

POLL 133a
Likely voters
September 22-26, 2001

SPLIT HALF 1A AND 1B

1A. First, are you currently registered to vote at the address where you now live?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No / Don't know – [GOTO T1]

1B. In talking to people we find that many are not registered to vote because they are too busy or move around often. Are you currently registered to vote at the address where you now live?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No / Don't know – [GOTO T1]

As you may know, there will be an election for New Jersey Governor and the state legislature this coming November – this is the first topic in our survey.

2. How much interest do you have in the election for Governor -- a lot, some, a little or none at all?

- 1 A lot
- 2 Some
- 3 A little [GOTO T1]
- 4 None [GOTO T1]
- 9 Don't Know [GOTO T1]

3. Do you think you will definitely vote, probably vote, probably NOT vote, or definitely not vote in the election for Governor?

- 1 Definitely will
- 2 Probably will
- 3 Probably will not [GOTO T1]
- 4 Definitely will not [GOTO T1]
- 9 Don't know [GOTO T1]

4. If the election for Governor were held today, for whom would you vote [**PROGRAMMING: ROTATE CHOICES**] Bret Schundler [SHUN – dler], the Republican, Jim McGreevey, the Democrat, or some other candidate for Governor?

- 1 Schundler [GOTO Q6]
- 2 McGreevey [GOTO Q6]
- 3 Other candidate [GOTO Q7]
- 8 Wouldn't vote (VOL) [GOTO Q7]
- 9 Don't know/Undecided (VOL)

IF "UNDECIDED" OR "DON'T KNOW" TO Q4 ASK:

5. At this moment do you lean more towards Schundler or more towards McGreevey?

- 1 Schundler [GOTO Q7]
- 2 McGreevey [GOTO Q7]
- 9 Neither/Undecided. [GOTO Q7]

6. Are you very sure about voting for **(FILL CANDIDATE FROM Q4)**; or might you change your mind before Election Day?

- 1 Very sure
- 2 Might change
- 9 Don't know/Refused

7. And if the election for State Assembly were held today, would you vote for the Republican or Democratic candidates for Assembly in your district?

- 1 Republican
- 2 Democratic
- 3 Split/other [VOL.] _____ [SPECIFY]
- 9 Don't know/Undecided

ROTATE Q8 AND 9

8. Is your opinion of Democrat Jim McGreevey favorable or unfavorable, or don't you really have an opinion of him -- **IF FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE:** Is that very [favorable/unfavorable] or somewhat [favorable/unfavorable]?

- 1 Very favorable
- 2 Somewhat favorable
- 3 Somewhat unfavorable
- 4 Very unfavorable
- 9 No opinion / don't know

9. Is your opinion of Republican Bret Schundler (SHUN – dler) favorable or unfavorable, or don't you really have an opinion of him -- **IF FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE:** Is that very [favorable/unfavorable] or somewhat [favorable/unfavorable]?

- 1 Very favorable
- 2 Somewhat favorable
- 3 Somewhat unfavorable
- 4 Very unfavorable
- 9 No opinion / don't know

10. I'm going to read you a list of candidate traits, and for each one, I'd like you to tell me whether you think it describes Jim McGreevey or Bret Schundler better. First, which candidate [FILL – **RANDOMIZE A-G**] – Bret Schundler or Jim McGreevey -- |

- A Is more intelligent?
- B Has more experience?
- C Is more of an outsider?
- D Has better ideas?
- E Understands the concerns you face in day-to-day life?
- F Is more of a leader?
- G Could better manage in a crisis?

- 1 Bret Schundler
- 2 Jim McGreevey
- 3 Neither / Both (VOL.)
- 9 Don't know

11. I am going to read a list of some of the issues that might come up in this year's election for Governor. As I read each one, please tell me how important that issue is to you personally – extremely important, fairly important, or not that important.
Is **[FILL RANDOMLY]** extremely important, fairly important or not that important of an issue to you personally -- |

[PROGRAMMING: SPLIT HALF G, WITH H & I]

- A Education?
- B The state economy and budget?
- C Property taxes?
- D Suburban sprawl and traffic problems?
- E Automobile insurance rates?
- F Tolls on the Garden State Parkway?
- G **[HALF SAMPLE:]** The environment?
- H **[HALF SAMPLE:]** Gun control?
- I **[HALF SAMPLE:]** Abortion?

- 1 Extremely important
- 2 Fairly important
- 3 Not that important
- 9 Don't know

ROTATE Q12 AND Q13

12. How much do you feel you know about Bret Schundler-- a lot, some, just a little, or nothing at all?

- 1 A lot
- 2 Some
- 3 A little
- 4 Nothing
- 9 Don't know

13. How much do you feel you know about Jim McGreevey -- a lot, some, just a little or nothing at all?

- 1 A lot
- 2 Some
- 3 A little
- 4 Nothing
- 9 Don't know

[READ SLOWLY:]

14. If the state were going to spend more money on education, which do you think should be a higher priority – giving the money to public schools for things like increasing teacher salaries and reducing class sizes, OR giving the money as tax credits for scholarship donations that help send disadvantaged children to private or parochial schools?

- 1 Give money to public schools
- 2 Give money as tax credits
- 3 Neither / don't spend more money (VOL.) **[GOTO Q16]**
- 9 Don't know **[GOTO Q16]**

15. From what you know so far, which candidate for Governor do you think comes closest to your position on education spending – **[PROGRAMMING – ROTATE CHOICES]** Bret Schundler or Jim McGreevey?
- 1 Bret Schundler
 - 2 Jim McGreevey
 - 3 Neither/Both (VOL.)
 - 9 Don't know
16. Do you think abortion should be legal in ALL cases, legal in MOST cases, **NOT** legal in MOST cases, or **NOT** legal in ALL cases?
- 1 Legal in ALL cases
 - 2 Legal in MOST cases
 - 3 NOT legal in MOST cases
 - 4 NOT legal in ALL cases
 - 9 Don't know **[GOTO Q18]**
17. From what you know so far, which candidate for Governor do you think comes closer to your position on abortion – **[PROGRAMMING – ROTATE CHOICES]** Bret Schundler or Jim McGreevey?
- 1 Bret Schundler
 - 2 Jim McGreevey
 - 3 Neither/Both (VOL.)
 - 9 Don't know
18. There has been some discussion lately about removing the tollbooths from the Parkway and making the roadway free to all traveling it. Just your first impression: do you favor or oppose this idea?
- 1 Favor
 - 2 Oppose **[GOTO Q20]**
 - 9 Don't know
19. And would you favor or oppose this idea if removing the tollbooths meant the state would have to spend more than one-hundred-million-dollars a year to make up for the Parkway's revenue loss?
- 1 Favor
 - 2 Oppose
 - 9 Don't know
20. From what you know so far, which candidate for Governor do you think comes closer to your position on Parkway tolls – **[PROGRAMMING – ROTATE CHOICES]** Bret Schundler or Jim McGreevey?
- 1 Bret Schundler
 - 2 Jim McGreevey
 - 3 Neither/Both (VOL.)
 - 9 Don't know

ROTATE Q'S 21 AND 22**ASK Q21 ONLY IF Q12 EQ 1,2 OR 3**

21. Do you think Bret Schundler's views on most issues are too liberal for you, too conservative for you, or just about right?

- 1 Too liberal
- 2 Too conservative
- 3 Just about right
- 9 Don't know/Not sure

ASK Q22 ONLY IF Q13 EQ 1,2 OR 3

22. Do you think Jim McGreevey's views on most issues are too liberal for you, too conservative for you, or just about right?

- 1 Too liberal
- 2 Too conservative
- 3 Just about right
- 9 Don't know/Not sure

23. How closely have you been following the campaign for Governor -- very closely, somewhat closely, or not very closely so far?

- 1 Very closely
- 2 Somewhat closely
- 3 Not very closely
- 9 Don't know

24. In your opinion, how much of a difference will the outcome of the election make in the way the New Jersey government is run over the next few years--a great deal of difference, some, or not very much difference?

- 1 A great deal
- 2 Some
- 3 Not very much
- 4 No difference at all (VOL)
- 5 Depends (VOL)
- 9 Don't know

25. Do you happen to know where people who live in your neighborhood go to vote-- IF "YES", PROBE: Where is that?

- 1 Yes, names location
- 2 Yes, but does not name location
- 3 No
- 9 Don't know

SPLIT HALF Q26A AND Q26B

26A. We know that most people don't vote in all elections. Usually between one-quarter to one-half of those eligible actually come out to vote. Can you tell me how often you vote in local and/or national elections: Always, sometimes, rarely, or never?

- 1 Always
- 2 Sometimes

- 3 Rarely
- 4 Never
- 5 Other (eligibility problems) (VOL.)
- 9 Don't know

26B. Can you tell me how often you vote in local and/or national elections: Always, sometimes, rarely, or never

- 1 Always
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Rarely
- 4 Never
- 5 Other (eligibility problems) (VOL.)
- 9 Don't know

SPLIT HALF JP1A AND JP1B

JP1A. How often do you talk about politics or government with your family or friends: very often, sometimes, rarely or never?

- 1 Very often
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Rarely
- 4 Never
- 9 Don't know

JP1B. How often do you talk about current events or things you have heard about in the news with your family or friends: very often, sometimes, rarely or never?

- 1 Very often
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Rarely
- 4 Never
- 9 Don't know

On another subject:

ROTATE JP2A AND JP2B

JP2A. As you may know, most of the funding for public schools in New Jersey comes from local property taxes. If you had to choose, would you prefer higher taxes and more money for the public schools, or lower taxes and less money for the public schools?

- 1 Higher taxes, more money for schools
- 2 Lower taxes, less money for schools
- 3 Keep as it is now/Neither (VOL.)
- 9 Don't know

JP2B. Given the condition of the national economy, some people are projecting that the New Jersey state government might face budget shortfalls in the next few years. If that were to happen and you had to choose, which would you prefer – raising taxes to keep state services at their current level, or cutting state services to keep taxes at their current level? IF RAISE TAXES: Which tax would you rather have raised – the state income tax, or local property tax?

- 1 Raise taxes – state income tax

- 2 Raise taxes – local property tax
- 3 Cut state services
- 9 Don't know

ASK JP3 ONLY IF NON-LIKELY VOTER (IF NOT ASKED Q16), REST GOTO JP4 OR JP5

JP3. Do you think abortion should be legal in ALL cases, legal in MOST cases, **NOT** legal in MOST cases, or **NOT** legal in ALL cases?

- 1 Legal in ALL cases
- 2 Legal in MOST cases
- 3 NOT legal in MOST cases
- 4 NOT legal in ALL cases
- 9 Don't know

ROTATE JP4 AND JP5

JP4 Have you seen any ads on television for the Democratic candidate for Governor, Jim McGreevey? IF YES, PROBE: About how many times would you estimate you have seen any ads for him?

____ CODE ACTUAL NUMBER 0 = NO; 99 = DON'T KNOW

JP5 Have you seen any ads on television for the Republican candidate for Governor, Bret Schundler? IF YES, PROBE: About how many times would you estimate you have seen any ads for him?

____ CODE ACTUAL NUMBER 0 = NO; 99 = DON'T KNOW

JP6. Ordinarily, do you find that you go looking for the latest news about the campaign for Governor, OR do you typically happen to come across campaign news without looking for it?

- 1 Go looking for campaign news
- 2 Come across campaign news without looking
- 9 Don't know/Refused

JP7. In general, how often do you follow what is happening in government and politics --regularly, sometimes, once in a while, or almost never?

- 1 Regularly
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Once in a while
- 4 Almost Never
- 9 Don't know

JP8. Which of the following three statements best describes you: (READ RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 THROUGH 3)

- 1 I follow LOCAL COMMUNITY news closely most of the time, whether or not something important or interesting is happening
 - 2 I follow LOCAL COMMUNITY news closely ONLY when something important or interesting is happening"
- OR
- 3 I rarely follow LOCAL COMMUNITY news closely.

9 Don't know

JP9. Which of the following three statements best describes you: “ READ RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 THROUGH 3

1 I follow NATIONAL news closely most of the time, whether or not something important or interesting is happening

2 I follow NATIONAL news closely ONLY when something important or interesting is happening

OR

3 I rarely follow NATIONAL news closely.

9 Don't know

JP10. Did you read a newspaper yesterday, or not?

1 Yes

2 No

9 Don't know

JP11. Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted, or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?

1 Most people can be trusted

2 You can't be too careful

9 Don't know

JP12. Would you say that most of the time people try to be helpful, or that they are mostly just looking out for themselves?

1 Try to be helpful

2 Look out for themselves

9 Don't know

Now just a few final questions so we can classify your answers.

D1. In politics today, do you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or something else?

1 Democrat [**GOTO D3**]

2 Republican [**GOTO D3**]

3 Independent

4 Something Else/Other

9 Don't Know/No opinion

(IF #3,4, OR 9 TO D1, ASK)

D2. Do you lean more toward the Democratic Party or more toward the Republican Party?

1 Democratic party

2 Republican party

3 Other party

4 Neither

9 Don't know/no opinion

D3. Regardless of the political party you might favor, do you consider yourself to be liberal, conservative, or somewhere in between?

- 1 Liberal
- 2 Conservative
- 3 Somewhere in between
- 4 Other
- 9 Don't Know/No opinion

D4. Did you receive a high school diploma?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No [GOTO D6]
- 9 Don't Know [GOTO D6]

D5. Did you ever attend college -- IF YES, ASK: Did you graduate?

- 1 Yes, graduated
- 2 Yes, did not graduate [GOTO D6]
- 3 Junior college--graduate [GOTO D6]
- 4 Vocational/technical school [GOTO D6]
- 9 No [GOTO D6]

D5A. Was this from a 4-year college, a junior college two-year program, or a vocational/technical school?

- 1 Four year college
- 2 Junior college/2 year program
- 3 Vocational/technical school
- 9 Other/Don't know

D6. What was your age on your last birthday?

 / / (ENTER AGE: 97=97+, 98=DK, 99 = REFUSED)

D7. Are you of Latino or Hispanic origin, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or some other Spanish background?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No/Don't know

D8. Are you white, black or of Asian origin?

- 1 White
- 2 Black
- 3 Asian
- 4 Other (VOL)
- 9 Not determined/Don't know

D8A. Were you born in the United States, or in another country?

- 1 Born in US
- 2 Born somewhere else
- 9 Don't know/Refused

IF NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE (Q1A OR Q1B NE 1) GOTO D11

D9. Can you recall if you voted in the 2000 election between Al Gore and George W. Bush, or did something prevent you from voting -- IF VOTED: Did you vote for Al Gore, George W. Bush, or someone else?

- 1 Voted for Gore
- 2 Voted for Bush
- 3 Voted for someone else
- 4 Did not vote
- 9 Don't know

D10. Can you recall if you voted in the 1997 election for Governor between Christie Whitman and Jim McGreevey, or did something prevent you from voting -- IF VOTED: Did you vote for Christie Whitman or Jim McGreevey?

- 1 Voted for Whitman
- 2 Voted for McGreevey
- 3 Voted for someone else (VOL.)
- 4 Did not vote
- 9 Don't know

D11. Do you consider yourself to be Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Muslim, some other religion, atheist or agnostic?

- 1 Catholic
- 2 Protestant
- 3 Jewish
- 4 Muslim
- 5 Other
- 6 Atheist/Agnostic [**GOTO D12**]
- 9 Don't Know/Refused [**GOTO D12**]

D11A. How often do you usually attend religious services – at least once a week, 2 or 3 times a month, once a month, or less than once a month?

- 1 At least once a week
- 2 2 or 3 times a month
- 3 Once a month
- 4 Less than once a month
- 5 Never (VOL.)
- 9 Don't know

D12. In what county do you live?

01 Atlantic

08 Gloucester

15 Ocean

02 Bergen	09 Hudson	16 Passaic
03 Burlington	10 Hunterdon	17 Salem
04 Camden	11 Mercer	18 Somerset
05 Cape May	12 Middlesex	19 Sussex
06 Cumberland	13 Monmouth	20 Union
07 Essex	14 Morris	21 Warren

99 Don't know/Refused

D13. Do you have a personal computer or PC in your household?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Don't know

D14. Do you use the Internet either from home or work on at least a weekly basis?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 Yes, from somewhere else [VOL.]
- 9 Don't know

D15. So that we can group all answers, is your total annual family income before taxes: Under 35,000; between \$35,000 to just under \$70,000; between \$70,000 to just under \$100,000; or \$100,000 or more?

- 1 Under \$35,000
- 2 \$35,000 to \$69,999
- 3 \$70,000 to \$100,000
- 4 \$100,000 or more
- 9 Don't know