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THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Stockton Poll of South Jersey Voters Has Corzine and Christie Seven Points Apart

Issue of Most Concern to Voters Is Taxes

For Immediate Release

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Galloway Township, NJ- Ask likely voters in much of southern New Jersey what the most important issue is in the November gubernatorial race, and more than two-thirds will tell you it is taxes, according to a Hughes Center of Public Policy at Stockton College poll. Jobs and the economy are in a distant second place at 37%.

Zogby International was commissioned by the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy at The Richard Stockton College to conduct a telephone survey of 600 likely voters in the 9th and 4th Legislative Districts (1-4, and 9) from September 14 to 15.

"With so many voters still undecided, we are looking at elections that are still, in many cases, unsettled," said Sharon Schulman, the Hughes Center's Executive Director.

In the race for governor 37% would vote for Chris Christie, 30% for Jon Corzine, and 29% for other candidates. Christie's greatest support is in the 9th (46%) and 4th legislative districts (30%) and Christie's greatest support is in the 9th (46%).

When subgroups of likely voters are looked at, men favor Christie over Corzine (44% vs. 30%) over women (37% vs. 33%), seniors (37% vs. 33%) and Christie does best with 51-64 year olds.

The poll also asked respondents questions on what may influence their choice.

One question measured the impact of the choice of lieutenant governor. Respondents said the lieutenant governor pick had little or no impact. Respondents said they would vote for the candidate they preferred for governor.

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When asked how much influence political corruption allegations had on their vote, respondents were almost evenly split with 36% saying they had little or no influence and 39% saying corruption allegations had a big or huge influence. Those in the 2nd (46%) and 9th (43%) legislative districts were more likely than those in the 1st, 3rd and 4th legislative districts. Those over 65 (43%) had a higher tendency to say that political corruption allegations influenced them than those between 50 and 64.

The poll took place at the general assembly in these districts. Cooperation rates were generally greater, however, because of the smaller subgroup size. Most notable in these results is the large percent of people still undecided.

1st District: Albano (D) 53%, Milam (D) 37%, McCann (R) 24%, Donohue (R) 23%, Not Sure 25%.

2nd District: Polistina (R) 36%, Amodeo (R) 33%, Martinez (D) 25%, Floyd (D) 23%, Not Sure 23%

3rd District: Burzichelli (D) 42%, Villare (R) 24%, Lucas (R) 21%, Riley (D) 21%, Not Sure 34%

4th District: Moriarity (D) 45%, DiCicco (R) 37%, Collins (D) 37%, Lawrence (R) 27%, Not Sure 22%.

9th District: Rumpf (R) 33%, Gove (R) 28%, Vicetale (D) 24%, Diaz (D) 21%, Not Sure 14%

Methodology:

The sample is 601 interviews with approximately 20 questions asked from September 14 to 15. Samples are randomly drawn from purchased lists of registered voters. Each district is represented by approximately 100 interviews.

area codes and exchanges. Cooperation rates are calculated using one of AAPOR's approved methodologies and are comparable to other professional public-opinion surveys conducted using similar sampling strategies. Weighting by *district, age, race and gender* is used to adjust for non-response. Margin of error is plus or minus 4.1 percentage points. Margins of error are higher in subgroups.

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