

**Peter A. Brown, Assistant Director,
(203) 535-6203
Tim Malloy, Assistant Director
(203) 645-8043**

**Rubenstein Associates, Inc.,
Public Relations
Pat Smith (212) 843-8026**



FOR RELEASE: JUNE 18, 2015

**GOP PLAYS ‘WHO’S ON FIRST’ IN FLORIDA, OHIO, PENNSYLVANIA,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY SWING STATE POLL FINDS;
CLINTON HAS DEM BASES LOADED**

Among the many runners in the 2016 Republican presidential primary game, no one has gotten past first base in three critical swing states, with two native sons leading in Florida, another native son ahead in Ohio and five candidates elbowing for first place in Pennsylvania, according to a Quinnipiac University Swing State Poll released today.

On the Democratic side, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton is over 50 percent in each state, with a 38-percentage point lead in the closest race, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll finds. The Swing State Poll focuses on Florida, Ohio and Pennsylvania because since 1960 no candidate has won the presidential race without taking at least two of these three states.

In Florida, former Gov. Jeb Bush has 20 percent of Republican voters, with 18 percent for U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio and 9 percent for Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker. No other candidate is above 7 percent, with 13 percent undecided.

In Ohio, Gov. John Kasich leads the GOP pack with 19 percent, followed by Bush at 9 percent and Walker at 8 percent. No other candidate tops 7 percent, with 17 percent undecided.

In Pennsylvania, Rubio has 12 percent, with 11 percent for U.S. Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky, 10 percent each for Bush and Ben Carson and 9 percent for Walker. No other candidate tops 7 percent, with 13 percent undecided.

“With so many Republican candidates, there is no clear leader in these key swing states in the race for the 2016 presidential nomination,” said Peter A. Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac Poll.

-more-

Quinnipiac University Poll/June 18, 2015 – page 2

“Two favorite sons, former Gov. Jeb Bush and U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, are ahead in Florida and have some legs in Ohio and Pennsylvania. Gov. John Kasich is Ohio’s hometown favorite, but he’s invisible in the other two states.”

“Five candidates share the lead in Pennsylvania with none getting more than 12 percent of the vote. The GOP presidential race is clear as mud,” Brown added.

A computation that combines the first and second choices of Republican voters in the three states shows:

- Rubio – 36 percent in Florida, 17 percent in Ohio and 24 percent in Pennsylvania;
- Bush – 33 percent in Florida, 20 percent in Ohio and 18 percent in Pennsylvania;
- Walker – 15 percent in each state.

Rubio also has the best overall favorability rating in the Republican pack, 75 – 9 percent in Florida, 54 – 4 percent in Ohio and 57 – 5 percent in Pennsylvania.

“The favorability rating and combined first and second choice numbers show that in this crowded pack of candidates Sen. Rubio is making strong inroads with Republican primary voters and probably is the candidate who should be most heartened by the results of this poll,” Brown said.

“The race for the Democratic nomination could not be more different. Secretary Clinton is far, far ahead and the criticisms of her and questions about her email and family foundation seem to be having no impact at all on her Democratic supporters. She remains the apple of the Democrats’ eyes and at least at this point has little to worry about from her primary challengers.”

Florida

Hillary Clinton is the choice of 64 percent of Florida Democrats, with 9 percent for Vice President Joseph Biden and 8 percent for U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont.

Bush at 20 percent and Rubio at 18 percent dominate the Republican pack, with 9 percent for Walker, 7 percent for Carson, 6 percent for Huckabee, 5 percent for Paul and several candidates at 4 percent or less.

“Gov. Bush, the former mentor, and Sen. Rubio, the former protégé, are fighting it out among Sunshine State Republicans. Will any other Republican make a strong effort in the state’s mid-March primary, given the hometown advantage enjoyed by the two leaders and the huge amount of money needed to make a competitive effort in the state?” Brown asked.

-more-

Ohio

Clinton leads among buckeye Democrats with 60 percent, with Biden at 13 percent and Sanders at 10 percent.

Behind Kasich at 19 percent, it's a scramble, with Bush at 9 percent, Walker at 8 percent and Rubio, Paul and former Gov. Mike Huckabee of Arkansas at 7 percent each. Carson and U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas have 6 percent each.

“The gender gap surrounding Hillary Clinton extends even to the Democratic primary in Ohio, where she wins 51 percent of men and 66 percent of women,” Brown said.

Pennsylvania

Vice President Biden's credentials as a native son provide little help in Pennsylvania, where he trails Clinton 53 – 15 percent among Democrats, with 10 percent for Sanders.

Another native son, former U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum, gets only 7 percent of Republican voters, trailing Rubio with 12 percent, Paul with 11 percent, Bush and Carson with 10 percent each and Walker with 9 percent.

“No native son advantage for Pennsylvanians Rick Santorum or Joseph Biden as they trail the front runners in their respective parties,” said Tim Malloy, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll. “They may hail from Butler and Scranton, but being sons of the Keystone State does not guarantee an easy path to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.”

From June 4 – 15 Quinnipiac University surveyed:

- 1,147 Florida voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.9 percentage points, including 458 Republicans with a margin of error of +/- 4.6 percentage points and 378 Democrats with a margin of error of +/- 5 percentage points.
 - 1,191 Ohio voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.8 percentage points, including 434 Republicans with a margin of error of +/- 4.7 percentage points and 388 Democrats with a margin of error of +/- 5 percentage points.
 - 970 Pennsylvania voters with a margin of error of +/- 3.2 percentage points, including 413 Republicans with a margin of error of +/- 4.8 percentage points and 402 Democrats with a margin of error of +/- 4.9 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, Iowa, Colorado and the nation as a public service and for research.

For more information, visit <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#) @QuinnipiacPoll.

1. (If Registered Republican) If the Republican primary for President were being held today, and the candidates were Jeb Bush, Ben Carson, Chris Christie, Ted Cruz, Carly Fiorina, Lindsey Graham, Mike Huckabee, Bobby Jindal, John Kasich, George Pataki, Rand Paul, Rick Perry, Marco Rubio, Rick Santorum, Donald Trump, and Scott Walker, for whom would you vote?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Bush	20%	9%	10%
Carson	7	6	10
Christie	3	3	6
Cruz	3	6	5
Fiorina	2	1	1
Graham	1	2	1
Huckabee	6	7	6
Jindal	1	-	-
Kasich	1	19	1
Pataki	1	-	-
Paul	5	7	11
Perry	4	2	1
Rubio	18	7	12
Santorum	1	2	7
Trump	3	1	4
Walker	9	8	9
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	1	2
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	1	1	1
DK/NA	13	17	13

1A. (If candidate chosen q1) Who is your second choice?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS CANDIDATE CHOSEN Q1...		
	FL	OH	PA
Bush	16%	14%	10%
Carson	5	5	6
Christie	3	5	6
Cruz	5	7	8
Fiorina	3	2	4
Graham	-	1	-
Huckabee	6	5	3
Jindal	2	1	3
Kasich	3	12	1
Pataki	2	-	1
Paul	4	8	5
Perry	5	5	5
Rubio	21	12	14
Santorum	4	2	12
Trump	2	3	2
Walker	7	9	7
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	-	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	1	1
DK/NA	9	10	12

1B. (If Registered Republican) If the Republican primary for President were being held today, and the candidates were Jeb Bush, Ben Carson, Chris Christie, Ted Cruz, Carly Fiorina, Lindsey Graham, Mike Huckabee, Bobby Jindal, John Kasich, George Pataki, Rand Paul, Rick Perry, Marco Rubio, Rick Santorum, Donald Trump, and Scott Walker, for whom would you vote? COMBINED WITH: Who is your second choice? (Note: Percentages add to more than 100%)

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS Q1 & Q1A COMBINED.....		
	FL	OH	PA
Bush	33%	20%	18%
Carson	11	10	15
Christie	5	7	11
Cruz	7	11	11
Fiorina	4	3	4
Graham	1	3	1
Huckabee	10	10	8
Jindal	2	1	3
Kasich	4	29	3
Pataki	3	-	1
Paul	9	13	16
Perry	9	6	6
Rubio	36	17	24
Santorum	5	4	17
Trump	4	4	6
Walker	15	15	15
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	1	2
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	2	2
DK/NA	20	25	23

2. (If Registered Democrat) If the Democratic primary for President were being held today, and the candidates were Joe Biden, Lincoln Chafee, Hillary Clinton, Martin O'Malley, Bernie Sanders and Jim Webb, for whom would you vote?

	REGISTERED DEMOCRATS		
	FL	OH	PA
Biden	9%	13%	15%
Chafee	-	-	-
Clinton	64	60	53
O'Malley	1	1	1
Sanders	8	10	10
Webb	-	-	2
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	1	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	5	3	4
DK/NA	13	11	15

2A. (If candidate chosen q2) Who is your second choice?

	REGISTERED DEMOCRATS CANDIDATE CHOSEN Q2		
	FL	OH	PA
Biden	45%	42%	37%
Chafee	1	-	4
Clinton	13	19	17
O'Malley	4	4	6
Sanders	11	13	9
Webb	3	2	1
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	-	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	1	3
DK/NA	21	19	22

2B. (If Registered Democrat) If the Democratic primary for President were being held today, and the candidates were Joe Biden, Lincoln Chafee, Hillary Clinton, Martin O'Malley, Bernie Sanders, and Jim Webb, for whom would you vote? COMBINED WITH: Who is your second choice? (Note: Percentages add to more than 100%)

	REGISTERED DEMOCRATS Q2 & Q2A COMBINED...		
	FL	OH	PA
Biden	45%	48%	45%
Chafee	1	-	4
Clinton	74	75	67
O'Malley	4	5	6
Sanders	16	22	17
Webb	3	2	3
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	1	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	7	4	6
DK/NA	30	27	33

11. Is your opinion of Hillary Clinton favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about her?

	REGISTERED DEMOCRATS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	82%	81%	79%
Unfavorable	11	14	15
Hvn't hrd enough	6	5	4
REFUSED	1	1	2

12. Is your opinion of Jeb Bush favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	69%	49%	49%
Unfavorable	18	20	25
Hvn't hrd enough	12	31	26
REFUSED	1	1	1

13. Is your opinion of Marco Rubio favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	75%	54%	57%
Unfavorable	9	4	5
Hvn't hrd enough	16	41	38
REFUSED	1	1	-

14. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Ben Carson favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	54%	44%	53%
Unfavorable	7	9	5
Hvn't hrd enough	38	48	42
REFUSED	-	-	1

15. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Chris Christie favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	45%	41%	43%
Unfavorable	35	35	45
Hvn't hrd enough	20	24	11
REFUSED	1	-	1

16. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Ted Cruz favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	49%	44%	48%
Unfavorable	16	12	13
Hvn't hrd enough	33	43	39
REFUSED	2	1	-

17. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Carly Fiorina favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about her?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	37%	27%	28%
Unfavorable	8	6	5
Hvn't hrd enough	55	67	67
REFUSED	-	-	-

18. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Lindsey Graham favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	28%	26%	17%
Unfavorable	23	20	20
Hvn't hrd enough	46	54	62
REFUSED	3	-	1

19. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Mike Huckabee favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	65%	62%	53%
Unfavorable	20	19	25
Hvn't hrd enough	15	20	21
REFUSED	1	-	1

20. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Bobby Jindal favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	44%	36%	35%
Unfavorable	12	5	6
Hvn't hrd enough	43	58	58
REFUSED	1	1	-

21. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of John Kasich favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	31%	74%	24%
Unfavorable	10	11	4
Hvn't hrd enough	59	14	71
REFUSED	-	1	-

22. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of George Pataki favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	19%	11%	17%
Unfavorable	15	13	19
Hvn't hrd enough	66	74	63
REFUSED	-	2	1

23. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Rand Paul favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	50%	52%	53%
Unfavorable	26	21	16
Hvn't hrd enough	23	27	32
REFUSED	1	1	-

24. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Rick Perry favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	50%	53%	46%
Unfavorable	22	16	16
Hvn't hrd enough	27	31	37
REFUSED	1	-	1

25. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Rick Santorum favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	47%	40%	57%
Unfavorable	22	21	30
Hvn't hrd enough	30	39	13
REFUSED	1	-	1

26. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Donald Trump favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	30%	33%	34%
Unfavorable	51	53	51
Hvn't hrd enough	15	13	14
REFUSED	3	2	1

27. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Scott Walker favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED REPUBLICANS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	59%	43%	52%
Unfavorable	8	2	7
Hvn't hrd enough	32	55	41
REFUSED	1	-	-

28. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Joe Biden favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED DEMOCRATS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	73%	71%	76%
Unfavorable	11	18	12
Hvn't hrd enough	15	7	11
REFUSED	1	4	1

29. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Lincoln Chaffee favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED DEMOCRATS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	7%	5%	6%
Unfavorable	15	15	7
Hvn't hrd enough	77	80	87
REFUSED	1	-	-

30. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Martin O'Malley favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED DEMOCRATS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	11%	11%	13%
Unfavorable	17	13	16
Hvn't hrd enough	72	75	70
REFUSED	1	1	1

31. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Bernie Sanders favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED DEMOCRATS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	26%	34%	29%
Unfavorable	14	15	16
Hvn't hrd enough	59	52	54
REFUSED	1	-	1

32. (Split Sample) Is your opinion of Jim Webb favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED DEMOCRATS		
	FL	OH	PA
Favorable	11%	11%	5%
Unfavorable	13	11	9
Hvn't hrd enough	76	78	85
REFUSED	-	-	-