

SETON HALL SPORTS POLL FINDS NEW JERSEYANS NEARLY SPLIT ON LEGALIZED SPORTS GAMBLING

Rutgers Move to Big Ten Seen as Good for School, Good for State

S. Orange, NJ, November 29, 2012 – The New Jersey public is nearly evenly divided on support for legalized sport gambling in the state, amidst heavy resistance from the major sports leagues, according to a poll conducted this week by the Seton Hall Sports Poll.

The poll, conducted among New Jersey residents, found 47% opposed to legalized sports gambling, and 44% in favor, with 10% undecided. The margin of error was +/- 3.8%.

Gender and racial gaps existed on the question, with men favoring gambling by 52%-40%, while the numbers are almost reversed for women at 37%-53%. but women opposing gambling by 53%-37%. Whites supported gambling 48%-42% while African-Americans were opposed by 55%-38%. (A smaller sample size composed this portion of the findings).

The Seton Hall Sports Poll, the nation's only academically based sports polling service, questioned 696 people, including those with cellphones, all reached through random dialing. Seton Hall has been conducting sports polls since 2006 through the Sharkey Institute.

"Despite the potential for the state raising needed revenues through legalized gambling, especially after Superstorm Sandy, opinions on this issue remain split", noted Rick Gentile, director of the poll. "This is possibly due to the strong resistance by the sports leagues."

The poll also asked respondents their reaction to Rutgers move from the Big East to the Big Ten, and found 45% thinking it was good for the school, and 48% good for the state, with only 8% and 6% respectively thinking it was a bad move. 17% and 25% respectively felt it had no impact.

GIANTS FAN BASE MUCH GREATER THAN JETS, EAGLES COMBINED

New Jerseyans weighed in as heavily favoring the New York Giants when it comes to rooting for a football team, with 39% identifying with the Giants, 12% with the Philadelphia Eagles, and only 10% with the Jets. 23% named another team.

On the long debated matter of whether the Giants and Jets should be called "New Jersey" instead of "New York," 54% said New Jersey to only 32% for New York.

Asked about whether they would follow the former New Jersey Nets at their new home in Brooklyn, 58% said "about the same," with 18% saying less, and 17% they didn't know. Only 8% registered "more" on the question.

An overwhelming 88% said the Super Bowl coming to New Jersey in 2014 was going to be good for the state.

About Seton Hall University

For more than 150 years, Seton Hall University has been a catalyst for leadership, developing the whole student, mind, heart and spirit. Seton Hall combines the resources of a large university with the personal attention of a small liberal arts college. Its attractive suburban campus is only 14 miles from New York City, with the wealth of employment, internship, cultural and entertainment opportunities the city offers. Seton Hall is a Catholic university that embraces students of all races and religions, challenging each to better the world through integrity, compassion and a commitment to serving others. For more information, visit www.shu.edu.

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The results:

Rutgers University has announced it is moving from the Big East Conference to the Big Ten Conference in 2014. Do you think this will be good for the university, bad for the university or do you think it will have no impact?

Good	45%
Bad	8
No Impact	17
Don't know	31

Do you think Rutgers' move to the Big Ten will be good for the state of New Jersey, bad for the state or will have no impact on the state?

Good	48
Bad	6
No Impact	25
Don't know	22

Will the National Hockey League labor dispute make you less interested, more interested or will your interest remain the same in following hockey when play resumes?

Less interested	21
More interested	7
Remain the same	58
Don't know	14

Should legalized sports gambling be approved in the state of New Jersey despite resistance from the major sports leagues?

Yes	44
No	47
Don't know	10

How closely do you follow sports, very closely, closely, somewhat closely or not at all?

Very closely	24
Closely	18
Somewhat closely	39
Not at all	20

Which team is your favorite in the National Football League?

(DO NOT READ CHOICES)

New York Giants	39
New York Jets	10
Philadelphia Eagles	12
Other	23
Don't Know	16

Do you think the Giants and Jets should be called "New Jersey" instead of "New York"?

Yes	54
No	32
Don't know	14

Do you think the Super Bowl being played in New Jersey in February of 2014 will be good for the state, bad for the state or will have no impact on the state?

Good	88
Bad	3
No Impact	4
Don't know	6

Do you follow the Nets now that they've moved from New Jersey to Brooklyn less than before the move, more than before the move or about the same as before the move?

Less	18
More	8
Same	58
Don't know	17

Has Superstorm Sandy and its aftermath caused you to follow sports more closely, less closely or do you follow sports about the same as before the storm?

More closely	2
Less closely	6
About the same	85
Don't know	7