

## **Stockton Poll Shows Murphy Leads Guadagno by Large Margin in N.J. Governor's Race**

| Which candidate would be better at: | Murphy | Guadagno | Not sure |
|-------------------------------------|--------|----------|----------|
| Creating jobs in New Jersey         | 39%    | 25%      | 28%      |
| Controlling property taxes          | 31%    | 33%      | 25%      |
| Managing the state budget           | 40%    | 31%      | 24%      |
| Helping Atlantic City succeed       | 33%    | 20%      | 35%      |

The issue Guadagno has focused her campaign on property taxes is cited by 28 percent as the top issue in the state elections. Taxes in general are cited by 17 percent, and education is third at 10 percent.

However, Guadagno is campaigning in a state where two Republican leaders President Donald Trump and New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie are very unpopular. Only 25 percent say Trump is doing a good or excellent job as president, with 72 percent lower: only 14 percent rate him positively, and 85 percent give him negative ratings. An endorsement by either Trump or Christie would make 52 percent of voters less likely to support that candidate. Neither has made public endorsements in the race.

Property taxes are always a major issue in New Jersey, and Kim Guadagno is

governor and p

years as lieutenant governor makes them more likely or less likely to vote for her. Thirty-one percent said they are more likely to vote for her, 31 percent said less likely and 35 percent said it makes no difference.

The fact that Murphy has Wall Street experience makes 15 percent more likely to vote for him but 29 percent less likely, with 55 percent saying it makes no difference, the poll shows.

John Froonjian, who manages the Stockton Polling Institute, said pundits may be

Trump. However, only 27 percent say their feelings about Trump will affect their vote for governor, while 71 percent say it will have no effect.

On a national issue, a majority of 51 percent believes the rich would benefit the most know enough about the plan to have an opinion.

Seventy-nine percent support or lean in favor of a proposed Constitutional amendment to dedicate settlements of state pollution cases to environmental cleanup and protection, with 13 percent opposing or leaning against the proposal. A ballot proposal to borrow \$125 million for public library construction or renovations is close, with 46 percent supporting it, 45 percent opposing and 7 percent undecided.

To see the full results click [here](#).

### **Methodology**

The poll was conducted by the Stockton Polling Institute of the William J. Hughes