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Franklin & Marshall College Poll: August 2023

Topline Report

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	Headed in right direction	Off on the wrong track	Do not know
Aug 2023	39%	48%	13%
Apr 2023	32%	57%	11%
Oct 2022	27%	62%	11%
Sep 2022	28%	59%	13%
Aug 2022	27%	61%	12%
May 2022	25%	63%	12%
Apr 2022	29%	57%	14%
Mar 2022	32%	55%	13%
Oct 2021	30%	57%	14%
Aug 2021	37%	53%	10%
Jun 2021	35%	55%	10%
Mar 2021	36%	54%	10%
Oct 2020	43%	45%	12%

RightDir. All in all, do you think things in Pennsylvania are generally headed in the right direction, or do you feel that things are off on the wrong track?

MIP_	_PA. What do you think is the most important problem facing Pennsylvania	ì
today	?	

	Aug	Apr	Oct	Sep	Aug	May	Apr	Mar	Oct	Aug	Jun	Mar	Oct
	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022	2022	-	2022	2021	2021	2021	2021	2020
Economy, finances	19%	15%	28%	21%	19%	14%	16%	18%	7%	5%	3%	5%	8%
Government, politicians	11%	17%	17%	23%	22%	21%	20%	19%	20%	20%	30%	27%	16%
Crime, drugs, violence,	10%	19%	10%	10%	6%	9%	9%	6%	40/	7%	-0/	1%	4.0/
guns	10 /0	19/0	10 /0	10 /0	070	9⁄0	9⁄0	070	4%	//0	5%	1/0	4%
Education, school	8%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%	2%	3%	5%	4%
Taxes	7%	5%	6%	4%	7%	8%	8%	9%	6%	7%	8%	5%	6%
Environment	4%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%
Housing and real estate	4%	2%	0%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%
Values, morals	4%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Unemployment, personal	3%	5%	3%	4%	6%	6%	5%	3%	10%	8%	12%	6%	10%
finances	3/0	570	3/0	4⁄0	070	070	570	3/0	1070	0/0	12/0	070	1070
Roads, infrastructure,	2%	5%	1%	3%	2%	5%	5%	5%	4%	3%	3%	4%	3%
transportation	2/0	570	170	370	270	570	270	3/0	470	370	370	470	370
Social issues	2%	3%	1%	1%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%	1%
Civil liberties	1%	2%	6%	6%	5%	1%	1%	5%	7%	6%	3%	0%	1%
Energy issues, gas prices	1%	2%	3%	3%	2%	4%	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%	0%	2%
Healthcare, insurance	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	3%	1%	1%	1%	3%
Immigration	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Justice system, lawyers	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%



Franklin & Marshall College Poll: Topline Report Registered Pennsylvania Voters, weighted data

Racism	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%	3%	1%	3%
Retaining, attracting businesses	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%
Senior issues, social security	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%
Population, urban sprawl	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Bipartisanship	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	1%	0%	0%
Conspiracy theories, misinformation	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	о%	1%	0%	о%	0%	0%
COVID-19	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	1%	1%	3%	7%	17%	7%	31%	27%
Election integrity	0%	1%	4%	1%	4%	2%	3%	4%	2%	4%	0%	0%	0%
Global events	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%
Joe Biden	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
The governor	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Welfare	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Other	8%	3%	6%	4%	5%	7%	7%	8%	6%	5%	7%	5%	3%
Do not know	9%	7%	4%	5%	8%	8%	7%	8%	9%	4%	5%	3%	5%

FinToday. We are interested in how people are getting along financially these days. Would you say that you and your family are better off, worse off, or about the same financially as you were a year ago?

	Better off	Worse off	About the same	Do not know
Aug 2023	15%	39%	45%	1%
Apr 2023	11%	46%	43%	1%
Oct 2022	10%	49%	41%	0%
Sep 2022	10%	53%	36%	1%
Aug 2022	12%	43%	43%	2%
May 2022	15%	43%	41%	1%
Apr 2022	15%	36%	49%	0%
Mar 2022	18%	35%	45%	2%
Oct 2021	14%	31%	55%	0%
Aug 2021	15%	26%	60%	0%
Jun 2021	17%	25%	58%	0%
Mar 2021	11%	19%	69%	2%
Oct 2020	27%	13%	59%	1%



FinFut. Now looking ahead, do you think that a year from now, you and your family will be better off financially than you are now, worse off, or about the same as you are now?

	Better off	Worse off	About the same	Do not know
Aug 2023	20%	27%	45%	7%
Apr 2023	16%	33%	41%	10%
Oct 2022	16%	33%	41%	11%
Sep 2022	16%	36%	36%	12%
Aug 2022	22%	29%	36%	13%
May 2022	17%	34%	40%	10%
Apr 2022	18%	28%	45%	9%
Mar 2022	16%	30%	41%	13%
Oct 2021	16%	31%	47%	6%
Aug 2021	17%	27%	52%	5%
Jun 2021	22%	24%	50%	4%
Mar 2021	21%	17%	55%	8%
Oct 2020	25%	5%	53%	17%

Budg1. The state's elected officials missed the July 1st deadline to pass the state's annual budget. Who do you think is most responsible for the budget being late: the governor, house Democrats, or senate Republicans?

	Aug
	2023
The governor	20%
House Democrats	20%
Senate Republicans	32%
Do not know	28%

Budg2. When it comes to making decisions about the state budget, who do you trust the most: the governor, house Democrats, or senate Republicans?

	Aug
	2023
The governor	32%
House Democrats	17%
Senate Republicans	35%
Do not know	16%



PS5. Part of the budget impasse resulted from disagreement about a school voucher program. Voucher programs allow parents to use tax money to partly pay for tuition at private and religious schools, which have no state educational oversight. Do you favor or oppose giving state tax dollars to parents so they can send their children to a private or religious school of their own choosing instead of their local public school?

	Aug 2023	Apr 2023
Strongly favor	30%	31%
Somewhat favor	17%	17%
Somewhat oppose	16%	17%
Strongly oppose	35%	32%
Do not know	2%	3%

C1. Do you think the state of Pennsylvania should do more to address the problems associated with climate change, or not?

	Aug
	2023
Yes	57%
No	36%
Do not know	7%

C2. Do you think climate change is causing problems now, do you think the problems created by climate change will not happen until sometime in the future, or do you think climate change will never create any serious problems?

	Aug	Aug	Mar	Mar	Mar
	2023	2021	2021	2019	2018
Causing problems now	60%	59%	54%	67%	62%
Problems will not happen until sometime in the future	15%	16%	16%	14%	17%
Will never create any serious problems	22%	17%	17%	13%	12%
Doesn't believe that climate change is happening (accepted if volunteered)	0%	6%	6%	4%	5%
Do not know	4%	3%	7%	3%	4%



C3. Have you personally experienced any problems that you think are related to climate change, or not? (*Respondents who believe climate change is happening.*)

	Aug	Aug	Mar	Mar	Mar
	2023	2021	2021	2019	2018
	n=522	n=420	n=551	n=521	n=402
Yes	5 7%	39%	33%	37%	39%
No	37%	58%	60%	58%	53%
Do not know	6%	4%	7%	6%	8%

REG. Some people are registered to vote, and many others are not. Are you currently registered to vote at your present address?

	Aug 2023
Yes	100%

REGPARTY. Are you currently registered as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or as something else?

	Aug 2023
Republican	40%
Democrat	43%
Independent or Something else	16%

Intfav. Is your opinion of each of the following people favorable, unfavorable, or haven't you heard enough about them to have an opinion?

Aug 2023	Strongly favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Strongly unfavorable	Don't Know
Josh Shapiro	28%	28%	13%	13%	18%
Donald Trump	16%	18%	9%	55%	2%
Joe Biden	12%	28%	11%	47%	1%
Bob Casey	12%	27%	17%	13%	30%

RateGov. How would you rate the way that Josh Shapiro is handling his job as governor? Would you say he is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or a poor job as governor?

	Excellent Job	Good Job	Only a Fair Job	Poor Job	Don't Know
Aug 2023	18%	29%	25%	15%	13%
Apr 2023	15%	28%	23%	13%	21%

RateSL. What kind of job do you think the state legislature is doing overall? Would you say it is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or a poor job?

	Excellent	Good	Only a Fair	Poor	Don't
	Job	Job	Job	Job	Know
Aug 2023	1%	12%	52%	24%	12%



RateSenC1. How would you rate the way that Bob Casey is handling his job as U.S. senator? Would you say he is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or a poor job as U.S. senator?

	Excellent Job	Good Job	Only a Fair Job	Poor Job	Don't Know
Aug 2023	7%	24%	30%	20%	19%
Apr 2023	9%	20%	24%	24%	22%
Oct 2018	12%	31%	25%	23%	9%
Sep 2018	13%	29%	25%	20%	14%
Aug 2018	9%	32%	27%	19%	13%
Jun 2018	10%	32%	29%	14%	15%
Mar 2018	7%	30%	32%	11%	20%
Sep 2017	8%	29%	27%	15%	22%
May 2017	10%	28%	33%	17%	13%
Feb 2017	10%	27%	31%	14%	18%
Oct 2013	5%	25%	34%	17%	20%
Aug 2013	5%	23%	39%	15%	19%
Oct 2012	6%	31%	33%	18%	12%
Sep 2012	7%	31%	32%	15%	16%
Aug 2012	4%	32%	37%	11%	16%
Jun 2012	5%	33%	32%	8%	21%
Feb 2012	4%	26%	43%	12%	15%
Jan 2012	4%	31%	36%	11%	19%
Oct 2011	5%	33%	38%	9%	16%
Aug 2011	5%	27%	43%	9%	16%
Mar 2011	3%	26%	39%	9%	23%
Feb 2009	7%	31%	32%	10%	20%
Aug 2007	5%	37%	36%	7%	15%



	Excellent Job	Good Job	Only a Fair Job	Poor Job	Don't Know
Aug 2023	<u> </u>	21%	20%	50%	1%
Apr 2023	10%	17%	22%	50%	1%
Oct 2022	10%	26%	13%	52%	0%
Sep 2022	7%	21%	19%	51%	2%
Aug 2022	8%	26%	14%	51%	2%
May 2022	11%	22%	17%	49%	0%
Apr 2022	9%	24%	17%	50%	1%
Mar 2022	10%	20%	18%	51%	1%
Oct 2021	5%	27%	20%	47%	1%
Aug 2021	16%	25%	14%	44%	1%
Jun 2021	20%	24%	13%	43%	1%
Mar 2021	17%	24%	19%	36%	24%

RatePres. How would you rate the way that Joe Biden is handling his job as president? Would you say he is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or a poor job as president?

RepPrim1. If the 2024 Republican primary election for President were being held today would you vote for: (rotated) Donald Trump, Ron DeSantis, Mike Pence, Nikki Haley, Asa Hutchinson, Chris Christie, Vivek Ramaswamy, Tim Scott, Larry Elder, Doug Burgum, Francis Suarez, or Will Hurd? *(Republicans only)*

<u>8 8</u>	Aug 2023	Apr 2023
	n=274	n=227
Donald Trump	39%	40%
Ron DeSantis	21%	34%
Vivek Ramaswamy	9%	
Tim Scott	6%	0%
Mike Pence	5%	6%
Nikki Haley	5%	4%
Chris Christie	3%	
Asa Hutchinson	1%	
Francis Suarez	1%	
Doug Burgum	0%	
Will Hurd	0%	
Someone else	3%	4%
Do not know	8%	11%





	Aug 2023	Apr 2023
	n=252	n=202
Ron DeSantis	27%	33%
Donald Trump	14%	18%
Tim Scott	12%	4%
Vivek Ramaswamy	12%	
Mike Pence	9%	8%
Chris Christie	7%	
Nikki Haley	5%	10%
Larry Elder	2%	
Doug Burgum	1%	
Asa Hutchinson	0%	
Francis Suarez	0%	
Someone else	2%	7%
Do not know	10%	15%

RepPrim2. Which candidate would be your second choice? (*Republicans only*)

PRES24. If the 2024 election for President were being held today and the candidates were Joe Biden, the Democrat, and Donald Trump, the Republican, would you vote for Joe Biden or Donald Trump?

	Aug 2023	Apr 2023
Joe Biden	42%	36%
Donald Trump	40%	35%
Someone else	16%	23%
Do not know	2%	6%

CF1. Which one of the following two positions on campaign financing do you favor more:

1) limiting the amount of money individuals and entities can contribute to political campaigns, or

2) allowing individuals and entities to contribute as much money to political campaigns as they'd like?

*Results will be released at a later date



CF2. The Supreme Court ruled in 2010 that limiting independent political spending violates the constitution, which means a constitutional amendment is necessary to establish rules that regulate and limit that type of political spending. Would you favor or oppose a constitutional amendment that would allow limits to be set on campaign spending?

*Results will be released at a later date

CFR. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "The influence of money in politics is a threat to our democracy."

*Results will be released at a later date

Vot20. Did you vote in the last presidential election in 2020, or not? Did you vote for Joe Biden, Donald Trump, or for some other candidate in 2020?

	Aug 2023
Joe Biden	40%
Donald Trump	39%
Some other candidate	1%
Did not vote	19%

TC1a. Mr. Trump has been charged with attempting to illegally overturn the results of the 2020 election. Do you think his actions to try to remain in power after the 2020 election were serious crimes, or not?

	Aug 2023
Yes, serious crime	58%
No, not a serious crime	35%
Do not know	7%



TCI1. Criminal charges have been filed against former President Donald Trump for his handling of classified documents. Which of the following comes closer to your own view about these charges:

	Aug 2023
Mr. Trump should drop out of the Presidential race because the	42%
charges of mishandling classified material are so serious	
Mr. Trump should drop out of the Presidential race only if he is	20%
found guilty of mishandling classified material	
Mr. Trump should continue running for President, regardless of the	33%
outcome of the classified documents trial	
Do not know	4%

TCI2. One analysis found that former President Trump and his businesses had been a defendant in nearly 1,500 state or federal lawsuits before he was president. Hundreds of these cases were dismissed, but he and his businesses also settled or lost hundreds of these lawsuits. Which of the following do you think explains why Mr. Trump has been involved in so many legal disputes? Do you think that...

	Aug 2023
Mr. Trump tends to push the limits of the law as far as he can, but is generally law abiding	19%
Mr. Trump is mostly a target for lawsuits because of his wealth and	28%
power	
Mr. Trump is generally a law breaker who is only concerned about his own interests	47%
Do not know	6%
DO HOU KHOW	070

CNTY. Region of state (What is the name of the county you live in?)

	Aug 2023
Philadelphia & Southeast	32%
Central	30%
Allegheny & Southwest	19%
Northeast	12%
Northwest	8%

AGE. What was your age on your last birthday?

	Aug 2023
Under 35	22%
35-54	34%
Over 55	45%

EDUC. What was the highest level of schooling you have completed?

	Aug 2023
High school graduate or less	21%
Some college	36%
College degree	43%

MAR. What is your current marital status?

	Aug 2023
Married	60%
Single, never married	27%
Not currently married	13%

IDEO. Politically speaking, do you consider yourself to be a liberal, a moderate, or a conservative?

	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Don't know
Aug 2023	24%	39%	31%	6%
Apr 2023	24%	42%	33%	2%
Oct 2022	19%	42%	34%	4%
Sep 2022	17%	44%	33%	5%
Aug 2022	22%	34%	37%	7%
May 2022	21%	36%	38%	5%
Apr 2022	21%	38%	37%	5%
Mar 2022	19%	38%	36%	7%
Oct 2021	22%	35%	35%	8%
Aug 2021	23%	38%	37%	3%
Jun 2021	18%	38%	38%	6%
Mar 2021	20%	36%	38%	6%
Oct 2020	26%	35%	35%	4%



	Aug 2023
Strong Republican	19%
Republican	10%
Lean Republican	15%
Independent	12%
Lean Democrat	11%
Democrat	8%
Strong Democrat	23%
Do not know	2%

PARTY. Regardless of how you are registered in politics, as of today, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

RFact. The Republican Party includes several different wings or factions. In the Republican Party, for example, there seems to be a faction that embraces Donald Trump's brand of politics and another that is aligned with a more traditional brand of Republican politics. Do you think of yourself as a Trump Republican, a traditional Republican, or something else?

	Aug 2023	Apr 2023	Aug 2022	Apr 2022	Aug 2021	Mar 2021
	n=303	n=274	n=229	n=364	n=211	n=267
Trump Republican	33%	33%	39%	38%	47%	42%
Traditional Republican	45%	39%	34%	42%	31%	38%
Something else	21%	24%	24%	19%	20%	17%
Do not know	1%	4%	3%	1%	2%	4%

DFact. The Democratic Party includes several different wings or factions. In the Democratic Party, for example, there seems to be a faction that embraces a consistently progressive brand of politics and another that is aligned with a more pragmatic, centrist brand of politics. Do you think of yourself as a progressive Democrat, a centrist Democrat, or something else?

	Aug 2023	Apr 2023	Aug 2022	Apr 2022	Aug 2021	Mar 2021
	n=296	n=261	n=212	n=299	n=178	n=243
Progressive Democrat	38%	39%	41%	37%	34%	33%
Centrist Democrat	38%	42%	38%	38%	37%	45%
Something else	14%	15%	13%	19%	19%	15%
Do not know	11%	5%	8%	7%	11%	7%



GUN. Are you a gun owner?

	Aug 2023
Yes	37%
No	63%

GUN2. Generally speaking, do you favor or oppose creating more laws that regulate gun ownership?

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know
Aug 2023	43%	16%	<u> </u>	26%	3%
Apr 2023	40%	19%	15%	24%	3%
Oct 2022	43%	17%	11%	26%	3%
Sep 2022	41%	19%	10%	29%	1%
Aug 2022	40%	15%	14%	27%	4%
May 2022	39%	13%	12%	31%	4%
Apr 2022	35%	18%	13%	30%	3%
Mar 2022	36%	14%	12%	35%	3%
Oct 2021	34%	20%	8%	34%	4%
Aug 2021	38%	15%	12%	33%	2%
Jun 2021	42%	14%	13%	29%	2%
Mar 2021	34%	19%	10%	34%	3%
Oct 2020	42%	19%	12%	26%	2%

RACE. What is your race or ethnicity?

	Aug 2023
White	83%
Non-white	17%

REL. Do you consider yourself to be Protestant, Catholic, some other religion, or not affiliated with any religion?

	Aug 2023
Protestant	21%
Catholic	27%
Some other religion	18%
Not affiliated with any religion	32%
Do not know	2%



	Aug 2023
Yes	19%
No	80%
Don't know	2%

BAC. Would you describe yourself as a "Born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

ABORT. Do you think that abortion should be legal under any circumstances, legal under certain circumstances, or illegal in all circumstances?

	Legal under any circumstances	Legal under certain circumstances	Illegal in all circumstances	Don't know
Aug 2023	38%	48%	13%	2%
Apr 2023	33%	57%	8%	1%
Oct 2022	35%	54%	9%	2%
Sep 2022	31%	58%	8%	3%
Aug 2022	37%	52%	11%	1%
May 2022	31%	54%	14%	1%
Apr 2022	31%	53%	16%	1%
Mar 2022	31%	53%	13%	3%
Oct 2021	36%	51%	11%	2%
Aug 2021	25%	58%	14%	3%
Jun 2021	26%	57%	14%	2%
Mar 2021	27%	56%	13%	3%
Oct 2020	32%	51%	16%	2%

WORK. Are you currently working full-time, part-time, going to school, keeping house or something else?

	Aug 2023
Full-time	51%
Retired	30%
Part-time	7%
Something else	4%
Going to school	4%
Disabled	3%
Unemployed	2%

INCOME. And, just for statistical purposes, we need to know if your total family income is above or below \$50,000 per year?

	Aug 2023
Under \$25,000	8%
\$25-\$35,000	9%
\$35-50,000	12%
\$50-75,000	17%
\$75-100,000	17%
Over \$100,000	35%
Don't know	3%

Gender. What is your current gender?

	Aug 2023
Male	47%
Female	51%
Use a different term	1%
Do not know	1%



