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Questions and tables are available at:

<http://eagletonpoll.rutgers.edu/rutgers-eagleton-Christie-Bridgagate-Nov2016>.

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<http://eagletonpollblog.wordpress.com> for additional commentary. Follow the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/RutgersEagletonPoll> and Twitter [@EagletonPoll](https://twitter.com/EagletonPoll).

**CHRISTIE'S RATINGS SLIP TO NEW LOWS AS BRIDGEGATE TRIAL ENDS;
ALMOST THREE-QUARTERS HOLD NEGATIVE VIEW OF GOVERNOR**

This poll was completed one day before the verdict in the Bridgagate trial was announced on Friday, November 4.

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. – As the Bridgagate trial comes to a close, the court of public opinion has rendered its own verdict in the form of lower-than-ever ratings for Gov. Chris Christie, according to the latest Rutgers-Eagleton Poll. Just 19 percent of New Jersey registered voters now have a favorable opinion of Christie – down four points since just six weeks ago when the trial first began. Seventy-three percent view the governor unfavorably, up six points.

Christie's overall job approval mirrors his favorability. Twenty percent now approve (down six points), while 75 percent disapprove (up six points).

Much of the post-trial ratings slip is due to increasing negativity within Christie's own party base. Forty-seven percent of Republicans are favorable (down 10 points from September), versus 43 percent who are unfavorable (up 15 points); 10 percent are unsure.

Similarly, Republicans are split down the middle on the overall job he is doing: 47 percent approve (down 16 points) and 47 percent disapprove (up 17 points). This is the first time in his entire tenure as governor that Christie has not garnered support from a majority of Republicans.

Almost all Democrats and three-quarters of independents continue to have an unfavorable impression of Christie, as well as disapprove of the job he is doing overall.

"The governor was not directly on trial this past month, but the case seems to have taken a toll on his already low ratings," said Ashley Koning, interim director of the Eagleton Center for Public Interest

Polling (ECPIP) at Rutgers University. “After weeks of multiple testimonies implicating the governor’s involvement, even Republicans have now turned against Christie.”

Christie does no better with voters on a variety of individual issues. He draws his lowest approval on the state pension fund situation (15 percent approve, 68 percent disapprove) and hits a new all-time low on taxes (17 percent approve, 77 percent disapprove). In the wake of the gas tax increase, Christie is now at 19 percent approve (down six points) to 73 percent disapprove (up eight points) on transportation and infrastructure. He does little better on the economy and jobs – 22 percent approve to 68 percent disapprove.

Christie continues his decline on education and schools (28 percent approve, 65 percent disapprove). On Hurricane Sandy, an issue that once garnered near unanimous support for the governor, voters remain somewhat split on Christie’s efforts four years later – 42 percent approve to 48 percent disapprove.

“Governor Christie is now just a few points shy of the record low ratings set by Governors Byrne, Florio, and DiFrancesco in Eagleton’s 45 years of polling on New Jersey governors,” said Koning. “Since the dust has not yet settled from the trial and Christie himself is due in court in a few weeks, we may have not yet seen the end of Christie’s decline.”

Results are from a statewide poll of 772 adults contacted by live callers on both landlines and cell phones from Oct. 28 to Nov. 3, 2016, including 694 registered voters reported on in this release. The sample has a margin of error of +/-3.9 percentage points. Interviews were done in English and, when requested, Spanish.

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QUESTIONS AND TABLES START ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

Questions and Tables

The questions covered in the release of November 7, 2016 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 you about some people. 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.
[ORDER RANDOMIZED]

**GOV. CHRIS
CHRISTIE**

Favorable	19%
Unfavorable	73%
No opn/don't know person	8%
Unwgt N=	692

[Christie Favorability Trend \(click for trend graph\)](#)

	9/16	4/16	2/16	2/16	12/15	10/15	8/15	4/15	2/15	12/14	10/14	8/14	4/14	2/14	1/14	11/13	10/13
Trend	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV
Fav	23%	26%	31%	29%	33%	35%	30%	38%	37%	44%	42%	49%	50%	49%	46%	65%	61%
Unfav	67%	64%	60%	59%	59%	55%	59%	48%	53%	46%	45%	40%	42%	40%	43%	27%	28%
DK	9%	10%	9%	12%	8%	10%	11%	14%	10%	11%	12%	10%	9%	11%	11%	8%	11%
N=	732	735	708	752	698	779	756	716	694	644	730	747	727	726	754	800	798

	9/13	6/13	4/13	2/13	11/12	9/12	8/12	6/12	3/12	2/12	11/11	10/11	8/11	4/11	2/11
Trend	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV
Fav	60%	64%	64%	70%	67%	48%	49%	50%	46%	47%	49%	49%	45%	44%	46%
Unfav	32%	26%	26%	20%	25%	42%	40%	39%	42%	42%	37%	39%	47%	42%	44%
DK	8%	11%	10%	10%	9%	11%	11%	11%	12%	11%	14%	12%	8%	14%	10%
N=	812	761	816	695	1105	787	911	1,064	514	910	752	803	613	769	810

	Party ID			Gender		Race		Age					Region			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	South	Shore
Favorable	5%	18%	47%	22%	16%	22%	12%	14%	18%	19%	23%	15%	17%	17%	19%	26%
Unfavorable	89%	73%	43%	69%	77%	71%	78%	73%	76%	73%	70%	78%	74%	76%	69%	69%
Don't know	6%	9%	10%	9%	8%	8%	10%	13%	6%	8%	7%	7%	9%	7%	12%	5%
Unwt N=	257	289	143	340	352	483	195	105	135	242	210	81*	242	105	137	127

* Small N, interpret with caution.

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

[Christie Job Approval Trend \(Click here for trend graph\)](#)

	Christie Favorability	
	Fav	Unfav
Approve	20%	76%
Disapprove	75%	16%
Don't know	5%	8%
Unwgt N=	685	493

**Gov. Christie Ratings November 2016
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll**

Trend	9/16 RV	4/16 RV	2/16 RV	2/16 RV	12/15 RV	10/15 RV	8/15 RV	4/15 RV	2/15 RV	12/14 RV	10/14 RV	8/14 RV	4/14 RV
Approve	26%	31%	37%	33%	33%	39%	37%	41%	42%	48%	49%	52%	55%
Disapprove	69%	63%	60%	61%	62%	56%	59%	54%	52%	47%	46%	41%	41%
Don't know	5%	6%	4%	6%	4%	6%	4%	5%	6%	5%	5%	7%	4%
Unwgt N=	730	732	709	747	689	773	749	713	690	637	730	749	724

Trend	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	55%	53%	68%	67%	66%	70%	68%	73%	67%
Disapprove	39%	41%	26%	29%	31%	25%	26%	23%	26%
Don't know	6%	6%	6%	5%	4%	5%	5%	4%	7%
Unwgt N=	725	747	795	794	809	756	810	696	533

	Party ID			Gender		Race		Age					Region			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non- wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	South	Shore
Approve	6%	20%	47%	24%	15%	23%	12%	16%	21%	17%	25%	14%	19%	18%	20%	14%
Disapprove	91%	74%	47%	72%	78%	73%	81%	75%	74%	79%	72%	83%	73%	79%	73%	83%
Don't know	3%	6%	6%	3%	7%	4%	8%	9%	4%	4%	3%	3%	7%	3%	7%	3%
Unwt N=	254	287	141	339	346	477	194	104	135	239	207	80*	240	104	135	80

* Small N, interpret with caution.

Q. 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 as Governor. First: [RANDOMIZE ORDER]

[Christie Issue Approvals \(Click here for trend graph\)](#)

	NJ's economy and jobs	Taxes	Education and schools	State pension and fund situation	Transportation and Infrastructure	Hurricane Sandy
Approve	22%	17%	28%	15%	19%	42%
Disapprove	68%	77%	65%	68%	73%	48%
DK	10%	6%	8%	18%	9%	9%
Unwgt N=	688	689	683	688	688	693

	NJ's Economy and Jobs	Christie Favorability		Christie Overall Job Approval	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove
Approve	22%	54%	13%	57%	12%
Disapprove	68%	34%	78%	31%	79%
Don't know	10%	12%	8%	12%	9%
Unwgt N=	688	136	492	142	505

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	Party ID			Gender		Race		Age				Region				
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/	
							wht.								South	Shore
Approve	11%	23%	40%	24%	20%	23%	19%	30%	26%	18%	16%	22%	19%	19%	23%	28%
Disapprove	79%	67%	49%	66%	70%	67%	70%	63%	64%	73%	70%	68%	69%	70%	69%	63%
Don't know	9%	10%	11%	10%	10%	10%	11%	7%	10%	9%	14%	11%	11%	11%	7%	9%
Unwt N=	254	287	144	339	349	480	194	105	135	241	207	81*	240	105	134	128

* Small N, interpret with caution.

Taxes		Christie Favorability		Christie Overall Job Approval	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove
Approve	17%	45%	9%	48%	9%
Disapprove	77%	49%	86%	46%	86%
Don't know	6%	6%	6%	6%	5%
Unwgt N=	689	137	491	143	506

	Party ID			Gender		Race		Age				Region				
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/	
							wht.								South	Shore
Approve	8%	17%	34%	21%	13%	20%	10%	13%	19%	18%	20%	18%	18%	17%	12%	18%
Disapprove	84%	78%	61%	74%	80%	76%	78%	77%	73%	78%	76%	76%	75%	75%	81%	78%
Don't know	8%	5%	5%	5%	7%	4%	11%	9%	8%	4%	4%	6%	7%	8%	7%	3%
Unwt N=	254	288	144	339	350	482	193	105	134	242	482	79*	241	105	136	128

* Small N, interpret with caution.

Education and Schools		Christie Favorability		Christie Overall Approval	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove
Approve	28%	66%	16%	65%	17%
Disapprove	65%	22%	78%	25%	76%
Don't know	8%	12%	5%	10%	7%
Unwgt N=	683	136	488	142	502

	Party ID			Gender		Race		Age				Region				
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/	
							wht.								South	Shore
Approve	13%	36%	38%	30%	25%	30%	23%	28%	24%	27%	31%	30%	26%	23%	27%	33%
Disapprove	80%	57%	50%	62%	67%	62%	70%	70%	70%	63%	58%	63%	67%	66%	67%	58%
Don't know	6%	7%	11%	8%	7%	8%	7%	2%	7%	10%	11%	7%	7%	10%	6%	9%
Unwt N=	252	285	143	337	346	477	192	102	134	241	206	77*	240	103	135	128

* Small N, interpret with caution.

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The state pension fund situation		Christie Overall Approval			
		Christie Favorability		Approve	Disapprove
		Fav	Unfav		
Approve	15%	42%	7%	44%	7%
Disapprove	68%	33%	79%	33%	79%
Don't know	18%	25%	14%	24%	14%
Unwgt N=	688	135	493	141	506

	Party ID			Gender		Race		Age					Region			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/Shore	
															South	Shore
Approve	6%	17%	29%	17%	12%	17%	10%	9%	16%	14%	19%	14%	14%	11%	14%	21%
Disapprove	79%	66%	48%	68%	67%	65%	74%	69%	69%	68%	63%	72%	68%	70%	68%	62%
Don't know	15%	18%	23%	14%	21%	18%	17%	21%	14%	17%	18%	14%	19%	18%	19%	17%
Unwt N=	256	288	141	338	350	479	195	105	135	243	205	81*	239	104	137	127

* Small N, interpret with caution.

Transportation		Christie Favorability		Christie Overall Job Approval	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove
Approve	19%	46%	11%	46%	11%
Disapprove	73%	44%	81%	44%	82%
Don't know	9%	10%	8%	10%	7%
Unwgt N=	688	134	494	140	509

	Party ID			Gender		Race		Age					Region			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/Shore	
															South	Shore
Approve	11%	20%	31%	19%	18%	19%	17%	18%	19%	16%	21%	17%	14%	15%	28%	22%
Disapprove	82%	70%	59%	74%	72%	74%	70%	73%	72%	76%	68%	72%	74%	79%	68%	69%
Don't know	7%	10%	10%	7%	10%	6%	14%	9%	9%	7%	11%	12%	6%	4%	9%	
Unwt N=	256	287	142	339	349	481	193	105	134	241	208	80*	239	105	136	128

* Small N, interpret with caution.

The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted by telephone using live callers Oct. 28 to Nov. 3, 2016 with a scientifically selected random sample of 772 New Jersey adults, 18 or older. The sample contains a subsample of 694 registered voters. Respondents within a household are selected by asking randomly for the youngest adult male or female currently available. If the named gender is not available, the youngest adult of the other gender is interviewed. The poll was available in Spanish for respondents who requested it. This telephone poll included 449 landline and 317 cell phone adults, all acquired through random digit dialing. Distribution of household phone use in this sample is:

Cell Only:	20%
Dual Use, Reached on Cell:	22%
Dual Use, Reached on LL:	53%
Landline Only:	5%

Data were weighted to the demographics of registered voters in New Jersey. 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

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individuals living in the household and the phone composition (cell, landline) of the household. The samples were weighted using a raking algorithm to several demographic variables reflecting the registered voter parameters of the state of New Jersey: gender, race, age, Hispanic ethnicity, and county. 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 694 registered voters is +/-3.7 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence interval. The registered voter subsample weighting design effect is 1.12, making the adjusted margin of error +/- 3.9 percentage points for the registered voter subsample.

Thus if 50 percent of New Jersey registered voters in this sample favor a particular position, we would be 95 percent sure that the true figure is between 46.1 and 53.9 percent (50 +/- 3.9) if all New Jersey registered voters had been interviewed, rather than just a 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 by the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling, with assistance from Braun Research, Inc. The questionnaire was developed and all data analyses were completed in house by the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling (ECPIP). 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. Full questionnaires are available on request, and can also be accessed through our archives at eagletonpoll.rutgers.edu. For more information, please contact eagleton.poll@rutgers.edu.

Weighted Sample Characteristics			
694 New Jersey Registered Voters			
38% Democrat	46% Male	21% 18-34	66% White
42% Independent	54% Female	23% 35-49	12% Black
19% Republican		32% 50-64	13% Hispanic
		24% 65+	10% Asian/Other/Multi