



# NEWS RELEASE

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The state's "Big Six" political committees- the two major parties and four legislative leadership PACs- have socked away nearly \$2.6 million so far with big elections looming this fall, according to an analysis by the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission.

During the three months that ended March 31, the six committees raised a combined \$1.5 million and spent just under \$600,000.

**TABLE 1**  
**FUNDRAISING BY "BIG SIX" COMMITTEES**  
**JANUARY 1 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2013**

REPUBLICANS	RAISED	SPENT	CASH-ON-HAND	NET WORTH*
New Jersey Republican State Committee	\$ 395,778	\$ 214,354	\$ 429,003	\$ 359,291
Senate Republican Majority	\$ 208,092	\$ 36,189	\$ 675,901	\$ 675,901
Assembly Republican Victory	\$ 207,053	\$ 46,037	\$ 366,936	\$ 366,936
<b>Sub-Total-Republicans</b>	<b>\$ 810,923</b>	<b>\$ 296,580</b>	<b>\$1,471,840</b>	<b>\$1,402,128</b>
<b>DEMOCRATS</b>				
New Jersey Democratic State Committee	\$ 104,400	\$ 105,733	\$ 80,461	\$ 57,221
Senate Democratic Majority	\$ 256,850	\$ 75,375	\$ 478,347	\$ 458,347
Democratic Assembly Campaign Committee	\$ 291,860	\$ 106,068	\$ 534,154	\$ 503,715
<b>Sub-Total-Democrats</b>	<b>\$ 653,110</b>	<b>\$ 287,176</b>	<b>\$1,092,962</b>	<b>\$1,019,283</b>
<b>Total-Both Parties</b>	<b>\$1,464,033</b>	<b>\$ 583,756</b>	<b>\$2,564,802</b>	<b>\$2,421,411</b>

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

Jeff Brindle, ELEC's Executive Director, said the \$2.6 million in combined cash reserves is nearly \$64,000 more than the parties had amassed during the first three months of the 2011 legislative elections. It is almost \$900,000 more than the six committees had in the bank at this time last year, when there were just three special legislative elections.

On the other hand, it is the smallest reserve at this point of any gubernatorial election year since at least 2001, he added. The governor's seat and all 120 legislative seats are facing reelection this year.

"Especially when compared to the earlier part of the last decade, the coffers of the state's top party fundraising committees are way down," said Brindle.

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“This is due to several trends, including the advent of tight contribution limits for public contractors in the middle of the last decade, the 2008 recession, and a recent surge in spending by independent groups that may be draining funds away from party committees,” he added.

**TABLE 2  
CASH-ON-HAND TOTALS AS OF MARCH 31**

YEAR	DEMOCRATS	REPUBLICANS	BOTH PARTIES	ELECTIONS
2001	\$ 9,170,415	\$ 2,675,747	\$ 11,846,162	Gubernatorial and legislative elections
2005	\$ 3,345,734	\$ 813,434	\$ 4,159,168	Gubernatorial and legislative elections
2009	\$ 2,132,247	\$ 711,912	\$ 2,844,159	Gubernatorial and legislative elections
2010	\$ 728,926	\$ 745,346	\$ 1,474,272	
2011	\$ 770,544	\$ 1,730,382	\$ 2,500,926	Legislative elections only
2012	\$ 727,028	\$ 957,497	\$ 1,684,525	
2013	\$ 1,092,962	\$ 1,471,840	\$ 2,564,802	Gubernatorial and legislative elections

In another trend that began after the election of Republican Chris Christie as governor in 2009, Democratic fundraising, spending and cash reserves are down compared to four years ago, while Republican totals are up.

**TABLE 3  
CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACTIVITIES FOR “BIX SIX” COMMITTEES  
FIRST QUARTER 2009 VERSUS 2013**

REPUBLICANS	RAISED	SPENT	CASH-ON-HAND	NET WORTH*
<b>2009</b>	\$ 263,973	\$ 173,231	\$ 711,912	\$ 573,147
<b>2013</b>	\$ 810,923	\$ 296,580	\$ 1,471,840	\$ 1,402,128
<b>Difference-Dollars</b>	<b>\$ 546,950</b>	<b>\$ 123,349</b>	<b>\$ 759,928</b>	<b>\$828,981</b>
<b>Difference-%</b>	<b>207%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>107%</b>	<b>145%</b>
<b>DEMOCRATS</b>				
<b>2009</b>	\$ 1,477,424	\$ 581,692	\$ 2,132,247	\$ 2,076,030
<b>2013</b>	\$ 653,110	\$ 287,176	\$ 1,092,962	\$ 1,019,283
<b>Difference-Dollars</b>	<b>\$ (824,314)</b>	<b>\$ (294,516)</b>	<b>\$ (1,039,285)</b>	<b>\$ (1,056,747)</b>
<b>Difference-%</b>	<b>-56%</b>	<b>-51%</b>	<b>-49%</b>	<b>-51%</b>
<b>BOTH PARTIES</b>				
<b>2009</b>	\$ 1,741,397	\$ 754,923	\$ 2,844,159	\$ 2,649,177
<b>2013</b>	\$ 1,464,033	\$ 583,756	\$ 2,564,802	\$ 2,421,411
<b>Difference-Dollars</b>	<b>\$ (277,364)</b>	<b>\$ (171,167)</b>	<b>\$ (279,357)</b>	<b>\$ (227,766)</b>
<b>Difference-%</b>	<b>-16%</b>	<b>-23%</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>-9%</b>

\*Net worth is cash-on-hand adjusted for debts owed to or by the 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](http://www.elec.state.nj.us). ELEC also can be accessed on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/NJElectionLaw](http://www.facebook.com/NJElectionLaw)) and Twitter ([www.twitter.com/elecnj](http://www.twitter.com/elecnj)).