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**NEW JERSEY VOTERS GIVE CHRISTIE A SPLIT DECISION,  
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;  
SANDY RECOVERY IS GOVERNOR'S ONLY BRIGHT SPOT**

New Jersey voters are divided in their opinions about Gov. Christopher Christie as 49 percent approve of the job he is doing, while 47 percent disapprove, according to a Quinnipiac University Poll released today. Voters are divided 48 – 48 percent on whether Gov. Christie is more of a leader or more of a bully.

This is the governor's lowest net job approval rating since a 47 – 46 percent score in an August 17, 2011, survey by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University. The split bully-meter rating is unchanged from the results of an April 9 survey.

There are party and gender gaps in Christie's rating: Men approve of Christie 54 – 42 percent, as women disapprove 50 – 44 percent. Democrats disapprove 71 – 23 percent, while Republicans approve 86 – 12 percent. Independent voters are divided, with 47 percent approving and 50 percent disapproving.

Christie's favorability rating also is divided 47 – 47 percent.

Looking at the governor's personal characteristics, New Jersey voters say:

- 46 – 49 percent that he is honest and trustworthy;
- 47 – 49 percent that he cares about their needs and problems;
- 68 – 30 percent that he has strong leadership qualities.

“People used to talk about Gov. Christopher Christie's appeal to independent voters, but many of those voters now have second thoughts,” said Maurice Carroll, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll. “Bridgagate has faded from the headlines, but Gov. Christie still hasn't recovered. His near-70 percent job approval rating in July 2013 dropped to 49 percent in April and is still there.”

**-more-**

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“The ‘Jersey Guy’ image that Gov. Christie has cultivated had earned him national attention as a tough guy,” Carroll added. “But now his neighbors are divided on whether he cares about them.

“And being drubbed in the news media for months about Bridgegate has eroded people’s confidence in the Gov’s honesty.”

A total of 50 percent of New Jersey voters are very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the way things are going in the state today, with 50 percent somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

The Garden State economy is excellent or good, 34 percent of voters say, while 65 percent say it’s not so good or poor. The state economy is getting better, 20 percent say, while 23 percent say it’s getting worse and 56 percent say it’s about the same.

Christie gets negative approval ratings for his handling of most key issues:

- Negative 44 – 51 percent for his handling of the economy;
- 44 percent approve of his handling of the state budget, while 48 percent disapprove;
- Negative 42 – 49 percent for handling education;
- 56 – 36 percent for handling recovery from Hurricane Sandy.

A total of 65 percent of voters say Sandy recovery is going very well or somewhat well. But 48 percent of voters are not satisfied with the pace of recovery, while 46 percent are satisfied.

“To people who don’t live along the Shore, or near flood-prone rivers and streams, the memory of Hurricane Sandy is fading. But many voters aren’t satisfied with the pace of the recovery. Most think Christie has done a good job,” Carroll said.

From July 31 – August 4, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,148 New Jersey 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, Iowa, Colorado and the nation as a public service and for research.

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

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Favorable	47%	82%	24%	47%	51%	44%	50%	48%	46%
Unfavorable	47	14	70	49	45	49	47	46	48
Hvn't hrd enough	2	1	2	2	1	3	1	4	1
REFUSED	3	3	4	2	3	3	2	2	4

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

	Aug 06 2014	Jul 10 2013	Jun 10 2013	Apr 24 2013	Mar 26 2013	FAVORABLE.....	
						High Mar 26 2013*	Low Aug 12 2008
Favorable	47	66	63	66	69	69	21
Unfavorable	47	27	27	24	22	22	7
Hvn't hrd enough	2	3	4	5	6	6	69
REFUSED	3	4	6	4	4	4	2

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Approve	49%	86%	23%	47%	54%	44%	43%	50%	49%
Disapprove	47	12	71	50	42	50	53	44	46
DK/NA	5	3	6	4	3	6	3	5	5

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

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014	Jan 15 2014	Jul 10 2013	Jun 10 2013	APPROVE.....	
						High Feb 20 2013*	Low Jun 21 2011**
Approve	49	49	55	68	69	74	44
Disapprove	47	44	38	26	27	22	47
DK/NA	5	7	7	6	5	4	10

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Approve	30%	35%	34%	26%	26%	33%	35%	34%	26%
Disapprove	52	52	44	60	58	48	43	51	57
DK/NA	17	14	22	15	16	19	23	14	18

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

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014	Jun 17 2010	Jan 20 2010	Nov 24 2009	APPROVE.....	
						High Jan 26 2005	Low Jun 17 2010
Approve	30	36	19	26	21	44	19
Disapprove	52	48	62	61	65	31	62
DK/NA	17	15	19	13	15	25	19

22. 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	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Very satisfied	4%	6%	4%	3%	5%	4%	4%	5%	4%
Smwht satisfied	46	55	41	46	45	47	58	45	41
Smwht dissatisfied	30	27	31	31	29	31	24	33	30
Very dissatisfied	20	12	24	20	22	19	14	18	24
DK/NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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)

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014	Jul 10 2013	Apr 24 2013	Mar 26 2013	VERY+SMWHT SAT	
						High Dec 26 2000*	Low Jun 17 2010
Very satisfied	4	5	9	7	7	10	2
Smwht satisfied	46	45	52	52	53	61	22
Smwht dissatisfied	30	30	28	27	28	21	36
Very dissatisfied	20	19	11	13	10	7	39
DK/NA	-	1	-	1	1	1	1

23. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chris Christie is handling - the economy and jobs?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Approve	44%	77%	22%	43%	49%	39%	48%	43%	42%
Disapprove	51	19	74	51	47	54	48	52	52
DK/NA	5	4	5	6	4	6	3	5	6

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chris Christie is handling the economy and jobs?

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014
Approve	44	44
Disapprove	51	48
DK/NA	5	8

24. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chris Christie is handling - the state budget?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Approve	44%	72%	24%	45%	50%	39%	35%	48%	44%
Disapprove	48	20	69	47	44	52	56	47	48
DK/NA	8	8	8	8	6	10	9	6	8

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chris Christie is handling the state budget?

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014	Jul 17 2012	May 17 2012	Apr 11 2012	APPROVE.....	
						High Apr 11 2012	Low Aug 07 2014
Approve	44	46	54	54	58	58	44
Disapprove	48	45	39	38	35	35	48
DK/NA	8	9	8	8	7	7	8

25. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chris Christie is handling - education?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Approve	42%	69%	23%	43%	47%	38%	37%	45%	44%
Disapprove	49	20	70	50	45	52	55	48	47
DK/NA	9	11	7	7	8	9	8	7	9

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chris Christie is handling education?

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014	Jul 17 2012	May 17 2012	Mar 01 2012	APPROVE.....	
						High Mar 01 2012	Low Jun 21 2011
Approve	42	44	48	48	50	50	41
Disapprove	49	47	45	41	43	43	55
DK/NA	9	9	8	11	7	7	4

26. Would you say that Chris Christie - is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Yes	46%	81%	22%	45%	50%	42%	43%	44%	48%
No	49	15	72	51	45	52	52	52	46
DK/NA	5	4	6	4	4	6	5	4	6

TREND: Would you say that Chris Christie is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014	Jan 15 2014	Jun 10 2009
Yes	46	43	51	42
No	49	50	41	20
DK/NA	5	7	8	38

27. Would you say that Chris Christie - cares about the needs and problems of people like you or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Yes	47%	81%	22%	45%	53%	42%	47%	45%	49%
No	49	15	73	51	44	53	49	50	48
DK/NA	4	4	5	3	3	5	4	4	3

TREND: Would you say that Chris Christie cares about the needs and problems of people like you or not?

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014	Jan 15 2014	Jun 10 2009
Yes	47	48	55	44
No	49	48	41	23
DK/NA	4	4	4	32

28. Would you say that Chris Christie - has strong leadership qualities or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Yes	68%	89%	53%	68%	72%	64%	67%	70%	66%
No	30	10	44	30	25	33	30	29	30
DK/NA	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	-	4

TREND: Would you say that Chris Christie has strong leadership qualities or not?

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014	Jan 15 2014	Jun 10 2009
Yes	68	69	74	48
No	30	27	23	17
DK/NA	3	3	3	36

29. 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	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Excellent	1%	-	1%	1%	1%	-	2%	1%	-
Good	33	48	26	30	36	30	55	32	26
Not so good	46	37	52	47	43	49	31	50	49
Poor	19	13	20	22	19	19	11	17	23
DK/NA	1	2	2	-	1	1	1	1	2

TREND: Would you describe the state of New Jersey's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor? (\*Low also 7% Feb 2009)

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014	Jul 10 2013	Aug 12 2009	Apr 22 2009	EXCLNT+GOOD...	
						High Oct 18 2001	Low Aug 12 2009*
Excellent	1	-	1	-	-	3	-
Good	33	35	38	7	10	54	7
Not so good	46	47	44	46	48	37	46
Poor	19	16	15	45	40	5	45
DK/NA	1	2	2	1	1	2	1

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Better	20%	26%	19%	17%	22%	18%	32%	20%	14%
Worse	23	14	27	24	18	27	20	22	25
The same	56	59	53	59	59	55	48	56	60
DK/NA	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1

TREND: Do you think New Jersey's economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same? (\* Would you say that New Jersey's economy ...)

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014	Jul 10 2013	Apr 22 2009	Mar 11 2009	Jun 22 2004*
Better	20	19	33	8	3	21
Worse	23	17	14	42	61	18
The same	56	61	51	47	35	58
DK/NA	1	3	2	3	2	2

31. Would you describe Governor Christie as being more of a bully, or more of a leader?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Bully	48%	16%	71%	51%	44%	51%	49%	48%	48%
Leader	48	82	27	45	52	45	50	48	48
DK/NA	4	2	2	4	4	4	2	4	4

TREND: Would you describe Governor Christie as being more of a bully, or more of a leader? (\*High also 48% Apr 2014, \*\*Low also 39% Aug 2010)

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014	Jan 15 2014	Jul 17 2012	Apr 11 2012	BULLY.....	
						High	Low
						Aug 07 2014*	Apr 11 2012**
Bully	48	48	40	45	39	48	39
Leader	48	48	54	50	54	48	54
DK/NA	4	4	6	4	7	4	7

32. Do you believe Governor Christie can work with Democrats in the state legislature to get things done or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Yes	57%	83%	36%	59%	60%	54%	60%	54%	57%
No	38	15	58	36	36	40	36	40	38
DK/NA	5	2	6	5	4	6	4	6	5

TREND: Do you believe Governor Christie can work with Democrats in the state legislature to get things done or don't you think so?

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014	Jan 15 2014
Yes	57	61	67
No	38	35	28
DK/NA	5	3	5

33. Have you heard or read anything about the controversy surrounding the September 2013 traffic jam on the George Washington Bridge?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Yes	96%	98%	92%	98%	96%	96%	84%	99%	98%
No	3	2	6	2	3	4	14	1	1
DK/NA	1	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	1

TREND: Have you heard or read anything about the controversy surrounding the September 2013 traffic jam on the George Washington Bridge? (\* September traffic jam)

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014*	Jan 15 2014*
Yes	96	96	93
No	3	3	7
DK/NA	1	-	-

34. (If heard or read q33) Do you believe aides to Governor Christie deliberately caused this traffic jam as retribution because a local mayor would not endorse the governor for reelection or don't you think so?

	HEARD/READ ABOUT TRAFFIC JAM Q33.....						AGE IN YRS.....		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-54	55+
Yes	64%	43%	78%	65%	63%	64%	66%	66%	62%
No	25	41	14	23	25	24	24	21	28
DK/NA	12	16	8	12	12	12	11	13	10

TREND: (If heard or read) Do you believe aides to Governor Christie deliberately caused this traffic jam as retribution because a local mayor would not endorse the governor for reelection or don't you think so?

	Aug 07 2014	Apr 09 2014	Jan 15 2014
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Yes	64	64	62
No	25	26	23
DK/NA	12	9	15

35. (If heard or read q33) Do you believe Christie personally ordered the traffic jam or not?

	HEARD/READ ABOUT TRAFFIC JAM Q33.....						AGE IN YRS.....		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-54	55+
Yes	26%	5%	44%	26%	25%	28%	36%	27%	22%
No	64	90	44	65	68	61	55	65	68
DK/NA	9	5	12	9	7	11	8	8	10



TREND: (If heard or read) Do you believe Christie personally ordered the traffic jam or not?

	HEARD/READ ABOUT TRAFFIC JAM		
	Aug 07	Apr 09	Jan 15
	2014	2014	2014
Yes	26	26	22
No	64	64	66
DK/NA	9	11	12

36. (If heard or read q33) Do you believe Christie was aware that his aides were causing this traffic jam or do you believe his aides were acting without his knowledge?

	HEARD/READ ABOUT TRAFFIC JAM Q33.....						AGE IN YRS.....		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-54	55+
	Christie was aware	47%	15%	72%	48%	42%	50%	53%	50%
Aides acted alone	45	74	21	45	48	42	37	43	49
DK/NA	8	11	7	7	9	8	10	8	9

TREND: (If heard or read) Do you believe Christie was aware that his aides were causing this traffic jam or do you believe his aides were acting without his knowledge?

	HEARD/READ ABOUT TRAFFIC JAM		
	Aug 07	Apr 09	Jan 15
	2014	2014	2014
Christie was aware	47	51	41
Aides acted alone	45	42	50
DK/NA	8	7	10

37. (If heard or read q33) Do you believe Democratic state legislators are conducting a legitimate investigation or do you believe they are conducting a political witch hunt?

	HEARD/READ ABOUT TRAFFIC JAM Q33.....						AGE IN YRS.....		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-54	55+
	Investigation	41%	22%	60%	42%	40%	43%	40%	42%
Witch hunt	48	72	29	49	54	44	50	46	49
DK/NA	10	6	12	10	7	13	9	11	9

TREND: (If heard or read) Do you believe Democratic state legislators are conducting a legitimate investigation or do you believe they are conducting a political witch hunt?

	HEARD/READ ABOUT TRAFFIC JAM		
	Aug 07	Apr 09	Jan 15
	2014	2014	2014
Investigation	41	46	52
Witch hunt	48	46	39
DK/NA	10	8	9

38. (If heard or read q33) Lawyers commissioned by the governor's office cleared Christie of wrongdoing in the George Washington Bridge lane closure scandal. Do you believe they conducted a legitimate investigation or do you believe it was a whitewash?

	HEARD/READ ABOUT TRAFFIC JAM Q33.....						AGE IN YRS.....		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-54	55+
	Investigation	43%	70%	23%	41%	47%	40%	48%	40%
Whitewash	49	21	72	50	45	52	44	52	48
DK/NA	8	9	5	9	8	8	7	9	8

TREND: (If heard or read) Lawyers commissioned by the governor's office cleared Christie of wrongdoing in the George Washington Bridge lane closure scandal. Do you believe they conducted a legitimate investigation or do you believe it was a whitewash?

HEARD/READ ABOUT TRAFFIC JAM  
 Aug 07 Apr 09  
 2014 2014

Investigation	43	36
Whitewash	49	56
DK/NA	8	8

39. (If heard or read q33) What should happen to Christie if it is proven that he ordered the traffic jam or knew what his aides were doing: he should apologize, he should be removed from office, or he should be removed from office and prosecuted on criminal charges?

	HEARD/READ ABOUT TRAFFIC JAM Q33.....						AGE IN YRS.....		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-54	55+
	Apologize	27%	43%	18%	26%	30%	25%	38%	23%
Removed from office	37	37	39	38	36	38	37	37	37
Removed/Prosecuted	28	12	39	28	25	31	21	34	26
DK/NA	8	8	4	9	9	7	4	7	8

TREND: (If heard or read) What should happen to Christie if it is proven that he ordered the traffic jam or knew what his aides were doing: he should apologize, he should be removed from office, or he should be removed from office and prosecuted on criminal charges?

HEARD/READ ABOUT TRAFFIC JAM  
 Aug 07 Apr 09 Jan 15  
 2014 2014 2014

Apologize	27	29	27
Removed from office	37	38	32
Removed/Prosecuted	28	25	33
DK/NA	8	8	8

40. (If heard or read q33) Do you think the George Washington Bridge scandal ends Christie's chances as a 2016 presidential contender, damages his chances, helps his chances or has no impact?

	HEARD/READ ABOUT TRAFFIC JAM Q33.....						AGE IN YRS.....		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-54	55+
	Ends chances	5%	3%	8%	5%	5%	6%	4%	6%
Damages chances	55	43	62	60	53	57	54	56	56
Helps chances	1	1	2	1	2	1	3	1	1
No impact	37	52	28	31	39	35	38	36	36
DK/NA	1	1	-	2	1	2	1	-	1

TREND: (If heard or read) Do you think the George Washington Bridge scandal ends Christie's chances as a 2016 presidential contender, damages his chances, helps his chances or has no impact?

	HEARD/READ ABOUT TRAFFIC JAM		
	Aug 07	Apr 09	Jan 15
	2014	2014	2014
Ends chances	5	10	7
Damages chances	55	58	49
Helps chances	1	2	2
No impact	37	28	38
DK/NA	1	2	4

41. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Governor Christie is handling the recovery from Hurricane Sandy?

							AGE IN YRS.....		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-54	55+
	Approve	56%	77%	46%	52%	55%	57%	73%	56%
Disapprove	36	18	48	38	36	37	22	37	41
DK/NA	8	5	7	10	9	7	5	7	9

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Governor Christie is handling the recovery from Hurricane Sandy?

	Aug 07	Apr 14	Mar 27
	2014	2014	2013
	Approve	56	51
Disapprove	36	42	10
DK/NA	8	7	5

42. What is your impression of how well New Jersey's recovery from Hurricane Sandy is going; would you say very well, somewhat well, somewhat badly, or very badly?

							AGE IN YRS.....		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-54	55+
	Very well	12%	13%	13%	10%	14%	11%	27%	13%
Somewhat well	53	69	45	47	54	52	60	54	49
Somewhat badly	24	12	28	32	22	26	12	23	30
Very badly	8	3	11	9	8	9	1	9	11
DK/NA	2	3	2	2	2	2	-	2	3

TREND: What is your impression of how well New Jersey's recovery from Hurricane Sandy is going; would you say very well, somewhat well, somewhat badly, or very badly?

	Aug 07 2014	Mar 27 2013
Very well	12	13
Somewhat well	53	61
Somewhat badly	24	17
Very badly	8	5
DK/NA	2	5

43. Are you satisfied or not satisfied with the pace of New Jersey's recovery from Hurricane Sandy?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Satisfied	46%	59%	38%	42%	49%	44%	71%	47%	37%
Not satisfied	48	34	57	51	46	50	28	48	56
DK/NA	6	7	5	6	5	7	2	5	7

TREND: Are you satisfied or not satisfied with the pace of New Jersey's recovery from Hurricane Sandy?

	Aug 07 2014	Mar 27 2013
Satisfied	46	55
Not satisfied	48	38
DK/NA	6	7