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Survey of 500 Likely Voters
October 28, 2006

Election 2006: Pennsylvania Senate	
Bob Casey, Jr. (D)	55%
Rick Santorum (R)	42%

Election 2006: Pennsylvania Senate Three-Poll Rolling Average		
Surveys	Casey	Santorum
Oct 5-Oct 16-Oct 28	53%	40%
Sep-Oct 5-Oct 16	51%	39%
Aug-Sep-Oct	49%	39%
Jul-Aug-Sep	49%	39%
Jun-Jul-Aug	50%	39%
May-Jun-Jul	53%	36%
Apr-May-Jun	53%	36%
Mar-Apr-May	52%	37%
Mar 14-Mar 29-Apr	50%	39%
Feb-Mar 14-Mar 29	50%	38%
Jan-Feb-Mar	51%	37%
Nov-Jan-Feb	53%	36%

Election 2006: Pennsylvania Senate		
Date	Casey	Santorum
Oct 28	55%	42%
Oct 16	54%	41%
Oct 5	50%	37%
Sep 20	49%	39%
Aug 22	48%	40%
Jul 26	50%	39%
Jun 19	52%	37%
May 22	56%	33%
Apr 20	51%	38%
Mar 29	50%	41%
Mar 14	48%	38%
Feb 16	52%	36%
Jan 15	53%	38%
Nov 10	54%	34%

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Pennsylvania Senate: Casey (D) 55% Santorum (R) 42%

October 31, 2006

It doesn't look like Republican Senator Rick Santorum will be able to pull a rabbit out of the hat. *This race remains in the Democrat's column for our [Senate Balance of Power](#) summary.*

The incumbent gained five percentage points of voter support since our [October 5](#) survey of the race, and a further point since [October 16](#). But as undecided and other voters break for one of the major-party candidates, Democrat Bob Casey, Jr. has been gaining as well. Thus Casey still leads Santorum by the same thirteen-point margin, now 55% to 42% ([see crosstabs](#)).



Bob Casey, Jr.

Santorum loses almost a fourth of the GOP base and a full 25% of conservatives to Casey, who shares the conservative opposition to abortion and gun control. If newly revived concerns about judicial activism and gay unions are helping struggling Republicans elsewhere, that's not the case in Pennsylvania.

Santorum's campaign recently ran an ad attacking Casey's purported weakness on national defense. A nuclear mushroom cloud figured prominently. On a Fox News Sunday appearance, Santorum said his opponent's stance in support of a "comprehensive" bill on illegal immigration means he's soft on terror. The Senator admitted that by the logic of his argument, many of his Republican colleagues and President Bush himself are soft on terror—at least with respect to immigration policy.

All year long, Santorum has been the most vulnerable Senate incumbent. A turnaround seemed possible in [August](#), when he closed the gap and was just eight points shy of the challenger. But that improvement proved fleeting.

Senator Santorum continues to enjoy a higher "very favorable" rating than his opponent, 27% versus Casey's 16%. But Santorum is also viewed "very unfavorably" by 36%. Casey is viewed so unfavorably by 23%.

President Bush's approval rating is at 43% in Pennsylvania. Fifty-seven percent (57%) disapprove of the job he's doing, including 45% who disapprove strongly.

[Crosstabs](#) available for [Premium Members](#) only.

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Scott Rasmussen, president of Rasmussen Reports, has been an independent pollster for more than a decade.

The telephone survey of 500 Likely Voters was conducted by Rasmussen Reports October 28, 2006. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.5 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence. (see Methodology)
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