Top Line Survey Results  
Berks County, Pennsylvania  
Voter Attitude Survey  
Conducted March 4-9, 2019  
Sample Size: 402 Registered/Likely Voters

Good morning/afternoon/evening, my name is (YOUR FIRST NAME). I am calling on behalf of Susquehanna Polling and Research a public opinion research firm. May I speak to (name on list) or another registered voter in your household? (If name on list or another registered voter is not available, TERMINATE)

INTRODUCTION: We are conducting a survey of attitudes and opinions concerning some important issues facing Berks County today. May we have just three to four minutes of your time to complete a very brief survey?

Great, thank you...

F1. To confirm, are you a registered voter in Berks County?

1. Yes 402 100% (PROCEED TO Q1)  
2. No -- (TERMINATE)

Q1. Generally speaking, what is the single most important problem or issue facing Berks County today? (UNAIDED)  

See Verbatim Schedule A-1

Q2. Have you recently seen, read or heard anything either in the news media or through any other source about the proposal by the Berks County Commissioners to sell Berks Heim, the county-owned nursing home? If yes, where did you learn about this? (check all that apply)

1. Yes, TV 71 18%  
2. Yes, radio 34 08%  
3. Yes, newspaper 182 45%  
4. Yes, internet 23 06%  
5. Yes, word of mouth 54 13%  
6. Yes, other 5 01%  
   Yes, TOTAL 265 66%  
7. No 135 34%  
8. Undecided 2 00%
Q3. Based on what you know, should the county-owned nursing home be sold, or should it be retained by the county?

1. Sold 41 10%  PROCEED TO Q4a
2. Retained 254 63%  PROCEED TO Q4b
3. Undecided 107 27%  SKIP TO Q5

Q4a. Since you indicated the county-owned nursing home should be sold, can you share with us a primary reason why?  See Verbatim Schedule A-2

Q4b. Since you indicated the county-owned nursing home should be retained by the county and NOT sold, can you share with us a primary reason why?  See Verbatim Schedule A-3

Q5. According to news reports, Berks Heim expects to face an $18 million deficit in the next decade due to lower reimbursement from the state, an aging population and higher health care costs. Would you be willing to pay more in taxes if it means Berks Heim can remain a county-owned facility?

1. Yes, would be willing to pay more in taxes 177 44%
2. No, would not be willing to pay higher taxes 171 43%
3. Undecided 54 13%

Q6. Has anyone in your family ever been cared for by Berks Heim, or does anyone in your family plan to be cared for by Berks Heim in the future? (Check All that Apply)

1. Yes, currently been cared for/utilize Berks Heim 72 18%
2. Yes, plan to seek services from Berks Heim in the future 21 05%
3. No 313 78%
4. Undecided 2 00%

Now I just have a few additional questions for demographic purposes and we’ll be through...

Q7. Are you registered to vote as a Republican, Democrat, Independent or something else?

1. Republican 172 43%
2. Democrat 165 41%
3. Independent/Other 41 10%
4. Refuse 24 06%
Q8. What is your age according to the following age brackets – 18 to 29, 30 to 44, 45 to 54, 55 to 64 or 65 and older?

1. 18-29: 60 (15%)
2. 30-44: 51 (13%)
3. 45-54: 64 (16%)
4. 55-64: 86 (21%)
5. 65 and older: 138 (34%)
6. Refuse: 3 (01%)

Q9. How long have you been a resident of Berks County, in number of years? (UNAIDED)

1. Less than 1 year: 0 (00%)
2. 1 to 5 years: 11 (03%)
3. 6 to 10 years: 19 (05%)
4. 11 to 20 years: 44 (11%)
5. More than 20 years: 327 (81%)
6. Refuse: 1 (00%)

Q10. Are you of Hispanic or Latino descent?

1. Yes: 64 (16%)
2. No: 338 (84%)

Q11. What is your main racial background? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

1. White/Caucasian: 321 (80%)
2. Hispanic/Latino: 51 (13%)
3. African American: 2 (01%)
4. Asian: 1 (00%)
5. Other: 19 (05%)
6. Refuse: 11 (03%)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE SURVEY. HAVE A GOOD DAY.

Gender (by observation):

1. Male: 201 (50%)
2. Female: 201 (50%)
Zip Code/Region:

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This poll is commissioned by Berks County Community Foundation and conducted by Susquehanna Polling and Research, Inc. Interviews were conducted March 4-9, 2019 with 402 registered voters in Berks County, Pennsylvania. Survey respondents are randomly contacted using random selection procedures, and all telephone interviews are conducted using live telephone agents. Respondents had to first pass screening and pre-qualification procedures to ensure proper eligibility in the survey by affirming their residency in Berks County. The sample frame was compiled using random telephone sequence methods, and includes both landline and cellular households, purchased from a certified list vendor; all households are pre-screened to eliminate household telephone numbers on the federal Do Not Call registry in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws. Only known registered voters were contacted.

The sample frame was compiled using mainly registered voters who have prior vote history in select years, using vote history in 2014 through 2018 as the basis for eligibility in the sample. According to a review of registration figures from L2, a reputable telephone list vendor, Berks County has a total of 231,599 registered voters on the rolls, of which 103,756 (or approximately 45%) are registered Democrat, compared to 92,512 who are registered Republican (or 40%); 35,331 are registered with other political parties (or 15%). However, based on vote history in past elections, using voters who voted in at least 2 of the last 4 elections or more from 2014 through 2018, Republican registered voters overperform Democrats by a margin of 66,491 to 62,110 in actual votes cast. Using a 3x voter model, Republicans widen their VTO advantage to 44,208 v. 37,057 in total votes cast.

Interviews are closely monitored to ensure a representative sample of likely voters is achieved based on party registration, geography, gender, age and other demographics; results are sometimes statistically weighted.

The margin of error for a sample size of 402 interviews is +/- 4.9% at the 95% confidence level.

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1 Susquehanna Polling and Research, Inc. is a nationally-recognized polling and focus group company and conducts polling for political, media and corporate clients mainly in PA, NY, IN, FL, NJ, MD, DE, SC, NC and other states. SP&R’s polling has been featured on many national platforms, including the Rush Limbaugh Radio Show, FOX News Channel, The O’Reilly Factor, the Bill Maher Show and MSNBC. The internet news service Sunshine State News of Florida referred to SP&R as “one of the most prominent pollsters in the country” for its accurate polling in the 2010 Florida Gubernatorial Republican Primary election. WHTM-TV/ABC27 News in Harrisburg recognized SP&R for its accurate polling in the 2016 Presidential Pennsylvania election.

2 www.l2political.com, 18912 North Creek Parkway, Suite 201, Bothell, WA 98011
Q1. *What is the single most important problem facing Berks County today? That is, the one that most concerns you the most on a daily basis? (N=402)*

11. Age: 54-64. Party: REP. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19510. Immigration is an important issue facing the county.
14. Age: 18-29. Party: REF. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19602. Their streets are really bad filled with pot holes, and that is an important issue facing the county.
20. Age: 30-44. Party: REF. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19530. We don't need any more jobs.
Illegal immigrants are a big issue facing Berks County.

I guess the streets need repairing.

The high taxes.

They should take more consideration for seniors and our taxes.

I don't know.

High taxes is also an issue facing the county.

Economic development.

Taxes.

Poverty and homeless.

The nursing home is an important issue facing the county.

Property taxes.

There need to be more discipline in Berks County.

I think we have too many homeless people.

Don't know

Job opportunities.

High Taxes. Middle man getting paid to do nothing.
Property Taxes is a big issue in Berks County.
Lack of jobs.
Crime.
I'd say crime.
The budget for schooling.
Property taxes.
Health care lack of the cost.
Republicans.
Health care lack of the cost.
The roads need to be fixed and made larger.
Probably rising taxes.
It's a lot of crime that's facing Berks County today.
The roads need to be worked on.
Probably drug control.
Influx of illegal aliens.
Berks County
Perhaps the roads.
Medicare for the elderly is an important issue facing the county.
Maintain farmland.
64. Age: 54-64. Party: IND. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19606.
The city of Reading's overall stability.
Healthcare
There are a lot of homeless people in the county.
School on our property taxes is high.
Making sure people are safe.
   I would say the economy.
   Property taxes.
   Big issue is money being spent on unnecessary properties.
   Property taxes.
   Probably creation of new jobs.
   Property taxes.
   Selling the nursing home is an important issue facing Berks County.
   I don't know.
   I feel that drug problems and the crime that goes with it.
   I think property taxes.
   Not really anything comes to mind.
   Taxes on property.
   Property taxes.
   Property taxes.
   Crime.
   I don't know.
   The traffic and the highways. Fix the infrastructure.
   The crime.
   I think taxes.
   The opioid epidemic is a problem in the county.
   Potholes in the roads.
   Climate change.
   I think it is the poverty and drugs.
   The influx of Hispanics living off government.
Taxes.
Drugs problem.
The democrats.
I dislike the commissioners we have in Burks county.
I really don't know.
Can't really say.
Political leadership.
Honestly, I really won't be able to tell you.
Property taxes.
The gun violence.
Property taxes are too high.
Drug addiction.
Lack of high paying jobs.
Crime and drug overdoses.
The troubles with the structures of the schools and concerned about the environment.
No lines on the roads.
I don't know.
The opioid crisis.
Too many foreigners.
The government.
Economics. We need more businesses for jobs and good paying jobs.
They should give real estate taxes breaks.
Pollution.
The roads and there is too many school taxes.
We need more manufacturing jobs.
I would have to say illegal immigration.
Too much Section 8.
Right now, I would have to say the schooling.
Christian values versus elected people.
The minimum wage is too low.
Drugs and crime.
Nothing comes to mind.
Drugs is too bad.
Opioid addiction.
More funding for education.
The court system.
Economics.
The system.
I don't know.
I really don't know, but there might be race relations problems.
I'm sure the healthcare costs affect everybody.
147. Age: 54-64. Party: REP. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19540. Taxes are a problem that the county is facing.
151. Age: 65+. Party: REP. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19560. The commissioners are making a lot of bad decisions and spending money where it is not needed.
152. Age: 54-64. Party: IND. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19608. Crime is the biggest issue Berks County is facing in the cities.
156. Age: 30-44. Party: IND. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19607. Homelessness is a big issue facing Berks County.
163. Age: 30-44. Party: REP. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19555. School property taxes are an important issue facing Berks today.
Over development of farmland.
The economy.
Crooked politicians.
Opioid addiction.
Probably the economy. Nee more good jobs.
There are a lot of problems especially drugs.
I think making the economy stronger.
An important issue in Berks County is taxes.
Illegal immigration.
Property taxes.
I don't know.
Too much crime.
Job growth is an issue facing Berks County.
Hard drugs around.
I think that the immigrants are causing financial distress.
The biggest problem is climate change.
The bridge on Route 562 needs to be fixed.
Taxes are too high.
I don't know.
We have multiple problems.
Probably the struggle of the city of Redding to stay financially viable.
Too much stupidity.
I think that drugs cause many other problems.
Donald Trumps policies.
193. Age: 54-64. Party: REP. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19526. Drugs are pretty bad here and they need to crack down on them.
194. Age: 54-64. Party: DEM. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19526. It is that the politicians are out of touch with the people.
198. Age: 30-44. Party: DEM. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19555. I think the 222 has been set up very poorly.
209. Age: 54-64. Party: REP. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19507. I really don't have any specific thing.
211. Age: 30-44. Party: DEM. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19508. Tom Wolfe doesn't help the residents.
213. Age: 30-44. Party: DEM. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19526. Drugs are the most important issue facing Berks County.
216. Age: 54-64. Party: DEM. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19559. Inflation. They need to put a freeze on prices because the prices on everyday life keeps going up.
217. Age: 18-29. Party: DEM. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19508. I would like to see more politicians who aren't in it for their own gain.
221. Age: 30-44. Party: DEM. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19541. People claiming to be homeless, but are not.
227. Age: 54-64. Party: REP. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19606. They need more job opportunities. They need more shelter for the homeless.
238. Age: 54-64. Party: IND. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19526. Poverty is the most important issue in the county.
245. Age: 65+. Party: REP. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19547. I think the biggest problems is the smart meters they are putting on homes.
250. Age: 54-64. Party: IND. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19604. People feel they are entitled. They do not feel they should work for it.
253. Age: 30-44. Party: DEM. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19606. Too much division between different races is an issue facing Berks.
257. Age: 30-44. Party: DEM. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19526. I don't think there are enough jobs.
258. Age: 65+. Party: REP. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19604. I am handicapped and I drive a 3 wheel scooter. There is no handicapped pavement for scooters and I have to go into the street.
Crime in Reading.
271. Age: 54-64. Party: DEM. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19607. Problem facing Berks County is high taxes. Maybe, they should lower it.
272. Age: 45-54. Party: DEM. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19604. I don't like being ticketed when they clean the streets all the time and I cannot move my vehicle very often because I am handicapped.
278. Age: 54-64. Party: IND. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19555. There are too many illegal aliens.
289. Age: 45-54. Party: DEM. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19529. The camp where they are holding the immigrants crossing the border and how they are treating them.
297. Age: 65+. Party: REP. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19608. They are charging a gas tax, but the roads aren't being fixed.
304. Age: 30-44. Party: DEM. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19526. The property taxes are too high.
The high crime rate.
Too many homeless people in the county.
Poverty Level.
Poverty.
Not enough truthful people.
Roads need to repaired.
Organization of cooperation of different processes of the county and city. They would get more accomplished if they worked as a team.
I don't know.
I would say the opiates and drugs.
The drug epidemic.
Taxes.
Lack of jobs that pay well.
The lantern flies.
They need more help with helping the city getting straightened out.
Job availability.
The opioid crisis.
Racism.
I don't see anything wrong with the county.
Abortion is the single most important problem everywhere.
There are too many taxes and they are way too high.
There are so many. Having the elderly pay school taxes.
I don't know.
I don't have an opinion.
I have no idea.

Do not privatize Berks Heim.

Road maintenance.

The Berks Heim.

The drug use is the biggest problem.

Property taxes.

There are quite a few murders and drugs in town.

Too many tractor trailers on farm roads.

More need for the homeles. They could make apartments or room for the homeless.

There is a lot of violence.

The roads are in bad shape.

I think Berks county is doing pretty good.

The taxes are too high.

Wages are too low.

School systems are not working.

Taxes and crime.

Just getting along as a society.

The biggest problem in Berks County is the closure of the Schneider Electric Plant.

Taxes.

Drug use.

Their streets are really bad filled with potholes, and that is an important issue facing the county.

The gun violence.

Roads and bridges.

I don't know.

Out of touch politicians.
Real estate taxes.
Drug addiction.
Drugs are the most important issue facing Berks County.
I don't know.
The drug problem.
High crime.
Laziness and entitlement of people on welfare.
Racial divisions in the county and country.
Jobs.
Issues for the disabled.
High taxes.
Street cleaning issues.
President Trump.
Real estate taxes.
Education in general.
Education is a problem facing Berks County.
Drug epidemic.
I would say Berks Heim.
It's a bad drug problem.
Taxes are too high.
Need better jobs.
Their should be an equal job opportunity for everyone is an issue.
Abortion is the single most important problem everywhere.
I don't know.
Wages are too low.
School systems are not working.
Educational System.
Their streets are really bad filled with pot holes, and that is an important issue facing the county.
Climate change.
I really am not sure.
Lack of high paying jobs.
I don't know.
I am not sure.
Need better income base regarding people that are not paying taxes.
Drugs and crime.
I would like to see more politicians who aren't in it for their own gain.
Not really sure.
The roadways and bridges need to be fixed.
Lack of luxury housing options in this county.
Not sure.
Roads maybe.
Education is a problem facing Berks County.
I would say Berks Heim and the county sale.
Taxes are too high.
The most important issue is the drugs and crime.
Job security and economic security.
High taxes.
Q4a. Since you indicated the county-owned nursing home should be sold, can you share with us a primary reason why? (N=40)

I feel like it is a competitive market.

I don't care about the facility.

As long as the money received is used to pay off deficits.

It's too expensive to manage it.

It should be sold to a private owner because once the government get a hold to it then they are money hungry.

I don't think the county is up to it financially.

They are not treated well in the nursing home.

We have enough taxes to pay. Private owned business can afford it.

It could be taken care of more better if it was sold.

County is incompetent. They do things for wrong reasons.

Financial drain on the county.

The taxes are too high.

So the tax payers don't have to keep heating it.

It's not working well now, maybe they could do better.

I don't know.

Because the government should not be in that business.

People should be allowed to do as they please. If they want to sell it, then it's fine. it's their choice.

Not a government function to take care of the elderly.

If they are not making money, then they should sell it.

As long as someone buys it and puts it to good use.

Basically to avoid being in a deficit.

I think the county lacks a lot of funding. If it goes in a privatized approach, they may get more funding for it.

28. Party: REP. Age: 45-54. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19508. They do a better job if it was a private owner.
32. Party: REP. Age: 30-44. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19567. If they are facing money problems, it could be sold or the state should take over.
35. Party: IND. Age: 65+. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19605. My late father in law spent his late months there and I am familiar with how it was ran. The service was excellent, but the cost per month was $10,000. That was just too much.
36. Party: REP. Age: 55-64. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19518. It is not the purpose of government to take care of the elderly and fund these programs.
37. Party: IND. Age: 55-64. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19604. Less government the better off we all are.
39. Party: REP. Age: 18-29. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19507. The county lacks funding. If it goes private, they may get more funding perhaps?
Q4b. Since you indicated the county-owned nursing home should be retained, can you share with us a primary reason why? (N=255)

1. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19555.
   There are lots of people who need it.
2. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 18092.
   So they basically have a place to go.
3. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19606.
   My father, family and friends have had good care there.
4. **Party**: IND. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19541.
   It's the best nursing home in the county.
5. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19526.
   The county needs it.
6. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19533.
   I might end up there someday.
7. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 45-54. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19606.
   I guess that if not retained, prices will likely go home.
8. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19554.
   The county should make sure its kept up, so they should keep it.
9. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19522.
   It's good now. Why change if it's good. Keep it the way it is.
10. **Party**: REF. **Age**: 30-44. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19530.
    If it needs to be kept, we should keep it.
11. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: REF. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19606.
    It's a wonderful place.
12. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19565.
    Because I've heard nothing but good things about Berks Heim and if it's not broken don't fix it.
13. **Party**: IND. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19608.
    I am familiar with the system in Hamburg.
14. **Party**: REF. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19507.
    Should be fixed up.
15. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19610.
    They have peoples best interest in mind.
16. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19601.
    I am a former nurse elsewhere and they need to take care of the elderly.
17. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19507.
    It's helping the elderly. No matter how much it costs, it should remain open.
18. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 45-54. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19526.
    Just a preference.
19. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19508.
    The care could go down if sold.
20. **Party**: REF. **Age**: 55-64. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19543.
    For income to the county.
21. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 55-64. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19607.
    They need to help the elderly.
22. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19506.
    I feel that people get good care there and it employs many local people.
23. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19560.
It's needed.
24. **Party**: REF. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19607.
I don't think they should go private because they aren't too good. They are just there to make money.
25. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19607.
Because it is affordable. If it goes private, it may be too expensive.
26. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 30-44. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19526.
Not sure.
27. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19541.
I would be moving there soon, so I prefer to keep it as is.
28. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 55-64. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19526.
The senior citizens of the county need to be taken care of.
29. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 30-44. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19541.
If it's sold, they will keep the money for themselves.
30. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 55-64. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19534.
The potential rise in costs.
31. **Party**: REF. **Age**: 30-44. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19506.
The elderly need somewhere to live.
32. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: NONE. **Zip**: 19606.
County would help people be able to afford. Care goes down if sold.
33. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 55-64. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19512.
The nursing home should be left alone for the senior citizen's to live happily.
34. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19609.
I just prefer it to be county owned. It's run well.
35. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 45-54. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19608.
The last thing we need for the elderly is higher prices.
36. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19605.
Because of the good service given to clients. It is very well run.
37. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19530.
The people who need to use the facility would be better served by the county versus some third party
who want to make a profit.
38. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19506.
We paid our taxes and we should be able to have a place to go and not pay.
39. **Party**: IND. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19526.
It's been county owned for years.
40. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19605.
Because it serves a good purpose and gives local people good jobs.
41. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19611.
I know people that were there and the care was excellent.
42. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19506.
It is well ran and has good employees.
43. **Party**: IND. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19506.
It has been there for years. Why sell it now.
44. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 45-54. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19611.
Employees of the county should be kept there.
45. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 30-44. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19506.
Because it's been run well.
46. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19606.
I think it would be easier for the residents to get help.
It's costs.

A lot of older people would find a place to go.

A lot of people need that facility when they can't stay in nursing home.

A private entity can't look after them better than the care of the people.

There are very few places where the heath care is as good as Berks Heim.

A lot of older people would find a place to go.

It should stay a nursing home and I don't think that will happen if it's sold.

Take care of the elderly.

The county does a great job. They staff the nursing home properly and I'm not sure that a privately owned facility would do as good a job for the residents.

I think it's been with Burk county a long time and that's where it should stay.

The county does a great job.

Usually, anything that gets sold will not pass on to the right owners. They will make it worse.

It's costs.
It should keep local control. Both patients and employees may be affected.

It was always a cou

Better care.

Once it is a private entity, that will end it for most of the people that are there.

To keep offering our residents a place to go.

They need

It's a good place and the companies that buy it will ruin it.

Why sell it. If it is privately owned, they are going to make more money off it.

So many of the local residents have been having it overseen by the county. It will become a big business.

I can't tell you the reason why.

I think it's not broken, so why fix it?

Nowhere else for our low income elderly to go.

It fills an important need. Certain population needs to be heard.

So many of the local residents have been having it overseen by the county. It will become a big business.

Because when privately owned, care isn't as good.

Why sell it. If it is privately owned, they are going to make more money off it.

It's a good place and the companies that buy it will ruin it.

They need to keep the nursing home.

To keep offering our residents a place to go.

Privately owned would mean the care won't be as good.

Once it is a private entity, that will end it for most of the people that are there.

Better care.

It should keep local control. Both patients and employees may be affected.

It fills an important need that is more interested in profits than care.

It should be used as it has been for years.

Every place needs a county owned facility.

I think local concerns are more important that giving it to a corporate concern that is more interested in profits than care.
I would like the county to keep control and stay involved.
Because the people who work there and live there, need it to be that way.
Seems that it's ran well.
It has always been needed.
The quality of care is good, so it should be retained.
What will happen to the people that can't afford private nursing home? Are the elderly going to be homeless?
They do a fantastic job.
If a private sector outfit took over, that it would either get worse, or go under altogether.
Care might not be as good.
Because it has worked well over the decades and I wish to see it continue to work well.
Provides jobs to people.
Because it is working and running smoothly.
I fear that if it were sold, that it would soon be gone.
I think non-profit works better for those that are there.
It's a part of the county and the county is responsible to keep it up and running.
Will have better care if it is monitored by the county.
I think we should have it for people who can't afford any other place to go.
I think the private owners who could take over could be bad.
I think that we need it to take care of our aging people.
The facility is a part of our culture and it should stay.
I don't understand why they want to sell things. It's working and no good will come of selling it. Leave it alone.
Where would all these people go if you don't have that.
The people that are there say that it is a good place and I don't know why they would want to get rid of it.
I think it's a good thing. Because they need a place for the old people.

I think it's a nice property and can be retained. Keeps it affordable for people.

There's going to be more aging. We're going to need more nursing homes.

When facilities are sold to private companies, the bottom line becomes the focus instead of patient care.

One of the best nursing homes. It would be a shame to close down.

What will they do with those who are there?

I work for an assisted living community and when the home office is somewhere else, it's not as personal.

I think it's a good property and can be retained.

Because they need a place for the old people.

I think it's a good thing.

Do a good job and raise the taxes.
If you put it in private hands, it becomes more expensive for the elderly.

The elderly needs a place to go.
Provides a better care.
Because there is people that need to be in a nursing home.
There are people who need that service.
It is a needed service for the elderly.
Because those that are there, get good care that they might not get otherwise.
Under more scrutiny than private companies.
I think it would be less costly for residents.
It's an excellent place and run so well.
Because their are too few sites that handle elderly and at a reasonably price,
Not sure.
It has been that way so why change it.
I feel that it is a clean good place.
It's good to have a place for those to go that have no other place.
I feel like the care would perhaps be better.
I think private owner will cut corners and care won't be as good.
My father was there and it was good experience.
I don't have a good answer for it.
I think if it's privatized I think it would be more for profit and the care wouldn't be as good.
I think Berks County should own it. They have owned it this long, why sell it now. It's in a great spot.
There are a lot of poor people who cannot afford nursing homes and I've heard Berk Heim is very good.
There are no other good places they can go.
So my friend can keep her job.
It would help out the elderly to stay for cheaper.
Private owners are more interested in profits. I feel that they do a good job. Some one else might buy it and come in and charge way more. If it's not broke, don't fix it. 166. **Party**: DEM, **Age**: 55-64, **Gender**: FEMALE, **Zip**: 19607. 
Affordability for the elderly people matters. Because we don't know who will run it and it may become much more expensive. Because treatment of the elderly might go downhill. It's been held for many years and has had a good record of service. It's a nice place.

No private nursing homes they over charge people. They provide a better service if it is through the county. Elderly people need a place to go. Because I think the older people need a place to go for housing. Because it has been good for years, I worry that it will change for the worst. We need to be able to help the elderly people. Because treatment of the elderly might go downhill. Because we don't know who will run it and it may become much more expensive. It is a necessary piece of ownership for Berks County. Better supervision than privately owned is the way to go.

If they sell it, they are going to run through the money. They need to keep the nursing home in county hands. I feel that they do a good job. Some one else might buy it and come in and charge way more. They need a place for the elderly that can't afford a nursing home. Because it has done so well all these years and they shouldn't be where they are now. Private owners are more interested in profits.
I don't know.

186. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 45-54. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19609.
It has a good reputation for caring for the elderly.

187. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19606.
They might not have the facility in their best interest if it is going to be sold, so would rather retain then sale.

188. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 45-54. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19522.
They should keep it open once they sell it, it won't be the same.

189. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 45-54. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19606.
We need a place for lower income people.

190. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 30-44. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19565.
Workers get better wages and patients get better care.

191. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19567.
They took good care of my parents.

192. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 55-64. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19522.
I don't know.

193. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 45-54. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19522.
Because that's how it's been run and it's been the highest rated facility. To change it to a for profit facility would be detrimental.

194. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 45-54. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19606.
It's a wonderful place and if sold it will change.

195. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 55-64. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19541.
Because the old folks should be able to look forward to it. I feel we should have that for our elderly.

196. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19607.
My mother received good care there. Very expensive, but good care.

197. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 30-44. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19567.
I believe that those who need available resources should get them.

198. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19506.
The county would be closer to the operation and they would best know what's going on. It would have a closer affiliation.

199. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 30-44. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19529.
It is an important county resource and provides homes for the elderly.

200. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19565.
It won't be the same if they sell it.

201. **Party**: IND. **Age**: 30-44. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19565.
Cause that's my opinion.

202. **Party**: IND. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19526.
Because there are too many people that are not wanted and this is a place for them to go.

203. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 45-54. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19606.
I visit many who have been there and they are well taken care of.

204. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19526.
I think there is less responsibility on the part of private owners than locally owned individuals.

205. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 45-54. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19526.
I think it's a caring and well-run community.

206. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 65+. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19608.
Because it's quality care. They don't have the turnover of their personnel.

207. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 55-64. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 17067.
It was originally for the county.
I think Berks County should own it. They have always been a good place for the elders. It's fine just the way it is. When facilities are sold to private companies, the bottom line becomes the focus instead of patient care. It's a good place to go and they need it here. It's been in business a very long time. Some people there have no where else to go. I think they should keep it because a lot of people need it. I don't have a single reason. I'd have to think about this for a while. The people are happy with it. It's been ran effectively. I really don't think there is enough homes and people are struggling to place people with Alzheimer's. It's a good place to go if you need it. Better operated by county. There are so many people who can't afford a nursing home. It's the closest for the older people. Where would all these people go if you don't have that. A lot of people can't afford a regular nursing home. When facilities are sold to private companies, the bottom line becomes the focus instead of patient care. It's a public service what the elderly needs. Because care for the elderly is out of the reach for most people. When a private entity takes over they are about profit. It's a good place to go and they need it here. It's been in business a very long time. Some people there have no where else to go. I don't have a single reason. I'd have to think about it awhile. The people are happy with it. It's been ran effectively.

209. Party: DEM. Age: 65+. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19539. Because care for the elderly is out of the reach for most people. When a private entity takes over they are about profit.
212. Party: REP. Age: 65+. Gender: MALE. Zip: 17067. I really don't think there is enough homes and people are struggling to place people with Alzheimer's. It's a good place to go, if you need it.
213. Party: REP. Age: 65+. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19567. Because they seem to have the most to offer people.
214. Party: DEM. Age: 30-44. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19604. I think they should keep it because a lot of people need it.
215. Party: DEM. Age: 55-64. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19547. Some people there have no where else to go.
216. Party: DEM. Age: 30-44. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19608. I don't have a single reason. I'd have to think about it awhile. The people are happy with it.
221. Party: DEM. Age: 55-64. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19606. There are so many people who can't afford a nursing home. It's the closest for the older people.
222. Party: DEM. Age: 18-29. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19506. Where would all these people go if you don't have that.
224. Party: REP. Age: 30-44. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19539. When facilities are sold to private companies, the bottom line becomes the focus instead of patient care.
225. Party: DEM. Age: 30-44. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19526. It's fine just the way it is.
226. Party: DEM. Age: 30-44. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19540. Always been a good place for the elders.
228. Party: DEM. Age: 45-54. Gender: MALE. Zip: 19606. I don't have a good answer for it.
229. Party: REP. Age: 65+. Gender: FEMALE. Zip: 19604. I think Berks County should own it. They have owned it this long, why sell it now. It's in a great spot.
Affordability for the elderly people matters.

231. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 45-54. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19604. It's an excellent place and run so well.

232. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 55-64. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19601. Keeps it affordable for people when it's under the county control.

233. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 45-54. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19606. Elderly people need a place to go and this is it.

234. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19530. No private nursing homes, since they have a tendency to over charge people.

235. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 55-64. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19526. Because I think the older people need a place to go for housing.

236. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19512. Because it has been good for years, I worry that it will change for the worst.

237. **Party**: IND. **Age**: 45-54. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19604. We need to be able to help the elderly people.

238. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19606. They might not have the facility in their best interest if it is going to be sold, so would rather retain then have it go private.

239. **Party**: IND. **Age**: 30-44. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19565. We would keep it because a lot of people need it.

240. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 30-44. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19604. It's my opinion.

241. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 55-64. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19547. I think they should keep it because a lot of people need it.

242. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 18092. Some people there have no where else to go.

243. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19609. So they have a place to go.

244. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19609. A private entity can't look after them better than the care of the people, so I think it should be kept.

245. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19547. I work for an assisted living community and when the home office is somewhere else, it's not as personal.

246. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19506. It's an excellent place and run so well.

247. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19606. Get better care.

248. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: NONE. **Zip**: 19555. Keep it affordable for people when it's under the county control.

249. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19508. It's a nice place and should be retained.

250. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19526. Elderly people need a place to go.

251. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19606. No private nursing homes, since they have a tendency to over charge people.

252. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19530. Get better care.

253. **Party**: DEM. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19512.
Because it has been good for years, I worry that it will change for the worst if this thing goes private.

254. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: FEMALE. **Zip**: 19522.
If they sell it, they are going to run through the money. They need to keep the nursing home.

255. **Party**: REP. **Age**: 18-29. **Gender**: MALE. **Zip**: 19508.
I don't know. Can't really say.