



INSTITUTE OF
PUBLIC OPINION
MUHLENBERG COLLEGE

Muhlenberg College/Morning Call
Pennsylvania 2010 Midterm Election Survey

Release Date

OCTOBER 6, 2010

Methodology

Number of Interviews: 577 Likely Voters in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Margin of Error: +/- 4% at a 95% level of confidence

Fielding Dates – September 28 – Oct 4, 2010

Method of Interviewing: Live telephone interviewers

Method of Sampling: Pennsylvania Voter Registration Files- Individuals who voted in at least 2 of the last 4 general elections OR who had registered to vote since 2008 and voted in the Spring 2010 primary election

Likely Voter Screens: (1) Currently Registered; (2) Expressed Likelihood

Weighting: The data was weighted by gender and region of the state.

Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding

PENNSYLVANIA GOVERNOR'S RACE

Favorability Ratings

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Neutral/Not Sure	Never heard Of
Onorato	38%	30%	24%	7%
Corbett	48%	24%	21%	6%

Election Matchup (With Leaners)

Candidate	Percentage Responding
Corbett	47%
Onorato	37%
Other/Not Sure	15%

SELECTED CROSSTABS- October 2010

	Onorato	Corbett	Undecided
Democrat	60%	23%	17%
Republican	15%	71%	14%
Independent	33%	53%	15%
Male	38%	50%	12%
Female	36%	45%	19%
18-39	35%	43%	21%
40-64	39%	48%	13%
65 and Older	35%	48%	17%

UNITED STATES SENATE RACE in PENNSYLVANIA

Favorability Ratings

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Neutral/Not Sure	Never heard Of
Sestak	37%	37%	22%	4%
Toomey	44%	31%	21%	3%

Election Matchup (With Leaners)

Candidate	Percentage Responding
Toomey	46%
Sestak	39%
Other/Not Sure	14%

SELECTED CROSSTABS-

	Sestak	Toomey	Undecided
Democrat	67%	17%	16%
Republican	11%	76%	13%
Independent	39%	39%	22%
Male	40%	50%	10%
Female	39%	42%	19%
18-39	41%	46%	14%
40-64	39%	47%	14%
65 and Older	40%	45%	15%

SURVEY INSTRUMENT and FREQUENCY REPORT
(September 2010 results from survey of 445 likely voters between 9/18 and 9/23)

Hello, my name is _____. I'm a student at Muhlenberg College conducting a research project regarding the upcoming elections in Pennsylvania. Would you be willing to help us by answering a few questions?

Q1: Thank you. What is your current age? (OPENENDED)

	September 2010	October 2010
1. 18-39	12%	12%
2. 40-64	48%	52%
3. 65 and OLDER	31%	35%
4. REFUSED	9%	2%

Q2: Which of the following categories best describes your current voting status? Are you registered as a _____? (READ LIST)

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Democrat	44%	46%
2. Republican	47%	45%
3. Independent	9%	7%
4. Other Party	<1%	1%
5. Not Registered to Vote in Pennsylvania (END SURVEY)		
6. Not Sure (Volunteered) (END SURVEY)		
7. Refused (Volunteered) (END SURVEY)		

Q3: How likely are you to vote in the midterm elections this November? Are you definitely going to vote, very likely to vote, not too likely to vote or definitely not voting in the November Election?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Definitely Going to Vote	79%	76%
2. Very Likely To Vote	21%	24%
3. Not Too Likely to Vote (END SURVEY)		
4. Definitely not voting (END SURVEY)		
5. Not Sure (Volunteered) (END SURVEY)		
6. Refused (Volunteered) (END SURVEY)		

Q4: Next, I would like for you to rate the performance of a few political officials. For each name that I read, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of the way he is doing his job.

First, President Barack Obama?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Approve	37%	42%
2. Disapprove	54%	52%
3. No opinion (Volunteered)	7%	6%
4. Refused (Volunteered)	1%	<1%

Q5: How about Governor Ed Rendell?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Approve	35%	35%
2. Disapprove	52%	56%
3. No opinion (Volunteered)	12%	8%
4. Refused (Volunteered)	1%	< 1%

Q6: Now, I would like to ask your overall impression of a few political figures. For each name I read, please tell me if your impression of him is favorable or unfavorable.

First, Joe Sestak

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Favorable	33%	37%
2. Unfavorable	34%	37%
3. Neutral/Not Sure	30%	22%
4. Haven't heard of him	2%	4%
5. Refused (Volunteered)	1%	<1%

Q7: Next, Pat Toomey

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Favorable	39%	44%
2. Unfavorable	31%	31%
3. Neutral/Not Sure	27%	21%
4. Haven't Heard of Him	2%	3%
5. Refused (Volunteered)	1%	< 1%

Q8: How about Tom Corbett?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Favorable	46%	48%
2. Unfavorable	19%	24%
3. Neutral/Not Sure	32%	21%
4. Haven't Heard of Him	3%	5%
5. Refused (Volunteered)	1%	1%

Q9: and Dan Onorato?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Favorable	37%	38%
2. Unfavorable	28%	30%
3. Neutral/Not Sure	29%	24%
4. Haven't Heard of Him	6%	6%
5. Refused (Volunteered)	<1%	1%

Q10: If the elections for Congress were being held today, which party's candidate would you vote for? The Democratic Party's candidate or the Republican Party's candidate? (OPTIONS ROTATED)

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Democrat	37%	36%
2. Republican	46%	48%
3. Neither/Other	6%	6%
4. Not Sure (Volunteered)	11%	10%
5. Refused (Volunteered)	1%	2%

Q11: Now, if the 2010 Pennsylvania Governor election was being held today and the race was between Tom Corbett and Dan Onorato, who would you vote for? (OPTIONS ROTATED)

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Tom Corbett (GO TO Q13)	45%	47%
2. Dan Onorato (GO TO Q13)	35%	36%
3. Neither/Other (GO TO Q13)	7%	4%
4. Not Sure (Volunteered)	13%	12%
5. Refused (Volunteered)	<1%	1%

Q12: Are you leaning more toward voting for Tom Corbett or Dan Onorato? (OPTIONS ROTATED) (ASKED ONLY OF THOSE NOT SURE IN Q10: N= 68)

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Tom Corbett	11%	13%
2. Dan Onorato	13%	12%
3. Not Sure (Volunteered)	77%	73%
4. Refused (Volunteered)	0%	2%

QUESTIONS 10 and 11 COMBINED (Leaners Included)

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Tom Corbett	46%	47%
2. Dan Onorato	37%	37%
3. Not Sure/Other	17%	16%

Q13: Now, if the 2010 U.S. Senate election was being held today and the race was between Joe Sestak and Pat Toomey, who would you vote for?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Joe Sestak (GO TO Q15)	38%	38%
2. Pat Toomey (GO TO Q15)	44%	45%
3. Other (GO TO Q15)	2%	2%
4. Not Sure (Volunteered)	16%	15%
5. Refused (Volunteered)	<1%	<1%

Q14: Are you leaning more toward voting for Joe Sestak or Pat Toomey?
(OPTIONS ROTATED) (ASKED ONLY OF THOSE NOT SURE IN Q13: N= 85)

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Joe Sestak	11%	10%
2. Pat Toomey	9%	7%
3. Not Sure (Volunteered)	78%	82%
4. Refused (Volunteered)	2%	1%

QUESTIONS 13 and 14 COMBINED (Leaners Included)

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Joe Sestak	39%	39%
2. Pat Toomey	46%	46%
3. Other/Not Sure	14%	14%

Q15: Which of the following best describes your vote in the 2008 Presidential election? I voted for: (READ LIST)

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Barack Obama	46%	46%
2. John McCain	47%	47%
3. Another candidate	4%	4%
4. Or I did not vote in that election	2%	2%
5. Don't recall (Volunteered)	0%	<1%
6. Not sure (Volunteered)	0%	0%
7. Refused (Volunteered)	2%	1%

Q16: In 2009, Congress passed an \$800 billion stimulus bill known as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this action by Congress?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Strongly support	16%	17%
2. Somewhat support	26%	27%
3. Somewhat oppose	18%	16%
4. Strongly oppose	36%	35%
5. Not sure (Volunteered)	5%	4%
6. Refuse (Volunteered)	0%	<1%

Q17: In 2010, Congress enacted major health care reform in the United States. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the health care reform enacted by Congress?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Strongly support	21%	23%
2. Somewhat support	17%	21%
3. Somewhat oppose	16%	11%
4. Strongly oppose	41%	40%
5. Not sure (Volunteered)	6%	4%
6. Refuse (Volunteered)	0%	>1%

Q18: During recent years there has been an increased level of natural gas drilling in Pennsylvania's Marcellus (MAR-cell-us) shale deposits. Currently there is no tax on the extraction of natural gas in the state. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the creation of a tax on natural gas drilling in Pennsylvania?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Strongly support	28%	26%
2. Somewhat support	22%	23%
3. Somewhat oppose	16%	14%
4. Strongly oppose	20%	22%
5. Not sure (Volunteered)	15%	14%
6. Refuse (Volunteered)	<1%	<1%

Q19: In order to help reduce the state's budget shortfalls some have called for Pennsylvania to sell its state-owned liquor stores. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the sale of the state's liquor stores?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Strongly support	35%	37%
2. Somewhat support	24%	24%
3. Somewhat oppose	13%	10%
4. Strongly oppose	14%	14%
5. Not sure (Volunteered)	14%	14%
6. Refuse (Volunteered)	<1%	1%

Q20: Pennsylvania is currently experiencing a shortfall in funds to repair and maintain the state's transportation system. Would you be willing to pay higher drivers license and motor vehicle registration fees if the money raised from those fees went directly towards the state's transportation system?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Would pay more	46%	49%
2. Would not pay more	44%	44%
3. Not sure (Volunteered)	9%	6%
4. Refuse (Volunteered)	<1%	<1%

Q21: Finally, I have a few questions about yourself. Which of the following categories best describes your racial identity? Are you (READ LIST)?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. White/Caucasian	89%	90%
2. African-American	5%	5%
3. Hispanic	1%	1%
4. Latino	<1%	1%
5. Asian	1%	<1%
6. Native American	0%	<1%
7. Mixed race	1%	<1%
8. or other	1%	<1%
9. Not Sure (Volunteered)	0%	<1%
10. Refused (Volunteered)	3%	2%

Q22: Which of the following categories best describes your religious affiliation? Are you (READ LIST)?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Catholic	37%	35%
2. Protestant	39%	43%
3. Jewish	3%	2%
4. Muslim	<1%	0%
5. Hindu	0%	<1%
6. Other Religion (Including agnostic)	14%	12%
7. or Atheist	3%	1%
8. Not Sure (Volunteered)	1%	2%
9. Refused (Volunteered)	4%	5%

Q23: What is your current marital status? Are you (READ LIST)?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Single	12%	13%
2. Married	70%	68%
3. Separated	<1%	<1%
4. Divorced	5%	5%
5. Widowed	12%	11%
6. Partnered	1%	1%
7. Not sure (Volunteered)	0%	0%
8. Refused (Volunteered)	2%	2%

Q24: What is your highest level of education? (READ LIST)

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Less than High School	2%	2%
2. High School Graduate	29%	28%
3. Some college or technical school	22%	20%
4. College graduate (4 yr only)	28%	31%
5. Graduate or professional degree	18%	17%
6. Not sure (Volunteered)	0%	0%
7. Refused (Volunteered)	1%	2%

Q25: What county do you currently reside in? (CODED INTO REGIONS)

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Southeast	36%	38%
2. Southwest	22%	22%
3. Other Areas of the State	42%	40%

Q26: Which of the following categories best describes your family income? Is it (READ LIST)?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Under \$20,000	9%	9%
2. \$20,000-\$40,000	19%	16%
3. \$40,000-\$60,000	14%	18%
4. \$60,000-\$80,000	11%	13%
5. \$80,000-\$100,000	9%	9%
6. Over \$100,000	14%	14%
7. Not Sure (Volunteered)	3%	1%
8. Refused (Volunteered)	21%	20%

Q27: Finally, would you be willing to be contacted by a newspaper reporter for a follow up interview?

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Yes	28%	28%
2. No	68%	68%
3. Not Sure (Volunteered)	4%	2%
4. Refused (Volunteered)	0%	1%

Q28: Thank you for your help with the survey. We appreciate your time.
(GENDER DETERMINED BY VOICE RECOGNITION)

	September 2010	October 2010
1. Male	48%	47%
2. Female	52%	53%