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QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL

FOR RELEASE: MARCH 26, 2013

NEW JERSEY VOTERS WANT CHRISTIE FOR GOV, LESS FOR PRES, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; GIRTH AND GENDER ARE TINY ISSUES IN GOVERNOR'S RACE

New Jersey voters, by overwhelming margins, approve of the job Gov. Christopher Christie is doing and want him to keep doing it for four more years, but they are divided on whether he should run for president and whether he would be a good president, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Garden State voters approve 70 – 23 percent of the job Gov. Christie is doing, continuing his four-month string of +70 percent approval ratings, the highest score of any governor in the seven states surveyed by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University.

Christie leads State Sen. Barbara Buono, his likely Democratic challenger for reelection, 60 – 25 percent, also continuing a string of 2-1 leads over the largely unknown Sen. Buono. Voters also say 66 – 25 percent, including 44 – 43 percent among Democrats, that Christie deserves reelection, also continuing a trend.

New Jersey voters seem to have little problem with a candidate for governor who is overweight or a candidate who is a woman:

- 4 percent are enthusiastic and 64 percent are comfortable with an overweight candidate, while 17 percent have some reservations and 4 percent are very uncomfortable;
- 17 percent are enthusiastic and 70 percent are comfortable with a female candidate, while 4 percent have some reservations and 2 percent are very uncomfortable.

“New Jersey voters rate Gov. Christopher Christie’s performance in Trenton at his now-routine astronomical level. And they think he deserves reelection in November,” said Maurice Carroll, director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

“Would he shine as brightly in Washington? New Jerseyans’ views are mixed. Ditto on whether he should run for president in 2016.

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New Jersey voters are divided on whether Christie would make a good president, with 41 percent saying yes and 44 percent saying no. Only 46 percent of voters would like to see Christie run for president in 2016, while 47 percent want to keep him in Trenton.

“New Jersey has had a female governor, and almost all voters are OK with another woman running the show,” Carroll said. “And very few voters seem to have a problem with a portly candidate.

In the New Jersey governor’s race, Christie leads 90 – 4 percent among Republicans and 69 – 15 percent among independent voters, while Democrats go to Buono 53 – 29 percent. The incumbent leads 65 – 21 percent among men and 55 – 29 percent among women, and leads in every region of the state, including 48 – 36 percent in urban areas, normally Democratic strongholds.

Christie gets a 69 – 22 percent favorability rating, including 48 – 38 percent among Democrats. For Buono, 79 percent don’t know enough about her to form an opinion.

“Who is that woman? Everybody knows Christie and hardly anyone knows Sen. Barbara Buono, even though she’s running an energetic, endorsement-rich campaign,” Carroll said.

In an open-ended question, allowing for any answer, 43 percent of New Jersey voters list taxes as the most important issue in their vote for governor, followed by 41 percent who list the economy or unemployment and 20 percent who cite education.

By a 64 – 30 percent margin, voters support a law allowing same sex couples to marry. Men support same-sex marriage 60 – 32 percent, with a larger 68 – 28 percent support among women. Support by age ranges from 56 – 38 percent among voters over 55 years old to 80 – 17 percent among voters 18 – 34 years old.

New Jersey voters say 72 – 22 percent it’s a good idea to decide the same-sex marriage issue by referendum on the November ballot.

President Barack Obama gets a 54 – 42 percent job approval rating in the Garden State, compared to 57 – 40 percent February 21.

From March 19 – 24, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,129 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.9 percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines 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 and the nation as a public service and for research.

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

1. If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were Barbara Buono the Democrat and Christopher Christie the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Buono	25%	4%	53%	15%	21%	29%	20%	45%
Christie	60	90	29	69	65	55	68	25
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	1	1	-	2	1	2	1	3
DK/NA	13	4	17	13	12	14	10	26

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	COLLEGE DEG No	AGE IN YRS..... 18-34	AGE IN YRS..... 35-54	AGE IN YRS..... 55+	ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME <50K	ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME 50-100	ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME >100K
Buono	26%	25%	36%	20%	25%	31%	22%	24%
Christie	62	58	43	65	62	51	64	65
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	1	2	-	1	2	1	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
DK/NA	10	15	19	13	10	16	10	10

	Urban	SbUrbn	ExUrbn	Philly land	Shore
Buono	36%	30%	21%	21%	17%
Christie	48	56	65	63	69
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	-	1	2	1	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	2	-	1	-
DK/NA	14	12	12	15	13

TREND: If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were Barbara Buono the Democrat and Christopher Christie the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Mar 26 2013	Feb 20 2013	Jan 23 2013	Nov 28 2012	Oct 17 2012
Buono	25	25	22	23	33
Christie	60	62	63	61	49
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	1	1	1	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	1	1	1	1	1
DK/NA	13	12	13	14	17

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Favorable	69%	93%	48%	73%	73%	66%	75%	45%
Unfavorable	22	5	38	19	21	23	18	46
Hvn't hrd enough	6	-	10	5	4	7	4	3
REFUSED	4	2	5	4	3	4	3	6

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	COLLEGE DEG No	AGE IN YRS..... 18-34	AGE IN YRS..... 35-54	AGE IN YRS..... 55+	ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME <50K	ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME 50-100	ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME >100K
Favorable	68%	69%	57%	75%	69%	63%	67%	74%
Unfavorable	28	18	30	18	21	22	26	23
Hvn't hrd enough	1	8	11	4	5	11	3	1
REFUSED	3	4	2	3	4	4	4	2

Cont'd

2. (cont'd) Is your opinion of Christopher Christie favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Philly				
	Urban	SbUrbn	ExUrbn	land	Shore
Favorable	57%	64%	77%	71%	77%
Unfavorable	32	26	15	21	14
Hvn't hrd enough	7	6	7	4	4
REFUSED	5	3	2	4	5

TREND: Is your opinion of Christopher Christie favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him? (*High also 69% Jan 2013, Feb 2013)

						FAVORABLE.....	
						High	Low
	Mar 26 2013	Feb 20 2013	Jan 23 2013	Nov 28 2012	Sep 05 2012	Mar 26 2013*	Aug 12 2008
Favorable	69	69	69	67	52	69	21
Unfavorable	22	22	21	22	42	22	7
Hvn't hrd enough	6	6	6	7	4	6	69
REFUSED	4	3	4	4	2	4	2

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Favorable	10%	3%	19%	8%	9%	12%	8%	20%
Unfavorable	10	24	1	10	14	7	12	3
Hvn't hrd enough	79	73	79	82	77	81	80	76
REFUSED	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1

	COLLEGE DEG		AGE IN YRS.....			ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME		
	Yes	No	18-34	35-54	55+	<50K	50-100	>100K
Favorable	11%	10%	11%	10%	10%	10%	9%	12%
Unfavorable	11	10	7	14	8	8	10	12
Hvn't hrd enough	77	80	82	76	81	82	81	75
REFUSED	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	1

	Philly				
	Urban	SbUrbn	ExUrbn	land	Shore
Favorable	9%	14%	7%	9%	11%
Unfavorable	6	9	14	11	12
Hvn't hrd enough	84	78	78	80	77
REFUSED	2	-	1	-	1

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

	Mar 26 2013	Feb 20 2013	Jan 23 2013	Nov 28 2012
Favorable	10	8	8	8
Unfavorable	10	8	9	7
Hvn't hrd enough	79	83	82	84
REFUSED	1	1	-	1

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Approve	70%	93%	48%	73%	75%	65%	77%	43%
Disapprove	23	6	40	21	19	26	18	46
DK/NA	7	1	12	6	6	8	5	11

	COLLEGE DEG	AGE IN	YRS.....	ANNUAL	HOUSEHOLD	INCOME		
	Yes	No	18-34	35-54	55+	<50K	50-100	>100K
Approve	69%	70%	57%	74%	72%	67%	68%	74%
Disapprove	26	21	34	21	21	25	26	23
DK/NA	5	9	9	5	7	8	6	4

	Philly				
	Urban	SbUrbn	ExUrbn	land	Shore
Approve	53%	70%	79%	65%	79%
Disapprove	37	26	14	24	15
DK/NA	10	4	7	11	6

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Christopher Christie is handling his job as Governor? (*High also 74% Jan 2013, **Low also 44% Jun 2010)

	APPROVE.....						
	High		Low				
	Mar 26	Feb 20	Jan 23	Nov 27	Oct 17	Feb 20	Jun 21
	2013	2013	2013	2012	2012	2013*	2011**
Approve	70	74	74	72	56	74	44
Disapprove	23	22	21	21	38	22	47
DK/NA	7	4	5	7	7	4	10

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Approve	54%	15%	93%	45%	50%	57%	44%	92%
Disapprove	42	83	6	49	47	38	53	5
DK/NA	4	2	2	6	3	5	3	3

	COLLEGE DEG	AGE IN	YRS.....	ANNUAL	HOUSEHOLD	INCOME		
	Yes	No	18-34	35-54	55+	<50K	50-100	>100K
Approve	57%	52%	63%	52%	52%	61%	52%	50%
Disapprove	41	43	30	45	45	36	44	47
DK/NA	2	5	7	3	3	3	4	3

	Philly				
	Urban	SbUrbn	ExUrbn	land	Shore
Approve	66%	61%	43%	56%	40%
Disapprove	33	34	51	41	57
DK/NA	2	5	6	3	3

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

	Mar 26 2013	Feb 21 2013	Jan 23 2013	Nov 27 2012	Jul 18 2012	APPROVE.....	
						High Jun 10 2009	Low Oct 13 2011
Approve	54	57	58	59	51	68	43
Disapprove	42	40	39	38	45	25	52
DK/NA	4	3	3	3	4	7	5

8. Do you feel that Christopher Christie deserves to be reelected, or do you feel that he does not deserve to be reelected?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Yes/Deserves	66%	91%	44%	70%	70%	62%	73%	45%
No/Does not	25	8	43	21	21	29	20	46
DK/NA	9	1	13	9	9	9	7	9

	COLLEGE DEG		AGE IN YRS.....			ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME		
	Yes	No	18-34	35-54	55+	<50K	50-100	>100K
Yes/Deserves	66%	66%	49%	72%	69%	60%	68%	70%
No/Does not	27	24	37	23	23	28	27	25
DK/NA	6	10	13	5	8	12	5	4

	Philly				
	Urban	SbUrbn	ExUrbn	land	Shore
Yes/Deserves	54%	62%	75%	63%	78%
No/Does not	37	31	14	26	15
DK/NA	9	8	11	11	7

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

	Mar 26 2013	Feb 20 2013	Jan 23 2013	Nov 28 2012	Oct 17 2012
Yes/Deserves	66	71	68	67	52
No/Does not	25	23	24	25	40
DK/NA	9	6	7	9	8

9. Do you think Christopher Christie would make a good President or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Yes	41%	67%	20%	42%	46%	36%	47%	20%
No	44	22	67	39	39	49	37	71
DK/NA	15	11	13	19	15	15	16	10

	COLLEGE DEG		AGE IN YRS.....			ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME		
	Yes	No	18-34	35-54	55+	<50K	50-100	>100K
Yes	41%	41%	33%	54%	34%	34%	40%	50%
No	45	43	52	37	46	48	48	41
DK/NA	13	16	15	9	20	18	12	9

Cont'd

9. (cont'd) Do you think Christopher Christie would make a good President or not?

	Philly				
	Urban	SbUrbn	ExUrbn	land	Shore
Yes	34%	33%	45%	45%	53%
No	57	49	34	44	35
DK/NA	9	18	21	11	12

TREND: Do you think Christopher Christie would make a good President or not?

	Mar 26 2013	Dec 21 2010	Nov 09 2010
Yes	41	25	24
No	44	63	61
DK/NA	15	13	15

10. Would you like to see Christopher Christie run for President in 2016 or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Yes	46%	69%	24%	50%	49%	43%	53%	18%
No	47	24	68	44	43	50	40	74
DK/NA	8	6	8	7	8	7	8	7

	COLLEGE DEG		AGE IN YRS.....			ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME		
	Yes	No	18-34	35-54	55+	<50K	50-100	>100K
Yes	46%	46%	50%	52%	40%	39%	45%	53%
No	48	46	45	43	50	51	50	43
DK/NA	6	8	5	5	10	10	4	3

	Philly				
	Urban	SbUrbn	ExUrbn	land	Shore
Yes	39%	43%	50%	43%	54%
No	57	50	42	45	39
DK/NA	4	7	7	12	7

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Very satisfied	7%	10%	3%	7%	7%	7%	7%	4%
Smwht satisfied	53	69	45	52	54	53	55	44
Smwht dissatisfied	28	14	40	29	28	29	27	31
Very dissatisfied	10	6	12	10	10	11	9	19
DK/NA	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2

	COLLEGE DEG		AGE IN YRS.....			ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME		
	Yes	No	18-34	35-54	55+	<50K	50-100	>100K
Very satisfied	7%	6%	6%	8%	6%	8%	6%	6%
Smwht satisfied	54	53	52	54	56	50	52	58
Smwht dissatisfied	27	29	34	28	26	29	30	27
Very dissatisfied	11	10	8	9	11	11	12	8
DK/NA	-	1	-	1	1	3	-	-

Cont'd

11. (cont'd) In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in New Jersey today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	Philly				
	Urban	SbUrbn	ExUrbn	land	Shore
Very satisfied	6%	8%	8%	5%	8%
Smwht satisfied	48	52	57	50	59
Smwht dissatisfied	32	27	26	33	26
Very dissatisfied	15	12	9	11	6
DK/NA	-	1	-	2	2

TREND: In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in New Jersey today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied? (*High also 71% Feb 1999)

	Mar 26 2013	Feb 20 2013	Jan 23 2013	Nov 27 2012	Sep 05 2012	VERY+SMWHT SAT	
						High Dec 26 2000*	Low Jun 17 2010
Very satisfied	7	8	6	8	6	10	2
Smwht satisfied	53	53	52	57	50	61	22
Smwht dissatisfied	28	28	30	26	30	21	36
Very dissatisfied	10	10	11	9	13	7	39
DK/NA	1	-	1	1	1	1	1

12. Which party would you like to see control the New Jersey State Legislature after the elections in November 2013, the Democratic Party or the Republican Party?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Democratic Party	43%	4%	91%	28%	39%	46%	35%	80%
Republican Party	42	94	3	44	45	39	51	8
DK/NA	15	2	6	28	16	15	15	13

	COLLEGE DEG		AGE IN YRS.....			ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME		
	Yes	No	18-34	35-54	55+	<50K	50-100	>100K
Democratic Party	45%	42%	47%	41%	44%	47%	45%	41%
Republican Party	43	41	37	44	42	35	42	49
DK/NA	12	17	16	15	13	18	12	10

	Philly				
	Urban	SbUrbn	ExUrbn	land	Shore
Democratic Party	60%	47%	34%	42%	33%
Republican Party	29	37	51	41	51
DK/NA	10	16	15	17	16

TREND: Which party would you like to see control the New Jersey State Legislature after the elections in November 2013, the Democratic Party or the Republican Party?

	Mar 26 2013	Feb 20 2013	Jan 23 2013	Nov 28 2012
Democratic Party	43	47	48	45
Republican Party	42	40	39	38
DK/NA	15	13	13	17

13a. What is the most important issue to you in deciding how to vote for governor this year? COMBINED WITH: 13b. And what is the next most important issue to you in deciding how to vote for governor this year? (Note: Percentages add to more than 100%)

	Tot
Taxes total	43%
Taxes (General)	29
Taxes (Property)	13
Taxes (Other)	1
Economy total	41%
Economy	16
Jobs/Unemployment	23
Cost of Living	1
Poverty	1
Education total	20%
Education (General)	15
Education (Teachers)	2
Education (Funding)	1
Education (Other)	2
Budget total	12%
Budget (General)	9
Budget (Government spending)	3
Healthcare total	9%
Healthcare	8
Medicaid	1
Environment total	7%
Environment	2
Sandy/Repairing shore	5
Crime/Safety/Terrorism	3
Gun Issues	3
Unions/State workers (General)	3
Social Services/Issues	3
Elderly Issues	2
Unions/State workers (Pensions)	2
Roads/Infrastructure	2
Immigration	2
Honesty/Keeps Promises	2
Government too big	1
Abortion	1
Gay marriage/Gay Issues	1
Record/Experience of Candidates	1
Corruption/Political Fraud	1
Party/Political Philosophy	1
Someone like Christie	1
Other	14
DK/NA	7

14. If a candidate for Governor is - a woman, is that someone you would be enthusiastic about, be comfortable with, have some reservations about, or be very uncomfortable with?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Enthusiastic about	17%	8%	30%	12%	10%	24%	17%	24%
Comfortable with	70	79	61	76	80	62	70	66
Some reservations	4	5	3	4	3	5	5	1
Very uncomfortable	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	4
DK/NA	7	6	6	7	7	7	7	4

	COLLEGE DEG	AGE IN YRS.....	ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME
	Yes No	18-34 35-54 55+	<50K 50-100 >100K
Enthusiastic about	22%	14%	20%
Comfortable with	69	71	73
Some reservations	3	5	3
Very uncomfortable	1	2	-
DK/NA	5	8	3

	Philly				
	Urban	SbUrbn	ExUrbn	land	Shore
Enthusiastic about	18%	18%	16%	18%	16%
Comfortable with	71	70	69	68	74
Some reservations	4	3	3	5	5
Very uncomfortable	2	2	1	2	1
DK/NA	6	7	11	7	4

15. If a candidate for Governor is - overweight, is that someone you would be enthusiastic about, be comfortable with, have some reservations about, or be very uncomfortable with?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Enthusiastic about	4%	6%	3%	3%	3%	4%	4%	5%
Comfortable with	64	74	55	69	68	60	65	65
Some reservations	17	12	25	14	15	19	17	17
Very uncomfortable	4	1	7	4	4	5	3	6
DK/NA	11	8	10	11	10	12	10	7

	COLLEGE DEG	AGE IN YRS.....	ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME
	Yes No	18-34 35-54 55+	<50K 50-100 >100K
Enthusiastic about	3%	4%	4%
Comfortable with	63	64	69
Some reservations	19	16	12
Very uncomfortable	4	4	7
DK/NA	10	12	8

	Philly				
	Urban	SbUrbn	ExUrbn	land	Shore
Enthusiastic about	1%	1%	9%	3%	5%
Comfortable with	65	65	59	60	67
Some reservations	20	18	14	16	16
Very uncomfortable	3	5	5	5	3
DK/NA	10	11	12	15	9

21. Would you support or oppose a law that would allow same-sex couples to get married?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Support	64%	47%	77%	65%	60%	68%	65%	70%
Oppose	30	46	20	29	32	28	28	27
DK/NA	6	7	4	6	8	4	6	3

	COLLEGE DEG		AGE IN YRS.....			ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME		
	Yes	No	18-34	35-54	55+	<50K	50-100	>100K
Support	70%	61%	80%	68%	56%	56%	70%	69%
Oppose	25	33	17	26	38	40	21	28
DK/NA	6	6	3	5	6	4	8	3

TREND: Would you support or oppose a law that would allow same-sex couples to get married?

						SUPPORT.....	
						High	Low
	Mar 26	May 17	Mar 01	Jan 19	Nov 25	Mar 26	Nov 8
	2013	2012	2012	2012	2009	2013	2006
Support	64	53	57	52	46	64	41
Oppose	30	42	37	42	49	30	50
DK/NA	6	5	6	6	6	6	9

22. Governor Christie thinks New Jersey voters should decide the issue of same-sex marriage in a referendum in November. Do you think that is a good idea or a bad idea?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Good idea	72%	80%	65%	76%	71%	73%	74%	68%
Bad idea	22	17	30	20	23	22	21	31
DK/NA	5	3	5	5	6	5	5	1

	COLLEGE DEG		AGE IN YRS.....			ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME		
	Yes	No	18-34	35-54	55+	<50K	50-100	>100K
Good idea	74%	71%	74%	75%	69%	67%	77%	74%
Bad idea	22	23	21	20	26	28	18	21
DK/NA	4	6	6	4	5	5	5	4

TREND: Governor Christie thinks New Jersey voters should decide the issue of same-sex marriage in a referendum in November. Do you think that is a good idea or a bad idea?

	Mar 26	May 17	Mar 01
	2013	2012	2012
Good idea	72	67	67
Bad idea	22	27	28
DK/NA	5	6	5