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Poll reveals majority of registered voters believe Christie will win in November

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Gov. Chris Christie is maintaining a steady approval rate as well as a large lead over his Democratic opponent leading up to the November election, according to a new Rutgers-Eagleton poll.

Results of the poll revealed that more than half the voters have no opinion of Barbara Buono, and only 20 percent of voters are following the election “very closely.”

More than 80 percent of voters, including Democrats and some who said they would vote for Buono, expect Christie to win, according to the poll.

“Since cutting Christie’s margin by 10 points in April, Buono has made absolutely no additional progress,” said David Redlawsk, director of the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll and professor of political science at Rutgers University. “While her name recognition has climbed to 46 percent of voters from only 30 percent in April.”

Christie’s favorability rating is consistently at 64 percent, and his lead over Buono remains 59 to 27 percent among registered voters.

Some of Buono’s supporters are those who voted for former Democratic Gov. Jon Corzine in 2009, but even 30 percent of those who voted for him have converted to Christie supporters, the poll said.

“There is little, if any, good news for Buono in these numbers,” said Redlawsk. “Post-Superstorm Sandy, it seems that voters feel Christie can do no wrong, making her battle more than uphill.”

Overall, regardless of who they are supporting, a majority of voters said they believe Christie will win a second term in the upcoming election.

Results are from a poll of 888 New Jersey adults conducted statewide among both landline and cell phone households from June 3-9 with a margin of error of +/- 3.3 percentage points. The subsample of 763 registered voters reported here has a margin of error of +/- 3.6 percentage points.

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