

FRANKLIN & MARSHALL

**April 2009**

**Franklin & Marshall  
College Poll**

**SURVEY OF REPUBLICANS  
IN PENNSYLVANIA  
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

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## Methodology

The survey findings presented in this release are based on the results of interviews conducted April 21-27, 2009. The interviews were conducted at the Center for Opinion Research at Franklin and Marshall College under the direction of the poll's Director Dr. G. Terry Madonna, Head Methodologist Berwood Yost, and Project Manager Jennifer Harding. The data included in this release represent the responses of 374 registered Republicans in Pennsylvania. Telephone numbers for the survey were generated using random digit dialing, and respondents were randomly selected from within each household.

The sample error for this survey is +/- 5.1 percent. In addition to sampling error, this poll is also subject to other sources of non-sampling error. Generally speaking, two sources of error concern researchers most. Non-response bias is created when selected participants either choose not to participate in the survey or are unavailable for interviewing. Response errors are the product of the question and answer process. Surveys that rely on self-reported behaviors and attitudes are susceptible to biases related to the way respondents process and respond to survey questions.

The Franklin and Marshall College Poll is produced in conjunction with the Philadelphia Daily News, WGAL-TV, Pittsburgh Tribune Review, WTAE-TV, WPVI-TV6/ABC, and Times-Shamrock Newspapers. It may be used in whole or in part, provided any use is attributed to Franklin & Marshall College.

## Marginal Frequency Report

REG. Some people are registered to vote, and many others are not. Are you CURRENTLY REGISTERED to vote at your present address?

100% Yes

RegPARTY. Are you currently registered as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or as something else?

100% Republican

IntFav. Please let me know your opinion of some people involved in politics today... First, is your opinion of [FILL name] favorable, unfavorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about [FILL name] to have an opinion? Is that strongly or somewhat? (*rotated*)

	<b>Strongly Favorable</b>	<b>Somewhat Favorable</b>	<b>Somewhat Unfavorable</b>	<b>Strongly Unfavorable</b>	<b>Undecided</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>
Arlen Specter	16%	25%	13%	32%	10%	4%
Tom Corbett	13%	23%	2%	2%	17%	43%
Pat Toomey	12%	17%	2%	3%	15%	51%
Jim Gerlach	4%	9%	2%	2%	6%	77%
Patrick Meehan	2%	6%	1%	1%	8%	82%
Peg Luksik	2%	4%	1%	2%	7%	84%

GovPrim. If the 2010 Republican primary election for GOVERNOR were being held today and the candidates included (*rotated*) Tom Corbett, Patrick Meehan, and Jim Gerlach, would you vote for Tom Corbett, Patrick Meehan, Jim Gerlach, some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?

22% Tom Corbett  
 5% Jim Gerlach  
 3% Patrick Meehan  
 7% Some other candidate  
 63% Don't know

SenPrim. If the 2010 Republican primary election for U.S. SENATOR were being held today and the candidates included (*rotated*) Arlen Specter, Pat Toomey, and Peg Luksik, would you vote for Arlen Specter, Pat Toomey, Peg Luksik, some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?

<b>March 2009</b>	<b>April 2009</b>	
33%	29%	Arlen Specter
18%	26%	Pat Toomey
2%	3%	Peg Luksik
5%	6%	Some other candidate
42%	36%	Don't know

Lean. As of today, do you lean more to (*rotated*) Arlen Specter, Pat Toomey, Peg Luksik, or are you leaning toward some other candidate? n = 137

15%	Arlen Specter
12%	Pat Toomey
2%	Peg Luksik
15%	Some other candidate
56%	Don't know

ReasPrim. What is the main reason you [FILL plan to/might] vote for [FILL preferred Senate candidate]?  
n = 257

15%	Past performance, track record
13%	Dissatisfied with Specter, time for a change
12%	Political party, ideology
12%	Familiar with, knows more about candidate
11%	Views on policy issues, in general
10%	Experience, knowledge, ability
5%	Personality, morality, values
5%	Reputation, hearsay
3%	Knows, met candidate
2%	Representative of the people
2%	Communication, speech
2%	Anti-Obama administration, votes with Obama/Democrats
7%	Other
2%	Don't know

IssPrim. What will be the single most important issue in your vote for U.S. Senator this year?

30%	Economic issues, employment, bailout
8%	Abortion stance
7%	Taxes
6%	Reduce spending, debt, smaller government
4%	Political party, ideology
4%	Representative of the people
3%	Anti-Obama administration, votes with Obama/Democrats
3%	Healthcare
2%	Personality, morality, values
2%	Defense, safety of nation, war, terrorism
2%	Education issues
2%	Gun rights
2%	Immigration
10%	Other
17%	Don't know

AdSpec. Have you seen any advertisements for Arlen Specter, or NOT?

32%	Yes
66%	No
2%	Don't know

AdSpecY. Have the advertisements you've seen for Arlen Specter made you... n = 121

- 2% MUCH MORE likely to vote for him
- 16% Somewhat MORE likely to vote for him
- 19% Somewhat LESS likely to vote for him
- 23% MUCH LESS likely to vote for him
- 35% Made no difference [not read]
- 5% Don't know

RateSenS. How would you rate the way that ARLEN SPECTER is handling his job as U.S. SENATOR? Would you say he is doing an..

- 6% Excellent job
- 33% Good job
- 29% Only a fair job
- 28% Poor job
- 4% Don't know

DesRECD. Do you believe that ARLEN SPECTER has done a good enough job as SENATOR to deserve re-election, or do you believe it is time for a change?

- 29% Deserves re-election
- 60% Time for a change
- 11% Don't know

WhyChg. Why do you think it is time for a change? n = 223

- 25% Political party, ideology
- 20% Should be term limits, Specter served too long
- 11% Anti-Obama administration, votes with Obama/Democrats
- 9% Not representative of the people
- 9% Past performance, track record
- 8% Physical attributes (including age, gender, health)
- 8% Views on policy issues, in general
- 7% Dissatisfied with Specter, time for a change
- 6% Doesn't follow through, wishy-washy
- 5% Economic issues, employment
- 4% Personality, morality, values
- 4% Abortion stance
- 4% Reduce spending, debt, smaller government
- 2% Experience, knowledge, ability, insider
- 12% Other
- 4% Don't know

*Percentages total more than 100% because multiple responses were accepted.*

RMI. Who do you think is the most influential person in the Republican Party?

9%	John McCain
9%	Newt Gingrich
4%	Sarah Palin
3%	Arlen Specter
3%	Mitt Romney
3%	Rush Limbaugh
2%	Michael Steele
1%	Mike Huckabee
1%	Glenn Beck
1%	Pat Buchanan
1%	Bobby Jindal
1%	George Bush
1%	Tom Ridge
1%	Rudy Guliani
1%	Colin Powell
5%	No one
8%	Other
50%	Don't know

Rcoop. Do you think the Republicans in Congress should cooperate with President Obama more frequently, less frequently, or are they cooperating the right amount of time?

29%	More frequently
28%	Less frequently
33%	Right amount
10%	Don't know

FavRL. Is your opinion of the Republican leaders in Congress favorable, unfavorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about them to have an opinion? Is that strongly or somewhat?

4%	Strongly favorable
29%	Somewhat favorable
15%	Somewhat unfavorable
15%	Strongly unfavorable
37%	Don't know

RateRL. How would you rate the way that the Republican leaders in Congress are handling their job? Would you say they are doing an..

1%	Excellent job
30%	Good job
49%	Only a fair job
16%	Poor job
4%	Don't know

FinToday. We are interested in how people are getting along financially these days. Would you say that YOU and YOUR FAMILY are better off, worse off, or about the same financially as you were a year ago?

7%	Better off
42%	Worse off
50%	About the same
1%	Don't know

I now have a final few questions for statistical purposes only.

CNTY. Region of state (What is the name of the county you live in?)

41%	Central
20%	Southeast
11%	Northeast
9%	Southwest
9%	Northwest
6%	Allegheny
4%	Philadelphia

RESID. How many years have you lived at your current address?

20	Mean
----	------

AGE. What was your age on your last birthday?

3%	18-24
6%	25-34
15%	35-44
18%	45-54
22%	55-64
36%	65 and older

EDUC. What was the highest grade level of schooling you have completed?

3%	Non high school graduate
29%	High school graduate or GED
16%	Some college
12%	Two-year or tech degree
23%	Four year college degree
17%	Post graduate degree

IDEO. Politically speaking, do you consider yourself to be a liberal, a moderate, or a conservative?

5%	Liberal
28%	Moderate
65%	Conservative
2%	Don't know

PRTY1. Regardless of how you are registered, in politics, as of today, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

41%	Strong Republican
22%	Republican
22%	Lean Republican
5%	Pure Independent
5%	Lean Democrat
2%	Democrat
2%	Strong Democrat
1%	Don't know

LABR. Are you or is any member of your household a member of a LABOR UNION?

13% Yes  
87% No

VET. Are you a military veteran?

20% Yes  
80% No

ABORT. Do you think that abortion should be...

10% Legal under any circumstances  
59% Legal under certain circumstances  
30% Illegal in all circumstances  
1% Don't know

Hisp. Are you Hispanic or Latino, or not?

1% Yes  
99% No

RACE. Which of the following categories best describes your racial background?

98% White  
2% Non-white

REL. Do you consider yourself to be Protestant, Catholic, some other religion, or not affiliated with any religion?

54% Protestant  
28% Catholic  
11% Some other religion  
7% Not affiliated with any religion

BAC. Do you consider yourself to be a born-again Christian or fundamentalist, or not?

41% Yes  
58% No  
1% Don't know

NumA. Including yourself, how many adults 18 years of age or OLDER CURRENTLY live in this household?

28% One  
55% Two  
13% Three  
4% Four or more

WORK. Are you currently working FULL-time, PART-time, going to school, keeping house or something else?

39%	Full-time
10%	Part-time
1%	Going to school
8%	Keeping house
4%	Unemployed
2%	Disabled
36%	Retired

INC1. And, just for statistical purposes, we need to know if your total family income is above or below \$50,000 per year?

9%	Under \$25,000
15%	\$25-\$35,000
14%	\$35-50,000
24%	\$50-75,000
15%	\$75-100,000
19%	Over \$100,000
4%	Don't know

DONE. Sex of respondent:

54%	Female
46%	Male

**Table 1. Republican Primary Senate Vote Choice by Demographics**

If the 2010 Republican primary election for U.S. SENATOR were being held today and the candidates included (*rotated*) Arlen Specter, Pat Toomey, and Peg Luksik, would you vote for Arlen Specter, Pat Toomey, Peg Luksik, some other candidate, or aren't you sure how you would vote?

	Specter	Toomey	Other	Don't Know
<b>Gender*</b>				
Male	27%	35%	9%	29%
Female	32%	19%	7%	42%
<b>Age</b>				
Under 55	28%	23%	11%	38%
55 and over	30%	29%	6%	35%
<b>Education</b>				
High School or Less	29%	22%	7%	43%
Some College	34%	22%	10%	35%
College Degree	27%	33%	8%	31%
<b>Household Income</b>				
Less than \$35,000	30%	21%	10%	39%
\$35-75,000	29%	24%	11%	37%
Over \$75,000	29%	33%	5%	33%
<b>Finances Compared to Previous Year</b>				
Better Off/About Same	31%	26%	6%	37%
Worse Off	28%	26%	11%	35%
<b>Religious Affiliation</b>				
Catholic	31%	28%	7%	35%
Protestant	28%	28%	10%	34%
Other/Unaffiliated	27%	22%	9%	42%
<b>Born Again Christian or Fundamentalist</b>				
Yes	25%	29%	10%	37%
No	32%	26%	7%	35%
<b>Abortion Stance</b>				
Always/Sometimes Legal	32%	25%	7%	35%
Always Illegal	20%	30%	11%	39%
<b>Military Veteran*</b>				
Yes	21%	40%	12%	27%
No	31%	23%	7%	39%
<b>Ideology*</b>				
Liberal/Moderate	49%	14%	7%	30%
Conservative	19%	34%	8%	39%
<b>Party Affiliation*</b>				
Strong Republican	22%	38%	6%	34%
Republican	42%	15%	8%	35%
Lean Republican/Other	29%	21%	11%	39%

\* Significant differences (p<.05)