This large share of the electorate (called the "Opportunity Vote") is primed for political messaging.
- Early polling in Wisconsin shows Bernie Sanders with a modest lead over Hillary Clinton ( $41 \%$ vs. $32 \%$ ), but $27 \%$ of Democratic primary-goers are still undecided on whom to cast a ballot for. Meanwhile, the Republican race is hotly contested with no clear front-runner. Among Wisconsin Republican primary-goers, a whopping $41 \%$ are still undecided on whom they are voting for.
- Nearly every Opportunity Voter in Wisconsin listens to Radio (94\%), a greater percentage than Broadcast TV ( $91 \%$ ), Cable TV ( $83 \%$ ) and Mobile Internet (58\%).
- 7 out of 10 Opportunity Voters believe Radio advertising is a good way for political candidates to connect with them.


## ABOUT

## THE LOCAL VOTE 2016 INITIATIVE

Katz Radio Group has commissioned Nielsen to survey a representative sample of registered voters across 10 states in the weeks leading up to their 2016 Presidential primary elections. Respondents had previously participated in a Scarborough study. Scarborough is a division of Nielsen that collects behavioral insights on U.S. consumers locally, regionally and nationally. Each year Scarborough surveys more than 200,000 consumers ( $80 \%$ of which are registered voters) using high quality samples that are reliably projectable to the U.S. Adult 18+ population.

The results of this re-contact study, which are specific to voters' opinions on the 2016 Presidential election, are tied back to the respondents' Scarborough data including their demographic profile and media consumption. Wave 1 data represents 1,007 registered voters across the states of Colorado (251), Texas (503) and Virginia (254) interviewed January 25 - February 5, 2016. Wave 2 data represents 2,000 registered voters across the states of Florida (500), Illinois (250), Missouri (250), North Carolina (500) and Ohio (499) interviewed February 11 - 22, 2016. Wave 3 data represents 350 registered voters in Wisconsin interviewed March 7-10, 2016.

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## PULSE OF THE <br> ELECTORATE

Both races are hotly contested in Wisconsin. While Bernie has a modest lead over Hillary, 27\% of Democratic primary-goers are still undecided. Meanwhile, a whopping 41\% of Republican primary-goers are undecided on whom they are voting for.



John Kasich

Wisconsin Democrats and Independents are keenly focused on Healthcare when picking a Presidential candidate, while Republicans tend to consider Government Spending, Immigration and National Security.

Registered Democrats


Registered Republicans

| 3II | Government <br> Spending |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3n\% | Immigration <br> Security |

## Independents

| 4 42\% | Healthcare |
| :---: | :---: |
| (5) $38 \%$ | Economy |
| ( $32 \%$ | National Security |

Q: What candidate do you plan to vote for in the upcoming primary election?
Q: Below is a list of issues facing our nation. Select the top 3 issues that would most influence who you vote for in the Presidential election.
Source: The Local Vote 2016. Katz Media Group/Nielsen study of 350 registered voters in Wisconsin. Interviews conducted March 7-10, 2016. Margins of error: +/- 8.2 percentage points for Democratic race and +/- 7.6 for Republican race.

Getting Wisconsin voters to turn out and influencing those who are undecided are critical goals for political campaigns


Radio is listened to by a clear majority of Wisconsin Opportunity Voters


Q: How much do you believe that radio ads are a good way for political candidates to get their message to people like yourself?
Source: The Local Vote 2016. Katz Media Group/Nielsen study of 350 registered voters in Wisconsin. Interviews conducted March 7-10, 2016.

## PARTY VOTERS <br> THROUGH THE MEDIA LENS

Mainstream Media - Where Candidates Engage the Electorate


Note: Radio, TV and Newspaper percentages based on usage in average week. Internet and Audio Streaming percentages based on average month.
Source: The Local Vote 2016. Katz Media Group/Nielsen study of registered voters in the primary states of Texas, Colorado, Virginia, Florida, Illinois, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio and Wisconsin. Analysis based on likely primary-goers: Registered Democrats (1,031), Registered Republicans (993) and Independents (431). Interviews conducted January 25 to March $10,2016$.

## DEMOCRATS <br> THROUGH THE MEDIA LENS

## BEYOND NEWS <br> Where to Talk to Democratic Primary-Goers



Note: Radio, TV and Newspaper percentages based on usage in average week. Internet and Audio Streaming percentages based on average month. TV dayparts are based on 5-Net broadcast. Cable TV News includes CNN, MSNBC, FOX News, CNBC and Headline News. Audio Streaming = Local Radio, Pureplays and Music Streaming Services.
Source: The Local Vote 2016. Katz Media Group/Nielsen study of registered voters in the primary states of Texas, Colorado, Virginia, Florida, Illinois, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio and Wisconsin. Analysis based on likely primary-goers who are registered Democrats (1,031). Interviews conducted January 25 to March 10, 2016.

## REPUBLICANS THROUGH THE MEDIA LENS

## BEYOND NEWS <br> Where to Talk to Republican Primary-Goers



Note: Radio, TV and Newspaper percentages based on usage in average week. Internet and Audio Streaming percentages based on average month. TV dayparts are based on 5-Net broadcast. Cable TV News includes CNN, MSNBC, FOX News, CNBC and Headline News. Audio Streaming = Local Radio, Pureplays and Music Streaming Services.
Source: The Local Vote 2016. Katz Media Group/Nielsen study of registered voters in the primary states of Texas, Colorado, Virginia, Florida, Illinois, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio and Wisconsin. Analysis based on likely primary-goers who are registered Republicans (993). Interviews conducted January 25 to March 10, 2016.

## INDEPENDENTS <br> THROUGH THE MEDIA LENS



## BEYOND NEWS <br> Where to Talk to Independent Primary-Goers



Note: Radio, TV and Newspaper percentages based on usage in average week. Internet and Audio Streaming percentages based on average month. TV dayparts are based on 5-Net broadcast. Cable TV News includes CNN, MSNBC, FOX News, CNBC and Headline News. Audio Streaming = Local Radio, Pureplays and Music Streaming Services.
Source: The Local Vote 2016. Katz Media Group/Nielsen study of registered voters in the primary states of Texas, Colorado, Virginia, Florida, Illinois, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio and Wisconsin. Analysis based on likely primary-goers who are Independents (431). Interviews conducted January 25 to March 10, 2016.


Rock

## Country

- Classic Hits


To be read: Statewide in North Carolina, 93\% of registered Democrats listen to Radio. During the average week, 49\% of registered Democrats listen to Urban stations and $31 \%$ listen to Adult Contemporary stations.
Source: The Local Vote 2016. Katz Media Group/Nielsen study of registered voters in the primary states of Texas, Colorado, Virginia, Florida, Illinois, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio and Wisconsin. Analysis based on likely primary-goers who are registered Democrats (1,031). Interviews conducted January 25 to March 10, 2016.


\% WHO LISTEN
STATE TO RADIO

TOP 5 RADIO FORMATS


To be read: Statewide in Florida, $96 \%$ of registered Republicans listen to Radio. During the average week, $52 \%$ of registered Republicans listen to Adult Contemporary stations and 37\% listen to News-Talk-Sports stations.

Source: The Local Vote 2016. Katz Media Group/Nielsen study of registered voters in the primary states of Texas, Colorado, Virginia, Florida, Illinois, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio and Wisconsin. Analysis based on likely primary-goers who are registered Republicans (993). Interviews conducted January 25 to March 10, 2016. political target audience for campaigns.

- Adult Contemporary
- News/Talk/Sports
- Contemporary Hits
- Rock
- Country
- Classic Hits
- Urban

Milwaukee Radio stations appeal to voters from all political persuasions.

But one size does not fit all! Voters tend to rally around a unique set of Radio stations depending on their political leanings.

Local Radio offers a high density, targeted audience for any campaign.

RADIO FORMAT INDICES BY VOTER GROUP


SUPER DEMOCRATS


ON-THE-FENCE LIBERALS


MILD REPUBLICANS


LEFT OUT DEMOCRATS


GREEN TRADITIONALISTS


ULTRA CONSERVATIVES

To be read: Super Democrats are $24 \%$ more likely to be found listening to Rock Radio stations than the general population of Milwaukee, and $17 \%$ more likely to be found listening to Country stations.
Source: Nielsen Political Ratings, Fall 2015. Adults 35+; AQH Ratings; M-F 6a-7p. Reported data are indices based on a 100 that compare average rating sizes of voter segments to A35+.

## Finding the Perfect Radio Formats to Reach Republican, Democrat and Independent Voters in Milwaukee



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2016


[^0]:    Source: Nielsen Political Ratings FA15, Adults 35+, AQH Ratings Rank and AQH Share, M-F 6a-7p, Nielsen Non-Subscribers excluded

