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**CHRISTIE HITS NEW LOW IN NEW JERSEY,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
DEMOCRAT HAS 16-POINT LEAD IN GOVERNOR'S RACE**

New Jersey Gov. Christopher Christie is still looking for the bottom as Garden State voters disapprove 78 – 17 percent, including 53 – 39 percent among Republicans, of the job he is doing, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

This compares to a 77 – 19 percent disapproval in a December 6 survey, the lowest approval rating for any governor in any state in more than 20 years of surveys by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll.

Gov. Christie's disapproval is 3-1 or higher among every party, gender, education, age or racial group except Republicans, who disapprove 53 – 39 percent.

There are yawning gender and racial gaps as New Jersey voters disapprove 55 – 36 percent of the job President Donald Trump is doing. Men are divided as 44 percent approve and 47 percent disapprove. Women disapprove 63 – 29 percent. White voters disapprove 49 – 43 percent, while non-white voters disapprove 70 – 20 percent.

Disapproval is 88 – 7 percent among Democrats and 54 – 36 percent among independent voters. Republicans approve 87 – 7 percent.

"It's interesting, in an unfriendly way, to wonder how low Gov. Christopher Christie's job-approval numbers might drop," said Mickey Carroll, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

"Still, he's got 11 more months as the most powerful governor in the land and the State Legislature still sustains his vetoes. It might be an interesting year."

"New Jersey didn't like Donald Trump on Election Day and, even though he seems to enjoy the state as a weekend rendezvous, the Garden State doesn't return the sentiment."

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Gender and racial gaps shrink as New Jersey voters say 51 – 34 percent that President Trump’s policies will be bad for the state. Men say 46 – 41 percent and women say 56 – 27 percent that Trump policies will be bad for New Jersey. White voters say bad 47 – 39 percent and non-white voters say bad 62 – 21 percent.

2017 Governor’s Race

In an early look at the 2017 New Jersey governor’s race, featuring two little-known contenders, Democratic businessman Phil Murphy leads Republican Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno 45 – 29 percent, with 22 percent undecided.

Murphy leads 38 – 28 percent among independent voters and 80 – 5 percent among Democrats, while Guadagno takes Republicans 72 – 6 percent. Women go Democratic 50 – 21 percent. Men are divided with 40 percent for Murphy and 37 percent for Guadagno.

Neither candidate is well known as 70 percent of voters haven’t heard enough about Murphy to form an opinion of him and 61 percent haven’t heard enough about Guadagno.

“Following Gov. Christie, who – popular or unpopular – has dominated New Jersey news from the day he took office, the 2017 contenders are all but anonymous,” Carroll said.

“Murphy gets the Democratic vote and Guadagno has the Republican vote. It looks like Goldman Sachs – shades of Jon Corzine – versus the lieutenant governor who spent four years in Christie’s shadow. Will other challengers perk up? Will it be strictly a party-line election? Will New Jersey live up to its reputation for political brawls? Time’s a-wastin’.”

Menendez, Booker Approval Ratings Up

New Jersey voters approve 51 – 32 percent of the job U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez is doing, his highest approval rating since his all-time high of 56 – 29 percent in a November 28, 2012, Quinnipiac University poll.

U.S. Sen. Cory Booker gets a 58 – 31 percent job approval rating, his highest ever.

From January 26 – 30, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,240 New Jersey voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.8 percentage points. Live interviewers call landlines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa, Colorado, North Carolina, Georgia and the nation as a public service and for research.

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1. If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were Phil Murphy the Democrat and Kim Guadagno the Republican, for whom would you vote?

| | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG | |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------|-----|
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| Murphy | 45% | 6% | 80% | 38% | 40% | 50% | 45% | 35% |
| Guadagno | 29 | 72 | 5 | 28 | 37 | 21 | 32 | 36 |
| SMONE ELSE (VOL) | 1 | 1 | - | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| WLDN'T VOTE (VOL) | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| DK/NA | 22 | 18 | 14 | 29 | 19 | 26 | 20 | 24 |

| | AGE IN | YRS..... | YRS..... | YRS..... | YRS..... | WHITE..... | | Wht | NonWht |
|-------------------|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|-------|-----|--------|
| | | | | | | 18-34 | 35-49 | | |
| Murphy | 47% | 51% | 44% | 41% | 37% | 43% | 40% | 56% | |
| Guadagno | 25 | 24 | 30 | 33 | 41 | 27 | 34 | 16 | |
| SMONE ELSE (VOL) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| WLDN'T VOTE (VOL) | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | |
| DK/NA | 25 | 21 | 23 | 22 | 17 | 26 | 22 | 25 | |

2. Is your opinion of Phil Murphy favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

| | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG | |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------|-----|
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| Favorable | 21% | 5% | 36% | 16% | 22% | 20% | 21% | 17% |
| Unfavorable | 8 | 15 | 3 | 10 | 12 | 5 | 8 | 7 |
| Hvn't hrd enough | 70 | 79 | 61 | 73 | 65 | 75 | 70 | 76 |
| REFUSED | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - |

| | AGE IN | YRS..... | YRS..... | YRS..... | YRS..... | WHITE..... | | Wht | NonWht |
|------------------|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|-------|-----|--------|
| | | | | | | 18-34 | 35-49 | | |
| Favorable | 16% | 26% | 21% | 19% | 20% | 18% | 19% | 25% | |
| Unfavorable | 9 | 5 | 10 | 9 | 11 | 5 | 8 | 9 | |
| Hvn't hrd enough | 75 | 68 | 68 | 71 | 68 | 77 | 73 | 66 | |
| REFUSED | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | |

3. Is your opinion of Kim Guadagno favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about her?

| | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG | |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------|-----|
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| Favorable | 18% | 37% | 6% | 21% | 22% | 15% | 20% | 21% |
| Unfavorable | 19 | 7 | 28 | 18 | 18 | 20 | 21 | 15 |
| Hvn't hrd enough | 61 | 53 | 64 | 60 | 59 | 63 | 57 | 62 |
| REFUSED | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 |

| | AGE IN | YRS..... | YRS..... | YRS..... | YRS..... | WHITE..... | | Wht | NonWht |
|------------------|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|-------|-----|--------|
| | | | | | | 18-34 | 35-49 | | |
| Favorable | 12% | 18% | 18% | 23% | 23% | 18% | 21% | 12% | |
| Unfavorable | 19 | 21 | 19 | 18 | 18 | 19 | 19 | 20 | |
| Hvn't hrd enough | 67 | 60 | 61 | 58 | 57 | 61 | 59 | 66 | |
| REFUSED | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | |

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as President?

| | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG | |
|------------|-----------------|-------|-------|-----|------------|-----|---------------------------|--------|
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| Approve | 36% | 87% | 7% | 36% | 44% | 29% | 38% | 49% |
| Disapprove | 55 | 7 | 88 | 54 | 47 | 63 | 55 | 42 |
| DK/NA | 9 | 6 | 5 | 11 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 9 |
| | AGE IN YRS..... | | | | WHITE..... | | | |
| | 18-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | 65+ | Men | Wom | Wht | NonWht |
| Approve | 34% | 29% | 38% | 42% | 48% | 39% | 43% | 20% |
| Disapprove | 61 | 61 | 54 | 48 | 45 | 52 | 49 | 70 |
| DK/NA | 4 | 11 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 10 |

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chris Christie is handling his job as Governor?

| | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG | |
|------------|-----------------|-------|-------|-----|------------|-----|---------------------------|--------|
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| Approve | 17% | 39% | 6% | 16% | 20% | 14% | 18% | 22% |
| Disapprove | 78 | 53 | 92 | 79 | 75 | 80 | 78 | 74 |
| DK/NA | 5 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 4 |
| | AGE IN YRS..... | | | | WHITE..... | | | |
| | 18-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | 65+ | Men | Wom | Wht | NonWht |
| Approve | 15% | 15% | 17% | 22% | 21% | 19% | 20% | 11% |
| Disapprove | 80 | 81 | 78 | 73 | 75 | 78 | 76 | 82 |
| DK/NA | 4 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 7 |

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

| | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG | |
|------------|-----------------|-------|-------|-----|------------|-----|---------------------------|--------|
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| Approve | 26% | 25% | 35% | 20% | 26% | 27% | 27% | 25% |
| Disapprove | 55 | 58 | 44 | 63 | 59 | 51 | 56 | 54 |
| DK/NA | 19 | 17 | 21 | 17 | 15 | 22 | 17 | 21 |
| | AGE IN YRS..... | | | | WHITE..... | | | |
| | 18-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | 65+ | Men | Wom | Wht | NonWht |
| Approve | 37% | 24% | 28% | 23% | 26% | 27% | 26% | 27% |
| Disapprove | 47 | 56 | 55 | 56 | 59 | 52 | 55 | 54 |
| DK/NA | 16 | 20 | 17 | 21 | 15 | 21 | 18 | 19 |

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Cory Booker is handling his job as United States Senator?

| | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG | |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------|-----|
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| Approve | 58% | 27% | 86% | 50% | 50% | 65% | 60% | 54% |
| Disapprove | 31 | 61 | 7 | 36 | 40 | 22 | 32 | 36 |
| DK/NA | 11 | 12 | 7 | 14 | 10 | 13 | 8 | 11 |

| | AGE IN YRS..... | | | | WHITE..... | | | |
|------------|-----------------|-------|-------|-----|------------|-----|-----|--------|
| | 18-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | 65+ | Men | Wom | Wht | NonWht |
| Approve | 62% | 67% | 56% | 52% | 49% | 64% | 57% | 61% |
| Disapprove | 26 | 21 | 33 | 40 | 43 | 26 | 34 | 23 |
| DK/NA | 12 | 12 | 11 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 9 | 16 |

8. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Robert Menendez is handling his job as United States Senator?

| | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG | |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------|-----|
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| Approve | 51% | 33% | 68% | 46% | 48% | 54% | 49% | 53% |
| Disapprove | 32 | 53 | 14 | 38 | 39 | 27 | 35 | 35 |
| DK/NA | 17 | 14 | 18 | 16 | 14 | 19 | 16 | 12 |

| | AGE IN YRS..... | | | | WHITE..... | | | |
|------------|-----------------|-------|-------|-----|------------|-----|-----|--------|
| | 18-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | 65+ | Men | Wom | Wht | NonWht |
| Approve | 54% | 57% | 47% | 52% | 46% | 55% | 51% | 51% |
| Disapprove | 25 | 25 | 37 | 37 | 42 | 29 | 35 | 27 |
| DK/NA | 21 | 18 | 16 | 11 | 13 | 16 | 15 | 22 |

11. Do you think Donald Trump's policies will be good for New Jersey or bad for New Jersey?

| | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG | |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------|-----|
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| Good | 34% | 77% | 9% | 35% | 41% | 27% | 36% | 42% |
| Bad | 51 | 6 | 83 | 48 | 46 | 56 | 52 | 41 |
| DK/NA | 15 | 16 | 8 | 18 | 13 | 17 | 12 | 17 |

| | AGE IN YRS..... | | | | WHITE..... | | | |
|-------|-----------------|-------|-------|-----|------------|-----|-----|--------|
| | 18-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | 65+ | Men | Wom | Wht | NonWht |
| Good | 26% | 30% | 38% | 38% | 43% | 36% | 39% | 21% |
| Bad | 60 | 57 | 50 | 43 | 44 | 49 | 47 | 62 |
| DK/NA | 14 | 14 | 12 | 19 | 13 | 15 | 14 | 17 |