

## **Poll: Chris Christie's coattails short in November election**

Just because Gov. Chris Christie remains the most popular political figure in New Jersey doesn't mean the state is turning red.

A Rutgers-Eagleton Poll released Monday shows that 42 percent of the adults polled are leaning toward or planning to vote for Democrats in the Assembly, compared with 27 percent for Republicans. That number jumps to 44 percent for Democrats (and 29 percent for Republicans) when discussing their state Senate races.

In addition to the gubernatorial election in November, all 120 seats in the Legislature are up for votes.

More telling is that 80 percent of Democrats polled said they will vote for their party in the legislative elections. Democrats hold a large numerical advantage in voter registration over Republicans.

There remains some hope for Republicans, according to the poll. Independent voters are breaking for the GOP by 21 percent to 17 percent.

The poll also showed that more than 75 percent of voters will approve a ballot question asking to raise the state's minimum wage to \$8.25 per hour and tie future increases to the federal Consumer Price Index. Voters also support same-sex marriage, with 59 percent saying they would vote to legalize the practice if given the chance to vote on it.

The poll, in which 888 adults were surveyed by phone between June 3 and 9, has a margin of error of 3.3 percentage points.