

Governor Chris Christie

Chris Christie was sworn in as Governor of New Jersey on January 19, 2010, and re-elected to a second term on November 5, 2013.

Under Governor Christie, New Jersey has taken on the biggest and toughest challenges with real solutions and bipartisan cooperation. He has implemented an aggressive reform agenda to restore fiscal integrity and accountability to state and local government; lowered New Jersey's property taxes; reformed the state's pension and health benefits system; and improved public education to ensure every child has access to a quality education.

In his first term, Governor Christie fought for and achieved passage of a 2 percent cap on property taxes; landmark public employee pension and health benefit reforms that will save taxpayers over \$130 billion over the next 30 years; four balanced budgets that did not raise taxes; and \$2.35 billion in job-creating tax cuts. After years of decline, New Jersey's economy has turned around, and more than 143,100 private sector jobs have been added under Governor Christie's watch.

In addition, Governor Christie has made education reform a top priority of his Administration, working to turn around failing schools, improve accountability, create a fair and meaningful evaluation system for teachers and principals and increase school choice in the state's worst performing districts. Governor Christie provided billions of dollars in additional state aid for New Jersey schools, setting a historic high for school funding three consecutive years. In August 2012, Governor Christie signed into law landmark bipartisan tenure reform, modernizing the nation's oldest tenure law to increase teacher effectiveness and accountability in the classroom.

Since Superstorm Sandy struck in 2012, New Jersey has made real, substantial strides toward recovery and rebuilding. The Christie Administration has launched dozens of programs and services at an unprecedented pace to put displaced New Jerseyans back in their homes; reopen businesses damaged or destroyed by Sandy; and repair and improve infrastructure to withstand future storms.

A lifelong New Jerseyan, Governor Christie, 51, has a deep affection for and strong commitment to the state in which he has spent his entire life.

Born in Newark and raised in Livingston, Chris has lived in New Jersey his entire life, except to attend college at the University of Delaware. He and his wife, Mary Pat, have been married since 1986 and reside in Mendham, where they are raising their four children, Andrew (born

1993), Sarah (born 1996), Patrick (born 2000), and Bridget (born 2003).

After graduating college in 1984, Chris attended Seton Hall University School of Law. He graduated in 1987 and joined a Cranford law firm, where he was soon named a partner. He was elected a Freeholder in Morris County, and served as Director of the Board in 1997.

Christie was named U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey in 2002. As the chief federal law enforcement officer in New Jersey, earning praise from leaders in both parties and drawing national attention for his efforts in battling political corruption, corporate crime, human trafficking, gangs, terrorism and environmental polluters.