

# OPINION: PUTTING GUADAGNO'S VERY LONG SHOT IN PERSPECTIVE

CARL GOLDEN | JUNE 27, 201



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The Republicans' minority status will continue at least through 2021 when redrawn legislative districts will be in effect following the 2020 census.

As has been the case historically in New Jersey's statewide elections, the battle will be waged in the middle for the hearts and minds of the 2.4 million voters who have chosen to eschew partisan affiliation but whose support is essential to electoral victory.

These unaffiliated are concentrated in 12 counties, ranging from a high of 258,000 in Bergen County to a low of 102,000 in Mercer County.

The second highest concentration of unaffiliateds — 208,000 — is in Monmouth County, home to both gubernatorial candidates and where Guadagno has held countywide office.

While the numbers would appear to consign Republicans to

Whether she can overcome Murphy's "car in every garage and a chicken in every pot" promises remains to be seen.

The challenge