# Franklin & Marshall College Poll: February 2024

Topline Report

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**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?

	Headed in right direction	Off on the wrong track	Do not know
Feb 2024	37%	48%	15%
Oct 2023	35%	55%	10%
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%





MIP\_PA. What do you think is the most important problem facing Pennsylvania today?

	Feb	Oct	Aug	Apr	Oct	Sep	Aug	May	Apr	Mar	Oct	Aug	Jun	Mar
	2024	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2021	2021	2021	2021
Economy, finances	15%	18%	19%	15%	28%	21%	19%	14%		18%	7%	5%	3%	5%
Government, politicians	11%	18%	11%	17%	17%	23%	22%		20%	19%		20%	30%	27%
Unemployment, personal					,								_	
finances	10%	6%	3%	5%	3%	4%	6%	6%	5%	3%	10%	8%	12%	6%
Crime, drugs, violence,	00/	0/	0/	07	07	0/	604	- 07	- 07	<i>(</i> 0 <i>(</i>	.07	07	0/	.07
guns	8%	13%	10%	19%	10%	10%	6%	9%	9%	6%	4%	7%	5%	1%
Taxes	8%	5%	7%	5%	6%	4%	7%	8%	8%	9%	6%	7%	8%	5%
Education, school	5%	8%	8%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%	2%	3%	5%
Roads, infrastructure,		00/	00/									00/		
transportation	3%	3%	2%	5%	1%	3%	2%	5%	5%	5%	4%	3%	3%	4%
Social issues	3%	3%	2%	3%	1%	1%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%
Civil liberties	3%	2%	1%	2%	6%	6%	5%	1%	1%	5%	7%	6%	3%	0%
Environment	3%	1%	4%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%
Housing and real estate	3%	1%	4%	2%	0%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Immigration	3%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%
Election integrity	2%	2%	0%	1%	4%	1%	4%	2%	3%	4%	2%	4%	0%	0%
Values, morals	1%	1%	4%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%
Energy issues, gas prices	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	3%	2%	4%	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%	0%
Healthcare, insurance	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	3%	1%	1%	1%
Senior issues, social	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%
security	1/0	1/0	1/0	070	1/0	1/0	1/0	070	070	1/0	1/0	070	1/0	1/0
Personal illness, health	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
problems	1/0	1/0	070	070	070	070	070	070	070	070	070	070	070	070
Retaining, attracting	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
businesses			170			070	070	070	070		070	070		
Donald Trump	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Welfare	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%
Justice system, lawyers	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%
Racism	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%	3%	1%
Population, urban sprawl	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Bipartisanship	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	1%	0%
Conspiracy theories,	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
misinformation														
COVID-19	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	1%	1%	3%	7%	17%	7%	31%
Global events	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Joe Biden	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
The governor	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Other	7%	5%	8%	3%	6%	4%	5%	7%	7%	8%	6%	5%	7%	5%
Do not know	9%	8%	9%	7%	4%	5%	8%	8%	7%	8%	9%	4%	5%	3%





**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
Feb 2024	15%	47%	37%	0%
Oct 2023	11%	50%	39%	0%
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%

**FinTodayWhy.** What is the main reason you are worse off financially?

Feb 2024	
n=318	
38%	Inflation
19%	Cost of living
7%	Cost of food, specifically
7%	Wages are stagnant
5%	Cost of goods & necessities
5%	Taxes
4%	Unemployed, laid off, lost job
4%	Bad Democratic policies, Biden
4%	Senior, fixed income, Social Security inadequate
2%	Student loan debt
2%	Cost of housing, specifically
1%	Economy
4%	Other





**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
Feb 2024	22%	24%	40%	15%
Oct 2023	15%	35%	40%	10%
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%

Now I'd like to ask you a few questions dealing with state issues.

**SG1.** Skill games are video gaming machines that resemble digital slot machines or video gaming terminals. These games can be played in gas stations, convenience stores, fraternal clubs, bars, and gaming parlors. Skill games are not currently regulated or taxed by the state in the same ways that casino games are. Would you favor or oppose having these skill games regulated and taxed by the state like casino-based games?

	Feb 2024
Strongly favor	36%
Somewhat favor	24%
Somewhat oppose	14%
Strongly oppose	17%
Do not know	11%





**SG2.** Some state legislators want to ban skill games completely. Would you favor or oppose banning skill games in Pennsylvania?

	Feb 2024
Strongly favor	17%
Somewhat favor	15%
Somewhat oppose	27%
Strongly oppose	29%
Do not know	12%

**SG3.** If it were up to you, would you completely ban skill games in the state, impose taxes and regulations on skill games similar to the regulations for games played in casinos, or would you allow skill games to continue to be unregulated in the state as they are now?

	Feb 2024
Completely ban skill games	16%
Impose taxes and regulations on skill games	51%
Allow skill games to continue to be unregulated	24%
Do not know	9%

Legal\_MJ1. Do you think the use of recreational marijuana should be made legal, or not?

	Feb 2024
Definitely yes	44%
Probably yes	19%
Probably no	11%
Definitely no	22%
Do not know	3%

**EV1.** Pennsylvania lawmakers have proposed charging owners of electric vehicles a \$290 annual fee to help fund construction and maintenance of the state's roads and bridges. Lawmakers estimate \$290 is the amount in average annual gas taxes paid by owners of gas-powered vehicles. Do you favor or oppose charging an annual fee to owners of electric vehicles to help fund construction and maintenance on the state's roads?

	Feb 2024
Strongly favor	42%
Somewhat favor	17%
Somewhat oppose	13%
Strongly oppose	25%
Do not know	3%





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

	Feb 2024
Yes	100%

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

	Feb 2024
Republican	39%
Democrat	43%
Independent or Something else	17%
Do not know	1%

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

Feb 2024	Strongly	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strongly	Don't
1 60 2024	favorable	favorable	unfavorable	unfavorable	know
Donald Trump	23%	16%	7%	<b>53</b> %	1%
Joe Biden	17%	24%	12%	45%	1%
Bob Casey	15%	24%	15%	16%	31%
David McCormick	8%	15%	9%	14%	55%

**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
Feb 2024	20%	28%	30%	14%	9%
Oct 2023	19%	30%	24%	18%	8%
Aug 2023	18%	29%	25%	15%	13%
Apr 2023	15%	28%	23%	13%	21%





**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
Feb 2024	10%	25%	24%	21%	20%
Oct 2023	12%	24%	21%	22%	21%
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%

**RateSenJF.** How would you rate the way that John Fetterman 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
Feb 2024	10%	21%	24%	34%	10%





**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?

	Excellent job	Good job	Only a fair job	Poor job	Don't know
Feb 2024	11%	21%	16%	51%	1%
Oct 2023	13%	17%	19%	51%	1%
Aug 2023	9%	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%





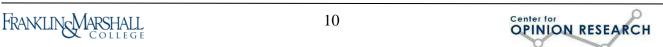
#### Respondents were shown either PRES24 or PRES24\_ALL at random.

**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?

	Feb 2024
	n=507
Joe Biden	43%
Donald Trump	42%
Someone else	12%
Do not know	2%

**PRES24\_ALL.** If the 2024 election for President were being held today and the candidates were (rotate: Joe Biden, the Democrat, Donald Trump, the Republican, Jill Stein, the Green, Robert Kennedy Jr., the Independent) would you vote for....?

	Feb 2024
	n=492
Joe Biden	42%
Donald Trump	37%
Jill Stein	2%
Robert Kennedy Jr.	8%
Someone else	7%
Do not know	5%



**IntDesPres.** Regardless of how you plan to vote, who do you think is best described by each of the following statements? Do you think Joe Biden or Donald Trump:

Feb 2024	Joe Biden	Donald Trump	Both	Neither	Do not know
Best understands the concerns of ordinary					
Americans?					
Feb 2024	40%	39%	1%	20%	1%
Oct 2023	42%	41%	0%	17%	1%
Is most prepared to handle the economy?					
Feb 2024	37%	47%	1%	13%	2%
Oct 2023	38%	49%	1%	11%	2%
Is closest to your views on values issues,					
such as abortion and same-sex marriage?					
Feb 2024	48%	36%	1%	11%	4%
Oct 2023	46%	35%	1%	13%	5%
Will better handle the job of commander					
in chief of the military?					
Feb 2024	40%	43%	0%	15%	3%
Oct 2023	39%	47%	1%	12%	2%
Has the character and good judgment					
needed to be president?	•	1			
Feb 2024	45%	32%	0%	22%	1%
Oct 2023	42%	32%	1%	25%	1%
Is the most honest and trustworthy?					
Feb 2024	44%	27%	1%	26%	2%
Oct 2023	41%	30%	1%	27%	1%
Is too old to serve another term?					
Feb 2024	41%	5%	43%	9%	2%
Oct 2023	41%	4%	43%	10%	2%





# **PRESFEEL.** Would you feel... [fill items] if [randomize Joe Biden / Donald Trump] was reelected as president in November?

#### Hopeful or worried?

Feb 2024	Joe Biden	Donald Trump
Feb 2024	n=462	n=544
Very hopeful	17%	31%
Somewhat hopeful	26%	13%
Somewhat worried	13%	7%
Very worried	43%	47%
Do not know	2%	2%

### Calm or agitated?

Est 2024	Joe Biden	<b>Donald Trump</b>
Feb 2024	n=462	n=544
Very calm	30%	31%
Somewhat calm	24%	15%
Somewhat agitated	13%	11%
Very agitated	28%	40%
Do not know	4%	3%

# Happy or sad?

Feb 2024	Joe Biden	Donald Trump
Feb 2024	n=462	n=544
Very happy	26%	31%
Somewhat happy	21%	14%
Somewhat sad	11%	8%
Very sad	37%	44%
Do not know	5%	4%

**SEN24.** If the 2024 election for U.S. Senate were being held today and the candidates were Bob Casey, the Democrat, and David McCormick, the Republican, would you vote for Bob Casey OR David McCormick?

	Feb 2024	Oct 2023
Bob Casey	47%	46%
David McCormick	35%	39%
Some other candidate	4%	4%
Do not know	14%	12%





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

	Feb 2024
Did not vote	21%
Joe Biden	42%
Donald Trump	36%
Some other candidate	1%

**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?

	Feb 2024	Oct 2023	Aug 2023
Yes, serious crime	59%	56%	58%
No, not a serious crime	36%	40%	35%
Do not know	5%	4%	7%

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

	Feb 2024
Philadelphia & Southeast	32%
Northeast	12%
Allegheny & Southwest	19%
Northwest	8%
Central	29%

**AGE.** What was your age on your last birthday?

	Feb 2024
Under 35	21%
35-54	34%
Over 55	45%

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

	Feb 2024
High school graduate or less	22%
Some college	36%
College degree	42%





**MAR.** What is your current marital status?

	Feb 2024
Married	59%
Single, never married	26%
Not currently married	15%

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

	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Don't know
Feb 2024	26%	35%	35%	4%
Oct 2023	25%	37%	33%	4%
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%

**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?

	Feb 2024
Strong Republican	23%
Republican	7%
Lean Republican	11%
Independent	11%
Lean Democrat	13%
Democrat	9%
Strong Democrat	23%
Do not know	2%





## **GUN.** Are you a gun owner?

	Feb 2024
Yes	36%
No	64%

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

	Strongly	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strongly	Don't
	favor	favor	oppose	oppose	know
Feb 2024	46%	15%	12%	25%	2%
Oct 2023	43%	15%	14%	27%	1%
Aug 2023	43%	16%	12%	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?

	Feb 2024
White	81%
Non-white	19%

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

	Feb 2024
Protestant	25%
Catholic	26%
Some other religion	17%
Not affiliated with any religion	32%
Do not know	0%





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

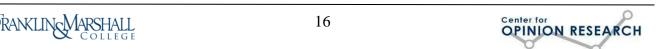
	Feb 2024
Yes	21%
No	77%
Don't know	2%

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

	Legal under any			Don't
	circumstances	circumstances	circumstances	know
Feb 2024	40%	50%	8%	2%
Oct 2023	33%	56%	9%	2%
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?

	Feb 2024
Full-time	54%
Retired	28%
Part-time	7%
Something else	3%
Going to school	3%
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?

	Feb 2024
Under \$25,000	8%
\$25-\$35,000	8%
\$35-50,000	14%
\$50-75,000	19%
\$75-100,000	14%
Over \$100,000	36%
Don't know	2%

**Gender.** What is your current gender?

	Feb 2024
Male	47%
Female	52%
Transgender	1%
Use a different term	1%





**DESME.** The following statements describe different people. Please [read/listen to] each description and think about how much the person described is or is not like you.

Feb 2024	Very much like me	Somewhat like me	Not much like me	Not like me at all	Don't know
[John/Joan] thinks it is important that every person in the world be treated equally.	68%	24%	4%	3%	1%
It is important to [John/Joan] to listen to people who are different from him/her.	69%	27%	2%	1%	1%
It is important to [John/Joan] to be loyal to his/her friends.	78%	21%	1%	0%	0%
Religious belief is important to [John/Joan].	35%	26%	16%	22%	1%
[John/Joan] believes promoting peace among all groups in the world is important.	68%	26%	4%	1%	1%
[John/Joan] thinks it is best to keep up the customs and traditions (s)he has learned.	34%	44%	15%	5%	2%
It is important to [John/Joan] to respond to the needs and offer support to those (s)he knows.	70%	29%	1%	0%	1%
[John/Joan] thinks it is important to protect the weak in society, even people (s)he doesn't know.	64%	29%	4%	1%	2%



