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**MURPHY BURIES GUADAGNO 2-1 IN NEW JERSEY GOV RACE,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
CHRISTIE, TRUMP APPROVAL RATINGS DROP TO HISTORIC LOWS**

Five months before Election Day, Democrat Phil Murphy buries Republican Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno 55 – 26 percent in the New Jersey governor’s race, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

The blue wave sweeps across the ballot as New Jersey voters say 57 – 29 percent that they want Democrats rather than Republicans to control the State Legislature, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll finds.

Lt. Gov. Guadagno leads 78 – 8 percent among Republicans and gets 38 percent of white men to Murphy’s 39 percent. The Democrat leads among every other listed party, gender, education, age and racial group, including 46 – 26 percent among independent voters and 61 – 22 percent among women.

“Taxes” is the most important issue in their vote for governor, 28 percent of voters say, while 20 percent list health care; 15 percent cite the economy; 14 percent say education and 13 percent list ethics in government.

Only 23 percent of voters believe Guadagno’s pledge that, if elected, she will lower property taxes or step down after one term as governor, but 68 percent don’t believe her pledge.

Only 39 percent believe Murphy’s pledge to increase education funding by imposing a millionaires’ tax, with no tax hike on the middle class, while 52 percent don’t believe his pledge.

“Once upon a time, New Jersey elections were peppy – looked on as a sign of where the nation was heading politically. This was a far from peppy primary and the first general election matchup between Democrat Phil Murphy and Republican Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno doesn’t look like this race will go down to the wire,” said Maurice Carroll, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

“But if New Jersey is a weather vane, the wind is blowing in the Democrats’ direction.”

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“Hobbled by eight years in a little noticed job and her ties to a remarkably unpopular governor, Lt. Gov. Guadagno is little-known and little-liked,” Carroll added. “Half the state doesn’t know enough about her to judge her as a candidate.

“The last New Jersey governor from Goldman Sachs, Jon Corzine, failed to win a second term, but only one-third of voters hold Murphy’s Wall Street career against him. Guadagno’s experience as lieutenant governor seems to be hurting her more.”

Murphy gets a 33 – 18 percent favorability rating from New Jersey voters, while 47 percent haven’t heard enough about him to form an opinion of him. Guadagno gets a negative 20 – 28 percent favorability, with 50 percent who haven’t heard enough to form an opinion.

Murphy’s 23 years at Goldman Sachs leaves 33 percent of voters with a negative impact on their opinion of him, with 7 percent saying it has a positive impact and 56 percent who say it has no impact on their opinion.

Guadagno’s service as Gov. Christopher Christie’s Lieutenant Governor leaves 54 percent of voters with a negative impact on their opinion of her; 9 percent of voters with a positive impact and 35 percent who say it has no impact on their opinion of her.

Gov. Christie, President Trump Approval Ratings

Christie makes history again as New Jersey voters disapprove 81 – 15 percent of the job he is doing, the worst approval rating for any governor in any state surveyed by Quinnipiac University in more than 20 years. Even Republicans disapprove 58 – 31 percent.

President Donald Trump also is at a historic low, as Garden State voters disapprove 66 – 28 percent of the job he is doing.

New Jersey voters approve 58 – 28 percent of the job U.S. Sen. Cory Booker is doing, compared to his all-time high approval of 58 – 31 percent January 31.

U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez gets a 44 – 35 percent approval rating compared to his 41 – 41 percent score in a May 3 Quinnipiac University poll.

But voters say 44 – 31 percent that Menendez does not deserve reelection next year.

From June 7 – 12, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,103 New Jersey voters with a margin of error of +/- 3.8 percentage points, including design effect. Live interviewers call landlines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys nationwide and in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa and Colorado 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	55%	8%	88%	46%	47%	61%	51%	43%
Guadagno	26	78	3	26	31	22	31	36
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	2	-	4	4	1	2	2
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	-	2	3	2	2	2	4
DK/NA	14	11	6	22	15	13	14	15

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Murphy	56%	60%	55%	51%	39%	54%	47%	70%
Guadagno	15	24	30	34	38	30	34	13
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	7	-	3	1	2	2	2	4
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	2	3	1	4	2	3	1
DK/NA	20	14	9	13	17	12	14	12

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	33%	8%	50%	31%	32%	35%	33%	25%
Unfavorable	18	36	7	21	23	13	21	22
Hvn't hrd enough	47	55	43	46	42	51	44	51
REFUSED	2	1	-	3	3	1	2	3

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Favorable	34%	38%	33%	32%	26%	32%	29%	43%
Unfavorable	11	13	21	21	26	17	21	10
Hvn't hrd enough	51	47	45	46	44	50	47	45
REFUSED	4	1	1	1	4	1	2	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	20%	48%	6%	20%	23%	17%	24%	24%
Unfavorable	28	12	40	25	26	30	35	22
Hvn't hrd enough	50	39	53	52	47	52	39	52
REFUSED	2	1	1	3	3	1	1	2

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Favorable	8%	16%	24%	28%	29%	21%	25%	11%
Unfavorable	23	26	32	30	26	31	29	28
Hvn't hrd enough	65	57	43	39	42	48	45	59
REFUSED	3	1	1	3	3	1	2	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	28%	79%	5%	31%	34%	24%	31%	43%
Disapprove	66	15	93	60	60	70	63	52
DK/NA	6	7	3	9	6	6	6	5

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Approve	19%	29%	31%	32%	43%	32%	37%	14%
Disapprove	74	62	65	63	52	63	58	79
DK/NA	7	8	4	4	6	5	5	7

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	15%	31%	4%	16%	16%	14%	17%	14%
Disapprove	81	58	94	81	82	81	79	80
DK/NA	4	12	2	3	3	6	4	6

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Approve	9%	13%	16%	19%	18%	14%	16%	11%
Disapprove	89	82	80	75	79	79	79	86
DK/NA	1	5	4	6	3	6	5	3

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%	21%	26%	27%	24%	27%	22%	27%
Disapprove	54	63	51	54	59	49	56	51
DK/NA	20	15	23	19	17	23	22	22

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Approve	34%	23%	23%	21%	23%	26%	25%	26%
Disapprove	42	57	62	56	60	47	53	57
DK/NA	24	20	15	23	17	26	22	17

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%	20%	81%	52%	49%	66%	58%	50%
Disapprove	28	63	9	30	36	20	31	35
DK/NA	15	17	10	18	15	14	11	15
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Approve	53%	59%	60%	58%	44%	63%	54%	65%
Disapprove	23	29	28	31	43	25	33	17
DK/NA	24	12	12	11	13	13	13	18

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	44%	19%	59%	43%	38%	49%	42%	38%
Disapprove	35	55	21	39	41	30	39	41
DK/NA	21	26	20	18	21	21	18	21
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Approve	36%	45%	49%	45%	34%	46%	40%	51%
Disapprove	33	33	36	40	49	32	40	27
DK/NA	31	22	14	16	17	22	20	22

9. Do you feel that Robert Menendez deserves to be reelected, or do you feel that he does not deserve to be reelected?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Deserves	31%	18%	39%	30%	30%	32%	31%	29%
No/Does not	44	57	35	48	51	39	44	48
DK/NA	25	24	26	22	19	30	25	23
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Yes/Deserves	23%	30%	34%	36%	28%	32%	30%	33%
No/Does not	39	48	46	45	53	40	46	42
DK/NA	38	22	20	18	19	28	24	25

10. Would you like to see the Democrats or the Republicans control the New Jersey state legislature?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							COLLEGE DEG	Yes
Democrats	57%	7%	92%	47%	48%	65%	53%	46%
Republicans	29	85	3	31	36	24	34	42
DK/NA	14	9	5	22	16	12	13	12
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Democrats	61%	60%	56%	55%	42%	56%	50%	70%
Republicans	19	29	34	34	44	33	38	15
DK/NA	20	11	11	12	13	11	12	15

12. Which of these is the most important issue to you in deciding how to vote for governor this year: taxes, the economy, education, the budget, health care, or ethics in government?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							COLLEGE DEG	Yes
Taxes	28%	46%	15%	36%	34%	23%	34%	31%
Economy	15	21	14	13	17	14	14	18
Education	14	5	18	14	11	17	15	7
The budget	8	7	6	9	9	7	9	7
Health care	20	8	31	13	14	25	14	19
Ethics in government	13	10	16	14	13	14	13	15
SOMETHING ELSE (VOL)	1	3	-	1	2	-	1	1
DK/NA	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Taxes	12%	29%	35%	36%	37%	29%	33%	21%
Economy	13	14	19	16	15	16	16	15
Education	28	18	8	6	10	13	11	19
The budget	10	7	7	7	9	7	8	6
Health care	26	16	20	17	12	20	16	26
Ethics in government	11	14	11	14	14	15	14	12
SOMETHING ELSE (VOL)	-	1	1	1	2	1	1	-
DK/NA	-	-	-	3	1	1	1	1

13. As you may know, Phil Murphy worked for Goldman Sachs for 23 years. Does this have a positive impact on your opinion of Phil Murphy, a negative impact, or does it have no impact on your opinion of Phil Murphy?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Positive	7%	10%	6%	4%	7%	6%	6%	4%
Negative	33	27	35	33	37	30	36	30
No impact	56	58	55	59	53	59	57	61
DK/NA	4	5	3	3	3	5	1	4

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Positive	9%	10%	4%	4%	6%	5%	5%	8%
Negative	29	27	39	37	36	31	33	33
No impact	56	62	54	54	56	60	58	53
DK/NA	7	1	2	5	2	4	3	6

14. As you may know, Kim Guadagno has been Chris Christie's lieutenant governor for about eight years. Does this have a positive impact on your opinion of Kim Guadagno, a negative impact, or does it have no impact on your opinion of Kim Guadagno?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Positive	9%	25%	2%	8%	9%	9%	11%	12%
Negative	54	25	73	50	51	56	53	44
No impact	35	47	24	42	37	33	35	42
DK/NA	2	3	1	-	2	1	1	2

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Positive	5%	5%	10%	12%	13%	11%	12%	4%
Negative	62	61	54	44	46	51	49	65
No impact	31	33	35	41	40	37	38	29
DK/NA	2	-	1	3	2	1	1	3

15. Do you believe Kim Guadagno's pledge that if she is elected governor she will lower property taxes or step down after one term, or don't you believe her pledge?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Believe	23%	46%	11%	25%	28%	19%	24%	28%
Don't believe	68	44	81	67	66	70	68	62
DK/NA	9	10	8	8	6	11	8	10

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Believe	17%	20%	27%	27%	30%	23%	26%	20%
Don't believe	68	75	70	64	64	66	65	73
DK/NA	15	5	3	9	6	11	9	8

16. Do you believe Phil Murphy's pledge to increase education funding by imposing a millionaires' tax, with no tax increases on the middle class, or don't you believe his pledge?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							COLLEGE DEG	Yes
Believe	39%	22%	53%	36%	38%	41%	41%	33%
Don't believe	52	67	42	54	56	49	53	59
DK/NA	8	10	5	10	7	10	6	8
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Believe	37%	49%	38%	32%	36%	38%	37%	45%
Don't believe	50	46	56	59	59	53	56	45
DK/NA	13	5	5	8	5	10	7	10

20. There is a Republican health care plan to replace Obamacare, known as the American Health Care Act. Do you approve or disapprove of this Republican health care plan?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							COLLEGE DEG	Yes
Approve	19%	57%	3%	20%	24%	15%	25%	25%
Disapprove	69	23	92	67	66	72	63	57
DK/NA	12	21	5	14	11	13	12	18
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Approve	11%	17%	22%	23%	31%	20%	25%	9%
Disapprove	81	74	66	58	56	64	60	85
DK/NA	9	9	12	18	14	16	15	6