

POLL 136
February 28 – March 6, 2002

Hello, my name is _____ (first and last name). I'm on the staff of the Eagleton Poll, and I'm taking a public opinion survey of New Jersey adults for Rutgers University. I'd like your views on what New Jersey is like as a place to live and some topics currently in the news. We are not selling anything, not asking for money, and all your answers will be completely confidential.

1. To begin with, for how many years have you lived in New Jersey, or have you lived here all of your life?

- 1 Two or less
- 2 3 - 5
- 3 6 - 10
- 4 11 - 20
- 5 21 or more
- 6 All My Life
- 9 Don't Know

M1. So far, do you approve or disapprove of the way James McGreevey is handling his job as Governor?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 9 Don't know

M2. And do you approve or disapprove of the way McGreevey is handling problems with the state budget?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 9 Don't know

M3. Are you generally optimistic or pessimistic about the next four years with McGreevey as Governor?

- 1 Optimistic
- 2 Pessimistic
- 3 Neither (VOL.)
- 9 Don't know

M4. Do you think McGreevey will do a better job as governor than Christie Whitman did, or a worse job than Whitman, or about the same job as Whitman?

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 Same
- 9 Don't know

M5. Here are some things that McGreevey says he wants to do as governor. Regardless of whom you supported in last year's election, please tell me whether you think he will or will NOT be able to do them. Will McGreevey be able to ... **[FILL – RANDOMIZE]**... or not -- |

A AVOID raising state income and sales taxes?

- B Cut waste and mismanagement in government?
- C Improve public education in New Jersey?
- D Improve roads and highways, and ease traffic congestion?
- E Protect open spaces?
- F Ease property tax burdens?

- 1 Will be able to
- 2 Will NOT be able to
- 9 Don't know

M6. So far, do you generally approve or disapprove of the people McGreevey has nominated or appointed to top positions in state government?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 9 Don't know

GB1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as President?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 9 Don't know

GB2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bush is handling the war on terrorism?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 9 Don't know

E1. How would you generally describe economic conditions in New Jersey right now? Would you say that economically New Jersey is in good times or bad times right now?

- 1 Good times
- 2 Bad times
- 9 Don't know

E2. During the next year, do you think economic conditions in New Jersey will get better, get worse, or stay about the same?

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 About the same
- 9 Don't know

E3. Thinking of your family's financial situation over the last year, have things gotten better, worse, or stayed about the same?

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 About the same
- 9 Don't know

E4. And looking ahead, do you think that a year from now you and your family will be better off financially, worse off, or about the same as now?

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 About the same
- 9 Don't know

E5. Overall, how satisfied are you with your current standard of living – very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

- 1 Very satisfied
- 2 Somewhat satisfied
- 3 Somewhat dissatisfied
- 4 Very dissatisfied
- 9 Don't know

E6. Which of the following three statements best describes you and your family's current financial situation: (1.) that you often don't have enough money to make ends meet, (2.) that you're getting along O.K. these days, or (3.) that you're financially comfortable?

- 1 Don't have enough money
- 2 Getting along
- 3 Financially comfortable
- 4 Other (VOL)
- 9 Don't Know

E7. Are you currently employed either full or part-time?

- 1 Yes, employed
- 2 No, not employed [**GOTO QE9**]
- 9 Don't know [**GOTO QE9**]

[IF EMPLOYED:]

E8. How concerned are you that you might become UNEMPLOYED within the next year – very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not too concerned?

- 1 Very concerned
- 2 Somewhat concerned
- 3 Not too concerned
- 4 Not at all concerned [VOL.]
- 9 Don't know

E9. In the past 12 months, has any adult in your household been out of work and actively looking for a job-- IF YES, PROBE: Did that person find a job, or not?

- 1 No one unemployed
- 2 Yes--unemployed and found job
- 3 Yes--unemployed but did not find job
- 9 Don't know

RT1. Now I'm going to ask you about some political figures in New Jersey. For each person, please tell me if your opinion is favorable, unfavorable, or if you don't really have an opinion of them. Is your opinion of ...[**FILL – RANDOMIZE**] favorable or unfavorable, or don't you really have an opinion of [him/her] -- |

- A James McGreevey?
- B Bob Torricelli?
- C Jon Corzine?
- D [SPLIT HALF SAMPLE] Diane Allen?
- E [SPLIT HALF SAMPLE] Douglas Forrester?
- F [SPLIT HALF SAMPLE] Jim Treffinger?
- G [SPLIT HALF SAMPLE] Guy Gregg
- H [SPLIT HALF SAMPLE] John Matheussen?

- 1 Favorable
- 2 Unfavorable
- 9 Don't know / No opinion

[ROTATE RT2 AND RT3]

RT2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bob Torricelli is handling his job as Senator?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 9 Don't know

RT3. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Jon Corzine is handling his job as Senator?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 9 Don't know

RT4. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the New Jersey state legislature is doing?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 9 Don't know

RT5. Bob Torricelli will be up for RE-election as United States Senator from New Jersey this November. Would you like to see Bob Torricelli re-elected, or would you rather see someone else elected?

- 1 Torricelli reelected
- 2 Someone else elected
- 9 Don't know

RT6. How much have you heard or read about federal investigations into Torricelli's 1996 campaign fundraising – a lot, some, not much, or nothing at all?

- 1 A lot
- 2 Some
- 3 Not much **[GOTO QRT9]**
- 4 Nothing at all **[GOTO QRT9]**
- 9 Don't know **[GOTO QRT9]**

RT7. As you may know, federal investigators recently concluded their investigation of Torricelli's fundraising and decided NOT to bring any charges against him. Which of the following statements best describes YOUR view of Torricelli's 1996 fundraising activities: Torricelli did something illegal, OR he did something unethical but nothing illegal, OR he did not do anything seriously wrong?

- 1 Something illegal
- 2 Something unethical, but not illegal
- 3 Did not do anything seriously wrong
- 9 Don't know

RT8. Has the investigation and its conclusion had any effect on your opinion of Torricelli, or not? IF YES: Has it made your opinion of him more favorable, or less favorable?

- 1 Yes, more favorable [**GOTO QB1**]
- 2 Yes, less favorable [**GOTO QB1**]
- 3 No impact on opinion [**GOTO QB1**]
- 9 Don't know [**GOTO QB1**]

RT9. [**AMONG THOSE WHO HAVE NOT HEARD/READ MUCH:**] As you may know, federal investigators recently concluded an investigation of Torricelli's 1996 fundraising and decided NOT to bring any charges against him. Does the investigation and its conclusion have any impact on your opinion of Torricelli, or not? Does it make your opinion of him more favorable, or less favorable?

- 1 Yes, more favorable
- 2 Yes, less favorable
- 3 No impact on opinion
- 9 Don't know

B1. On another subject, how serious do you think New Jersey's budget problems are – very serious, somewhat serious, not very serious, or not at all serious?

- 1 Very serious
- 2 Somewhat serious
- 3 Not very serious
- 4 Not at all serious
- 9 Don't know

[SPLIT HALF B2 AND B3]

B2. [SPLIT HALF SAMPLE] The state government faced a revenue shortfall this year of nearly THREE BILLION dollars, and projections are that next year's shortfall will be SIX BILLION dollars. I am going to read you a list of possible ways to help balance next year's budget, for each one, please tell me whether you would approve or disapprove of doing that. Would you approve or disapprove of ...[**FILL – RANDOMIZE**] as a way to balance the budget -- |

- A Increasing the state income tax?
- B Increasing the state tax on gasoline?
- C Decreasing or delaying state property tax REBATES to homeowners?
- D Laying off personnel in state government offices?
- E Reducing state services?
- F Increasing corporate or business taxes?
- G Reducing waste and bureaucracy in state government?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 9 Don't know

B3. [SPLIT HALF SAMPLE] The state government faced a revenue shortfall this year of nearly THREE BILLION dollars, and projections are that next year's shortfall will be SIX BILLION dollars. I am going to read you a list of possible ways to help balance next year's budget, for each one, please tell me whether you think it would be very helpful, somewhat helpful, or not very helpful. Do you think ...[FILL – RANDOMIZE] would be very helpful, somewhat helpful, or not very helpful in balancing the budget -- |

- A Increasing the state income tax?
- B Increasing the state tax on gasoline?
- C Decreasing or delaying state property tax REBATES to homeowners?
- D Laying off personnel in state government offices?
- E Reducing state services?
- F Increasing corporate or business taxes?
- G Reducing waste and bureaucracy in state government?

- 1 Very helpful
- 2 Somewhat helpful
- 3 Not very helpful
- 4 Not helpful at all (VOL.)
- 9 Don't know

B4. The state constitution requires that New Jersey have a balanced budget each year. To balance the state budget next year, if 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?

- 1 Raise taxes
- 2 Cut state services
- 3 Both / some of each (VOL.)
- 9 Don't know

B5. In general, which do you think is more responsible for New Jersey's current budget problems -- the slowdown in the state's economy, which resulted in less tax revenue for the state, OR too much government spending during the previous administration when the state had a budget surplus?

- 1 Economic slowdown
- 2 Too much spending during previous administration
- 3 Both--refuses to choose (VOL.)
- 4 Other (VOL.)
- 9 Don't know

CZ1A. Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. For each, please tell me which one best describes how you feel: [ROTATE OPTIONS] Politics and government seems so complicated that a person like me can't really understand what's going on OR I can usually understand what's going on in politics and government?

CZ1B. Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. For each, please tell me which one best describes how you feel: [ROTATE OPTIONS] Most people who are my age have similar values OR People my age hold a variety of different values?

- T1. It has been almost six months since the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon – as of TODAY, do you feel that your life has returned to normal, is BEGINNING to return to normal, still has not returned to normal, or will NEVER return to normal?
- 1 Returned to normal
 - 2 Beginning to return to normal
 - 3 Still not returned to normal
 - 4 Will NEVER return to normal
 - 9 Don't know
- T2. How worried are you that you or a close relative or friend might be the victim of a further terrorist attack in this country— a great deal, somewhat, not too much, or not at all?
- 1 Great deal
 - 2 Somewhat worried
 - 3 Not too worried
 - 4 Not at all worried
 - 9 Don't know
- T3. I'd like to read you a list of emotions some people had following the attacks. For each one, please tell me whether that describes how you have been feeling RECENTLY as a result of the attacks. First, have you RECENTLY been feeling [FILL – RANDOMIZE] AS A RESULT OF THE ATTACKS, or not -- |
- A Patriotic?
 - B Scared?
 - C Angry?
 - D Religious?
 - E Nervous?
- 1 Yes
 - 2 No
 - 9 Don't know
- T4. Some people have reported that they have changed their behaviors, now that the threat of terrorism has become so real. Others have NOT changed what they do very much. What about you -- are you less likely to travel on airplanes now, or not?
- 1 Yes, less likely
 - 2 No, NOT less likely
 - 9 Don't know
- T5. Are you less likely to travel overseas now, or not?
- 1 Yes, less likely
 - 2 No, NOT less likely
 - 9 Don't know
- T6. Did you place an American flag on your car, or hang a flag on your home after the terrorist attacks, or not? IF YES, ASK: Do you still have that flag up, or have you taken it down?
- 1 Yes, still up
 - 2 Yes, but taken down
 - 3 No, did not put flag up

- 4 Already had flag up (VOL.)
- 9 Don't know

T7. Since September 11th have you visited the site of the former World Trade Center?

- 1 Yes, visited
- 2 No, not visited
- 9 Don't know

JP1. On another subject, how much have you heard or read about the current water shortages, or drought, in New Jersey – a lot, some, not much, or nothing at all?

- 1 A lot
- 2 Some
- 3 Not much [GOTO JP2]
- 4 Nothing at all [GOTO JP2]
- 9 Don't know [GOTO JP2]

JP1A. Has your household been doing anything in the past month or so to try to conserve water?

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

JP2. As you may know, Governor McGreevey is considering declaring a drought emergency in New Jersey. I am going to read you a list of things the state government currently recommends for conserving water. For each one, please tell me whether you would or would NOT be willing to do that if the state enters a drought emergency. Would you be willing to ...[FILL – RANDOMIZE] to conserve water -- |

- A [SPLIT HALF] Repair leaky pipes, faucets, and toilets?
- B [SPLIT HALF] Run your dishwasher only when completely full?
- C [SPLIT HALF] Take shorter or fewer showers?
- D [SPLIT HALF] Flush the toilet less often?
- E [SPLIT HALF] Run your washing machine only when completely full?
- F [SPLIT HALF] Turn off water faucets when shaving or brushing your teeth?
- G [SPLIT HALF] Flush the toilet less often?
- H [SPLIT HALF] Buy and install water-conserving showerheads and faucets?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 Already do / have done that [VOL.]
- 4 Not applicable / don't have dishwasher, washing machine [VOL.]
- 9 Don't know

JP3. About how many hours of television would you say you watch on an average day?

- 1 One
- 2 Two
- 3 Three
- 4 Four
- 5 Five
- 6 Six
- 7 Seven or more

- 8 NONE
- 9 Don't know

JP4. Just your best guess, how many books would you say you have read over the past year?

- ___ ___ CODE ACTUAL NUMBER
- 98 None
 - 99 Don't know

JP5. Have you ever had a psychic reading done, or had your fortune told? IF YES: Was that in person, or over the phone?

- 1 Yes, in person
- 2 Yes, on phone
- 3 No, never had
- 9 Don't know

JP6. Have you been summoned for jury duty in the past two years?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No [**GOTO QJP8**]
- 9 Don't know [**GOTO QJP8**]

JP7. [IF CALLED FOR JURY DUTY] Did you actually report for duty or did you not go for some reason?

- 1 Reported
- 2 Did not go
- 9 Don't know

JP8. In New Jersey, when the Governor leaves office before the end of his or her term, the President of the State Senate becomes acting Governor. Some other state governments include an elected Lieutenant Governor, who takes over in case of their Governor's early departure or absence. Do you think New Jersey should have a Lieutenant Governor to take over in the Governor's absence, or do you think the system works fine the way it is?

- 1 Should have Lieutenant Gov
- 2 System works fine
- 9 Don't know

JP9. Because of this constitutional system, New Jersey had five different governors during a one-week period this January. Did you hear or read anything about this?

- 1 Yes [**GOTO QJP11**]
- 2 No
- 9 Don't know

JP10. [IF HEARD OF TRANSITION ISSUES] Does knowing that New Jersey had five different governors in one week affect your opinion of whether the state should have an elected lieutenant governor. IF YES: Are you more likely to think the state should have a lieutenant governor, or more likely to think the system works fine the way it is?

- 1 Yes, more likely to want lieutenant governor
- 2 Yes, more likely to think system works fine

- 3 No, does NOT affect opinion
- 9 Don't know

JP11. Have you heard or read anything about the New Jersey Nets basketball team and the Devils hockey team moving from the Meadowlands to a new stadium that would be built in Newark?

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

JP12. Just your first reaction, on the whole do you think this is a good idea, a bad idea, or don't you care one way or the other?

- 1 Good idea
- 2 Bad idea
- 3 Don't care
- 9 Don't know

CZ2A. Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. For each, please tell me which one best describes how you feel: **[ROTATE OPTIONS]** Politics and government operate by rules I don't really understand OR Politics and government operate by rules that I find clear and easy to understand?

CZ2B. Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. For each, please tell me which one best describes how you feel: **[ROTATE OPTIONS]** My generation is unique and distinct from other generations OR There is nothing particularly unique or distinct about my generation?

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

D1. Are you currently registered to vote at the address where you now live?

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

D2. Can you recall if you voted in the 2001 gubernatorial election between James McGreevey and Bret Schundler. IF YES: Did you vote for McGreevey, Schundler, or someone else?

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

D3. Which of the following BEST describes the area where you now live: A large city; a suburb near a large city; a small city or town; OR a rural area?

- 1 A large city
- 2 A suburb near a large city
- 3 A small city or town
- 4 A rural area
- 9 Other/don't know/refused

D4. In politics today, do you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or something else?

- 1 Democrat [**GOTO D5**]
- 2 Republican [**GOTO D5**]
- 3 Independent
- 4 Something Else/Other
- 9 Don't Know/No opinion

(IF #3,4, OR 9 TO D4, ASK)

D4A. Do you lean more toward the Democratic Party or more toward the Republican Party?

D5. Regardless of the political party you might favor, do you consider yourself to be a liberal, conservative, or somewhere in between?

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

D6. Did you receive a high school diploma?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No [**GOTO D9**]
- 9 Don't Know [**GOTO D9**]

D7. Did you ever attend college. IF YES, ASK: Did you graduate?

- 1 Yes, graduated
- 2 Yes, did not graduate [**GOTO D9**]
- 3 Junior college--graduate [**GOTO D9**]
- 4 Vocational/technical school [**GOTO D9**]
- 9 No [**GOTO D9**]

D8. Was this from a 4-year college, a junior college two-year program, or a vocational/technical school?

- 1 4-year college
- 2 Junior college/2-year program
- 3 Vocational/technical school
- 9 Other/Don't know

D9. Are you married, living as married, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

- 1 Married
- 2 Living as married
- 3 Widowed
- 4 Divorced
- 5 Separated
- 6 Never married
- 9 Don't know

D10. What was your age on your last birthday?

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

D11. Are you a member of a union?

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

D12. Are you of Latino or Hispanic origin, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or some other Spanish background?

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

D13. Are you white, black or of Asian origin?

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

D14. In what county do you live?

D15. Do you ever watch the local news on television--most often at 6:00 or 11:00. **[IF YES ASK:]** Do you watch mostly every day, two to three times a week, about once a week, or less than that?

D16. Is the station you most often watch for local news located in New York or Philadelphia?

- 1 New York
- 2 Philadelphia
- 9 Don't know

D17. 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

D18. Not counting cellular phones, how many DIFFERENT telephone NUMBERS for incoming calls reach this household--this does NOT include those lines that are ONLY used for fax machines and computers?

