Results from Southern New Jersey poll

Methodology

Zogby International was commissioned by Richard Stockton College to conduct a telephone survey of likely voters in Southern New Jersey (Legislative Districts 1-4, and 9).

The sample is 601 interviews with approximately 20 questions asked from 9/14/09 to 9/15/09. Samples are randomly drawn from purchased lists of registered voters. Zogby International surveys employ sampling strategies in which selection probabilities are proportional to population size within area codes and exchanges. Up to are made to reach a sampled phone number. Cooperation rates are calculated using one of AAPOR's approved methodologies[1] and are comparable to other professional public-opinion surveys conducted using similar sampling strategies.[2] Weighting by *district, age, race and gender* is used to adjust for non-response. Margin of error is +/- 4.1 percentage points. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups.

Narrative Summary

4. If the election for governor was held today and the candidates were Republican Chris Christie, Democrat Jon Corzine, and independent Christopher Daggett for whom would you vote?

Christie	37%
Corzine	30
Daggett	9
Someone else	4
Not sure	21

Christie leads Corzine by seven percentage points at this point, but a fifth are unsure who they would for. Christie's greatest support lies in the 9th Legislative district (46%), while Corzine

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[1] See COOP4 (p.38) in Standard *Definitions: Final Dispositions of Case Codes and Outcome Rates of Surveys.* The American Association for Public Opinion Research, (2000).

[2] *Cooperation Tracking Study: April 2003 Update*, Jane M. Sheppard and Shelly Haas. The Council for Marketing & Opinion Research (CMOR). Cincinnati, Ohio (2003).

does best in the 1st and 4th LDs (36% each). Men favor Christie over Corzine (41% to 26%) while women are split in their support (34% Corzine to 33% Christie). Of the age cohorts, Christie does best with 50-64 year-olds (41%) while Corzine gets most of his support from seniors (35%).

5. The lieutenant governor candidates are Republican Kim Guadagno, Democrat Loretta Weinberg, and independent Frank Esposito. On a scale of one to five with one being no impact at all and five being a huge impact how much of an impact does the lieutenant governor's race have on you vote for governor?

No impact at all	51%	**No impact (1+2)**	**64%**
2	13		
3	17		
4	6	**Impact (4+5)**	**15**
Huge impact	9		
Not sure	5		

The lieutenant governor's race has slightly more of an impact on those in the 2nd Legislative District (22%) than it does on those in the 1st (18%), 3rd (16%), 4th (12%), and 9th (6%). It also has a bit more of an impact on Democrats (17%) and Republicans (15%) than independents (11%).

(Only asked of those in the 1st Legislative District)
6. If the 1st Legislative District election was held today and the candidates were Republican Michael Donohue, Republican John McCann, Democrat Matthew Milam, and Democrat Nelson Albano, for which two would you vote? (**Pick two**)

Albano	**53%**
Milam	**37**
McCann	24
Donohue	23
Someone else	2
Not sure	25

(Only asked of those in the 2nd Legislative District)
*7. If the 2nd Legislative District election was held today and the candidates were Republican John Amodeo, Republican Vincent Polistina, Democrat Jimmy Martinez, and Democrat Reginald Floyd, for which two would you vote? (**Pick two**)*

Polistina	**36%**
Amodeo	**33**
Martinez	25
Floyd	23
Someone else	3
Not sure	34

(Only asked of those in the 3rd Legislative District)
*8. If the 3rd Legislative District election was held today and the candidates were Republican Lee Lucas, Republican Robert Villare, Democrat John Burzichelli, and Democrat Celeste Riley, for which two would you vote? (**Pick two**)*

Burzichelli	**42%**
Villare	**24**
Lucas	21
Riley	21
Someone else	12
Not sure	34

(Only asked of those in the 4th Legislative District)
*9. If the 4th Legislative District election was held today and the candidates were Republican Eugene Lawrence, Republican Domenick DiCicco, Democrat Paul Moriarty, and Democrat William Collins, for which two would you vote? (**Pick two**)*

Moriarty	**45%**
DiCicco	**37**
Collins	**37**
Lawrence	27
Someone else	1
Not sure	22

(Only asked of those in the 9th Legislative District)
10. If the 9th Legislative District election was held today and the candidates were Republican Brian Rumpf, Republican DiAnne Gove, Democrat Richard Visotcky, and Democrat Robert Rue, for which two would you vote? (**Pick two**)

Rumpf	**33%**
Gove	**28**
Visotcky	24
Rue	24
Someone else	3
Not sure	42

11. What are the two top issues facing New Jersey today? (**Choose up to two**)

Taxes	**67%**
Jobs and the economy	**37**
Political/government corruption	23
Health care/insurance/ Prescription drugs	22
Budget/Spending/Deficit	20
Education/Schools	13
Crime/Drugs/Violence	6
Environment	2
Gas prices	2
Terrorism/Security	1
*Other	2
Not sure/None	1

*(Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response)
Senior care (2); <u>One each:</u> Abortion; Social Security; Water/Sewer; Illegal Immigrants; State Supreme Court; Veteran's rights

All of the subgroups chose taxes and jobs/economy as their top two issues facing New Jersey today, but those in the 2nd (77%) and 4th (75%) LDs are the most adamant that taxes are the biggest issue, while those in the 2nd (42%) and 9th (43%) felt more strongly about jobs and the economy than the other districts. Republicans (75%) are more likely than Democrats (61%) and independents (66%) to think that taxes are the top issue.

Those in the 3rd (30%) and 9th LDs (27%) are more likely than those in the 4th (19%), 2nd (21%) and 1st (20%) to say that political/government corruption is a top issue in the state, as are

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independents (27%) and Republicans (26%) vs. Democrats (19%), and men (26%) vs. women (21%).

12. On a scale of one to five, with one being no influence at all and five being a huge influence, how much do negative campaign ads influence who you vote for?
13. On a scale of one to five, with one being no influence at all and five being a huge influence, how much do allegations of political corruption influence who you vote for?

	No influence					Influence		
	1	2	**Overall (1+2)**	3	4	5	**Overall (4+5)**	NS
Negative campaign ads	58	7	**65**	15	6	13	**19**	1
Political corruption allegations	29	7	**36**	24	13	26	**39**	2

Those in the 2nd (29%) and 3rd (23%) LDs are more likely than those in the 9th (16%), 1st (16%) and 4th (11%) to say that negative campaign ads influence their vote, as are independents (23%) compared to Democrats (19%) and Republicans (16%); and 50-64 year-olds (23%) vs. 30-49 year-olds (19%) vs. and those over 65 (17%).

Those in the 2nd (46%) and 9th (43%) LDs are more likely than those in the 1st (39%), 3rd (37%), and 4th (25%) LDs to say that political corruption allegations influence their vote, as are those over 65 (43%) compared to 30-49 year-olds (35%) and 50-64 year-olds (34%).

14. Which of the following do you think is the primary responsibility of the non-partisan William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy at Stockton College?

Disseminating information	4%
Conducting polls	3
Both	20
Neither	1
Not familiar	71
Not sure	2