

Top Line Survey Results
Pennsylvania Statewide Voter Attitude Survey
Interviews Conducted May 2 – 8, 2023
Sample Size: 700 Pennsylvania Likely Voters

PENNSYLVANIA POTUS AND US SENATE SWEEPSTAKES

MAY 10, 2023

Susquehanna Polling and Research, Inc., rated #1 most accurate polling firm in the USA by Real Clear Politics¹ in 2020 for its Presidential polling in the popular “multi-state” pollster category, today released its **Pennsylvania** Statewide Voter Attitude Survey testing attitudes and early preferences towards the 2024 Presidential general election and United States Senate race in Pennsylvania.

The poll is a random sample of 700 registered Pennsylvania voters, weighted to state Census data and balanced by geographic region, age, political party affiliation, and other factors. Conducted May 2-8, 2023, using live telephone agents, the poll includes interviews with N=700 voters and has a margin of error of +/-3.7% at the 95% confidence level.

The key findings of the poll include the following:

POTUS: Biden (D) v. DeSantis (R)

In a potential match between President Biden and Florida Governor and GOP nomination hopeful Ron DeSantis, Biden leads DeSantis 48:39; 9% are undecided and 3% prefer an unlisted candidate. Biden leads with Democrats 86:11 compared to DeSantis’s lead with GOP voters 71:7. But voters registered with all other parties, including registered Independents which election bureau records show are growing more rapidly than registered Democrats or Republicans, lean towards DeSantis 41:40 with 18% either undecided or preferring another candidate. DeSantis’s strength with Independents is formidable and will be a key to watch as his nascent campaign continues to plow ahead for the GOP POTUS nomination. As a classic swing state, exit polling shows the candidate who wins Independents usually carries the Keystone State in statewide contests.

POTUS: Kennedy, Jr. (D) v. DeSantis (R)

In a potential match up between Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, Kennedy, Jr., leads narrowly by a 42:38 margin, which is almost within the poll’s +/-3.7% statistical margin of error. A combined 20% are either undecided or prefer another candidate not listed in the match up. Among Democrats, Kennedy, Jr., leads DeSantis 69:7. But among Republicans, while DeSantis attracts 72% of the GOP vote, Kennedy, Jr., known as a maverick populist type candidate on issues like COVID vaccines and his disdain for status quo-type politics, shows surprising strength attracting 12% of the GOP vote. Among independents, the race is tied at 39:39, a sign both candidates are competitive.

US SENATE: Casey, Jr., (D) v. McCormick (R)

In a potential match up between Pennsylvania’s veteran Senator Bob Casey and GOP potential rival David McCormick, the latter of which lost the GOP nomination for US Senate in 2022, Casey leads McCormick by a commanding 53:41 margin if the race were held today. McCormick leads among Republicans 83:10 while Casey, Jr., leads with both Democrats (91:5) and Independents (50:36). Earlier this year, a fake poll circulated on Twitter purporting to be an SP&R-sponsored poll showing GOP Doug Mastriano leading Casey, Jr. SP&R denounced the poll as fake news. Although the current poll did not test a Mastriano/Casey contest, this poll suggests Casey has formidable strength in a match up with one GOP candidate who Republican operatives and party officials say has the best chance of upsetting Casey.

¹ <https://www.realclearpolitics.com/rep-pollster-rankings/2020/>

Good morning/afternoon/evening, my name is (YOUR FIRST NAME). I am calling on behalf of Susquehanna Polling and Research, a public opinion research firm. May I speak to (name on list) or another registered voter in your household? (If name on list or another registered voter is not available, TERMINATE)

INTRODUCTION: We are conducting a survey of attitudes and opinions concerning some important issues facing Pennsylvania today. May we have a few minutes of your time to complete a brief survey?

Great, thank you...

Q1. If the next election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Joe Biden, the Democrat candidate, and Ron DeSantis, the Republican candidate, for whom would you vote?

1. Biden/Democrat	338	48%
2. DeSantis/Republican	274	39%
3. Other	21	03%
4. Not Sure	65	09%

Q2. If the next election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., the Democrat candidate, and Ron DeSantis, the Republican candidate, for whom would you vote?

1. Kennedy/Democrat	295	42%
2. DeSantis/Republican	264	38%
3. Other	69	10%
4. Not Sure	72	10%

Q3. If the next election for United States Senator in Pennsylvania were being held today, and the candidates were Bob Casey, Jr., the Democrat candidate, and David McCormick, the Republican candidate, for whom would you vote?

1. Casey/Democrat	372	53%
2. McCormick/Republican	286	41%
3. Other	6	01%
4. Not Sure	37	05%

Now, I have a few more questions for demographic purposes and we'll be through...

Q4. Are you registered to vote as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent or with some other political party?

1. Republican	296	43%
2. Democrat	343	49%
3. Independent/other	56	08%

Q5. What was your age on your last birthday? (Use brackets below)

1. 18-29	68	10%
2. 30-44	152	22%
3. 45-54	141	20%
4. 55-64	149	21%
5. 65+	188	27%
6. Refuse	2	00%

Q6. When it comes to your ideology or philosophy on political issues, do you consider yourself to be conservative, moderate, liberal, progressive, libertarian or something else?

1. Conservative	255	36%
2. Moderate	214	31%
3. Liberal	125	18%
4. Progressive	62	09%
5. Libertarian	12	02%
6. Other	26	04%
7. None	3	00%
8. Refuse	1	00%

Q7. What is your highest level of education? (UNAIDED)

1. High school diploma or less	156	22%
2. Some college, but no college degree	122	17%
3. 2-year college degree/Technical or trade degree	89	13%
4. 4-year college degree	151	22%
5. Post-graduate degree/Masters/Doctorate studies	182	26%

Q8. What is your main racial or ethnic background?

1. African American/African/Black	46	07%
2. Asian American/Asian	2	00%
3. Hispanic/Latino	30	04%
4. Multiracial/Multiethnic	0	00%
5. Native American/Alaska Native	2	00%
6. Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0	00%
7. White (Not Latino/Hispanic)	608	87%
8. Race/ethnicity not represented by above categories	5	01%
9. Refuse (Do Not Read)	8	01%

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE SURVEY. HAVE A GOOD DAY.

Gender (by observation):

1. Male	336	48%
2. Female	364	52%

Regional Grouping (from record):

- 35 (05%) 1. **Northwest** [Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Venango, Warren, Forest]
- 70 (10%) 2. **Southwest** [Lawrence, Beaver, Washington, Greene, Fayette, Westmoreland, Indiana, Armstrong, Butler]
- 91 (13%) 3. **The “T”/Central** [Jefferson, Elk, McKean, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Centre, Cambria, Somerset, Bedford, Fulton, Franklin, Huntingdon, Blair, Potter, Tioga, Bradford, Susquehanna, Wyoming, Sullivan, Lycoming, Clinton, Union, Snyder, Northumberland, Montour, Columbia, Mifflin]
- 98 (14%) 4. **Northeast/Lehigh Valley** [Luzerne, Carbon, Monroe, Schuylkill, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Northampton, Pike, Wayne]
- 112 (16%) 5. **South Central** [Perry, Cumberland, Adams, York, Lancaster, Lebanon, Dauphin, Berks, Juniata]
- 140 (20%) 6. **Southeast** [Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Bucks]
- 70 (10%) 7. **Allegheny County**
- 84 (12%) 8. **Philadelphia**

METHODOLOGY, SAMPLE FRAME CONSTRUCTION AND DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES

This poll was conducted by Susquehanna Polling and Research, Inc², with questions sponsored by SP&R. Interviews were conducted May 2 – May 8, 2023, with 700 likely voters in Pennsylvania. Survey respondents are randomly contacted using random selection procedures, and all telephone interviews are conducted using live telephone agents. The sample frame was compiled using random telephone sequence methods, and includes both landline and cellular households, purchased from a certified list vendor; all households are pre-screened to eliminate household telephone numbers on the federal Do Not Call registry in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws. Only known registered voters were contacted, compiled from a list of households with prior vote history in 1 of 4 or better general elections using G21, G20, G19 and/or G18 as the base universe. Voters who registered to vote after the 2021 general election are also included and eligible to participate.

Interviews are closely monitored to ensure a representative sample of the Pennsylvania electorate is achieved based on party registration, geography, gender, age cohort and other demographics; results are sometimes statistically weighted to adjust for coverage bias or non-response error.

A supplemental component of interviews (n=275) was collected via SP&R’s proprietary web panel, owned by Bartlett Research Group, consisting of a database of registered voters in all geographic regions of the Commonwealth. Panel respondents are pre-screened to ensure their eligibility in the survey.

The margin of error for a sample size of 700 interviews is +/-3.7% at the 95% confidence level.

²Susquehanna Polling and Research, Inc. is a nationally recognized polling and focus group company and conducts polling for political, media and corporate clients mainly in PA, NY, IN, FL, NJ, MD, DE, SC, NC and other states. SP&R’s polling has been featured on many national platforms, including the Rush Limbaugh Radio Show, FOX News Channel, The O’Reilly Factor, the Bill Maher Show and MSNBC. The internet news service *Sunshine State News* of Florida referred to SP&R as “one of the most prominent pollsters in the country” for its accurate polling in the 2010 Florida Gubernatorial Republican Primary election. The website www.realclearpolitics.com lists SP&R’s publicly released polling in Pennsylvania and other battleground states as some of the most accurate polling in the 2020 Presidential election. SP&R CEO Jim Lee was profiled on two episodes of CBS’s *Inside Edition* for its unmatched accuracy in its battleground polling in the 2020 Elections.