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FOX NEWS POLL

Fox News Poll: Democrat Sherrill leads New Jersey governor's race

Democrat holds 8-point advantage among likely voters in contest for Murphy's seat

By Dana Blanton · Fox News

Published September 30, 2025 6:00pm EDT



Democratic New Jersey mayor endorses Ciattarelli in governor's race, says he has 'real solutions'

Dover, New Jersey Mayor James P. Dodd joined 'Fox & Friends First' to discuss why he is crossing partisan lines and throwing his support behind Jack Ciattarelli in the state's gubernatorial race.

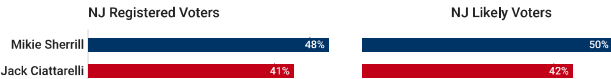
A Fox News survey of New Jersey voters finds Democrat Mikie Sherrill ahead of Republican Jack Ciattarelli by 8 percentage points among likely voters (50-42%) and 7 points among the larger sample of registered voters (48-41%) – both lead just outside the margin of sampling error.

The candidates are vying for the seat being vacated by term-limited Democratic Gov. Phil Murphy, who beat Ciattarelli in the 2021 gubernatorial election by only about 3 points.

FOX NEWS POLL: UNHAPPY WITH NYC'S DIRECTION, VOTERS FAVOR MAMDANI FOR MAYOR BY A WIDE MARGIN

FOX NEWS POLL

NEW JERSEY PREFERENCE FOR GOVERNOR



Source: Fox News Poll
Conducted: September 25-28, 2025
NJ Registered Voters +/- 3% Pts., NJ Likely Voters +/- 3% Pts.

This analysis uses registered voter results.

Sherrill, a [congresswoman](#), gets her biggest backing from Black and Hispanic voters, those with a college degree, and voters under age 45. There is a 15-point gender gap, as women prefer Sherrill by 14 points and men favor Ciattarelli by 1.

Ciattarelli, a former state assemblyman, does best among MAGA supporters, White Catholics, White men without a college degree, and voters ages 45-54.

Nearly equal numbers of [Republicans](#) back Ciattarelli (90%) as Democrats go for Sherrill (89%), and the preference among the small subgroup of independents splits. Sherrill is helped by more New Jersey voters identifying as Democrats than Republicans.

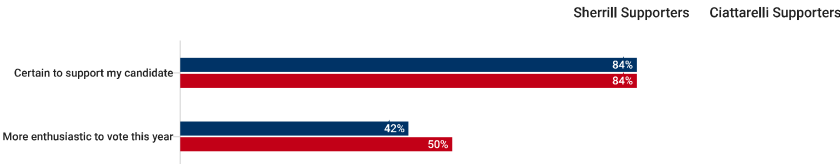
Both Sherrill and Ciattarelli supporters have a high degree of vote certainty (84% each). Still, the race has room for movement as about one voter in seven says they could change their mind before casting their ballot.

FOX NEWS POLL: CAPITALISM REMAINS MORE POPULAR THAN SOCIALISM, YET MAJORITIES SUPPORT TAXING THE WEALTHY



BOTH SHERRILL & CIATTARELLI SUPPORTERS HAVE A HIGH DEGREE OF VOTE CERTAINTY

But Ciattarelli supporters are more enthusiastic to vote this year



Source: [Fox News Poll](#) •
Conducted: September 25-28, 2025
NJ RV: Sherrill Supporters +/- 4.5% Pts., Ciattarelli Supporters +/- 4.5% Pts.

* A Flourish chart

By an 8-point margin, a larger share of Ciattarelli supporters (50%) than Sherrill supporters (42%) say they are more enthusiastic about voting this year than usual.

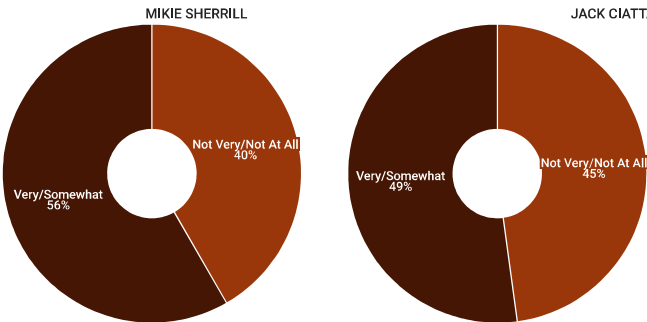
The Fox News survey was completed after both the first gubernatorial debate on September 21 and news that the National Personnel Records Center at the National Archives had mistakenly released unredacted portions of Sherrill's military file. That release, reported publicly on September 25, prompted complaints from Sherrill and other Democrats, while the Ciattarelli campaign began pressing her on the issue.

By a 6-point margin, more voters have a positive opinion of Sherrill (51%) than of Ciattarelli (45%) and, by a 7-point spread, more think she is honest and trustworthy (56%) than say the same about him (49%).



NEW JERSEY RACE FOR GOVERNOR ARE THE CANDIDATES HONESTY & TRUSTWORTHY?

How well do you think the phrase honest and trustworthy describes...



Source: [Fox News Poll](#) •
Conducted: September 25-28, 2025
NJ Registered Voters +/- 3% Pts.

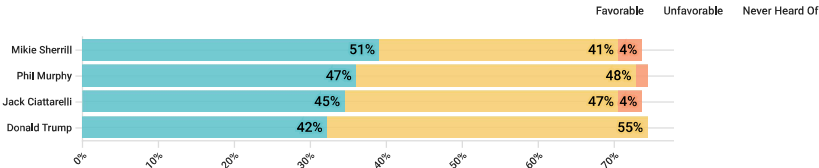
* A Flourish chart

[Murphy](#)'s favorable rating is underwater by a single point (47% vs. 48%).



FAVORABLE RATINGS AMONG NEW JERSEY REGISTERED VOTERS

Please tell me whether you have a generally favorable or unfavorable opinion of each one.



Source: [Fox News Poll](#) •
Conducted: September 25-28, 2025
NJ Registered Voters: +/- 3% Pts.

* A Flourish chart

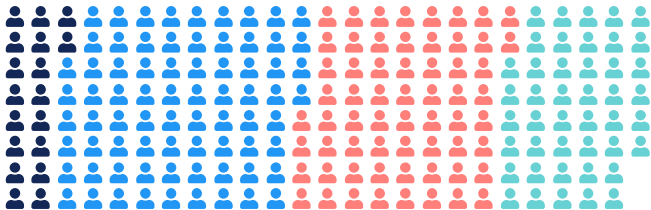
While more than half remain dissatisfied with the direction of their state, New Jersey voters are happier now than when Murphy was elected: 46% are satisfied with how things are going, up 9 percentage points from 37% who felt that way in 2017.



NEW JERSEYANS ARE FAIRLY SPLIT WITH DIRECTION OF THE STATE

How satisfied are you with how things are going in New Jersey today?

- 9% Very Satisfied
- 37% Somewhat Satisfied
- 31% Not Very Satisfied
- 22% Not At All Satisfied



Source: Fox News Poll
September 25-28, 2025
NJ Registered Voters: +/- 3% Pts.

* A Flourish chart

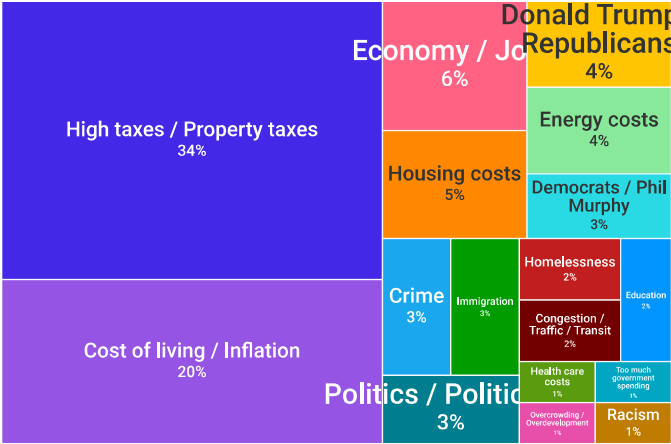
The [New Jersey](#) electorate is concerned about two main issues. In spontaneous, unprompted replies, 34% say taxes are the biggest problem facing the state and 20% say the cost of living. Other issues like housing and energy costs are mentioned by 5% or fewer.

Sherrill is preferred by 16 points among those whose priority is the cost of living, while tax voters favor Ciattarelli by 5.



NEW JERSEY VOTERS SAY TAXES & INFLATION ARE BIGGEST PROBLEMS FACING THE STATE

In your own words, what do you think is the number one problem facing New Jersey today? [OPEN END. RECORD VERBATIM.]



Source: Fox News Poll •
Conducted: September 25-28, 2025
NJ Registered Voters +/- 3%

* A Flourish chart

Only 4% of voters volunteer President [Donald Trump](#)/the Republicans as the biggest problem for the state, but one-third say one reason for their vote is to express opposition to Trump (34%) – more than double the number who are voting to show him support (16%).

Six in 10 Democrats say their vote is to express opposition to Trump compared to 4 in 10 Republicans who say theirs is to show support. More than half of Republicans say Trump is not a factor in their vote (56%).

Overall, 42% of NJ voters have a favorable opinion of Trump, while 55% view him unfavorably. That’s a net negative by 13 points, which is an improvement since 2017, when his ratings were underwater by 26 points.

While former Vice President Kamala Harris won New Jersey by 6 points (52%), Trump received 46% of the vote in last year’s presidential election, up from the 41% he received in both 2020 and 2016.

Poll-pourri

A 54% majority of New Jersey voters think the way Republicans talk about politics these days is leading to an increase in violence, while just under half, 48%, say the same about Democrats.



NJ VOTERS ON POLITICS LEADING TO AN INCREASE OF VIOLENCE



Source: Fox News Poll •
Conducted: September 25-28, 2025
All NJ Registered Voters +/- 3% Pts.

* A Flourish chart

Conducted September 25-28, 2025 under the joint direction of Beacon Research (D) and Shaw & Company Research (R), this Fox News Poll includes interviews with a sample of 1,002 New Jersey registered voters randomly selected from a statewide voter file. Respondents spoke with live interviewers on landlines (120) and cellphones (638) or completed the survey online by following a link received via text message (244). There was a subsample of 822 likely voters. Results based on both the registered voter and likely voter sample have a margin of sampling error of ± 3 percentage points. Sampling error for results among subgroups is higher. In addition to sampling error, question wording and order can influence results. Sources for developing weight targets include the most recent American Community Survey,

Fox News Voter Analysis, and voter file data. Weights are generally applied to age, race, education, and area variables to ensure the demographics of respondents are representative of the registered voter population. Likely voters are identified based on past vote history and self-reported likelihood of voting. Results among subgroups are only shown when the sample size is at least N=100.

Fox News’ Victoria Balara contributed to this report.

As head of the polling unit, Dana Blanton runs the Fox News Poll and oversees the Fox News Voter Analysis election survey.

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Conversation 2 Comments

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What do you think?

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BeNice11

7 minutes ago

After everything that has happened what is wrong with people in NJ how can you vote for a democrat smh

Reply 3 Share

...
- D

deplorablemaga232

2 minutes ago

"A 54% majority of New Jersey voters think the way Republicans talk about politics these days is leading to an increase in violence, while just under half, 48%, say the same about Democrats." This is astounding as most of the violent rhetoric is on the left as is most of the violence. NJ is lost

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