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NJ Voters Say They're More Engaged After Trump's Election



President Donald Trump

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By Nikita Biryukov, June 04 2019 12:31 pm

Despite nearly a third of New Jersey adults reporting they were more civically engaged than they were before President Donald Trump's election, the rates at which these voters engage in certain civic activities remain largely unchanged from 2015, according to a Stockton University poll released Tuesday.

"Many people may feel more engaged in these volatile times even if they are not participating in certain civic practices. Some may relate engagement specifically to voting," said John Froomjian, interim executive director of the Stockton Polling Institute of the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy.

Of 852 New Jersey residents polled, 32% said they were more engaged than they were in the spring of 2015, while 10% said they were less engaged and 57% said there was no difference in their engagement.

Despite those results, the rates at which voters engaged in civic engagement activities, writing a legislator or attending a protest, remained largely unchanged from 2015.

For example, 6% respondents in 2015 told Stockton pollsters they worked or volunteered on a campaign, while 9% said the same in the more recent poll.

Tuesday's poll had a margin of error of 3.4%. The older poll had a margin of error of 3.6%

Still, the poll did find that Democrats who reported they were more civically engaged had higher levels of participation than Republicans who reported the same.

For instance, among those who said they were more engaged, 30% of Democrats made political contributions versus 23% of Republicans and 13% of independents.

"These results appear to back up reports of voter enthusiasm among progressives, Democrats and women," Froomjian said.

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