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## DEM HAS 20-PT LIKELY VOTER LEAD IN NEW JERSEY GOV RACE, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; HUGE GENDER GAP AS WOMEN BACK MURPHY BY 36 POINTS

A huge lead among women propels Democrat Phil Murphy to a 57 - 37 percent lead over Republican Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno among likely voters in the race for New Jersey governor, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

This compares to a 58 - 33 percent Murphy lead over Guadagno, in a September 13 survey by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University.

In today's result, women back the Democrat 65 - 29 percent while men are divided with 49 percent for Murphy and 45 percent for Guadagno.

Murphy leads 92 - 4 percent among Democrats and 52 - 39 percent among independent voters. Republicans go to Guadagno 89 - 8 percent.

With 13 days until the election, 83 percent of likely voters who name a candidate say their mind is made up, while 14 percent say they might change their mind.

Murphy gets a 44 - 34 percent favorability rating among likely voters, compared to Guadagno's negative 33 - 41 percent favorability.

Taxes are the most important issue in deciding how they will vote in the governor's race, 36 percent of likely voters say, while 14 percent list the economy. Another 11 percent cite health care and 9 percent say education.

"Lt. Gov. Guadagno could not be in a worse situation. Phil Murphy leads her among most voter groups and the state's electorate gives her an unfavorable rating overall," said Peter A. Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

"What's more, politics is a team game. Guadagno's GOP teammates – President Donald Trump, with a 33 percent job approval rating, and Gov. Christopher Christie, with his 15 percent approval rating – are clearly pulling her down."

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"The way Republicans occasionally win in blue states such as New Jersey is by attracting some soft Democrats and dominating among independent voters. But only 4 percent of Democrats say they will vote for Guadagno, compared to 8 percent of Republicans backing Murphy. And his double-digit lead among independent voters makes it difficult to find a realistic path to a Guadagno victory."

Guadagno's role as lieutenant governor to Gov. Christopher Christie is heavier baggage than Murphy's work at Goldman Sachs, New Jersey likely voters say.

For 51 percent of these voters, Guadagno's role as lieutenant governor to Gov. Christopher Christie has a negative impact on their opinion of her. Another 10 percent say it has a positive impact and 37 percent say it doesn't matter.

Murphy's 23 years at Goldman Sachs creates a negative impact on the opinion of 30 percent of likely voters. For 6 percent, it has a positive impact and 61 percent say it doesn't matter.

## President Trump, Gov. Christie Approval Ratings

New Jersey likely voters disapprove 65 - 33 percent of the job President Donald Trump is doing. Republicans approve 80 - 19 percent and white voters with no college degree are divided, as 47 percent approve and 52 percent disapprove. Every other party, gender, education and racial group disapproves by wide margins.

Gov. Christie's historic low approval ratings continue, a negative 15 - 80 percent today. Even Republican likely voters disapprove 57 - 37 percent.

Voters disapprove 49 - 31 percent of the job U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez is doing and say 59 - 19 percent that he does not deserve to be reelected next year.

New Jersey likely voters approve 61 - 32 percent of the job U.S. Sen. Cory Booker is doing.

From October 19 - 24, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,049 New Jersey likely voters with a margin of error of  $\pm 4.2$  percentage points, including the design effect. Live interviewers call landlines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys nationwide, and statewide polls in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa and Colorado as a public service and for research.

Visit <u>poll.qu.edu</u> or <u>www.facebook.com/quinnipiacpoll</u> Call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on <u>Twitter</u> @QuinnipiacPoll. 1. If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were Phil Murphy the Democrat and Kim Guadagno the Republican, for whom would you vote? (If undecided) As of today, do you lean more toward Phil Murphy the Democrat or Kim Guadagno the Republican?

	LIKELY	VOTERS						
							WHITE.	
							COLLEG	E DEG
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Murphy	57%	8%	92%	52%	49%	65%	58%	44%
Guadagno	37	89	4	39	45	29	38	51
SMONE ELSE(VOL)	1	2	-	2	1	2	-	3
DK/NA	5	1	4	6	5	5	4	3
	WHITE.							
	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht				
Murphy	46%	57%	52%	71%				
Guadagno	51	38	44	20				
SMONE ELSE(VOL)	1	2	1	1				
DK/NA	3	4	4	8				

1a. (If candidate chosen q1) Is your mind made up, or do you think you might change your mind before the election?

	LIKELY VOTERS.		
	CANDIDATE CHOS	SEN Q1	
		CANDIDATE OF	CHOICE Q1
	Tot	Murphy	Guadagno
Made up	83%	82%	86%
Might change	14	14	13
DK/NA	3	4	1

2. Is your opinion of Phil Murphy favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	LIKELY	VOTERS						
							WHITE.	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Favorable	44%	7%	71%	40%	41%	48%	47%	31%
Unfavorable	34	77	6	38	39	29	36	47
Hvn't hrd enough	20	15	22	18	19	20	15	20
REFUSED	2	1	2	3	1	3	2	2
	WHITE							
	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht				
Favorable	37%	44%	40%	54%				
Unfavorable	48	35	41	17				
Hvn't hrd enough	14	19	17	26				
REFUSED	1	2	2	3				

3. Is your opinion of Kim Guadagno favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about her?

	LIKELY	VOTERS	5						
							WHITE COLLEGE DEG		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No	
Favorable	33%	80%	8%	33%	41%	27%	34%	46%	
Unfavorable	41	8	60	44	37	46	49	35	
Hvn't hrd enough	23	11	30	19	20	26	15	17	
REFUSED	2	1	2	3	2	2	2	2	
	WHITE								
	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht	-				
Favorable	44%	34%	39%	20%					
Unfavorable	40	46	43	40					
Hvn't hrd enough	14	18	16	38					
REFUSED	2	2	2	2					

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chris Christie is handling his job as Governor?

	LIKELY	LIKELY VOTERS WHITE  COLLEGE DE								
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No		
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	15% 80 5 WHITE. Men	37% 57 6 	2% 96 2 Wht	16% 78 5 NonWht	19% 77 4	11% 83 6	17% 79 4	19% 77 4		
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	22% 75 3	14% 81 5	18% 78 4	9% 85 6						

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Cory Booker is handling his job as United States Senator?

	LIKELY	VOTERS	WHITE COLLEGE DEG					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	61% 32 8 WHITE.		90% 4 6	56% 33 10	52% 40 8	69% 24 7	58% 36 6	53% 40 7
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	Men 50% 45 6	Wom 62% 31 7	Wht 56% 38 6	NonWht 74% 17 9				

6. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Robert Menendez is handling his job as United States Senator?

	LIKELY	VOTERS								
							WHITE.			
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No		
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	31% 49 20	11% 81 8	45% 27 28	28% 53 19	31% 54 15	31% 44 25	30% 54 17	21% 61 17		
	WHITE.									
	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht						
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	25% 63 13	27% 52 21	26% 57 17	41% 33 26						

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as President?

	LIKELY	Y VOTERS WHITE  COLLEGE DEG								
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No		
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	33% 65 2 WHITE.	80% 19 1	3% 96 1	36% 60 4	39% 58 3	27% 70 2	33% 64 3	47% 52 1		
	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht						
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	44% 54 2	35% 63 2	39% 59 2	19% 80 2						

8. Do you feel that Robert Menendez deserves to be reelected, or do you feel that he does not deserve to be reelected?

	LIKELY	VOTERS			• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	•••••	WHITE.	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Yes/Deserves No/Does not DK/NA	19% 59 22	8% 87 5	29% 42 29	16% 60 24	21% 62 18	18% 57 25	19% 60 20	16% 67 17
	WHITE.							
	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht				
Yes/Deserves No/Does not DK/NA	16% 70 14	19% 57 24	18% 63 19	23% 51 26				

9. In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in New Jersey today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	LIKELY	Y VOTER	S							
							WHITE			
							COLLE	COLLEGE DEG		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No		
Very satisfied	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%		
Smwht satisfied	28	35	25	27	32	24	26	30		
Smwht dissatisfied	39	38	41	35	38	39	44	35		
Very dissatisfied	31	25	30	35	27	34	30	33		
DK/NA	1	_	2	1	1	1	-	-		
	WHITE.									
	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWh	t					
Very satisfied	2%	1%	1%	2%						
Smwht satisfied	31	24	28	31						
Smwht dissatisfied	38	41	40	35						
Very dissatisfied	29	33	31	30						
DK/NA	-	1	-	2						

10. Which of these is the most important issue to you in deciding how to vote for governor this year: taxes, the economy, education, the budget, health care, race relations, the environment, gun policy, or ethics in government?

	LIKELY	VOTERS						
							WHITE. COLLEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Taxes	36%	53%	26%	35%	39%	32%	33%	43%
Economy	14	17	11	16	18	11	15	14
Education	9	2	12	12	8	11	12	3
Budget	6	9	5	7	7	6	8	7
Health care	11	4	16	8	7	15	7	12
Race relations	3	-	3	4	2	3	2	1
Environment	3	-	5	3	3	3	6	2
Gun policy	5	3	9	1	4	6	3	5
Ethics in government	9	10	10	9	10	8	11	9
SOMETHING ELSE(VOL)	1	1	-	3	2	1	2	1
DK/NA	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	2
	WHITE.							
	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht				
Taxes	40%	36%	38%	29%				
Economy	16	13	14	15				
Education	7	9	8	11				
Budget	8	8	8	3				
Health care	6	11	9	14				
Race relations	2	1	1	6				
Environment	4	5	4	2				
Gun policy	4	4	4	9				
Ethics in government	12	9	10	8				
SOMETHING ELSE(VOL)	1	1	1	1				
DK/NA	1	3	2	2				

11. As you may know, Phil Murphy worked for Goldman Sachs for 23 years. Does this have a positive impact on your opinion of Phil Murphy, a negative impact, or does it have no impact on your opinion of Phil Murphy?

	LIKEL	Y VOTER	RS					
								GE DEG
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Positive	6%	7%	9%	3%	8%	5%	5%	4%
Negative	30	31	27	32	35	26	31	33
No impact	61	61	61	63	56	65	63	61
DK/NA	3	2	3	2	1	4	1	3
	WHITE							
	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWh	ıt			
Positive	4%	5%	5%	9%				
Negative	38	26	32	27				
No impact	57	66	62	59				
DK/NA	_	3	2	5				

12. As you may know, Kim Guadagno has been Chris Christie's lieutenant governor for about eight years. Does this have a positive impact on your opinion of Kim Guadagno, a negative impact, or does it have no impact on your opinion of Kim Guadagno?

	LIKELY	VOTERSWHITE							
							COLLEGE DEG		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No	
Positive	10%	26%	4%	10%	14%	7%	9%	12%	
Negative	51	16	75	50	45	57	56	40	
No impact	37	58	20	39	40	34	34	45	
DK/NA	1	1	2	1	1	2	-	3	
	WHITE								
	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht	-				
Positive	14%	8%	11%	11%					
Negative	46	52	49	56					
No impact	39	39	39	31					
DK/NA	1	1	1	2					