

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 18, 2010

INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

Corbett Still Leads Onorato by Double Digits in PA

Raleigh, N.C. – Republican Tom Corbett has upped his lead over Democrat Dan Onorato in the race to succeed outgoing Democratic Governor Ed Rendell in Pennsylvania, from 45-35 among registered voters in June to 48-35 among likely voters now. 17% are undecided.

There has been only slight movement since the last PPP poll of the race, with Democrats a little more supportive of Onorato and independents a little more supportive of Corbett. Corbett still gets 22% of Democrats, to Onorato's 12% of Republicans, both an unusually high level of crossover in this highly polarized climate. The real change, however, is in the makeup of the electorate, which is more conservative and more Republican.

Rendell's job approval rating has taken a negative 18-point swing since June, from 35-53 to 27-63, which cannot help Onorato in the horse race, especially since Democrats approve only 45-42. But Onorato's own favorability ratings are actually better among likely voters than all registered voters. At 22-25 in June, he was less popular than Corbett by 15 points on the margin. But at 30-28 now, and with Corbett at 33-23, that disadvantage is now only 8 points. After the competitive primaries, both Corbett and Onorato are better liked among their respective bases than they are disliked by their opposing party's voters, who still are not very familiar with them. But though Democrats in this electorate now like Onorato significantly more and Corbett a lot less, the small set of unaffiliated voters has also improved its views of Corbett, while they are still down on Onorato.

“In many races, the Democratic candidate is simply suffering from a less energized base,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “But in the Pennsylvania gubernatorial contest, Tom Corbett is simply pulling too many of the Democrats away from Dan Onorato, on top of the usual Republican advantage with independents. That is a deadly combination for the Democrats if they hope to keep this seat.”

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

Approve 27%
Disapprove..... 63%
Not sure 10%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Tom Corbett?

Favorable..... 33%
Unfavorable 23%
Not sure 44%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Dan Onorato?

Favorable..... 30%
Unfavorable 28%
Not sure 41%

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

Tom Corbett 48%
Dan Onorato 35%
Undecided..... 17%

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
Rendell Approval				
Approve	27%	7%	49%	14%
Disapprove	63%	88%	38%	55%
Not sure	10%	5%	13%	31%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Corbett Favorability				
Favorable	33%	51%	15%	33%
Unfavorable	23%	11%	35%	19%
Not sure	44%	38%	50%	47%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Onorato Favorability				
Favorable	30%	15%	47%	20%
Unfavorable	28%	42%	14%	33%
Not sure	41%	43%	39%	46%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Corbett/Onorato				
Tom Corbett	48%	79%	17%	47%
Dan Onorato	35%	10%	63%	14%
Undecided	17%	11%	19%	39%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Rendell Approval				
Approve	27%	55%	34%	10%
Disapprove	63%	33%	54%	82%
Not sure	10%	12%	13%	8%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Corbett Favorability				
Favorable	33%	12%	27%	47%
Unfavorable	23%	44%	25%	13%
Not sure	44%	44%	48%	41%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Onorato Favorability				
Favorable	30%	48%	42%	13%
Unfavorable	28%	13%	18%	43%
Not sure	41%	39%	40%	44%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Corbett/Onorato				
Tom Corbett	48%	18%	32%	74%
Dan Onorato	35%	68%	50%	9%
Undecided	17%	14%	18%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Rendell Approval			
Approve	27%	24%	29%
Disapprove	63%	64%	61%
Not sure	10%	12%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Corbett Favorability			
Favorable	33%	31%	36%
Unfavorable	23%	20%	25%
Not sure	44%	49%	39%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Onorato Favorability			
Favorable	30%	32%	28%
Unfavorable	28%	22%	36%
Not sure	41%	45%	37%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Corbett/Onorato			
Tom Corbett	48%	42%	55%
Dan Onorato	35%	39%	31%
Undecided	17%	19%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Rendell Approval				
Approve	27%	45%	8%	23%
Disapprove	63%	42%	85%	61%
Not sure	10%	13%	7%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Corbett Favorability				
Favorable	33%	15%	51%	35%
Unfavorable	23%	37%	9%	16%
Not sure	44%	48%	39%	50%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Onorato Favorability				
Favorable	30%	49%	13%	20%
Unfavorable	28%	18%	38%	34%
Not sure	41%	33%	49%	46%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Corbett/Onorato				
Tom Corbett	48%	22%	74%	52%
Dan Onorato	35%	62%	10%	20%
Undecided	17%	16%	16%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Rendell Approval				
Approve	27%	24%	44%	44%
Disapprove	63%	66%	48%	41%
Not sure	10%	11%	8%	15%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Corbett Favorability				
Favorable	33%	36%	16%	20%
Unfavorable	23%	22%	28%	22%
Not sure	44%	42%	56%	59%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Onorato Favorability				
Favorable	30%	30%	36%	20%
Unfavorable	28%	30%	16%	20%
Not sure	41%	40%	48%	61%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Corbett/Onorato				
Tom Corbett	48%	53%	20%	24%
Dan Onorato	35%	32%	56%	51%
Undecided	17%	16%	24%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Rendell Approval					
Approve	27%	28%	26%	29%	22%
Disapprove	63%	59%	64%	62%	65%
Not sure	10%	13%	10%	8%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Corbett Favorability					
Favorable	33%	23%	38%	31%	38%
Unfavorable	23%	22%	16%	25%	25%
Not sure	44%	55%	46%	45%	38%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Onorato Favorability					
Favorable	30%	29%	28%	30%	33%
Unfavorable	28%	31%	25%	29%	29%
Not sure	41%	40%	47%	41%	39%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Corbett/Onorato					
Tom Corbett	48%	44%	47%	47%	53%
Dan Onorato	35%	38%	35%	36%	32%
Undecided	17%	18%	19%	17%	15%

