



NEWS RELEASE

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The so-called “Big Six” committees of the two major parties have raised slightly more than \$4 million so far this year and spent slightly less, according to reports that disclose their campaign finance activities since January 1.

Reports filed with the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission by the two state parties and four Legislative Leadership committees also revealed that Republicans continue to dominate Democrats among the six committees.

**TABLE 1
FUNDRAISING BY “BIG SIX” COMMITTEES
JANUARY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2012**

REPUBLICANS	RAISED	SPENT	CASH-ON-HAND	NET WORTH*
New Jersey Republican State Committee	\$ 2,272,125	\$ 2,441,299	\$ 369,831	\$ 304,552
Senate Republican Majority	\$ 359,717	\$ 227,733	\$ 338,305	\$ 338,305
Assembly Republican Victory	\$ 329,795	\$ 206,357	\$ 192,706	\$ 192,706
Sub Total-Republicans	\$2,961,637	\$2,875,389	\$ 900,842	\$ 835,563
DEMOCRATS				
New Jersey Democratic State Committee	\$ 479,805	\$ 424,793	\$ 156,944	\$ 133,703
Senate Democratic Majority	\$ 216,401	\$ 337,012	\$ 145,588	\$ 125,588
Democratic Assembly Campaign Committee	\$ 426,067	\$ 334,612	\$ 128,058	\$ 97,619
Sub Total- Democrats	\$1,122,273	\$1,096,417	\$ 430,590	\$ 356,910
Total- Both Parties	\$4,083,910	\$3,971,806	\$1,331,432	\$1,192,473

*Net worth is cash-on-hand adjusted for debts owed to or by committee.

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The majority of fundraising and spending has been done by one committee- the Republican State Committee. Fifty-six percent of all funds raised to date by the Big Six, and 61 percent of the combined spending, has been done by the party committee. Its fortunes improved sharply after Republican Gov. Chris Christie took office in January 2010.

Jeff Brindle, ELEC’s Executive Director, said the pace of fundraising remains relatively subdued because there are only three special legislative elections and local elections this year.

“Next year, however, should be a different story. We should see fundraising begin to pick up soon since the governor’s seat and all 120 legislative seats are open for reelection in 2013,” he said.

Compared to the same period four years earlier, combined fundraising was down 8 percent. But spending, cash-on-hand and net worth all were slightly higher. Republican totals continue to see major improvement from four years ago, while Democratic totals are down.

**TABLE 2
CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACTIVITIES FOR “BIG SIX”
COMMITTEES THROUGH THIRD QUARTER- 2008 VS 2012**

REPUBLICANS	RAISED	SPENT	CASH-ON-HAND	NET WORTH*
2008	\$ 1,194,414	\$ 839,738	\$ 584,224	\$ 480,441
2012	\$ 2,961,637	\$ 2,875,389	\$ 900,842	\$ 835,563
Difference-Dollars	\$ 1,767,223	\$ 2,035,651	\$ 316,618	\$ 355,122
Difference-%	148%	242%	54%	74%
DEMOCRATS				
2008	\$ 3,263,473	\$ 2,668,637	\$ 742,610	\$ 653,986
2012	\$ 1,122,273	\$ 1,096,417	\$ 430,590	\$ 356,910
Difference-Dollars	\$ (2,141,200)	\$ (1,572,220)	\$ (312,020)	\$ (297,076)
Difference-%	-66%	-59%	-42%	-45%
BOTH PARTIES				
2008	\$ 4,457,887	\$ 3,508,375	\$ 1,326,834	\$ 1,134,427
2012	\$ 4,083,910	\$ 3,971,806	\$ 1,331,432	\$ 1,192,473
Difference-Dollars	\$ (373,977)	\$ 463,431	\$ 4,598	\$ 58,046
Difference-%	-8%	13%	<1%	5%

*Net worth is cash-on-hand adjusted for debts owed to or by committee.

State Parties and Legislative Leadership Committees are required to report their financial activity to the Commission on a quarterly basis. The reports are available on ELEC’s website at www.elec.state.nj.us. ELEC also can be accessed on Facebook (www.facebook.com/NJElectionLaw) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/elecni).