

# BELDEN RUSSONELLO & STEWART

RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATIONS

## Surveys of Voters in Four Congressional Districts for Catholics for Choice

Interviewing conducted November 27 to December 3, 2009.

N=401 registered voters in **Maine's 2nd Congressional District (ME-2)**

N=400 registered voters in **Ohio's 9th Congressional District (OH-9)**

N=400 registered voters in **Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District (PA-14)**

N=400 registered voters in **Texas' 16th Congressional District (TX-16)**

Margin of sampling error for each survey is  $\pm 4.9$  percentage points.

### Media Queries: Please Contact David Nolan at Catholics for Choice (202) 986-6093

		ME-2	OH-9	PA-14	TX-16
Q1. Do you think things in this country are generally going in the right direction or are they off on the wrong track?	RIGHT DIRECTION	28%	41%	53%	49%
	WRONG TRACK	57	52	39	46
	DK/REF	15	7	8	5

		ME-2	OH-9	PA-14	TX-16
Q2. Would you favor or oppose a new government plan that would make health insurance available to people who do not already have it? Is that strongly or somewhat?	STRONGLY FAVOR	38%	41%	54%	45%
	SOMEWHAT FAVOR	21	20	19	23
	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	6	8	8	8
	STRONGLY OPPOSE	24	25	15	21
	DK/REF	10	6	4	3

Do you think someone who receives financial help from the government to pay for their health insurance should or should not be allowed to choose a plan that covers each of the following?

		Should	Should not	DK/REF
Q3. Care for pregnant women and follow-up care after the baby is born	ME-2	87%	9	4
	OH-9	85%	12	3
	PA-14	91%	7	2
	TX-16	84%	14	2
Q4. The HPV vaccine, which is given to girls to prevent them from getting cervical cancer	ME-2	79%	13	8
	OH-9	78%	19	3
	PA-14	85%	10	5
	TX-16	78%	18	3
Q5. HIV/AIDS testing	ME-2	83%	12	4
	OH-9	80%	18	1
	PA-14	90%	7	2
	TX-16	83%	15	1
Q6. Contraception, such as birth control pills	ME-2	75%	22	3
	OH-9	72%	24	4
	PA-14	78%	20	2
	TX-16	70%	28	1
Q7. Abortion services	ME-2	40%	53	7
	OH-9	36%	58	6
	PA-14	53%	41	6
	TX-16	32%	65	3

Q8. [BASE = THOSE WHO ANSWER "SHOULD NOT" or "DK/REF" on "ABORTION SERVICES" in Q7; N=272]		<b>ME-2</b>	<b>OH-9</b>	<b>PA-14</b>	<b>TX-16</b>
Would you support allowing health insurance plans that receive government subsidies to cover abortion if that coverage was paid for with private funds, not government funds?	YES	35%	31%	34%	28%
	NO	57	63	61	69
	DK/REF	8	5	6	3

<b>Q7 and Q8 COMBINED</b> [BASE=TOTAL SAMPLE]		<b>ME-2</b>	<b>OH-9</b>	<b>PA-14</b>	<b>TX-16</b>
<b>Combined</b>		<b>61%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>51%</b>
(Q7) Support govt. subsidized insurance plans covering abortion		40%	36%	53%	32%
(Q8) Support govt. subsidized coverage if abortion paid for by private funds		21	20	16	19
Total opposition to govt. subsidized plans covering abortion		34	41	29	47
DK/REF		5	4	3	2

Q9. What is your religious preference--do you consider yourself a Catholic, or something else, or do you not have a religious preference?		<b>ME-2</b>	<b>OH-9</b>	<b>PA-14</b>	<b>TX-16</b>
	CATHOLIC	24%	26%	32%	55%
	SOMETHING ELSE	49	59	48	32
	NO REL. PREFERENCE	24	14	19	13
	DK/REF	2	1	1	1

In your view, how much influence would you like each of the following to have on your member of Congress' vote on health care reform: a great deal, some, not very much, or none at all? [RANDOMIZE]

		Great deal	Some	Not very much	None at all	DK/REF
Q10. The views of voters in your district	<b>ME-2</b>	61%	25	3	5	6
	<b>OH-9</b>	58%	29	4	7	2
	<b>PA-14</b>	59%	31	2	5	3
	<b>TX-16</b>	56%	30	7	5	1
Q11. The position of the Catholic Bishop in your area	<b>ME-2</b>	9%	21	12	49	10
	<b>OH-9</b>	12%	29	18	36	5
	<b>PA-14</b>	15%	24	11	44	6
	<b>TX-16</b>	23%	28	13	33	2
Q12. President Obama's recommendation	<b>ME-2</b>	21%	40	13	22	3
	<b>OH-9</b>	33%	30	9	26	2
	<b>PA-14</b>	34%	41	7	15	3
	<b>TX-16</b>	35%	35	10	18	2

		<b>ME-2</b>	<b>OH-9</b>	<b>PA-14</b>	<b>TX-16</b>
Q13. Regardless of your religious preference, how important are the views of U.S. Catholic Bishops for you in deciding whom to vote for: very important, somewhat, not very, or not at all important?	VERY IMPORTANT	4%	7%	9%	13%
	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	16	18	21	26
	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	19	20	14	16
	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	59	53	55	45
	DK/REF	2	1	2	*

		<b>ME-2</b>	<b>OH-9</b>	<b>PA-14</b>	<b>TX-16</b>
Q14. Do you agree or disagree that on health care reform, politicians who are Catholic have a religious obligation to vote in the way Catholic Bishops recommend? Is that strongly or somewhat?	STRONGLY AGREE	9%	11%	10%	15%
	SOMEWHAT AGREE	9	15	12	11
	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	18	22	24	26
	STRONGLY DISAGREE	56	48	48	46
	DK/REF	7	4	5	2

		<b>ME-2</b>	<b>OH-9</b>	<b>PA-14</b>	<b>TX-16</b>
Q15. How would you feel about your member of Congress if he or she voted for a health care bill that makes it more difficult for women to get health insurance that covers abortion: would you feel more favorably toward your member of Congress, less favorably, or it would make no difference?	MORE FAVORABLY	15%	22%	16%	23%
	LESS FAVORABLY	39	44	55	41
	NO DIFFERENCE	41	33	28	36
	DK/REF	5	2	2	1

		<b>ME-2</b>	<b>OH-9</b>	<b>PA-14</b>	<b>TX-16</b>
Q16. Thinking about abortion in general, do you think abortion should be: legal in all cases, legal in most cases, legal in just a few cases, or never legal?	LEGAL IN ALL	20%	20%	27%	13%
	LEGAL IN MOST	23	20	24	21
	LEGAL IN JUST A FEW	39	41	32	43
	NEVER LEGAL	15	16	14	21
	DK/REF	3	3	2	2