

Eagleton Poll: Voters still question Christie's performance on key issues

By PolitickerNJ Staff | November 8th, 2013 - 5:49am



<http://www.politickernj.com/69478/eagleton-poll-voters-still-question-christies-performance-key-issues>

As voters headed to the polls Tuesday, Gov. Chris Christie's re-election bid was buoyed by some of his highest favorability ratings – 65 percent – since February 2013, according to the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll. Only 27 percent of registered voters held an unfavorable impression of the governor. Similarly, 68 percent approved of the incumbent's job performance and 59 percent said his work deserved at least a "B" grade.

Christie's new ratings were nearly as high as they were right after Sandy, when 67 percent of respondents had a favorable impression and 61 percent awarded him at least a B. As he concludes his first term, Christie's favorability rating is more than 20 points higher than it was just weeks after his inauguration in January 2010.

Despite Christie's overall consistently high ratings, voters continued to question his performance on important issues. Near the campaign's end, voters remained less than happy with his performance on taxes (42 percent) and the economy (45 percent). Voters were more taken with Christie's Sandy recovery effort (80 percent approving), which kept his overall ratings high throughout the year.

"Governors and presidents regularly see downward trends in ratings over their term in office," said David Redlawsk, director of the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll and professor of political science at Rutgers University. "Governor Christie, however, managed to counter that, to his benefit in the re-election campaign. The cause is clearly his leadership in response to Sandy, which overrode other concerns voters might have had. His victory Tuesday was highly personal, not driven by issues."

Christie's re-election also was aided by challenger Barbara Buono's inability to become well known by voters. Immediately before the election, 39 percent still had no real impression of the Democratic state senator. What voters did learn about Buono seemed likely to be more driven by the Christie campaign's efforts to define her; negative impressions of Buono edged out positive impressions, 32 percent to 28 percent.

Results are from a statewide poll of 804 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 3.5 percentage points, contacted by live callers on both landlines and cell phones from Oct 28 – Nov 2.

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The Christie record - property taxes rising faster than under Corzine. Implementing the Corzine toll increase and diverting the money. Increasing the state debt. High unemployment. In-state tuition for illegals. Big mouth, little substance.

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What the hell do you expect with 2/3rds of the legislature democrap? Christie is lucky he got any type of reform. He has more work to do but can only do so much. Remember the democraps are in the NJEA's pocket as well as other unions in the state. This passed election left most of the democraps in office. It is unbelievable the electorate left these deadbeats in office. There will never be any true reform until the democraps are defeated. I would prefer Christy over Cor slime anyday. What Cor slime and his henchmen did to the state is down right criminal. Wake up and point YOUR finger to the real culprits. DEMOCRAPS!

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Chrisite did nothing to change the the majorities in the legislature. Real leaders find ways to get things done.

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yes leaders like Barbara Buono

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