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**CRIST HAS 15-POINT COMPASSION LEAD IN FLORIDA,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
VOTERS BACK GAY MARRIAGE, IMMIGRANT IN-STATE TUITION**

Former Florida Gov. Charlie Crist, running as a Democrat, leads Republican incumbent Gov. Rick Scott 48 – 38 percent, and Florida voters say 50 – 35 percent that Crist is more compassionate than Gov. Scott, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

The Republican has been unable to dent Crist’s lead, which stood at 46 – 38 percent in a January 30 survey by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University and 47 – 40 percent in a November 21 survey.

Scott leads former State Sen. Nan Rich 42 – 36 percent.

Women back Crist 51 – 33 percent and say 49 – 33 percent that he is more compassionate. Men are divided in the matchup with 44 percent for Crist and 43 percent for Scott, but say 50 – 38 percent that Crist is more compassionate.

Independent voters back the Democrat 48 – 34 percent and say 52 – 31 percent he is more compassionate.

Crist’s political party shift from Republican to independent to Democratic is a positive thing showing he is a pragmatist, 52 percent of voters, including 60 percent of independent voters, say, while 40 percent say it is negative, showing he has no core beliefs.

“So far, Florida Gov. Rick Scott’s television barrage apparently has had no impact on the race. The incumbent has not been able to reduce former Gov. Charlie Crist’s lead. In fact, voters see Crist’s party switch in a positive light and the incumbent’s effort to tie Crist’s support for Obamacare has not yet borne fruit,” said Peter Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

Florida voters say 53 – 39 percent that Scott does not deserve reelection, consistent with earlier poll findings.

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Quinnipiac University Poll/April 30, 2014 – page 2

Besides compassion, Crist tops Scott on a number of other measures:

- Voters approve 52 – 38 percent of the way Crist handled his job as governor, while Scott gets a negative 42 – 50 percent job approval rating;
- Crist has a 43 – 36 percent favorability, compared to Scott’s negative 39 – 46 percent score;
- Voters are divided 45 – 43 percent on whether Crist is honest and trustworthy, but say 51 – 38 percent that Scott is not honest and trustworthy;
- Crist has strong leadership qualities, voters say 55 – 37 percent, compared to Scott’s 49 – 44 percent leadership grade;
- Crist cares about their needs and problems, voters say 48 – 42 percent, while Scott does not care, voters say 55 – 38 percent.

“Florida voters think former Gov. Crist is more compassionate, more honest and trustworthy and was a better governor than Gov. Scott. The difference may be simple: voters like Crist, whose strength always has been his ability to connect. Voters sometimes elect candidates they don’t like personally, but not that often,” Brown said.

Same-Sex Marriage and In-State Tuition for Immigrants

Florida voters support 56 – 39 percent allowing same-sex couples to marry, with 57 – 39 percent support among women and 55 – 40 percent backing among men. Support is 65 – 31 percent among Democrats and 64 – 30 percent among independent voters, with Republicans opposed 64 – 32 percent. Every age group supports same-sex marriage except voters over 65 years old, who are divided with 45 percent in favor and 49 percent opposed.

Voters also say 55 – 41 percent that an illegal immigrant who attends high school in Florida should be eligible for the in-state tuition if the immigrant is accepted at a public college.

Men, women and all age groups support the idea. Support is 75 – 21 percent among Democrats and 57 – 40 percent among independent voters, with Republicans opposed 66 – 29 percent.

“A number of states already allow high school graduates in the United States illegally to qualify for the in-state tuition at their public colleges and Floridians seem to think it’s a good idea,” Brown said.

From April 23 – 28, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,413 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.6 percentage points.

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 data or RSS feed– <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#).

2. If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were Charlie Crist the Democrat, and Rick Scott the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Crist	48%	10%	82%	48%	44%	51%	43%	48%	53%	45%
Scott	38	79	9	34	43	33	34	40	32	43
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	2	-	2	1	2	1	2	4	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	2
DK/NA	9	7	6	12	8	10	19	7	8	8

TREND: If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were Charlie Crist the Democrat and Rick Scott the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Apr 30 2014	Jan 30 2014	Nov 21 2013	Jun 18 2013	Mar 20 2013
Crist	48	46	47	47	50
Scott	38	38	40	37	34
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	2	2	2	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	3	4	2	3
DK/NA	9	10	8	12	12

3. If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were Nan Rich the Democrat, and Rick Scott the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Rich	36%	7%	67%	34%	32%	40%	26%	40%	40%	34%
Scott	42	80	14	38	48	36	44	42	34	47
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	1	1	4	3	2	4	2	2	2
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	4	2	4	5	4	5	2	5	6	4
DK/NA	15	10	14	19	13	18	25	10	19	13

TREND: If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were Nan Rich the Democrat and Rick Scott the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Apr 30 2014	Jan 30 2014	Nov 21 2013	Jun 18 2013
Rich	36	37	35	36
Scott	42	41	43	42
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	2	3	3
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	4	4	5	2
DK/NA	15	15	14	18

4. Is your opinion of Rick Scott favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Favorable	39%	71%	17%	36%	44%	35%	37%	42%	32%	44%
Unfavorable	46	17	68	48	42	49	37	47	53	42
Hvn't hrd enough	12	10	12	13	11	13	24	8	12	10
REFUSED	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	4

TREND: Is your opinion of Rick Scott favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him? (* Low also 28% Aug 2010)

	Apr 30 2014	Jan 30 2014	Nov 21 2013	Jun 18 2013	Mar 20 2013	FAVORABLE.....	
						High Jun 18 2013	Low Feb 02 2011*
Favorable	39	38	39	40	33	40	28
Unfavorable	46	45	42	42	46	42	24
Hvn't hrd enough	12	14	16	16	18	16	45
REFUSED	3	3	2	3	3	3	3

5. Is your opinion of Charlie Crist favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Favorable	43%	16%	69%	44%	41%	46%	35%	45%	47%	42%
Unfavorable	36	70	10	32	40	32	23	33	39	42
Hvn't hrd enough	18	12	19	19	16	19	39	19	11	14
REFUSED	3	3	2	4	3	3	3	3	3	3

TREND: Is your opinion of Charlie Crist favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Apr 30 2014	Jan 30 2014	Nov 21 2013	Jun 18 2013	Mar 20 2013	FAVORABLE.....	
						High Feb 19 2009	Low Nov 21 2013
Favorable	43	44	41	48	49	68	41
Unfavorable	36	35	39	31	30	21	39
Hvn't hrd enough	18	19	18	18	20	9	18
REFUSED	3	3	2	3	2	3	2

6. Is your opinion of Nan Rich favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about her?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Favorable	8%	1%	15%	9%	8%	8%	14%	8%	8%	6%
Unfavorable	5	9	2	5	7	4	7	7	5	3
Hvn't hrd enough	85	90	83	86	84	87	78	84	87	89
REFUSED	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1

TREND: Is your opinion of Nan Rich favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about her?

	Apr 30 2014	Jan 30 2014	Nov 21 2013	Jun 18 2013	Dec 19 2012
Favorable	8	7	8	7	6
Unfavorable	5	6	5	6	4
Hvn't hrd enough	85	86	86	84	90
REFUSED	1	1	1	2	1

22. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Rick Scott is handling his job as Governor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	42%	72%	20%	39%	47%	38%	45%	43%	36%	47%
Disapprove	50	20	74	52	48	52	44	52	55	46
DK/NA	7	7	6	9	5	10	10	5	9	7

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Rick Scott is handling his job as Governor?

	Apr 30 2014	Jan 30 2014	Nov 21 2013	Jun 18 2013	Mar 20 2013	APPROVE.....	
						High Jun 18 2013	Low May 25 2011
Approve	42	41	42	43	36	43	29
Disapprove	50	49	47	44	49	44	57
DK/NA	7	10	12	13	15	13	14

23. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the state legislature is handling its job?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	31%	51%	19%	28%	35%	27%	41%	32%	26%	30%
Disapprove	53	31	67	56	53	54	48	58	56	49
DK/NA	16	18	14	16	12	19	11	10	19	21

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way the state legislature is handling its job?

	Apr 30 2014	Jan 30 2014	Nov 21 2013	Jun 19 2013	Mar 20 2013	APPROVE.....	
						High Sep 23 2004	Low Mar 20 2013
Approve	31	34	31	32	25	51	25
Disapprove	53	49	51	49	52	34	52
DK/NA	16	17	19	19	23	15	23

27. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Charlie Crist handled his job as Governor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	52%	31%	69%	52%	52%	52%	50%	54%	52%	50%
Disapprove	38	58	22	36	40	37	35	39	39	39
DK/NA	10	11	9	12	9	11	15	8	9	11

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Charlie Crist handled his job as Governor?
 (*High approve also 73% Mar 2007, 2010 and earlier "the way Charlie Crist is handling...")

	Apr 30 2014	Jan 30 2014	Nov 21 2013	Aug 19 2010	Jul 30 2010	APPROVE.....	
						High Jul 19 2007*	Low Apr 15 2010
Approve	52	53	53	56	53	73	49
Disapprove	38	36	36	35	37	11	39
DK/NA	10	11	11	10	10	16	12

28. In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in Florida today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Very satisfied	5%	11%	4%	2%	7%	4%	4%	4%	5%	8%
Smwht satisfied	46	58	35	48	51	41	45	50	39	48
Smwht dissatisfied	29	22	31	32	26	31	35	26	33	25
Very dissatisfied	19	8	29	18	16	22	15	20	22	18
DK/NA	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	1

TREND: In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in Florida today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied? (*combined High also 63% Sep 2004)

	Apr 30 2014	Jan 30 2014	Nov 21 2013	Jun 18 2013	Mar 20 2013	VERY+SMWHT....	
						High Feb 24 2005*	Low Sep 22 2011
Very satisfied	5	6	5	5	4	15	4
Smwht satisfied	46	48	43	48	46	48	31
Smwht dissatisfied	29	30	29	28	31	22	29
Very dissatisfied	19	16	22	17	16	15	34
DK/NA	1	1	1	1	2	1	2

29. Do you feel that Rick Scott deserves to be reelected, or do you feel that he does not deserve to be reelected?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes/Deserves	39%	72%	16%	35%	44%	33%	42%	37%	33%	44%
No/Does not	53	19	78	56	49	56	47	57	58	46
DK/NA	9	9	6	10	6	11	12	5	9	10

TREND: Do you feel that Rick Scott deserves to be reelected, or do you feel that he does not deserve to be reelected?

	Apr 30 2014	Jan 30 2014	Nov 21 2013	Jun 18 2013	Mar 20 2013	Dec 19 2012
Yes/Deserves	39	38	37	35	32	30
No/Does not	53	54	53	50	55	52
DK/NA	9	9	10	15	13	18

30. Would you say that Charlie Crist - is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	45%	23%	67%	43%	40%	49%	41%	42%	47%	47%
No	43	64	20	45	49	36	42	47	41	40
DK/NA	13	13	13	12	10	15	17	11	12	13

TREND: Would you say that Charlie Crist is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Apr 30 2014	Nov 21 2013
Yes	45	40
No	43	42
DK/NA	13	18

31. Would you say that Charlie Crist - cares about the needs and problems of people like you or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	48%	24%	70%	49%	45%	50%	46%	52%	48%	45%
No	42	65	20	42	47	38	39	41	42	44
DK/NA	10	11	10	9	8	12	15	7	10	11

32. Would you say that Charlie Crist - has strong leadership qualities or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	55%	29%	75%	57%	51%	58%	65%	60%	52%	48%
No	37	61	18	34	40	33	18	36	40	42
DK/NA	9	10	8	9	8	9	17	4	8	10

33. Would you say that Rick Scott - is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	38%	68%	20%	35%	43%	35%	33%	35%	36%	46%
No	51	21	70	54	49	52	51	57	55	41
DK/NA	11	11	10	11	8	13	16	8	9	13

TREND: Would you say that Rick Scott is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Apr 30 2014	Nov 21 2013
Yes	38	38
No	51	49
DK/NA	11	13

34. Would you say that Rick Scott - cares about the needs and problems of people like you or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	38%	69%	19%	32%	41%	35%	37%	37%	33%	44%
No	55	25	74	57	53	56	49	58	60	48
DK/NA	8	6	7	10	6	9	14	5	7	8

35. Would you say that Rick Scott - has strong leadership qualities or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	49%	76%	28%	48%	53%	45%	57%	46%	46%	51%
No	44	18	64	43	42	45	34	48	47	41
DK/NA	8	6	7	9	5	9	9	6	7	9

36. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think is more compassionate, Crist or Scott?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Crist	50%	18%	74%	52%	50%	49%	47%	55%	50%	46%
Scott	35	70	13	31	38	33	40	34	33	37
DK/NA	15	12	13	17	12	18	13	12	17	17

37. In recent years, Charlie Crist has changed his party affiliation from Republican to Independent to Democrat. Some people say this is a positive thing because it shows he is a pragmatist who can change with the times and issues. Other people say it is a negative thing because it shows he has no core beliefs. Which comes closest to your view of Charlie Crist?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Positive thing	52%	13%	77%	60%	50%	54%	64%	55%	52%	45%
Negative thing	40	80	16	33	45	36	23	38	41	48
DK/NA	7	6	8	7	5	9	13	6	7	6

TREND: In recent years, Charlie Crist has changed his party affiliation from Republican to Independent to Democrat. Some people say this is a positive thing because it shows he is a pragmatist who can change with the times and issues. Other people say it is a negative thing because it shows he has no core beliefs. Which comes closest to your view of Charlie Crist? (* In the last three years)

	Apr 30 2014	Nov 21 2013*	Jun 18 2013*	Mar 20 2013*
Positive thing	52	46	47	50
Negative thing	40	46	44	40
DK/NA	7	8	9	10

48. Do you think an illegal immigrant who went to high school in Florida and is accepted to a Florida public college should be eligible for the in-state tuition rate, or shouldn't they?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes/Should	55%	29%	75%	57%	53%	56%	65%	56%	52%	52%
No/Should not	41	66	21	40	43	38	28	41	44	42
DK/NA	5	5	4	3	4	5	6	3	5	6

49. Do you support or oppose allowing same-sex couples to get married in Florida?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Support	56%	32%	65%	64%	55%	57%	71%	61%	55%	45%
Oppose	39	64	31	30	40	39	27	36	39	49
DK/NA	5	4	3	6	6	4	2	4	5	7