

Common Ground in the Commonwealth Poll

A project of the Commonwealth Foundation

Q1 2024 Survey of 800 Registered Voters

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This survey is a nonpartisan project of The Commonwealth Foundation, serving as an educational resource to better inform the citizens of Pennsylvania about key issues. This survey does not endorse or oppose any candidates for state or federal office.

Common Ground Poll

Q1 2024 Survey of 800 Registered Voters

Field Dates: 03/22-26/2023

Margin of Error by state: ± 3.46

You have been selected today to participate in a survey of Pennsylvanians on a confidential basis. This is a unique opportunity to voice your opinions, and your responses will remain confidential. This is not a request to buy anything or donate money. We simply want to know what you think and how you feel.

A. Are you, or is anyone in your household, employed by the news media, a market research firm, an elected official, or actively involved with political campaigns?

100% No (CONTINUE)

B. Are you currently registered to vote in Pennsylvania?

100% Yes (CONTINUE)

Commonwealth Sentiment Series:

NW. Would you say that things in America are going in the right direction, or has the country fundamentally gotten off on the wrong track? (ROTATE 1-2, 2-1)

26% Right direction
68% Gotten off on the wrong track
5% Unsure

CW. Would you say that things in Pennsylvania are going in the right direction, or has the state fundamentally gotten off on the wrong track? (ROTATE 1-2, 2-1)

35% Right direction
52% Gotten off on the wrong track
12% Unsure

AW. PLEASE, SELECT ALL THAT APPLY: Have you or someone you know thought about leaving Pennsylvania for a different state due to Pennsylvania's policies?
(ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES FOR 1-3)

42% Total Yes

- 22% Yes, I have thought about leaving
- 18% Yes, someone I know has thought about leaving
- 13% Yes, someone I know has left

58% No

[IF RESPONSE 1-3: Yes, in previous question (AW)]

AW2. PLEASE, SELECT UP TO THREE: What was the primary reason for thinking about moving from Pennsylvania to another state? **(RANDOMIZE RESPONSES 1-10; ALLOW FOR THREE RESPONSES)**

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- 49% Lower cost of living
 - 40% Lower taxes
 - 35% Better jobs and opportunities
 - 28% Less crime and safer communities
 - 21% Elected leaders who are more aligned with my personal values
 - 17% Less intrusive government/more personal freedom
 - 15% Better health care
 - 12% Better public schools
 - 9% Greater educational choices
 - 8% More secure election processes

 - 4% Other
 - 4% Unsure
-

(ASK ALL)

DW. Please rank the three most important problems facing the country today, with one being the most important problem facing the country.
(ALLOW FOR THREE RESPONSES ON 1–27, RANKED 1–3; RANDOMIZE 1–26)

RANK 1		RANK 2		RANK 3	
INFLATION/COST OF LIVING	128 16%	INFLATION/COST OF LIVING	109 14%	INFLATION/COST OF LIVING	77 10%
IMMIGRATION/BORDER SECURITY	101 13%	IMMIGRATION/BORDER SECURITY	68 8%	IMMIGRATION/BORDER SECURITY	67 8%
U.S. ECONOMY (GENERAL)	57 7%	U.S. ECONOMY (GENERAL)	57 7%	U.S. ECONOMY (GENERAL)	53 7%
ABORTION	47 6%	HEALTH CARE	45 6%	CRIME/RISING VIOLENCE	53 7%
DIVIDED COUNTRY/LACK OF TOLERANCE	47 6%	GUN RIGHTS/GUN CONTROL	45 6%	GUN RIGHTS/GUN CONTROL	40 5%
HEALTH CARE	38 5%	CRIME/RISING VIOLENCE	42 5%	HEALTH CARE	37 5%
GUN RIGHTS/GUN CONTROL	38 5%	ABORTION	35 4%	DIVIDED COUNTRY/LACK OF TOLERANCE	36 5%
CRIME/RISING VIOLENCE	38 5%	DIVIDED COUNTRY/LACK OF TOLERANCE	33 4%	ABORTION	36 4%
GOVERNMENT/LACK OF LEADERSHIP	30 4%	WAGES/SALARY/PAY INEQUALITY	31 4%	MORAL DECLINE/U.S. UNREST	33 4%
RETIREMENT SECURITY/SOCIAL SECURITY/MEDICARE	28 3%	MORAL DECLINE/U.S. UNREST	30 4%	POVERTY/HOMELESSNESS	31 4%
EXCESSIVE FEDERAL SPENDING/DEBT	24 3%	TAXES	30 4%	WAGES/SALARY/PAY INEQUALITY	29 4%
TAXES	21 3%	ENVIRONMENT	27 3%	GOVERNMENT/LACK OF LEADERSHIP	29 4%
WAGES/SALARY/PAY INEQUALITY	20 3%	EXCESSIVE FEDERAL SPENDING/DEBT	27 3%	NATIONAL SECURITY	28 3%
RACIAL ISSUES	20 2%	RETIREMENT SECURITY/SOCIAL SECURITY/MEDICARE	27 3%	EXCESSIVE FEDERAL SPENDING/DEBT	27 3%
JOBS/UNEMPLOYMENT	19 2%	POVERTY/HOMELESSNESS	21 3%	TAXES	26 3%
ENVIRONMENT	18 2%	GOVERNMENT/LACK OF LEADERSHIP	19 2%	RETIREMENT SECURITY/SOCIAL SECURITY/MEDICARE	25 3%
LACK OF MONEY	16 2%	NATIONAL SECURITY	19 2%	ENVIRONMENT	22 3%
MORAL DECLINE/U.S. UNREST	15 2%	EDUCATION	18 2%	RACIAL ISSUES	21 3%
NATIONAL SECURITY	14 2%	ELECTION REFORMS/INTEGRITY	17 2%	LACK OF MONEY	17 2%
POVERTY/HOMELESSNESS	14 2%	FOREIGN AFFAIRS/INTERNATIONAL ISSUES/WARS	14 2%	COURTS & JUDICIAL SYSTEMS	17 2%
EDUCATION	12 1%	RACIAL ISSUES	14 2%	JOBS/UNEMPLOYMENT	17 2%
ELECTION REFORMS/INTEGRITY	10 1%	LACK OF MONEY	14 2%	ELECTION REFORMS/INTEGRITY	16 2%
FOREIGN AFFAIRS/INTERNATIONAL ISSUES/WARS	7 1%	JOBS/UNEMPLOYMENT	13 2%	EDUCATION	15 2%
COVID-19/PANDEMICS	6 1%	COURTS & JUDICIAL SYSTEMS	10 1%	FOREIGN AFFAIRS/INTERNATIONAL ISSUES/WARS	11 1%
POLICE REFORM	3 -	POLICE REFORM	6 1%	POLICE REFORM	3 -
COURTS & JUDICIAL SYSTEMS	2 -	COVID-19/PANDEMICS	4 1%	BANKING CRISIS	3 -
BANKING CRISIS	1 -	BANKING CRISIS	3 -	COVID-19/PANDEMICS	1 -
OTHER	4 -	OTHER	-	OTHER	4 1%
UNSURE	24 3%	UNSURE	-	UNSURE	-

EW. Please rank the three most important problems facing Pennsylvania today, with 1 being the most important problem facing the state.
(ALLOW FOR THREE RESPONSES ON 1–28, RANKED 1–3; RANDOMIZE 1–27)

RANK 1		RANK 2		RANK 3	
INFLATION/COST OF LIVING	174 22%	INFLATION/COST OF LIVING	112 14%	INFLATION/COST OF LIVING	91 11%
CRIME/RISING VIOLENCE	65 8%	CRIME/RISING VIOLENCE	84 11%	CRIME/RISING VIOLENCE	66 8%
PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMY (GENERAL)	54 7%	TAXES	62 8%	POVERTY/HOMELESSNESS	53 7%
TAXES	51 6%	PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMY (GENERAL)	51 6%	PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMY (GENERAL)	52 6%
GUN RIGHTS/GUN CONTROL	34 4%	HEALTH CARE	44 5%	TAXES	48 6%
POVERTY/HOMELESSNESS	33 4%	GUN RIGHTS/GUN CONTROL	41 5%	HEALTH CARE	47 6%
JOBS/UNEMPLOYMENT	33 4%	WAGES/SALARY/PAY INEQUALITY	32 4%	WAGES/SALARY/PAY INEQUALITY	35 4%
EDUCATION	33 4%	FAILING SCHOOLS	32 4%	MORAL DECLINE	34 4%
IMMIGRATION	31 4%	POVERTY/HOMELESSNESS	31 4%	GUN RIGHTS/GUN CONTROL	32 4%
WAGES/SALARY/PAY INEQUALITY	29 4%	IMMIGRATION	29 4%	FAILING SCHOOLS	32 4%
HEALTH CARE	29 4%	LACK OF MONEY	27 3%	EDUCATION	29 4%
ABORTION	27 3%	MORAL DECLINE	26 3%	IMMIGRATION	27 3%
GOVERNMENT/LACK OF LEADERSHIP	23 3%	JOBS/UNEMPLOYMENT	25 3%	JOBS/UNEMPLOYMENT	26 3%
FAILING SCHOOLS	21 3%	EDUCATION	24 3%	ABORTION	24 3%
ENVIRONMENT	20 2%	ABORTION	23 3%	ENVIRONMENT	24 3%
LACK OF MONEY	19 2%	ENVIRONMENT	20 3%	LACK OF MONEY	24 3%
RACIAL ISSUES	19 2%	ELECTION REFORMS/INTEGRITY	17 2%	GOVERNMENT/LACK OF LEADERSHIP	21 3%
ELECTION REFORMS/INTEGRITY	15 2%	EXCESSIVE STATE SPENDING/DEBT	16 2%	ELECTION REFORMS/INTEGRITY	19 2%
MORAL DECLINE	13 2%	GOVERNMENT/LACK OF LEADERSHIP	15 2%	EXCESSIVE STATE SPENDING/DEBT	17 2%
EXCESSIVE STATE SPENDING/DEBT	12 2%	RACIAL ISSUES	12 1%	RACIAL ISSUES	16 2%
WELFARE	12 1%	COURTS AND JUDICIAL SYSTEMS	12 1%	WELFARE	14 2%
COURTS AND JUDICIAL SYSTEMS	8 1%	POLICE REFORM	9 1%	ENERGY	14 2%
ENERGY	7 1%	WELFARE	7 1%	COURTS AND JUDICIAL SYSTEMS	12 2%
POLICE REFORM	5 1%	ENERGY	6 1%	POLICE REFORM	10 1%
COVID-19/PANDEMICS	5 1%	COVID-19/PANDEMICS	6 1%	COVID-19/PANDEMICS	4 -
FREE SPEECH	1 -	FREE SPEECH	4 1%	FREE SPEECH	- -
OTHER	1 -	OTHER	2 -	OTHER	1 -
UNSURE	28 3%	UNSURE	- -	UNSURE	- -

Federal Officials Series:

Now, thinking for a moment about federal government officials...

FO1. Which of the following do you think would be the best candidate to represent you and your neighbors in Congress? **(ROTATE 1-3,3-1)**

- 37% A Republican candidate
 - 12% An independent or third-party candidate
 - 43% A Democratic candidate

 - 8% Unsure
-

GENB. If the 2024 presidential elections were held today, how would you vote if your options were between a **(ROTATE)** Republican or Democratic **(END ROTATE)** candidate? **(ROTATE 1-4, 4-1)**

- 44% Total Republican**
 - 28% Strongly Republican
 - 16% Somewhat Republican

 - 51% Total Democratic**
 - 18% Somewhat Democratic
 - 33% Strongly Democratic

 - 5% Unsure
-

PA. Do you **(ROTATE)** approve or disapprove **(END ROTATE)** of the job President Joe Biden is doing? **(ROTATE 1-4, 4-1)**

- 45% Total Approve**
 - 19% Strongly approve
 - 26% Somewhat approve

 - 54% Total Disapprove**
 - 15% Somewhat disapprove
 - 39% Strongly disapprove

 - 1% Unsure
-

You will now read a list of key federal officials and institutions. Please indicate if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion after each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the person or entity, please note that. **(ROTATE 1-4, 4-1)**

(RANDOMIZE QUESTIONS IN SERIES)

FP1. President Joe Biden

46% Total Favorable

20% Very favorable
25% Somewhat favorable

53% Total Unfavorable

13% Somewhat unfavorable
40% Very unfavorable

0% Never heard of
1% Unsure

FP2. Vice President Kamala Harris

43% Total Favorable

16% Very favorable
26% Somewhat favorable

54% Total Unfavorable

12% Somewhat unfavorable
42% Very unfavorable

0% Never heard of
3% Unsure

FP3. U.S. Sen. John Fetterman

47% Total Favorable

18% Very favorable
29% Somewhat favorable

45% Total Unfavorable

18% Somewhat unfavorable
26% Very unfavorable

1% Never heard of
7% Unsure

FP4. U.S. Sen. Bob Casey

47% Total Favorable

18% Very favorable
29% Somewhat favorable

36% Total Unfavorable

16% Somewhat unfavorable
20% Very unfavorable

2% Never heard of
15% Unsure

FP5. U.S. House of Representatives

32% Total Favorable

6% Very favorable
26% Somewhat favorable

56% Total Unfavorable

33% Somewhat unfavorable
23% Very unfavorable

0% Never heard of
12% Unsure

FP6. U.S. Senate

35% Total Favorable

7% Very favorable
29% Somewhat favorable

53% Total Unfavorable

34% Somewhat unfavorable
19% Very unfavorable

1% Never heard of
10% Unsure

FP7. U.S. Supreme Court

40% Total Favorable

10% Very favorable
30% Somewhat favorable

52% Total Unfavorable

26% Somewhat unfavorable
27% Very unfavorable

0% Never heard of
8% Unsure

FP8. The Republican Party

38% Total Favorable

15% Very favorable
24% Somewhat favorable

58% Total Unfavorable

19% Somewhat unfavorable
39% Very unfavorable

0% Never heard of
3% Unsure

FP9. The Democratic Party

45% Total Favorable

17% Very favorable
28% Somewhat favorable

51% Total Unfavorable

18% Somewhat unfavorable
34% Very unfavorable

0% Never heard of
3% Unsure

FP10. A candidate not affiliated with either the Republican or Democratic parties

35% Total Favorable

6% Very favorable
29% Somewhat favorable

22% Total Unfavorable

12% Somewhat unfavorable
10% Very unfavorable

6% Never heard of
37% Unsure

GB1. If the 2024 presidential election was held today, which of the following individuals would you vote for? (**RANDOMIZE 1-3**) (**SELECT 1**)

41% Donald Trump
44% Joe Biden
7% Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

4% Other
4% None of the above

GB1A. **PLEASE, SELECT ALL THAT APPLY:** Are there any candidates you would **refuse** to vote for in the general election? (**RANDOMIZE 1-3**)

51% Donald Trump
44% Joe Biden
22% Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

2% Other
5% There is no candidate I would refuse to vote for
2% Unsure

GB1B. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the choice of 2024 presidential candidates? (**ROTATE 1-4,4-1**)

40% Total Satisfied

14% Very satisfied
26% Somewhat satisfied

60% Total Dissatisfied

33% Somewhat dissatisfied
28% Very dissatisfied

GB2. If the 2024 U.S. Senate election was held today, which of the following individuals would you vote for? **(RANDOMIZE 1-2)**

- 47% Bob Casey Jr.
 - 30% David McCormick

 - 8% Other
 - 15% None of the above
-

Pennsylvania Officials Series:

GA. Do you **(ROTATE)** approve or disapprove **(END ROTATE)** of the job Governor Josh Shapiro is doing?

(ROTATE 1-4, 4-1)

60% Total Approve

- 26% Strongly approve
- 34% Somewhat approve

31% Total Disapprove

- 18% Somewhat disapprove
- 13% Strongly disapprove

9% Unsure

You will now read a list of key officials and institutions in Pennsylvania. After each, please indicate if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the entity, please note that. **(ROTATE 1-4, 4-1)**

(RANDOMIZE QUESTIONS IN SERIES)

EO1. Governor Josh Shapiro

62% Total Favorable

- 29% Very favorable
- 33% Somewhat favorable

31% Total Unfavorable

- 17% Somewhat unfavorable
- 13% Very unfavorable

1% Never heard of
7% Unsure

EO2. Pennsylvania House of Representatives

45% Total Favorable

9% Very favorable
36% Somewhat favorable

37% Total Unfavorable

29% Somewhat unfavorable
9% Very unfavorable

1% Never heard of
17% Unsure

EO3. Pennsylvania State Senate

43% Total Favorable

9% Very favorable
34% Somewhat favorable

39% Total Unfavorable

30% Somewhat unfavorable
9% Very unfavorable

1% Never heard of
17% Unsure

EO4. Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

48% Total Favorable

10% Very favorable
38% Somewhat favorable

31% Total Unfavorable

22% Somewhat unfavorable
9% Very unfavorable

1% Never heard of
20% Unsure

EO5. Philadelphia Phillies

63% Total Favorable

34% Very favorable
29% Somewhat favorable

20% Total Unfavorable

10% Somewhat unfavorable
10% Very unfavorable

2% Never heard of
16% Unsure

EO6. Pittsburgh Pirates

54% Total Favorable

19% Very favorable
35% Somewhat favorable

24% Total Unfavorable

15% Somewhat unfavorable
9% Very unfavorable

2% Never heard of
20% Unsure

State Policy Series:

SPB2. Do you feel Governor Shapiro delivered major accomplishments during his first year in office?

- 47% Yes
 - 31% No

 - 22% Unsure
-

SP1. What do you regard as Governor Josh Shapiro's greatest accomplishment during his time in office? (**Open ended**)

- 9% Road Repair on I-95 / Bridge / Infrastructure
 - 6% Stance on economy / jobs
 - 4% Stance on education
 - 3% He supports abortion / women's rights
 - 3% He is doing a good job
 - 3% He is for the people / state
 - 2% Stance on taxes
 - 2% Budget
 - 2% Bipartisanship
 - 2% Positive mentions about him (i.e. like him, favorable, etc.)

 - ...
 - 23% None / nothing
 - 7% Other
 - 20% Don't know
-

You will now read a list of bipartisan measures that were supported by Governor Shapiro during his campaign for governor, but have not been enacted into law during his term in office. After each, please indicate if you support or oppose Governor Shapiro and lawmakers in Harrisburg working across the aisle to enact these measures in 2024.

(RANDOMIZE QUESTIONS IN SERIES)

ET. Expanding tax credit scholarships, which allow businesses to donate money to nonprofit organizations that provide scholarships to low-income and middle-income children in Pennsylvania to attend pre-kindergarten or K-12 private school. (**ROTATE 1-4,4-1**)

- 80% Total Support**
 - 39% Strongly support
 - 42% Somewhat support

 - 20% Total Oppose**
 - 13% Somewhat oppose
 - 6% Strongly oppose
-

LS. Lifeline Scholarships for students in the worst performing schools - bottom 15% - allowing parents to use government-funded education opportunity accounts for restricted educational expenses, including tuition, tutoring, online education programs, and therapies for students with special needs. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

77% Total Support

33% Strongly support
44% Somewhat support

23% Total Oppose

16% Somewhat oppose
7% Strongly oppose

LP. Lowering Pennsylvania's tax rate on businesses to 4% by 2025 to spur economic growth by attracting new companies to the state and encouraging existing businesses to remain in Pennsylvania. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

81% Total Support

37% Strongly support
44% Somewhat support

19% Total Oppose

14% Somewhat oppose
5% Strongly oppose

EA. Expanding access to telemedicine, providing Pennsylvanians with increased access to affordable health care. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

89% Total Support

49% Strongly support
40% Somewhat support

11% Total Oppose

8% Somewhat oppose
3% Strongly oppose

SU. Speeding up the process for businesses and individuals to obtain state-issued professional licenses, permits, or certifications - and holding government bureaucrats accountable for delays. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

89% Total Support

41% Strongly support
48% Somewhat support

11% Total Oppose

9% Somewhat oppose
2% Strongly oppose

(END RANDOMIZE SERIES)

Education

ED1. How would you grade the quality of Pennsylvania's K–12 school system?

4%	A
22%	B
40%	C
14%	D
10%	F
10%	Unsure

ED2. How much money do you believe Pennsylvania spends annually *per student* in public schools? Please estimate to the nearest thousand dollars. **(OPEN ENDED)**

36%	Below \$1,900
18%	Between \$1,900 - \$3,799
25%	Between \$3,800 - \$7,599
21%	Above \$7,600

Mean: \$4,300

ED3. The commonwealth of Pennsylvania spends \$22,000 annually per student on education. Do you believe that amount is:

45%	Too high
37%	About right
18%	Too low

ED4. Pennsylvania's education funding has increased significantly over the past decade. The state now provides around \$22,000 per student annually - one of the highest rates nationally. And school districts have amassed \$5.9 billion in reserve funds. However, there are proposals to further increase state spending on public education by \$6 billion. For a family of four, this proposed \$6 billion increase would result in roughly \$2,000 more paid in taxes each year.

Would you support paying an additional \$2,000 in annual taxes to provide this \$6 billion funding boost for public schools in Pennsylvania? **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

31%	Total Support
10%	Strongly support
20%	Somewhat support

61%	Total Oppose
21%	Somewhat oppose
41%	Strongly oppose

8% Unsure

ED5. **PLEASE, SELECT ALL THAT APPLY:** What, if any, would you say are reasons you are dissatisfied with the quality of education that students in Pennsylvania receive?

(RANDOMIZE RESPONSES 1–16; ALLOW FOR MULTIPLE RESPONSES, UNLESS 18–19; ALLOW OPEN ENDED ON 17)

- 46% Not learning life skills
 - 41% Lack of teaching basics/reading/writing/arithmetic
 - 35% Poor administration
 - 31% Political agendas being taught
 - 31% Student safety concerns
 - 30% Lack of resources, or resources not being effectively administered
 - 29% Too much emphasis on standardized testing/grades
 - 27% Poor/outdated curriculum
 - 25% Learning loss from COVID shutdowns
 - 24% More involvement or input needed from parents
 - 24% Unequal access/opportunities for low-income students
 - 24% Quality of education is poor/outranked by other states
 - 24% Too much government interference
 - 22% Not up to competitive standards
 - 22% Outdated approach/lack of innovation
 - 19% Parents lack educational options for children

 - 4% Other
 - 6% I am not dissatisfied with the quality of education students in Pennsylvania receive
 - 4% Unsure
-

ED6. If financial costs were of no concern, what type of school would you select to obtain the best education for your child? **(RANDOMIZE 1-6)**

- 29% Private school (non-religious)
 - 21% Private school (religious)
 - 19% District school
 - 9% Charter school
 - 6% Home school
 - 5% Cyber school or remote learning

 - 1% Other
 - 11% Unsure / Not applicable
-

ED7. As you may know, children throughout the country are assigned a public school based on their home address, and most are not allowed to choose a different school. Thinking about this... Would you support or oppose giving every child in Pennsylvania the ability to attend the public school that best meets their needs? (ROTATE 1-4,4-1)

70% Total Support

37% Strongly support
33% Somewhat support

22% Total Oppose

13% Somewhat oppose
9% Strongly oppose

7% Unsure

Family Leave / Freedom to Work

FL1. The Pennsylvania state legislature is considering a mandatory 1% payroll tax on every single worker to fund a government-run family leave program. This amounts to \$500 in new taxes on a worker making \$50,000, taken directly out of their paycheck. Would you support or oppose this proposal? (ROTATE1-4,4-1)

36% Total Support

10% Strongly support
26% Somewhat support

56% Total Oppose

22% Somewhat oppose
34% Strongly oppose

8% Unsure

State Budget

SB1. Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro has proposed a \$48.3 billion 2024–25 General Fund budget, a \$3 billion or 7.1 percent spending increase compared to last year’s ongoing general fund spending. This budget proposes another \$4.5 billion in new spending initiatives and would increase the structural deficit to more than \$6 billion. The proposed new spending would deplete the Rainy Day Fund, necessitating a tax hike of more than \$2,000 per family of four.

Knowing this do you support or oppose Governor Shapiro’s budget proposal?
(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)

29% Total Support

8% Strongly support
21% Somewhat support

59% Total Oppose

25% Somewhat oppose
34% Strongly oppose

12% Unsure

SB2. Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro’s budget proposal would increase state government spending by 7.1 percent compared to last year’s spending. Do you believe Governor Shapiro’s budget increase is too high or too low?**(ROTATE 1-4/4-1)**

61% Too High

26% Much too high
35% Somewhat too high

9% Too Low

7% Somewhat too low
2% Much too low

16% Just right

14% Unsure

SB2A. Do you believe state officials should focus on cutting excessive government spending?

88% Yes
12% No

SB3. How important is it to you personally that leaders in Pennsylvania of all political parties come together and pass a budget agreement that is bipartisan? **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

88% Total Important

51% Extremely important
37% Somewhat important

7% Total Not Important

4% Not that important
2% Not at all important

5% Unsure

Mass Transit Bailout

MT1. Do you support or oppose politicians in Harrisburg taking \$300 million in sales tax dollars paid by consumers all across Pennsylvania to bail out the mass transit system in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh? **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

34% Total Support

10% Strongly support
24% Somewhat support

56% Total Oppose

24% Somewhat oppose
32% Strongly oppose

10% Unsure

Health Care

HC1a. Thinking about the quality and cost of health care in the United States today, what grade would you give the U.S. health care system?

4%	A
23%	B
39%	C
19%	D
16%	F

Please read the following statements and indicate if you agree or disagree.

HC1. The current health care system is loaded with too much bureaucracy and paperwork, which drives up costs and makes it difficult for everyday people to access good care. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

88% Total Agree

47%	Strongly agree
40%	Somewhat agree

12% Total Disagree

11%	Somewhat disagree
1%	Strongly disagree

HC2. Elected officials should make health care more flexible and accessible through measures like expanding access to telemedicine and enforcing price transparency rules that allow patients to shop and save. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

90% Total Agree

47%	Strongly agree
43%	Somewhat agree

10% Total Disagree

9%	Somewhat disagree
1%	Strongly disagree

HC3. Instead of being locked into one-size-fits-all health insurance plans, consumers should be empowered to personalize a coverage option that is best for them. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

90% Total Agree

46%	Strongly agree
43%	Somewhat agree

10% Total Disagree

9%	Somewhat disagree
2%	Strongly disagree

HC4. Pennsylvania patients should be able to consult with doctors who are licensed in other states through online, telemedicine services. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

85% Total Agree

38% Strongly agree

46% Somewhat agree

15% Total Disagree

12% Somewhat disagree

3% Strongly disagree

Nurse practitioners are medical professionals who complete a master's or doctoral degree program and receive advanced clinical training beyond their initial professional registered nurse preparation. Nurse practitioners undergo rigorous national certification, periodic peer review, clinical outcome evaluations and adhere to a code for ethical practices. Currently, 26 states and the District of Columbia allow nurse practitioners full practice authority.

HC5. Knowing this, do you support policies that would expand access to health care and drive down costs for patients by allowing nurse practitioners and pharmacists to provide care in line with the full extent of their education and training? **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

84% Total Agree

41% Strongly agree

43% Somewhat agree

11% Total Disagree

8% Somewhat disagree

3% Strongly disagree

5% Unsure

HC6. How often do you see a nurse practitioner for medical care?

10% A nurse practitioner is my primary care provider

27% Twice or more per year

19% Once per year

20% Less than once per year

17% I have never seen a nurse practitioner for medical care

6% Unsure / Don't recall

(IF 1-3 IN PREVIOUS)

HC7. What do you believe are the benefits of being treated by nurse practitioners?

(RANDOMIZE 1-10)

(SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)

n458

- 59% Takes the time to listen
 - 51% Answers all my questions
 - 51% Takes my concerns seriously
 - 49% Spends the time to address my needs
 - 43% Are good communicators
 - 39% Are generally more affordable
 - 32% Understands my unique needs
 - 31% Helps me plan my care
 - 24% Designs care plans tailored to my needs
 - 23% Empowers me to take charge of my health

 - 3% Other
 - 5% None of the above
-

Thinking about your local community, how easy or difficult is it for you to access the following?

(RANDOMIZE HC8-19)

HC8. Grocery stores

93% Easy to access

- 72% Very easy to access
- 21% Somewhat easy to access

6% Difficult to access

- 4% Somewhat difficult to access
- 2% Very difficult to access

1% Don't know / No opinion

HC9. Pharmacies

93% Easy to access

- 64% Very easy to access
- 29% Somewhat easy to access

6% Difficult to access

- 5% Somewhat difficult to access
- 2% Very difficult to access

1% Don't know / No opinion

HC10. High-speed internet

84% Easy to access
57% Very easy to access
27% Somewhat easy to access

14% Difficult to access
11% Somewhat difficult to access
3% Very difficult to access

1% Don't know / No opinion

HC11. Hospitals

85% Easy to access
54% Very easy to access
31% Somewhat easy to access

13% Difficult to access
9% Somewhat difficult to access
4% Very difficult to access

1% Don't know / No opinion

HC12. Urgent care

85% Easy to access
51% Very easy to access
34% Somewhat easy to access

13% Difficult to access
9% Somewhat difficult to access
4% Very difficult to access

2% Don't know / No opinion

HC13. Dentists

74% Easy to access
41% Very easy to access
33% Somewhat easy to access

24% Difficult to access
14% Somewhat difficult to access
10% Very difficult to access

2% Don't know / No opinion

HC14. Primary care physicians

81% Easy to access

45% Very easy to access

35% Somewhat easy to access

17% Difficult to access

13% Somewhat difficult to access

4% Very difficult to access

2% Don't know / No opinion

HC15. Optometrist or ophthalmologist

73% Easy to access

39% Very easy to access

34% Somewhat easy to access

18% Difficult to access

13% Somewhat difficult to access

5% Very difficult to access

9% Don't know / No opinion

HC16. Medical specialists, such as cardiologist, oncologist, and gynecologist

66% Easy to access

33% Very easy to access

33% Somewhat easy to access

30% Difficult to access

21% Somewhat difficult to access

8% Very difficult to access

5% Don't know / No opinion

HC17. Public transportation

61% Easy to access

31% Very easy to access

29% Somewhat easy to access

32% Difficult to access

20% Somewhat difficult to access

12% Very difficult to access

8% Don't know / No opinion

HC18. Behavioral health / mental health professional

50% Easy to access

23% Very easy to access

27% Somewhat easy to access

32% Difficult to access

19% Somewhat difficult to access

13% Very difficult to access

18% Don't know / No opinion

HC19. Obstetrician

48% Easy to access

23% Very easy to access

25% Somewhat easy to access

17% Difficult to access

12% Somewhat difficult to access

5% Very difficult to access

35% Don't know / No opinion

Jobs and the Economy

Moving on to your opinions about jobs and the economy...

JE1. Do you think Joe Biden's economic policies – called 'Bidenomics' by the president and his critics – have: **(ROTATE 1-3,3-1)**

31% Improved economic conditions in Pennsylvania

17% Had no effect on economic conditions in Pennsylvania

39% Worsened economic conditions in Pennsylvania

13% Unsure

JE2. Which political party's policies do you think are better for the economy? **(ROTATE 1-2)**

43% Republican

43% Democratic

4% Other

10% Unsure

JE3. Would you say that you and your family are financially better off, about the same, or worse off than you were two years ago? (ROTATE 1-3,3-1)

17% Better off
39% About the same
42% Worse off

1% Unsure

JE4. How would you rate the economic conditions in Pennsylvania today? (ROTATE 1-4,4-1)

40% Total Good
4% Excellent
35% Good

57% Total Not Good
38% Not so good
19% Poor

4% Unsure

JE5. How much have inflation and recent price increases impacted you or your household's ability to maintain your standard of living? (ROTATE 1-4,4-1)

68% Total Great/Fair
33% A great deal
36% A fair amount

31% Total Little/Not at all
24% Only a little
6% Not at all

1% Unsure

JE6. Thinking about the job situation in Pennsylvania today, would you say that it is now a good time or a bad time to find a quality job? (ROTATE 1-2)

40% Good time
37% Bad time

22% Unsure

JE7. Do you think the state of Pennsylvania is worse for businesses than it was 10 years ago, about the same for businesses than it was 10 years ago, or better for businesses than it was 10 years ago? **(ROTATE 1-3,3-1)**

- 41% Worse for businesses than it was 10 years ago
 - 31% About the same for businesses than it was 10 years ago
 - 16% Better for businesses than it was 10 years ago

 - 13% Unsure
-

Tax Code

Do you (ROTATE) agree or disagree (END ROTATE) with the following statement:

TC1. The federal tax code is rigged with loopholes and complex regulations that only benefit the politically well-connected and people who can afford accountants and tax lawyers. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

80% Total Agree

- 44% Strongly agree
- 36% Somewhat agree

11% Total Disagree

- 6% Somewhat disagree
- 4% Strongly disagree

9% Unsure

TC2. Would you say that the amount of state and federal taxes that are taken from your paycheck is **(ROTATE)** too high, currently at the right level, too low **(END ROTATE)**? **(ROTATE 1-3,3-1)**

- 66% Too high
 - 23% Currently at the right level
 - 2% Too low

 - 10% Unsure
-

TC3. With regards to filing your federal taxes, how complicated would you say the federal tax code is? **(END ROTATE)? (ROTATE 1-3,3-1)**

80% Total Complicated

32% Extremely complicated
48% Somewhat complicated

20% Total Uncomplicated

17% Somewhat uncomplicated
3% Extremely uncomplicated

Regulatory Relief & Modernization

Below is a series of different ideas and proposals people are talking about at the state and national levels. After you read each one, please indicate if you support or oppose that proposal.

(RANDOMIZE)

RR1. Modernizing occupational licensing requirements for fields such as make-up artists, nail technicians, barbers, and natural hair braiders by removing onerous demands for irrelevant degree requirements, hundreds to thousands of hours of training, and unnecessary licensing fees. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

79% Total Support

29% Strongly support
50% Somewhat support

21% Total Oppose

17% Somewhat oppose
4% Strongly oppose

RR2. Requiring a vote by the state legislature to approve any new state regulation that would cost more than \$1 million annually. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

76% Total Support

33% Strongly support
43% Somewhat support

24% Total Oppose

18% Somewhat oppose
6% Strongly oppose

RR3. Requiring a vote by the U.S. Congress for any new federal administrative regulation with an annual economic impact of \$100 million or more. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

79% Total Support

33% Strongly support
47% Somewhat support

21% Total Oppose

16% Somewhat oppose
4% Strongly oppose

RR4. Reducing outdated Pennsylvania licensing restrictions that prevent anyone with a criminal conviction who has paid their debt to society from getting certain jobs. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

75% Total Support

30% Strongly support
45% Somewhat support

25% Total Oppose

19% Somewhat oppose
6% Strongly oppose

RR5. Removing government control of the sale and distribution of wine and liquor by selling all state-run liquor stores, and allowing private retail stores and wholesalers to sell alcohol. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

76% Total Support

40% Strongly support
37% Somewhat support

24% Total Oppose

16% Somewhat oppose
8% Strongly oppose

RR6. Including “sunset” provisions that carefully limit rulemaking authority by unelected bureaucrats at government agencies to ensure periodic review by your directly elected representatives. **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

80% Total Support

29% Strongly support
51% Somewhat support

20% Total Oppose

16% Somewhat oppose
4% Strongly oppose

RR7. Creating an online tracking system for permit approvals to improve transparency and certainty.
(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)

86% Total Support

36% Strongly support
50% Somewhat support

14% Total Oppose

11% Somewhat oppose
3% Strongly oppose

Demographic Section

Now just a few questions to make sure we have a representative sample.

D1. In what year were you born?

— — — —

D1_A. (IF UNSURE OR REFUSED TO ANSWER, PLEASE ASK)

Which of the following categories best describes your age?

13%	18 to 29
23%	30 to 44
37%	45 to 64
27%	65 or older

D2. What is your gender?

52%	Female
48%	Male

D3. Did you vote in the November 2022 election?

88%	Total Yes
61%	Yes, I voted in person on election day
5%	Yes, I voted in person early
3%	Yes, I voted absentee
19%	Yes, I voted by mail-in ballot
12%	No, I did not vote

D3A. How likely is it that you will **not** vote for any candidate in the 2024 presidential election?

23%	Total Likely
17%	Very likely
6%	Somewhat likely
74%	Total Unlikely
6%	Somewhat unlikely
68%	Very unlikely
3%	Unsure

D4. Are you or is anyone in your household a member of a trade, teacher, or labor union?

13%	Yes
86%	No
1%	Unsure
0%	Prefer not to say

D5. In politics today, and regardless of how you are registered, do you consider yourself to be a **(ROTATE)** Republican, Independent, or Democrat?

39% Total Republican

23% Strong Republican
16% Not so strong Republican

23% Total Independent

5% Independent leaning Republican
11% Independent
7% Independent leaning Democrat

38% Total Democrat

12% Not so strong Democrat
26% Strong Democrat

0% Other
0% Refused

D5A. **(ASK IF 1,2,6,7 IN PREVIOUS)**

Do you plan to vote for your party's candidate in the general election no matter who the nominee is?

79% Yes
7% No

14% Unsure

(ASK ALL)

D6. Do you consider yourself to be of Hispanic or Latino descent, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Central or Latin American background?

5% Yes
94% No

0% Unsure
0% Refused

D7. And which of the following best describes your racial background

81% White or Caucasian
11% Black or African American
3% Asian or Pacific Islander
3% Hispanic
0% Native American
0% Middle Eastern

1% Other
1% Refused

D8. We want to classify people into broad income groups only. Would you estimate your total household income to be...?

- 30% Below \$40,000
 - 29% Between \$40,000 and \$79,999
 - 20% Between \$80,000 and \$124,999
 - 18% Above \$125,000

 - 1% Unsure
 - 2% Refused
-

D9. What is the highest level of formal education that you have completed?

- 2% Less than high school
 - 21% High school graduate
 - 19% Some college
 - 11% College graduate with an Associate, or two-year degree
 - 26% College graduate with a Bachelors, or four-year degree
 - 17% Post-graduate degree
 - 4% Technical or vocational school graduate

 - 0% Don't know/refused
-

D10. Would you best describe the neighborhood or area you live in as... **(ROTATE 1-3, TOP-TO-BOTTOM, BOTTOM-TO-TOP)**

- 22% Urban
 - 56% Suburban
 - 22% Rural
 - 0% Don't know/refused
-

D11. Thinking for a moment about your social, economic, and political views...Do you consider yourself to be **(ROTATE 1-5, TOP-TO-BOTTOM, BOTTOM-TO-TOP)** a conservative, moderate, or liberal?

- 37% Total Conservative**
 - 17% Very Conservative
 - 20% Somewhat Conservative

 - 31% Moderate**

 - 28% Total Liberal**
 - 15% Somewhat Liberal
 - 13% Very Liberal

 - 1% Libertarian

 - 2% Do Not Know/Refused
-

D12. Do you or anyone in your household own a gun?

33% Yes
 65% No
 2% Unsure

D13. Which county in Pennsylvania do you currently reside?

	TOTAL -----		TOTAL -----		TOTAL -----
BASE=TOTAL SAMPLE	800 100%	DAUPHIN	22 3%	MCKEAN	3 -
ADAMS	9 1%	DELAWARE	40 5%	MERCER	5 1%
ALLEGHENY	88 11%	ELK	1 -	MONROE	10 1%
ARMSTRONG	7 1%	ERIE	20 2%	MONTGOMERY	56 7%
BEAVER	11 1%	FAYETTE	10 1%	MONTOUR	3 -
BEDFORD	3 -	FRANKLIN	8 1%	NORTHAMPTON	21 3%
BERKS	24 3%	FULTON	1 -	NORTHUMBERLAND	4 -
BLAIR	6 1%	GREENE	3 -	PHILADELPHIA	96 12%
BRADFORD	5 1%	HUNTINGDON	1 -	PIKE	4 1%
BUCKS	40 5%	INDIANA	4 -	SCHUYLKILL	9 1%
BUTLER	11 1%	JEFFERSON	1 -	SNYDER	1 -
CAMBRIA	2 -	JUNIATA	1 -	SOMERSET	4 -
CARBON	2 -	LACKAWANNA	19 2%	SUSQUEHANNA	3 -
CENTRE	12 2%	LANCASTER	32 4%	TIOGA	3 -
CHESTER	32 4%	LAWRENCE	4 -	UNION	1 -
CLARION	2 -	LEBANON	4 1%	VENANGO	4 -
COLUMBIA	5 1%	LEHIGH	26 3%	WARREN	6 1%
CRAWFORD	5 1%	LUZERNE	23 3%	WASHINGTON	10 1%
CUMBERLAND	19 2%	LYCOMING	6 1%	WAYNE	2 -
				WESTMORELAND	22 3%
				WYOMING	2 -
				YORK	24 3%