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**CLINTON CLIMBS AS CHRISTIE CRASHES IN PENNSYLVANIA RACE,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
DEMOCRAT TOPS KEY REPUBLICANS, INCLUDING SANTORUM**

Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton owns Pennsylvania, a critical presidential swing state, thumping Republican contenders, including New Jersey Gov. Christopher Christie and former U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum, in an early look at the 2016 race in a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Secretary Clinton tops Gov. Christie 46 – 41 percent, compared to the results of a December 19 survey by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University, showing Clinton at 44 percent, with 43 percent for Christie. The Democrat beats Native Son Santorum 53 – 37 percent, compared to 51 – 38 percent in December.

Clinton tops other possible Republican candidates:

- 53 – 38 percent over U.S. Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky;
- 54 – 34 percent over U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas;
- 53 – 36 percent over former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush.

Clinton would make a good president, Pennsylvania voters say 59 – 37 percent. Voters are divided 43 – 42 percent over whether Christie, the governor next door, would make a good president, down from 55 – 29 percent December 19.

Vice President Joseph Biden, a native of Scranton, would not make a good president, Pennsylvania voters say 59 – 32 percent. All other Republicans get negative grades on whether they would make a good president.

“There’s former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton; then there is the rest of the 2016 presidential pack,” said Tim Malloy, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

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“New Jersey Gov. Christopher Christie continues his slide down the off ramp while former Sen. Rick Santorum and Vice President Joseph Biden get zip from their home field advantage,” Malloy added.

There are large gender gaps in matching any Republican man against Clinton. For example, men back Christie 46 – 40 percent while women back Clinton 52 – 36 percent.

Independent voters back Christie over Clinton 46 – 37 percent, but she leads among independent voters in all the other matchups, including 54 – 34 percent over Santorum.

President Obama’s Approval

Pennsylvania voters give President Barack Obama a negative 42 – 54 percent job approval rating, compared to a negative 39 – 57 percent approval rating December 19.

The president’s negative ratings are 10 – 89 percent among Republicans and 35 – 60 percent among independent voters, while Democrats approve 80 – 16 percent.

He gets negative grades of 37 – 60 percent among men, while women are divided, with 47 percent approving and 49 percent disapproving.

Voters approve 47 – 33 percent of the job U.S. Sen. Robert Casey Jr. is doing and give U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey a 43 – 33 percent approval rating.

From February 19 – 24, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,405 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.6 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](#).

14. If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Chris Christie the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Clinton	46%	13%	87%	37%	40%	52%	53%	41%	50%	47%
Christie	41	75	7	46	46	36	31	45	37	44
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	2	1	4	4	3	6	3	2	2
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	3	-	5	5	2	2	6	3	1
DK/NA	7	7	5	8	6	8	8	6	8	5

TREND: If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Chris Christie the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013	Mar 14 2013
Clinton	46	44	47
Christie	41	43	42
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	2	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	3	2
DK/NA	7	7	7

15. If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Rand Paul the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Clinton	53%	17%	93%	49%	46%	59%	64%	49%	56%	51%
Paul	38	71	3	42	44	32	30	40	36	40
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	3	2	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	3	1	2	3	1	1	2	3	2
DK/NA	5	6	2	6	5	6	4	5	4	6

TREND: If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Rand Paul the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013	Jun 07 2013
Clinton	53	52	52
Paul	38	40	37
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	1	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	1	2
DK/NA	5	5	8

16. If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Ted Cruz the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Clinton	54%	17%	93%	49%	47%	60%	66%	49%	55%	53%
Cruz	34	69	2	36	39	30	19	37	34	38
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	2	1	2	3	1	3	3	1	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	2	-	3	3	1	-	3	2	2
DK/NA	8	10	3	10	8	8	12	8	7	5

TREND: If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Ted Cruz the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013
Clinton	54	54
Cruz	34	36
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	2
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	2
DK/NA	8	7

17. If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Jeb Bush the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Clinton	53%	14%	92%	49%	46%	59%	69%	49%	53%	49%
Bush	36	77	2	34	41	31	20	38	36	40
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	1	1	4	3	2	1	3	2	2
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	1	-	5	5	1	-	5	3	2
DK/NA	6	6	4	9	6	7	10	4	6	6

TREND: If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Jeb Bush the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013
Clinton	53	52
Bush	36	36
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	3
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	4
DK/NA	6	6

18. If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Rick Santorum the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Clinton	53%	14%	90%	54%	46%	59%	75%	48%	52%	50%
Santorum	37	75	6	34	43	32	20	40	39	40
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	3	1	3	2	2	-	4	2	2
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	3	1	4	4	2	-	3	3	3
DK/NA	5	5	3	6	5	5	5	5	4	5

TREND: If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Rick Santorum the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013	Jun 07 2013
Clinton	53	51	53
Santorum	37	38	36
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	2	2
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	3	3
DK/NA	5	6	6

19. Do you think Chris Christie would make a good President or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	43%	61%	25%	46%	46%	39%	39%	44%	45%	40%
No	42	23	62	35	41	42	43	38	45	42
DK/NA	16	16	13	19	13	19	18	18	10	18

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

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013
Yes	43	55
No	42	29
DK/NA	16	15

20. Do you think Hillary Clinton would make a good President or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	59%	26%	94%	57%	53%	65%	78%	57%	59%	54%
No	37	70	4	39	44	31	18	39	38	42
DK/NA	4	5	2	4	4	4	5	5	3	5

TREND: Do you think Hillary Clinton would make a good President or not?

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013
Yes	59	57
No	37	39
DK/NA	4	4

21. Do you think Joe Biden would make a good President or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	32%	11%	54%	30%	34%	30%	37%	36%	30%	27%
No	59	83	34	62	61	58	49	55	63	65
DK/NA	9	6	12	8	6	12	15	9	7	8

TREND: Do you think Joe Biden would make a good President or not?

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013
Yes	32	29
No	59	61
DK/NA	9	10

22. Do you think Rand Paul would make a good President or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	34%	54%	9%	38%	40%	28%	30%	36%	32%	33%
No	46	27	72	40	44	48	38	44	53	46
DK/NA	20	19	19	22	16	24	32	20	15	20

TREND: Do you think Rand Paul would make a good President or not?

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013
Yes	34	34
No	46	48
DK/NA	20	18

23. Do you think Ted Cruz would make a good President or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	23%	44%	3%	24%	29%	19%	17%	24%	24%	26%
No	45	23	67	45	48	42	42	44	49	43
DK/NA	32	33	30	32	23	39	41	32	28	31

TREND: Do you think Ted Cruz would make a good President or not?

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013
Yes	23	26
No	45	47
DK/NA	32	27

24. Do you think Jeb Bush would make a good President or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	35%	63%	14%	33%	40%	30%	22%	33%	37%	43%
No	45	18	69	47	45	46	48	47	47	41
DK/NA	19	19	17	20	15	23	30	21	16	16

TREND: Do you think Jeb Bush would make a good President or not?

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013
Yes	35	32
No	45	53
DK/NA	19	15

25. Do you think Rick Santorum would make a good President or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	35%	65%	12%	31%	40%	30%	24%	35%	36%	40%
No	52	25	75	57	52	53	57	51	56	48
DK/NA	12	11	13	13	8	16	19	14	8	12

TREND: Do you think Rick Santorum would make a good President or not?

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013
Yes	35	33
No	52	54
DK/NA	12	12

28. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bob Casey Jr. is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	47%	38%	62%	41%	48%	46%	36%	46%	51%	49%
Disapprove	33	43	18	39	37	30	39	32	33	32
DK/NA	20	19	20	20	15	24	25	22	16	19

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bob Casey Jr. is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013	Jun 06 2013	Apr 26 2013	Mar 13 2013	APPROVE.....	
						High	Low
						May 28 2009	Dec 16 2010
Approve	47	46	45	48	48	56	39
Disapprove	33	35	29	34	34	21	29
DK/NA	20	18	26	18	17	23	32

29. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Pat Toomey is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	43%	60%	31%	40%	47%	40%	36%	44%	41%	49%
Disapprove	33	21	43	34	36	29	39	30	36	28
DK/NA	24	18	26	26	17	31	25	26	22	23

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Pat Toomey is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013	Jun 06 2013	Apr 26 2013	Mar 13 2013	APPROVE.....	
						High	Low
						Apr 26 2013	Jun 12 2012
Approve	43	45	46	48	43	48	40
Disapprove	33	34	29	30	32	30	27
DK/NA	24	21	25	22	26	22	32

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	42%	10%	80%	35%	37%	47%	44%	42%	43%	41%
Disapprove	54	89	16	60	60	49	51	54	55	55
DK/NA	4	1	4	4	3	4	5	4	2	4

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

	Feb 27 2014	Dec 19 2013	Jun 07 2013	Apr 26 2013	Mar 14 2013	APPROVE.....	
						High May 04 2009	Low Dec 19 2013
Approve	42	39	48	48	44	66	39
Disapprove	54	57	48	48	51	29	57
DK/NA	4	4	4	4	4	5	4