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**SANTORUM LEADS ROMNEY IN PENNSYLVANIA GOP PRIMARY,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
‘ETCH A SKETCH’ RAP UNFAIR TO ROMNEY, REPUBLICANS SAY**

Favorite Son Rick Santorum leads former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney 41 – 35 percent among likely voters in Pennsylvania’s Republican presidential primary, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today. Texas U.S. Rep. Ron Paul has 10 percent, with 7 percent for former House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

With three weeks before the primary, 6 percent of likely voters remain undecided and 37 percent of those who name a candidate say they still could change their mind, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University poll finds. This is the first look at likely voters and cannot be compared with earlier surveys of registered voters.

Santorum tops Romney 43 – 33 percent among men, while women split 39 – 38 percent. Santorum also leads 53 – 24 percent among white evangelical Christians, 50 – 32 percent among Tea Party members and 48 – 30 percent among self-described conservatives. Romney is ahead 45 – 29 percent among self-described moderates.

“The Keystone State is critical for Sen. Rick Santorum, the native son who must win to reasonably continue the race for the presidency,” said Tim Malloy, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute. “Can Santorum hold on against Gov. Mitt Romney’s money machine which has turned the tide in other states, washing away Santorum’s early leads?

“Pennsylvania is a critical swing state, so the Republican primary winner wants to make a good showing in April to bolster chances for success in November.”

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By a 59 – 22 percent margin, Pennsylvania likely Republican primary voters have a favorable opinion of Romney, compared to 64 – 24 percent favorable for Santorum, a slightly negative 33 – 36 percent for Paul and a positive 44 – 39 percent favorable for Gingrich.

It's better for the Republican Party if Santorum stays in the race, 57 percent of likely primary voters say, while 33 percent say it's better for the party if Santorum drops out.

Pennsylvania likely Republican primary voters also see native son Santorum as more principled than Romney, saying:

- 52 – 7 percent that Santorum has more honesty and integrity than most people in public life, with 36 percent saying about the same;
- 25 – 14 percent that Romney has more honesty and integrity than most people in public life, with 55 percent saying about the same;
- 49 – 8 percent that Santorum changes his position less often than most public figures, with 38 percent saying about the same;
- 27 – 7 percent that Romney changes his position more than most public figures, with 60 percent saying about the same;
- 49 – 41 percent that Santorum changes his position on issues because of politics rather than principle;
- 74 – 17 percent that Romney changes his position on issues because of politics rather than principle.

Likely Republican primary voters say 52 – 37 percent that the “Etch A Sketch” criticism of Romney is an unfair attack.

“It looks like the Etch A Sketch gaffe was a one week wonder and has run its course as far as damaging Romney, if it damaged him at all,” Malloy said.

“Rick Santorum can take some solace in knowing Republican voters, at least in Pennsylvania, believe he flip flops with less frequency than Mitt Romney.”

From March 27 – April 1, Quinnipiac University surveyed 647 likely Republican primary voters with a margin of error of +/- 3.9 percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia and the nation as a public service and for research.

For more data or RSS feed– <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling.xml>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#).

1. If the Republican primary for President were being held today, and the candidates were: Newt Gingrich, Mitt Romney, Rick Santorum, and Ron Paul, for whom would you vote? (If undecided) As of today, do you lean more toward Gingrich, Romney, Santorum or Paul? (Table includes leaners and early voters)

	LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS.....								
						WhtBrnAgnEv		TEA PARTY	
	Tot	Men	Wom	Con	Mod	Yes	No	Yes	No
Gingrich	7%	8%	5%	6%	9%	8%	6%	9%	6%
Romney	35	33	38	30	45	24	43	32	37
Santorum	41	43	39	48	29	53	39	50	37
Paul	10	12	9	11	8	7	10	7	12
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DK/NA	6	4	9	4	8	8	3	2	7

	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME...		AGE IN YRS.....				
	Yes	No	<30K	30-50	50-100	>100K	18-49	50-64	65+
Gingrich	6%	7%	8%	10%	8%	4%	7%	6%	8%
Romney	47	29	31	26	34	44	31	33	44
Santorum	31	46	37	44	46	39	41	47	36
Paul	12	10	9	13	10	12	15	9	5
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DK/NA	4	8	14	7	3	1	5	4	7

1a. (Candidate choice given q1) Is your mind made up, or do you think you might change your mind before the election?

	LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS		
	CAND CHOICE Q1		
	Tot	MR	RS
Mind made up	61%	63%	64%
Might change	37	35	34
DK/NA	2	1	3

2. Is your opinion of Mitt Romney favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS.....								
						WhtBrnAgnEv		TEA PARTY	
	Tot	Men	Wom	Con	Mod	Yes	No	Yes	No
Favorable	59%	60%	58%	61%	58%	59%	63%	63%	58%
Unfavorable	22	24	19	23	20	22	23	22	23
Hvn't hrd enough	16	13	20	14	18	16	13	15	16
REFUSED	3	2	3	2	4	3	1	-	3

	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME...				AGE IN YRS.....		
	Yes	No	<30K	30-50	50-100	>100K	18-49	50-64	65+
Favorable	73%	53%	42%	54%	62%	70%	55%	59%	65%
Unfavorable	15	26	20	29	24	19	26	24	16
Hvn't hrd enough	10	19	33	16	12	10	19	14	14
REFUSED	3	3	6	2	2	1	1	2	5

3. Is your opinion of Newt Gingrich favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS.....									
	Tot	Men	Wom	Con	Mod	WhtBrnAgnEv		TEA PARTY	
						Yes	No	Yes	No
Favorable	44%	51%	36%	53%	32%	44%	47%	65%	39%
Unfavorable	39	38	41	33	49	35	43	28	44
Hvn't hrd enough	14	9	20	11	17	17	9	6	14
REFUSED	3	2	4	3	3	4	2	1	3
COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME... AGE IN YRS.....									
	Yes	No	<30K	30-50	50-100	>100K	18-49	50-64	65+
Favorable	44%	45%	34%	49%	51%	46%	47%	44%	43%
Unfavorable	43	38	39	36	38	42	34	42	43
Hvn't hrd enough	9	16	24	15	8	9	17	13	10
REFUSED	4	2	3	1	2	3	2	1	4

4. Is your opinion of Rick Santorum favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS.....									
	Tot	Men	Wom	Con	Mod	WhtBrnAgnEv		TEA PARTY	
						Yes	No	Yes	No
Favorable	64%	65%	62%	74%	48%	74%	65%	78%	59%
Unfavorable	24	25	22	20	32	15	27	16	27
Hvn't hrd enough	10	8	12	5	16	7	8	6	11
REFUSED	2	1	4	1	4	5	1	1	2
COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME... AGE IN YRS.....									
	Yes	No	<30K	30-50	50-100	>100K	18-49	50-64	65+
Favorable	58%	67%	60%	70%	66%	62%	66%	67%	61%
Unfavorable	35	18	14	22	24	32	23	22	25
Hvn't hrd enough	6	12	21	4	8	6	10	11	8
REFUSED	1	3	4	4	2	-	1	-	6

5. Is your opinion of Ron Paul favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS.....									
	Tot	Men	Wom	Con	Mod	WhtBrnAgnEv		TEA PARTY	
						Yes	No	Yes	No
Favorable	33%	36%	30%	36%	30%	33%	34%	32%	35%
Unfavorable	36	41	29	40	31	32	41	46	33
Hvn't hrd enough	28	20	39	23	36	32	24	18	30
REFUSED	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	3	2
COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME... AGE IN YRS.....									
	Yes	No	<30K	30-50	50-100	>100K	18-49	50-64	65+
Favorable	39%	31%	27%	31%	35%	40%	39%	32%	27%
Unfavorable	43	33	27	42	39	37	30	41	38
Hvn't hrd enough	16	34	44	22	25	21	30	26	30
REFUSED	3	2	2	5	1	2	1	1	5

6. Do you think it would be better for the Republican party if Rick Santorum stayed in the Presidential race, or dropped out of the Presidential race?

LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS.....									
						WhtBrnAgnEv		TEA PARTY	
	Tot	Men	Wom	Con	Mod	Yes	No	Yes	No
Stayed in race	57%	56%	57%	60%	49%	67%	56%	64%	54%
Dropped out of race	33	36	30	31	39	24	36	31	36
DK/NA	10	8	13	8	12	10	8	5	11
COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME... AGE IN YRS.....									
	Yes	No	<30K	30-50	50-100	>100K	18-49	50-64	65+
Stayed in race	45%	62%	57%	62%	61%	49%	60%	61%	49%
Dropped out of race	44	28	28	28	34	42	32	31	37
DK/NA	11	10	16	10	5	9	7	7	14

7. Compared to most people in public life, do you think - Mitt Romney has more honesty and integrity, less honesty and integrity, or about the same amount?

LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS.....									
						WhtBrnAgnEv		TEA PARTY	
	Tot	Men	Wom	Con	Mod	Yes	No	Yes	No
More honesty/integ	25%	24%	27%	29%	20%	23%	30%	34%	24%
Less honesty/integ	14	14	14	14	12	14	14	16	13
About the same	55	57	53	53	61	59	54	49	58
DK/NA	6	5	6	4	6	5	3	2	6
COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME... AGE IN YRS.....									
	Yes	No	<30K	30-50	50-100	>100K	18-49	50-64	65+
More honesty/integ	32%	22%	23%	24%	22%	32%	20%	21%	37%
Less honesty/integ	8	16	11	15	14	14	14	16	10
About the same	56	55	55	56	61	52	64	58	45
DK/NA	4	6	12	5	3	2	3	5	8

8. Compared to most people in public life, do you think - Rick Santorum has more honesty and integrity, less honesty and integrity, or about the same amount?

LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS.....									
						WhtBrnAgnEv		TEA PARTY	
	Tot	Men	Wom	Con	Mod	Yes	No	Yes	No
More honesty/integ	52%	54%	50%	66%	31%	59%	53%	72%	46%
Less honesty/integ	7	7	7	5	11	6	6	5	8
About the same	36	35	37	26	51	31	39	22	41
DK/NA	5	4	6	3	7	4	2	1	5
COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME... AGE IN YRS.....									
	Yes	No	<30K	30-50	50-100	>100K	18-49	50-64	65+
More honesty/integ	50%	53%	48%	49%	52%	59%	46%	61%	49%
Less honesty/integ	11	5	7	4	6	11	8	6	8
About the same	37	35	36	44	39	27	44	28	35
DK/NA	2	7	9	4	3	3	2	6	7

9. Compared to most people in public life, do you think – Mitt Romney changes his positions more often, changes his positions less often, or about the same amount?

LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS.....									
						WhtBrnAgnEv		TEA PARTY	
	Tot	Men	Wom	Con	Mod	Yes	No	Yes	No
More often	27%	33%	20%	32%	19%	27%	28%	41%	23%
Less often	7	6	9	9	3	8	7	8	7
About the same	60	57	64	55	72	60	61	48	64
DK/NA	6	4	8	4	6	5	4	4	5
COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME... AGE IN YRS.....									
	Yes	No	<30K	30-50	50-100	>100K	18-49	50-64	65+
More often	23%	30%	30%	35%	29%	23%	23%	33%	26%
Less often	7	7	6	7	10	6	6	8	8
About the same	65	57	50	55	60	68	68	54	56
DK/NA	5	6	14	3	1	3	3	4	9

10. Compared to most people in public life, do you think – Rick Santorum changes his positions more often, changes his positions less often, or about the same amount?

LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS.....									
						WhtBrnAgnEv		TEA PARTY	
	Tot	Men	Wom	Con	Mod	Yes	No	Yes	No
More often	8%	7%	8%	8%	7%	7%	7%	6%	9%
Less often	49	53	44	57	39	56	48	64	44
About the same	38	36	41	32	47	34	42	28	42
DK/NA	5	3	6	3	6	4	2	2	5
COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME... AGE IN YRS.....									
	Yes	No	<30K	30-50	50-100	>100K	18-49	50-64	65+
More often	6%	8%	14%	11%	4%	4%	6%	9%	9%
Less often	51	49	33	47	56	61	50	56	42
About the same	38	38	41	39	39	33	40	33	43
DK/NA	5	5	12	3	1	3	4	3	7

11. Do you think most people in public life change their positions usually because of politics or principle?

LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS.....									
						WhtBrnAgnEv		TEA PARTY	
	Tot	Men	Wom	Con	Mod	Yes	No	Yes	No
Politics	76%	77%	75%	77%	77%	71%	83%	78%	75%
Principle	20	19	21	20	18	26	14	20	20
DK/NA	4	4	4	3	5	3	3	2	4
COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME... AGE IN YRS.....									
	Yes	No	<30K	30-50	50-100	>100K	18-49	50-64	65+
Politics	85%	72%	63%	70%	83%	82%	72%	84%	74%
Principle	12	24	28	27	17	14	26	14	19
DK/NA	3	4	9	3	-	3	2	2	8

12. When - Mitt Romney changes his position on an issue, do you think it is usually because of politics or principle?

	LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS.....								
						WhtBrnAgnEv		TEA PARTY	
	Tot	Men	Wom	Con	Mod	Yes	No	Yes	No
Politics	74%	76%	73%	74%	77%	73%	73%	74%	76%
Principle	17	17	17	18	16	20	18	21	17
DK/NA	8	7	10	8	7	7	8	5	8
	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME...			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Yes	No	<30K	30-50	50-100	>100K	18-49	50-64	65+
Politics	77%	73%	70%	79%	80%	72%	79%	77%	67%
Principle	16	18	24	14	12	22	15	13	24
DK/NA	7	9	6	7	8	6	5	9	9

13. When - Rick Santorum changes his position on an issue, do you think it is usually because of politics or principle?

	LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS.....								
						WhtBrnAgnEv	TEA PARTY		
	Tot	Men	Wom	Con	Mod	Yes	No	Yes	No
Politics	49%	51%	48%	44%	62%	40%	53%	44%	52%
Principle	41	40	42	47	30	49	40	49	39
DK/NA	10	9	11	9	8	10	7	8	9
	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME...			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Yes	No	<30K	30-50	50-100	>100K	18-49	50-64	65+
Politics	55%	47%	46%	51%	55%	47%	54%	50%	48%
Principle	37	43	44	40	39	45	41	40	40
DK/NA	8	11	10	8	6	8	5	11	13

14. Some of Mitt Romney's critics have called him an Etch A Sketch candidate who changes his positions too easily. Do you think this is a fair criticism of Mitt Romney or an unfair attack?

	LIKELY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS.....								
						WhtBrnAgnEv		TEA PARTY	
	Tot	Men	Wom	Con	Mod	Yes	No	Yes	No
Fair criticism	37%	41%	33%	41%	31%	43%	34%	40%	37%
Unfair attack	52	53	51	50	57	43	59	54	52
DK/NA	11	7	17	9	12	14	7	6	11
	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME...		AGE IN YRS.....				
	Yes	No	<30K	30-50	50-100	>100K	18-49	50-64	65+
Fair criticism	30%	41%	39%	45%	36%	35%	44%	39%	27%
Unfair attack	58	48	45	46	54	58	45	51	61
DK/NA	11	11	16	9	10	7	11	9	12