

FRANKLIN & MARSHALL

# **Franklin & Marshall College Poll**

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

**Prepared by:  
Center for Opinion Research  
Floyd Institute for Public Policy  
Franklin & Marshall College**

**BERWOOD A. YOST  
DIRECTOR, FLOYD INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY  
DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR OPINION RESEARCH  
HEAD METHODOLOGIST, FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE POLL**

**G. TERRY MADONNA  
DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR POLITICS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
DIRECTOR, FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE POLL**

**JACQUELINE REDMAN  
PROJECT MANAGER, CENTER FOR OPINION RESEARCH  
PROJECT MANAGER, FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE POLL**

**KAY K. HUEBNER  
PROGRAMMER, CENTER FOR OPINION RESEARCH**

**March 26, 2015**

## Table of Contents

<b>KEY FINDINGS</b> .....	<b>3</b>
TOM WOLF JOB PERFORMANCE AND FAVORABILITY .....	3
STATE ISSUES.....	4
PAT TOOMEY JOB PERFORMANCE AND FAVORABILITY .....	5
PRESIDENT OBAMA’S JOB PERFORMANCE.....	6
<b>METHODOLOGY</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>ATTACHMENT A</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>ATTACHMENT B</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>ATTACHMENT C</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>MARGINAL FREQUENCY REPORT</b> .....	<b>11</b>

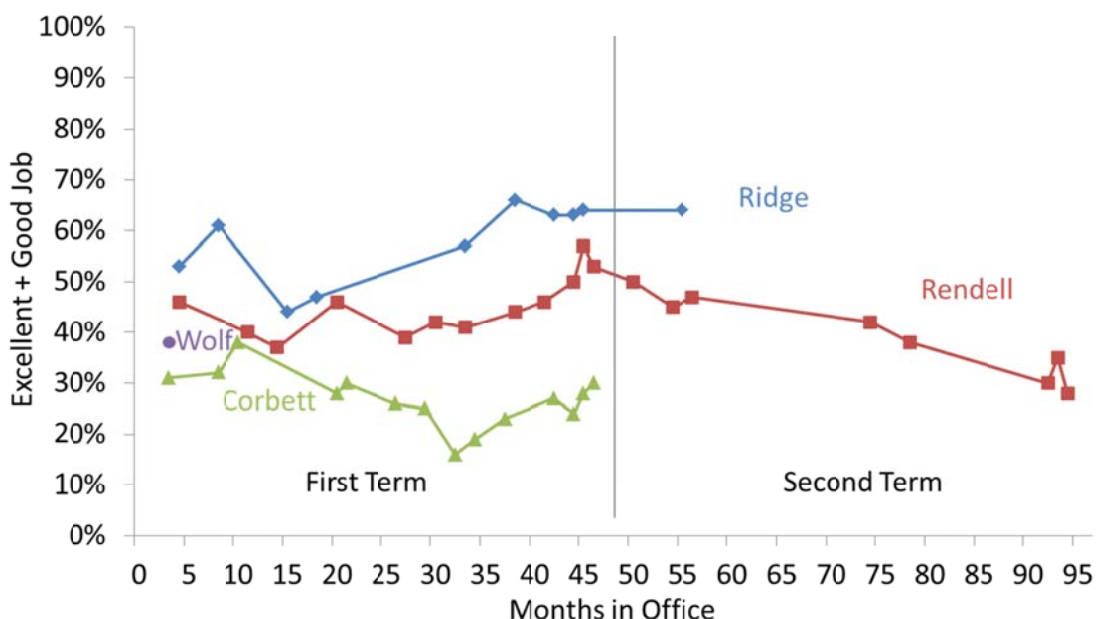
## Key Findings

The March 2015 Franklin & Marshall College Poll of Pennsylvania registered voters shows more voters believe the state is headed in the right direction than at any time since January 2010. Nearly two in five (38%) registered voters believes Governor Wolf is doing an “excellent” or “good” job as governor. Pennsylvania registered voters’ top priorities include increasing state education funding (27%) and local property tax reform (25%). Most (77%) respondents believe the state’s tax system needs reformed, a sentiment supported equally by registered voters in both parties. A majority (59%) of state voters supports the Governor’s budget plan and a majority (60%) also supports increasing state income taxes in order to reduce property taxes.

### Tom Wolf Job Performance and Favorability

Nearly two in five (38%) registered Pennsylvania voters believes Governor Wolf is doing an “excellent” or “good” job as governor. More than three in five (58%) Democrats rate his performance as “excellent” or “good.” Governor Wolf’s job performance ratings are lower than Governor Rendell or Governor Ridge but higher than Governor Corbett at the beginning of their first terms (see Figure 1). Governor Wolf is viewed more favorably (40%) than unfavorably (27%) by the state’s registered voters.

**Figure 1: Comparison of Pennsylvania Governors’ Job Performance Ratings**  
*How would you rate the way that [fill Governor] is handling his job as governor? Would you say he is doing... an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or a poor job as governor?*

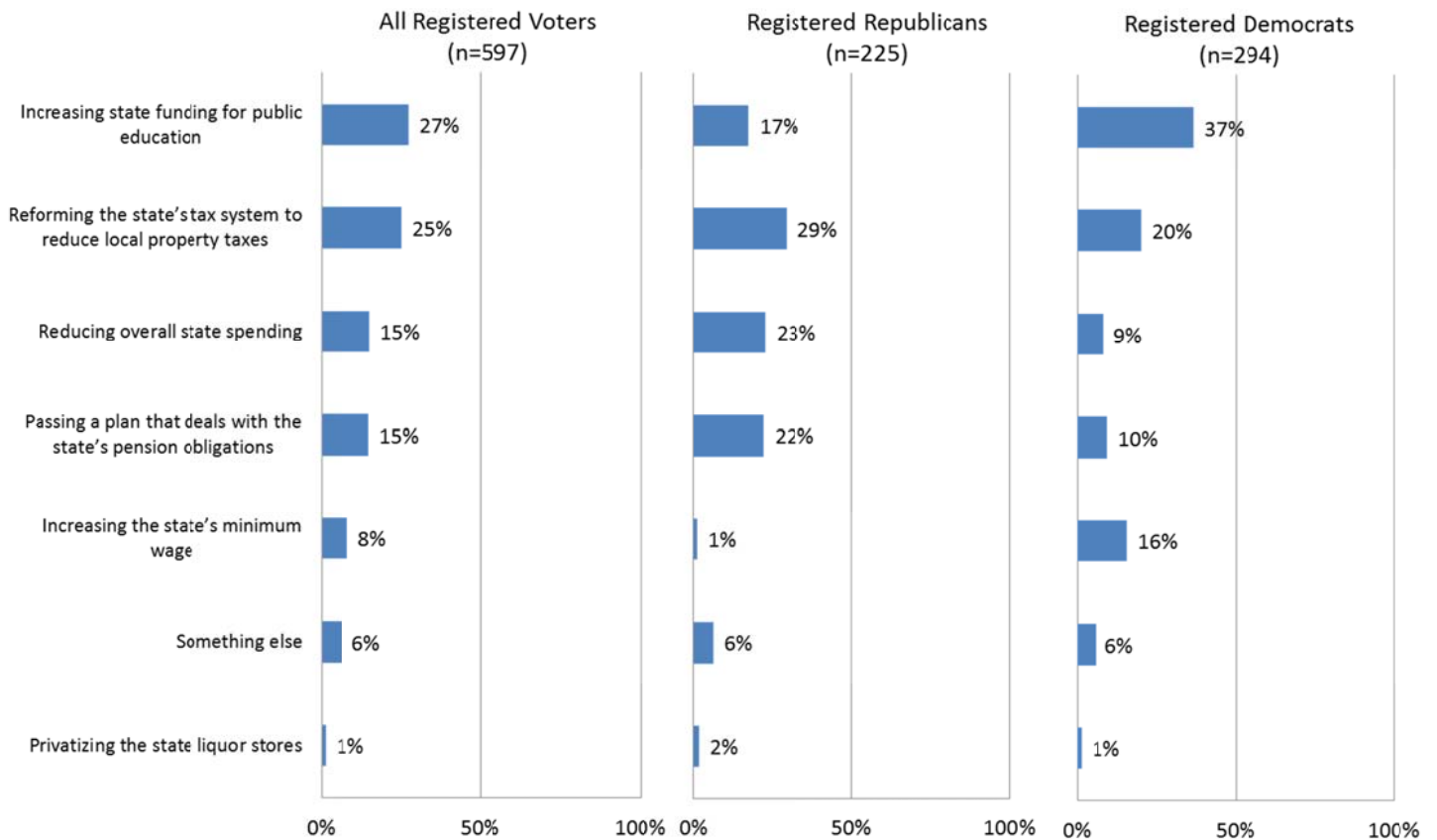


## State Issues

Pennsylvania registered voters' report their top priority for the state government is to see an increase in state funding for public education (27%) or to have local property tax reform (25%). Other priorities, such as dealing with the state's pension obligations or reducing state spending are ranked lower in importance (see Figure 2). Not surprisingly, Republicans place more emphasis on reducing property taxes (29%) and addressing the state's pension obligations (22%) while Democrats more often support increased funding for public education (37%).

**Figure 2: Top Legislative Priorities by Party, Pennsylvania 2015**

*Which of the following issues do you think should be the top priority for state lawmakers to address?*



Most (77%) respondents believe the state's tax system needs reformed, a sentiment supported equally by registered voters in both parties. A majority (59%) of state voters supports the Governor's budget plan and a majority (60%) also supports increasing state income taxes in order to reduce property taxes. What is most interesting is that a majority of Republicans (52%), independents (51%), and Democrats (69%) supports increasing state income taxes to reduce local property taxes. State store privatization is supported by less than half (49%) of the state's registered voters while support for increasing the state's minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour is supported by two in three (66%) registered voters.

### ***Pat Toomey Job Performance and Favorability***

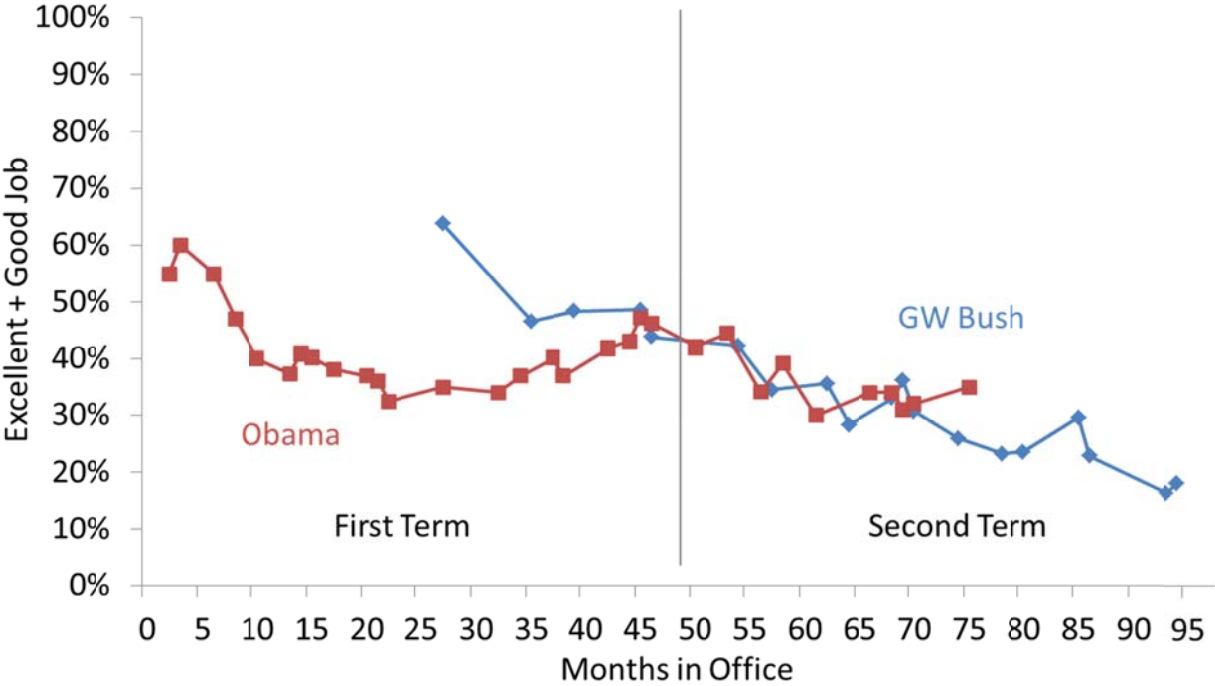
Nearly one in three (31%) registered Pennsylvania voters believes Senator Toomey is doing an "excellent" or "good" job as US Senator. About half (49%) of Republicans rate his performance as "excellent" or "good." Senator Toomey is still viewed more favorably (30%) than unfavorably (23%) by the state's registered voters. Senator Toomey currently leads Democrat Joe Sestak by a five point margin, 34% to 29%, although most voters (37%) are still undecided about this race. Joe Sestak's name recognition is relatively low, with nearly two in three (63%) of the state's registered voters saying they do not know enough about Sestak to have an opinion of him.

### President Obama’s Job Performance

One in three (35%) registered Pennsylvania voters believes President Obama is doing an “excellent” or “good” job as President, which is about the same as in recent surveys. Three in five (60%) of the state’s registered Democrats provide the president with a favorable job performance rating, and only one in four (22%) independents do. Less than one in ten (5%) registered Republicans rate his performance favorably. President Obama’s job performance ratings are a bit better than President Bush’s ratings in Pennsylvania at a similar point in his presidency (Figure 3).

**Figure 3: Comparison of Presidential Job Performance Ratings, Pennsylvania**

*How would you rate the way that [fill President] 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?*



## Methodology

The survey findings presented in this release are based on the results of interviews conducted March 17 – 23, 2015. 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 Jacqueline Redman. The data included in this release represent the responses of 597 Pennsylvania registered voters, including 294 self-identified Democrats, 225 self-identified Republicans, and 78 self-identified Independents. The sample of registered voters was obtained from Labels & Lists. Survey results were weighted (gender, region and party registration) 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 +/- 4.2 percentage points when the design effects from weighting are considered. 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

## Job Performance: Governor Wolf, Pennsylvania March 2015

How would you rate the way that Tom Wolf is handling his job as governor? Would you say he is doing an...

	Excellent/Good	Only Fair/Poor	Do Not Know
<b>Political party*</b>			
Republican	16%	61%	23%
Democrat	58%	25%	16%
Independent or something else	28%	56%	16%
<b>Ideology*</b>			
Extremely liberal	74%	14%	13%
Slightly liberal	47%	39%	14%
Moderate	46%	36%	18%
Slightly conservative	21%	58%	22%
Extremely conservative	16%	62%	22%
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	34%	46%	21%
Female	43%	41%	17%
<b>Age*</b>			
Under 35	40%	51%	9%
35-54	35%	54%	11%
Over 55	40%	38%	22%
<b>Education</b>			
HS or less	35%	42%	23%
Some college	35%	49%	16%
College degree	43%	41%	16%
<b>Income</b>			
Under 35	33%	44%	23%
35-75	40%	44%	16%
Over 75	41%	43%	16%
<b>Race**</b>			
White	37%	44%	19%
Nonwhite	58%	23%	19%
<b>Marital Status</b>			
Single, Never Married	41%	43%	16%
Married	38%	44%	19%
Not currently married	38%	41%	21%
<b>Religious Affiliation</b>			
Protestant	35%	45%	20%
Catholic	37%	44%	20%
Other, unaffiliated	45%	39%	17%
<b>Born Again Christian or Fundamentalist</b>			
Yes	28%	49%	23%
No	42%	40%	18%
<b>Gun Owner**</b>			
Yes	32%	46%	21%
No	43%	39%	18%
<b>Region</b>			
Philadelphia	54%	24%	22%
Northeast	38%	38%	24%
Allegheny	31%	50%	19%
Southwest	36%	44%	19%
Northwest	39%	55%	7%
Central	34%	48%	18%
Southeast	41%	40%	19%
<b>Employment</b>			
Fulltime	38%	46%	16%
Other	35%	47%	18%
Retired	41%	37%	22%

\* p<0.01 \*\* p<0.05



# Attachment B

## Job Performance: Senator Toomey, Pennsylvania March 2015

How would you rate the way that Pat Toomey is handling his job as senator? Would you say he is doing an...

	Excellent/Good	Only Fair/Poor	Do Not Know
<b>Political party*</b>			
Republican	49%	37%	14%
Democrat	17%	57%	26%
Independent or something else	34%	39%	28%
<b>Ideology*</b>			
Extremely liberal	13%	64%	24%
Slightly liberal	14%	58%	28%
Moderate	28%	50%	22%
Slightly conservative	47%	37%	16%
Extremely conservative	50%	35%	16%
<b>Gender*</b>			
Male	34%	51%	14%
Female	29%	44%	28%
<b>Age</b>			
Under 35	20%	55%	26%
35-54	31%	46%	23%
Over 55	33%	47%	20%
<b>Education**</b>			
HS or less	28%	44%	28%
Some college	33%	46%	21%
College degree	33%	51%	16%
<b>Income</b>			
Under 35	30%	47%	23%
35-75	30%	53%	17%
Over 75	35%	43%	22%
<b>Race</b>			
White	32%	47%	21%
Nonwhite	26%	55%	19%
<b>Marital Status</b>			
Single, Never Married	26%	53%	20%
Married	33%	47%	19%
Not currently married	27%	45%	28%
<b>Religious Affiliation**</b>			
Protestant	36%	43%	20%
Catholic	35%	43%	21%
Other, unaffiliated	22%	55%	22%
<b>Born Again Christian or Fundamentalist</b>			
Yes	35%	41%	24%
No	30%	49%	20%
<b>Gun Owner**</b>			
Yes	37%	46%	17%
No	28%	49%	24%
<b>Region*</b>			
Philadelphia	29%	33%	39%
Northeast	33%	40%	27%
Allegheny	16%	72%	13%
Southwest	29%	52%	19%
Northwest	28%	40%	32%
Central	37%	45%	18%
Southeast	35%	51%	15%
<b>Employment</b>			
Fulltime	30%	47%	23%
Other	33%	43%	23%
Retired	31%	50%	19%

\* p<0.01 \*\* p<0.05

# Attachment C

## Job Performance: President Obama, Pennsylvania March 2015

How would you rate the way that Barack Obama is handling his job as president? Would you say he is doing an...

	Excellent/Good	Only Fair/Poor	Do Not Know
<b>Political party*</b>			
Republican	5%	94%	1%
Democrat	60%	39%	1%
Independent or something else	22%	76%	2%
<b>Ideology*</b>			
Extremely liberal	90%	10%	0%
Slightly liberal	68%	31%	1%
Moderate	32%	67%	1%
Slightly conservative	14%	84%	2%
Extremely conservative	6%	94%	0%
<b>Gender*</b>			
Male	28%	71%	1%
Female	41%	58%	1%
<b>Age</b>			
Under 35	28%	72%	0%
35-54	33%	67%	0%
Over 55	36%	62%	2%
<b>Education</b>			
HS or less	28%	71%	1%
Some college	33%	66%	1%
College degree	40%	59%	1%
<b>Income</b>			
Under 35	32%	67%	1%
35-75	37%	62%	0%
Over 75	34%	64%	1%
<b>Race*</b>			
White	32%	67%	1%
Nonwhite	70%	28%	2%
<b>Marital Status**</b>			
Single, Never Married	40%	60%	0%
Married	33%	66%	1%
Not currently married	36%	60%	4%
<b>Religious Affiliation*</b>			
Protestant	27%	71%	2%
Catholic	28%	72%	0%
Other, unaffiliated	50%	49%	1%
<b>Born Again Christian or Fundamentalist*</b>			
Yes	21%	77%	1%
No	39%	60%	1%
<b>Gun Owner*</b>			
Yes	21%	78%	1%
No	44%	55%	1%
<b>Region</b>			
Philadelphia	68%	32%	0%
Northeast	31%	66%	4%
Allegheny	34%	65%	2%
Southwest	27%	73%	0%
Northwest	24%	76%	0%
Central	24%	75%	1%
Southeast	42%	57%	1%
<b>Employment</b>			
Fulltime	33%	66%	1%
Other	32%	66%	1%
Retired	37%	61%	1%

\* 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?

38% Republican  
49% Democrat  
10% Independent  
3% 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>Mar 2015</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>15%</b>
Oct 2014	28%	61%	11%
Sept 2014	29%	60%	11%
Aug 2014	27%	61%	13%
Jun 2014	30%	59%	11%
Jan 2014	25%	62%	13%
Oct 2013	25%	61%	13%
Aug 2013	26%	62%	12%
May 2013	28%	58%	13%
Aug 2012	31%	56%	13%
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?

Oct 2010	Aug 2011	Aug 2012*	May 2013*	Aug 2013*	Oct 2013*	Jan 2014*	Jun 2014*	Aug 2014*	Sept 2014*	Oct 2014*	Mar 2015*	
4%	12%	13%	17%	23%	21%	19%	23%	29%	30%	25%	<b>19%</b>	Education, schools
8%	5%	4%	7%	5%	8%	11%	9%	10%	11%	9%	<b>17%</b>	Taxes
14%	11%	15%	16%	16%	17%	11%	15%	14%	13%	14%	<b>16%</b>	Government, politicians
17%	38%	30%	11%	21%	17%	26%	21%	16%	16%	20%	<b>15%</b>	Unemployment, personal finances
39%	9%	12%	18%	7%	5%	5%	5%	3%	4%	5%	<b>6%</b>	Economy
7%	2%	3%	3%	6%	8%	4%	3%	2%	2%	2%	<b>4%</b>	Healthcare, insurance
2%	3%	2%	2%	3%	4%	3%	5%	3%	2%	2%	<b>4%</b>	Roads, infrastructure, transportation
0%	3%	3%	4%	3%	4%	2%	5%	5%	3%	5%	<b>3%</b>	Energy issues, gas prices
1%	1%	2%	3%	3%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	<b>3%</b>	Crime, drugs, violence, guns
0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	<b>2%</b>	Values, morals
2%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	<b>1%</b>	Environment
0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	<b>1%</b>	Immigration
1%	2%	1%	3%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	4%	1%	<b>1%</b>	Senior issues, social security
1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	<b>1%</b>	Social issues
1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	<b>1%</b>	Welfare
0%	0%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	<b>1%</b>	Civil liberties
0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	<b>0%</b>	Foreign policy, terrorism, war
0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	<b>0%</b>	Gambling, slot machines
0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	<b>0%</b>	Housing, real estate
0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	<b>0%</b>	Legislative pay raise
0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	<b>0%</b>	Personal illness, health problems
0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	<b>0%</b>	Population loss
0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	<b>0%</b>	Population, urban sprawl
1%	0%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	<b>0%</b>	Retaining, attracting businesses
1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	3%	2%	2%	4%	3%	2%	<b>2%</b>	Other
3%	6%	6%	8%	5%	7%	8%	7%	8%	6%	8%	<b>5%</b>	Don't know

\* 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>TOM WOLF</b>						
Mar 2015	22%	18%	11%	16%	22%	11%
Oct 2014	20%	20%	7%	18%	18%	16%
Sept 2014	19%	21%	9%	13%	18%	21%
Aug 2014	18%	19%	7%	10%	22%	24%
Jun 2014	15%	20%	5%	7%	20%	32%
<b>PAT TOOMEY</b>						
Mar 2015	9%	21%	11%	12%	18%	29%
Oct 2013	8%	19%	11%	16%	13%	34%
Aug 2013	7%	19%	10%	10%	19%	36%
May 2013	12%	23%	11%	11%	15%	28%
Feb 2013	11%	15%	8%	12%	16%	37%
Mar 2011	6%	17%	7%	6%	22%	42%
Oct 2010	15%	15%	10%	16%	16%	28%
Sep 2010	12%	13%	7%	9%	17%	43%
Aug 2010	11%	14%	8%	12%	19%	36%
May 2010	6%	10%	4%	5%	15%	60%
Mar 2010	8%	10%	5%	5%	13%	59%
Feb 2010	6%	10%	2%	5%	15%	62%
Jan 2010	6%	9%	4%	3%	13%	65%
Oct 2009	5%	11%	5%	5%	10%	64%
Aug 2009	7%	11%	4%	6%	9%	63%
<b>KATHLEEN KANE</b>						
Mar 2015	6%	13%	9%	20%	16%	36%
<b>JOE SESTAK</b>						
Mar 2015	8%	7%	4%	3%	14%	63%
Oct 2010	10%	13%	12%	22%	19%	24%
Sep 2010	6%	11%	10%	15%	20%	38%
Aug 2010	8%	15%	13%	12%	18%	35%
May 2010	6%	11%	7%	5%	16%	55%
Mar 2010	4%	7%	4%	2%	10%	73%
Feb 2010	4%	6%	1%	2%	10%	77%
Jan 2010	3%	5%	4%	2%	10%	76%
Oct 2009	4%	7%	3%	2%	7%	77%
Aug 2009	3%	10%	2%	2%	10%	73%

	Strongly favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Strongly unfavorable	Undecided	Don't know
<b>BARACK OBAMA</b>						
<b>Mar 2015</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>1%</b>
Jan 2014	21%	21%	10%	38%	8%	1%
Oct 2013	27%	23%	7%	37%	5%	0%
Aug 2013	22%	19%	9%	41%	10%	0%
May 2013	32%	20%	7%	36%	4%	1%
Feb 2013	31%	18%	9%	35%	6%	1%
Oct 2012	36%	14%	7%	38%	6%	0%
Sep 2012	35%	15%	6%	36%	7%	1%
Aug 2012	25%	21%	8%	37%	7%	1%
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%

Vote\_Sen. If the 2016 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, or aren't you sure how you would vote?

	Joe Sestak	Pat Toomey	Other	Don't know
<b>Mar 2015</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>37%</b>

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

	Excellent job	Good job	Only a fair job	Poor job	Don't know
<b>Mar 2015</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>19%</b>

RateSenT. How would you rate the way that Pat Toomey is handling his job as U.S. SENATOR? 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>Mar 2015</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>21%</b>
Oct 2013	4%	18%	34%	19%	25%
Aug 2013	4%	20%	42%	9%	26%
May 2013	4%	27%	39%	10%	21%
Oct 2011	3%	29%	40%	11%	18%
Aug 2011	5%	24%	37%	14%	20%
Mar 2011	3%	25%	36%	10%	27%

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?

	<b>Excellent job</b>	<b>Good job</b>	<b>Only a fair job</b>	<b>Poor job</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
<b>Mar 2015</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>1%</b>
Oct 2014	8%	24%	27%	41%	0%
Sept 2014	6%	25%	25%	43%	1%
Aug 2014	7%	27%	28%	37%	1%
Jun 2014	7%	27%	22%	42%	1%
Jan 2014	6%	24%	31%	37%	1%
Oct 2013	11%	28%	21%	39%	1%
Aug 2013	8%	26%	23%	42%	1%
May 2013	14%	30%	22%	33%	1%
Feb 2013	14%	28%	23%	34%	1%
Oct 2012	17%	29%	20%	33%	1%
Sep 2012	18%	29%	19%	33%	0%
Aug 2012	12%	31%	23%	33%	1%
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%

PRIORITY. State lawmakers are currently discussing many problems and issues. Which of the following issues do you think should be the TOP PRIORITY for state lawmakers to address? Should their top priority be... (rotated responses)

- 27% Increasing state funding for public education
- 25% Reforming the state's tax system to reduce local property taxes
- 15% Passing a plan that deals with the state's pension obligations
- 15% Reducing overall state spending
- 8% Increasing the state's minimum wage
- 1% Privatizing the state liquor stores
- 6% Something else
- 2% Don't know

Q21. Some people believe Pennsylvania should get out of the business of selling wine and spirits and are talking about selling the state's liquor stores to private companies. Do you support or oppose the state of Pennsylvania selling the state-owned liquor stores to private companies?

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know
Mar 2015*	33%	16%	10%	27%	14%
Jun 2014*	33%	16%	11%	23%	17%
Jan 2014*	28%	18%	10%	31%	13%
May 2013*	30%	17%	9%	31%	13%
Feb 2013*	34%	19%	10%	24%	12%
May 2010	35%	15%	8%	29%	13%
June 2002	42%	13%	6%	24%	15%

\* Question asked of registered respondents only

LiqStr2. Instead of selling the state liquor stores to private companies, some state lawmakers have proposed modernizing the state liquor system to make it more customer-friendly with changes such as expanding the number of state liquor stores open for Sunday sales or allowing wine to be ordered online and shipped to customers' homes. Do you think the state liquor stores should be...? (rotated responses)

May 2013	Jan 2014	Jun 2014	Mar 2015	
37%	33%	34%	38%	Sold to private companies
26%	32%	32%	31%	Modernized
31%	30%	25%	26%	Allowed to continue operating as they currently do
6%	5%	9%	6%	Don't know

MinWage. Do you favor or oppose raising the state's minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$10.10 per hour?

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know
Mar 2015	48%	18%	11%	20%	3%



BalBud. Pennsylvania is expected to have a large budget deficit this year and next year, which has forced state legislators to think of ways to balance the state budget. Generally speaking, do you think the state legislature should...?

Mar 2011	Jun 2014	Mar 2015	
38%	39%	<b>44%</b>	Both cut spending and increase taxes
39%	30%	<b>31%</b>	Cut state programs and services
6%	12%	<b>13%</b>	Increase taxes
2%	4%	<b>4%</b>	Increase revenue
15%	15%	<b>8%</b>	Don't Know

TR1. Do you think the state's tax system, including property taxes, is in need of reform, or not?

- 77% Yes
- 13% No
- 10% Don't know

TR2. Do you think the state's tax system works pretty well and needs only minor changes to work better or do you think the state's tax system has so many problems that it should be completely rebuilt?

- 41% Needs only minor changes
- 48% Should be completely rebuilt
- 11% Don't know

Budg1. Governor Wolf gave his first budget address earlier this month. Have you seen, read, or heard anything about his budget proposals, or not?

- 57% Yes
- 43% No
- 1% Don't know

Budg2. Governor Wolf proposed increasing the state's sales tax, increasing personal income taxes and creating a Marcellus Shale extraction tax. These increases would be used to reduce local property taxes and to increase state funding to public schools in Pennsylvania. Do you generally favor or oppose the Governor's plan for (*rotated*) [funding public schools/ balancing the state budget/ reducing property taxes]?

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know
Mar 2015	29%	30%	11%	24%	6%

Budg3fav. Why do you [strongly/somewhat] favor this plan? (349 voters who favor plan)

- 21% Need more funding for education
- 21% Need property taxes relief, property taxes need to be reduced
- 18% Need to tax Marcellus Shale drilling
- 12% Education should be a priority
- 9% Spreads out the tax burden and responsibility
- 6% Need tax reform
- 6% Good plan, in general
- 5% Budget needs balanced, have to reduce deficits
- 4% Need to increase sales tax
- 4% Tax increases should only affect those who can afford it
- 3% Need more information; do not know enough about plan
- 3% Doesn't agree with part of the plan
- 3% Negative Comment about plan
- 2% Tax increases are inevitable, they are going to happen
- 2% Reducing or cutting services does not solve problems/ isn't the answer
- 2% Increases revenue
- 2% Opposed to sales tax increase
- 1% Fair compensation for teachers
- 1% Would not be affected by plan: low property tax rate, does not own property
- 1% Plan had direct affect due to personal situation: teacher, homeowner
- 1% Opposed to income tax increase
- 7% Other
- 4% Do not know

Budg3opp. Why do you [strongly/somewhat] oppose this plan? (207 voters who oppose plan)

- 23% Does not feel plan will work
- 20% Against raising taxes, in general
- 13% Does not support increasing taxes to fund schools; Schools do not need more funding
- 10% Will hurt individuals
- 9% Against increase of sales tax
- 8% Against income tax increase
- 8% Need to cut spending
- 7% Against extraction tax
- 7% Governor will not follow through
- 7% Public school system needs reform
- 5% Bad for economy
- 3% Balance the budget: priority, other ways
- 2% Other ways to increase revenues
- 2% Property tax should be eliminated
- 2% Should be handled at local level
- 1% Legislative pay cuts
- 1% Other priorities
- 10% Other
- 2% Do not know

Budg4. Would you favor or oppose a plan that would increase the state income tax from 3.07 percent to 3.7 percent if your property taxes were reduced by \$1,000?

	<b>Strongly favor</b>	<b>Somewhat favor</b>	<b>Somewhat oppose</b>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
<b>Mar 2015</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>11%</b>

DL1. Now I'd like to ask you a few questions about driver licensing. Do you think that older drivers should be required to pass a driving skills test before getting their driver's license renewed, or should older drivers have their license renewed without a skills test, the same as other drivers?

- 62% Pass a driving skills test
- 32% Renewed without a skills test
- 5% Don't know

DL2. At what age should driver skills testing begin? (369 voters who support testing)

70.6 Mean

DL3. Would you favor or oppose a law that requires all drivers age (DLage) and over to...

<b>Age 65 and over (179 voters)</b>	<b>Strongly support</b>	<b>Somewhat support</b>	<b>Somewhat oppose</b>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
Renew their driver's license in person?	43%	18%	10%	23%	6%
Have a vision exam as part of their driver's license renewal?	53%	15%	11%	19%	2%
Have a doctor certify their physical and mental competence to drive before their license is renewed?	27%	16%	17%	37%	3%

<b>Age 70 and over (196 voters)</b>	<b>Strongly support</b>	<b>Somewhat support</b>	<b>Somewhat oppose</b>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
Renew their driver's license in person?	44%	21%	13%	18%	5%
Have a vision exam as part of their driver's license renewal?	58%	24%	6%	11%	1%
Have a doctor certify their physical and mental competence to drive before their license is renewed?	28%	20%	17%	32%	3%

<b>Age 75 and over (222 voters)</b>	<b>Strongly support</b>	<b>Somewhat support</b>	<b>Somewhat oppose</b>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
Renew their driver's license in person?	48%	21%	15%	12%	5%
Have a vision exam as part of their driver's license renewal?	71%	15%	6%	8%	0%
Have a doctor certify their physical and mental competence to drive before their license is renewed?	39%	15%	18%	27%	1%

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?)

26%	Central
23%	Southeast
12%	Northeast
10%	Philadelphia
10%	Allegheny
10%	Southwest
9%	Northwest

AGE. What was your age on your last birthday?

8%	Under 35
23%	35-54
69%	Over 55

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

31%	High school or less
24%	Some college
45%	College graduate

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

67%	Married
16%	Single, Never Married
10%	Widow or widower
7%	Divorced
1%	Separated

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>Oct 2014</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>3%</b>
Sept 2014	22%	36%	38%	5%
Aug 2014	20%	39%	36%	5%
Jun 2014	26%	36%	34%	5%
Jan 2014	24%	43%	28%	5%
Oct 2013	24%	39%	31%	6%
Aug 2013	22%	42%	33%	3%
May 2013	24%	39%	31%	6%
Feb 2013	26%	36%	35%	3%
Oct 2012	22%	39%	35%	5%
Sep 2012	26%	34%	35%	5%
Aug 2012	21%	40%	36%	4%
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%

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

- 18% Strong Republican
- 10% Republican
- 16% Lean Republican
- 8% Independent
- 13% Lean Democrat
- 13% Democrat
- 21% Strong Democrat
- 1% Other
- 1% Don't know

GUN. Are you a gun owner?

- 36% Yes
- 64% No

GUN2. Generally speaking, do you favor or oppose creating more laws that regulate gun ownership?

	<b>Strongly favor</b>	<b>Somewhat favor</b>	<b>Somewhat oppose</b>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
<b>Oct 2014</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>2%</b>
Sept 2014	39%	14%	10%	32%	5%
Aug 2014	39%	14%	10%	31%	6%
Jun 2014	43%	12%	9%	31%	5%
Jan 2014	42%	12%	9%	32%	6%
Oct 2013	46%	16%	9%	24%	5%
Aug 2013	39%	12%	13%	33%	4%
May 2013	43%	14%	11%	30%	3%
Feb 2013*	43%	15%	10%	28%	4%
Aug 2007	40%	20%	14%	23%	3%
Jun 2007	39%	15%	12%	31%	3%
Feb 2007	39%	17%	15%	26%	3%
Oct 2006*	35%	16%	15%	26%	8%
Sep 2006*	34%	15%	17%	28%	6%
Aug 2006*	37%	15%	14%	27%	7%
May 2006*	37%	14%	16%	27%	6%
Feb 2006	35%	19%	17%	22%	7%
Nov 2005	38%	20%	14%	20%	8%
Sep 2005	39%	16%	13%	25%	8%
Jun 2005	39%	17%	16%	23%	6%
Oct 2004*	33%	19%	19%	23%	7%
Sep 2004*	38%	19%	15%	20%	8%
Aug 2004*	35%	20%	15%	23%	7%
Mar 2004*	42%	17%	14%	21%	7%
Oct 2002*	34%	18%	15%	26%	7%
Sep 2002*	28%	20%	14%	29%	9%
Jun 2002*	40%	14%	11%	28%	7%
Oct 2001*	33%	22%	15%	24%	6%
Apr 2001*	41%	18%	14%	22%	6%
Oct 2000*	37%	18%	15%	22%	9%
Feb 2000*	41%	19%	11%	24%	5%

\* Question asked of registered respondents only

Hisp. Are you Hispanic or Latino, or not?

1% Yes  
99% No

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

92% White  
8% Non-white

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

35% Protestant  
34% Catholic  
14% Some other religion  
18% Not affiliated with any religion

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

23% Yes  
74% No  
3% Don't know

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

40% Fulltime  
37% Retired  
12% Part-time  
5% Keeping house  
3% Unemployed  
3% Disabled  
1% Going to school

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

10% Under \$25,000  
10% \$25-\$35,000  
16% \$35-50,000  
21% \$50-75,000  
17% \$75-100,000  
22% Over \$100,000  
4% Don't know

DONE. Sex of respondent:

48% Male  
52% Female