

# Polls differ on Booker's lead



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Update : A Quinnipiac University poll released Tuesday gives Democrat Cory Booker a 17-point lead over Republican Steve Mandes, more money, more name recognition, a strongly Democratic state, and an opponent with staunchly conservative views - most observers had expected a bigger win for the Newark mayor. (Though most politicians would be happy with a 10-point victory.)

The Rutgers poll sees Booker with an even bigger win, though: It said likely voters favor him, 58-36.

"Voters we talked to seem to have moved back in his direction," said David Redlawsk, director of the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll. "The debates presented a stark picture of the differences between the candidates, which appears to have led independents to prefer

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for Booker."

Booker had a 54 percent positive rating, but that was down nine points from Rutgers' early September poll. His unfavorability has grown to 32 percent (from 19 percent), and 34 percent see Booker as mainly concerned with self-promotion.

