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Poll Now Gives Edge to McGovern

New York

Senator George McGovern would edge President Nixon by 51 per cent to 49 per cent if last year's presidential election were held today, according to a nationwide poll conducted for NBC News.

The results of the poll were broadcast on the NBC Nightly News.

The survey, taken by Oliver Quayle and Co., also reported that Mr. Nixon's rating for doing the job of president had slipped 23 points since last October, "the sharpest decline ever recorded in a poll of this kind."

Last October, the Quayle company said, 55 per cent of those polled gave Mr. Nixon a "favorable" rating on his job performance. This month 32 per cent rated him favorable and 68 per cent unfavorable.

The poll also reported that 60 per cent of those disapproved of Mr. Nixon's tapping of White House telephone conventions.

Associated Press