

# Pharos Research Group



## **Pennsylvania Polling Report**

**10/12/12-10/14/12**

## Analysis

Pharos Research Group did a live call poll of 780 likely voters in Pennsylvania from October 12, 2012 through October 14, 2012. The breakdown was 382 men, 398 women, representing a 49%/51% split. There were 347 self-identified Democrats, 304 self-identified Republicans and 129 Independents representing a 44/39/16 split.

The numbers read like this: in the general election for President, 49.1% of respondents indicated an intention to vote for President Barack Obama, while 43.59% indicated a preference for Republican nominee Willard "Mitt" Romney. In the United States Senate race, 49.49% prefer the Democratic, incumbent Senator Bob Casey, while 40.77% chose Republican nominee, Tom Smith.

In the Presidential race, the lead for the incumbent is significant and when compared to the trend line in public polling, is persistent. Clearly this indicates an advantage for the incumbent and we would rate this race as leaning to the Democrat at this stage in the race.

In the Senate race, the incumbent has a substantial lead over his lesser known challenger. While the incumbent is bordering on the fifty percent mark, and the gap in the public polling available has narrowed in the past month, it would not seem likely that the challenger can make up the ground necessary in a little over three weeks. While the polling bears watching, we would suggest this remains a likely Democratic hold.

## REPORT

S3) CODE SEX 1= Female 2=Male

1= 398 51.03%

2= 382 48.97%

S4) Thinking of the last four general elections (the Presidential Elections in 2004 and 2008 and the Congressional Elections in 2006 and 2010), how many of those elections did you vote in?

2= 91 11.67%

3= 282 36.15%

4= 407 52.18%

S5) Are you registered as a Democrat or a Republican or are you an Independent?

CODE 1=Democrat, 2=Republican, 3=Independent

1= 347 44.49%

2= 304 38.97%

3= 129 16.54%

P1) Thinking about the election for President, if the election were held today would you vote for (rotate) Barack Obama or Mitt Romney? (Probe for undecided, ask lean)

CODE 1= Obama, 2= Romney, 3= Undecided

1= 383 49.10%

2= 340 43.59%

3= 57 7.31%

P2) Thinking about the election for the US Senate, if the election were held today would you vote for (rotate) Bob Casey or Tom Smith? (Probe once for undecided, ask lean)

CODE 1= Casey, 2= Smith, 3=Undecided

1= 386 49.49%

2= 318 40.77%

3= 76 9.74%

P3) Thinking about the Democratic nominee for President, Barack Obama, do you have a generally favorable or unfavorable opinion of him?

CODE 1= Favorable, 2= Unfavorable

1= 401 51.41%

2= 349 44.74

P4) Thinking about the Republican nominee for President, Mitt Romney, do you have a generally favorable or unfavorable opinion of him?

CODE 1= Favorable, 2= Unfavorable

1= 384 49.23%

2= 354 45.38%

P5) Thinking about the Republican nominee for the US Senate, Tom Smith, do you have a generally favorable or unfavorable opinion of him?

CODE 1= Favorable, 2= Unfavorable

1= 359 46.03%

2= 301 38.59%

P6) Thinking about the Democratic nominee for the US Senate, Bob Casey, do you have a generally favorable or unfavorable opinion of him?

CODE 1= Favorable, 2= Unfavorable

1= 450 57.69%

2= 306 39.23%

P7) Thinking about the economy, which of the Presidential candidates do you feel would be best equipped to deal with the prolonged economic downturn?

CODE 1= Obama 2= Romney, 3=Neither

1= 383 49.10%

2= 358 45.90%

3= 39 5%

P8) Thinking about the many reasons people might vote for or against someone, earlier you indicated a preference for President and the US Senate, thinking about the condition of the economy, using a scale of very important, somewhat important, not very important or not at all important, how much is the candidates plan to fix the economy important in who you prefer?

CODE 1= Very important, 2= Somewhat important, 3= not very important, 4= not at all important

1= 360 46.15%

2= 178 22.82%

3= 146 18.72%

4= 96 12.31%

P9) Thinking about the public debt, using the same scale, how important is the candidates' plan to fix the budget on who you prefer?

CODE 1= Very important, 2= Somewhat important, 3= not very important, 4= not at all important

1= 343 43.97%

2= 184 23.59%

3= 169 21.67%

4= 84 10.77%

Margin of Error of plus or minus 3.4%.