



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 31, 2010

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GOP likely to sweep in Pennsylvania

Raleigh, N.C. – Pennsylvania flirted a little bit with Democrats in the final weeks of this year's election, making them think they might be able to pull off an upset in the Senate and/or Gubernatorial contests that had looked good as gone for most of the year. It looks like the GOP will in the end sweep those races though, if by smaller margins than they had shown in polling throughout much of 2010.

In the Senate race Pat Toomey leads Joe Sestak 51-46 and in the race for Governor Tom Corbett is up 52-45 on Dan Onorato. The story here is an inordinate number of Democrats unhappy with Barack Obama- and voting Republican because of it. The President's approval rating within his own party is only 73% in Pennsylvania, with 21% of Democrats disapproving of him. Those Democrats unhappy with Obama are leaning strongly Republican, planning to vote for Toomey by a 68-23 margin and for Corbett by a 69-25 spread.

As is the case for him throughout the Midwest Obama's very unpopular in Pennsylvania with 54% of voters disapproving of him to just 40% who think he's doing a good job. Outgoing Governor Ed Rendell has also fallen strongly out of favor, posting only a 34% approval number while 53% of voters disapprove of him. As we saw in Wisconsin earlier this week the combination of an unpopular Democratic President and an unpopular Democratic Governor has the potential to be lethal for the party's hopes of keeping some of these offices under their control.

Any thought that Democrats might have been better off with Arlen Specter as their nominee can be laid to rest. We asked respondents how they would have voted in a hypothetical match up between him and Toomey led 49-40, an even wider lead than the one he's posting against Sestak.

“Joe Sestak and Dan Onorato each made impressive comebacks but it looks like they’ll end up falling short,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “That Barack Obama is such a liability in the state only two years after taking it by double digits says a lot about how much the political climate has shifted and his ability to gain back support in places like Pennsylvania will be key for his 2012 prospects.”

PPP surveyed 772 likely Pennsylvania voters on October 30th and 31st. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.5%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.





Pennsylvania Survey Results

Q1 The candidates for US Senate are Democrat Joe Sestak and Republican Pat Toomey. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Joe Sestak..... 46%
Pat Toomey..... 51%
Undecided..... 4%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Joe Sestak?

Favorable 39% *Not sure* 18%
Unfavorable..... 43%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Pat Toomey?

Favorable 45% *Not sure* 14%
Unfavorable..... 40%

Q4 The candidates for Governor are Republican Tom Corbett and Democrat Dan Onorato. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Tom Corbett..... 52%
Dan Onorato 45%
Undecided..... 3%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Tom Corbett?

Favorable 51% *Not sure* 17%
Unfavorable..... 32%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Dan Onorato?

Favorable 37% *Not sure* 18%
Unfavorable..... 45%

Q7 Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?

Approve 40%
Disapprove..... 54%
Not sure 6%

Q8 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Ed Rendell's job performance?

Approve 34%
Disapprove..... 53%
Not sure 13%

Q9 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Arlen Specter's job performance?

Approve 29%
Disapprove..... 60%
Not sure 11%

Q10 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Bob Casey's job performance?

Approve 36%
Disapprove..... 40%
Not sure 24%

Q11 If the candidates for Senate this fall had been Democrat Arlen Specter and Republican Pat Toomey, who would you have voted for?

Arlen Specter..... 40%
Pat Toomey..... 49%
Undecided..... 10%

Q12 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 46%
Barack Obama..... 51%
Someone else/Don't remember 3%

Q13 Do you identify yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 18%
Moderate..... 43%
Conservative..... 39%

Q14 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 52%
Man..... 48%





Q15 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..... 10%

Q16 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 85%
African-American 10%
Other..... 5%

Q17 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29..... 8%
30 to 45..... 24%
46 to 65..... 44%
Older than 65..... 24%

Q18 Have you already cast your ballot for this year's election?

Yes..... 9%
No..... 91%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Sestak/Toomey				
Joe Sestak	46%	5%	83%	27%
Pat Toomey	51%	92%	13%	61%
Undecided	4%	3%	4%	12%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Sestak Favorability				
Favorable	39%	6%	69%	38%
Unfavorable	43%	74%	14%	50%
Not sure	18%	20%	16%	12%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Toomey Favorability				
Favorable	45%	81%	13%	41%
Unfavorable	40%	8%	69%	41%
Not sure	14%	11%	18%	18%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Corbett/Onorato				
Tom Corbett	52%	90%	16%	56%
Dan Onorato	45%	8%	80%	35%
Undecided	3%	2%	3%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Corbett Favorability				
Favorable	51%	82%	22%	50%
Unfavorable	32%	7%	56%	38%
Not sure	17%	11%	23%	12%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Onorato Favorability				
Favorable	37%	8%	65%	21%
Unfavorable	45%	73%	18%	66%
Not sure	18%	19%	18%	12%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	40%	3%	76%	15%
Disapprove	54%	93%	17%	67%
Not sure	6%	3%	7%	18%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Rendell Approval				
Approve	34%	9%	56%	40%
Disapprove	53%	80%	28%	38%
Not sure	13%	10%	16%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Specter Approval				
Approve	29%	7%	51%	19%
Disapprove	60%	86%	33%	78%
Not sure	11%	6%	16%	3%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Casey Approval				
Approve	36%	15%	57%	29%
Disapprove	40%	61%	20%	36%
Not sure	24%	24%	23%	34%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Specter/Toomey				
Arlen Specter	40%	6%	74%	27%
Pat Toomey	49%	88%	12%	45%
Undecided	10%	6%	14%	28%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Sestak/Toomey				
Joe Sestak	46%	86%	59%	11%
Pat Toomey	51%	12%	36%	86%
Undecided	4%	2%	5%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Sestak Favorability				
Favorable	39%	77%	48%	11%
Unfavorable	43%	11%	29%	73%
Not sure	18%	12%	23%	16%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Toomey Favorability				
Favorable	45%	12%	28%	80%
Unfavorable	40%	73%	51%	12%
Not sure	14%	14%	20%	8%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Corbett/Onorato				
Tom Corbett	52%	14%	39%	85%
Dan Onorato	45%	84%	57%	13%
Undecided	3%	2%	5%	2%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Corbett Favorability				
Favorable	51%	17%	38%	81%
Unfavorable	32%	68%	39%	8%
Not sure	17%	15%	23%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Onorato Favorability				
Favorable	37%	73%	45%	10%
Unfavorable	45%	15%	32%	74%
Not sure	18%	12%	23%	16%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	40%	81%	52%	8%
Disapprove	54%	15%	39%	90%
Not sure	6%	4%	9%	2%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Rendell Approval				
Approve	34%	63%	43%	9%
Disapprove	53%	20%	42%	80%
Not sure	13%	16%	14%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Specter Approval				
Approve	29%	56%	37%	7%
Disapprove	60%	30%	48%	86%
Not sure	11%	14%	14%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Casey Approval				
Approve	36%	59%	44%	17%
Disapprove	40%	21%	31%	59%
Not sure	24%	20%	25%	24%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Specter/Toomey				
Arlen Specter	40%	85%	51%	8%
Pat Toomey	49%	9%	34%	84%
Undecided	10%	6%	15%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Sestak/Toomey			
Joe Sestak	46%	46%	46%
Pat Toomey	51%	50%	51%
Undecided	4%	4%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Sestak Favorability			
Favorable	39%	39%	39%
Unfavorable	43%	40%	46%
Not sure	18%	21%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Toomey Favorability			
Favorable	45%	46%	45%
Unfavorable	40%	39%	41%
Not sure	14%	15%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Corbett/Onorato			
Tom Corbett	52%	52%	52%
Dan Onorato	45%	45%	45%
Undecided	3%	3%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Corbett Favorability			
Favorable	51%	50%	52%
Unfavorable	32%	32%	33%
Not sure	17%	18%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Onorato Favorability			
Favorable	37%	36%	37%
Unfavorable	45%	43%	48%
Not sure	18%	21%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	40%	42%	38%
Disapprove	54%	53%	56%
Not sure	6%	6%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Rendell Approval			
Approve	34%	31%	36%
Disapprove	53%	52%	54%
Not sure	13%	17%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Specter Approval			
Approve	29%	31%	27%
Disapprove	60%	56%	63%
Not sure	11%	13%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Casey Approval			
Approve	36%	38%	35%
Disapprove	40%	32%	48%
Not sure	24%	30%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Specter/Toomey			
Arlen Specter	40%	40%	40%
Pat Toomey	49%	48%	50%
Undecided	10%	12%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Sestak/Toomey				
Joe Sestak	46%	81%	8%	47%
Pat Toomey	51%	15%	88%	48%
Undecided	4%	4%	3%	5%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Sestak Favorability				
Favorable	39%	68%	9%	40%
Unfavorable	43%	15%	72%	42%
Not sure	18%	17%	19%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Toomey Favorability				
Favorable	45%	16%	77%	37%
Unfavorable	40%	67%	12%	44%
Not sure	14%	17%	11%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Corbett/Onorato				
Tom Corbett	52%	19%	88%	49%
Dan Onorato	45%	78%	10%	46%
Undecided	3%	4%	2%	5%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Corbett Favorability				
Favorable	51%	23%	80%	48%
Unfavorable	32%	55%	10%	28%
Not sure	17%	22%	10%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Onorato Favorability				
Favorable	37%	64%	10%	30%
Unfavorable	45%	20%	72%	42%
Not sure	18%	16%	19%	27%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	40%	73%	8%	31%
Disapprove	54%	21%	89%	54%
Not sure	6%	6%	3%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Rendell Approval				
Approve	34%	56%	11%	32%
Disapprove	53%	29%	80%	43%
Not sure	13%	16%	9%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Specter Approval				
Approve	29%	50%	9%	25%
Disapprove	60%	35%	86%	52%
Not sure	11%	14%	5%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Casey Approval				
Approve	36%	56%	17%	35%
Disapprove	40%	22%	60%	32%
Not sure	24%	22%	23%	34%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Specter/Toomey				
Arlen Specter	40%	72%	9%	39%
Pat Toomey	49%	14%	86%	44%
Undecided	10%	14%	5%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Sestak/Toomey				
Joe Sestak	46%	40%	82%	60%
Pat Toomey	51%	56%	17%	34%
Undecided	4%	4%	1%	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Sestak Favorability				
Favorable	39%	36%	62%	50%
Unfavorable	43%	46%	19%	26%
Not sure	18%	18%	19%	24%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Toomey Favorability				
Favorable	45%	49%	20%	32%
Unfavorable	40%	37%	60%	50%
Not sure	14%	13%	20%	18%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Corbett/Onorato				
Tom Corbett	52%	57%	16%	33%
Dan Onorato	45%	39%	84%	62%
Undecided	3%	3%	-	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Corbett Favorability				
Favorable	51%	55%	24%	32%
Unfavorable	32%	29%	54%	38%
Not sure	17%	16%	21%	30%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Onorato Favorability				
Favorable	37%	33%	70%	33%
Unfavorable	45%	49%	19%	36%
Not sure	18%	18%	11%	31%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	40%	35%	77%	59%
Disapprove	54%	59%	19%	39%
Not sure	6%	6%	4%	2%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Rendell Approval				
Approve	34%	29%	62%	46%
Disapprove	53%	57%	27%	34%
Not sure	13%	13%	11%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Specter Approval				
Approve	29%	27%	48%	29%
Disapprove	60%	63%	30%	58%
Not sure	11%	10%	22%	12%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Casey Approval				
Approve	36%	34%	50%	58%
Disapprove	40%	42%	33%	22%
Not sure	24%	25%	17%	20%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Specter/Toomey				
Arlen Specter	40%	35%	80%	54%
Pat Toomey	49%	55%	16%	24%
Undecided	10%	10%	4%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Sestak/Toomey					
Joe Sestak	46%	54%	43%	46%	44%
Pat Toomey	51%	42%	56%	50%	49%
Undecided	4%	4%	1%	4%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Sestak Favorability					
Favorable	39%	45%	28%	42%	43%
Unfavorable	43%	45%	51%	40%	40%
Not sure	18%	10%	21%	18%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Toomey Favorability					
Favorable	45%	35%	51%	44%	45%
Unfavorable	40%	45%	36%	42%	40%
Not sure	14%	20%	13%	14%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Corbett/Onorato					
Tom Corbett	52%	38%	57%	50%	54%
Dan Onorato	45%	58%	41%	47%	42%
Undecided	3%	4%	2%	3%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Corbett Favorability					
Favorable	51%	40%	54%	51%	50%
Unfavorable	32%	40%	32%	31%	32%
Not sure	17%	20%	14%	17%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Onorato Favorability					
Favorable	37%	30%	29%	39%	41%
Unfavorable	45%	55%	50%	42%	44%
Not sure	18%	15%	21%	19%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	40%	50%	34%	42%	40%
Disapprove	54%	45%	63%	52%	54%
Not sure	6%	5%	3%	7%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Rendell Approval					
Approve	34%	40%	37%	31%	33%
Disapprove	53%	40%	53%	54%	54%
Not sure	13%	20%	10%	15%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Specter Approval					
Approve	29%	17%	24%	33%	31%
Disapprove	60%	67%	65%	57%	57%
Not sure	11%	17%	11%	10%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Casey Approval					
Approve	36%	39%	27%	39%	40%
Disapprove	40%	33%	49%	40%	32%
Not sure	24%	28%	24%	20%	28%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Specter/Toomey					
Arlen Specter	40%	39%	35%	44%	38%
Pat Toomey	49%	50%	56%	45%	50%
Undecided	10%	11%	9%	10%	12%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Sestak/Toomey			
Joe Sestak	46%	49%	45%
Pat Toomey	51%	44%	51%
Undecided	4%	6%	4%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Sestak Favorability			
Favorable	39%	56%	38%
Unfavorable	43%	34%	44%
Not sure	18%	9%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Toomey Favorability			
Favorable	45%	43%	46%
Unfavorable	40%	49%	39%
Not sure	14%	8%	15%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Corbett/Onorato			
Tom Corbett	52%	50%	52%
Dan Onorato	45%	48%	45%
Undecided	3%	2%	3%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Corbett Favorability			
Favorable	51%	45%	52%
Unfavorable	32%	35%	32%
Not sure	17%	21%	16%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Onorato Favorability			
Favorable	37%	41%	36%
Unfavorable	45%	44%	45%
Not sure	18%	15%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Obama Approval			
Approve	40%	50%	39%
Disapprove	54%	47%	55%
Not sure	6%	3%	6%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Rendell Approval			
Approve	34%	38%	33%
Disapprove	53%	50%	53%
Not sure	13%	13%	14%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Specter Approval			
Approve	29%	24%	30%
Disapprove	60%	62%	59%
Not sure	11%	13%	11%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Casey Approval			
Approve	36%	54%	35%
Disapprove	40%	32%	41%
Not sure	24%	14%	25%



Crosstabs

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Specter/Toomey			
Arlen Specter	40%	46%	40%
Pat Toomey	49%	38%	50%
Undecided	10%	16%	10%