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**NEW JERSEY DISAPPROVES OF GOV. CHRISTIE 2-1, LOWEST EVER,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
HE SHOULD NOT BE TRUMP'S RUNNING MATE, VOTERS SAY 4-1**

New Jersey voters disapprove 64 – 29 percent of the job Gov. Christopher Christie is doing, his lowest approval rating ever and the worst approval rating in six years for any governor in the nine states surveyed by Quinnipiac University, according to a poll released today.

Gov. Christie's lowest approval score before today was a 56 – 38 percent disapproval in an April 20, 2015, survey by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University.

Today, Republicans approve by a lackluster 59 – 34 percent, while disapproval is 86 – 9 percent among Democrats and 66 – 26 percent among independent voters. In fact, Republicans are the only party, gender, age or racial group listed to give Christie a positive score.

New Jersey voters say 72 – 18 percent that likely Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump should not pick Christie as his running mate. Even Republicans say no 64 – 27 percent.

“Gov. Christopher Christie is in Trenton until the end of 2017, if he wants to be, holding what is constitutionally one of the strongest governor's seats in the nation. But New Jersey voters give Christie abysmal job-approval numbers. Even a third of his fellow Republicans disapprove,” said Quinnipiac University Poll Assistant Director Maurice Carroll.

“Christie-for-President was a flop and, as far as the local folks are concerned, so is Christie-for-Vice President. Forget local pride, New Jersey voters say overwhelmingly; they don't want their Gov on a Trump ticket.”

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“It’s a drastic decline in popularity for a governor who once looked like a strong choice for president,” Carroll added.

New Jersey voters approve 49 – 25 percent of the job Sen. Cory Booker is doing, but disapprove 40 – 34 percent of the job Sen. Robert Menendez is doing.

President Barack Obama gets a 53 – 44 percent job approval rating.

Gas and Death Taxes

New Jersey voters oppose 54 – 42 percent increasing the state’s gas tax to pay for road and mass transit improvements.

Voters are divided on reducing the so-called death tax, the tax paid on an inheritance when someone dies: 49 percent support a reduction, with 45 percent opposed.

And voters oppose 52 – 36 percent reducing the inheritance tax if this cut were linked to an increase in the gas tax.

“Lawmakers in Trenton are looking at a Transportation Trust Fund that is running on empty, but Garden State voters just don’t want to increase the gas tax, even if a gas tax hike were linked to a death tax reduction,” Carroll said.

“Voters are thinking, ‘I know I’m driving today. Who knows what I’ll inherit down the road?’”

From May 10 – 16, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,989 New Jersey voters, with a margin of error of +/- 2.2 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, Iowa, Colorado and the nation as a public service and for research.

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	29%	59%	9%	26%	33%	25%	27%	31%
Disapprove	64	34	86	66	61	66	67	61
DK/NA	7	7	6	8	6	9	5	9
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Approve	28%	27%	28%	32%	38%	28%	33%	9%
Disapprove	60	68	68	60	56	63	60	86
DK/NA	12	5	5	8	5	8	7	5

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	27%	30%	25%	25%	27%	27%	26%	28%
Disapprove	53	53	51	55	55	50	56	50
DK/NA	20	17	24	20	18	23	18	22
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Approve	36%	27%	22%	24%	28%	27%	27%	20%
Disapprove	38	53	64	55	58	51	54	55
DK/NA	26	20	15	21	14	22	18	25

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	49%	28%	68%	50%	46%	53%	55%	45%
Disapprove	25	44	9	23	31	18	26	24
DK/NA	26	28	22	27	23	28	20	31
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Approve	53%	49%	51%	48%	43%	51%	47%	69%
Disapprove	21	24	26	26	35	21	28	11
DK/NA	26	27	23	26	22	28	25	20

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	34%	22%	44%	36%	34%	34%	34%	34%
Disapprove	40	56	27	40	45	36	42	38
DK/NA	26	22	28	24	21	30	24	28
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Approve	38%	32%	33%	37%	29%	31%	30%	49%
Disapprove	31	42	45	38	51	40	45	27
DK/NA	31	25	23	24	20	29	25	24

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	53%	11%	89%	53%	49%	57%	57%	51%
Disapprove	44	87	9	44	49	40	41	47
DK/NA	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Approve	66%	52%	54%	44%	38%	48%	43%	91%
Disapprove	34	46	42	53	61	50	55	5
DK/NA	1	3	4	3	1	3	2	4

12. Would you like to see Donald Trump choose Chris Christie to be his Vice Presidential running mate or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes	18%	27%	12%	18%	18%	18%	19%	17%
No	72	64	75	74	71	72	71	72
DK/NA	10	9	13	8	10	10	11	10
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Yes	19%	17%	19%	19%	21%	19%	20%	11%
No	77	74	72	66	70	73	72	75
DK/NA	5	9	9	15	9	8	8	14

13. 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	COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Very satisfied	2%	4%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	3%
Smwht satisfied	32	46	28	27	33	32	30	34
Smwht dissatisfied	37	32	38	41	38	35	40	33
Very dissatisfied	28	17	31	31	26	30	27	29
DK/NA	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Very satisfied	2%	3%	1%	3%	3%	3%	3%	1%
Smwht satisfied	38	32	26	35	34	33	34	22
Smwht dissatisfied	38	38	38	33	35	38	36	35
Very dissatisfied	20	27	34	28	27	25	26	41
DK/NA	2	-	1	1	1	1	1	1

14. Would you describe the state of New Jersey's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Excellent	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Good	33	41	30	29	35	31	34	33
Not so good	44	42	46	48	43	45	45	44
Poor	19	14	21	20	19	20	19	20
DK/NA	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	3
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Excellent	2%	2%	1%	-	2%	-	1%	-
Good	44	33	28	27	36	33	34	30
Not so good	40	41	46	51	43	48	46	39
Poor	10	21	24	19	17	17	17	28
DK/NA	5	2	1	2	2	2	2	3

15. Do you think New Jersey's economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Better	11%	12%	12%	9%	14%	8%	11%	11%
Worse	28	21	30	29	25	31	29	28
The same	58	64	57	59	59	57	59	57
DK/NA	3	3	1	3	2	3	2	3
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Better	17%	12%	9%	7%	14%	10%	12%	11%
Worse	26	27	33	26	23	27	25	42
The same	53	59	58	63	61	59	60	45
DK/NA	4	3	-	3	2	4	3	1

16. To help finance road improvements and mass transportation, would you support or oppose an increase in the gasoline tax?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Support	42%	32%	54%	41%	44%	41%	46%	39%
Oppose	54	66	43	56	53	55	51	57
DK/NA	3	2	3	3	2	4	2	4
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Support	43%	40%	41%	47%	47%	44%	45%	35%
Oppose	54	56	57	48	52	52	52	61
DK/NA	3	4	2	5	1	5	3	4

17. Do you support or oppose reducing the so-called death tax, the tax people pay on an inheritance when someone dies?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Support	49%	53%	44%	50%	50%	49%	54%	45%
Oppose	45	44	47	46	47	43	40	50
DK/NA	6	3	9	4	3	8	6	6
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Support	50%	52%	51%	46%	53%	56%	55%	35%
Oppose	47	43	44	45	44	38	41	51
DK/NA	3	5	5	9	2	6	4	14

18. Would you support or oppose reducing the inheritance tax if this cut were linked to an increase in the gasoline tax?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Support	36%	32%	38%	39%	38%	35%	37%	36%
Oppose	52	59	50	49	55	50	54	51
DK/NA	11	9	12	11	7	15	9	13
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Support	45%	36%	31%	35%	38%	36%	37%	32%
Oppose	48	54	60	48	56	49	52	56
DK/NA	7	11	9	17	6	15	11	11