

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2014

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CHRISTIE RATINGS NEGATIVE FOR FIRST TIME IN OVER THREE YEARS

Governor's favorability among registered voters drops seven points in two months

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. – For the first time since August 2011, more New Jersey voters have an unfavorable impression of Gov. Chris Christie than a favorable one, according to the latest Rutgers-Eagleton Poll. Following a seven-point decline during the past two months, just 42 percent of registered voters now feel favorable toward the governor, while 45 percent feel unfavorable.

“This is the lowest favorability rating we have ever recorded for Christie, below the 44 percent of August 2011,” said David Redlawsk, director of the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling and professor of political science at Rutgers University. “What had seemed like a small rebound following Christie’s Bridgegate ratings collapse now looks more like a temporary blip.”

While remaining slightly positive, Christie’s overall job approval rating is also dropping, falling three more points to 49 percent, with 46 percent disapproving, up five points.

Voters say taxes (24 percent), and the economy and jobs (21 percent) are the top two concerns, followed by corruption and abuse of power (16 percent) and education (12 percent). Underlying Christie’s decline is a roughly eight-month drop on three of these top issues: taxes (down 10 points to 33 percent approval), the economy (down three points to 38 percent) and education (down 10 points to 39 percent).

In addition, voters remain negative about Christie’s handling of the budget (down six points from a January 2014 poll, to 37 percent approval) and the pension crisis (24 percent approval, unchanged since first asked in August 2014.)

Only approval of Christie’s performance on Sandy recovery has shown significant improvement, rebounding to 60 percent from 54 percent last February. Approval of his handling of crime and drugs is up an insignificant two points to 52 percent over nearly the same period.

“The last time New Jerseyans were more negative than positive toward Christie the pension reform bill had just been signed, Christie had begun pushing a voter-supported teacher-tenure package

and, there had been no Superstorm Sandy,” noted Redlawsk. “But the good will he piled up after acting on those voter supported issues, and his handling of Sandy, has vanished. By nearly every measure we have, Christie is losing support.”

Results are from a statewide poll of 842 New Jersey residents contacted by live callers on both landlines and cell phones from Sept. 29 to Oct. 5, 2014. This release reports on a subsample of 734 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 4.2 percentage points.

Top problems: taxes and the economy

Analysis of voters’ two top concerns shed some light on Christie’s ratings decline. While Republicans remain about 20 points more positive than negative on the governor’s performance on taxes and the economy, Democrats and independents have a different perspective. On taxes, 20 percent of Democrats and 34 percent of independents approve of Christie’s performance; 74 percent of Democrats and 56 percent of independents disapprove. On the economy and jobs, 27 percent of Democrats approve and 68 percent disapprove. Thirty-seven percent of independents approve, 53 percent do not.

Among the 24 percent who call taxes the most important problem, Christie does quite well: a 60-29 percent favorability rating, and a 63-33 percent overall job approval rating. Yet these same voters are very negative on Christie’s actual performance on taxes: 35 percent approve of his work while 57 percent disapprove.

A similar pattern emerges on the economy; the 21 percent who care the most give a 50-46 percent overall job approval rating and split 44 percent favorable to 46 percent unfavorable on impressions of Christie. But like voters focused on taxes, these respondents hit Christie hard on their key issue: 29 percent approve Christie’s work on the economy while 65 percent disapprove.

Redlawsk identified GOP voters’ strong overall support for Christie as a cause of this odd pattern. “For Republicans, partisan preference overrides specific job performance,” he said. “We see a huge 25-point-plus gap between Republicans’ overall ratings of Christie and their evaluations on taxes and the economy. They may be much less supportive of the governor’s actions on these issues, but this does not interfere with supporting their fellow Republican.”

Democrats, and to a lesser extent independents, have become more consistent in connecting their general ratings of the governor with disapproval of his specific performance on issues, Redlawsk added. “The much smaller gap between job approval and assessments on top issues for these voters leads to the very negative ratings we find when we look at all voters who care most about taxes and the economy.”

Partisanship and ratings

The share of Democrats with a positive impression of Christie has fallen seven points to 21 percent since last August and 37 percent since a high point in February 2013. Since August, favorability among independents has dropped eight points to 44 percent, and among Republicans five points to 74 percent. At Christie's high point 20 months ago, 71 percent of independents and 88 percent of Republicans, respectively, felt favorably.

"The partisan favorability gap has skyrocketed to 53 points, as Democratic negativity has greatly increased since Bridgegate," said Redlawsk. "But Christie is also losing independents at a growing rate, which threatens to undermine his image as a leader with broad support."

Because some voters who dislike Christie still give him positive job ratings, his general job approval remains more positive than negative. But this partisan gap has also grown to 53 points: 80 percent of Republicans, 27 percent of Democrats and just over half of independent voters approve.

Where support weakens

Christie's favorability and job support ratings among men have each fallen nine points the past two months; approval and disapproval of his overall job performance each stand at 47 percent, while 41 percent of men feel favorable about him. His favorability among women has declined four points to 44 percent, while they still approve of his job performance, 50 percent to 46 percent, virtually unchanged since August. Among urban voters, Christie's job approval now stands at 31 percent, an 11-point tumble since August; 65 percent disapprove. Over the same period, suburban voters' approval of Christie's job performance fell seven points to 44 percent. Half of suburban voters now disapprove of how the governor does his job.

Christie's report card: New lows

Since a pre-Bridgegate poll in November 2013, Christie's job performance grades have plunged: only 10 percent now award him A, his smallest-ever share of the top grade and an 11-point drop. One-quarter of registered voters grade him B, also among the lowest total ever. C grades now dominate at 28 percent. The percentage of voters assigning D (16 percent) and F (19 percent) grades has climbed since last November, when only 8 percent of respondents failed the governor.

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QUESTIONS AND TABLES START ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

Questions and Tables

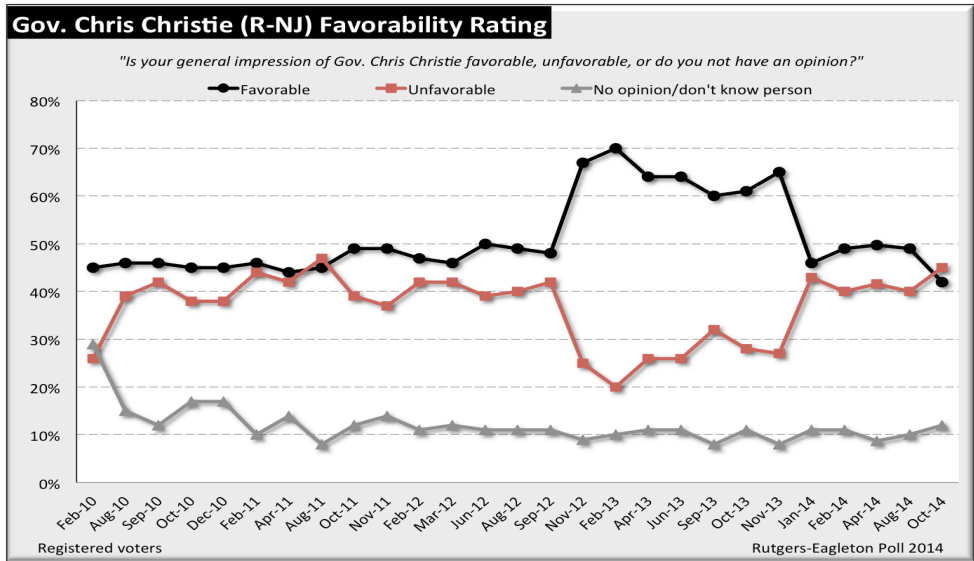
The questions covered in the release of October 14, 2014 are listed below. Column percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. Respondents are New Jersey Registered Voters; all percentages are of weighted results.

Q. First, I'd like to ask about some people and groups. Please tell me if your general impression of each one is favorable or unfavorable, or if you do not have an opinion. If you do not know the name, just say so.

Registered Voters

| | GOV. CHRIS CHRISTIE | Most Important Problem | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-------|----------------------------|
| | | Economy and Jobs | Taxes | Corruption/ Abuse of power |
| Favorable | 42% | 44% | 60% | 27% |
| Unfavorable | 45% | 46% | 29% | 59% |
| No opn/don't know person | 12% | 10% | 11% | 14% |
| Unwgt N= | 730 | 169 | 186 | 107 |

[OTHER NAMES GIVEN; ORDER RANDOMIZED; HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASES]



Trend

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|------|------|------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|-------|------|------|-------|
| | 8/14 | 4/14 | 2/14 | 1/14 | 11/13 | 10/13 | 9/13 | 6/13 | 4/13 | 2/13 | 11/12 | 9/12 | 8/12 | 6/12 | 3/12 | 2/12 | 11/11 |
| | RV | RV | RV | RV | RV | RV | RV | RV | RV | RV | RV | RV | RV | RV | RV | RV | RV |
| Fav | 49% | 50% | 49% | 46% | 65% | 61% | 60% | 64% | 64% | 70% | 67% | 48% | 49% | 50% | 46% | 47% | 49% |
| Unfav | 40% | 42% | 40% | 43% | 27% | 28% | 32% | 26% | 26% | 20% | 25% | 42% | 40% | 39% | 42% | 42% | 37% |
| DK | 10% | 9% | 11% | 11% | 8% | 11% | 8% | 11% | 10% | 10% | 9% | 11% | 11% | 11% | 12% | 11% | 14% |
| N= | 747 | 727 | 726 | 754 | 800 | 798 | 812 | 761 | 816 | 695 | 1105 | 787 | 911 | 1,064 | 514 | 910 | 752 |
| | 10/11 | 8/11 | 4/11 | 2/11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | RV | RV | RV | RV | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fav | 49% | 45% | 44% | 46% | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfav | 39% | 47% | 42% | 44% | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DK | 12% | 8% | 14% | 10% | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N= | 803 | 613 | 769 | 810 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Christie Ratings October 2014
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll

| | Party ID | | | Ideology | | | Gender | | Age | | | Race | |
|-------------|----------|-----|-----|----------|-----|-----|--------|--------|-------|-------|-----|-------|----------|
| | Dem | Ind | Rep | Lib | Mod | Con | Male | Female | 18-39 | 40-64 | 65+ | White | Nonwhite |
| Favorable | 21% | 44% | 74% | 24% | 44% | 60% | 41% | 44% | 33% | 43% | 53% | 51% | 21% |
| Unfavorable | 68% | 42% | 15% | 66% | 45% | 24% | 46% | 45% | 50% | 46% | 40% | 41% | 54% |
| Don't know | 11% | 14% | 11% | 10% | 11% | 15% | 13% | 11% | 17% | 12% | 7% | 7% | 25% |
| Unwt N= | 239 | 325 | 162 | 174 | 367 | 173 | 343 | 387 | 120 | 342 | 268 | 570 | 141 |

| | Region | | | | |
|-------------|--------|--------|---------|------------------|-----|
| | Urban | Suburb | Exurban | Phil/South Shore | |
| Favorable | 16% | 38% | 55% | 45% | 53% |
| Unfavorable | 62% | 49% | 37% | 44% | 36% |
| Don't know | 22% | 13% | 8% | 11% | 10% |
| Unwt N= | 77* | 259 | 123 | 124 | 147 |

** Small N, results should be interpreted with caution*

[QUESTIONS ON OTHER POLITICAL FIGURES LOCATED HERE; HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE]

Q. Please rate how Chris Christie is handling his job as governor, using a grading scale from A to F. You can give him any full letter grade, A, B, C, D, or F.

| | 10/14 RV | Most Important Problem | | |
|---------|-------------|------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| | | Economy and Jobs | Taxes | Corruption/ Abuse of Power |
| A | 10% | 7% | 12% | 10% |
| B | 25% | 23% | 34% | 17% |
| C | 28% | 35% | 28% | 27% |
| D | 16% | 17% | 14% | 21% |
| F | 19% | 17% | 10% | 25% |
| DK | 1% | 0% | 1% | 0% |
| Unwt N= | 733 | 170 | 186 | 107 |

Trend...

| | 1/14 RV | 11/13 RV | 10/13 RV | 9/13 RV | 6/13 RV | 4/13 RV | 2/13 RV | 11/12 RV | 9/12 RV | 8/12 RV | 6/12 RV | 3/12 RV | 2/12 RV |
|---------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| A | 12% | 21% | 21% | 17% | 24% | 21% | 24% | 28% | 18% | 15% | 15% | 12% | 16% |
| B | 31% | 38% | 39% | 36% | 34% | 39% | 40% | 33% | 29% | 30% | 31% | 31% | 27% |
| C | 27% | 22% | 21% | 23% | 24% | 22% | 22% | 22% | 22% | 25% | 24% | 25% | 24% |
| D | 15% | 10% | 9% | 13% | 9% | 10% | 9% | 11% | 15% | 13% | 15% | 13% | 14% |
| F | 14% | 8% | 9% | 10% | 8% | 7% | 4% | 5% | 15% | 16% | 14% | 17% | 18% |
| DK | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 2% | 2% | 2% |
| Unwt N= | 751 | 800 | 798 | 813 | 759 | 819 | 698 | 573 | 788 | 913 | 1,063 | 516 | 914 |

| | 11/11 RV | 10/11 RV | 8/11 RV | 4/11 RV | 2/11 RV |
|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|
| A | 18% | 14% | 13% | 14% | 14% |
| B | 28% | 30% | 25% | 32% | 24% |
| C | 21% | 27% | 18% | 20% | 26% |
| D | 17% | 14% | 24% | 14% | 15% |
| F | 13% | 14% | 19% | 21% | 19% |
| DK | 2% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 2% |
| Unwt N= | 752 | 799 | 612 | 390 | 416 |

Christie Ratings October 2014
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll

Registered Voters

| | Party ID | | Ideology | | | | Gender | | Age | | | Race | |
|---------|----------|-----|----------|-----|-----|------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-----|-------|-----------|
| | Dem | Ind | Rep | Lib | Mod | Cons | Male | Female | 18-39 | 40-64 | 65+ | White | Non-white |
| A | 5% | 9% | 24% | 6% | 9% | 18% | 9% | 12% | 7% | 10% | 16% | 12% | 8% |
| B | 11% | 29% | 41% | 18% | 27% | 29% | 25% | 25% | 25% | 27% | 21% | 29% | 16% |
| C | 31% | 28% | 23% | 29% | 28% | 30% | 30% | 27% | 36% | 23% | 29% | 26% | 34% |
| D | 20% | 16% | 8% | 19% | 17% | 9% | 19% | 13% | 13% | 19% | 12% | 17% | 14% |
| F | 31% | 17% | 4% | 27% | 18% | 13% | 16% | 22% | 18% | 20% | 20% | 16% | 26% |
| DK | 2% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 0% | 2% | 0% | 3% |
| Unwt N= | 241 | 326 | 162 | 175 | 369 | 173 | 346 | 387 | 120 | 344 | 269 | 572 | 142 |

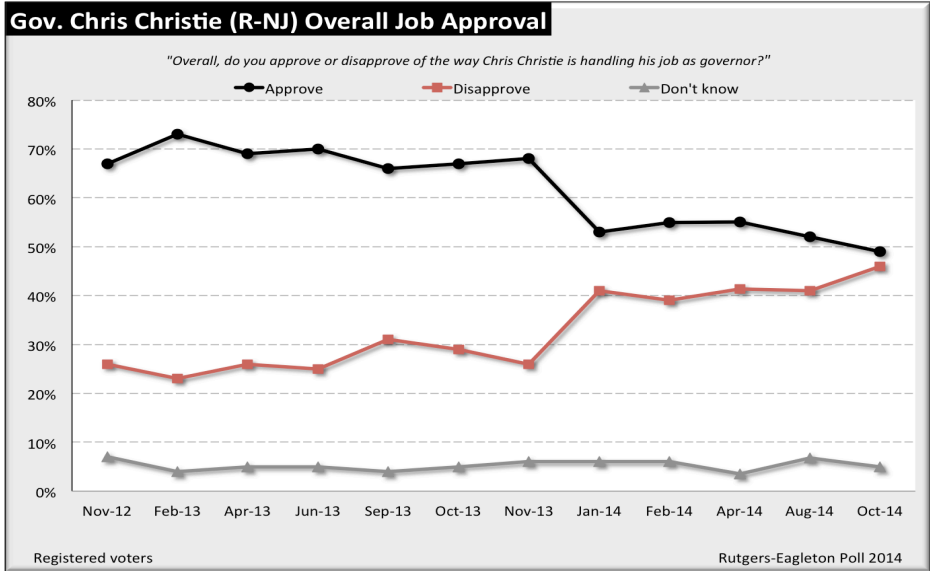
Region

| | Phil/ | | | | |
|---------|-------|--------|---------|-------|-------|
| | Urban | Suburb | Exurban | South | Shore |
| A | 7% | 8% | 12% | 14% | 13% |
| B | 11% | 22% | 33% | 26% | 31% |
| C | 27% | 28% | 27% | 30% | 28% |
| D | 22% | 16% | 15% | 12% | 17% |
| F | 30% | 25% | 13% | 16% | 11% |
| DK | 2% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 0% |
| Unwt N= | 77* | 260 | 124 | 124 | 148 |

** Small N, results should be interpreted with caution*

Q. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Chris Christie is handling his job as governor?

| | 10/14 RV | Christie Favorability | | Most Important Problem | | |
|------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------|------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| | | Fav | Unfav | Economy and Jobs | Taxes | Corruption/ Abuse of Power |
| Approve | 49% | 95% | 8% | 50% | 63% | 34% |
| Disapprove | 46% | 3% | 89% | 46% | 33% | 64% |
| Don't know | 5% | 2% | 3% | 3% | 5% | 2% |
| Unwt N= | 730 | 333 | 321 | 170 | 185 | 107 |



Christie Ratings October 2014
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll

Trend ...

| | 8/14 RV | 4/14 RV | 2/14 RV | 1/14 RV | 11/13 RV | 10/13 RV | 9/13 RV | 6/13 RV | 4/13 RV | 2/13 RV | 11/12 RV |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Approve | 52% | 55% | 55% | 53% | 68% | 67% | 66% | 70% | 68% | 73% | 67% |
| Disapprove | 41% | 41% | 39% | 41% | 26% | 29% | 31% | 25% | 26% | 23% | 26% |
| Don't know | 7% | 4% | 6% | 6% | 6% | 5% | 4% | 5% | 5% | 4% | 7% |
| Unwgt N= | 749 | 724 | 725 | 747 | 795 | 794 | 809 | 756 | 810 | 696 | 533 |

| | Party ID | | | Ideology | | | Gender | | Age | | | Race | |
|------------|----------|-----|-----|----------|-----|-----|--------|--------|-------|-------|-----|-------|-----------|
| | Dem | Ind | Rep | Lib | Mod | Con | Male | Female | 18-39 | 40-64 | 65+ | White | Non-white |
| Approve | 27% | 52% | 80% | 33% | 51% | 64% | 47% | 50% | 44% | 48% | 56% | 55% | 34% |
| Disapprove | 67% | 43% | 18% | 65% | 45% | 31% | 47% | 46% | 48% | 49% | 40% | 41% | 58% |
| Don't know | 6% | 6% | 2% | 2% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 4% | 9% | 3% | 4% | 4% | 9% |
| Unwt N= | 240 | 324 | 162 | 174 | 368 | 172 | 343 | 387 | 120 | 342 | 268 | 570 | 141 |

Region

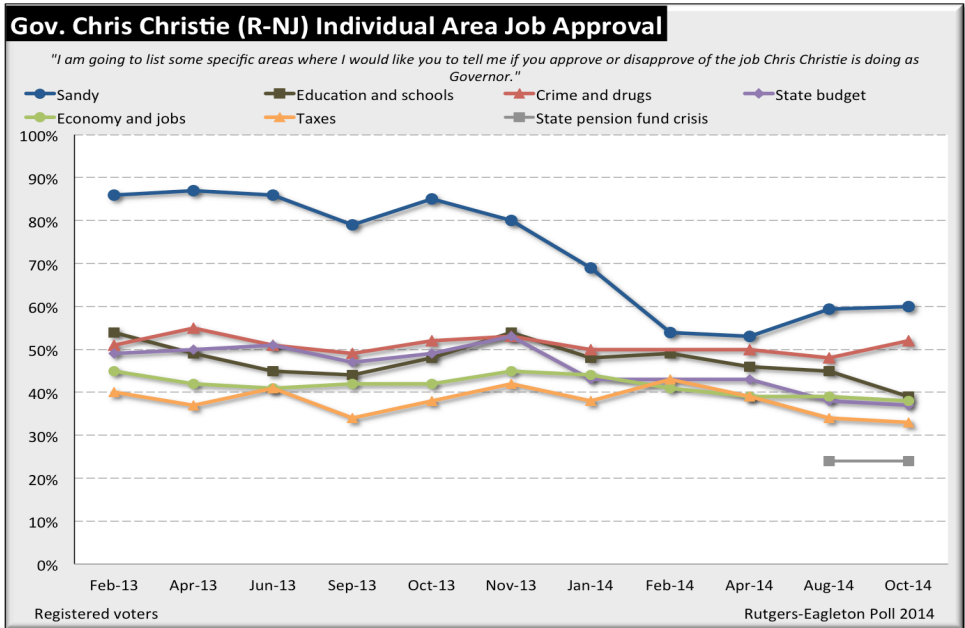
| | Region | | | | |
|------------|--------|--------|---------|----------------|-------|
| | Urban | Suburb | Exurban | Phil/ South | Shore |
| Approve | 31% | 44% | 57% | 50% | 60% |
| Disapprove | 65% | 50% | 35% | 46% | 38% |
| Don't know | 4% | 6% | 8% | 4% | 2% |
| Unwt N= | 76* | 259 | 123 | 124 | 148 |

** Small N, results should be interpreted with caution*

Q. Now I am going to list some specific areas where I would like you to tell me if you approve or disapprove of the job Chris Christie is doing. First: [RANDOMIZE ORDER]

10/14 REGISTERED VOTERS

| | NJ's economy and jobs | Taxes | Education and schools | Hurricane Sandy recovery | Crime and drugs | The state budget | The state pension fund crisis |
|------------|-----------------------------|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Approve | 38% | 33% | 39% | 60% | 52% | 37% | 24% |
| Disapprove | 54% | 58% | 52% | 33% | 32% | 52% | 58% |
| Don't know | 8% | 9% | 9% | 8% | 16% | 12% | 18% |
| Unwgt N= | 731 | 728 | 728 | 729 | 729 | 729 | 730 |



NJ's Economy and Jobs

| | RV | Christie Favorability | | Christie Overall Job Approval | | Most Imp Problem |
|------------|-----|-----------------------|-------|-------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| | | Fav | Unfav | Approve | Disapprove | Economy/Jobs |
| Approve | 38% | 67% | 14% | 63% | 13% | 29% |
| Disapprove | 54% | 24% | 80% | 28% | 83% | 65% |
| Don't know | 8% | 9% | 5% | 9% | 4% | 6% |
| Unwgt N= | 731 | 333 | 320 | 369 | 328 | 170 |

| | Party ID | | Ideology | | | | Gender | | Region | | | Phil/Shore | |
|------------|----------|-----|----------|-----|-----|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|------------|-------|
| | Dem | Ind | Rep | Lib | Mod | Con | Male | Female | Urban | Suburb | Exurban | South | Shore |
| Approve | 27% | 37% | 55% | 30% | 37% | 49% | 35% | 40% | 16% | 34% | 41% | 47% | 46% |
| Disapprove | 68% | 53% | 32% | 63% | 56% | 39% | 58% | 51% | 75% | 58% | 48% | 45% | 49% |
| Don't know | 4% | 9% | 13% | 6% | 7% | 11% | 7% | 9% | 9% | 8% | 11% | 9% | 5% |
| Unwgt N= | 241 | 325 | 162 | 175 | 369 | 172 | 344 | 387 | 77* | 258 | 124 | 124 | 148 |

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

Taxes

| | RV | Christie Favorability | | Most Imp Problem |
|------------|-----|-----------------------|-------|------------------|
| | | Fav | Unfav | Taxes |
| Approve | 33% | 60% | 11% | 35% |
| Disapprove | 58% | 30% | 84% | 57% |
| Don't know | 9% | 10% | 6% | 8% |
| Unwgt N= | 728 | 332 | 318 | 185 |

Christie Ratings October 2014
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll

| | Party ID | | | Ideology | | | Gender | | Region | | | Phil/ | |
|------------|----------|-----|-----|----------|-----|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|-------|-------|
| | Dem | Ind | Rep | Lib | Mod | Con | Male | Female | Urban | Suburb | Exurban | South | Shore |
| Approve | 20% | 34% | 53% | 21% | 35% | 42% | 32% | 33% | 20% | 27% | 39% | 37% | 41% |
| Disapprove | 74% | 56% | 36% | 68% | 58% | 48% | 58% | 59% | 78% | 62% | 50% | 51% | 54% |
| Don't know | 6% | 11% | 12% | 12% | 7% | 10% | 10% | 9% | 3% | 11% | 11% | 12% | 5% |
| Unwt N= | 240 | 325 | 160 | 174 | 367 | 172 | 345 | 383 | 77* | 257 | 123 | 124 | 147 |

** Small N, results should be interpreted with caution*

Education and Schools

| | RV | Most Christie Favorability | | | Education/Schools |
|------------|-----|----------------------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|
| | | Fav | Unfav | Imp Problem | |
| Approve | 39% | 67% | 16% | 15% | |
| Disapprove | 52% | 26% | 77% | 79% | |
| Don't know | 9% | 8% | 7% | 6% | |
| Unwgt N= | 728 | 331 | 319 | 71* | |

** Small N, results should be interpreted with caution*

| | Party ID | | | Ideology | | | Gender | | Region | | | Phil/ | |
|------------|----------|-----|-----|----------|-----|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|-------|-------|
| | Dem | Ind | Rep | Lib | Mod | Con | Male | Female | Urban | Suburb | Exurban | South | Shore |
| Approve | 26% | 38% | 63% | 25% | 39% | 55% | 41% | 37% | 26% | 33% | 49% | 37% | 51% |
| Disapprove | 65% | 54% | 28% | 66% | 53% | 37% | 52% | 52% | 65% | 56% | 44% | 54% | 42% |
| Don't know | 9% | 9% | 9% | 9% | 8% | 8% | 7% | 11% | 9% | 10% | 8% | 10% | 6% |
| Unwt N= | 240 | 325 | 160 | 174 | 368 | 171 | 343 | 385 | 77* | 258 | 123 | 124 | 146 |

**Note small N; Interpretation limited*

Hurricane Sandy Recovery

| | RV | Christie Overall | | | |
|------------|-----|-----------------------|-------|----------|------------|
| | | Christie Favorability | | Approval | |
| | | Fav | Unfav | Approve | Disapprove |
| Approve | 60% | 84% | 36% | 83% | 36% |
| Disapprove | 33% | 11% | 55% | 12% | 56% |
| Don't know | 8% | 5% | 8% | 5% | 8% |
| Unwgt N= | 729 | 332 | 318 | 367 | 327 |

| | Party ID | | | Ideology | | | Gender | | Region | | | Phil/ | |
|------------|----------|-----|-----|----------|-----|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|-------|-------|
| | Dem | Ind | Rep | Lib | Mod | Con | Male | Female | Urban | Suburb | Exurban | South | Shore |
| Approve | 45% | 64% | 73% | 49% | 63% | 63% | 57% | 62% | 48% | 55% | 66% | 64% | 65% |
| Disapprove | 44% | 30% | 20% | 43% | 31% | 28% | 36% | 30% | 39% | 37% | 27% | 29% | 31% |
| Don't know | 10% | 6% | 6% | 8% | 7% | 9% | 7% | 8% | 14% | 8% | 7% | 8% | 4% |
| Unwt N= | 239 | 326 | 161 | 173 | 369 | 172 | 344 | 385 | 77* | 257 | 124 | 124 | 147 |

** Small N, results should be interpreted with caution*

Christie Ratings October 2014
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll

Crime and drugs

| | RV | Christie Favorability | | Christie Overall Approval | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----------------------|-------|---------------------------|------------|-----|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|----------------|-------|
| | | Fav | Unfav | Approve | Disapprove | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Approve | 52% | 71% | 36% | 70% | 35% | | | | | | | | | |
| Disapprove | 32% | 15% | 49% | 15% | 51% | | | | | | | | | |
| Don't know | 16% | 14% | 15% | 15% | 14% | | | | | | | | | |
| Unwgt N= | 729 | 332 | 318 | 368 | 326 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Party ID | | | Ideology | | | Gender | | Region | | | | |
| | | Dem | Ind | Rep | Lib | Mod | Con | Male | Female | Urban | Suburb | Exurban | Phil/ South | Shore |
| Approve | 44% | 52% | 64% | 50% | 51% | 59% | 53% | 51% | 33% | 49% | 57% | 50% | 67% | |
| Disapprove | 39% | 33% | 19% | 35% | 33% | 23% | 34% | 31% | 51% | 33% | 22% | 36% | 24% | |
| Don't know | 17% | 15% | 17% | 15% | 16% | 18% | 13% | 18% | 16% | 18% | 21% | 15% | 9% | |
| Unwt N= | 240 | 326 | 160 | 174 | 368 | 172 | 345 | 384 | 77* | 258 | 123 | 124 | 147 | |

** Small N, results should be interpreted with caution*

The state budget

| | RV | Christie Favorability | | Christie Overall Approval | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----------------------|-------|---------------------------|------------|-----|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|----------------|-------|
| | | Fav | Unfav | Approve | Disapprove | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Approve | 37% | 71% | 9% | 66% | 8% | | | | | | | | | |
| Disapprove | 52% | 17% | 86% | 21% | 86% | | | | | | | | | |
| Don't know | 12% | 12% | 6% | 13% | 6% | | | | | | | | | |
| Unwgt N= | 729 | 332 | 320 | 368 | 328 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Party ID | | | Ideology | | | Gender | | Region | | | | |
| | | Dem | Ind | Rep | Lib | Mod | Con | Male | Female | Urban | Suburb | Exurban | Phil/ South | Shore |
| Approve | 21% | 38% | 60% | 21% | 40% | 51% | 37% | 37% | 30% | 31% | 40% | 42% | 43% | |
| Disapprove | 71% | 47% | 30% | 69% | 50% | 37% | 52% | 51% | 64% | 57% | 46% | 45% | 45% | |
| Don't know | 8% | 15% | 10% | 10% | 10% | 12% | 11% | 12% | 6% | 12% | 14% | 13% | 12% | |
| Unwt N= | 239 | 326 | 161 | 174 | 367 | 173 | 344 | 385 | 77* | 258 | 122 | 124 | 148 | |

** Small N, results should be interpreted with caution*

The state pension fund crisis

| | RV | Christie Favorability | | Christie Overall Approval | |
|------------|-----|-----------------------|-------|---------------------------|------------|
| | | Fav | Unfav | Approve | Disapprove |
| | | | | | |
| Approve | 24% | 46% | 5% | 44% | 5% |
| Disapprove | 58% | 28% | 86% | 30% | 88% |
| Don't know | 18% | 25% | 9% | 26% | 8% |
| Unwgt N= | 730 | 331 | 320 | 367 | 328 |

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| | Party ID | | | Ideology | | | Gender | | Region | | | | |
|------------|----------|-----|-----|----------|-----|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|----------------|-------|
| | Dem | Ind | Rep | Lib | Mod | Con | Male | Female | Urban | Suburb | Exurban | Phil/ South | Shore |
| Approve | 14% | 25% | 40% | 10% | 25% | 39% | 29% | 20% | 16% | 22% | 30% | 27% | 26% |
| Disapprove | 72% | 54% | 40% | 71% | 58% | 44% | 58% | 57% | 70% | 60% | 44% | 56% | 58% |
| Don't know | 14% | 21% | 20% | 19% | 16% | 17% | 14% | 22% | 13% | 18% | 27% | 17% | 16% |
| Unwt N= | 241 | 325 | 161 | 175 | 368 | 172 | 345 | 385 | 77* | 259 | 124 | 124 | 146 |

** Small N, results should be interpreted with caution*

**Q. Of the following, which is the MOST important problem facing New Jersey today? Is it:
[RANDOMIZE OPTION ORDER]**

| | RV | Christie Favorability | |
|--|-----|-----------------------|-------|
| | | Fav | Unfav |
| Taxes, including property taxes | 24% | 35% | 16% |
| The economy and jobs | 21% | 22% | 21% |
| Government corruption and abuse of power | 16% | 10% | 21% |
| Education and schools | 12% | 9% | 14% |
| Crime and drugs | 8% | 8% | 7% |
| Government spending | 7% | 9% | 5% |
| Health care | 6% | 5% | 7% |
| Hurricane Sandy recovery | 1% | 0% | 2% |
| Something else | 5% | 2% | 7% |
| Don't know | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| Unwgt N= | 731 | 332 | 320 |

| | Party ID | | | Ideology | | | Gender | | Age | | | Race | |
|-------------------|----------|-----|-----|----------|-----|-----|--------|--------|-------|-------|-----|-------|-----------|
| | Dem | Ind | Rep | Lib | Mod | Con | Male | Female | 18-39 | 40-64 | 65+ | White | Non-white |
| Taxes | 22% | 19% | 40% | 19% | 22% | 38% | 23% | 25% | 14% | 27% | 32% | 25% | 23% |
| Econ. and jobs | 22% | 23% | 15% | 23% | 22% | 17% | 23% | 19% | 17% | 20% | 27% | 23% | 18% |
| Gov. corruption | 18% | 17% | 10% | 19% | 15% | 17% | 18% | 14% | 13% | 19% | 12% | 16% | 15% |
| Educ. and schools | 16% | 13% | 4% | 17% | 12% | 6% | 10% | 14% | 25% | 7% | 6% | 9% | 18% |
| Crime and drugs | 5% | 10% | 7% | 8% | 9% | 4% | 6% | 9% | 10% | 7% | 7% | 6% | 13% |
| Gov. spending | 4% | 8% | 11% | 3% | 7% | 9% | 10% | 5% | 7% | 8% | 6% | 8% | 5% |
| Health care | 7% | 5% | 6% | 3% | 7% | 4% | 4% | 7% | 8% | 5% | 3% | 6% | 4% |
| Sandy recovery | 2% | 0% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 2% | 1% | 2% |
| Something else | 5% | 5% | 4% | 6% | 4% | 2% | 4% | 5% | 4% | 5% | 3% | 6% | 2% |
| Don't know | 0% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 1% |
| Unwt N= | 240 | 326 | 162 | 174 | 369 | 173 | 344 | 387 | 119 | 344 | 268 | 571 | 141 |

| | Region | | | | |
|-------------------|--------|--------|---------|----------------|-------|
| | Urban | Suburb | Exurban | Phil/ South | Shore |
| Taxes | 19% | 21% | 26% | 28% | 28% |
| Econ. and jobs | 13% | 21% | 27% | 18% | 24% |
| Gov. corruption | 23% | 13% | 21% | 14% | 13% |
| Educ. and schools | 21% | 13% | 5% | 17% | 6% |
| Crime and drugs | 14% | 8% | 2% | 7% | 10% |
| Gov. spending | 3% | 7% | 11% | 7% | 7% |

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| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Health care | 2% | 8% | 4% | 5% | 6% |
| Sandy recovery | 1% | 1% | 0% | 2% | 2% |
| Something else | 1% | 7% | 4% | 2% | 4% |
| Don't know | 1% | 2% | 0% | 1% | 1% |
| Unwt N= | 77* | 258 | 124 | 124 | 148 |

** Small N, results should be interpreted with caution*

Rutgers-Eagleton Poll September 29 – October 5, 2014

The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted by telephone using live callers September 29 – October 5, 2014 with a scientifically selected random sample of 842 New Jersey adults, including 734 registered voters. This telephone poll included 618 landline and 224 cell phone, all acquired through random digit dialing. Distribution of household phone use in this sample is:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Cell Only: | 12% |
| Dual Use, Reached on Cell: | 15% |
| Dual Use, Reached on LL: | 66% |
| Landline Only: | 7% |

Data for registered voters (N=734) and all adults (N=842) were weighted separately to the demographics of registered voters and adults in New Jersey, respectively. Both weights account for the probability of being selected within the sample frame and the probability of being sampled within a household, based on the number of individuals living in the household and the phone composition (cell, landline) of the household. The samples were weighted to several demographic variables reflecting the population parameters of the state of New Jersey: gender, race, age, and Hispanic ethnicity. The final weight, which combined all of the parameters mentioned, was trimmed at the 5th and 95th percentile so as to not accord too much weight to any one case or subset of cases. All results are reported with these weighted data.

All surveys are subject to sampling error, which is the expected probable difference between interviewing everyone in a population versus a scientific sampling drawn from that population. Sampling error should be adjusted to recognize the effect of weighting the data to better match the population. In this poll, the simple sampling error for the 842 adults is +/-3.4 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence interval. The adult sample weighting design effect is 1.69, making the adjusted margin of error +/- 4.4 percentage points for the adult sample. The simple sampling error for 734 registered voters is +/-3.6 percentage points. The weighting design effect for the registered voter sample is 1.36, making the adjusted margin of error +/-4.2 percentage points for the registered voter sample.

Thus if 50 percent of New Jersey registered voters in this sample favor a position, we would be 95 percent sure that the true figure is between 45.8 and 54.2 percent (50 +/-4.2) if all New Jersey voters had been interviewed, rather than just a sample.

Sampling error increases as the sample size decreases, so statements based on various population subgroups are subject to more error than are statements based on the total sample. Sampling error does not take into account other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording or context effects.

This Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was fielded in house by the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling with additional fielding by Braun Research Inc. The questionnaire was developed and all data analyses were completed in house. The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll is paid for and sponsored by the Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University, a non-partisan academic center for the study of politics and the political process.

| Weighted Sample Characteristics | | | |
|---|------------|-----------|----------------------|
| 734 New Jersey Registered Voters | | | |
| 34% Democrat | 46% Male | 9% 18-24 | 69% White |
| 46% Independent/Other | 54% Female | 26% 25-44 | 12% Black |
| 20% Republican | | 38% 45-64 | 11% Hispanic |
| | | 27% 65+ | 8% Asian/Other/Multi |