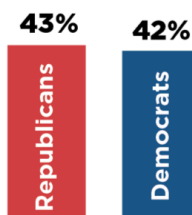


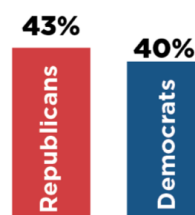
# As Pennsylvania goes, so goes the nation!

October 25, 2021

**The statewide races for Governor and U.S. Senator are both quite competitive**

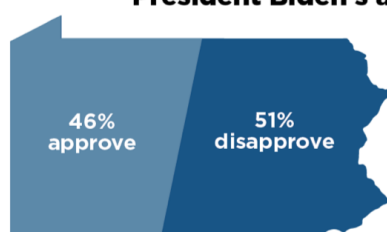


On the Generic Ballot for U.S. Senate, Republicans have a **43%** to **42%** edge



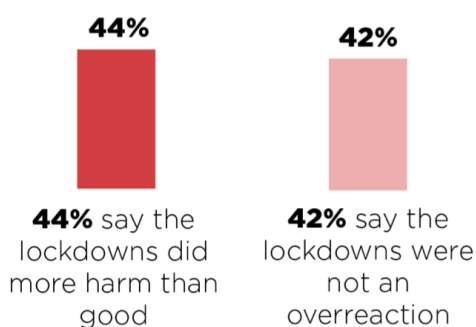
On the Generic Ballot for Governor, Republicans are up **43%** to **40%**

**President Biden's approval is underwater in Pennsylvania**



- Only **23%** Strongly Approve of the president's performance, **43%** Strongly Disapprove.
- If the president's numbers improve, Republicans will face an uphill battle in Pennsylvania.

**Pennsylvania voters are divided over Governor Wolf's COVID response**



## Methodology

Scott Rasmussen polled 1,000 Pennsylvania voters between September 21 and September 26, 2021. Respondents were contacted through a mix of text, phone, and online techniques. He oversampled the following crucial Pennsylvania counties: Allegheny, Bucks, Chester, Lackawanna, Leigh, Northampton.

**Education Reform and Parental Choice**

**59%**

59% are more likely to vote for a candidate who makes parental choice a top priority.

**73%**

Among parents of school aged children, 73% are more likely to support a candidate who prioritizes parental choice.

**88%**

88% believe parents should have the right to see all books and materials used in classes taken by their children.

**74%**

When asked if children should be taught that US history is focused on noble ideals or on racism, 74% say noble ideals; only 15% say racism.

Most voters believe parents should be able to choose another school for their children if they disagree with a school district's decision about mask policy, about in-person learning, or inappropriate teaching.

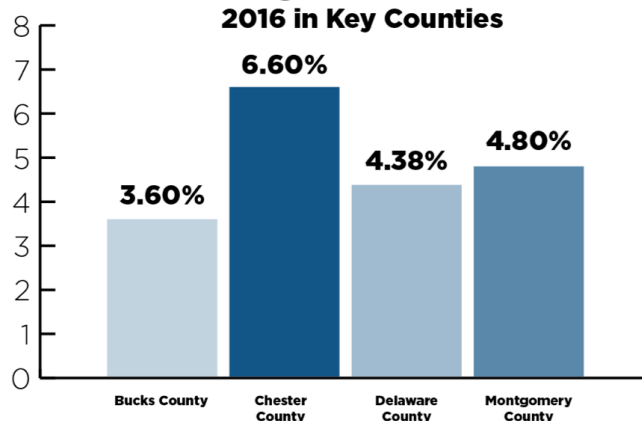
### Election Integrity

- **90%** agree that “it should be easy to vote and hard to cheat.”
- By a **55% to 36%** margin, Pennsylvania voters currently believe the higher priority should be placed on making it harder to cheat.
- **70%** support photo ID requirements and **76%** believe all mail-in ballots should be received by Election Day.

### Pennsylvania: where elections are won or lost

- Only two counties (Erie and Northampton) flipped from President Trump to Biden, and those were won by narrow margins in both 2016 and 2020
- The key is the margin in each county
- Trump ran up the score in small rural counties
- Biden improved on Hillary Clinton’s 2016 performance by 2.55% overall--but by considerably more in the vote-rich Philadelphia suburbs
- The Republican path to victory is to drive up rural turnout path AND get 2016-like numbers in the Philly suburbs (as opposed to 2020-like numbers)

### Biden gains in 2020 from 2016 in Key Counties



### Messaging

- On both Educational and Election Reform issues, disciplined and positive messaging is the key to success.
- **On the education front**, there is a need to recognize and respect the role of School Districts and Elected Officials. At the same time, it is essential that parents be given final say on key questions about their children’s education.
- As school boards set policy, parents should be given the option—at no additional cost—to find a school that meets their children’s needs.
  1. Parents should decide whether their child attends a school where masks are required or optional.
  2. Parents should have the option of sending their child to a school with in-person teaching or some combination that makes sense for the family.
  3. Parents should also have the chance to choose a school that teaches American history in an appropriate and truthful manner.
- Beyond specific policies, parents should be encouraged to get fully involved in their children’s education. It’s important both as a parent and as a citizen to review what their children are being taught and what materials will be used. Positive ways to raise questions and concerns should be encouraged. And, at the end of the day, if a school fails to meet the students’ needs, the parents should have the right to select another school.
- On **election reform**, it’s about creating a system where it’s easy to vote and hard to cheat. Both goals must be acknowledged as important.
- An effective campaign message would focus on two themes: requiring photo ID for all who cast a ballot and receiving all ballots by Election Day.

### Conclusion

The landscape for the 2022 midterm elections in Pennsylvania will be set by the national political dynamics. If the environment remains similar to where things stand today, Republicans are very likely to gain control of the United States House of Representatives. The Senate, however, would be a toss-up and Pennsylvania’s Senate race could determine the balance of power in Washington.

For Republicans to be successful in both the Senate and Governor’s races, quality candidates and disciplined messaging will be essential.