

Pennsylvania Pulse Poll

A project of the Commonwealth Foundation

July 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.

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July 2024 Survey of 800 Registered Voters

Field Dates: 07/23-25/2024

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)

Battle Ground PA:

Thinking a moment about the upcoming election...

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)**

- 43% A Republican candidate
 - 7% An independent or third-party candidate
 - 43% A Democratic candidate

 - 7% 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)

- 47% Total Republican**
- 32% Strongly Republican
- 15% Somewhat Republican

- 48% Total Democratic**
- 15% Somewhat Democratic
- 33% Strongly Democratic

- 6% Unsure
-

(IF GENB 'UNSURE' ASK)

GENB1. If you had to decide today, would you say you are leaning more towards the **(ROTATE)** Republican or Democratic **(END ROTATE)** candidate?
(ROTATE 1-2)

- n46**
- 19% Lean Republican
- 16% Lean Democratic

- 65% Unsure

...

- Total including 'lean'
 - 48% Total+Lean Republican
 - 49% Total+Lean Democratic
-

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

- 46% Donald Trump, the Republican
 - 47% Kamala Harris, the Democrat

 - 4% Other
 - 3% None of the above
-

(IF GB1 ‘Other’ or ‘None of the above’ ASK)

GB1A. If you had to decide between the two today, would you lean more toward: **(ROTATE)** Donald Trump or Kamala Harris **(END ROTATE)?**
(ROTATE 1–2)

n58

- 15% Lean Donald Trump, the Republican
- 24% Lean Kamala Harris, the Democrat

61% Unsure

...

Total including ‘lean’

- 47% Total+Lean Trump
 - 48% Total+Lean Harris
-

PB1. If the 2024 presidential election were held today, who would you vote for if the candidates were: **(RANDOMIZE 1-3) (SELECT 1)**

- 44% Kamala Harris, the Democrat
 - 44% Donald Trump, the Republican
 - 6% Robert F. Kennedy Jr., a third-party candidate
 - 1% Jill Stein, the Green Party candidate
 - 1% Chase Oliver, the Libertarian Party candidate

 - 0% Other (O.E. specify)
 - 3% None of the above
-

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

57% Total Satisfied

- 26% Very satisfied
- 31% Somewhat satisfied

43% Total Dissatisfied

- 25% Somewhat dissatisfied
 - 18% Very dissatisfied
-

FO2. With Joe Biden declining to accept the Democratic nomination for president, do you believe **(ROTATE)** Kamala Harris should replace him on the ticket, or alternatives should be considered **(END ROTATE)**? **(ROTATE 1-2)**

42% Kamala Harris should replace him on the ticket

50% Alternatives should be considered

8% Unsure

FO4. Do you believe **(ROTATE)** President Biden should serve the remainder of his term, or President Biden should step down and have Kamala Harris serve out the remainder of his term **(END ROTATE)**? **(ROTATE 1-2)**

58% President Biden should serve the remainder of his term

28% President Biden should step down and have Kamala Harris serve out the remainder of his term.

14% Unsure

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

51% Bob Casey Jr., the Democrat

40% David McCormick, the Republican

3% Other

6% None of the above

(IF GENB2 ‘Other’ or ‘None of the above’ ASK)

GB2A. If you had to decide today, would you say you are leaning more towards **(ROTATE)** Bob Casey Jr. or David McCormick **(END ROTATE)**?
(ROTATE 1–2)

n70

20% Lean Bob Casey Jr., the Democrat
24% Lean David McCormick, the Republican

56% Unsure

...

Total including ‘lean’

53% Total+Lean Casey Jr.
42% Total+Lean McCormick

Pennsylvania Officials Series:

GB3. If the 2024 Pennsylvania Attorney General election were held today, which of the following individuals would you vote for? **(RANDOMIZE 1-2)**

44% Eugene DePasquale, the Democrat
41% Dave Sunday, the Republican

5% Other
10% None of the above

(IF GB3 ‘Other’ or ‘None of the above’ ASK)

GB3A. If you had to decide today, would you say you are leaning more towards **(ROTATE)** Democrat Eugene DePasquale or Republican Dave Sunday **(END ROTATE)**? **(ROTATE 1–2)**

n119

23% Eugene DePasquale, the Democrat
14% Dave Sunday, the Republican

62% Unsure

...

Total including ‘lean’

48% Total+Lean DePasquale
43% Total+Lean Sunday

GB4. If the 2024 Pennsylvania Auditor General election were held today, which of the following individuals would you vote for? **(RANDOMIZE 1-2)**

43% Malcolm Kenyatta, the Democrat
43% Timothy DeFoor, the Republican

4% Other
10% None of the above

(IF GB4 ‘Other’ or ‘None of the above’ ASK)

GB4A. If you had to decide today, would you say you are leaning more towards **(ROTATE)** Democrat Malcolm Kenyatta or Republican Timothy DeFoor **(END ROTATE)? (ROTATE 1–2)**

n112

16% Malcolm Kenyatta, the Democrat
8% Timothy DeFoor, the Republican

77% Unsure

...

Total including ‘lean’

46% Total+Lean Kenyatta
44% Total+Lean DeFoor

GB5. If the 2024 Pennsylvania Treasurer election were held today, which of the following individuals would you vote for? **(RANDOMIZE 1-2)**

44% Erin McClelland, the Democrat
44% Stacy Garrity, the Republican

3% Other
8% None of the above

(IF GB5 ‘Other’ or ‘None of the above’ ASK)

GB5A. If you had to decide today, would you say you are leaning more towards **(ROTATE)** Democrat Erin McClelland or Republican Stacy Garrity **(END ROTATE)? (ROTATE 1–2)**

n92

11% Erin McClelland, the Democrat
8% Stacy Garrity, the Republican

81% Unsure

...

Total including ‘lean’

46% Total+Lean McClelland
45% Total+Lean Garrity

State Policy Series:

SB3. In each of the last two years, the governor and state legislature did not enact a budget by Pennsylvania’s legal deadline of June 30. Governor Shapiro has said it is up to the House and Senate to find common ground and blames a “divided legislature” for these budget impasses. Do you believe the Governor should play a more active role in working with the legislature to pass a budget on time? **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

76% Total Yes

31% Yes, strongly
45% Yes, somewhat

13% Total No

10% No, somewhat
4% No, strongly

11% Unsure

SB4. Governor Josh Shapiro made “Get Sh*t Done,” profanity and all, the official slogan of his administration, but when it comes to legislative accomplishments, his first 18 months have been the least productive of any Pennsylvania governor in at least 50 years. Many of his campaign promises – such as cutting red tape, reducing taxes, and providing scholarships for kids in underperforming schools – have remained unfulfilled. Do you believe the Governor should play a more active role working with the legislature to deliver on what he’s promised? **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

84% Total Yes

44% Yes, strongly
39% Yes, somewhat

9% Total No

6% No, somewhat
3% No, strongly

7% Unsure

SB5. Governor Shapiro recently proposed a new law requiring Pennsylvania electricity suppliers to increase the use of alternative energy sources from 8% to 35%. Would you support this new mandate, even if it leads to higher energy costs for homeowners? **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

40% Total Support

15% Strongly support
25% Somewhat support

51% Total Oppose

20% Somewhat oppose
31% Strongly oppose

10% Unsure

SB6. During his campaign, Governor Shapiro promised to work with Democrats and Republicans in the state legislature to reconsider the state's participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), which would increase energy prices for Pennsylvanians. The Commonwealth Court deemed RGGI unconstitutional, labeling it an "illegal tax," and subsequently blocked the initiative. The governor has decided to appeal the court ruling. Do you support or oppose RGGI, a program that would impose a new energy tax? **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

31% Total Support

10% Strongly support
21% Somewhat support

50% Total Oppose

19% Somewhat oppose
31% Strongly oppose

18% Unsure

SB7. Do you support or oppose allowing Governor Shapiro to unilaterally impose new taxes without a vote by your elected representatives in the legislature? **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

19% Total Support

6% Strongly support
13% Somewhat support

72% Total Oppose

24% Somewhat oppose
48% Strongly oppose

9% Unsure

SB8. Governor Shapiro proposed an alternative energy tax, called PACER, that would impose a new tax on Pennsylvania energy producers in order to reduce emissions – a change which would increase electricity costs for residents and businesses by 20%. Would you support or oppose Governor Shapiro's proposed energy tax? **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

29% Total Support

11% Strongly support
18% Somewhat support

61% Total Oppose

22% Somewhat oppose
39% Strongly oppose

9% Unsure

SCHD. In a departure from the practices of previous Pennsylvania governors, Shapiro has refused to make his daily calendar available to the public, a move that has raised transparency concerns by obscuring the details of who he meets with and what they discuss. Should Shapiro be more transparent about the official activities conducted in his role as governor? **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

76% Total Yes

44% Yes, strongly
32% Yes, somewhat

17% Total No

13% No, somewhat
4% No, strongly

7% Unsure

TRVL. During his first year in office, Governor Shapiro accrued \$270,000 in taxpayer-funded air travel costs—far more than his predecessor Tom Wolf’s busiest travel year, which cost taxpayers \$136,000 in 2018. Is Shapiro’s use taxpayer dollars for his personal travel concerning to you? **(ROTATE 1-4,4-1)**

73% Total Concerning

42% Very concerning
30% Somewhat concerning

22% Total Not Concerning

14% Not too concerning
8% Not at all concerning

6% Unsure

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?

84%	Total Yes
60%	Yes, I voted in person on election day
4%	Yes, I voted in person early
3%	Yes, I voted absentee
17%	Yes, I voted by mail-in ballot
16%	No, I did not vote

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

12%	Yes
85%	No
3%	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?

40% Total Republican

28% Strong Republican
12% Not so strong Republican

22% Total Independent

5% Independent leaning Republican
10% Independent
7% Independent leaning Democrat

38% Total Democratic

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?

n624

84% Yes
6% No

10% 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?

7% Yes
93% 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
2% Asian or Pacific Islander
4% Hispanic
0% Native American
0% Middle Eastern
1% Other
0% 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
31%	Between \$40,000 and \$79,999
18%	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?

1%	Less than high school
24%	High school graduate
17%	Some college
12%	College graduate with an Associate, or two-year degree
25%	College graduate with a Bachelors, or four-year degree
16%	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
19%	Very conservative
18%	Somewhat conservative
33%	Moderate
27%	Total Liberal
16%	Somewhat liberal
11%	Very liberal
1%	Libertarian
2%	Don't know/refused

D13. Which county in Pennsylvania do you currently reside?

County Dropdown

ADAMS	6 1%	CUMBERLAND	18 2%	MCKEAN	1 -
ALLEGHENY	88 11%	DAUPHIN	20 3%	MERCER	7 1%
ARMSTRONG	4 1%	DELAWARE	40 5%	MONROE	5 1%
BEAVER	14 2%	ELK	3 -	MONTGOMERY	56 7%
BEDFORD	6 1%	ERIE	14 2%	MONTOUR	3 -
BERKS	23 3%	FAYETTE	12 1%	NORTHAMPTON	18 2%
BLAIR	12 2%	FRANKLIN	6 1%	NORTHUMBERLAND	2 -
BRADFORD	2 -	GREENE	1 -	PERRY	4 1%
BUCKS	40 5%	HUNTINGDON	1 -	PHILADELPHIA	96 12%
BUTLER	16 2%	INDIANA	4 1%	PIKE	2 -
CAMBRIA	5 1%	JEFFERSON	2 -	POTTER	1 -
CAMERON	1 -	JUNIATA	1 -	SCHUYLKILL	6 1%
CARBON	6 1%	LACKAWANNA	12 1%	SNYDER	1 -
CENTRE	6 1%	LANCASTER	32 4%	SOMERSET	6 1%
CHESTER	32 4%	LAWRENCE	3 -	SULLIVAN	1 -
CLEARFIELD	3 -	LEBANON	6 1%	SUSQUEHANNA	1 -
COLUMBIA	4 1%	LEHIGH	25 3%	UNION	2 -
CRAWFORD	5 1%	LUZERNE	21 3%	VENANGO	4 -
		LYCOMING	9 1%	WARREN	1 -
				WASHINGTON	18 2%
				WAYNE	2 -
				WESTMORELAND	26 3%
				WYOMING	1 -
				YORK	31 4%