



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)**

**QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312**

## **Toomey holds small lead**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – More Pennsylvania voters disapprove of Barack Obama than like the job he's doing and that goes a long way toward explaining the current small lead Pat Toomey holds over Arlen Specter in the state's Senate race.

Specter has a 71 point lead over Toomey with people who approve of Obama. Toomey has a 71 point lead over Specter with people who disapprove of Obama. That makes Obama's approval the deciding factor in who leads the Senate race and for now 46% of voters in the state approve of the job he's doing to 50% who disapprove.

Toomey leads Specter 46-43. He's winning 78% of the Republican vote while Specter has just 71% of the Democratic vote nailed down, and he also has a 41-38 lead with independents.

A majority of voters in the state disapprove of Specter. 52% give him poor marks to only 34% who think he's doing a good job. Republicans are arrayed against him by a 78/12 margin and independents are 52/32. Neither of those things is particularly unusual for a Democratic candidate right now, but he also has tepid numbers within his own party as just 53% of Democrats approve of him to 30% who disapprove. Many of the ones who disapprove are still planning to vote for him this fall but that doesn't bode well for getting the party's voters motivated to turn out in November.

"Arlen Specter isn't very popular but if Pennsylvania voters felt the same way about Barack Obama today that they did a year ago Democrats would be winning this race," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "If the President rebounds by the fall Specter will too."

PPP surveyed 934 Pennsylvania voters from March 29<sup>th</sup> to April 1st. The survey's margin of error is +/-3.2%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached and can be found at [www.publicpolicypolling.com](http://www.publicpolicypolling.com).

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.

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## Pennsylvania Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve* ..... 46%  
*Disapprove*..... 50%  
*Not Sure*..... 4%

**Q2** Do you think that Republicans should work to repeal the health care bill that was passed last week? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Yes* ..... 49%  
*No*..... 44%  
*Not Sure*..... 7%

**Q3** Do you support or oppose President Obama's health care plan, or do you not have an opinion? If you support it, press 1. If you oppose it, press 2. If you don't have an opinion, press 3.

*Support* ..... 42%  
*Oppose*..... 49%  
*No Opinion*..... 8%

**Q4** Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Bob Casey's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve* ..... 31%  
*Disapprove*..... 38%  
*Not Sure*..... 31%

**Q5** Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Arlen Specter's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve* ..... 34%  
*Disapprove*..... 52%  
*Not Sure*..... 14%

**Q6** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Joe Sestak? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Favorable*..... 16%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 18%  
*Not Sure*..... 65%

**Q7** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Pat Toomey? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Favorable*..... 20%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 22%  
*Not Sure*..... 58%

**Q8** If the candidates for US Senate this fall were Democrat Arlen Specter and Republican Pat Toomey, who would you vote for? If Arlen Specter, press 1. If Pat Toomey, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Specter* ..... 43% *Undecided*..... 11%  
*Toomey*..... 46%

**Q9** If the candidates for US Senate this fall were Democrat Joe Sestak and Republican Pat Toomey, who would you vote for? If Joe Sestak, press 1. If Pat Toomey, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Sestak*..... 36%  
*Toomey*..... 42%  
*Undecided*..... 22%

**Q10** Who did you vote for President last year? If John McCain, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If someone else or you don't remember, press 3.

*McCain*..... 48%  
*Obama*..... 49%  
*Someone Else/Don't Remember*..... 2%





**Q11** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

*Liberal*..... 19%  
*Moderate*..... 41%  
*Conservative*..... 40%

**Q12** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 54%  
*Man*..... 46%

**Q13** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

*Democrat* ..... 47%  
*Republican*..... 41%  
*Independent/Other*..... 12%

**Q14** If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

*White* ..... 87%  
*African-American* ..... 10%  
*Other*..... 3%

**Q15** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

*18 to 29*..... 10%  
*30 to 45*..... 25%  
*46 to 65*..... 44%  
*Older than 65*..... 22%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	46%	5%	86%	30%
<b>Disapprove</b>	49%	91%	9%	52%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	4%	4%	18%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Repeal</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	49%	84%	15%	45%
<b>No</b>	45%	12%	78%	18%
<b>Not Sure</b>	7%	5%	7%	36%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Obama Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	43%	5%	81%	18%
<b>Oppose</b>	49%	89%	10%	55%
<b>No Opinion</b>	8%	6%	9%	27%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Casey Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	31%	11%	52%	17%
<b>Disapprove</b>	37%	61%	15%	36%
<b>Not Sure</b>	31%	28%	33%	48%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Specter Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	34%	8%	59%	30%
<b>Disapprove</b>	52%	82%	23%	43%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	10%	18%	27%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Sestak Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	16%	10%	23%	14%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	18%	22%	14%	24%
<b>Not Sure</b>	66%	68%	64%	62%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Toomey Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	20%	32%	8%	18%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	22%	13%	31%	9%
<b>Not Sure</b>	58%	54%	62%	73%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Specter/Toomey</b>				
<b>Specter</b>	43%	9%	77%	27%
<b>Toomey</b>	45%	80%	12%	43%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	11%	11%	30%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Sestak/Toomey</b>				
<b>Sestak</b>	36%	7%	65%	14%
<b>Toomey</b>	42%	75%	10%	48%
<b>Undecided</b>	22%	17%	25%	39%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	46%	78%	60%	15%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	18%	35%	81%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	3%	6%	4%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Repeal</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	49%	19%	34%	80%
<b>No</b>	44%	76%	57%	15%
<b>Not Sure</b>	7%	5%	9%	5%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Obama Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	42%	72%	56%	14%
<b>Oppose</b>	49%	16%	35%	80%
<b>No Opinion</b>	8%	12%	9%	6%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Casey Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	31%	48%	39%	15%
<b>Disapprove</b>	38%	19%	30%	56%
<b>Not Sure</b>	31%	34%	31%	29%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Specter Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	34%	49%	45%	15%
<b>Disapprove</b>	52%	26%	41%	77%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	25%	15%	8%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Sestak Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	16%	23%	19%	10%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	18%	16%	15%	23%
<b>Not Sure</b>	65%	61%	66%	67%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Toomey Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	20%	6%	12%	34%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	22%	31%	26%	14%
<b>Not Sure</b>	58%	63%	62%	52%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Specter/Toomey</b>				
<b>Specter</b>	<b>43%</b>	72%	56%	16%
<b>Toomey</b>	<b>46%</b>	17%	30%	75%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>11%</b>	11%	14%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Sestak/Toomey</b>				
<b>Sestak</b>	<b>36%</b>	65%	45%	12%
<b>Toomey</b>	<b>42%</b>	16%	29%	68%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>22%</b>	20%	26%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	<b>46%</b>	49%	41%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>50%</b>	45%	55%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>4%</b>	6%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Repeal</b>			
<b>Yes</b>	<b>49%</b>	46%	53%
<b>No</b>	<b>44%</b>	46%	42%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>7%</b>	8%	5%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Health Care</b>			
<b>Support</b>	<b>42%</b>	45%	39%
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>49%</b>	46%	53%
<b>No Opinion</b>	<b>8%</b>	9%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Casey Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	<b>31%</b>	30%	33%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>38%</b>	31%	46%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>31%</b>	39%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Specter Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	<b>34%</b>	34%	33%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>52%</b>	47%	58%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>14%</b>	18%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Sestak Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>16%</b>	16%	17%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>18%</b>	17%	21%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>65%</b>	68%	63%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Toomey Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	20%	14%	26%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	22%	20%	25%
<b>Not Sure</b>	58%	66%	49%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Specter/Toomey</b>			
<b>Specter</b>	43%	46%	40%
<b>Toomey</b>	46%	41%	51%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	13%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Sestak/Toomey</b>			
<b>Sestak</b>	36%	39%	31%
<b>Toomey</b>	42%	37%	48%
<b>Undecided</b>	22%	24%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	46%	76%	12%	42%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	20%	84%	52%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	5%	3%	7%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Repeal</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	49%	23%	79%	47%
<b>No</b>	44%	69%	15%	44%
<b>Not Sure</b>	7%	8%	5%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	42%	71%	11%	38%
<b>Oppose</b>	49%	19%	83%	52%
<b>No Opinion</b>	8%	10%	6%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Casey Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	31%	47%	13%	30%
<b>Disapprove</b>	38%	19%	60%	37%
<b>Not Sure</b>	31%	33%	28%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Specter Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	34%	53%	12%	32%
<b>Disapprove</b>	52%	30%	78%	52%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	18%	9%	15%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Sestak Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	16%	20%	11%	18%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	18%	14%	25%	14%
<b>Not Sure</b>	65%	66%	64%	68%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Toomey Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	20%	9%	31%	19%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	22%	28%	15%	25%
<b>Not Sure</b>	58%	62%	54%	56%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Specter/Toomey</b>				
<b>Specter</b>	43%	71%	13%	38%
<b>Toomey</b>	46%	18%	78%	41%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	11%	9%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Sestak/Toomey</b>				
<b>Sestak</b>	36%	59%	9%	35%
<b>Toomey</b>	42%	15%	76%	34%
<b>Undecided</b>	22%	26%	15%	31%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	46%	41%	87%	39%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	54%	13%	57%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	5%	-	4%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Repeal</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	49%	52%	24%	46%
<b>No</b>	44%	41%	71%	41%
<b>Not Sure</b>	7%	7%	5%	13%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	42%	38%	84%	34%
<b>Oppose</b>	49%	54%	8%	61%
<b>No Opinion</b>	8%	9%	8%	5%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Casey Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	31%	30%	47%	21%
<b>Disapprove</b>	38%	39%	24%	50%
<b>Not Sure</b>	31%	31%	29%	29%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Specter Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	34%	32%	50%	25%
<b>Disapprove</b>	52%	54%	39%	63%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	14%	11%	13%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Sestak Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	16%	17%	11%	14%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	18%	18%	24%	27%
<b>Not Sure</b>	65%	66%	65%	59%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Toomey Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	20%	19%	16%	34%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	22%	22%	29%	25%
<b>Not Sure</b>	58%	59%	55%	41%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Specter/Toomey</b>				
<b>Specter</b>	43%	41%	71%	23%
<b>Toomey</b>	46%	48%	18%	55%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	11%	11%	21%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Sestak/Toomey</b>				
<b>Sestak</b>	36%	34%	50%	20%
<b>Toomey</b>	42%	44%	24%	54%
<b>Undecided</b>	22%	21%	26%	27%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	46%	56%	44%	44%	46%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	42%	53%	52%	47%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	2%	3%	4%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Repeal</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	49%	47%	53%	48%	47%
<b>No</b>	44%	44%	43%	44%	46%
<b>Not Sure</b>	7%	9%	4%	8%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Health Care</b>					
<b>Support</b>	42%	51%	40%	42%	42%
<b>Oppose</b>	49%	40%	51%	51%	48%
<b>No Opinion</b>	8%	9%	9%	7%	10%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Casey Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	31%	25%	30%	30%	37%
<b>Disapprove</b>	38%	40%	32%	42%	37%
<b>Not Sure</b>	31%	35%	38%	28%	26%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Specter Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	34%	27%	33%	30%	44%
<b>Disapprove</b>	52%	53%	49%	57%	47%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	20%	18%	13%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Sestak Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	16%	15%	13%	18%	17%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	18%	15%	17%	19%	20%
<b>Not Sure</b>	65%	71%	69%	63%	63%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Toomey Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	20%	23%	16%	22%	18%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	22%	19%	21%	24%	22%
<b>Not Sure</b>	58%	59%	63%	54%	60%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Specter/Toomey</b>					
<b>Specter</b>	<b>43%</b>	48%	41%	41%	48%
<b>Toomey</b>	<b>46%</b>	39%	49%	48%	41%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>11%</b>	13%	11%	11%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Sestak/Toomey</b>					
<b>Sestak</b>	<b>36%</b>	47%	32%	35%	35%
<b>Toomey</b>	<b>42%</b>	38%	46%	43%	39%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>22%</b>	15%	22%	21%	26%

