



Muhlenberg College/Morning Call

February 2016 Pennsylvania Registered Voter Survey

Methodological Statement

The following report contains the results of a telephone survey of 443 registered voters in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania between February 2 and 11, 2016. Respondents were interviewed in English on both land lines (301) and cell phones (142) by the staff of the Muhlenberg College Institute of Public Opinion (MCIPO) in Allentown, Pennsylvania on the Institute's Computer Aided Telephone Interviewing (CATI) system. With a randomly selected sample of 443 respondents the margin of error for the surveys is +/- 6% at a 95% level of confidence. Margins of error for questions with smaller sample size will be larger. In addition to sampling error, one should consider that question wording and other fielding issues can introduce error or bias into survey results. The sample data has been weighted by gender and party to reflect those characteristics as reported by the Pennsylvania Secretary of State. . The calculation of sampling error takes into account design effects due to the weighting identified above. In order to reach a representative sample of adult Pennsylvanians both land lines and cell phones are called up to 5 times. The response rate for this survey as calculated using the American Association of Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) RRII formula is 10%. Due to rounding the totals provided in the frequency report may not total 100%. The survey instrument (presented in its entirety below) was designed by Dr. Christopher P. Borick of the MCIPO in conjunction with the staff of the *Morning Call*. The survey was funded exclusively by the *Morning Call* and the MCIPO. For more detailed information on the methods employed please contact the MCIPO at 484-664-3444 or email Dr. Borick at cborick@muhlenberg.edu.

INSTRUMENT And FREQUENCY REPORT

Q1: Which of the following categories best describes your current voting status? Are you registered as a (READ LIST)?

1. Democrat.....52%
2. Republican..... 39%
3. Independent..... 9%
4. Other Party..... 1%

Q2: In which of the following age categories does your current age fall. (READ LIST)

- 1. 18-29.....12%
- 2. 30-49.....22%
- 3. 50-65.....33%
- 4. or Over 65.....32%

Q3: What county do you currently reside in? (CODED BY REGION)

- Southeast.....36%
- Southwest.....19%
- Remainder of State.....45%

Q4: I have a few questions about issues in Pennsylvania. 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?

- 1.Strongly Support.....37%
- 2.Somewhat Support.....18%
- 3.Somewhat Oppose.....13%
- 4.Strongly Oppose19%
- 5.Not Sure.....17%

TREND

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Not Sure/Ref
September 2010	37%	28%	10%	10%	13%
March 2011	34%	24%	12%	15%	16%
August 2011	36%	27%	16%	13%	9%
December 2011	34%	24%	16%	15%	11%
March/April 2012	32%	25%	16%	15%	12%
February 2013	26%	19%	16%	23%	17%
February 2015	31%	26%	15%	20%	8%
October 2015	37%	12%	11%	26%	15%
February 2016	37%	18%	13%	19%	17%

Q5: In general, would you say that you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the extraction of natural gas from shale deposits in Pennsylvania?

- 1. Strongly support 25%
- 2. Somewhat support25%
- 3. Somewhat oppose..... 12%
- 4. Strongly oppose.....21%
- 5. Not sure (VOL).....17%

TREND

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Not Sure/Ref
2014	23%	31%	14%	15%	17%
2015	26%	29%	18%	19%	8%
2016	25%	25%	12%	21%	17%

Q6: Many states have created “severance taxes.” in which drillers pay a tax that is based on the value of natural gas and oil that they extract from below the ground. Pennsylvania does not currently have such a tax. Do you think that Pennsylvania should adopt such a tax or not?

1. Should Adopt.....62%
2. Should Not Adopt.....28%
3. Not Sure (VOL).....10%

TREND

	Should Adopt	Should Not Adopt	Not Sure/Refused
February 2014	62%	29%	9%
February 2015	63%	25%	13%
October 2015	63%	28%	9%
February 2016	62%	28%	10%

Q7: Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements. First, Increasing taxes on natural gas drillers in PA will lead drilling firms to leave and so should be avoided.

1. Strongly agree.....21%
2. Somewhat agree.....15%
3. Somewhat disagree..... 23%
4. Strongly disagree.....25%
5. Not sure (Vol).....17%

TREND

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Sure
2011	11%	22%	23%	28%	16%
2012	16%	16%	30%	34%	4%
2015	18%	20%	26%	29%	8%
2016	21%	15%	23%	25%	17%

Q8: Next, natural gas drilling in Pennsylvania poses a major risk to the state’s water resources.

1. Strongly agree.....29%
2. Somewhat agree.....19%
3. Somewhat disagree..... 18%
4. Strongly disagree.....19%
5. Not sure (Vol).....17%

TREND

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Sure
Fall 2011	33%	27%	13%	15%	12%
Spring 2012	31%	27%	14%	15%	13%
Fall 2012	35%	24%	17%	17%	8%
Winter 2015	28%	23%	22%	16%	10%
Winter 2016	29%	19%	18%	19%	17%

Q9: Concerns regarding the environmental impacts of natural gas drilling in Pennsylvania are being overstated by the media.

1. Strongly agree.....25%
2. Somewhat agree.....25%
3. Somewhat disagree..... 18%
4. Strongly disagree.....19%
5. Not sure (Vol).....13%

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Sure
Winter 2015	30%	25%	16%	20%	9%
Winter 2016	25%	25%	18%	19%	13%

Q10: NASA recently reported that 2015 was the hottest year on the planet since record keeping began in 1880. Which of the following best describes your view on the NASA report that 2015 was the hottest year since 1880? (READ LIST)

1. The record heat is evidence that global warming is happening and is probably caused by human activity.....35%
2. The record heat is evidence that global warming is happening but it is probably caused by a natural cycle.....54%

3. Or the NASA temperature report is based on flawed measurements and global warming is not occurring..... 6%
4. Not Sure (Vol)..... 6%

Q11: Records from the National Weather Service indicate that blizzards along the east coast, such as the recent storm that hit Pennsylvania, are occurring more frequently than in the past. Which of the following best describes your view on National Weather Service records indicating increased frequency in east coast blizzards? (READ LIST)

1. The increased numbers of blizzards is evidence of climate change.....38%
2. The increased number of blizzards is part of a natural cycle..... 48%
3. The increased numbers of blizzards is evidence that climate change is not happening..... 7%
4. Not Sure..... 6%

Q12: Now, I would like to ask you a few questions on the issue of global warming. From what you've read and heard, is there solid evidence that the average temperature on earth has been getting warmer over the past four decades?

1. Yes66%
2. No (SKIP TO Q14).....20%
3. Not Sure (SKIP TO Q15)..... 13%

TREND

	Yes	No	Not Sure
2007	71%	16%	15%
2008	74%	16%	9%
2012	69%	25%	7%
2013	66%	24%	10%
2014	65%	22%	13%
2015	61%	30%	9%
2016	66%	20%	13%

Q13: What is the primary factor that has caused you to believe that temperatures on earth are increasing? (OPEN ENDED RESPONSES TO BE CODED) (SKIP to Q 15)

Q14: What is the primary factor that makes you believe that temperatures on earth are not increasing? (OPEN ENDED RESPONSES TO BE CODED)

Q15: 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 they are doing their job.

First, President Barack Obama

- 1. Approve.....44%
- 2. Disapprove.....50%
- 3. No opinion (Volunteered)..... 6%

TREND

	Approve	Disapprove	Not Sure
April 2009	61%	24%	15%
April 2010	45%	46%	9%
September 2010	40%	56%	4%
March 2011	48%	44%	9%
August 2011	35%	58%	7%
December 2011	45%	50%	5%
March/April 2012	43%	50%	6%
February 2013	50%	41%	9%
September 2013	38%	50%	12%
February 2015	44%	48%	8%
October 2015	44%	49%	7%
February 2016	44%	50%	6%

Q16: Governor Tom Wolf?

- 1. Approve.....36%
- 2. Disapprove.....40%
- 3. No opinion (Volunteered).....24%

TREND

	Approve	Disapprove	Not Sure
February 2015	37%	13%	50%
October 2015	35%	41%	24%
February 2016	36%	40%	24%

Q17: Senator Pat Toomey?

- 1. Approve.....33%
- 2. Disapprove.....25%
- 3. No opinion (Volunteered).....41%

TREND

	Approve	Disapprove	Not Sure
March 2011	39%	19%	42%
August 2011	40%	30%	31%
December 2011	44%	28%	28%
March/April 2012	38%	26%	35%
February 2013	36%	20%	43%
February 2015	35%	25%	40%
October 2015	37%	25%	38%
February 2016	33%	25%	41%

Q18: Senator Bob Casey, Jr.?

1. Approve.....38%
2. Disapprove.....26%
3. No opinion (Volunteered).....37%

TREND

	Approve	Disapprove	Not Sure
March 2011	48%	22%	30%
August 2011	40%	35%	26%
December 2011	54%	24%	22%
March/April 2012	45%	32%	23%
February 2013	46%	26%	28%
February 2015	40%	22%	39%
October 2015	44%	27%	29%
February 2015	38%	26%	37%

Q19: Pennsylvania Attorney General Kane?

1. Approve.....21%
2. Disapprove.....43%
3. No opinion (Volunteered).....36%

TREND

	Approve	Disapprove	Not Sure
February 2015	26%	33%	41%
October 2015	22%	46%	32%
February 2016	21%	43%	36%

Q20: If the 2016 election for President was being held today and the race was between Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Donald Trump the Republican who would you vote for? (ROTATE NAMES)

- 1. Clinton.....42%
- 2. Trump.....33%
- 3. Neither/Other(Volunteered).....21%
- 4. Not Sure (Volunteered)..... 5%

TREND

	Clinton	Trump	Neither/Other	Not Sure
October 2015	43%	34%	18%	5%
February 2016	42%	33%	21%	5%

Q21: If the 2016 election for President was being held today and the race was between Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Ted Cruz the Republican who would you vote for? (ROTATE NAMES)

- 1. Clinton.....40%
- 2. Cruz.....40%
- 3. Neither/Other(Volunteered).....15%
- 4. Not Sure (Volunteered)..... 5%

Q22: If the 2016 election for President was being held today and the race was between Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Marco Rubio the Republican who would you vote for? (ROTATE NAMES)

- 1. Clinton.....39%
- 2. Rubio.....44%
- 3. Neither/Other(Volunteered).....11%
- 4. Not Sure (Volunteered)..... 7%

Q23: If the 2016 election for President was being held today and the race was between Bernie Sanders the Democrat and Donald Trump the Republican, who would you vote for? (ROTATE NAMES)

- 1. Sanders.....46%
- 2. Trump..... 34%
- 3. Neither/Other(Volunteered).....15%
- 4. Not Sure (Volunteered)..... 5%

Q24: If the 2016 election for President was being held today and the race was between Bernie Sanders the Democrat, Donald Trump the Republican, and Michael Bloomberg an independent, who would you vote for? (ROTATE NAMES)

- 1. Sanders.....39%
- 2. Trump..... 30%
- 3. Bloomberg..... 14%
- 4. Neither/Other(Volunteered).....11%
- 5. Not Sure (Volunteered)..... 6%

Q25: Do you feel that United States Senator Pat Toomey deserves to be reelected, or do you feel that he does not deserve to be reelected?

- 1. Yes, he does.....30%
- 2. No, he does not.....30%
- 3. Not sure (Volunteered).....41%

TREND

	Yes	No	Not Sure
February 2015	32%	31%	37%
October 2015	32%	31%	37%
February 2016	30%	30%	41%

Q26: If the 2016 election for United States Senator were being held today, do you think you would vote for Pat Toomey the Republican candidate, or the Democrat candidate?

- 1. Toomey.....30%
- 2. Democrat candidate.....28%
- 3. Depends on the candidate (Volunteered).....24%
- 4. Not sure (Volunteered).....19%

TREND

	Toomey	Democrat	Depends on Candidate	Not Sure
February 2015	32%	30%	21%	18%
October 2015	33%	33%	21%	13%
February 2016	30%	28%	24%	19%

Q27: Do you feel that Pennsylvania Attorney General Kathleen Kane deserves to be reelected, or do you feel that he does not deserve to be reelected?

- 1. Yes, she does.....16%
- 2. No, she does not.....50%
- 3. Not sure (Volunteered).....33%.

TREND

	Yes	No	Not Sure
February 2015	27%	33%	40%
October 2015	19%	52%	30%
February 2016	16%	50%	33%

Q28: There has been some discussion in the Pennsylvania Legislature about impeaching Attorney General Kathleen Kane for a number of her actions and decisions over the past two years. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the impeachment of Pennsylvania Attorney General Kathleen Kane?

- 1.Strongly Support.....17%
- 2.Somewhat Support.....18%
- 3.Somewhat Oppose.....16%.
- 4.Strongly Oppose15%
- 5.Not Sure (VOL).....35%

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Not Sure/Refused
February 2015	15%	14%	20%	18%	35%
October 2015	22%	13%	12%	26%	28%
February 2016	17%	18%	16%	15%	35%

Q29. Finally, I have a few questions about yourself. First, what is your current marital status?

- 1. Single.....20%
- 2. Married..... 59%
- 3. Separated..... 2%
- 4. Divorced.....8%
- 5. Widowed.....10%
- 6. Partnered..... 1%

Q30. What is your highest level of education? Is it (READ LIST)?

- 1. Less than High School.....2%
- 2. High School graduate.....25%
- 3. Some college or technical school27%
- 4. College graduate (4 yr only).....30%
- 5. Graduate or professional degree.....17%

Q31. Which of the following categories best describes your racial identity? (READ LIST)

- 1. White/Caucasian.....87%
- 2. African-American..... 8%
- 3. Hispanic/Latino..... 3%
- 4. Asian.....1%
- 5. Native American.....<1%
- 6. Mixed race.....1%
- 7. or other.....<1%

Q32. Which of the following categories best describes your religious affiliation? Are you (READ LIST)?

- 1. Catholic.....32%
- 2. Protestant.....40%
- 3. Jewish.....3%
- 4. Muslim.....1%
- 5. Hindu.....1%
- 6. Other Religion (Including agnostic).....21%
- 7. or Atheist2%
- 8. Not Sure (Volunteered).....1%

Q33. Which of the following categories best describes your family income? (READ LIST)

- 1. Under \$20,000.....10%
- 2. \$20,000-\$40,000.....18%
- 3. \$40,000-\$60,000.....21%
- 4. \$60,000-\$80,000.....16%
- 5. \$80,000-\$100,000.....10%
- 6. Over \$100,000.....21%
- 7. Not sure (Volunteered).....4%

Q34. What is the zip code for your current residence? _____ (Categorized at Later Point)

Q35. Thank you for your help with the survey. We appreciate your time.
(Gender Determined by Voice Recognition)

1. Male.....48%
2. Female.....52%