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**UNKNOWN DEM GAINS ON OHIO GOVERNOR,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
MORE VOTERS SAY MEDICAID EXPANSION IS GOOD IDEA**

Ohio Gov. John Kasich begins his reelection year with a 44 – 37 percent lead over a largely unknown possible Democratic challenger, Cuyahoga County Executive Ed FitzGerald, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

This is down from a 47 – 33 percent lead for Gov. Kasich in a June 25 survey by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University.

Today, Kasich leads 88 – 4 percent among Republicans and 43 – 31 percent among independent voters, while Democrats go to FitzGerald 74 – 7 percent. Men back the Republican 48 – 35 percent while women are divided with 39 percent for Kasich and 38 percent for FitzGerald.

Ohio voters approve 52 – 33 percent of the job Kasich is doing as governor, close to his all-time high job approval of 54 – 32 percent June 25, and give him a 41 – 30 percent favorability rating.

For FitzGerald, 71 percent don't know enough to form an opinion.

“Ohio Gov. John Kasich enters his reelection year with only a 7-point lead over a largely unknown challenger. On the plus side, his approval ratings mark a huge turnaround from his first two years, when his job approval was in the 30s and Democrats were licking their chops at the prospect of making him a one-termer,” said Peter A. Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute. “But he's below the 50 percent mark in the matchup and on whether he deserves reelection.

“Democrat Ed FitzGerald has a long way to go to introduce himself to the voters of Ohio, Only about one in four voters know enough about him to have an opinion, meaning three in four don't know much about him.”

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“It will take a lot of money and time for the Cuyahoga County Executive to reach those voters, but introducing himself to them is his job one,” Brown added. “While FitzGerald is trying to define himself, Kasich can be expected to spend a pretty penny trying to negatively define the Democrat.”

Ohio voters say 48 – 39 percent that Kasich deserves to be reelected. He gets positive scores on a number of other measures:

- 47 percent say he is “about right” on the political spectrum, while 10 percent say he is too liberal and 27 percent say he is too conservative;
- Voters say 53 – 33 percent he is honest and trustworthy;
- Voters approve 50 – 39 percent of the way he is handling the state economy;
- Voters approve 44 – 40 percent of the way he is handling the state budget.

Voters are divided on whether FitzGerald has the right kind of experience to be governor, with 26 percent saying yes, 27 percent saying no and 47 percent undecided.

Fifty percent of voters or more can’t decide where FitzGerald is on the political spectrum or whether he is honest and trustworthy.

Increasing the number of people eligible for Medicaid is a good idea, 51 percent of Ohio voters say, while 40 percent say it is a bad idea. Support for expanding Medicaid is 74 – 16 percent among Democrats and 51 – 40 percent among independent voters, with Republicans opposed 65 – 28 percent. Women say it’s a good idea 52 – 38 percent, and men agree 49 – 42 percent.

Because of Kasich’s decisions to expand Medicaid eligibility, 23 percent are less likely to vote for him, with 19 percent more likely and 54 percent who say it won’t affect their vote.

“Because of Kasich’s Medicaid expansion, 24 percent of Republicans say they are less likely to vote for him. History tells us, however, that many of those alienated party members come home on Election Day because they find the other candidates less palatable,” Brown said.

From November 19 – 24, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,361 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.7 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](#).

1. If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were Ed FitzGerald the Democrat and John Kasich the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
FitzGerald	37%	4%	74%	31%	35%	38%	32%	68%
Kasich	44	88	7	43	48	39	50	8
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	-	1	3	2	2	2	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	4	-	3	4	4	3	3	7
DK/NA	15	8	14	19	11	18	14	16

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	DEG No	ANNUAL <50K	HS HOLD 50-100	INC >100K	AGE IN 18-29	YRS..... 30-49	50-64	65+
FitzGerald	38%	36%	39%	37%	31%	28%	40%	40%	34%
Kasich	49	42	37	50	52	39	40	44	52
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	2	2	1	1	3	2	1	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	4	4	3	3	7	5	2	1
DK/NA	10	16	18	9	12	23	13	13	12

TREND: If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were Ed FitzGerald the Democrat and John Kasich the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Nov 26 2013	Jun 25 2013	Apr 18 2013	Feb 28 2013
FitzGerald	37	33	37	35
Kasich	44	47	46	45
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	1	1	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	4	4	2	2
DK/NA	15	15	15	17

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Favorable	41%	75%	15%	40%	45%	37%	46%	14%
Unfavorable	30	6	50	29	30	29	27	48
Hvn't hrd enough	27	18	32	27	22	31	25	35
REFUSED	3	1	3	4	3	3	2	3

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	DEG No	ANNUAL <50K	HS HOLD 50-100	INC >100K	AGE IN 18-29	YRS..... 30-49	50-64	65+
Favorable	49%	38%	33%	45%	53%	32%	35%	44%	55%
Unfavorable	35	28	26	38	32	23	33	33	24
Hvn't hrd enough	11	32	38	14	14	45	31	18	17
REFUSED	4	2	3	3	1	-	1	5	4

TREND: Is your opinion of John Kasich favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Nov 26 2013	Jun 25 2013	Apr 18 2013	Feb 28 2013	Dec 11 2012	FAVORABLE..... High Low	
						Feb 28 2013	Dec 10 2008
Favorable	41	47	46	48	40	48	18
Unfavorable	30	28	29	32	34	32	8
Hvn't hrd enough	27	22	24	17	24	17	73
REFUSED	3	3	1	3	2	3	1

3. Is your opinion of Ed FitzGerald favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Favorable	17%	2%	33%	14%	15%	18%	13%	39%
Unfavorable	11	15	3	10	15	6	11	4
Hvn't hrd enough	71	80	62	75	68	75	74	55
REFUSED	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	3

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	COLLEGE DEG No	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC <50K	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC 50-100	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC >100K	AGE IN YRS..... 18-29	AGE IN YRS..... 30-49	AGE IN YRS..... 50-64	AGE IN YRS..... 65+
Favorable	20%	15%	17%	18%	18%	11%	17%	19%	16%
Unfavorable	12	10	8	10	15	11	11	12	10
Hvn't hrd enough	67	73	73	72	65	78	70	68	72
REFUSED	1	1	1	-	2	-	2	1	2

TREND: Is your opinion of Ed FitzGerald favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Nov 26 2013	Jun 25 2013	Apr 18 2013	Feb 28 2013	Dec 11 2012
Favorable	17	15	14	13	10
Unfavorable	11	9	8	5	5
Hvn't hrd enough	71	76	76	80	84
REFUSED	1	1	1	1	1

21. Do you approve or disapprove of the way John Kasich is handling his job as Governor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Approve	52%	82%	32%	49%	59%	46%	55%	33%
Disapprove	33	11	54	34	31	36	31	49
DK/NA	15	7	14	17	10	18	14	18

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	COLLEGE DEG No	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC <50K	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC 50-100	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC >100K	AGE IN YRS..... 18-29	AGE IN YRS..... 30-49	AGE IN YRS..... 50-64	AGE IN YRS..... 65+
Approve	55%	51%	48%	53%	62%	49%	47%	53%	61%
Disapprove	36	33	34	39	32	22	40	37	28
DK/NA	8	17	18	8	6	29	13	10	11

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way John Kasich is handling his job as Governor? (*Low also 30% Jan 2011)

	Nov 26 2013	Jun 25 2013	Apr 18 2013	Feb 28 2013	Dec 11 2012	APPROVE..... High Jun 25 2013	APPROVE..... Low Mar 23 2011*
Approve	52	54	52	53	42	54	30
Disapprove	33	32	34	32	35	32	46
DK/NA	15	13	15	14	23	13	23

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Approve	41%	62%	28%	38%	46%	36%	42%	33%
Disapprove	42	20	56	45	39	44	40	46
DK/NA	18	18	16	18	15	20	18	21

	COLLEGE DEG	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC	AGE IN YRS.....						
	Yes No	<50K 50-100 >100K	18-29 30-49 50-64 65+						
Approve	45%	39%	37%	43%	52%	43%	39%	45%	38%
Disapprove	43	41	45	41	39	41	48	41	34
DK/NA	12	20	18	16	9	16	14	14	28

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

	Nov 26 2013	Jun 25 2013	Apr 19 2013	Feb 28 2013	Dec 12 2012	APPROVE..... High Low Dec 10 2008 Dec 12 2006
Approve	41	41	41	39	39	46 25
Disapprove	42	41	41	42	38	35 55
DK/NA	18	18	17	19	23	19 20

26. Do you feel that John Kasich 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	48%	82%	22%	46%	51%	45%	52%	30%
No/Does not	39	11	62	40	39	40	36	52
DK/NA	13	8	16	14	10	16	12	18

	COLLEGE DEG	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC	AGE IN YRS.....						
	Yes No	<50K 50-100 >100K	18-29 30-49 50-64 65+						
Yes/Deserves	49%	47%	45%	47%	57%	48%	43%	48%	57%
No/Does not	41	39	40	44	35	33	45	43	31
DK/NA	10	14	15	9	8	20	13	9	12

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

	Nov 26 2013	Jun 25 2013	Apr 18 2013	Feb 28 2013	Dec 11 2012
Yes/Deserves	48	49	46	46	36
No/Does not	39	37	37	36	43
DK/NA	13	14	17	18	21

29. Do you think Ed FitzGerald has the right kind of experience to be Governor of Ohio or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Yes	26%	13%	42%	23%	26%	26%	22%	48%
No	27	38	17	27	32	22	29	16
DK/NA	47	50	41	50	42	52	49	35

	COLLEGE DEG	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC	AGE IN YRS.....						
	Yes No	<50K 50-100 >100K	18-29 30-49 50-64 65+						
Yes	27%	26%	28%	26%	28%	23%	31%	25%	22%
No	29	27	27	25	31	23	27	29	28
DK/NA	44	48	45	49	41	54	42	46	49

TREND: Do you think Ed FitzGerald has the right kind of experience to be Governor of Ohio or not?

	Nov 26 2013	Jun 25 2013	Apr 18 2013
Yes	26	27	24
No	27	27	26
DK/NA	47	46	50

31. Would you say that - John Kasich is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Yes	53%	78%	35%	53%	57%	49%	56%	37%
No	33	14	46	33	33	33	30	44
DK/NA	14	8	19	14	10	18	14	19

	COLLEGE DEG	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC	AGE IN YRS.....						
	Yes No	<50K 50-100 >100K	18-29 30-49 50-64 65+						
Yes	59%	51%	50%	54%	60%	42%	45%	58%	67%
No	33	33	31	37	35	27	44	31	23
DK/NA	8	17	18	9	5	31	11	11	9

32. Would you say that - Ed Fitzgerald is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Yes	28%	14%	41%	30%	31%	26%	26%	49%
No	17	23	11	15	19	15	17	11
DK/NA	55	63	48	55	50	59	57	40

	COLLEGE DEG	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC	AGE IN YRS.....						
	Yes No	<50K 50-100 >100K	18-29 30-49 50-64 65+						
Yes	31%	27%	29%	30%	32%	19%	30%	32%	29%
No	15	18	19	13	20	20	20	16	10
DK/NA	53	55	52	57	48	61	49	51	61

35. Do you think Ohio's economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Better	35%	48%	27%	37%	40%	31%	35%	38%
Worse	17	12	22	14	10	22	15	27
The same	46	39	49	47	48	45	48	34
DK/NA	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	1

	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL HSHOLD INC	AGE IN YRS.....					
	Yes	No	<50K 50-100 >100K	18-29 30-49 50-64 65+					
Better	47%	31%	31%	36%	47%	31%	35%	38%	37%
Worse	9	20	21	13	11	19	17	17	14
The same	43	48	46	51	42	49	48	44	45
DK/NA	1	2	2	-	-	1	-	1	4

TREND: Do you think Ohio's economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

	Nov 26 2013	Jun 25 2013	Apr 18 2013	Dec 11 2012
Better	35	44	43	42
Worse	17	11	13	19
The same	46	42	43	38
DK/NA	1	2	1	1

36a. (If economy better q35) How much credit, if any, do you think the Obama administration should receive for this; a lot of credit, some, a little or none at all?

	ECONOMY BETTER Q35		
	Tot	Men	Wom
A lot	11%	10%	12%
Some	22	18	27
A little	24	29	19
None at all	40	42	38
DK/NA	2	2	3

TREND: (If economy better) How much credit, if any, do you think the Obama administration should receive for this; a lot of credit, some, a little or none at all?

	ECONOMY BETTER.....		
	Nov 26 2013	Jun 25 2013	Dec 11 2012
A lot	11	15	31
Some	22	28	27
A little	24	20	13
None at all	40	35	28
DK/NA	2	1	-

36b. (If economy better q35) How much credit, if any, do you think the Kasich administration should receive for this; a lot of credit, some, a little or none at all?

	ECONOMY BETTER Q35		
	Tot	Men	Wom
A lot	29%	32%	26%
Some	45	46	44
A little	19	17	23
None at all	2	3	-
DK/NA	5	3	7

TREND: (If economy better) How much credit, if any, do you think the Kasich administration should receive for this; a lot of credit, some, a little or none at all?

	ECONOMY BETTER.....		
	Nov 26	Jun 25	Dec 11
	2013	2013	2012
A lot	29	29	23
Some	45	43	38
A little	19	19	27
None at all	2	5	10
DK/NA	5	4	2

37a. (If economy worse q35) How much blame, if any, do you think the Obama administration should receive for this; a lot of blame, some, a little or none at all?

	ECONOMY WORSE Q35
	Tot
A lot	49%
Some	18
A little	18
None at all	14
DK/NA	1

TREND: (If economy worse) How much blame, if any, do you think the Obama administration should receive for this; a lot of blame, some, a little or none at all?

	ECONOMY WORSE.....		
	Nov 26	Jun 25	Dec 11
	2013	2013	2012
A lot	49	40	42
Some	18	24	28
A little	18	25	12
None at all	14	11	17
DK/NA	1	-	1

37b. (If economy worse q35) How much blame, if any, do you think the Kasich administration should receive for this; a lot of blame, some, a little or none at all?

	ECONOMY WORSE Q35
	Tot
A lot	34%
Some	39
A little	17
None at all	7
DK/NA	3

TREND: (If economy worse) How much blame, if any, do you think the Kasich administration should receive for this; a lot of blame, some, a little or none at all?

ECONOMY WORSE.....

	Nov 26 2013	Jun 25 2013	Dec 11 2012
A lot	34	33	28
Some	39	34	36
A little	17	21	22
None at all	7	5	8
DK/NA	3	7	5

38. Compared to most other states, would you say Ohio's economy is better, worse, or about the same?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Better	29%	37%	24%	27%	33%	26%	28%	38%
Worse	23	18	26	22	21	25	23	23
About the same	43	40	47	44	42	44	45	30
DK/NA	5	6	3	6	4	6	5	10

COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HSHOLD INC AGE IN YRS.....

	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Better	33%	27%	26%	31%	33%	32%	27%	28%	32%
Worse	20	24	23	22	23	22	29	22	15
About the same	43	43	45	45	40	41	41	45	46
DK/NA	4	6	5	2	4	5	4	5	7

TREND: Compared to most other states, would you say Ohio's economy is better, worse, or about the same?

Nov 26 Jun 25 Apr 18

	2013	2013	2013
Better	29	28	25
Worse	23	21	19
About the same	43	46	49
DK/NA	5	6	7

39. Do you approve or disapprove of the way John Kasich is handling the state budget?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Approve	44%	71%	24%	45%	52%	38%	47%	28%
Disapprove	40	19	58	38	35	44	37	56
DK/NA	16	11	17	17	13	19	16	15

COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HSHOLD INC AGE IN YRS.....

	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	52%	42%	40%	47%	57%	35%	39%	50%	55%
Disapprove	39	40	41	43	36	39	48	39	28
DK/NA	9	18	19	10	8	26	13	12	17

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way John Kasich is handling the state budget?

	Nov 26 2013	Jun 25 2013	Feb 28 2013	Dec 11 2012	May 09 2012	APPROVE.....	
						High Jun 25 2013	Low Mar 23 2011
Approve	44	46	45	40	37	46	31
Disapprove	40	38	39	40	49	38	51
DK/NA	16	16	15	21	14	16	18

40. Do you think the state budget is fair or unfair to people like you?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Fair	48%	70%	29%	49%	54%	42%	50%	34%
Unfair	43	21	60	43	37	48	40	57
DK/NA	10	9	11	8	9	10	10	9

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	COLLEGE DEG No	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC <50K	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC 50-100	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC >100K	AGE IN YRS..... 18-29	AGE IN YRS..... 30-49	AGE IN YRS..... 50-64	AGE IN YRS..... 65+
Fair	59%	43%	39%	54%	61%	45%	43%	49%	55%
Unfair	31	47	50	39	33	42	50	41	33
DK/NA	10	10	10	7	6	13	7	9	12

TREND: Do you think the state budget is fair or unfair to people like you?

	Nov 26 2013	Jun 25 2013	Feb 28 2013	Dec 11 2012
Fair	48	49	45	44
Unfair	43	40	43	41
DK/NA	10	11	11	15

41. As you may know Medicaid is a government program that pays for health care for low-income people and others with certain disabilities. Do you think that increasing the number of people eligible for Medicaid coverage in Ohio is a good idea or a bad idea?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Good idea	51%	28%	74%	51%	49%	52%	47%	75%
Bad idea	40	65	16	40	42	38	44	17
DK/NA	9	7	10	9	8	9	9	8

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	COLLEGE DEG No	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC <50K	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC 50-100	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC >100K	AGE IN YRS..... 18-29	AGE IN YRS..... 30-49	AGE IN YRS..... 50-64	AGE IN YRS..... 65+
Good idea	53%	50%	56%	46%	45%	46%	50%	56%	48%
Bad idea	43	40	34	47	50	47	44	34	39
DK/NA	5	10	10	7	5	7	6	10	13

TREND: As you may know, Medicaid is a government program that pays for health care for low-income people and others with certain disabilities. Do you think that increasing the number of people eligible for Medicaid coverage in Ohio is a good idea or a bad idea?

	Nov 26 2013	Jun 26 2013	Apr 19 2013	Mar 01 2013
Good idea	51	46	48	48
Bad idea	40	47	43	42
DK/NA	9	7	9	10

42. As you may know, the Kasich Administration decided to increase the number of people eligible for Medicaid coverage in Ohio. Does this decision make you more likely to vote for Kasich in the 2014 election for governor, less likely, or doesn't it make a difference?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	
More likely	19%	14%	24%	19%	18%	20%	18%	27%	
Less likely	23	24	19	23	24	22	23	25	
No difference	54	58	52	54	54	54	55	42	
DK/NA	4	4	5	5	4	5	4	6	
	COLLEGE DEG	ANNUAL	HSHOLD	INC	AGE IN	YRS.....			
	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
More likely	18%	20%	25%	11%	17%	25%	16%	23%	15%
Less likely	20	24	24	24	21	30	25	19	20
No difference	59	52	47	61	60	41	57	54	57
DK/NA	4	5	4	3	2	4	2	3	9