



My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I'm calling from OTR, a national opinion research firm. This is not a sales call, and I won't ask you for a contribution or donation. We're talking with people like yourself today about important issues in your area, and we'd like to ask you a few questions on a confidential basis.

1. Are you at least 18 years old and registered to vote at this address?  
With which political party are you registered to vote?

REGISTERED-Democrat .....	55%
REGISTERED-Republican .....	35
REGISTERED-Independent.....	8
REGISTERED-Other.....	2
No .....	-
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	-

X1. Do you currently work for an elected official or candidate for political office in any capacity?

Yes .....	-
No .....	100
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	-

X2. Do you currently work as a member of the news media?

Yes .....	-
No .....	100
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	-

2A. In general, would you say that things in your area of Pennsylvania are headed in the right direction or would you say things are off on the wrong track?

Right direction.....	37%
Wrong track .....	50
<b>VOL:</b> (Neither).....	9
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	4

2B. And in general, would you say that things in Pennsylvania as a whole are headed in the right direction or would you say things are off on the wrong track?

Right direction.....	46%
Wrong track .....	37
<b>VOL:</b> (Neither).....	12
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	5

3A. What would you say is the most important problem facing your area of Pennsylvania today that you would like your state legislator in Harrisburg to work on?

Jobs/unemployment .....	23%	High cost of living .....	2
Taxes .....	21	The environment.....	2
Health care/hospitals.....	10	Economy generally .....	1
Schools/education .....	7	Declining morals .....	1
Crime/Drugs .....	7	Iraq/The war.....	1
Immigration/migrant workers.....	5	Campaign finance reform .....	1
Traffic/Transportation .....	5	(Other) .....	2
Overdevelopment/land use/zoning.....	4	(Don't know/Refused) .....	5

3B. Of the following issues, if you had to pick just one, what is the most important issue for your elected officials in Harrisburg to work on?

Reducing property taxes .....	31%
Increasing access to affordable health insurance .....	26
Improving our public schools.....	12
Repairing our roads and bridges .....	8
Reforming how the state legislature operates .....	6
Crime and gun violence .....	5
Reducing heating and electricity costs .....	4
Cleaning up the environment .....	3
Cutting welfare costs .....	1
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	4

Now I'm going to read you the names of some public figures and groups. For each, please tell me if you have a strongly favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or strongly unfavorable opinion of them. If you haven't heard of them, please tell me and we'll move on.

	FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE		(Heard of, can't rate)	(NH)	(DK/Ref.)	NET		
	Strong	Some	Some	Strong				FAV	UNFAV	FAMILIAR
• Ed Rendell.....	27%	36	17	16	3	1	*	63%	33	96
• Democrats in Harrisburg .....	20%	37	14	12	13	2	3	57%	26	83
• Republicans in Harrisburg .....	9%	29	23	19	15	2	4	37%	42	79
• George W. Bush .....	14%	19	12	52	3	-	1	33%	63	96

8. How would you rate the job the state legislature in Harrisburg is doing as a whole? Do you approve or disapprove of the way it is handling its job?

Strongly approve .....	17%
Somewhat approve.....	38
Somewhat disapprove.....	23
Strongly disapprove.....	12
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused).....	10
APPROVE (NET).....	55%
DISAPPROVE (NET).....	34

For each of the following, tell me if you think Democrats or Republicans in the state legislature would do better on the issue in terms of how you want the issue handled. Tell me which one you think would do better on that particular issue no matter who you plan to vote for.

	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>(Both)</u>	<u>(Neither)</u>	<u>(DK/Ref.)</u>
• Cleaning up the environment .....	57%	16	6	12	10
• Health insurance and health care .....	48%	22	3	14	12
• Property taxes .....	44%	24	6	13	13
• Education .....	44%	26	8	9	13
• Jobs and the economy .....	41%	32	7	12	8
• Reforming state government.....	39%	28	8	12	12
• Crime and gun violence .....	34%	31	9	15	11

Now I am going to read you a list of some groups in Pennsylvania. Please tell me which of the two major parties in the Pennsylvania state legislature, the Democratic Party or the Republican Party, do you think does a better job representing that group. If you think neither party does a better job, just tell me and we'll move on.

	<u>Democratic Party</u>	<u>Republican Party</u>	<u>(Both)</u>	<u>(Neither)</u>	<u>(DK/Ref.)</u>
• Seniors.....	52%	13	10	17	8
• Children .....	46%	17	9	17	11
• People who work for a living.....	46%	18	5	20	11
• People like you.....	44%	20	5	22	9
• Couples working to buy a home.....	37%	16	4	25	18
• People who live in the suburbs.....	32%	26	5	18	19
• Businesses .....	26%	41	6	14	13

16A. Reform has become an important issue in state government. Which of the following areas of reform do you believe is most important?

Reforming the health care and insurance system.....	49%
Reforming the tax system to reduce property taxes.....	31
Reforming the state legislature and how it operates .....	18
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused).....	2

16B. Please tell me which of the following two statements you agree with most.

Statement A - Strongly .....	37%
Statement A - Somewhat .....	19
Statement B - Strongly .....	24
Statement B - Somewhat .....	10
<b>VOL:</b> (Neither/Both equally).....	5
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused).....	6

STATEMENT A: State government needs to be reformed completely to increase openness and citizen participation. We should hold a Constitutional Convention to rewrite how Pennsylvania government operates, especially the legislature, where it is possible to pass pay raises and the perks are too generous.

A (NET).....	55%
B (NET).....	34

OR

STATEMENT B: State government needs to change, but a Constitutional Convention is too radical. Re-writing the Constitution through a convention will be too expensive and will make it easier for extreme groups to change our laws regarding taxes, guns, abortion, marriage, and immigration.

Changing topics a bit...

<p>17. Please tell me which of the following two statements you agree with most.</p> <p>STATEMENT A: We cannot afford higher taxes, and Pennsylvania already spends enough on education if it would just get spent more wisely.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>STATEMENT B: Schools are too important, so we need to invest more money in education even if it means higher taxes.</p>	<p>Statement A - Strongly ..... 54%</p> <p>Statement A - Somewhat ..... 10</p> <p>Statement B - Strongly ..... 22</p> <p>Statement B - Somewhat ..... 8</p> <p><b>VOL:</b> (Neither/Both equally) ..... 4</p> <p><b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) ..... 1</p> <p>A (NET) ..... 65%</p> <p>B (NET) ..... 31</p>
<p>18. Who do you think is the most responsible for rising property taxes in Pennsylvania?</p>	<p>Local school boards ..... 41%</p> <p>State legislature in general ..... 21</p> <p>Governor Rendell ..... 11</p> <p>Republicans in Harrisburg ..... 9</p> <p>Democrats in Harrisburg ..... 6</p> <p><b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) ..... 12</p>
<p>19. School property taxes generate an estimated \$12 billion each year to fund public education. If property taxes could be eliminated, which of the following taxes would you rather have increased to make up the difference?</p>	<p>Some combination of all these taxes ..... 42%</p> <p>State Sales tax ..... 30</p> <p>Business taxes ..... 8</p> <p>State income tax ..... 8</p> <p>Taxes when real estate is transferred to a new owner .... 3</p> <p><b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) ..... 8</p>
<p>20. Please tell me which of the following two statements you agree with most.</p> <p>STATEMENT A: In order to lower property taxes, we should combine school districts to reduce duplicate costs for things like administrative salaries and maintenance.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>STATEMENT B: Combining school districts is a bad idea because we lose local control over how our children are educated and our tax dollars are spent.</p>	<p>Statement A - Strongly ..... 33%</p> <p>Statement A - Somewhat ..... 14</p> <p>Statement B - Strongly ..... 32</p> <p>Statement B - Somewhat ..... 13</p> <p><b>VOL:</b> (Neither/Both equally) ..... 5</p> <p><b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) ..... 3</p> <p>A (NET) ..... 47%</p> <p>B (NET) ..... 44</p>
<p>21A. Do you support or oppose using slot machines as a way to generate revenue to increase the state's share of education funding and to lower property taxes?</p>	<p>Strongly support ..... 53%</p> <p>Somewhat support ..... 18</p> <p>Somewhat oppose ..... 10</p> <p>Strongly oppose ..... 15</p> <p><b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) ..... 4</p> <p>SUPPORT (NET) ..... 72%</p> <p>OPPOSE (NET) ..... 25</p>
<p>21B. Slot machines in Pennsylvania are expected to generate more than one billion dollars each year which will be used to reduce your property taxes. Would you support or oppose adding additional casino games such as poker, blackjack or craps if the money were to be used to reduce property taxes further?</p>	<p>Strongly support ..... 58%</p> <p>Somewhat support ..... 16</p> <p>Somewhat oppose ..... 5</p> <p>Strongly oppose ..... 19</p> <p><b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) ..... 2</p> <p>SUPPORT (NET) ..... 74%</p> <p>OPPOSE (NET) ..... 24</p>
<p>22A. Governor Rendell has proposed increasing the sales tax from 6 to 7%. Part of the increase would be used for immediate property tax cuts. The rest would go toward balancing the state's budget. Do you support or oppose the Governor's proposal?</p>	<p>Strongly support ..... 36%</p> <p>Somewhat support ..... 28</p> <p>Somewhat oppose ..... 9</p> <p>Strongly oppose ..... 23</p> <p><b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) ..... 4</p> <p>SUPPORT (NET) ..... 64%</p> <p>OPPOSE (NET) ..... 32</p>
<p>22B. Governor Rendell has proposed increasing the sales tax from 6 to 7%. Part of the increase would be used for immediate property tax cuts. The rest would go toward balancing the state's budget, increasing the state's share of education funding by 3.5% and, paying for education programs like full-day kindergarten and smaller class sizes. Do you support or oppose the Governor's proposal?</p>	<p>Strongly support ..... 37%</p> <p>Somewhat support ..... 29</p> <p>Somewhat oppose ..... 9</p> <p>Strongly oppose ..... 20</p> <p><b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) ..... 4</p> <p>SUPPORT (NET) ..... 66%</p> <p>OPPOSE (NET) ..... 30</p>

23. This spring, in conjunction with the Primary election, school districts in Pennsylvania, with the exception of Scranton, are giving voters the choice to increase the local income tax in exchange for dollar for dollar decreases in property taxes. Do support or oppose increasing the local income tax to lower property taxes?

Strongly support .....	24%
Somewhat support.....	28
Somewhat oppose.....	13
Strongly oppose.....	24
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	12
SUPPORT (NET).....	52%
OPPOSE (NET).....	37

24. Which of the following would you say is the most important health care issue?

The cost of prescription drugs .....	22%
Access to health care by those with no insurance coverage.....	18
The quality of healthcare and access to doctors for individuals in Pennsylvania .....	13
The cost of malpractice insurance for doctors .....	11
The cost of healthcare insurance paid by employers.....	10
The cost of nursing home care for the elderly .....	9
Health care coverage for children .....	9
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	8

25A. In order build world class health and research facilities all over Pennsylvania, Governor Rendell has a plan to use a portion of the money the state received from tobacco companies in a successful lawsuit. Supporters of the Governor's plan say it would result in over 15,000 new jobs and make Pennsylvania a leader in health care research. Opponents say it would divert money away from established programs that are already doing valuable medical research. Do you support or oppose the Governor's plan?

Strongly support .....	37%
Somewhat support.....	31
Somewhat oppose.....	9
Strongly oppose.....	14
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	9
SUPPORT (NET).....	68%
OPPOSE (NET).....	23

25B. There has been a great deal of concern about the cost of medical malpractice for doctors. Which of the following do you believe would be most effective in reducing the cost of medical malpractice in Pennsylvania?

Setting up a new process to deal with minor malpractice claims and dismiss those with no merit .....	44%
Limiting the fee a patient's attorney can receive from a settlement .....	26
Placing caps on the amount a patient can receive for negligence or malpractice .....	22
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	8

26. Governor Rendell has proposed a program to make sure all uninsured Pennsylvanians would be able to purchase affordable health insurance - no matter what their employment status or income level. The state would help pay for some of the monthly premium of \$280, even for middle income adults. In order to pay for the program, the Governor proposes a new tax for businesses that do not provide insurance to their employees that would be equal to 3 percent of the businesses' payroll. Do you support or oppose the Governor's proposal?

Strongly support .....	43%
Somewhat support.....	27
Somewhat oppose.....	10
Strongly oppose.....	13
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	7
SUPPORT (NET).....	69%
OPPOSE (NET).....	23

27. For which of the following reasons do you oppose the Governors proposal?

I disagree with increasing taxes on businesses .....	40%
I don't think the government should mandate health insurance .....	34
I already have health insurance through my job .....	15
<b>VOL:</b> (Other) .....	4
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	6

28A. Governor Rendell has proposed a statewide smoking ban for the workplace, restaurants, casinos and most other public places. Do you support or oppose this statewide smoking ban?

Strongly support .....	60%
Somewhat support.....	11
Somewhat oppose.....	12
Strongly oppose.....	15
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	1
SUPPORT (NET).....	71%
OPPOSE (NET).....	27

28B. Do you support or oppose allowing bars and casinos to be exempt from the smoking ban if they purchase a smoking license, with the proceeds to be used for expanded health care for uninsured children?

Strongly support .....	37%
Somewhat support.....	18
Somewhat oppose.....	9
Strongly oppose.....	31
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	5
SUPPORT (NET).....	55%
OPPOSE (NET).....	40

29. Governor Rendell wants to make sure Pennsylvania maintains the health care programs the state currently provides its citizens. He has proposed taxing smokeless tobacco and cigars and increasing the cigarette tax by 10 cents in order to continue paying for these programs. Do you support or oppose raising these taxes?

Strongly support .....	57%
Somewhat support.....	17
Somewhat oppose.....	8
Strongly oppose.....	17
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	2
SUPPORT (NET).....	74%
OPPOSE (NET).....	25

Changing topics again...

30. Governor Rendell has proposed creating an Energy Independence Fund to help lower electricity and heating costs and reduce our dependence on foreign oil. Residential electricity customers would pay on average \$6 more per year to fund programs that help consumers replace old air conditioners and refrigerators, provide incentives for businesses and homes to use solar energy and increase investment in clean energy and efficiency programs. Opponents say electricity costs are already too high and the plan requires the state to borrow too much money to pay for the program. Do you support or oppose this proposal?

Strongly support .....	30%
Somewhat support.....	24
Somewhat oppose.....	15
Strongly oppose.....	23
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	8
SUPPORT (NET).....	54%
OPPOSE (NET).....	38

31. As you may know, big oil companies have had record profits and have been able to shelter most of their profits from Pennsylvania taxes. Governor Rendell has proposed taxing these profits in order to increase state funding for public transportation. Opponents of the proposal say this tax will just be passed along to consumers in the form of higher gasoline prices. Do you support or oppose the Governor's plan?

Strongly support .....	26%
Somewhat support.....	22
Somewhat oppose.....	17
Strongly oppose.....	29
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	6
SUPPORT (NET).....	49%
OPPOSE (NET).....	46

32. Please tell me which of the following two statements you agree with most.

STATEMENT A: Pennsylvania is facing a transportation crisis, with roads and bridges needing repair and public transportation systems needing funding. I am willing to pay more taxes to make our transportation systems safe and reliable.

OR

STATEMENT B: We already pay too many taxes and fees. We cannot afford to spend more money on roads, bridges, and public transportation systems.

Statement A - Strongly .....	25%
Statement A - Somewhat .....	21
Statement B - Strongly .....	29
Statement B - Somewhat .....	16
<b>VOL:</b> (Neither/Both equally).....	5
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	4
A (NET).....	46%
B (NET).....	45

33. If you had to pick just one, which of the following three options do you prefer to pay for maintenance of Pennsylvania's roads and bridges?

Turning more Pennsylvania highways, such as Interstate 80, into toll roads .....	35%
Leasing the Pennsylvania turnpike to a private company.....	28
Increasing the gas tax by 12 and one half cents per gallon and increasing license fees by 17 percent .....	17
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	19

34. Governor Rendell has proposed leasing the turnpike to a private company to pay for repairs to state maintained roads and bridges and to build new roads where necessary. This would generate enough additional income to provide a 133 percent increase in state funds for these projects. Do you support or oppose the Governor's plan to lease the turnpike?

Strongly support .....	32%
Somewhat support.....	24
Somewhat oppose.....	13
Strongly oppose.....	24
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused) .....	7
SUPPORT (NET).....	56%
OPPOSE (NET).....	37

The gas tax provides most of the money for roads and bridges in Pennsylvania. I am going to read you a list of ideas to raise money without increasing the gas tax. For each one, please tell me if you find it very acceptable, somewhat acceptable, or not acceptable as a way to raise money for roads and bridges

	<u>Very acceptable</u>	<u>Somewhat acceptable</u>	<u>Not acceptable</u>	<u>(DK/Ref.)</u>
• Increasing the tax on rental cars.....	45%	32	16	7
• Leasing the Pennsylvania Turnpike to a private company to manage.....	25%	27	44	4
• Paying an annual registration fee based on the value of your car.....	19%	30	48	4
• Increasing other taxes like the sales or income tax and dedicating the money to roads and bridges.....	16%	35	44	4
• Turning more Pennsylvania highways such as Interstate 80 into toll roads.....	15%	33	49	3
• Increasing the Realty Transfer tax, which is paid when you buy or sell a house ...	14%	32	50	4

Changing topics again...

38. How serious a problem is crime and gun violence in Pennsylvania? Is it very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not serious at all?	Very serious.....	45%
	Somewhat serious.....	41
	Not too serious.....	7
	Not serious at all.....	3
	<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused).....	4
	<b>SERIOUS (NET)</b> .....	86%
<b>NOT SERIOUS (NET)</b> .....	10	

39. There are proposals being considered in Harrisburg that attempt to cut back on illegal gun trafficking. Which of the following proposals to do that is your favorite?	Make possession of a stolen gun a felony.....	42%
	Make it mandatory to report to the police theft of a gun..	20
	Allow local communities to pass gun laws tougher than current state law.....	18
	Restrict the purchase of a handgun to one a month.....	8
	<b>VOL:</b> (None of the above).....	6
	<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused).....	5

Changing topics one last time...

40. In dealing with the problem of illegal immigration, some people believe we need to both go after the companies who hire illegal immigrants AND cut off non-emergency state services. Others believe cutting services for illegal immigrants is unnecessary and that the problem can be solved by just going after the companies who hire them. Which side do you agree with: that we need to do both, including cutting off state services, or just go after the companies who hire illegal immigrants?	Cut off services - Strongly.....	43%
	Cut off services - Somewhat.....	11
	Just go after companies - Strongly.....	28
	Just go after companies - Somewhat.....	8
	<b>VOL:</b> (Neither).....	6
	<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused).....	5
<b>CUT OFF SERVICES (NET)</b> .....	54%	
<b>GO AFTER COMPANIES (NET)</b> .....	36	

Now just a few final questions for statistical purposes only.

D100. Gender	Male.....	48%
	Female.....	52

D101. What is your age?	18-24.....	1%
	25-34.....	6
	35-44.....	10
	45-54.....	24
	55-64.....	24
	65+.....	32
<b>VOL:</b> (Refused).....	2	

D102. What is the last grade that you completed in school?	Some grade school.....	1%
	Some high school.....	3
	Graduated high school.....	40
	Technical/Vocational.....	3
	Some college.....	18
	Graduate college.....	23
	Graduate professional.....	11
<b>VOL:</b> (Refused).....	2	
D103. Are you or is any member of your household a member or a retiree of a labor union?	Respondent belongs.....	19%
	Household member belongs.....	12
	No member belongs.....	68
	<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused).....	2
D110. What is your current marital status?	Married.....	73%
	Not married, but living with partner.....	1
	Single, never married.....	9
	Divorced or separated.....	4
	Widowed.....	11
	<b>VOL:</b> (Refused).....	2
D111. Do you or any member of your household own a gun?	Respondent.....	25%
	Household member.....	12
	No member.....	60
	<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused).....	3
D112. How often do you or that member of your household make a gun purchase?	More than once a month.....	3%
	Less than once a month.....	29
	Only purchased the gun I own.....	61
	<b>VOL:</b> (Don't know/Refused).....	7
D150. Which one of the following statements is closest to the way you feel about abortion?	Abortion should be available to any woman who decides she needs to have one.....	26%
	Abortions should be legal only with minor restrictions....	19
	Abortions should be legal but only with severe legal restrictions.....	27
	Abortions should not be legal under any circumstance...	22
	<b>VOL:</b> (Refused).....	6
D200. And may I ask your religious background; is it Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Muslim or something else?	Protestant.....	28%
	Catholic.....	56
	Jewish.....	1
	Muslim.....	-
	<b>VOL:</b> (Mormon/Latter Day Saints).....	*
	<b>VOL:</b> (Christian Scientist).....	2
	<b>VOL:</b> (Other).....	5
<b>VOL:</b> (None/Atheist).....	3	
<b>VOL:</b> (Refused).....	5	
D300. And just to make sure we have a representative sample of voters, could you please tell me your race?	Black/African-American.....	1%
	White/Caucasian.....	95
	Hispanic/Latino.....	1
	Asian-American.....	*
	<b>VOL:</b> (Other).....	1
	<b>VOL:</b> (Refused).....	2
D301. Do you consider yourself a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking American?	Yes.....	1%
	No.....	99
	<b>VOL:</b> (Refused).....	-
D400. Region	Region 1.....	31%
	Region 2.....	26
	Region 3.....	26
	Region 4.....	16