



AP Photo/Tony Dejak
Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton speaks during a rally at Cuyahoga Community College Tuesday in Cleveland.



AP Photo/Lynne Sladky
Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump speaks during a news conference at the Trump National Golf Club on Tuesday in Jupiter, Fla.



AP Photo/John Minchillo
Republican presidential candidate Ohio Gov. John Kasich smiles during a watch party at a hotel in Columbus, Ohio.

Sanders surprises in Michigan; Trump keeps winning

Associated Press

LANSING, Mich. — Bernie Sanders breathed new life into his longshot White House bid with a crucial win in Michigan’s primary Tuesday night, chipping away at Hillary Clinton’s dominance in the Democratic presidential race. Republican Donald Trump swept to victory in both Michigan and Mississippi, overcoming fierce efforts to blunt his momentum.

Even with Sanders’ win, Clinton and Trump moved closer to a general election face-off. Clinton breezed to an easy victory in Mississippi, propelled by overwhelming support from black voters, and she now has more than half the delegates she needs to clinch the Democratic nomination. Trump, too, padded his lead over Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, who carried the Idaho primary.

The front-runners turned their sights on November as they reveled in their wins.

“We are better than what we are being offered by the Republicans,” Clinton declared.

In a nod toward the kind of traditional politics he’s shunned, Trump emphasized the importance of helping Republican senators and House members get elected in the fall. Having entered Tuesday’s contests facing a barrage of criticism from rival candidates and outside groups, he also delighted in overcoming the attacks.

“Every single person who has attacked me has gone down,” Trump said at one of his Florida resorts. He was flanked by tables packed with his retail products, including steaks, bottled water and wine, and defended his business record more thoroughly than he outlined his policy proposals for the country.

Sanders, meanwhile, said Michigan signaled “that we are a national campaign.”

“We already have won in the Midwest, New England and the Great Plains and as more people get to know more about who we are and what our views are we’re going to do very well,” the Vermont senator said.

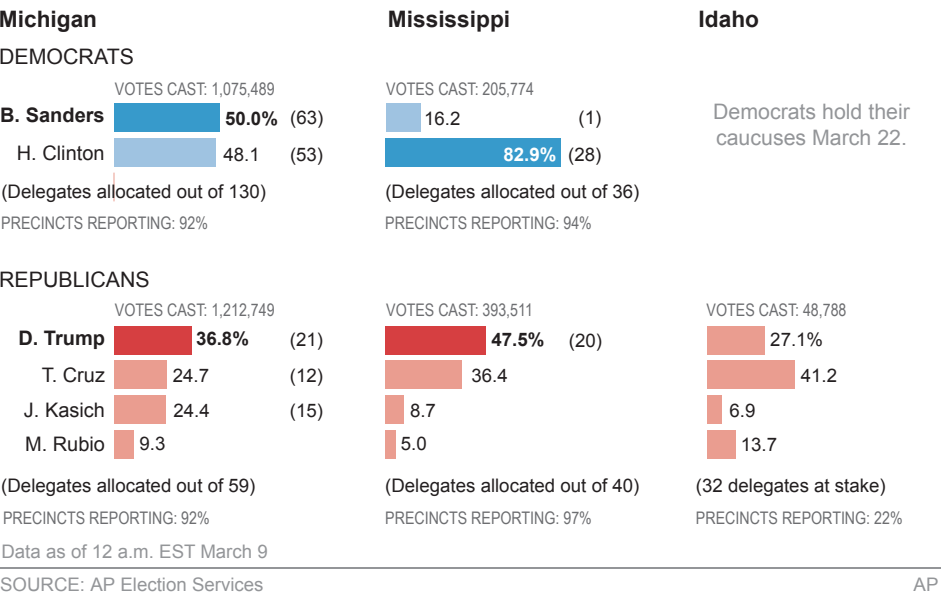


AP Photo/Alan Diaz
Democratic presidential candidate, Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., speaks during a campaign rally as his supporters cheer him on Tuesday in Miami.

ELECTION 16

Clinton, Sanders, Trump notch wins

Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders split wins in Michigan and Mississippi, while Republican Donald Trump logged won both states.



While a handful of recent losses to Cruz have raised questions about Trump’s durability, Tuesday’s contests marked another lost opportunity for rivals desperate to stop

his march to the nomination. Next week’s winner-take-all contests in Ohio and Florida loom large as perhaps the last chance to block him short of a contested convention fight.

Ohio Gov. John Kasich was in a fight with Cruz for second place in Michigan and hoping a good showing would give him a boost heading into next week’s crucial contest in

his home state.

For Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, Tuesday marked the latest in a series of disappointing nights. He emerged from Michigan and Mississippi with no new delegates, a grim outcome for a candidate who has overwhelming support from Republican senators and governors.

Rubio said he would press on to his home state’s primary in Florida next Tuesday.

“It has to happen here, and it has to happen now,” Rubio told supporters during a rally in Sarasota.

If Rubio and Kasich can’t win at home, the GOP primary appears set to become a two-person race between Trump and Cruz. The Texas senator is sticking close in the delegate count, and with six states in his win column he’s argued he’s the only candidate standing between the brash billionaire and the GOP nomination.

During a campaign stop at a North Carolina church, Cruz took on Trump for asking rally attendees to pledge their allegiance to

him. He said the move struck him as “profoundly wrong” and was something “kings and queens demand” of their subjects.

Some mainstream Republicans have cast both Trump and Cruz as unelectable in a November face-off with the Democratic nominee. But they’re quickly running out of options — and candidates — to prevent one of the men from becoming the GOP standard-bearer.

The economy ranked high on the list of concerns for voters in Michigan and Mississippi. At least 8 in 10 in each party’s primary said they were worried about where the American economy is heading, according to exit polls conducted by Edison Research for The Associated Press and television networks.

Among Democrats, 8 in 10 voters in both states said the country’s economic system benefits the wealthy, not all Americans.

Sanders has sought to tap into that concern, energizing young people and white, blue-collar voters with his calls for breaking up Wall Street banks and making tuition free at public colleges and universities. Michigan, with big college towns and a sizeable population of working-class voters, was a good fit for him, though something of a surprise victory given that Clinton had led in most polls.

Still, Sanders has struggled mightily with black voters who are crucial to Democrats in the general election. In Mississippi, black voters comprised about two-thirds of the Democratic electorate and nearly 9 in 10 backed Clinton.

After Tuesday’s results, Clinton has accumulated 1,214 delegates and Sanders 566, including superdelegates. Democrats need 2,383 delegates to win the nomination.

With Tuesday’s wins, Trump leads the Republican field with 428 delegates, followed by Cruz with 315, Rubio with 151 and Kasich with 52. Winning the GOP nomination requires 1,237 delegates.

BRIEFLY

California train likely derailed by mudslide

SUNOL, Calif. (AP) — A mudslide likely caused a commuter train to derail in storm-soaked Northern California, plunging its lead car into a rain-swollen creek and sending passengers scrambling in the dark to get out of the partially submerged car.

Nine people were injured, four seriously, the Alameda County Fire Department said.

The slide of mud and debris seems to have swept a tree onto the Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) train tracks Monday evening, Union Pacific spokesman Francisco J. Castillo said.

The train was traveling 35 mph in the 40 mph zone, said Steve Walker, an Altamont Corridor spokesman. The first car was carrying six passengers and one crew member when it fell into Alameda Creek, Walker said.

Crews using two large cranes were working Tuesday to pull the submerged car out of Alameda Creek.

The other four cars had been moved down the tracks by Tuesday evening.

Rescuers battled the

creek’s fast-moving currents Monday night to pull riders to safety, Alameda County Sheriff’s Sgt. Ray Kelly said.

“It was dark, wet. It was raining. It was very chaotic,” Kelly said. “This is an absolute miracle that no one was killed, no passengers or first responders.”

The San Francisco Bay Area has been inundated with thunderstorms in recent days that have swamped roadways and creeks. On Monday, some San Francisco Bay Area roads were under more than a foot of water. Santa Cruz and Santa Clara counties saw about 11 inches of rain during the weekend.

WHO: Sexual transmission of Zika more common than thought

GENEVA (AP) — Sexual transmission of the Zika virus is more common than previously thought, the World Health Organization said Tuesday, citing reports from several countries.

After a meeting of its emergency committee on Tuesday, the U.N. health agency also said there is increasing evidence that

a spike in disturbing birth defects and neurological problems are caused by Zika, which is mostly spread by mosquito bites. When WHO declared the explosive outbreak in the Americas to be a global emergency last month, it said that the evidence that Zika was responsible was only circumstantial.

WHO Director-General Dr. Margaret Chan said “reports and investigations in several countries strongly suggest that sexual transmission of the virus is more common than previously assumed.” The U.S. is investigating more than a dozen possible cases of Zika in people who may have been infected through sex.

Dr. Bruce Aylward, who is directing WHO’s response to Zika, said the cases seen so far of sexual transmission of Zika have been from men to women. He doubted sex would play an important role in the disease’s spread.

“The mosquito is undoubtedly still the main driver of transmission,” he said.

Chan also said nine countries have now reported increasing cases of Guillain-Barre syndrome, a rare condition that may be linked to Zika and can cause temporary paralysis.

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