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TOP STORY

## Stockton will no longer do candidate polls

Michelle Brunetti Post

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**C**iting difficulties getting people on the phone, and partisan mistrust of polls, the Stockton Polling Institute said this week it will no longer conduct polls to predict how candidates are likely to fare in elections.

The institute will, however, continue to conduct polls on public opinion about issues important to New Jerseyans, said John Froomjian, executive director of the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy, which runs the institute.

Known as "head-to-head" polls, the institute began doing them in 2012 and correctly predicted winners for years. But since 2019 some inaccurate results created concerns, Froomjian said.

In the 2021 election, the institute's poll said former Assemblyman Vince Mazzeo, D-Atlantic, was leading State Sen. Vince Polistina, R-Atlantic, 48% to 41% in the race for state Senate. But Polistina won in an election that saw a red tide not predicted by any poll.

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In my first job after college got paid to read the New York Times and summarize articles for an early online data base. First reporting job was with The Daily Record in Parsippany. I have also worked in nonprofits, and have been with The Press since 1990.

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