



NEWS RELEASE

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Revisions in bold italics

County Parties Flush with Cash Heading Into Federal Election Year

County party committees are heading into a federal election year with their largest combined cash reserves in more than a decade, according to reports filed with the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC).

Based on available reports, cash-on-hand for all committees filing reports totaled \$3.9 million as of March 31, 2022. Going back to 2012, the previous first quarter high occurred in 2019, when joint reserves totaled \$3.3 million.

Democrats, who control both US Senate seats, **10** of 12 congressional seats, the governorship and both legislative houses, have stashed away the most campaign cash. They reported \$3.3 million in cash-on-hand, or more than five times the \$602,852 reported by Republican committees.

YEAR	DEMOCRATS	REPUBLICANS	TOTAL
2022	\$3,269,736	\$ 602,852	\$3,872,588
2021	\$2,249,612	\$ 408,233	\$2,657,845
2020	\$1,750,284	\$ 405,550	\$2,155,834
2019	\$2,297,905	\$1,043,544	\$3,341,448
2018	\$2,107,613	\$ 549,815	\$2,657,429
2017	\$1,465,078	\$ 621,855	\$2,086,933
2016	\$1,245,021	\$ 782,181	\$2,027,203
2015	\$ 916,544	\$ 520,976	\$1,437,520
2014	\$ 838,605	\$ 474,184	\$1,312,788
2013	\$1,194,185	\$ 263,068	\$1,457,253
2012	\$ 708,074	\$ 315,861	\$1,023,935

Jeff Brindle, ELEC's Executive Director, said Democratic committees are benefiting from more than \$4.8 million they received from out-of-state contributions in 2021 compared to \$178,028 for Republican committees.

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An ELEC analysis released February 3, 2022 found that Democratic committees raised 41 percent of their funds last year from out-of-state groups compared to just seven percent for GOP committees.

While the GOP reserves are much smaller than those of the Democrats, they are their highest level since 2019.

Democrats benefited from big checks from the Democratic Governors Association, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Oklahoma donor Stacy Schusterman and national affiliates of some New Jersey unions.

“The infusion of out-of-state funds armed Democratic county party committees with more firepower going into a key election year, when Republicans will be trying to pare down the *ten-to-two* Democratic advantage within the state’s Congressional delegation,” Brindle said.

“During each election year, county parties help with get-out-the-vote efforts and other party functions. Having a cash windfall certainly provides a boost though other factors like the trend in voter sentiment also come into play,” he said.

Along with having bigger cash reserves, Democrats also have raised and spent more so far this year.

Table 2				
Fundraising By County Party Committees				
January 1 Through March 31, 2022				
PARTY	RAISED	SPENT**	CASH-ON-HAND	NET WORTH*
Democratic County Party Committees	\$ 796,084	\$1,044,719	\$3,269,736	\$3,123,756
Republican County Party Committees	\$ 550,559	\$ 493,659	\$ 602,852	\$1,086,143
Total- Both Parties	\$1,346,643	\$1,538,378	\$3,872,588	\$4,209,899

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

**Spending can exceed fundraising due to use of reserves or borrowing.

Among Democratic counties, nine county party committees- Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Essex, Gloucester, Mercer, Passaic, Somerset, and Union- reported cash balances above \$100,000.

Hudson County reported a negative net worth due to outstanding debts.

Table 3 Campaign Finance Activity of Democratic County Party Committees January 1 through March 31, 2022				
COUNTY	RAISED	SPENT	CASH-ON-HAND	NET WORTH*
Atlantic	\$ 14,780	\$ 8,436	\$ 12,795	\$ 12,795
Bergen	\$104,298	\$ 49,412	\$ 201,127	\$ 201,127
Burlington	\$ 99,383	\$ 23,723	\$ 173,829	\$ 167,454
Camden	\$ 87,633	\$ 108,841	\$ 316,054	\$ 316,054
Cape May	\$ 2,681	\$ 305	\$ 3,431	\$ 3,431
Cumberland	\$ 22,800	\$ 1,839	\$ 24,084	\$ 24,084
Essex	\$ 15,600	\$ 91,159	\$ 277,115	\$ 277,115
Gloucester	\$ 29,000	\$ 50,234	\$ 231,048	\$ 229,738
Hudson	\$ 61	\$ 109,619	\$ 17,075	\$ (121,699)
Hunterdon	\$ 43,800	\$ 4,787	\$ 91,100	\$ 91,100
Mercer	\$ 5	\$ 8,083	\$ 422,259	\$ 407,371
Middlesex	\$ 65,220	\$ 208,329	\$ 38,952	\$ 38,952
Monmouth	\$ 39,945	\$ 42,960	\$ 69,219	\$ 69,219
Morris	\$ 24,810	\$ 26,674	\$ 8,303	\$ 8,302
Ocean	\$ 11,028	\$ 21,402	\$ 85,055	\$ 101,222
Passaic	\$ 91,906	\$ 119,601	\$ 571,802	\$ 571,802
Salem	\$ 140	\$ 2,887	\$ 86,452	\$ 85,653
Somerset	\$ 60,747	\$ 27,294	\$ 167,166	\$ 167,166
Sussex	\$ 918	\$ 9,572	\$ 10,577	\$ 10,577
Union	\$ 81,331	\$ 129,561	\$ 462,291	\$ 462,291
Warren**	NA	NA	NA	NA
Democrats-Total	\$796,084	\$1,044,719	\$3,269,736	\$3,123,756

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

**Does not expect to spent more than \$7,200.

NA= Not Available.

Among Republican county party committees, only Cape May reported more than \$100,000 in cash-on-hand.

Table 4 Campaign Finance Activity of Republican County Party Committees January 1 through March 31, 2022				
COUNTY	RAISED	SPENT	CASH-ON-HAND	NET WORTH*
Atlantic	\$ 6,926	\$ 24,808	\$ 13,955	\$ 13,955
Bergen	\$ 99,823	\$ 70,824	\$ 31,932	\$ 21,932
Burlington	\$ 2,830	\$ 23,345	\$ 20,206	\$ 528,498
Camden	\$ 8,022	\$ 9,065	\$ 1,054	\$ 1,054
Cape May	\$ 389	\$ 20,806	\$111,171	\$ 111,171
Cumberland	\$ 47,650	\$ 10,794	\$ 38,723	\$ 38,723
Essex	\$ 0	\$ 860	\$ 17,119	\$ 17,119
Gloucester	\$ 47,762	\$ 46,729	\$ 16,694	\$ 16,694
Hudson**	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hunterdon	\$ 21,774	\$ 37,024	\$ 5,302	\$ 5,302
Mercer	\$ 2,550	\$ 1,271	\$ 2,850	\$ 2,849
Middlesex	\$ 3,430	\$ 899	\$ 10,538	\$ 10,538
Monmouth	\$ 85,376	\$ 45,980	\$ 88,731	\$ 88,731
Morris	\$ 71,700	\$ 55,618	\$ 20,954	\$ 5,954
Ocean	\$ 27,500	\$ 11,099	\$ 19,386	\$ 19,386
Passaic	\$ 92,475	\$ 88,077	\$ 29,454	\$ 29,454
Salem	\$ 565	\$ 3,964	\$ 20,880	\$ 20,880
Somerset	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sussex	\$ 2,728	\$ 8,716	\$ 88,506	\$ 88,506
Union	\$ 17,308	\$ 17,840	\$ 55,995	\$ 55,995
Warren	\$ 11,752	\$ 15,939	\$ 9,404	\$ 9,404
Republicans-Total	\$550,559	\$493,659	\$602,852	\$1,086,143

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

**Does not expect to spend more than \$7,200.

NA=Not available.

The numbers in this analysis are based on reports filed by noon May 3, 2022. They have yet to be verified by ELEC staff, and should be considered preliminary.

Individual reports can be reviewed on ELEC's website (www.elec.state.nj.us).

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