

# Common Ground in the Commonwealth 2023-24 Trends

n800 Registered Pennsylvania Voters Field Dates: 2023: Q1 (March 24 – 29), Q2 (June 16-19), Q3 (September 21-24), Q4 (December 08-12) 2024: Q1 (March 22-26), 2024: Q2 (June 14-19)

#### **BULLFINCH**

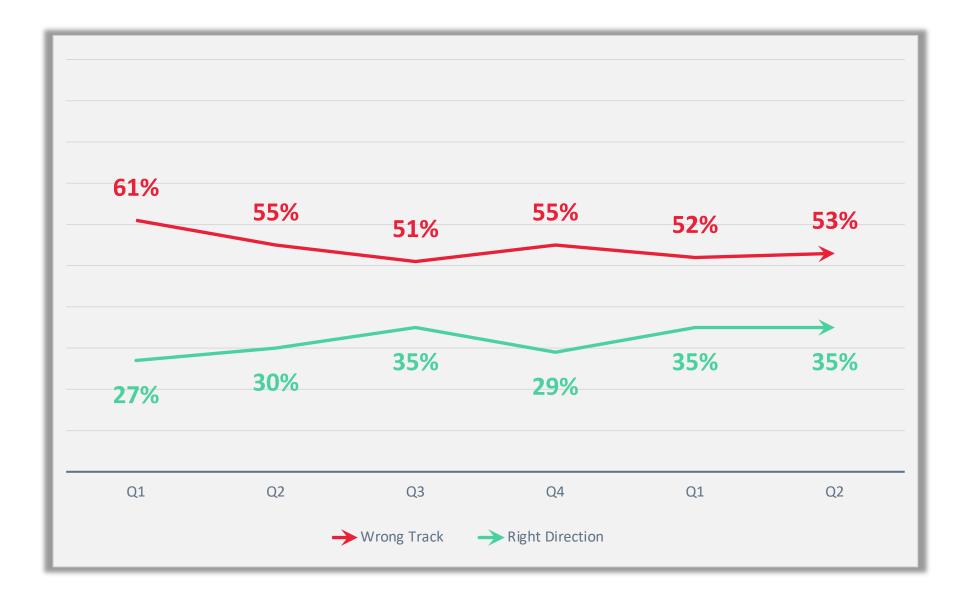
# **Commonwealth Sentiment Series**



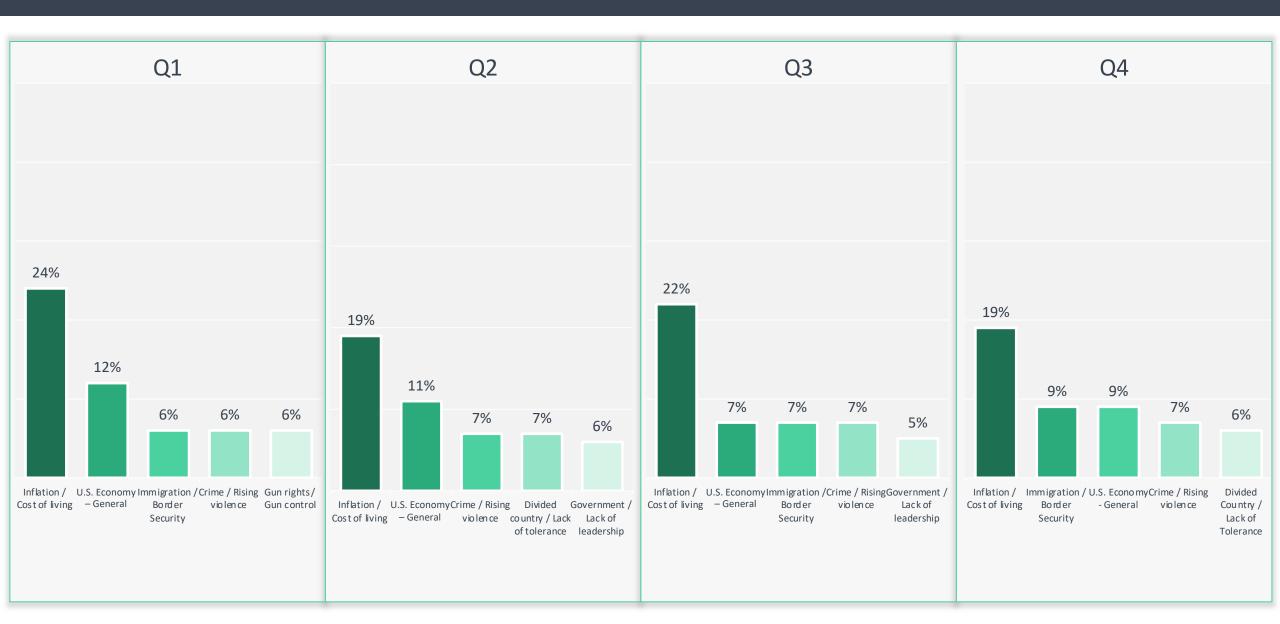
**Direction of the Country:** Would you say that things in **America** are going in the right direction, or has the country fundamentally gotten off on the wrong track?



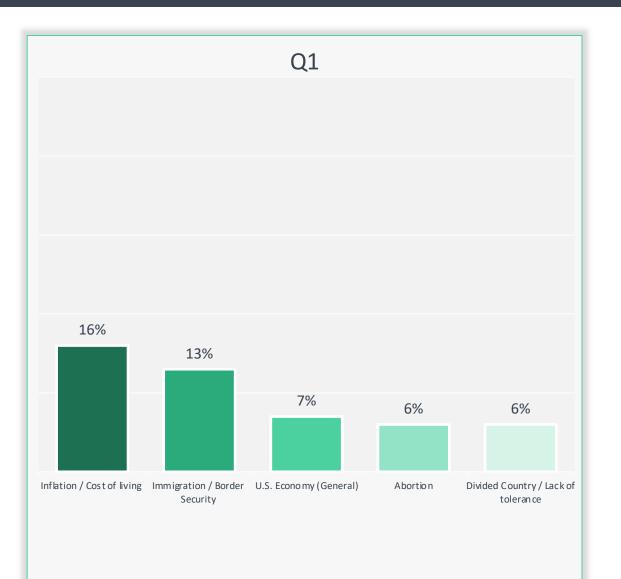
The direction of the country has declined a net negative 10 points over the past year. **Direction of the State:** Would you say that things in **Pennsylvania** are going in the right direction, or has the state fundamentally gotten off on the wrong track?

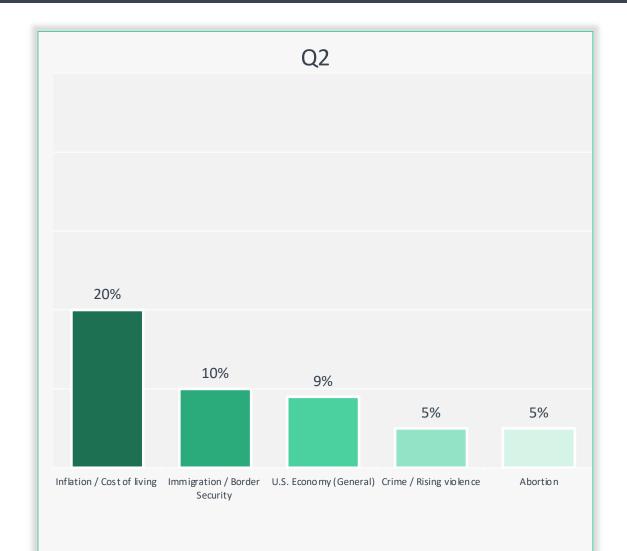


Currently, just over half of Pennsylvanian's believe the Commonwealth has fundamentally gotten off on the wrong track, with those who believe the state is heading in the right direction tying the highs of Q3 (last year) and Q1 this year. **2023 (National) Most Important Problem:** Please rank the three most important problems facing the country today, with 1 being the most important problem facing the country. (Top 5 Rank 1 responses)

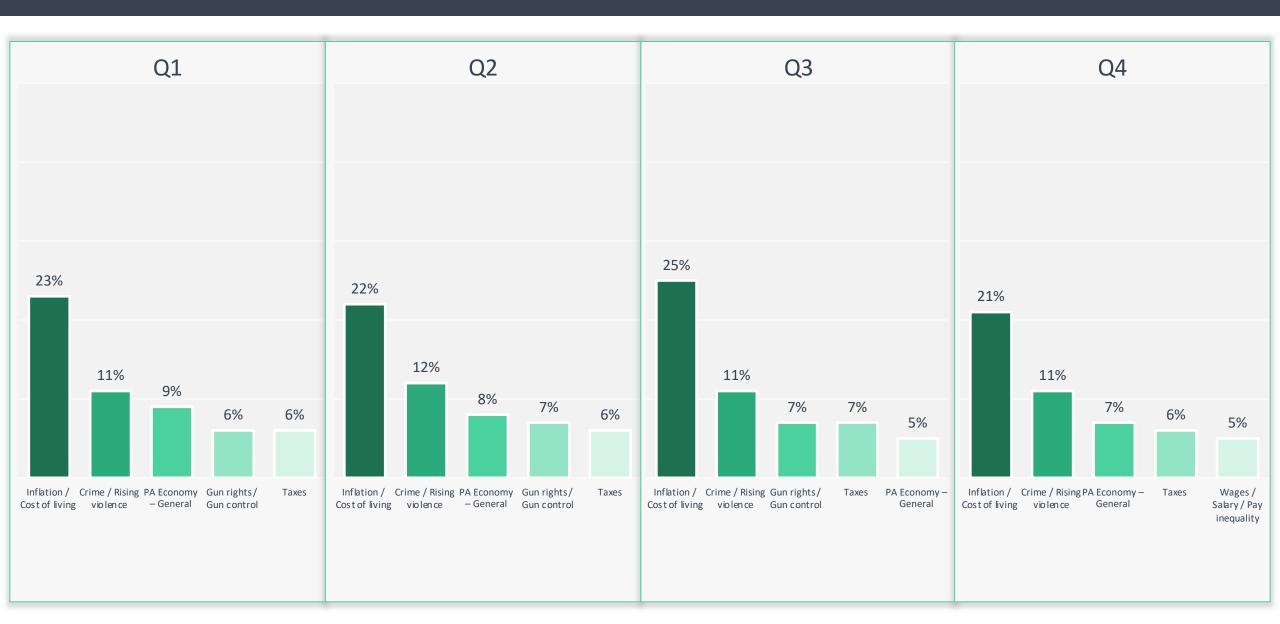


**2024 (National) Most Important Problem:** Please rank the three most important problems facing the country today, with 1 being the most important problem facing the country. (Top 5 Rank 1 responses)

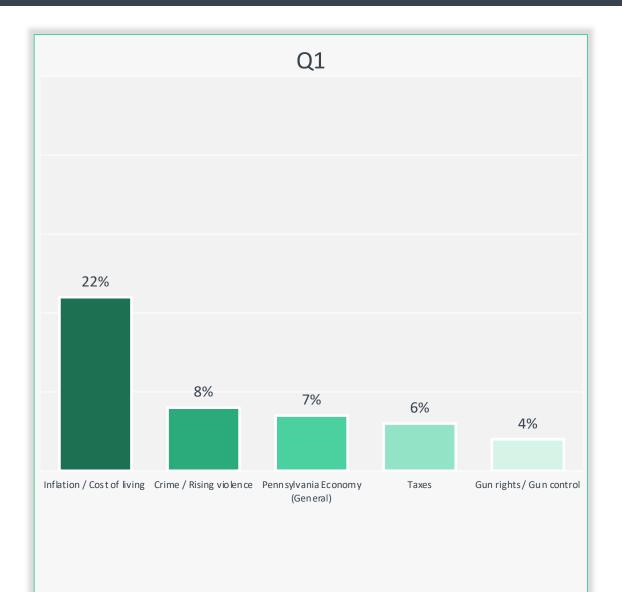


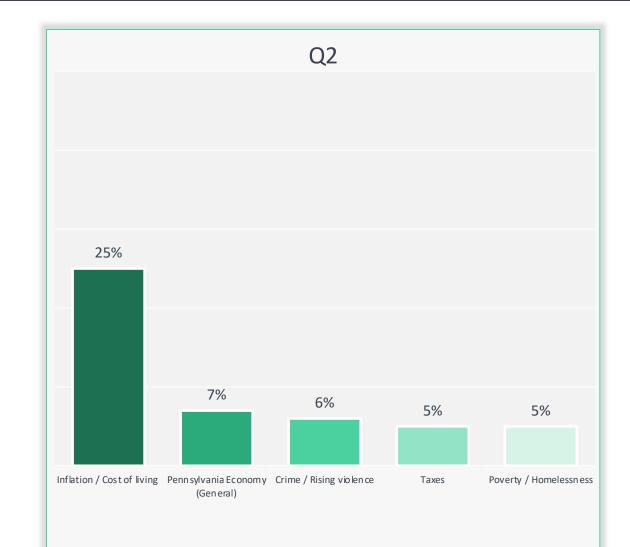


**2023 (PA) Most Important Problem:** Please rank the three most important problems facing Pennsylvania today, with 1 being the most important problem facing the country. (Top 5 Rank 1 responses)



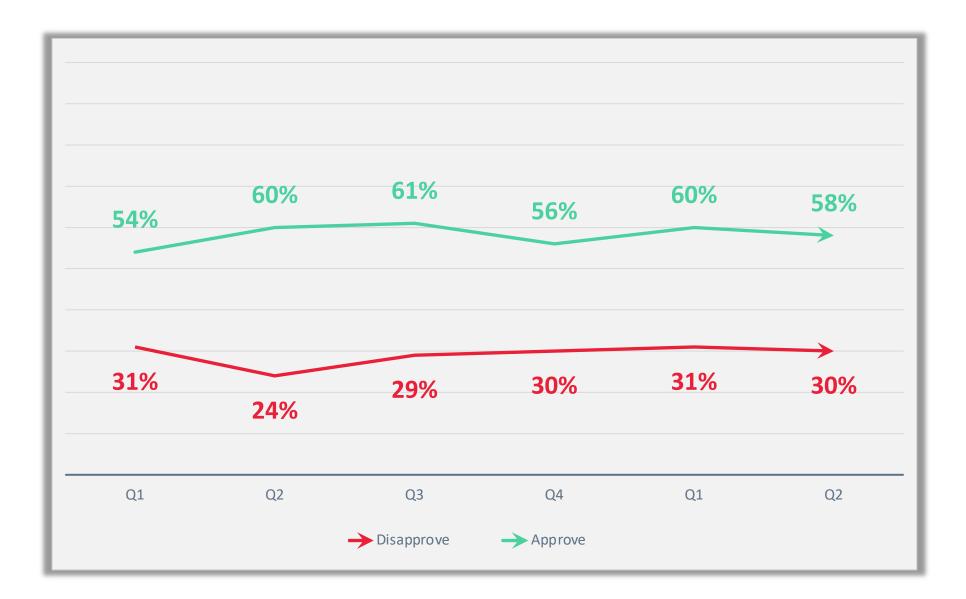
**2024 (PA) Most Important Problem:** Please rank the three most important problems facing Pennsylvania today, with 1 being the most important problem facing the country. (Top 5 Rank 1 responses)





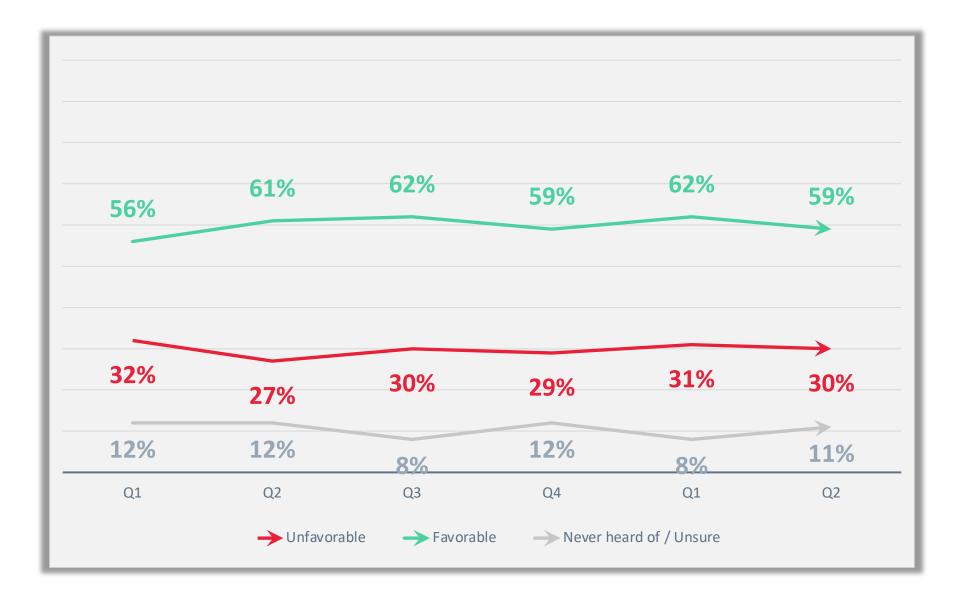
# Pennsylvania Officials Job Approval and Favorability Series





Governor Shapiro's approval rating remains steady, only shifting a net 2 points from Q1 of this year.

# Governor Josh Shapiro Favorability



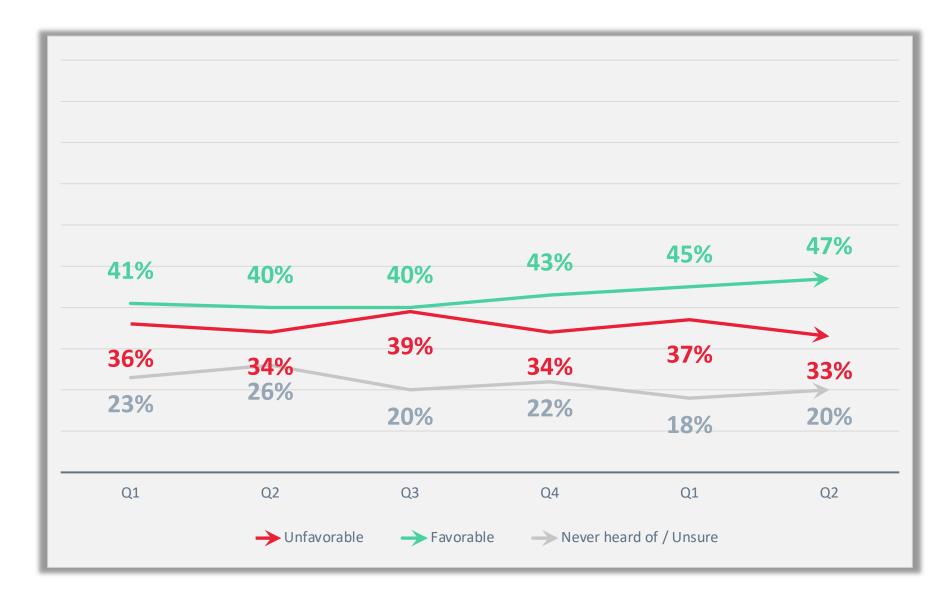
**Governor Josh Shapiro Accomplishments:** Do you feel Governor Shapiro delivered major accomplishments during his first year in office?



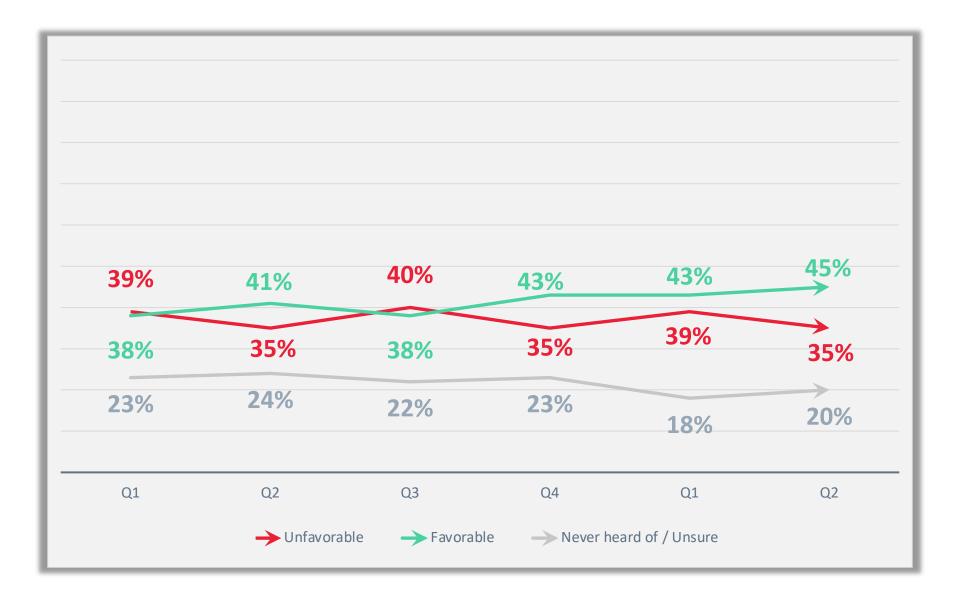
Pennsylvania Entities Favorability Series



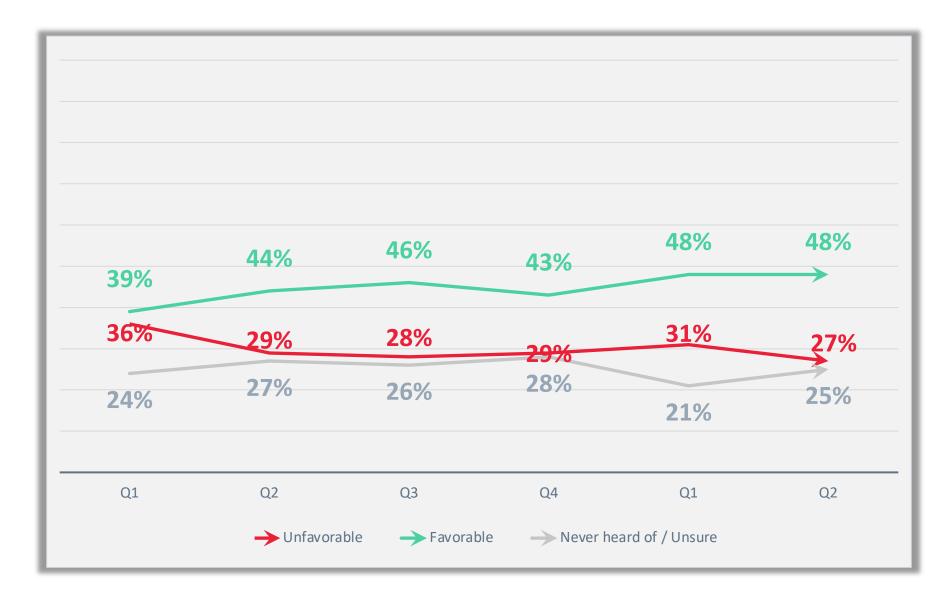
# PA House of Representatives Favorability



# PA State Senate Favorability



# PA Supreme Court Favorability

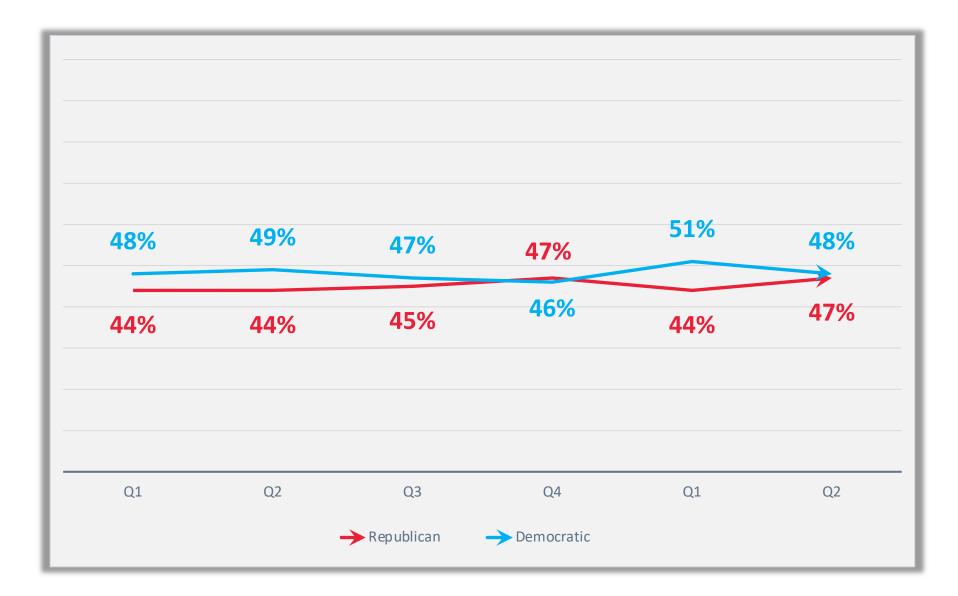


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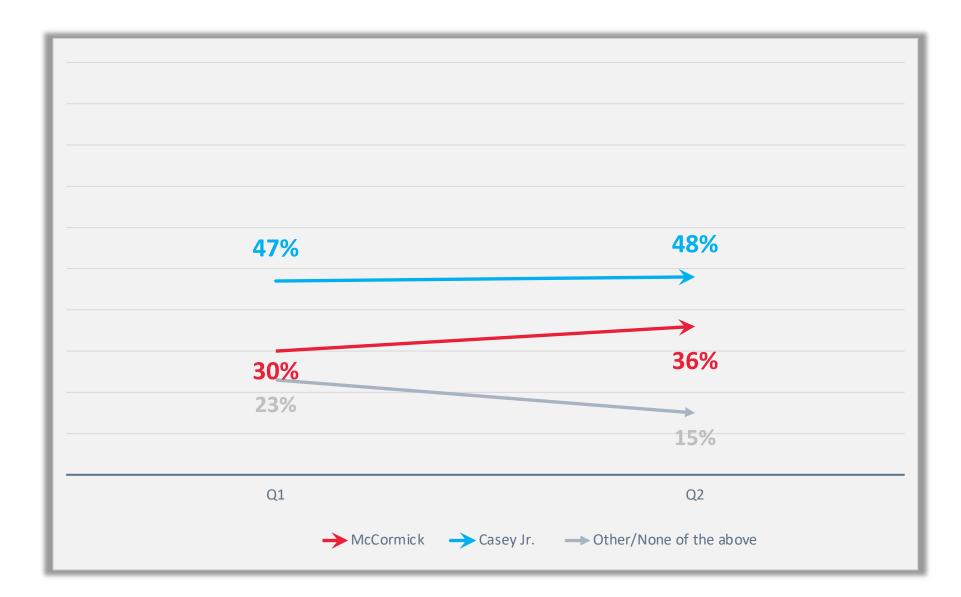
# Federal Electoral Series



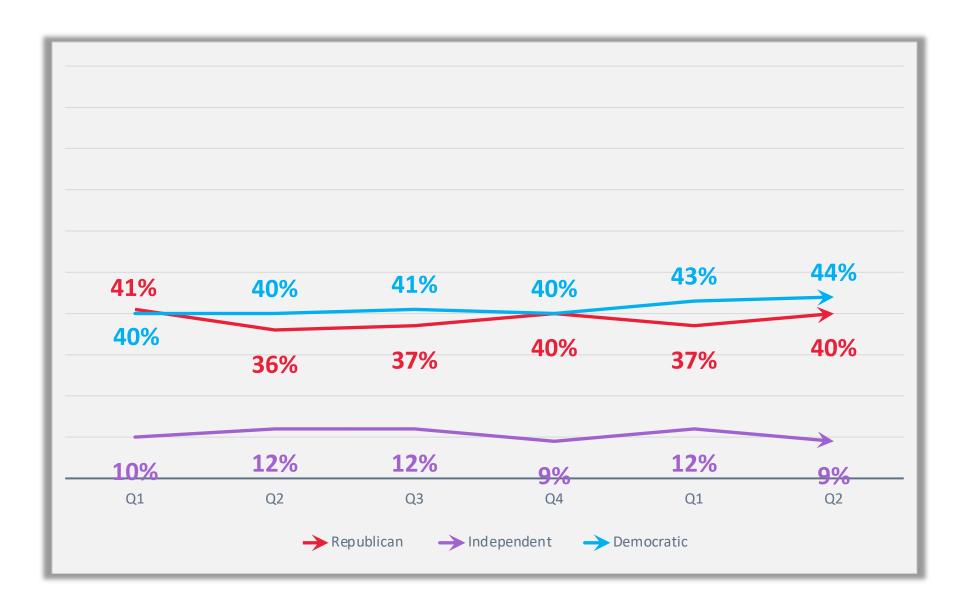
**Generic Presidential Ballot:** If the 2024 presidential elections were held today, how would you vote if your options were between a Republican or Democratic candidate?



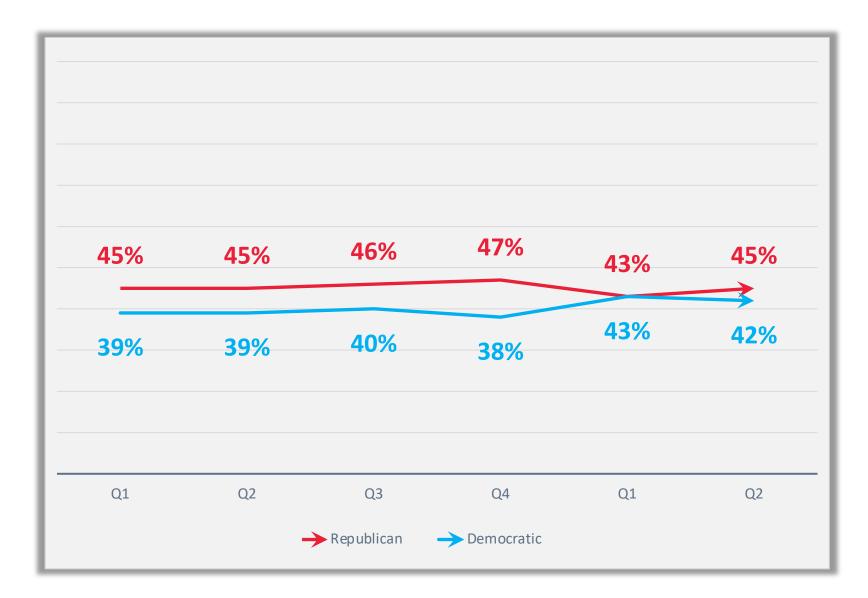
Leading into the first general election Presidential debate and the two party's conventions; the Presidential race in Pennsylvania is now neck-in-neck. **Pennsylvania U.S. Senate Ballot:** If the 2024 U.S. Senate election was held today, which of the following individuals would you vote for?



McCormick gained 6 points of support over the past quarter, at the same time, Bob Casey Jr. gained 1-point. **Best Candidate:** Which of the following do you think would be the best candidate to represent you and your neighbors in Congress?



The generic Democratic congressional candidate saw a 1point gain from Q1, while the Republican candidate saw a 3point gain as the election draws closer and residents begin choosing a side/candidate.



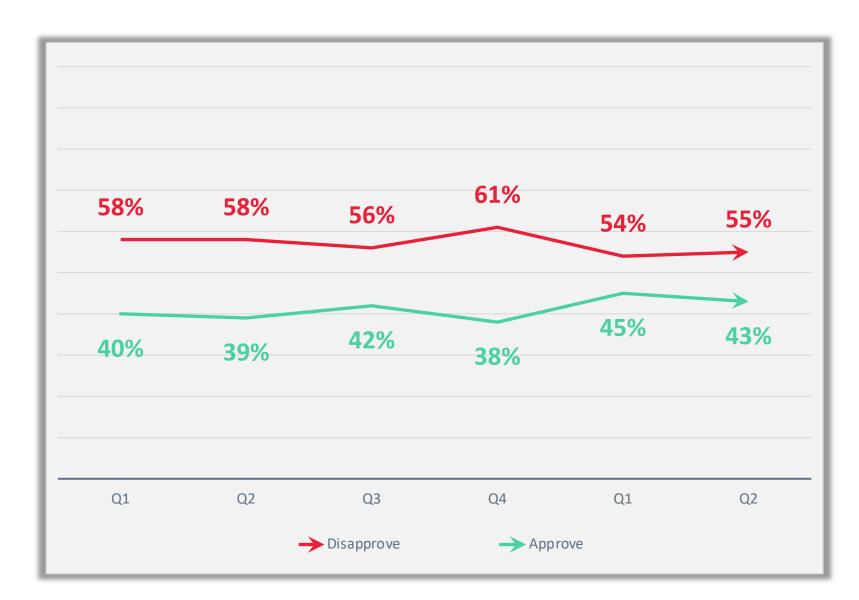
Sentiment regarding which political party's policies would do better for the economy have narrowed favored the Republican platform this quarter – splitting from the Q1 'even' sentiment seen earlier this

year.

# Federal Officials Job Approval and Favorability

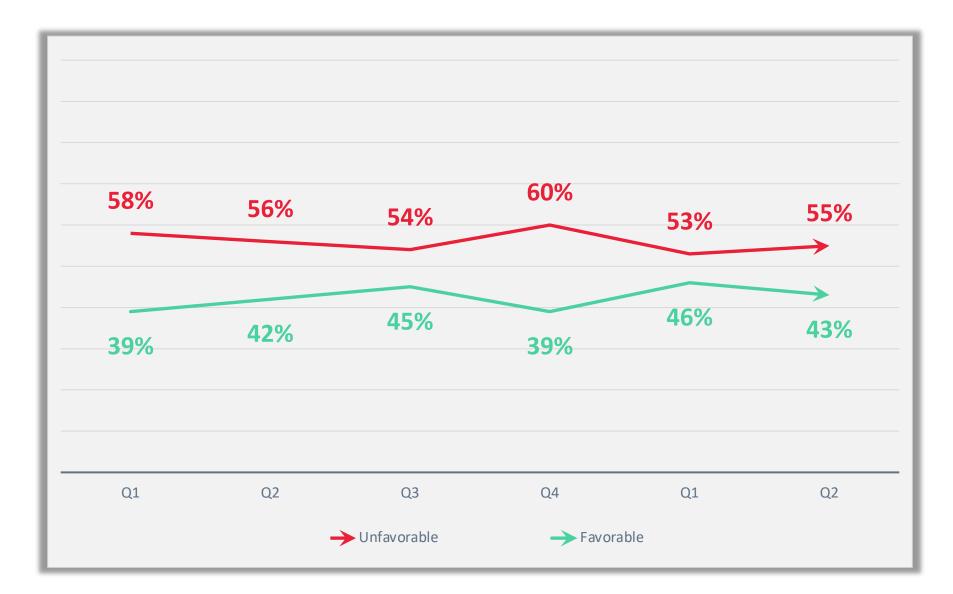


#### President Joe Biden Job Approval

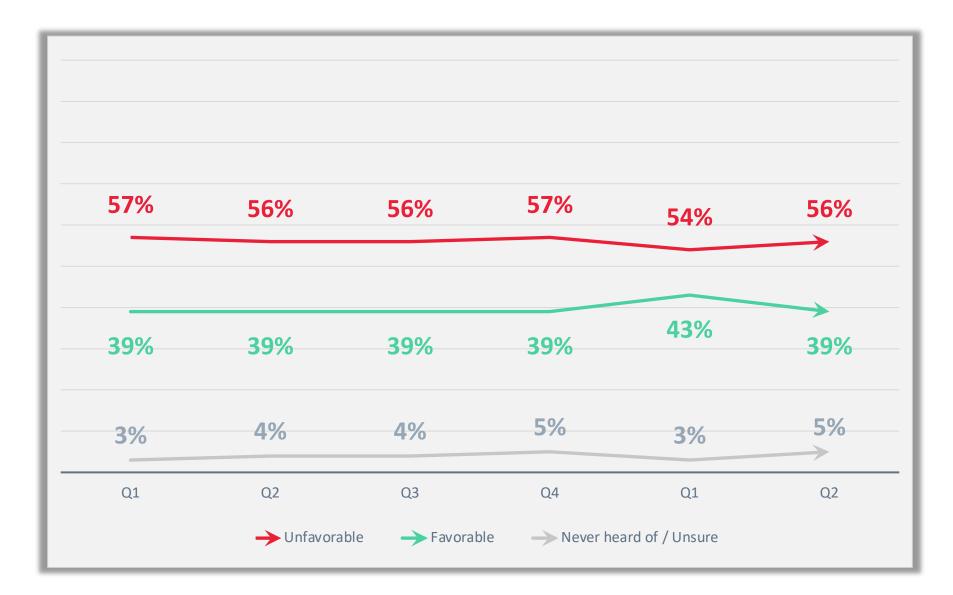


President Biden's job approval saw a net negative 3-point decline since Q1; with *disapproval* outpacing *approval* by double-digits once again.

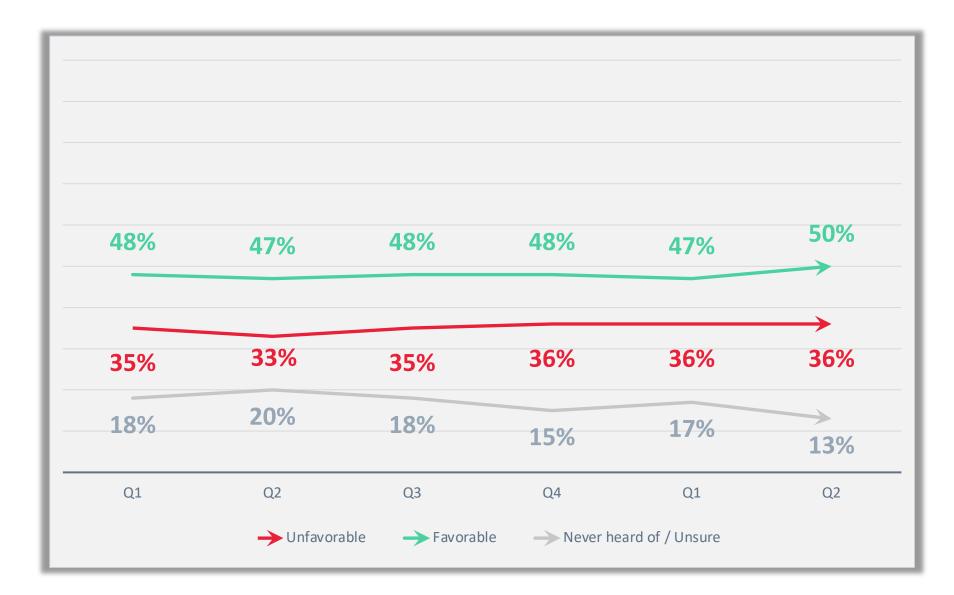
# President Joe Biden Favorability



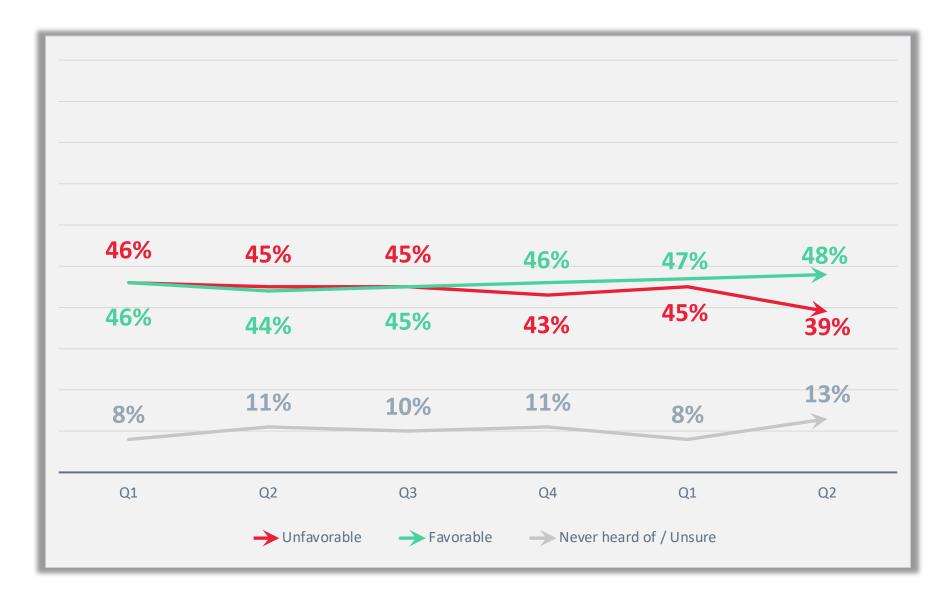
# Vice President Kamala Harris Favorability



# U.S. Senator Bob Casey Favorability



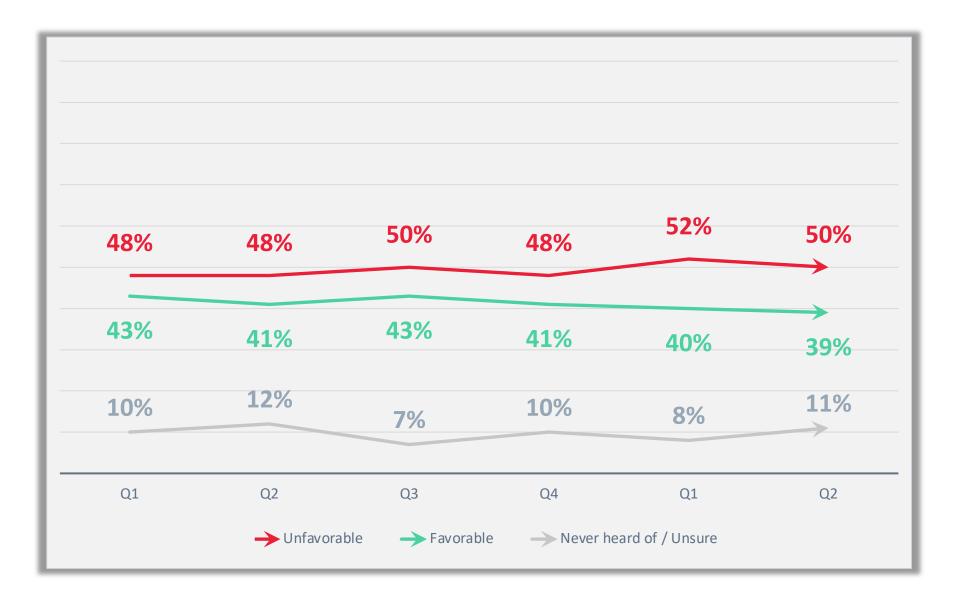
# U.S. Senator John Fetterman Favorability



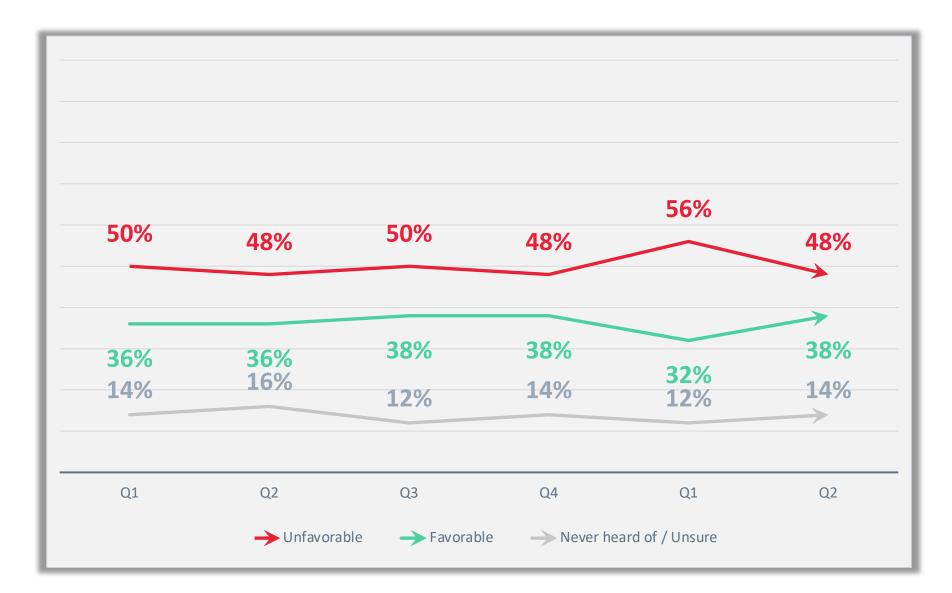
Federal Entity Favorability



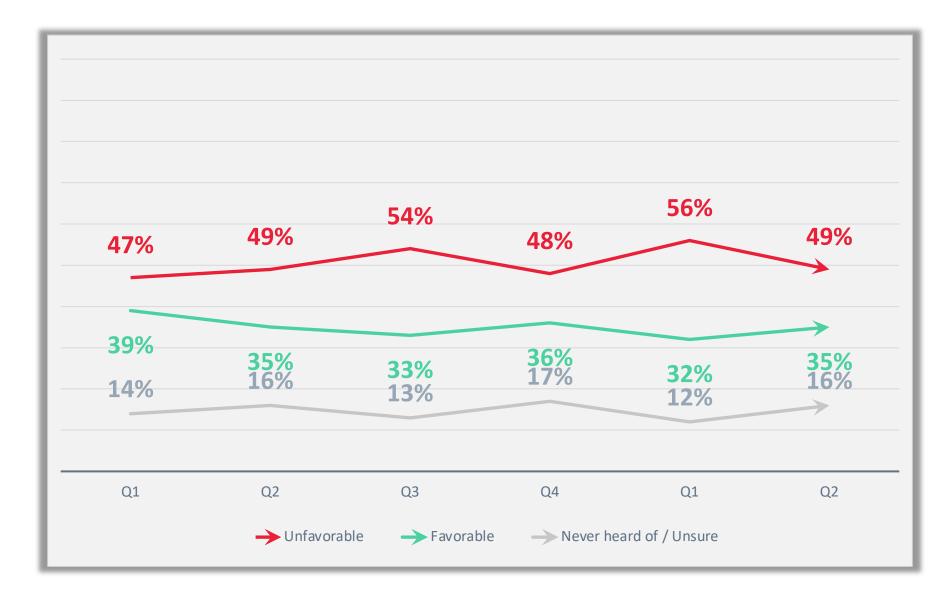
# U.S. Supreme Court Favorability



# U.S. Senate Favorability

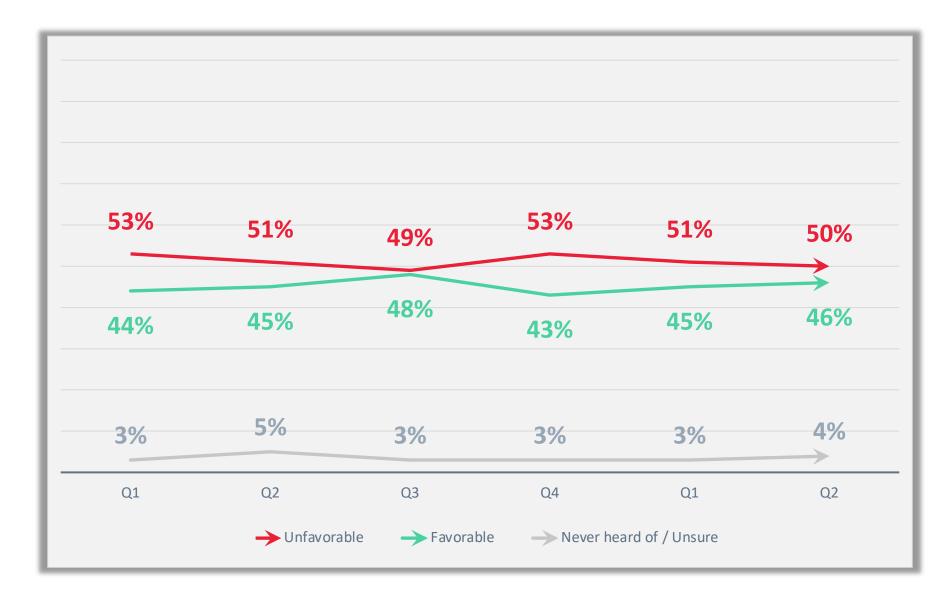


# U.S. House of Representatives Favorability

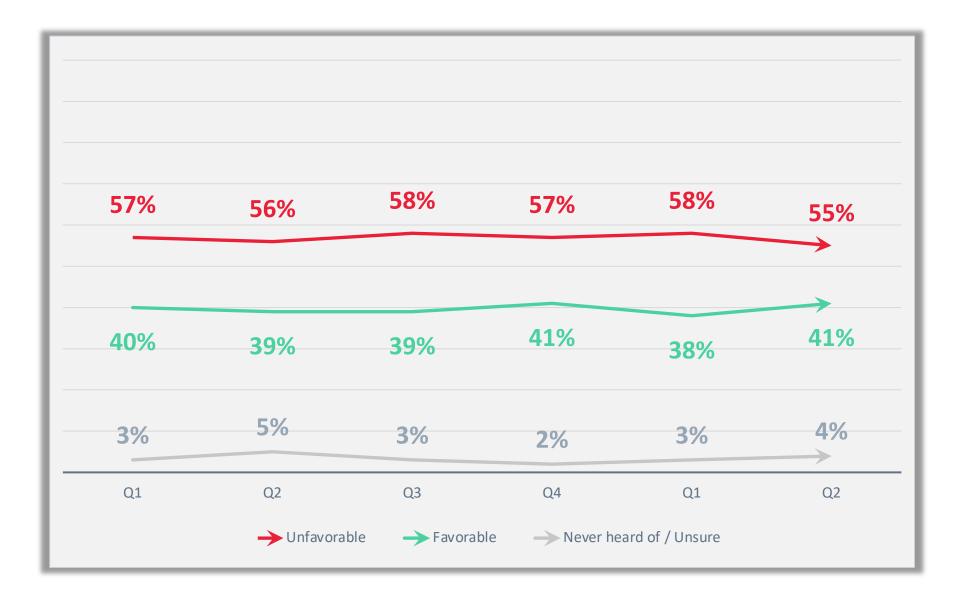


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# The Democratic Party Favorability



# The Republican Party Favorability



# **Economic Series**

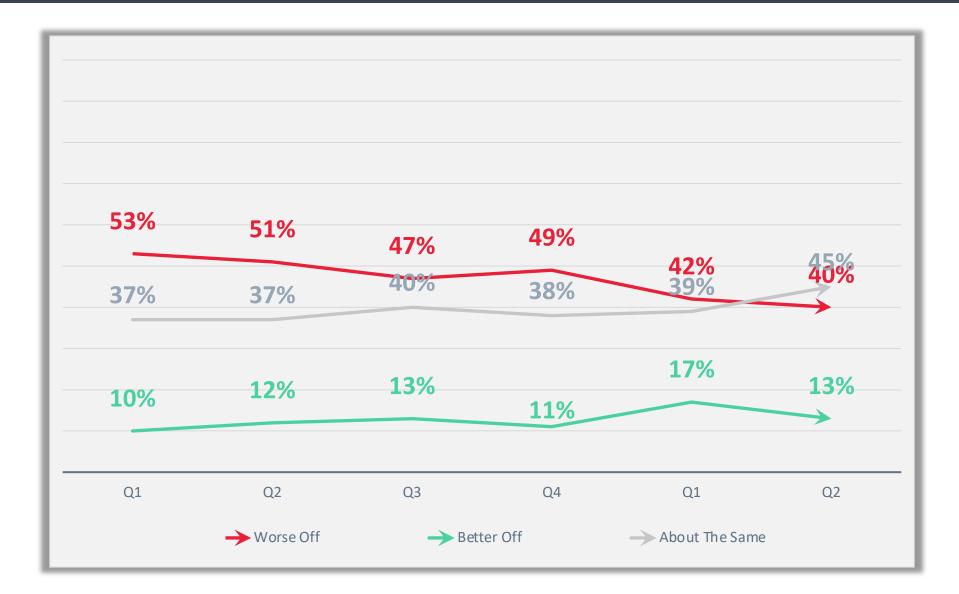


**Thought About Leaving PA:** Have you or someone you know thought about leaving Pennsylvania for a different state due to Pennsylvania's policies?

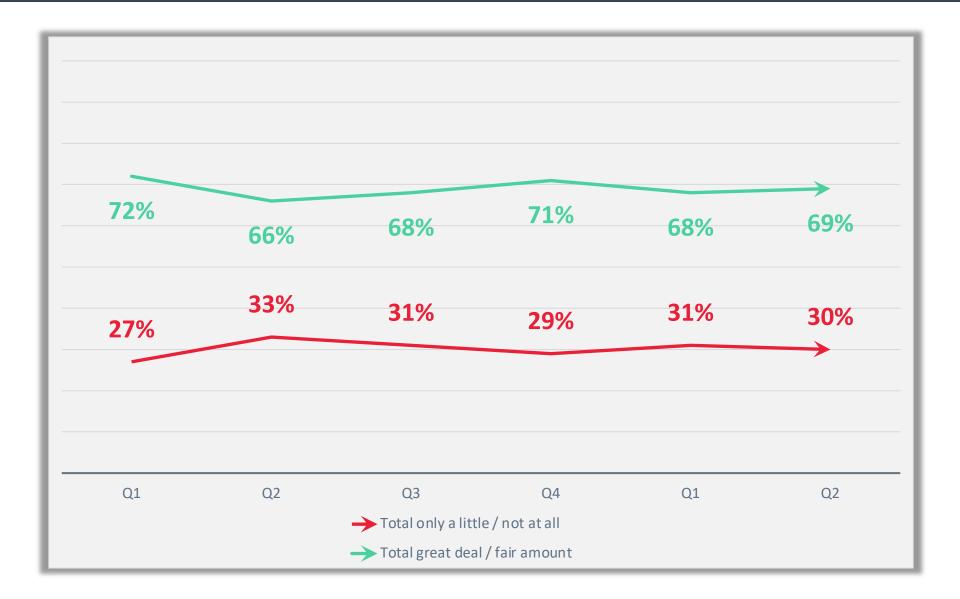


Not asked in Q2 of 2024.

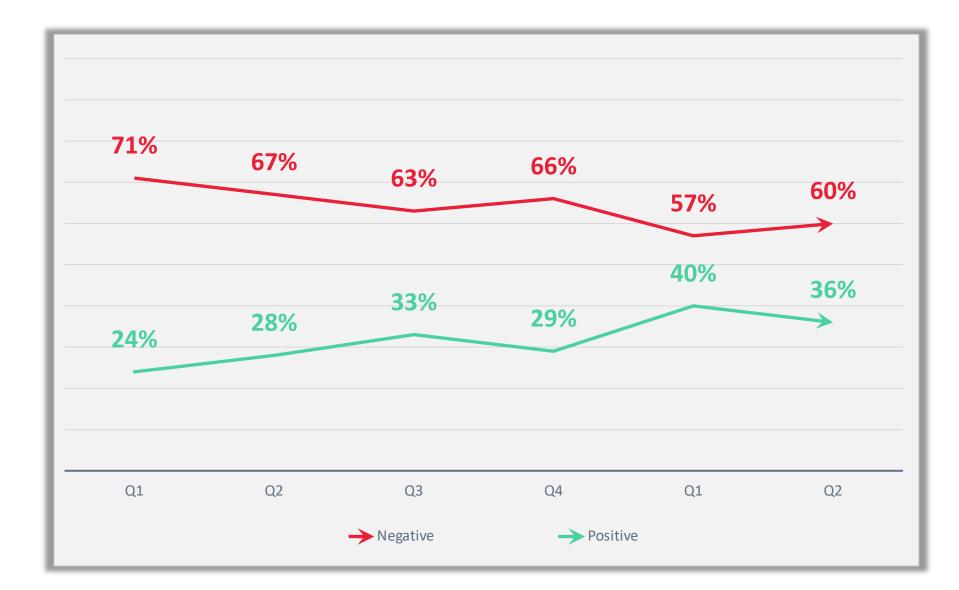
**Personally Better Off:** Would you say that you and your family are financially (ROTATE) better off, about the same, worse off (END ROTATE) as you were two years ago?



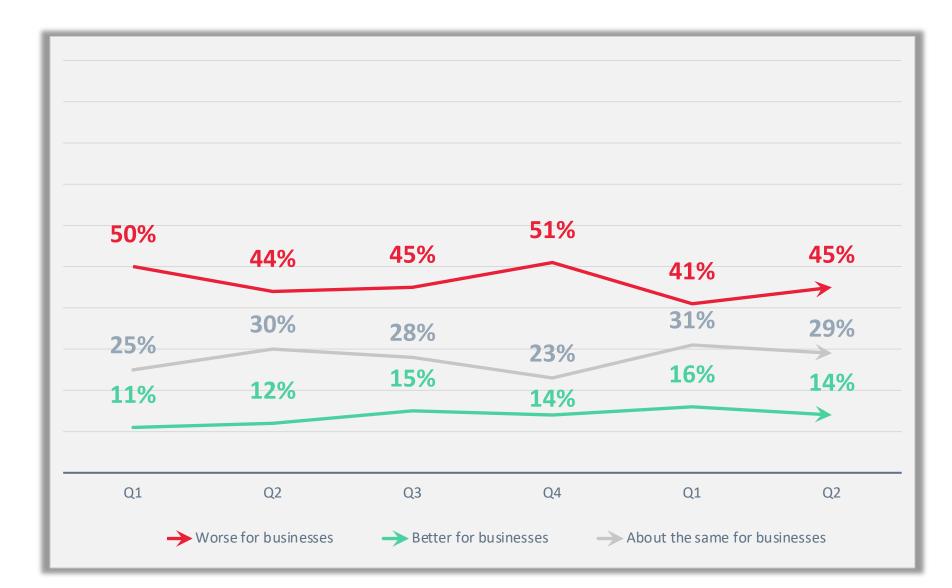
**Inflation Impact:** How much has inflation and recent price increases impacted you or your household's ability to maintain your standard of living?



#### **PA Economy:** How would you rate the economic conditions in Pennsylvania today?

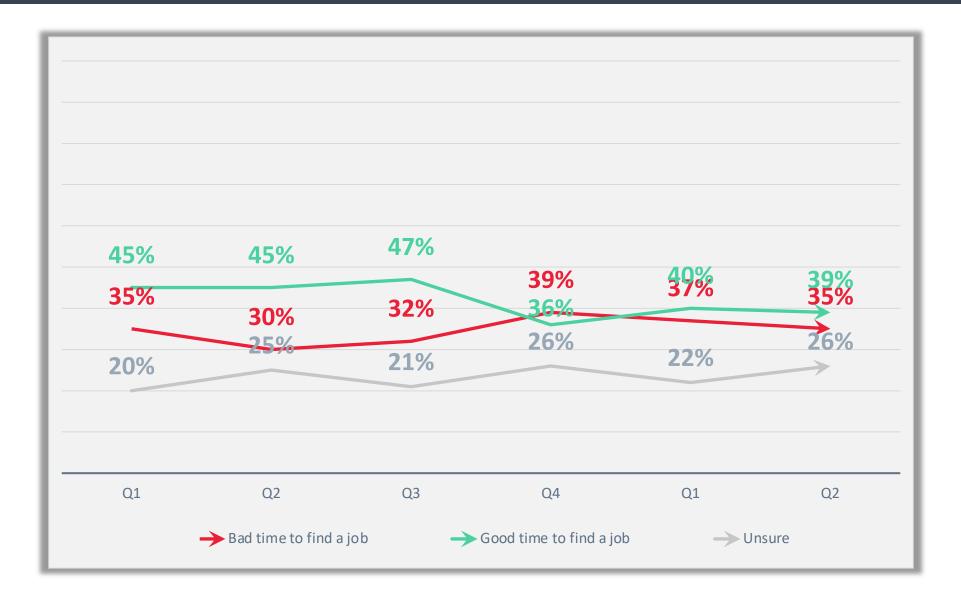


Pennsylvania's economic sentiment has soured over the last few months, falling a net negative 7 points. **PA State of Business:** Do you think the state of Pennsylvania is worse for businesses than it was 10 years ago, about the same for businesses than it was 10 years ago, better for businesses than it was 10 years ago?

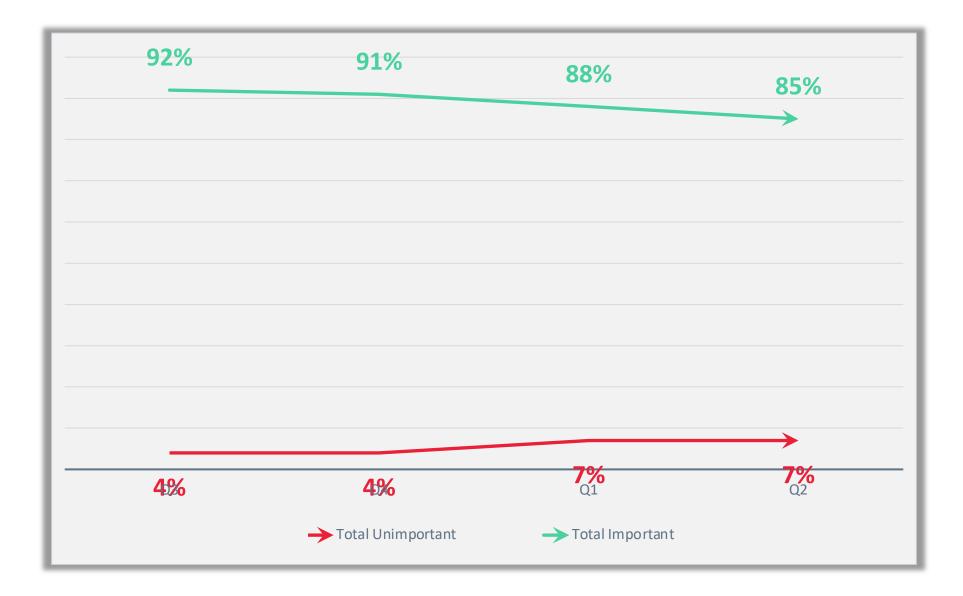


There remains a large delta between those who believe Pennsylvania is better for business today than it was 10 years ago (14%) and those who say it is worse for business (45%), still about 1-in-3 say the economy has remained *about the* same.

**PA Job Situation:** Thinking about the job situation in Pennsylvania today, would you say that it is now a good time or bad time to find a quality job?



**Budget Agreement:** How important is it to you personally that leaders in Pennsylvania of all political parties come together and pass a budget agreement that is bi-partisan?



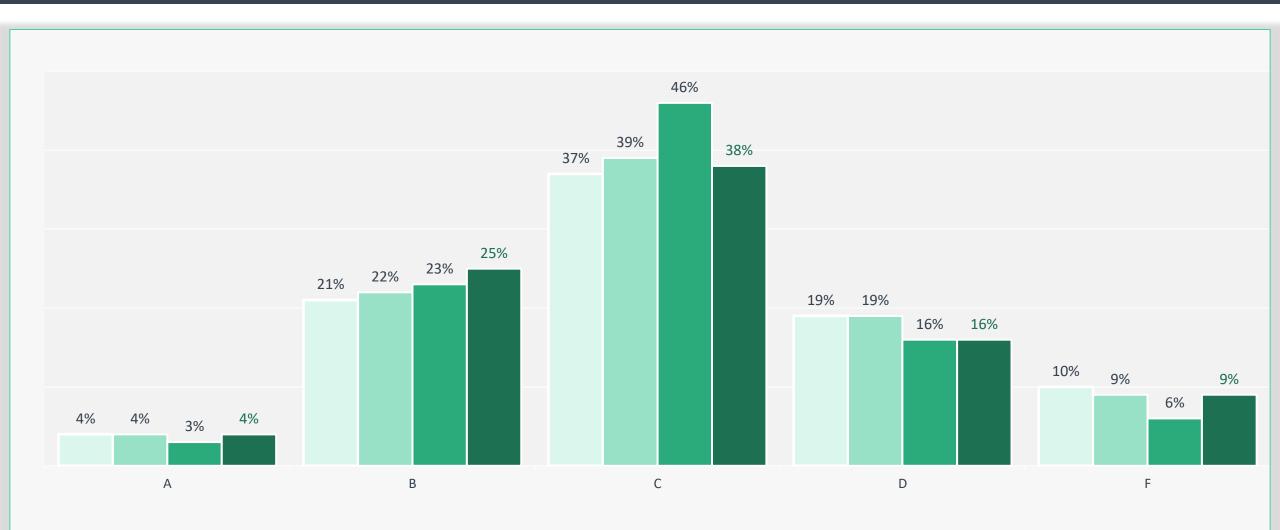
**Transit Bailout:** Do you support or oppose politicians in Harrisburg using \$300 million in state sales tax dollars to bail out mass transit systems in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh?



# **Education Series**

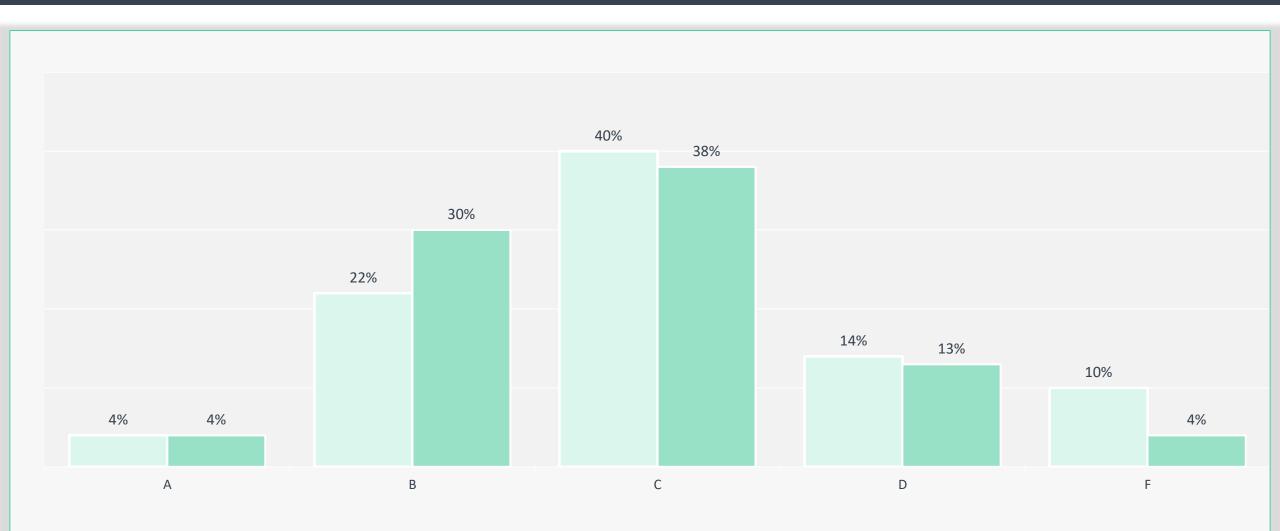


#### **2023 School Ranking:** How would you grade the quality of Pennsylvania's K-12 school system?



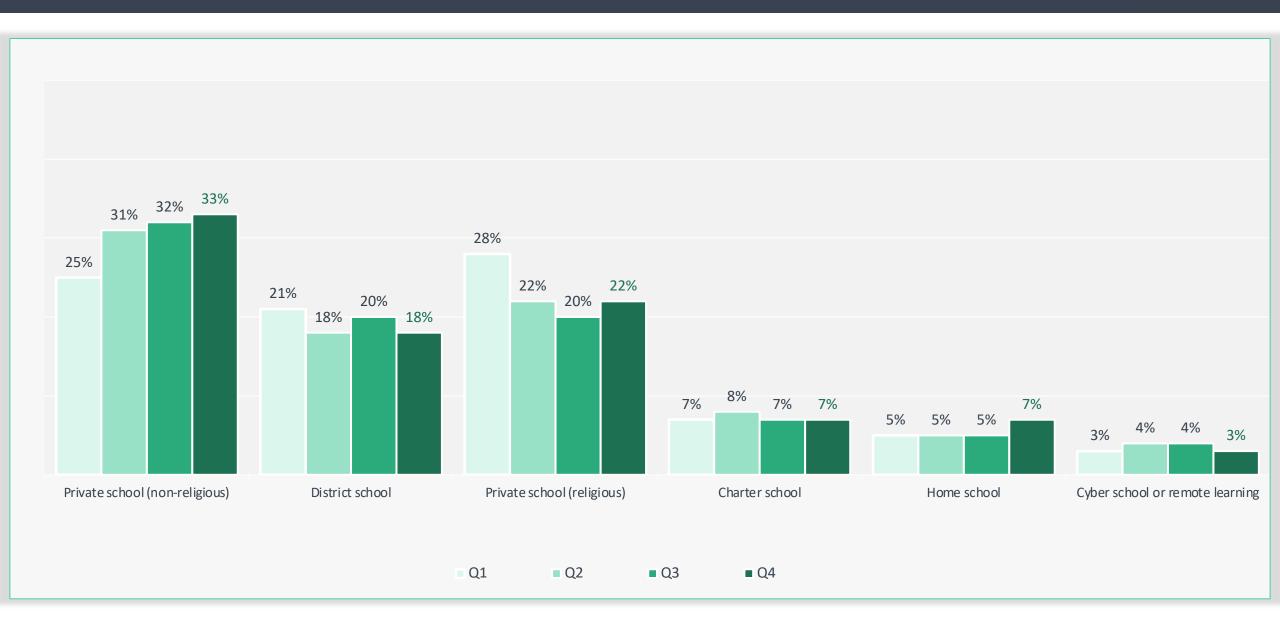
Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4

#### **2024 School Ranking:** How would you grade the quality of Pennsylvania's K-12 school system?

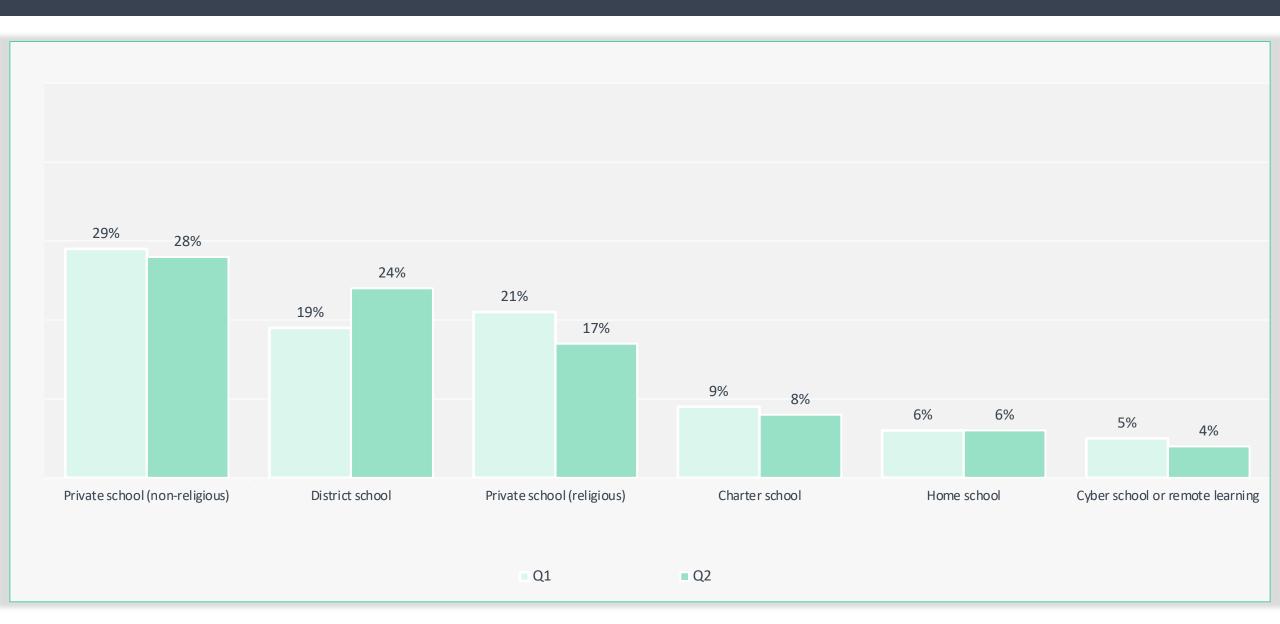


Q1 Q2

**2023 School Ranking:** If financial costs were of no concern, what type of school would you select to obtain the best education for your child?



**2024 School Ranking:** If financial costs were of no concern, what type of school would you select to obtain the best education for your child?



## Methodology

- Online survey conducted among (2023 Q1: n600, 2023 Q2 and later: n800) registered Pennsylvania voters statewide. Respondents were selected randomly from opt-in panel participants.
- Sampling controls were used to ensure that a proportional and representative number of respondents were interviewed from such demographic groups as partisanship, age, gender, race, and geographic region.
- Statewide survey of registered voters has a ± 3.46% overall margin of error at the 95% confidence interval.
- Past polling can be found at <a href="http://commongroundpoll.com/">http://commongroundpoll.com/</a>

### BULLFINCH