



# WNBC/Marist Poll

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## New Jersey Race for Governor

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**All references must be sourced WNBC/Marist Poll**

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This WNBC/Marist Poll reports:

- **Corzine edges Forrester in New Jersey’s fierce battle for governor:** Democrat Jon Corzine leads Republican Doug Forrester by 6 points among New Jersey voters likely to vote on Tuesday. Corzine receives the support of 48% of likely voters compared with 42% for Forrester. 10% are undecided.

**Question Wording:** If the election for governor were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

	Doug Forrester Republican	Jon Corzine Democrat	Other	Undecided
<b>Thursday/Friday</b>				
Likely Voters	42%	48%	<1%	10%
Likely Voters w/ Leaners	44%	49%	<1%	7%
Registered Voters	38%	48%	1%	13%
<b>Thursday Only</b>				
Likely Voters	42%	46%	<1%	12%
Likely Voters w/ Leaners	43%	48%	<1%	9%
Registered Voters	36%	48%	1%	15%
<b>Wednesday Only</b>				
Likely Voters	38%	51%	1%	10%
Likely Voters w/ Leaners	39%	53%	1%	7%
Registered Voters	35%	47%	1%	17%
<b>October 28, 2005</b>				
Likely Voters	40%	50%	1%	9%
Likely Voters w/ Leaners	41%	51%	1%	7%
Registered Voters	38%	47%	<1%	15%

	Doug Forrester Republican	Jon Corzine Democrat	Other	Undecided
<b>October 10, 2005</b>				
Likely Voters	43%	44%	<1%	13%
Likely Voters w/ Leaners	45%	47%	<1%	8%
Registered Voters	38%	45%	<1%	17%

- **Most voters who have picked sides strongly support their choice for governor:** 70% of likely voters who have a preference in the race for governor are firmly committed to their candidate. 23% say they somewhat support their choice, and only 6% say they might vote differently on Election Day. 65% of Doug Forrester’s supporters say they are firmly committed to him compared with 74% of Jon Corzine’s supporters who say they strongly support their choice.

**Question Wording:** Would you say that you strongly support (candidate name), somewhat support (candidate name), or do you think that you might vote differently on Election Day?

Likely Voters	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Might Vote Differently	Unsure
<b>Thursday/Friday</b>	70%	23%	6%	1%
Doug Forrester	65%	26%	8%	1%
Jon Corzine	74%	20%	5%	1%
<b>October 28, 2005</b>	65%	26%	8%	1%
Doug Forrester	61%	28%	9%	2%
Jon Corzine	68%	23%	8%	1%

- **Voters characterize campaign as one of attacks not issues:** 75% of registered voters believe the candidates for governor have spent more time attacking each other rather than talking about the issues. Only 14% think the campaigns have focused more on the issues. 11% are unsure.

**Question Wording:** In general, do you feel that the candidates for governor have spent more time talking about their positions on the issues or attacking each other?

Registered Voters	Talking Issues	Attacking Each Other	Unsure
Thursday/Friday	14%	75%	11%
October 28, 2005	13%	78%	9%
October 10, 2005	29%	58%	13%

- **Electorate divides over perceptions of the candidates:** 43% of registered voters have a favorable impression of Doug Forrester compared with 47% who have an unfavorable view of him. Jon Corzine is viewed positively by 50% of voters and negatively by 45%.

**Question Wording:** In general, do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of Doug Forrester/Jon Corzine?

<b>Registered Voters</b>	Favorable	Unfavorable	Unsure/Never Heard
<b>Doug Forrester</b>			
Thursday/Friday	43%	47%	10%
Men	49%	44%	7%
Women	38%	50%	12%
October 28, 2005	46%	41%	13%
October 10, 2005	52%	33%	15%
<b>Jon Corzine</b>			
Thursday/Friday	50%	45%	5%
Men	50%	47%	3%
Women	50%	43%	7%
October 28, 2005	49%	40%	11%
October 10, 2005	56%	35%	9%

**How the survey was conducted:**

This survey was conducted on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2005. 700 registered voters in New Jersey were interviewed in proportion to the enrollment in each county and adjusted for turnout in comparable statewide elections. The results are statistically significant at  $\pm 4\%$ . There are 394 likely voters and the results for this sub-sample are statistically significant at  $\pm 5\%$ . The margin of error increases for cross-tabulations.