

FRANKLIN & MARSHALL

# **Franklin & Marshall College Poll**

## **SURVEY OF PENNSYLVANIANS SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

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# Table of Contents

<b>KEY FINDINGS</b> .....	<b>3</b>
THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN PENNSYLVANIA .....	3
THE US SENATE ELECTION IN PENNSYLVANIA.....	6
<b>METHODOLOGY</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>ATTACHMENT A</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>ATTACHMENT B</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>MARGINAL FREQUENCY REPORT</b> .....	<b>10</b>

The Franklin & 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), Times-Shamrock Newspapers, Harrisburg Patriot-News, and Lancaster Newspapers. It may be used in whole or in part, provided any use is attributed to Franklin & Marshall College.

## Key Findings

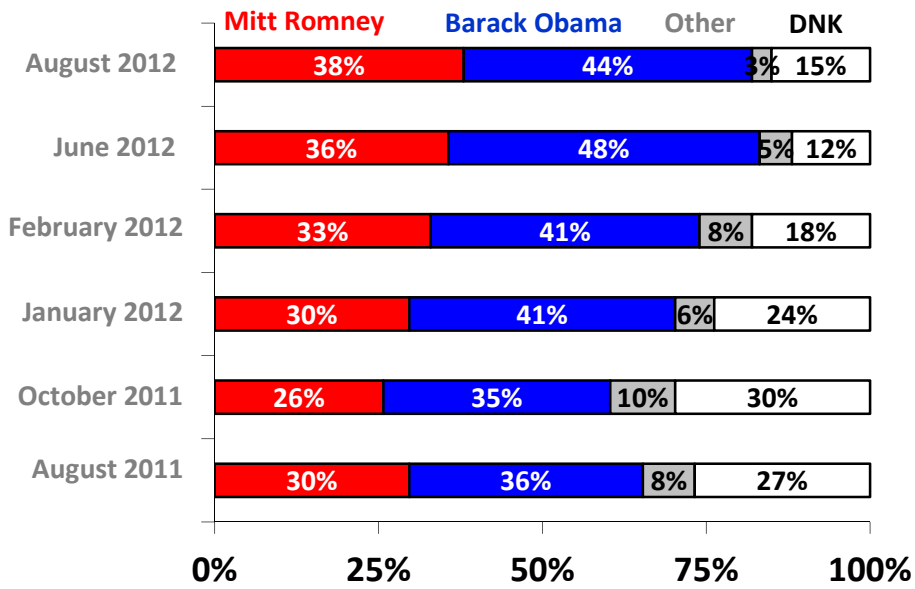
The August 2012 Franklin & Marshall College Poll finds increasing voter interest in the presidential election. President Barack Obama continues to lead his Republican challenger Mitt Romney, although his advantage is smaller than in June. The president enjoys significant advantages over Romney in his personal popularity and most voters believe he better understands their concerns. The president is also thought to be better prepared to handle the presidency even though there is ambivalence about some of his major policy initiatives. In the US Senate race, incumbent Democrat Bob Casey, Jr. leads the Republican challenger Tom Smith by a wide margin, although many voters remain undecided at the moment.

### ***The Presidential Election in Pennsylvania***

President Obama has led Mitt Romney in every Franklin & Marshall College Poll since August 2011 (see Figure 1). The president currently leads Romney among registered voters in Pennsylvania 44% to 38% with 15% undecided. Allocating voters who lean to a candidate produces a similar advantage for the president, 47% to 42%, but shows that 7% of voters are truly undecided. President Obama leads in most regions of the state, including Philadelphia, Allegheny County, the southwest and southeast, and he has comfortable leads among young voters, non-whites and women (see Attachment A). Mitt Romney holds an advantage among working-class whites.

**Figure 1: Presidential Horse Race, Pennsylvania August 2012**

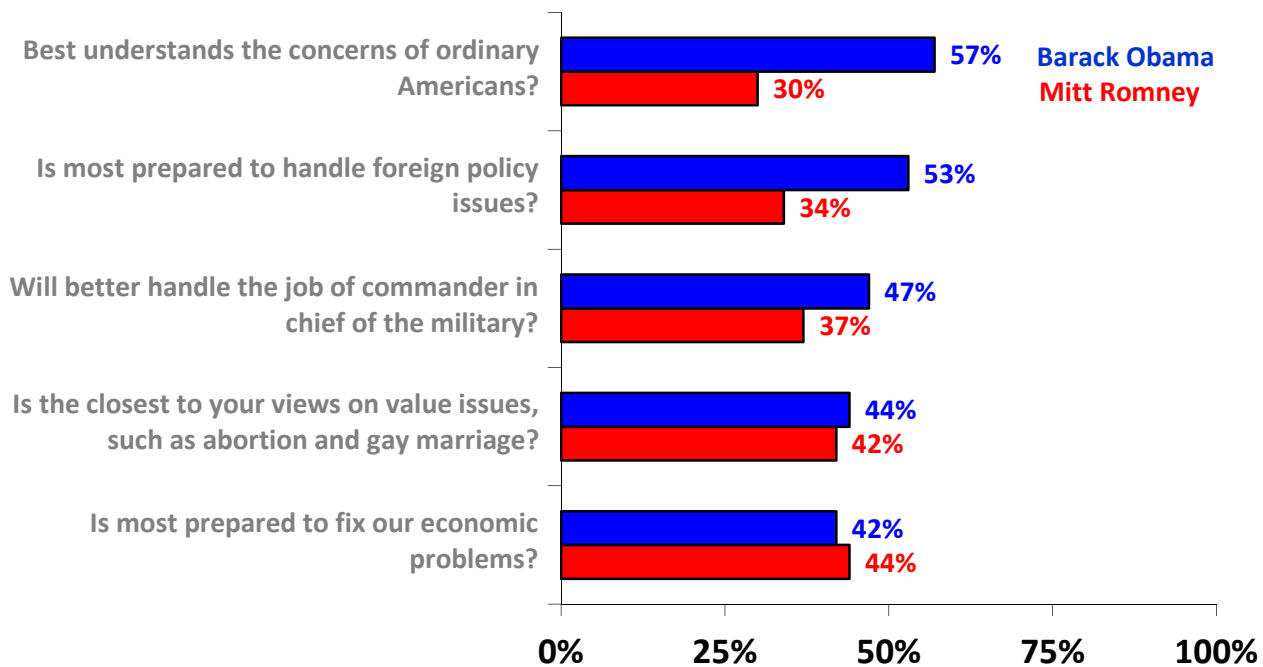
*If the November 2012 general election for president were being held today and the candidates were [rotate] Mitt Romney, the Republican, and Barack Obama, the Democrat, would you vote for [rotate] Mitt Romney, Barack Obama, some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?*



Both President Obama’s personal favorability ratings and job approval ratings declined in Pennsylvania since June. Mitt Romney’s favorability ratings have slightly improved. Registered voters in Pennsylvania believe the president is better prepared than Mitt Romney to handle specific aspects of his job and to better reflect their concerns and values, although Romney has an advantage on economic issues that he did not have in the June survey (see Figure 2).

**Figure 2: Presidential Attributes, Pennsylvania August 2012**

*Regardless of how you plan to vote, which presidential candidate do you think is best described by each of the following statements? Do you think Barack Obama or Mitt Romney...*



President Obama’s re-election prospects in Pennsylvania today are quite similar to his position in August 2008 (see Table 1). His personal favorability scores are a bit lower than in 2008, but Mitt Romney’s favorability scores are much lower than John McCain’s were at the time. The president’s job performance scores are also much better than were President Bush’s in 2008; President Bush’s poor job performance ratings were undeniably a drag on the Republican ticket at the time. Compared to 2004, President Obama’s favorability and job performance

scores are similar to President Bush’s ratings when he stood for re-election, although the personal popularity of Mr. Bush’s challenger was much higher than Mitt Romney’s.

**Table 1: Pennsylvania Survey Indicator Comparison: August 2004, 2008, and 2012**

	August 2004	August 2008	August 2012
Bush (2004) - Obama Favorable / Unfavorable	44% / 46%	43% / 29%	46% / 45%
Challenger Favorable / Unfavorable	46% / 35%	39% / 32%	32% / 49%
President Job Performance (Exc+Good / Fair+Poor)	46% / 54%	21% / 78%	43% / 56%
Personal Finances (Better / Worse)	-	16% / 37%	15% / 27%
Voter Interest (very interested)	56%	62%	58%
Democratic Candidate Advantage (D% - R%)	+ 6	+ 8	+ 6

### ***The US Senate Election in Pennsylvania***

Incumbent US Senator Bob Casey, Jr. has a comfortable advantage over his Republican challenger, Tom Smith, 35% to 23%, with nearly two in five voters undecided (39%).

Allocating initially undecided voters increases Senator Casey’s lead, 43% to 28%, but the truly undecided remains high at 24%. Tom Smith is unrecognized by most (68%) of the state’s voters.

Senator Casey leads in most regions of the state and among most voter groups at the moment (see Attachment B).

## Methodology

The survey findings presented in this release are based on the results of interviews conducted August 7 – August 12, 2012. 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 Senior Project Manager Angela Knittle. The data included in this release represent the responses of 681 Pennsylvania registered voters, including 343 Democrats, 254 Republicans, and 84 registered as Independent/Other. The sample of registered voters was obtained from Voter Contact Services. Survey results were weighted (region, gender, and party) using an iterative weighting algorithm to reflect the known distribution of those characteristics as reported by the Pennsylvania Department of State.

The sample error for this survey is +/- 3.8 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.

# Attachment A

## Horse Race: Obama vs. Romney, Pennsylvania August 2012

If the November 2012 general election for president was being held today and the candidates were [rotate] Mitt Romney, the Republican and Barack Obama, the Democrat, would you vote for: [rotate] Mitt Romney or Barack Obama, some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?

	Obama	Romney	Other	Don't know
<b>Political Party*</b>				
Republican	11%	69%	4%	16%
Democrat	72%	13%	2%	13%
Independent/Other	26%	46%	5%	23%
<b>Ideology*</b>				
Liberal	82%	6%	1%	10%
Moderate	51%	24%	4%	21%
Conservative	13%	74%	3%	10%
<b>Gender*</b>				
Male	38%	43%	5%	14%
Female	49%	34%	2%	16%
<b>Age*</b>				
18-34	55%	20%	11%	13%
35-54	40%	37%	3%	21%
55 and over	44%	41%	2%	13%
<b>Education</b>				
High school or less	38%	40%	5%	17%
Some college	41%	40%	3%	16%
College degree	50%	35%	2%	14%
<b>Household Income**</b>				
Less than \$35,000	49%	29%	5%	18%
\$35-75,000	42%	44%	4%	11%
Over \$75,000	49%	34%	1%	16%
<b>Race*</b>				
Non-white	85%	6%	2%	7%
White	41%	40%	3%	16%
<b>Marital Status*</b>				
Not currently married	47%	36%	2%	15%
Single, never married	59%	20%	7%	14%
Married	38%	43%	2%	16%
<b>Religious Affiliation*</b>				
Other/unaffiliated	61%	20%	4%	15%
Protestant	34%	49%	4%	13%
Catholic	40%	40%	2%	17%
<b>Born Again Christian or Fundamentalist*</b>				
Yes	29%	57%	3%	11%
No	49%	31%	3%	17%
<b>Household Union Member</b>				
Yes	49%	32%	4%	15%
No	43%	39%	3%	15%
<b>Military Veteran</b>				
Yes	32%	46%	4%	18%
No	46%	36%	3%	15%
<b>Region*</b>				
Northeast	39%	40%	4%	17%
Philadelphia	73%	14%	0%	13%
Southeast	47%	38%	2%	13%
Northwest	45%	37%	2%	16%
Central	33%	47%	3%	17%
Allegheny	59%	28%	2%	11%
Southwest	29%	43%	11%	18%
<b>Employment*</b>				
Fulltime	46%	36%	4%	14%
Other	48%	30%	3%	19%
Retired	36%	48%	2%	13%
<b>Other</b>				
White, working Class	39%	46%	4%	11%

\* p<0.01

\*\* p<0.05



# Attachment B

## Horse Race: Casey vs. Smith, Pennsylvania August 2012

If the November 2012 general election for U.S. Senator was being held today and the candidates were [rotate] Tom Smith, the Republican, and Bob Casey, Jr., the Democrat, would you vote for: [rotate] Tom Smith, Bob Casey, Jr., some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?

	Casey	Smith	Other	Don't know
<b>Political Party*</b>				
Republican	11%	48%	2%	39%
Democrat	57%	4%	2%	37%
Independent/Other	21%	27%	3%	49%
<b>Ideology*</b>				
Liberal	59%	3%	2%	36%
Moderate	48%	13%	3%	37%
Conservative	9%	47%	2%	42%
<b>Gender*</b>				
Male	37%	30%	2%	31%
Female	34%	18%	2%	46%
<b>Age*</b>				
18-34	30%	10%	4%	57%
35-54	33%	19%	2%	47%
55 and over	39%	28%	2%	31%
<b>Education*</b>				
High school or less	28%	31%	4%	36%
Some college	28%	20%	2%	50%
College degree	45%	20%	1%	34%
<b>Household Income</b>				
Less than \$35,000	33%	25%	3%	40%
\$35-75,000	36%	26%	2%	37%
Over \$75,000	43%	16%	3%	38%
<b>Race**</b>				
Non-white	39%	6%	8%	47%
White	36%	24%	2%	38%
<b>Marital Status*</b>				
Not currently married	40%	21%	2%	37%
Single, never married	37%	10%	4%	48%
Married	33%	27%	2%	37%
<b>Religious Affiliation*</b>				
Other/unaffiliated	39%	14%	4%	43%
Protestant	30%	32%	2%	37%
Catholic	38%	22%	1%	38%
<b>Born Again Christian or Fundamentalist*</b>				
Yes	18%	37%	3%	42%
No	41%	19%	2%	39%
<b>Household Union Member</b>				
Yes	40%	18%	2%	40%
No	35%	25%	2%	38%
<b>Military Veteran*</b>				
Yes	35%	39%	1%	25%
No	35%	20%	2%	42%
<b>Region</b>				
Northeast	37%	31%	2%	30%
Philadelphia	47%	7%	4%	41%
Southeast	38%	23%	2%	37%
Northwest	32%	26%	1%	40%
Central	28%	27%	2%	43%
Allegheny	43%	17%	4%	36%
Southwest	33%	23%	0%	45%
<b>Employment*</b>				
Fulltime	40%	16%	3%	41%
Other	30%	19%	2%	49%
Retired	35%	37%	1%	28%

\* p<0.01

\*\* p<0.05

# Marginal Frequency Report

Responses may not total 100% due to rounding.

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

100% Yes  
0% No

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

37% Republican  
50% Democrat  
11% Independent  
1% Something else

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>Aug 2012</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>13%</b>
June 2012	30%	57%	13%
Feb 2012	31%	56%	13%
Jan 2012	38%	47%	15%
Oct 2011	38%	49%	13%
Aug 2011	34%	53%	13%
Mar 2011	37%	53%	10%
Oct 2010	27%	64%	9%
Sep 2010	31%	59%	10%
Aug 2010	30%	58%	12%
May 2010	35%	55%	10%
Mar 2010	32%	58%	10%
Feb 2010	37%	50%	13%
Jan 2010	39%	53%	8%

MIP\_PA. What do you think is the MOST IMPORTANT problem facing PENNSYLVANIA TODAY?

Mar 2005	Jun 2005	Sep 2005	Nov 2005	Feb 2006	Aug 2006*	Aug 2007*	Oct 2010	Aug 2011	Aug 2012*	
3%	2%	1%	3%	1%	0%	0%	17%	38%	30%	Unemployment, personal finances
8%	6%	8%	8%	7%	7%	9%	14%	11%	15%	Government, politicians
10%	8%	9%	6%	7%	10%	10%	4%	12%	13%	Education, school
26%	24%	25%	23%	23%	17%	15%	39%	9%	12%	Economy
15%	18%	15%	16%	18%	18%	12%	8%	5%	4%	Taxes
0%	1%	9%	3%	2%	2%	1%	0%	3%	3%	Energy issues, gas prices
8%	6%	5%	5%	8%	7%	10%	7%	2%	3%	Healthcare, insurance
3%	2%	2%	1%	3%	1%	7%	1%	3%	2%	Roads, infrastructure
4%	6%	3%	5%	8%	8%	11%	1%	1%	2%	Crime, drugs, violence
0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	1%	0%	2%	Retaining, attracting businesses
0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	Civil liberties
2%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	Environment
2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	4%	2%	1%	2%	1%	Senior issues, social security
2%	3%	1%	3%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%	Social issues
1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	Welfare
0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	Values, morals
1%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	Housing, real estate
0%	2%	2%	1%	2%	4%	1%	0%	1%	0%	Gambling, slot machines
1%	2%	0%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	Public transportation
0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%	Immigration
2%	4%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	Population, urban sprawl
0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	Population loss
0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	Foreign policy, terrorism, war
0%	0%	2%	3%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	Legislative pay raise
0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	Justice system
1%	2%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	Nothing
4%	8%	8%	8%	10%	8%	7%	3%	6%	6%	Don't know
8%	4%	6%	7%	6%	5%	5%	1%	1%	2%	Other

\*Question asked of registered respondents only

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>BARACK OBAMA</b>						
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>1%</b>
June 2012	26%	21%	11%	33%	9%	1%
Feb 2012	23%	22%	12%	35%	8%	0%
Jan 2012	25%	20%	12%	32%	9%	1%
Mar 2011	17%	24%	11%	33%	14%	2%
May 2010	26%	18%	12%	34%	10%	0%
Mar 2010	25%	17%	13%	33%	11%	1%
Feb 2010	27%	22%	10%	29%	11%	1%
Jan 2010	23%	21%	11%	33%	10%	2%
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>MITT ROMNEY</b>						
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>6%</b>
June 2012	11%	16%	17%	31%	16%	10%
Feb 2012	6%	21%	18%	26%	21%	8%
Jan 2012	4%	21%	13%	22%	21%	19%
<b>BOB CASEY</b>						
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>27%</b>
June 2012	14%	24%	10%	8%	14%	29%
Jan 2012	9%	20%	9%	8%	18%	35%
Mar 2011	6%	19%	11%	8%	19%	37%
May 2010	10%	23%	9%	11%	16%	31%
Mar 2010	9%	24%	10%	11%	17%	29%
Feb 2010	13%	20%	9%	9%	15%	34%
Jan 2010	9%	23%	11%	9%	17%	31%
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>TOM SMITH</b>						
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>68%</b>
June 2012	2%	6%	2%	4%	8%	77%

Continued on next page

	Strongly favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Strongly unfavorable	Undecided	Don't know
<b>TOM CORBETT</b>						
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>13%</b>
June 2012	7%	25%	14%	25%	15%	14%
Jan 2012	6%	23%	15%	17%	18%	20%
Mar 2011	14%	19%	8%	15%	24%	21%
Oct 2010	17%	18%	8%	9%	17%	31%
Sep 2010	12%	15%	5%	5%	17%	45%
Aug 2010	8%	19%	7%	8%	19%	40%
May 2010	7%	17%	5%	5%	17%	49%
Mar 2010	8%	14%	4%	3%	17%	54%
Feb 2010	5%	16%	3%	3%	19%	54%

Vote\_Nov. Many people will vote in the election for president in November, however, many other people will not. What would you say are the chances you will vote in the November presidential election? Are you certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances fifty-fifty you will vote, OR don't you think that you will vote in the November election for president?

89% Certain to vote  
6% Will probably vote  
4% Chances 50-50  
1% Don't think will vote

Pol\_Int. Some people don't pay much attention to political campaigns. How about you? Would you say that you are...very much interested, somewhat interested or not very interested in the 2012 elections?

	Very much interested	Somewhat interested	Not very interested
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>8%</b>
June 2012	51%	38%	11%
Feb 2012	52%	39%	9%
Jan 2012	46%	44%	11%

Vot08. Did you vote in the last presidential election in 2008, or not?

93% Yes  
7% No

Vot08pref. Did you vote for Barack Obama, John McCain, or some other candidate in 2008?

51% Obama  
43% McCain  
5% Other  
1% Do not know

Pres2012. If the November 2012 general election for president was being held today and the candidates were [rotate] Mitt Romney the Republican and Barack Obama the Democrat, would you vote for: [rotate] Mitt Romney or Barack Obama, some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?

	Obama	Romney	Other	Don't know
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>15%</b>
June 2012	48%	36%	5%	12%
Feb 2012	41%	33%	8%	18%
Jan 2012	41%	30%	6%	24%
Oct 2011	35%	26%	10%	30%
Aug 2011	36%	30%	8%	27%

CertPres Are you absolutely CERTAIN you will vote FOR [candidate] in the election, or are you still making up your mind? (575 respondents with a vote choice)

	Certain	Making up Mind	Don't know
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>0%</b>
June 2012	82%	17%	1%

LeanPres As of today, do you lean more to (rotated) ... or are you leaning toward some other candidate? (106 undecided respondents)

Rotated	Obama	Romney	Other	Don't know
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>44%</b>
June 2012	30%	15%	12%	43%

IntDesPres Regardless of how you plan to vote, which presidential candidate do you think is best described by each of the following statements? Do you think Barack Obama or Mitt Romney...

<b>August 2012</b>	Obama	Romney	Don't know
Best understands the concerns of ordinary Americans?	57%	30%	13%
Is most prepared to fix our economic problems?	42%	44%	15%
Is closest to your views on value issues, such as abortion and gay marriage?	44%	42%	14%
Will better handle the job of commander in chief of the military?	47%	37%	16%
Is most prepared to handle foreign policy issues?	53%	34%	13%

<b>June 2012</b>	Obama	Romney	Don't know
Best understands the concerns of ordinary Americans?	57%	31%	13%
Is most prepared to fix our economic problems?	44%	38%	18%
Is closest to your views on value issues, such as abortion and gay marriage?	47%	37%	15%
Will better handle the job of commander in chief of the military?	51%	33%	16%
Is most prepared to handle foreign policy issues?	57%	29%	14%

IntFavPol Please tell me whether you favor or oppose each of the following policies that President Obama signed into law...Do you favor or oppose the...is that strongly or somewhat (favor/oppose)?

<b>August 2012</b>	<b>Strongly Favor</b>	<b>Somewhat Favor</b>	<b>Somewhat Oppose</b>	<b>Strongly Oppose</b>	<b>Do Not Know</b>
Fiscal stimulus plan of 2009	19%	26%	14%	27%	15%
Financial bailouts for the automobile industry	23%	24%	15%	32%	7%
Health care reform act	27%	18%	12%	36%	8%

<b>June 2012</b>	<b>Strongly Favor</b>	<b>Somewhat Favor</b>	<b>Somewhat Oppose</b>	<b>Strongly Oppose</b>	<b>Do Not Know</b>
Fiscal stimulus plan of 2009	19%	25%	15%	23%	19%
Financial bailouts for the automobile industry	28%	26%	15%	29%	2%
Health care reform act	24%	22%	11%	37%	6%

RepHCL Would you favor or oppose repealing the health care reform law? Is the strongly or somewhat (favor/oppose)?

- 35% Strongly favor
- 13% Somewhat favor
- 14% Somewhat oppose
- 28% Strongly oppose
- 10% Do not know

Sen2012 If the November 2012 general election for U.S. SENATOR was being held today and the candidates were [rotate] Tom Smith, the Republican and Bob Casey Jr., the Democrat, would you vote for: [rotate] Tom Smith or Bob Casey Jr., some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?

	<b>Casey</b>	<b>Smith</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>39%</b>
June 2012	42%	21%	2%	35%

CertSen. Are you absolutely CERTAIN you will vote FOR [candidate] in the election, or are you still making up your mind? (413 respondents with a vote choice)

	<b>Certain</b>	<b>Making up Mind</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>1%</b>
June 2012	73%	25%	2%

LeanSen. As of today, do you lean more to (rotated) ... or are you leaning toward some other candidate? (267 undecided respondents)

<b>Rotated</b>	<b>Casey</b>	<b>Smith</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>62%</b>
June 2012	19%	10%	9%	63%

Rate\_Gov. How would you rate the way that Tom Corbett is handling his job as Governor? Would you say he is doing an...

	<b>Excellent Job</b>	<b>Good Job</b>	<b>Only a Fair Job</b>	<b>Poor Job</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>6%</b>
Oct 2011	5%	33%	43%	11%	8%
Aug 2011	6%	26%	46%	14%	9%
Mar 2011	5%	26%	39%	13%	18%

RateSenC. How would you rate the way that Bob Casey, JR. is handling his job as U.S. SENATOR? Would you say he is doing... an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or a poor job as U.S. Senator?

	<b>Excellent Job</b>	<b>Good Job</b>	<b>Only a Fair Job</b>	<b>Poor Job</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>16%</b>
June 2012	5%	33%	32%	8%	21%
Feb 2012	4%	26%	43%	12%	15%
Jan 2012	4%	31%	36%	11%	19%
Oct 2011	5%	33%	38%	9%	16%
Aug 2011	5%	27%	43%	9%	16%
Mar 2011	3%	26%	39%	9%	23%
Feb 2009	7%	31%	32%	10%	20%
Aug 2007	5%	37%	36%	7%	15%



RatePres. How would you rate the way that Barack Obama is handling his job as president?  
 Would you say he is doing... an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or a poor job as President?

	Excellent job	Good job	Only a fair job	Poor job	Don't know
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>1%</b>
June 2012	13%	29%	30%	28%	1%
Feb 2012	11%	26%	29%	35%	0%
Jan 2012	9%	31%	29%	30%	0%
Oct 2011	9%	28%	31%	32%	1%
Aug 2011	9%	25%	33%	33%	1%
Mar 2011	7%	28%	30%	34%	1%
Oct 2010	8%	24%	31%	36%	1%
Sep 2010	10%	26%	33%	30%	0%
Aug 2010	9%	28%	28%	35%	1%
May 2010	14%	24%	32%	29%	1%
Mar 2010	12%	28%	27%	32%	1%
Feb 2010	12%	29%	32%	27%	0%
Jan 2010	11%	27%	32%	29%	1%
Oct 2009	17%	23%	31%	28%	1%
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%

RateBOEcon How would you rate the way that Barack Obama has handled the economy...is he doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or a poor job handling the economy?

	Excellent Job	Good Job	Only a Fair Job	Poor Job	Don't Know
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>1%</b>
June 2012	8%	30%	26%	35%	1%
Feb 2012	9%	23%	26%	42%	1%
Jan 2012	6%	23%	27%	43%	1%

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>Aug 2012*</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>0%</b>
June 2012*	16%	27%	57%	0%
Feb 2012*	16%	28%	56%	0%
Jan 2012*	15%	26%	60%	0%
Mar 2011	11%	31%	57%	1%
Aug 2010	13%	33%	54%	1%
May 2010	14%	39%	46%	1%
Mar 2010	13%	36%	51%	0%
Feb 2010	13%	41%	46%	0%
Jan 2010	10%	40%	50%	0%
Oct 2009	8%	36%	55%	1%
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>Aug 2012*</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>12%</b>
June 2012*	21%	14%	57%	8%
Feb 2012*	23%	13%	58%	6%
Jan 2012*	27%	13%	53%	6%
Mar 2011	27%	26%	43%	5%
Aug 2010	24%	15%	54%	7%
May 2010	29%	17%	49%	5%
Mar 2010	27%	17%	50%	6%
Feb 2010	28%	18%	47%	7%
Jan 2010	27%	17%	49%	7%
Oct 2009	31%	14%	50%	5%
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

RespEcon. Who do you feel is most responsible for the country's current economic situation: former President Bush, President Obama, the Congress, are all equally to blame or is no one really to blame?

	President Bush	President Obama	Congress	All equally to blame	No one really to blame	Do not know
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>2%</b>
June 2012	27%	9%	19%	38%	5%	2%
Feb 2012	22%	9%	17%	45%	5%	2%
Jan 2012	26%	7%	19%	42%	4%	3%
Aug 2010	38%	12%	--	29%	15%	6%

DEMO 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?)

9%	Philadelphia
12%	Northeast
10%	Allegheny
11%	Southwest
9%	Northwest
26%	Central
24%	Southeast

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

20.3 Mean

AGE. What was your age on your last birthday?

7%	18-24
6%	25-34
11%	35-44
18%	45-54
23%	55-64
35%	65 and older

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

3%	Non high school graduate
26%	High school graduate or GED
16%	Some college
12%	Two-year or tech degree
23%	Four year college degree
20%	Post graduate degree

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

18%	Single, Never Married
65%	Married
1%	Separated
6%	Divorced
10%	Widow or widower

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

	<b>Liberal</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
<b>Aug 2012</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>4%</b>
June 2012	25%	34%	36%	5%
Feb 2012	17%	39%	40%	4%
Jan 2011	21%	39%	36%	4%
Oct 2011	20%	39%	33%	8%
Aug 2011	24%	32%	37%	7%
Mar 2011	16%	33%	41%	10%
Oct 2010	16%	37%	39%	8%
Sep 2010	15%	34%	40%	10%
Aug 2010	19%	32%	40%	9%
May 2010	19%	32%	40%	9%
Mar 2010	17%	35%	40%	8%
Feb 2010	21%	33%	37%	9%
Jan 2010	19%	30%	42%	9%

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

19% Yes  
80% No  
1% Do not know

VET. Are you a military veteran?

18% Yes  
82% No

Hisp. Are you Hispanic or Latino, or not?

1% Yes  
99% No

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

93% White  
7% Non-white

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

36% Protestant  
36% Catholic  
14% Some other religion  
14% Not affiliated with any religion  
1% Do not know

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

26% Yes  
72% No  
2% Don't know

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

40%	Full-time
13%	Part-time
4%	Going to school
6%	Keeping house
3%	Unemployed
3%	Disabled
31%	Retired

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

13%	Under \$25,000
12%	\$25-\$35,000
14%	\$35-50,000
19%	\$50-75,000
15%	\$75-100,000
22%	Over \$100,000
6%	Don't know

DONE. Sex of respondent:

48%	Male
52%	Female