



Muhlenberg College/*Morning Call*
Pennsylvania Presidential Election Survey
OCTOBER 2024

Key Findings:

1. In the final Muhlenberg College/*Morning Call* poll of the 2024 election season, Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump are in a very tight race with Harris holding a narrow 49% to 47% lead among likely voters in the Keystone State.
2. A historically large divide in electoral preferences between those with and without 4-year college degrees is among the key survey findings with Harris holding a very large lead (60% to 35%) among those with a 4-year degree and Trump maintaining an advantage (54% to 42%) among those without a 4-year degree.
3. The results of the survey once again indicate a gender divide within the Pennsylvania electorate with Harris holding a 53% to 43% lead among women and Trump holding a 52% to 43% advantage among men.
4. In the Keystone State former President Trump holds a 54% to 43% lead among white voters while Harris holds a 66% to 27% lead among voters of color.
5. In Pennsylvania's U.S. Senate race incumbent Senator Bob Casey Jr. holds a 3 point lead over Dave McCormick, his Republican challenger.
6. Likely voters within the Commonwealth remain evenly divided in terms of their party preferences within their congressional districts, with 47% intending to vote for the Republican candidate in the upcoming election and 46% planning to vote for the Democratic nominee in their U.S. House race.
7. Pennsylvania's likely voters have varied views on the performance of the President and Governor in the waning days of the election, with President Biden receiving a 42% approval rating compared to Governor Shapiro's 59% approval mark

8. Voting fraud (28%), voter suppression (20%) and foreign interference in the election (18%) are considered the biggest threats to Pennsylvania having a safe, secure and accurate election in 2024.
9. Just under half (48%) of likely voters in the Commonwealth agree (either “strongly” or “somewhat”) with the statement “I anticipate that acts of political violence will occur on Election Day.”
10. About one third (32%) of Pennsylvania’s likely voters indicate that politics and current events are a “major” source of threat in their lives.

Methodological Statement:

The following report contains the results of a telephone survey of (460) likely voters in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania between October 27 and 30, 2024. Respondents were interviewed in English on both landlines (94) and cell phones (366). The sampling frame for the study is from the registered voters files of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. To determine likely voters, only voters who have voted in 1 or more of the last 4 general elections (2020-2023), or who is a new registrant since November of 2020 were included in the sampling frame. In addition, only survey respondents from this frame who indicated that they were “definitely” or “very likely” to vote in the November election were included in the sample. With a randomly selected sample of 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. Interviewing was conducted by Communication Concepts of Easton, Pennsylvania under protocols established by the MCIPO.

The data has been weighted to gender, age, region, party, race and educational attainment to reflect voter population parameters for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. . Weighting for region, political party and age are targeted to parameters established within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of State’s voter registration data. Race, gender and educational attainment are estimated using data from the United States Census Bureau’s November 2022 Current Population Survey (CPS) Voter Registration Supplement. The calculation of sampling error takes into account design effects due to the weighting identified above. In order to reach a representative sample of registered voters both land lines and cell phones were called up to 3 times. The AAPOR Response Rate 2 for the survey was 3.2%. Due to rounding the totals provided in the frequency report may not total 100%. As part of the effort to ensure data quality a random sample of 11 respondents to the survey were recontacted by staff from the Institute of Public Opinion to confirm that they had completed the survey on the date provided by Communication Concepts.

The survey instrument (presented in its entirety below) was designed by Dr. Christopher P. Borick and Dr. Lindsay Burt of the MCIPO. 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 FREQUENCIES

Muhlenberg College Institute of Public Opinion

October 2024 PA Election Poll

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

Democrat 45%
Republican 46%
Independent 9%
Other Party <1%

Q2: How likely are you to vote in the November 2024 presidential election? Are you definitely going to vote, very likely to vote, not too likely to vote or definitely not voting?

Definitely Voting 92%
Very Likely to Vote 9%

Q3: 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 or her is favorable or unfavorable. (ROTATE)

First, Kamala Harris:

Favorable 49%
Unfavorable 46%
Neutral/Not Sure 5%

Q4: Next, Donald Trump:

Favorable 42%
Unfavorable..... 54%
Neutral/Not Sure 4%

	December 2023	April 2024	September 2024	October 2024
Favorable	33%	39%	45%	42%
Unfavorable	56%	55%	52%	54%
Neutral/Not Sure	11%	6%	3%	4%
Haven't Heard of Him	0%	0%	0%	0%

Q5: Bob Casey Jr.:

Favorable 40%
 Unfavorable 40%
 Neutral/Not Sure 16%
 Haven't Heard of Him 4%

	April 2024	September 2024	October 2024
Favorable	39%	33%	40%
Unfavorable	33%	38%	40%
Neutral/Not Sure	20%	23%	16%
Haven't Heard of Him	8%	6%	4%

Q6: David McCormick:

Favorable 30%
 Unfavorable 45%
 Neutral/Not Sure 20%
 Haven't Heard of Him 5%

	April 2024	September 2024	October 2024
Favorable	28%	28%	30%
Unfavorable	26%	38%	45%
Neutral/Not Sure	29%	24%	20%
Haven't Heard of Him	17%	10%	5%

Q7: Next, do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as President?

Approve 42%
 Disapprove 51%
 No opinion (Volunteered) 7%

	December 2023	April 2024	September 2024	October 2024
Approve	34%	35%	36%	42%
Disapprove	57%	61%	58%	51%
No Opinion	9%	5%	5%	7%

Q8: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Josh Shapiro is handling his job as Governor of Pennsylvania?

Approve59%
 Disapprove 28%
 No opinion (Volunteered) 13%

	December 2023	April 2024	September 2024	October 2024
Approve	51%	64%	59%	59%
Disapprove	21%	19%	27%	28%
No Opinion	28%	17%	14%	13%

Q9: Now, if the 2024 presidential election was being held today and the race was between Donald Trump and Kamala Harris who would you vote for? (OPTIONS ROTATED)

Trump (Skip to Q 11)47%
 Harris (Skip to Q11) 49%
 Neither/Other (Volunteered) (Skip to Q11) 2%
 Not Sure (Volunteered) 2%

Q10: Are you leaning more toward voting for Donald Trump or Kamala Harris? (OPTIONS ROTATED) (ASKED ONLY OF THOSE THAT SAID, “NOT SURE” ON Q9) (n = 7)

Trump.....0%
 Harris.....0%
 Neither/Other (Volunteered).....11%
 Not Sure (Volunteered)90%

PRESIDENTIAL RACE WITH LEANERS

TRUMP 47%
HARRIS 49%
NEITHER/OTHER 2%
NOT SURE 2%

	September 2024	October 2024
Trump	48%	47%
Harris	48%	49%
Neither/Other	4%	2%
Not Sure	1%	2%

Q11: Next, if the 2024 United States Senate race in Pennsylvania was being held today and the race was between Bob Casey Jr. the Democrat and David McCormick the Republican, who would you vote for?

Casey 48%
 McCormick 45%
 Neither/Other (Volunteered) 2%
 Not Sure (Volunteered) 4%

Q12: Are you leaning more toward voting for Bob Casey Jr. or David McCormick? (OPTIONS ROTATED) (ASKED ONLY OF THOSE THAT SAID, “NOT SURE” ON Q11) (n = 18)

Casey 29%
 McCormick 26%
 Neither/Other (Volunteered) 10%
 Not Sure (Volunteered) 35%

SENATE RACE WITH LEANERS

CASEY 49%
MCCORMICK 46%
NEITHER/OTHER 3%
NOT SURE 1%

	April 2024	September 2024	October 2024
Casey	45%	48%	49%
McCormick	41%	43%	46%
Neither/Other	5%	5%	3%
Not Sure	7%	4%	1%

Q13: If the elections for Congress were being held today, which party's candidate would you vote for in your district? The Democratic Party's candidate or the Republican Party's candidate? (OPTIONS ROTATED)

Democrat 46%
 Republican 47 %
 Neither/Other (Volunteered) 1%
 Not Sure (Volunteered) 6%

	December 2023	April 2024	September 2024	October 2024
Democrat	42%	45%	45%	46%
Republican	41%	44%	45%	47%
Neither/Other	16%	5%	3%	1%
Not Sure	1%	7%	7%	6%

How confident are you that, across the country, votes cast in the following methods will be accurately cast and counted in this November's elections.? First: (ROTATE OPTIONS)

	Very Confident	Somewhat Confident	Not Too Confident	Not at all Confident	Not Sure
Q14: Paper Ballots	55%	23%	10%	8%	5%
Q15: Electronic Voting Systems	54%	19%	10%	12%	5%
Q16: Mail ballots	39%	18%	14%	27%	3%

Please indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Sure
Q17: I anticipate that acts of political violence will occur on Election Day	23%	26%	16%	22%	14%
Q18: The transfer of power between presidents will be peaceful if Kamala Harris wins the election.	39%	21%	11%	20%	9%
Q19: The transfer of power between presidents will be peaceful if Donald Trump wins the election	39%	20%	10%	20%	10%

Q20: Which of the following do you think is the biggest threat to Pennsylvania having a safe, secure and accurate election in 2024? (ROTATE OPTIONS)

- Foreign interference in the election 18%
- Voting machines malfunctioning 6%
- Voter fraud 28%
- The use of mail ballots 11%
- Suppression of individuals from voting 20%
- Other factor (Volunteered) 8%
- Not Sure (Volunteered) 9%

Q21: In general, do you feel that drilling for natural gas in Pennsylvania will provide more benefits or more problems in the FUTURE for the citizens of Pennsylvania?

More Benefits 61%
 More Problems 23%
 About Equal (Volunteered) 7%
 Not Sure (Volunteered) 10%

Q22: Are politics and current events a major source of stress, a minor source of stress, or not a source of stress for you?

Major Source 32%
 Minor Source 43%
 Not a Source 24%
 Not Sure (Volunteered) 2%

Are politics and current events a major source of stress, a minor source of stress, or not a source of stress for you?

	Spring 2024*	October 2024
Major Source	43%	32%
Minor Source	38%	43%
Not a Source	19%	24%
Not Sure (Vol)	0%	2%

*Spring 2024 data comes from survey of the general public for the 2024 PA Health Survey.

Q23: Finally, I have a few questions about yourself. Which of the following categories best describes your racial identity? Are you (READ LIST)?

White/Caucasian 75%
 Black/African-American 10%
 Hispanic/Latino 7%
 Asian 3%
 Native American <1%
 Mixed race 3%
 Other 2%
 Not Sure (Volunteered) <1%

Q24: Which of the following categories best describes your religious affiliation? Are you (READ LIST)?

Catholic	31%
Protestant	30%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	1%
Hindu	<1%
Other Religion (Including agnostic)	24%
Atheist	10%
Not Sure (Volunteered)	2%

Q25: What is your highest level of education? (READ LIST)

Less than High School	2%
High School Graduate	29%
Some college or technical school	31%
College graduate (4 yr only)	23%
Graduate or professional degree	15%
Not sure (Volunteered)	<1%

Q26: In the 2020 Presidential election did you vote for:

Donald Trump	45%
Joe Biden	48%
Another Candidate	1%
Or did you not vote in the 2016 presidential election ...	6%
Not Sure (Volunteered)	1%

Q27: Which of the following categories best describes your family income? Is it (READ LIST)?

Under \$20,000	10%
\$20,000-\$40,000	15%
\$40,000-\$60,000	21%
\$60,000-\$80,000	13%
\$80,000-\$100,000	11%
Over \$100,000	28%
98. Not Sure (Volunteered)	2%

Q28: In which of the following age categories does your current age fall. READ LIST _____

18-29	15%
30-49	27%
50-65	29%

Over 65 30%

Q29: Finally, to which gender identity do you most identify? (READ LIST)

Male 49%

Female 50%

Another category besides Male or Female 1%

Selected Crosstabs

Trump vs. Harris (Including Leaners)

	Trump	Harris	Neither/Other	Not Sure
Overall	47%	49%	2%	2%
Male	52%	43%	2%	2%
Female	43%	53%	1%	1%
White	54%	43%	2%	2%
Person of Color	27%	66%	3%	2%
No 4 Year Degree	54%	42%	1%	2%
4 Year Degree	35%	60%	2%	1%
18-29	40%	60%	0%	0%
30-49	41%	54%	3%	1%
50-65	54%	40%	2%	3%
Over 65	49%	47%	2%	2%
Biden 2020	5%	90%	2%	1%
Trump 2020	91%	5%	1%	2%
Democrat	3%	95%	0%	2%
Republican	89%	7%	2%	1%
Independent	50%	38%	8%	3%
“Definitely Voting”	48%	50%	1%	1%
“Very Likely to Vote”	41%	39%	10%	10%
Catholic	50%	46%	1%	1%
Protestant	58%	36%	2%	3%
Non-Christian/No Religion	37%	59%	2%	1%

**Casey vs. McCormick
(Including Leaners)**

	Casey	McCormick	Neither/Other	Not Sure
Overall	49%	46%	3%	1%
Male	44%	52%	2%	1%
Female	52%	41%	4%	2%
White	44%	52%	3%	2%
Person of Color	66%	31%	3%	0%
No 4 Year Degree	43%	53%	2%	2%
4 Year Degree	59%	35%	4%	1%
18-29	53%	39%	3%	5%
30-49	55%	38%	4%	2%
50-65	39%	59%	2%	0%
Over 65	52%	45%	2%	1%
Biden 2020	88%	7%	3%	1%
Trump 2020	7%	88%	3%	1%
Democrat	93%	4%	2%	1%
Republican	9%	86%	3%	1%
Independent	39%	51%	5%	2%
“Definitely Voting”	50%	46%	2%	1%
“Very Likely to Vote”	41%	44%	10%	5%
Catholic	46%	46%	5%	2%
Protestant	37%	60%	2%	2%
Non-Christian/No Religion	60%	38%	1%	1%

Congress: Democrat vs. Republican

	Democrat	Republican	Neither/Other	Not Sure
Overall	46%	47%	1%	6%
Male	38%	53%	2%	7%
Female	53%	41%	1%	5%
White	40%	52%	2%	7%
Person of Color	64%	33%	0%	4%
No 4 Year Degree	38%	53%	1%	7%
4 Year Degree	58%	36%	1%	5%
18-29	57%	39%	0%	5%
30-49	55%	36%	3%	7%
50-65	36%	59%	2%	3%
Over 65	41%	49%	1%	10%
Biden 2020	86%	6%	1%	6%
Trump 2020	3%	90%	1%	5%
Democrat	92%	4%	0%	3%
Republican	4%	89%	1%	6%
Independent	30%	43%	8%	20%
“Definitely Voting”	47%	46%	1%	6%
“Very Likely to Vote”	31%	51%	8%	10%
Catholic	44%	49%	1%	6%
Protestant	32%	60%	2%	7%
Non-Christian/No Religion	57%	35%	2%	7%

Confidence in mail ballots being accurately cast and counted

	Very Confident	Somewhat Confident	Not very Confident	Not Confident at All	Not Sure
Overall	39%	18%	14%	27%	3%
Male	33%	19%	14%	30%	4%
Female	44%	17%	13%	23%	3%
White	36%	16%	15%	30%	3%
Person of Color	46%	23%	10%	18%	4%
No 4 Year Degree	33%	16%	18%	30%	4%
4 Year Degree	48%	21%	8%	21%	2%
18-29	37%	16%	15%	28%	3%
30-49	42%	17%	11%	26%	3%
50-65	31%	18%	18%	31%	2%
Over 65	43%	19%	10%	22%	5%
Biden 2020	67%	17%	8%	6%	2%
Trump 2020	9%	16%	19%	52%	4%
Democrat	65%	19%	9%	4%	3%
Republican	13%	17%	19%	48%	4%
Independent	39%	20%	7%	29%	5%
“Definitely Voting”	40%	17%	13%	27%	3%
“Very Likely to Vote”	26%	26%	21%	26%	0%
Catholic	37%	18%	17%	26%	3%
Protestant	33%	16%	14%	32%	5%
Non-Christian/No Religion	44%	20%	11%	24%	2%