

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 19, 2010

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Huge Generic Lead for GOP in PA, Smaller for Dems in IL

Raleigh, N.C. – Democratic U.S. House incumbents could be in big trouble in Pennsylvania, which has up to eight vulnerable seats held by their party, several of which only recently switched from GOP control in the Democratic wave elections of 2006 and 2008. The GOP holds a 48-39 generic-ballot advantage among likely voters in the Keystone State. In Illinois, Democrats are in safer territory, defending no more than three swing seats and holding a 46-40 lead over the Republican Party. Nearly all of the tenuous Democratic seats in both states, however, are in heavily white, suburban, exurban, or small-city districts that voted for George W. Bush in both 2000 and 2004, and they could show an even greater Republican trend than the overall statewide figure.

In Illinois, Democrats are actually slightly more unified around their party's candidates for Congress than are the Republicans, but independents go for the GOP by a 40-25 margin. In Pennsylvania, Democrats, as in the gubernatorial race, are suffering from significant and equal proportions of Democratic voters going for the GOP and remaining undecided, such that only 72% of Democrats support their party's generic Congressional candidate, considerably lower than the 84% of Republicans who go for their party. The relatively few Pennsylvania unaffiliateds favor the GOP, 42-19.

In Pennsylvania, 49% say Obama's support would make them less likely to vote for his endorsed candidate, to 20% who say it would make them more likely, and 31% who say it would make no difference. Sarah Palin is also pretty toxic, but has slightly better numbers overall. Republicans are more favorable to her support than Democrats are to Obama, and independents only buck her endorsement 21-36, versus 15-50 for Obama. Obama, naturally, fares somewhat better in Illinois than does Palin, though his support is still seen as a negative.

"Pennsylvania is going to be a particularly tough state for Democrats this year, but even Illinois isn't much better," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

PPP surveyed 585 likely Pennsylvania voters from August 14th to 16th. The survey's margin of error is +/-4.1%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.



Pennsylvania Survey Results

Q1 Are you more or less likely to vote for a candidate endorsed by President Obama, or does it not make a difference either way?

More likely..... 20%
Less likely..... 49%
Doesn't make a difference either way..... 31%

Q2 Are you more or less likely to vote for a candidate endorsed by Sarah Palin, or does it not make a difference either way?

More likely..... 28%
Less likely..... 46%
Doesn't make a difference either way..... 26%

Q3 If the election for Congress was today, would you vote for a Democrat or a Republican?

Democrat..... 39%
Republican..... 48%
Undecided..... 14%

Q4 Is your favorite Pennsylvania politician Bob Casey, Ed Rendell, or Arlen Specter?

Bob Casey..... 31%
Ed Rendell..... 14%
Arlen Specter..... 11%
Not sure..... 44%

Q5 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 47%
Barack Obama..... 46%
Someone else/Don't remember..... 6%

Q6 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 16%
Moderate..... 39%
Conservative..... 44%

Q7 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman..... 54%
Man..... 46%

Q8 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat..... 46%
Republican..... 44%
Independent/Other..... 9%

Q9 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White..... 85%
African-American..... 12%
Other..... 3%

Q10 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

18 to 29..... 9%
30 to 45..... 22%
46 to 65..... 44%
Older than 65..... 24%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Endorsement Impact				
More likely	20%	2%	40%	8%
Less likely	49%	82%	16%	54%
Doesn't make a difference either way	31%	17%	45%	38%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Palin Endorsement Impact				
More likely	28%	49%	7%	23%
Less likely	46%	12%	81%	42%
Doesn't make a difference either way	26%	39%	11%	35%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Generic Congressional Ballot				
Democrat	39%	3%	78%	20%
Republican	48%	84%	10%	49%
Undecided	14%	13%	12%	31%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Favorite PA Politician				
Bob Casey	31%	27%	37%	18%
Ed Rendell	14%	5%	22%	15%
Arlen Specter	11%	5%	16%	14%
Not sure	44%	63%	24%	53%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Endorsement Impact				
More likely	20%	48%	21%	8%
Less likely	49%	9%	37%	75%
Doesn't make a difference either way	31%	42%	42%	17%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Palin Endorsement Impact				
More likely	28%	12%	13%	47%
Less likely	46%	85%	64%	15%
Doesn't make a difference either way	26%	3%	22%	37%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Generic Congressional Ballot				
Democrat	39%	81%	51%	12%
Republican	48%	10%	30%	77%
Undecided	14%	10%	19%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Favorite PA Politician				
Bob Casey	31%	41%	34%	25%
Ed Rendell	14%	18%	18%	9%
Arlen Specter	11%	14%	14%	7%
Not sure	44%	26%	34%	60%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Endorsement Impact			
More likely	20%	21%	18%
Less likely	49%	43%	56%
Doesn't make a difference either way	31%	36%	25%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Endorsement Impact			
More likely	28%	25%	32%
Less likely	46%	50%	41%
Doesn't make a difference either way	26%	25%	27%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Congressional Ballot			
Democrat	39%	42%	35%
Republican	48%	43%	53%
Undecided	14%	15%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Favorite PA Politician			
Bob Casey	31%	33%	29%
Ed Rendell	14%	12%	16%
Arlen Specter	11%	13%	8%
Not sure	44%	42%	47%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Endorsement Impact				
More likely	20%	33%	6%	15%
Less likely	49%	21%	78%	50%
Doesn't make a difference either way	31%	45%	15%	36%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Palin Endorsement Impact				
More likely	28%	11%	47%	21%
Less likely	46%	75%	18%	36%
Doesn't make a difference either way	26%	14%	35%	43%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Congressional Ballot				
Democrat	39%	72%	8%	19%
Republican	48%	14%	84%	42%
Undecided	14%	14%	9%	39%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Favorite PA Politician				
Bob Casey	31%	36%	29%	17%
Ed Rendell	14%	20%	7%	17%
Arlen Specter	11%	13%	7%	16%
Not sure	44%	31%	57%	50%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama Endorsement Impact				
More likely	20%	15%	52%	37%
Less likely	49%	54%	20%	27%
Doesn't make a difference either way	31%	31%	28%	37%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Palin Endorsement Impact				
More likely	28%	31%	12%	10%
Less likely	46%	40%	84%	68%
Doesn't make a difference either way	26%	29%	4%	22%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Generic Congressional Ballot				
Democrat	39%	33%	76%	61%
Republican	48%	52%	20%	22%
Undecided	14%	15%	4%	17%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Favorite PA Politician				
Bob Casey	31%	32%	24%	24%
Ed Rendell	14%	12%	24%	22%
Arlen Specter	11%	8%	28%	15%
Not sure	44%	47%	24%	39%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Endorsement Impact					
More likely	20%	29%	24%	19%	14%
Less likely	49%	40%	52%	48%	53%
Doesn't make a difference either way	31%	31%	25%	34%	32%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Endorsement Impact					
More likely	28%	26%	31%	28%	27%
Less likely	46%	47%	43%	47%	46%
Doesn't make a difference either way	26%	27%	26%	25%	27%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Congressional Ballot					
Democrat	39%	43%	39%	39%	37%
Republican	48%	45%	54%	45%	48%
Undecided	14%	13%	8%	16%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Favorite PA Politician					
Bob Casey	31%	37%	30%	30%	32%
Ed Rendell	14%	15%	19%	12%	12%
Arlen Specter	11%	12%	13%	12%	7%
Not sure	44%	36%	39%	46%	49%





Illinois Survey Results

Q1 Are you more or less likely to vote for a candidate endorsed by President Obama, or does it not make a difference either way?

More likely..... 26%
Less likely..... 40%
Doesn't make a difference either way..... 34%

Q2 Are you more or less likely to vote for a candidate endorsed by Sarah Palin, or does it not make a difference either way?

More likely..... 24%
Less likely..... 52%
Doesn't make a difference either way..... 25%

Q3 If the election for Congress was today, would you vote for a Democrat or a Republican?

Democrat..... 46%
Republican..... 40%
Undecided..... 14%

Q4 Is your favorite Illinois politician Roland Burris, Dick Durbin, or Pat Quinn?

Roland Burris..... 6%
Dick Durbin..... 41%
Pat Quinn..... 10%
Not sure..... 42%

Q5 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 42%
Barack Obama..... 51%
Someone else/Don't remember..... 8%

Q6 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 22%
Moderate..... 39%
Conservative..... 38%

Q7 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman..... 53%
Man..... 47%

Q8 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat..... 41%
Republican..... 32%
Independent/Other..... 26%

Q9 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 6%
White..... 76%
African American..... 14%
Other..... 4%

Q10 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

18 to 29..... 9%
30 to 45..... 28%
46 to 65..... 42%
Older than 65..... 21%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Endorsement Impact				
More likely	26%	4%	48%	-
Less likely	40%	79%	6%	60%
Doesn't make a difference either way	34%	18%	46%	40%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Palin Endorsement Impact				
More likely	24%	49%	4%	18%
Less likely	52%	14%	83%	46%
Doesn't make a difference either way	25%	37%	13%	35%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Generic Ballot				
Democrat	46%	5%	83%	21%
Republican	40%	81%	5%	49%
Undecided	14%	14%	12%	29%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Fave IL Politician				
Roland Burris	6%	4%	8%	8%
Dick Durbin	41%	19%	63%	13%
Pat Quinn	10%	10%	11%	13%
Not sure	42%	67%	19%	66%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Endorsement Impact				
More likely	26%	56%	30%	5%
Less likely	40%	8%	24%	76%
Doesn't make a difference either way	34%	36%	46%	20%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Palin Endorsement Impact				
More likely	24%	5%	11%	47%
Less likely	52%	86%	66%	17%
Doesn't make a difference either way	25%	8%	23%	36%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Generic Ballot				
Democrat	46%	90%	56%	9%
Republican	40%	3%	25%	77%
Undecided	14%	7%	19%	14%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Fave IL Politician				
Roland Burris	6%	10%	6%	5%
Dick Durbin	41%	65%	51%	16%
Pat Quinn	10%	9%	11%	11%
Not sure	42%	16%	32%	68%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Endorsement Impact			
More likely	26%	26%	25%
Less likely	40%	40%	41%
Doesn't make a difference either way	34%	34%	33%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Endorsement Impact			
More likely	24%	22%	26%
Less likely	52%	55%	48%
Doesn't make a difference either way	25%	24%	25%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Ballot			
Democrat	46%	51%	40%
Republican	40%	35%	46%
Undecided	14%	15%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Fave IL Politician			
Roland Burris	6%	8%	4%
Dick Durbin	41%	39%	43%
Pat Quinn	10%	12%	9%
Not sure	42%	41%	44%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Endorsement Impact				
More likely	26%	49%	2%	19%
Less likely	40%	9%	83%	38%
Doesn't make a difference either way	34%	42%	15%	44%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Palin Endorsement Impact				
More likely	24%	4%	51%	22%
Less likely	52%	83%	14%	47%
Doesn't make a difference either way	25%	13%	35%	30%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Ballot				
Democrat	46%	90%	6%	25%
Republican	40%	3%	88%	40%
Undecided	14%	7%	6%	35%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Fave IL Politician				
Roland Burris	6%	10%	4%	4%
Dick Durbin	41%	60%	17%	40%
Pat Quinn	10%	11%	12%	8%
Not sure	42%	19%	68%	48%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Obama Endorsement Impact					
More likely	26%	25%	21%	50%	26%
Less likely	40%	31%	48%	6%	22%
Doesn't make a difference either way	34%	44%	30%	44%	52%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Palin Endorsement Impact					
More likely	24%	19%	28%	3%	15%
Less likely	52%	56%	45%	78%	70%
Doesn't make a difference either way	25%	25%	26%	19%	15%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Generic Ballot					
Democrat	46%	69%	37%	84%	48%
Republican	40%	13%	49%	9%	19%
Undecided	14%	19%	14%	6%	33%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Fave IL Politician					
Roland Burris	6%	6%	4%	19%	4%
Dick Durbin	41%	44%	40%	42%	44%
Pat Quinn	10%	19%	10%	6%	11%
Not sure	42%	31%	45%	32%	41%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Endorsement Impact					
More likely	26%	40%	24%	27%	20%
Less likely	40%	35%	40%	37%	49%
Doesn't make a difference either way	34%	25%	36%	35%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Endorsement Impact					
More likely	24%	17%	24%	22%	29%
Less likely	52%	51%	53%	54%	46%
Doesn't make a difference either way	25%	32%	23%	24%	24%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Ballot					
Democrat	46%	56%	48%	47%	35%
Republican	40%	37%	41%	37%	47%
Undecided	14%	7%	11%	16%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Fave IL Politician					
Roland Burris	6%	10%	3%	6%	10%
Dick Durbin	41%	40%	45%	42%	32%
Pat Quinn	10%	7%	12%	11%	8%
Not sure	42%	44%	41%	40%	49%

