

FRANKLIN & MARSHALL

**October 2009**

**Franklin & Marshall  
College Poll**

**SURVEY OF PENNSYLVANIANS  
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

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## Methodology

The survey findings presented in this release are based on the results of interviews conducted October 20-25, 2009. The interviews were conducted at the Center for Opinion Research at Franklin & Marshall College under the direction of the poll’s Director Dr. G. Terry Madonna, Head Methodologist Berwood Yost, and Project Manager Jennifer Harding. The data included in this release represent the responses of 616 adult residents of Pennsylvania, including 529 registered adults. Telephone numbers for the survey were generated using random digit dialing, and respondents were randomly selected from within each household. Survey results were weighted (age, education, race, region, and gender) using an iterative weighting algorithm.

The sample error for this survey is +/- 3.9 percentage points. The sample error for registered adults is +/- 4.3 percentage points. In addition to sampling error, this poll is also subject to other sources of non-sampling error. Generally speaking, two sources of error concern researchers most. Non-response bias is created when selected participants either choose not to participate in the survey or are unavailable

for interviewing. Response errors are the product of the question and answer process. Surveys that rely on self-reported behaviors and attitudes are susceptible to biases related to the way respondents process and respond to survey questions.

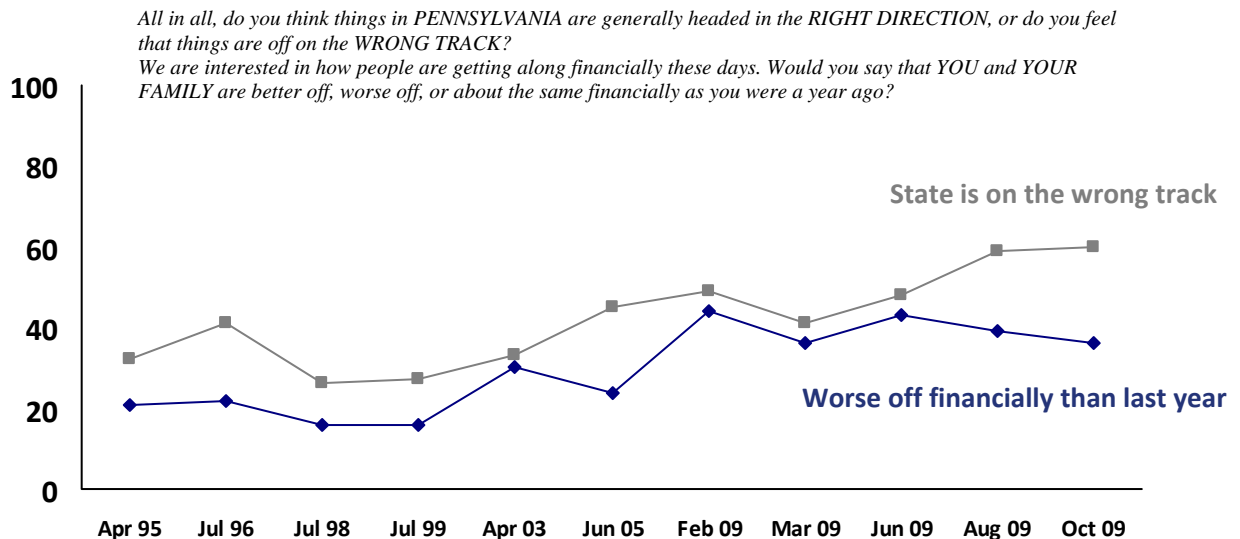
The Franklin and Marshall College Poll is produced in conjunction with the Philadelphia Daily News, WGAL-TV (South Central PA), Pittsburgh Tribune Review, WTAE-TV (Pittsburgh), WPVI-TV6/ABC (Philadelphia), and Times-Shamrock Newspapers. It may be used in whole or in part, provided any use is attributed to Franklin & Marshall College.

## Key Findings

### *Pessimism about the Economy*

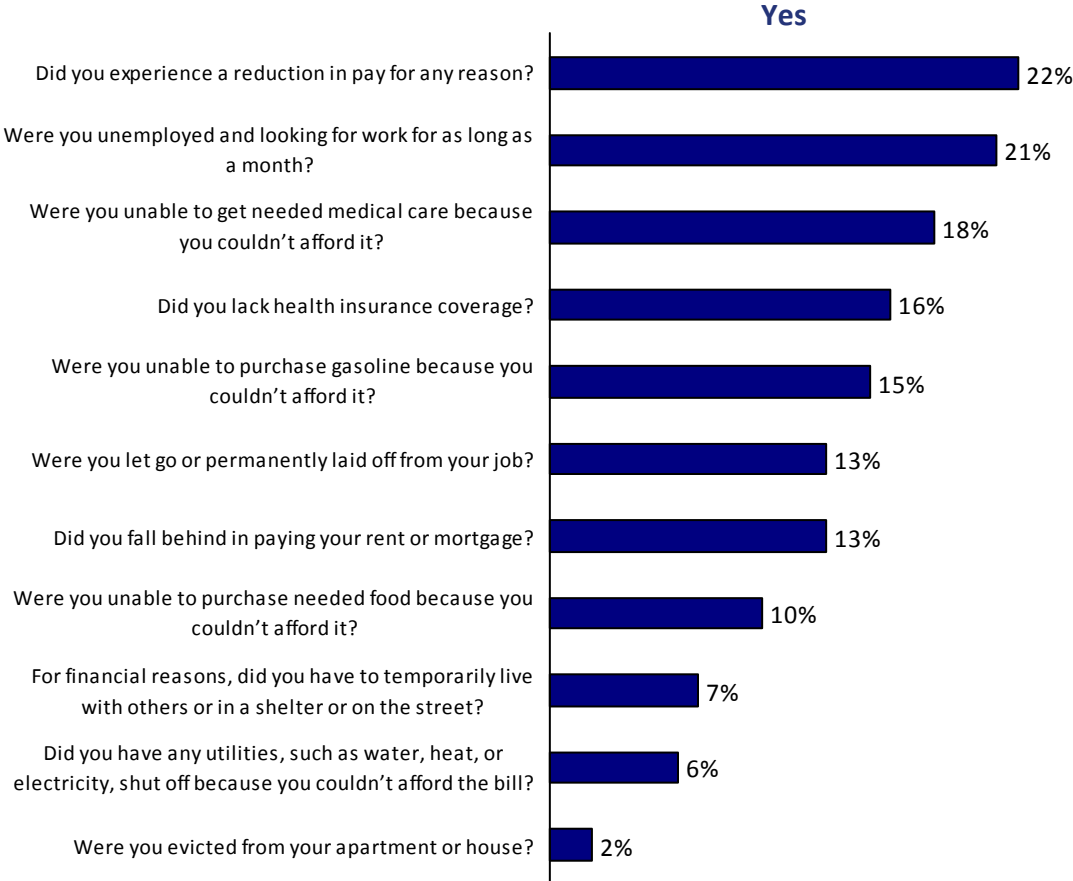
The October 2009 Franklin and Marshall College Poll of Pennsylvanians shows state residents continuing to express pessimism about the economy, while a sizable proportion are experiencing significant economic hardship. Three in five (60%) respondents say the state is on the wrong track, more than a third (36%) say they are financially worse off this year than last, and only a third (31%) expect their personal finances to be better off a year from now (see Figure 1). Nearly three in five (57%) Pennsylvanians believe the current recession will not end for several more years.

**Figure 1. Direction of the State and Personal Finances over Time**



Pennsylvanians’ attitudes about the economy are driven by their own experiences, as many state residents have experienced economic hardships during the past year. Half (49%) of state residents have experienced at least one of the eleven hardships tested in the survey. The most common economic hardships include pay reductions, unemployment, and the inability to afford needed medical care (see Figure 2).

**Figure 2. Economic Hardships during Past 12 Months**

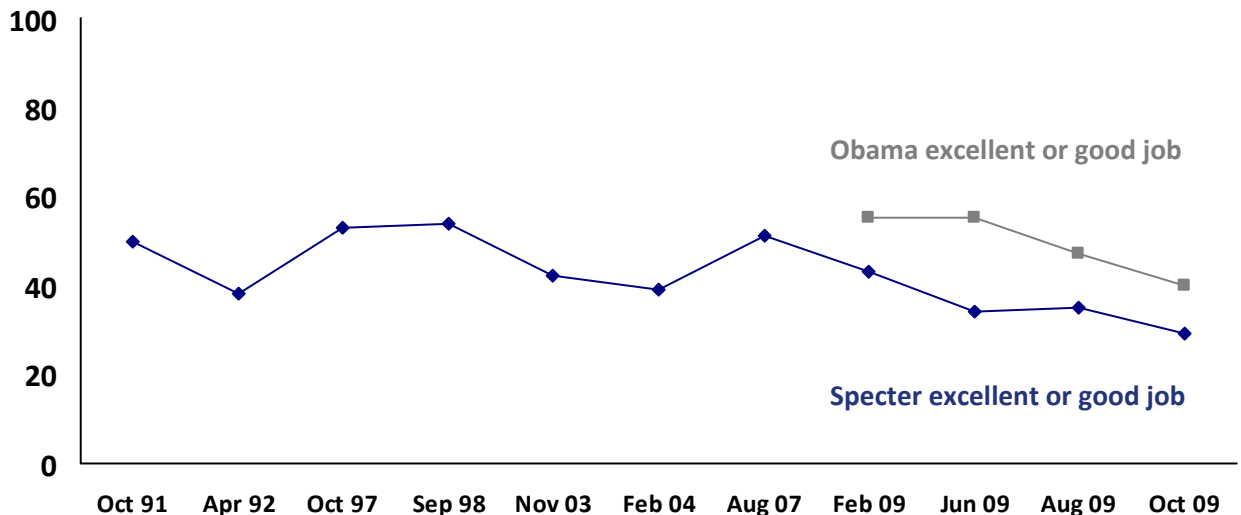


## National Politics

Only one in eight (13%) Pennsylvanians feel they have personally benefited from national economic recovery efforts, and pessimism about the state of the economy appears to be affecting citizens' opinions of national politicians. President Obama and Senators Specter and Casey have each had a decline in their favorability ratings since August. President Obama and Senator Specter have also seen declines in their job approval ratings (see Figure 3). President Obama's job approval in Pennsylvania is the lowest of his presidency. Likewise, Senator Specter's job approval rating is the lowest recorded since the poll began tracking the senator's job performance in 1991, and only one in four (23%) registered Pennsylvanians believe he deserves re-election—his lowest percentage yet in a Franklin & Marshall College Poll.

**Figure 3. Obama and Specter Ratings over Time**

*Is your opinion of Barack Obama/Arlen Specter favorable, unfavorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Barack Obama/Arlen Specter to have an opinion?  
How would you rate the way that Barack Obama/Arlen Specter is handling his job as president/U.S. senator?*

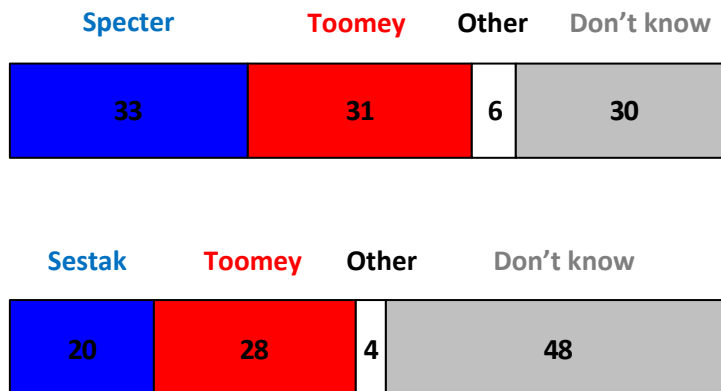


## Electoral Indecision

A large number of registered Pennsylvanians are undecided about the upcoming senatorial elections. Despite Senator Specter's weak job performance ratings, he leads his primary challenger and is in a close race with his general election challenger. Specter leads Congressman Joe Sestak 30% to 18% among Democrats, with about half (47%) undecided. In the general election race, Specter has a small lead over Pat Toomey, 33% to 31%, with nearly a third (30%) undecided (see Figure 4). Toomey has a slight advantage over Sestak in a general election matchup, 28% to 20%, but half (48%) are undecided. The greatest problem facing both Toomey and Sestak is their low name recognition. Many (64% and 77%, respectively) registered Pennsylvanians say they don't know enough about each to have an opinion.

**Figure 4. 2010 Senatorial Election Matchups**

*If the 2010 election for U.S. SENATOR were being held today and the candidates included (rotated) Arlen Specter/Joe Sestak, the Democrat, and Pat Toomey, the Republican, would you vote for Arlen Specter/Joe Sestak, Pat Toomey, some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?*



## ***State Politics***

Governor Rendell's job approval rating has held steady since August, but the job approval rating of the state legislature is the lowest recorded by a Franklin & Marshall College Poll (15% excellent or good job). At the moment, there is no clear front runner in the Democratic gubernatorial race to succeed Rendell, and two-thirds (66%) are undecided. Tom Corbett currently is favored over Jim Gerlach (30% to 8%) among Republicans for their gubernatorial nomination, but over half (57%) remain undecided about their preference.



## Marginal Frequency Report

RightDir. All in all, do you think things in PENNSYLVANIA are generally headed in the RIGHT DIRECTION, or do you feel that things are off on the WRONG TRACK?

	Headed in right direction	Off on the wrong track	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>8%</b>
Aug 2009	33%	59%	8%
Jun 2009	44%	48%	8%
Mar 2009	48%	41%	11%
Feb 2009	40%	49%	11%
Aug 2007	47%	44%	9%
Jun 2007	42%	45%	13%
Feb 2007	46%	42%	12%
Oct 2006*	47%	42%	11%
Sep 2006*	52%	36%	12%
Aug 2006*	50%	40%	10%
Feb 2006	45%	46%	9%
Nov 2005	39%	52%	10%
Sep 2005	46%	46%	8%
Jun 2005	43%	45%	12%
Mar 2005	50%	44%	6%
Oct 2004*	48%	39%	13%
Sep 2004*	46%	41%	13%
Aug 2004*	43%	40%	17%
Mar 2004*	33%	50%	18%
Feb 2004	37%	49%	14%
Nov 2003	45%	45%	10%
Apr 2003	55%	33%	12%
Sep 2002*	52%	32%	16%
Jun 2002*	55%	32%	13%
Jul 1999	64%	27%	9%
Sep 1998*	67%	15%	18%
Jul 1998	60%	26%	14%
Mar 1998	65%	24%	11%
Oct 1996	49%	31%	21%
Sep 1996*	49%	34%	17%
Jul 1996	41%	41%	18%
Apr 1995	52%	32%	17%

\* Question asked of registered respondents only

EconR1. When do you think the country's economic recession will end? Do you think it is already over, it will end this year, it will end next year, or it won't end for several years?

- 3% Already over
- 6% Will end this year
- 30% Will end next year
- 57% Won't end for several years
- 4% Don't know

EconR2. Compared to one year ago, are you spending more of your money on non-essential items, trying to save more of your money, or is there no difference in your spending and saving habits?

8% Spending more  
 54% Saving more  
 37% No difference  
 1% Don't know

FinToday. We are interested in how people are getting along financially these days. Would you say that YOU and YOUR FAMILY are better off, worse off, or about the same financially as you were a year ago?

	Better off	Worse off	About the same	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>1%</b>
Aug 2009	9%	39%	52%	0%
Jun 2009	11%	43%	45%	1%
Mar 2009	11%	36%	53%	0%
Feb 2009	10%	44%	46%	0%
Oct 2008*	14%	44%	42%	0%
Sep 2008*	12%	40%	47%	0%
Aug 2008*	16%	37%	46%	1%
Feb 2008*	20%	29%	51%	0%
Jan 2008*	17%	25%	57%	1%
Nov 2005	20%	28%	51%	1%
Sep 2005	17%	36%	47%	0%
Jun 2005	24%	24%	52%	0%
Mar 2005	21%	28%	51%	1%
Nov 2003	17%	29%	53%	1%
Apr 2003	16%	30%	54%	0%
Sep 2002*	25%	26%	47%	1%
Jun 2002*	29%	20%	50%	1%
Jul 1999	31%	16%	52%	1%
Jul 1998	31%	16%	52%	1%
Mar 1998	31%	16%	52%	1%
Jul 1996	21%	22%	56%	1%
Feb 1996	21%	21%	57%	1%
Apr 1995	26%	21%	52%	1%

\*Question asked of registered respondents only

FinFut. Now looking AHEAD, do you think that A YEAR FROM NOW, YOU and YOUR FAMILY will be better off financially than you are now, worse off, or about the same as you are now?

	Better off	Worse off	About the same	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>5%</b>
Aug 2009	31%	19%	47%	3%
Jun 2009	32%	21%	41%	6%
Mar 2009	27%	12%	55%	6%
Feb 2009	29%	19%	45%	7%
Oct 2008*	33%	14%	40%	14%
Sep 2008*	25%	18%	42%	15%
Aug 2008*	28%	15%	45%	12%
Nov 2005	29%	20%	48%	3%
Sep 2005	27%	23%	45%	5%
Jun 2005	32%	15%	48%	5%
Mar 2005	31%	20%	45%	4%
Nov 2003	33%	13%	49%	5%
Apr 2003	27%	17%	51%	5%
Sep 2002*	38%	8%	43%	11%
Jun 2002*	35%	6%	49%	10%
Jul 1999	38%	8%	50%	4%
Jul 1998	41%	9%	45%	5%
Mar 1998	39%	7%	50%	4%
Jul 1996	24%	12%	54%	10%
Feb 1996	29%	16%	49%	6%
Apr 1995	37%	12%	44%	7%

\* Question asked of registered respondents only

REG. Some people are registered to vote, and many others are not. Are you CURRENTLY REGISTERED to vote at your present address?

86%  
14%

Questions RegPARTY through Chg\_Hous were only asked of registered respondents (n = 529).

RegPARTY. Are you currently registered as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or as something else?

49% Democrat  
39% Republican  
10% Independent  
1% Something else  
1% Don't know

IntFav. Please let me know your opinion of some people involved in politics today. Is your opinion of [FILL name] favorable, unfavorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about [FILL name] to have an opinion? (rotated)

	Strongly favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Strongly unfavorable	Undecided	Don't know
<b>ED RENDELL</b>						
Oct 2009	13%	24%	17%	30%	9%	7%
Aug 2009	13%	19%	19%	34%	10%	5%
Jun 2009	15%	27%	15%	25%	11%	7%
Feb 2009	16%	26%	16%	22%	13%	7%
<b>ARLEN SPECTER</b>						
Oct 2009	8%	20%	15%	31%	13%	13%
Aug 2009	12%	23%	13%	29%	13%	10%
Jun 2009	13%	18%	11%	26%	17%	15%
Feb 2009	14%	28%	12%	17%	15%	14%
<b>BOB CASEY JR.</b>						
Oct 2009	11%	21%	9%	12%	15%	32%
Aug 2009	17%	24%	10%	8%	17%	24%
Jun 2009	11%	21%	12%	5%	17%	34%
Feb 2009	11%	19%	9%	8%	21%	32%
<b>BARACK OBAMA</b>						
Oct 2009	29%	16%	12%	27%	13%	3%
Aug 2009	29%	26%	9%	28%	7%	1%
Jun 2009	39%	17%	6%	21%	14%	3%
Feb 2009	38%	18%	8%	15%	17%	4%
Oct 2008	38%	15%	8%	25%	12%	3%
Sep 2008	31%	18%	9%	21%	17%	3%
Aug 2008	25%	18%	7%	22%	23%	5%
<b>JOE SESTAK</b>						
Oct 2009	4%	7%	3%	2%	7%	77%
Aug 2009	3%	10%	2%	2%	10%	73%
<b>PAT TOOMEY</b>						
Oct 2009	5%	11%	5%	5%	10%	64%
Aug 2009	7%	11%	4%	6%	9%	63%

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Undecided	Don't know
<b>ED RENDELL</b>				
Oct 2009	37%	47%	9%	7%
Aug 2009	32%	53%	10%	5%
Jun 2009	42%	40%	11%	7%
Mar 2009	45%	35%	15%	5%
Feb 2009	42%	38%	13%	7%
Aug 2007	47%	36%	12%	5%
Jun 2007	48%	38%	10%	4%
Feb 2007	53%	36%	8%	3%
Oct 2006	54%	30%	12%	4%
Sep 2006	52%	29%	16%	3%
Aug 2006	49%	33%	14%	4%
May 2006	48%	32%	16%	4%
Feb 2006	41%	40%	14%	5%
Nov 2005	39%	38%	18%	6%
Sep 2005	42%	36%	16%	6%

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Undecided	Don't know
<b>ED RENDELL cont.</b>				
Jun 2005	41%	33%	17%	9%
Mar 2005	48%	28%	18%	7%
Aug 2004	46%	31%	17%	6%
Feb 2004	40%	32%	15%	14%
Nov 2003	46%	26%	21%	7%
Apr 2003	50%	19%	17%	16%
Oct 2002	50%	24%	18%	9%
Sep 2002	43%	19%	25%	14%
Jun 2002	40%	18%	26%	16%
Oct 2001	30%	8%	13%	50%
Apr 2001	29%	7%	11%	52%
Jul 1999	30%	7%	9%	54%
<b>ARLEN SPECTER</b>				
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>13%</b>
Aug 2009	35%	42%	13%	10%
Jun 2009	31%	37%	17%	15%
Mar 2009	48%	24%	14%	14%
Feb 2009	42%	29%	15%	14%
Jun 2007	42%	33%	16%	9%
Oct 2004	45%	28%	17%	10%
Aug 2004	39%	26%	24%	11%
Mar 2004	41%	25%	23%	11%
Feb 2004	41%	25%	13%	21%
Nov 2003	46%	26%	17%	11%
Apr 2003	46%	23%	14%	17%
Sep 1998	57%	17%	19%	7%
Jul 1998	57%	19%	15%	9%
Mar 1998	53%	27%	15%	5%
Oct 1997	52%	20%	18%	10%
Apr 1995	32%	31%	23%	14%
Oct 1992	34%	30%	26%	7%
Apr 1992	55%	28%	17%	--
<b>BOB CASEY JR.</b>				
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>32%</b>
Aug 2009	41%	18%	17%	24%
Jun 2009	32%	17%	17%	34%
Mar 2009	34%	16%	19%	31%
Feb 2009	30%	17%	21%	32%
Jun 2007	29%	22%	23%	26%
Oct 2006	39%	29%	16%	16%
Sep 2006	29%	22%	22%	27%
Aug 2006	31%	20%	18%	31%
May 2006	30%	13%	20%	37%
Feb 2006	30%	8%	16%	45%
Nov 2005	30%	9%	20%	40%
Sep 2005	32%	7%	22%	39%
Jun 2005	40%	9%	15%	36%
Mar 2005	33%	10%	19%	38%
Oct 2001	28%	7%	22%	43%
Apr 2001	33%	9%	22%	36%
Jun 1999	29%	11%	17%	44%

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Undecided	Don't know
<b>BARACK OBAMA</b>				
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>3%</b>
Aug 2009	55%	37%	7%	1%
Jun 2009	56%	27%	14%	3%
Mar 2009	59%	21%	18%	2%
Feb 2009	56%	23%	17%	4%
Oct 2008	53%	33%	12%	3%
Sep 2008	49%	30%	17%	3%
Aug 2008	43%	29%	23%	5%
Feb 2008	46%	27%	21%	6%
Jan 2008	41%	27%	23%	9%
Aug 2007	37%	21%	23%	19%
Jun 2007	32%	21%	20%	27%
Feb 2007	31%	15%	20%	34%
<b>JOE SESTAK</b>				
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>77%</b>
Aug 2009	13%	4%	10%	73%
<b>PAT TOOMEY</b>				
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>64%</b>
Aug 2009	18%	10%	9%	63%

SC. If the November election for the Pennsylvania Supreme Court were being held today and the candidates included (*rotated*) Joan Orié Melvin, the Republican, and Jack Panella, the Democrat, would you vote for Joan Orié Melvin, Jack Panella, some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?

- 22% Joan Orié Melvin
- 20% Jack Panella
- 4% Other
- 54% Don't know

DemPrim. If the 2010 Democratic primary election for U.S. SENATOR were being held today and the candidates included (*rotated*) Arlen Specter and Joe Sestak, would you vote for Arlen Specter, Joe Sestak, some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?

*n* = 250 (registered Democrats)

	Arlen Specter	Joe Sestak	Other	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>47%</b>
Aug 2009	37%	11%	6%	46%
Jun 2009	33%	13%	6%	48%

DemPrim2. If the 2010 Democratic primary election for GOVERNOR were being held today and the candidates included (*rotated*) Dan Onorato, Jack Wagner, Tom Knox, Joe Hoeffel, and Chris Doherty, would you vote for Dan Onorato, Jack Wagner, Tom Knox, Joe Hoeffel, Chris Doherty, some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?

*n* = 250 (registered Democrats)

10% Dan Onorato  
 9% Jack Wagner  
 6% Joe Hoeffel  
 3% Tom Knox  
 3% Chris Doherty  
 3% Other  
 66% Don't know

RepPrim. If the 2010 Republican primary election for GOVERNOR were being held today and the candidates included (*rotated*) Tom Corbett and Jim Gerlach, would you vote for Tom Corbett, Jim Gerlach, some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?

*n* = 202 (registered Republicans)

	Tom Corbett	Jim Gerlach	Other	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>57%</b>
Aug 2009	15%	6%	6%	73%

SenSpT. If the 2010 election for U.S. SENATOR were being held today and the candidates included (*rotated*) Arlen Specter, the Democrat, and Pat Toomey, the Republican, would you vote for Arlen Specter, Pat Toomey, some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?

	Arlen Specter	Pat Toomey	Other	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>30%</b>
Aug 2009	37%	29%	9%	25%
Apr 2009	29%	26%	9%	36%
Mar 2009	33%	18%	7%	42%

SenSeT. If the 2010 election for U.S. SENATOR were being held today and the candidates included (*rotated*) Joe Sestak, the Democrat, and Pat Toomey, the Republican, would you vote for Joe Sestak, Pat Toomey, some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?

	Pat Toomey	Joe Sestak	Other	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>48%</b>
Aug 2009	26%	22%	6%	46%

Q20. If the 2010 elections for the United States House of Representatives were being held today, would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for the House in your district?

- 37% Democratic Party's candidate
- 34% Republican Party's candidate
- 2% Other candidate
- 27% Don't know

RatePres. How would you rate the way that Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

	Excellent job	Good job	Only a fair job	Poor job	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>1%</b>
Aug 2009	14%	33%	29%	24%	0%
Jun 2009	20%	35%	25%	19%	1%
Mar 2009	23%	37%	22%	14%	4%
Feb 2009	25%	30%	23%	13%	9%

QualStL. Overall, how would you rate the quality of government in Pennsylvania?

	Excellent	Good	Only fair	Poor	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>1%</b>
Aug 2009	1%	26%	54%	18%	1%
Jun 2009	3%	29%	48%	18%	2%
Sep 2005	1%	36%	46%	15%	3%
Nov 2003	2%	36%	48%	13%	2%
Jan 2002	4%	55%	34%	5%	2%
Feb 2000	2%	53%	38%	5%	3%
Jul 1999	2%	47%	41%	8%	2%

RateSenS. How would you rate the way that ARLEN SPECTER is handling his job as U.S. SENATOR?

	Excellent job	Good job	Only a fair job	Poor job	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>7%</b>
Aug 2009	8%	27%	35%	22%	8%
Jun 2009	10%	24%	37%	18%	11%
Mar 2009	13%	39%	25%	12%	11%
Feb 2009	8%	35%	32%	17%	8%
Aug 2007	15%	36%	33%	12%	4%
Feb 2004	5%	34%	32%	10%	19%
Nov 2003	7%	35%	37%	11%	10%
Apr 2003	11%	36%	30%	11%	13%
Sep 1998	7%	47%	34%	6%	6%
Jul 1998	10%	44%	31%	9%	6%
Oct 1997	12%	41%	33%	6%	7%
Apr 1992	5%	33%	44%	12%	6%
Oct 1991	11%	39%	41%	9%	--



DesRECD. Do you believe that ARLEN SPECTER has done a good enough job as SENATOR to deserve re-election, or do you believe it is time for a change?

	Deserves re-election	Time for a change	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>11%</b>
Aug 2009	34%	54%	12%
Jun 2009	28%	57%	15%
Mar 2009	40%	46%	14%
Oct 1997	49%	40%	11%

RateGov. How would you rate the way that Ed Rendell is handling his job as governor?

	Excellent job	Good job	Only a fair job	Poor job	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>3%</b>
Aug 2009	6%	23%	35%	33%	3%
Jun 2009	10%	28%	34%	25%	3%
Feb 2009	7%	35%	37%	17%	4%
Aug 2007	9%	38%	36%	15%	2%
Jun 2007	8%	37%	37%	17%	1%
Feb 2007	11%	39%	34%	14%	2%
Oct 2006	11%	42%	30%	15%	2%
Sep 2006	12%	45%	28%	13%	2%
Aug 2006	11%	39%	33%	15%	2%
May 2006	9%	37%	34%	17%	3%
Feb 2006	8%	36%	34%	21%	1%
Sep 2005	5%	36%	38%	18%	3%
Jun 2005	6%	36%	41%	14%	3%
Mar 2005	6%	33%	46%	11%	4%
Aug 2004	9%	37%	39%	12%	4%
Feb 2004	6%	31%	44%	13%	7%
Nov 2003	7%	33%	35%	15%	10%
Apr 2003	10%	36%	24%	10%	21%

Rate\_StL. What kind of job do you think the state legislature is doing overall?

	Excellent job	Good job	Only a fair job	Poor job	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>7%</b>
Aug 2009	0%	18%	58%	20%	4%
Jun 2009	1%	26%	49%	18%	6%
Aug 2007	1%	25%	53%	16%	5%
Jun 2007	1%	25%	46%	21%	7%
Feb 2007	1%	23%	48%	18%	10%
May 2006	1%	19%	51%	22%	7%
Sep 2005*	1%	21%	47%	22%	8%
Nov 2003*	1%	22%	55%	17%	5%
Feb 2000*	3%	33%	49%	7%	9%
Jul 1999*	2%	33%	49%	10%	6%

\*Question asked of all respondents regardless of registration status

Rate\_Rep. Would you like to see your state representative in Harrisburg re-elected in the next election, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>26%</b>
Aug 2009	46%	29%	25%
May 2006	50%	30%	20%

Chg\_Hous. Regardless of how you feel about your own state representative, would you like to see most members of the state house of representatives re-elected in the next election, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>22%</b>
Aug 2009	29%	52%	19%
May 2006	27%	53%	20%

IntHard. Now I'm going to ask you about various events that happen to people. I'm interested in those that happened to you at any point during the last 12 months, that is since [fill one year ago's date]. Did any of the following hardships happen to you in the last 12 months? (rotated)

	Oct 2009	Mar 2009	Feb 2009	Oct 2008*	Sep 2008*
Did you experience a reduction in pay for any reason?	<b>22%</b>	22%	29%	19%	21%
Were you unemployed and looking for work for as long as a month?	<b>21%</b>	14%	17%	10%	13%
Were you unable to get needed medical care because you couldn't afford it?	<b>18%</b>	13%	16%	11%	14%
Did you lack health insurance coverage?	<b>16%</b>	16%	22%	10%	15%
Were you unable to purchase gasoline because you couldn't afford it?	<b>15%</b>	12%	12%	12%	14%
Did you fall behind in paying your rent or mortgage?	<b>13%</b>	13%	13%	8%	10%
Were you let go or permanently laid off from your job?	<b>13%</b>	12%	15%	6%	8%
Were you unable to purchase needed food because you couldn't afford it?	<b>10%</b>	11%	14%	11%	13%
For financial reasons, did you have to temporarily live with others or in a shelter or on the street?	<b>7%</b>	5%	5%	2%	3%
Did you have any utilities, such as water, heat, or electricity, shut off because you couldn't afford the bill?	<b>6%</b>	4%	6%	4%	5%
Were you evicted from your apartment or house?	<b>2%</b>	1%	2%	1%	0%
Did you personally benefit from national economic recovery efforts?	<b>13%</b>	-	-	-	-

\* Question asked of registered respondents only

Hard\_ly. How did you personally benefit from national economic recovery efforts?

n = 77

42%	Stimulus check
7%	First-time homebuyer credit
7%	Social security payment increase
4%	Tax rebate, decrease in taxes
3%	Unemployment funds
2%	Helped companies so helped investments
2%	Cobra extensions, payments
2%	Energy-efficiency rebates/tax credits
1%	Decrease in property taxes
1%	Cash for Clunkers
1%	Road, infrastructure improvements
2%	Nothing
23%	Other
8%	Don't know

*Percentages total more than 100% because multiple responses were accepted.*

I now have a final few questions for statistical purposes only.

CNTY. Region of state (What is the name of the county you live in?)

28%	Central
19%	Southeast
12%	Northeast
12%	Philadelphia
11%	Southwest
9%	Northwest
9%	Allegheny

RESID. How many years have you lived at your current residence?

16 Mean

AGE. What was your age on your last birthday?

12%	18-24
15%	25-34
15%	35-44
23%	45-54
13%	55-64
22%	65 and older

EDUC. What was the highest grade level of schooling you have completed?

9%	Non high school graduate
40%	High school graduate or GED
18%	Some college
8%	Two-year or tech degree
14%	Four year college degree
11%	Post graduate degree

MAR. What is your CURRENT marital status, are you single, married, separated, divorced, or a widower?

- 27% Single, Never Married
- 52% Married
- 1% Separated
- 10% Divorced
- 10% Widow or widower

IDEO. Politically speaking, do you consider yourself to be a liberal, a moderate, or a conservative?

	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>9%</b>
Aug 2009	16%	36%	43%	5%
Jun 2009	19%	34%	37%	10%
Feb 2008	20%	41%	35%	4%
Jan 2008	18%	40%	38%	4%
Aug 2007	21%	44%	31%	4%
Jun 2007	19%	42%	35%	4%
Feb 2007	21%	41%	32%	6%
Oct 2006	17%	42%	35%	6%
Sep 2006	20%	39%	36%	5%
Aug 2006	19%	38%	38%	5%
May 2006	16%	43%	35%	6%
Feb 2006	21%	41%	34%	4%
Nov 2005	17%	42%	35%	7%
Sep 2005	22%	38%	35%	5%
Jun 2005*	19%	42%	33%	7%
Mar 2005*	16%	40%	38%	6%
Oct 2004	16%	39%	38%	7%
Sep 2004	16%	52%	29%	4%
Aug 2004	15%	48%	33%	3%
Mar 2004	16%	44%	34%	6%
Feb 2004	20%	41%	33%	7%
Nov 2003	21%	42%	31%	7%
Apr 2003*	19%	41%	35%	5%
Oct 2002	16%	41%	35%	8%
Sep 2002	18%	41%	35%	6%
Jun 2002	19%	43%	33%	5%
Oct 2001	20%	38%	36%	6%
Apr 2001	19%	36%	35%	9%
Oct 2000	22%	37%	33%	8%
Feb 2000	19%	44%	37%	0%
Jul 1999	18%	37%	39%	6%

*\* Question asked of all respondents regardless of registration status*

PRTY1. Regardless of how you are registered, in politics, as of today, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

16%	Strong Republican
11%	Republican
13%	Lean Republican
9%	Pure Independent
11%	Lean Democrat
14%	Democrat
22%	Strong Democrat
3%	Don't know
1%	Other

LABR. Are you or is any member of your household a member of a LABOR UNION?

18%	Yes
82%	No

VET. Are you a military veteran?

13%	Yes
87%	No

Hisp. Are you Hispanic or Latino, or not?

3%	Yes
97%	No

RACE. Which of the following categories best describes your racial background?

86%	White
14%	Non-white

ABORT. Do you think that abortion should be...

	Legal under any circumstances	Legal under certain circumstances	Illegal in all circumstances	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>3%</b>
Aug 2009	21%	54%	23%	2%
Jun 2009	18%	58%	22%	2%
Aug 2007	22%	56%	21%	1%
Jun 2007	21%	58%	20%	1%
Feb 2007	20%	53%	26%	1%
Oct 2006*	17%	62%*	18%	3%
Sep 2006*	22%	54%	22%	2%
Aug 2006*	23%	56%	19%	2%
May 2006*	19%	65%	14%	2%
Feb 2006	23%	57%	17%	3%
Nov 2005	23%	55%	19%	3%
Sep 2005	24%	54%	19%	3%
Jun 2005	22%	55%	20%	4%
Mar 2005	18%	54%	25%	3%
Oct 2004*	18%	61%	19%	2%
Sep 2004*	22%	55%	22%	1%
Aug 2004*	20%	61%	18%	1%
Mar 2004*	16%	58%	24%	3%
Feb 2004	22%	54%	20%	4%
Nov 2003	23%	52%	21%	5%
Apr 2003*	22%	56%	21%	2%
Oct 2002*	29%	51%	17%	3%
Sep 2002*	26%	51%	19%	4%
Jun 2002*	26%	56%	15%	3%
Oct 2001*	25%	52%	20%	3%
Apr 2001*	25%	53%	18%	3%
Oct 2000*	26%	53%	15%	6%
Feb 2000*	23%	53%	20%	4%
Jul 1999	26%	54%	17%	3%

\*Question asked of registered respondents only

REL. Do you consider yourself to be Protestant, Catholic, some other religion, or not affiliated with any religion?

- 35% Protestant
- 32% Catholic
- 19% Some other religion
- 14% Not affiliated with any religion

BAC. Do you consider yourself to be a born-again Christian or fundamentalist, or not?

- 30% Yes
- 67% No
- 3% Don't know

Bible. Which of these statements comes closest to describing your feelings about the Bible?

	The Bible is the actual word of God and is to be taken literally, word for word.	The Bible is the inspired word of God but not everything in it should be taken literally, word for word.	The Bible is an ancient book of fables, legends, history, and moral precepts recorded by men.	Don't know
<b>Oct 2009</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>3%</b>
Aug 2009	32%	48%	17%	3%
Jun 2009	25%	56%	17%	2%
Feb 2006	27%	51%	21%	1%
Nov 2005	25%	54%	18%	4%
Sep 2004*	26%	59%	13%	3%
Aug 2004*	26%	55%	16%	3%

\* Question asked of registered respondents only

NumA. Including yourself, how many adults 18 years of age or OLDER CURRENTLY live in this household?

- 27% One
- 56% Two
- 11% Three
- 6% Four or more

WORK. Are you currently working FULL-time, PART-time, going to school, keeping house or something else?

- 42% Full-time
- 12% Part-time
- 5% Going to school
- 7% Keeping house
- 7% Unemployed
- 6% Disabled
- 21% Retired

INC1. And, just for statistical purposes, we need to know if your total family income is above or below \$50,000 per year?

- 21% Under \$25,000
- 15% \$25-\$35,000
- 12% \$35-50,000
- 19% \$50-75,000
- 11% \$75-100,000
- 16% Over \$100,000
- 6% Don't know

DONE. Sex of respondent:

- 52% Female
- 48% Male