



▶ [NORTHJERSEY.COM](#) : [NEWS](#) : [POLITICS](#)



## Poll: N.J. voters support income tax cut, but prefer property tax relief

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2012 LAST UPDATED: TUESDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2012, 11:50 AM

BY MATT FRIEDMAN  
STATE HOUSE BUREAU  
STATE HOUSE BUREAU



New Jersey voters favor the income tax cut Gov. Chris Christie is expected to promote in his budget proposal this afternoon, but they overestimate the amount they will save from it and would prefer to get a property tax cut first, a poll released this morning shows.

The Rutgers-Eagleton poll found 52 percent of New Jersey registered voters support the gradually phased-in 10 percent income tax cut Christie first proposed in his State of the State address last month, while 36 percent oppose it.

But a large margin – 76 percent – said they would prefer to reduce property taxes before their income taxes.

“People are eager for tax relief,” said poll Director David Redlawsk. “Yet for most New Jerseyans the burden they feel comes from property taxes, more than from income taxes. A majority would certainly take an income tax cut over nothing, but large numbers have no idea how much they would save from Christie’s proposal.”

Under the income tax proposal, a family earning \$50,000 a year would save \$80.50 after it has been fully phased in after three years, according to the Office of Legislative Services. A family earning \$100,000 would save \$275.

In New Jersey, the median household income is \$69,811. But among the 914 respondents to the poll, the median estimate for how much they would save was \$746.

“Only 14 percent of voters report household incomes over \$150,000. These respondents can expect savings above \$500 from the proposed cut. But more than twice as many say they expect to save that much,” said Redlawsk. “People really do not have a good sense of how much they pay in state income tax and what a 10 percent savings means. This leads them to overestimate their own gain, which may affect their support for the proposal.”

The poll of New Jersey registered voters was conducted from Feb. 9 to Feb. 11, with a margin of error of plus or minus 3.3 percentage points.

▶ Tags: [Politics](#) | [New Jersey Politics - Politics](#) | [State](#) | [New Jersey Politics](#)

▶ Related stories:

- Sources: [Christie budget expects more revenue, raises spending \\$2B](#)
- Style: [Christie budget address will kick off re-election campaign](#)



[NorthJersey.com](#) | [Top Stories](#) | [Most Read](#)

Resident assistant testifies in webcam spy trial of Tyler Clementi's ex-roommate [live video]

Parents of Fort Lee victim on a journey of grief

GOP primary victories in Arizona, Michigan give Romney pre-Super Tuesday momentum

Black history stamp honorees include ex-Paterson mayor convicted for tax evasion

All systems go for Benjie Wimberly to coach Hackensack football

