

# The Star-Ledger / **Eagleton-Rutgers Poll**

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**Nov. 1-4, 2005 (#157)**

Survey of New Jersey Residents, 18+ (**n = 600 Likely Voters**)

Final: November 1, 2005

## **Introduction**

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 to ask a few questions of the **YOUNGEST MALE** age 18 or older, who is now at home. (**IF NO MALE AT HOME NOW**: Then, may I speak with the **OLDEST FEMALE** age 18 or older who is now at home?)

**WHEN RESPONDENT ON PHONE**: I'd like your views on what New Jersey is like as a place to live and on some topics currently in the news.

**IF NECESSARY**: We are not selling anything, not asking for money, and all your answers will be completely confidential.

**IF RESPONDENT DECLINES TO PARTICIPATE, POSSIBLE PROBES**:--Your participation is very important because only 800 people have been randomly selected for this survey and your views will represent many people throughout the state.

**IF "DON'T KNOW ENOUGH"**: -- There are no right or wrong answers. We are only interested in your opinions. They are just as important as anybody else's.

**IF NOT INTERESTED, DON'T WANT TO**:-- Please help me; we could really use your cooperation and we are interested in what you think.

A. Gender (BY OBSERVATION)

- 1 Male
- 2 Female

## Registration/Voting

### Registration

RL1. Are you currently registered to vote at the address where you now live?

- |   |                          |                             |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Yes                      | <b>GO TO RL2</b>            |
| 2 | No                       | <b>SKIP TO P1, Party ID</b> |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't Know/Refused | <b>SKIP TO P1, Party ID</b> |

### Likelihood to Vote – General Election

RL2. As you may know, there will be an election for governor of New Jersey this fall, November of 2005. How much interest do you have in the upcoming gubernatorial election – a lot, some, a little, or none at all (T)?

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | A lot                      |
| 2 | Some                       |
| 3 | A little                   |
| 4 | None at all                |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't know / Refused |

RL2a. Have you already voted in the upcoming gubernatorial election by mailing an absentee ballot, or not?

- |   |                            |                  |
|---|----------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Yes, have voted            | <b>GOTO RL2b</b> |
| 2 | No, have not voted         | <b>GOTO RL3</b>  |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't know / Refused | <b>GOTO RL3</b>  |

RL2b. For whom did you vote? Was it (ROTATE) Jon Corzine, the Democrat, Doug Forrester, the Republican, or some other candidate for Governor?

- |   |                           |                 |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Corzine                   | <b>GOTO PF1</b> |
| 2 | Forrester                 | <b>GOTO PF1</b> |
| 3 | Other candidate (SPECIFY) | <b>GOTO PF1</b> |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't know/Refused  | <b>GOTO PF1</b> |

RL3. Do you think you will definitely vote, probably vote, probably NOT vote, or definitely not vote in the election for Governor (T from 2001)?

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | Definitely will            |
| 2 | Probably will              |
| 3 | Probably will not          |
| 4 | Definitely will not        |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't know / Refused |

## Gubernatorial General

### Corzine-Forrester

G1. If the election for governor were held today, for whom would you vote (ROTATE) Jon Corzine, the Democrat, Doug Forrester, the Republican, or some other candidate for Governor (T)?

- |   |                            |                           |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | Corzine                    | <b>GOTO Q.G2</b>          |
| 2 | Forrester                  | <b>GOTO Q.G2</b>          |
| 3 | Other candidate, (SPECIFY) | <b>GOTO G1a</b>           |
| 7 | (VOL) Wouldn't vote        | <b>GO TO P1, Party ID</b> |
| 8 | (VOL) Don't know/Undecided | <b>GOTO Q.G1a</b>         |
| 9 | (VOL) Refused              | <b>GOTO Q.G1a</b>         |

G1a. At this moment do you lean more towards (ROTATE) Corzine or more towards Forrester (T)?

- |   |                          |                                                                             |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Corzine                  | <b>GOTO Q.G2</b>                                                            |
| 2 | Forrester                | <b>GOTO Q.G2</b>                                                            |
| 8 | (VOL) NEITHER/UNDECIDED  | <b>IF RL2=1 AND RL3&lt;3, GO TO PF1/PF2; ALL OTHERS GO TO P1, Party ID)</b> |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't know/Refused | <b>IF RL2=1 AND RL3&lt;3, GO TO PF1/PF2; ALL OTHERS GO TO P1, Party ID)</b> |

G2. Are you very sure about voting for [FILL NAME – Q.G1/Q.G1a]; or might you change your mind before Election Day (T)?

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | Very sure                |
| 2 | Might change             |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't know/Refused |

## Political Figures

**[ASK THE FOLLOWING IF RL2=1 AND RL3<3; ALL OTHERS SKIP TO P1, Party ID]**

Please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the following people---| If you haven't heard of them or don't have an opinion of them, just tell me and we'll move on (T).

**[ROTATE Q.PF1-PF2]**

PF1. Jon Corzine

- 1 Favorable
- 2 Unfavorable
- 3 Haven't heard of
- 4 No opinion
- 9 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused

PF2. Doug Forrester

- 1 Favorable
- 2 Unfavorable
- 3 Haven't heard of
- 4 No opinion
- 9 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused

## Issues

MP1. Now I'm going to read to you a list of issues that the next Governor of New Jersey may address. Which one of the following issues should be the top priority for the next Governor to address? (T)

**(READ AND ROTATE)**

- 1 Dealing with the state's budget crisis
- 2 Improving the quality of education
- 3 Protecting the state from terrorist attacks
- 4 Reducing property taxes
- 5 Increasing access to quality healthcare
- 6 Eliminating corruption among state elected officials
- 7 State funding for stem cell research
- 8 (VOL) None of the above
- 9 (VOL) Other (specify)
- 10 (VOL) Don't know/Refused

**[ASK ONLY IF MP1=7: STATE FUNDING FOR STEM CELL RESEARCH]**

MP2. In thinking about that same list of issues, what would you say is the SECOND HIGHEST priority for the next Governor to address?

**(READ AND ROTATE)**

- 1 Dealing with the state's budget crisis
- 2 Improving the quality of education
- 3 Protecting the state from terrorist attacks
- 4 Reducing property taxes
- 5 Increasing access to quality healthcare
- 6 Eliminating corruption among state elected officials
- 7 (VOL) None of the above
- 8 (VOL) Other (specify)
- 9 (VOL) Don't know/Refused

**(CATI: ROTATE Q.CA1A AND Q.CA1B)**

CA1A. Regardless of which candidate for governor you support, which one of the candidates, (ROTATE AND READ OPTIONS #1-2), do you think would do the best job of reducing property taxes [IF SOME OTHER CANDIDATE, ASK:] If you had to choose between (READ OPTIONS #1-2)...(T)?

**ANSWER CHOICES:**

- 1 Jon Corzine
- 2 Doug Forrester
- 3 (VOL) None of the above
- 4 (VOL) All the same / equal
- 9 (VOL) Don't know / Refused

CA1B. Regardless of which candidate for governor you support, which one of the candidates, (ROTATE AND READ OPTIONS #1-2), do you think would do the best job of eliminating corruption among state elected officials [IF SOME OTHER CANDIDATE, ASK:] If you had to choose between (READ OPTIONS #1-2)...(T)?

**ANSWER CHOICES:**

- 1 Jon Corzine
- 2 Doug Forrester
- 3 (VOL) None of the above
- 4 (VOL) All the same / equal
- 9 (VOL) Don't know / Refused

**[RANDOMLY ROTATE MP3 AND MP4]**

MP3. If Doug Forrester is elected governor, do you expect your property taxes four years from now to be higher, lower, or to stay the same as they are now?

- 1 Higher
- 2 Lower
- 3 Stay the same
- 9 (VOL) Don't know / Refused

MP4. If Jon Corzine is elected governor, do you expect your property taxes four years from now to be higher, lower, or to stay the same as they are now?

- 4 Higher
- 5 Lower
- 6 Stay the same
- 9 Don't know / Refused (VOL)

**Campaign**

**[RANDOMLY ROTATE C1 AND C2]**

C1. In your view, have Doug Forrester's campaign ads been fair or unfair or haven't you seen any of his ads?

- 1 Fair
- 2 Unfair
- 3 Haven't seen ads
- 9 (VOL) Don't know/Refused

C2. In your view, have Jon Corzine's campaign ads been fair or unfair or haven't you seen any of his ads?

- 1 Fair
- 2 Unfair
- 3 Haven't seen ads
- 9 (VOL) Don't know/Refused

**Partisanship**

P1. In politics today, do you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or something else (T)?

- 1 Democrat
- 2 Republican
- 3 Independent
- 4 Something Else / Other
- 9 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused

### Demographics

D1. 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 (VOL) Other
- 9 (VOL) Don't know/Refused

**[ASK THE FOLLOWING THREE QUESTIONS – RL3a, RL4 AND RL5 – ONLY IF RL2=1 AND RL3<3; ALL OTHERS SKIP TO D2, LAST GRADE IN SCHOOL COMPLETED]**

RL3a. 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 (VOL) Don't know / Refused

RL4. Did you vote in the 2001 gubernatorial election?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 (VOL) Not eligible to vote in 2001 due to age or living outside of New Jersey
- 9 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused

RL5. Did you vote in the 2004 presidential election?

- 1 Yes

- 2 No
- 8 (VOL) Not eligible to vote in 2004 due to age
- 9 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused

D2. What was the last grade in school you completed?

- 1 8TH GRADE OR LESS
- 2 HIGH SCHOOL INCOMPLETE (GRADES 9, 10 AND 11)
- 3 HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETE (GRADE 12)
- 4 VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL SCHOOL
- 5 SOME COLLEGE
- 6 JUNIOR COLLEGE GRADUATE (2 YEAR, ASSOCIATES DEGREE)
- 7 4 YEAR COLLEGE GRADUATE (BACHELOR'S DEGREE)
- 8 GRADUATE WORK (MASTERS, LAW/MEDICAL SCHOOL, ETC.)
- 9 (VOL) Don't know/Refused

D3. What was your age on your last birthday?

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

D3a. [IF DK/REFUSED IN D3, ASK:] Is it between...?

- 1 18 - 20
- 2 21 - 24
- 3 25 - 29
- 4 THIRTIES (30 - 39)
- 5 FORTIES (40 - 49)
- 6 FIFTIES (50 - 59)
- 7 60 - 64
- 8 65 OR OVER
- 9 (VOL) Don't know/Refused

D4. Are you of Latino or Hispanic origin, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or some other Spanish background?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 (VOL) Don't know/Refused

D5. Are you white, black or of Asian origin?

- 1 White
- 2 Black



- 3 Asian
- 4 (VOL) Hispanic / Latino
- 5 (VOL) OTHER, SPECIFY: \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 (VOL) Don't know/Refused

D6. How many DIFFERENT telephone numbers for incoming calls reach this household? This does not include cell phones, or lines used ONLY for fax machines and computers. And not extensions either, just different numbers that I could have dialed and reached you on. [IF NECESSARY: We need to know how hard or easy it is to reach people.]

- 1 One
- 2 Two
- 3 Three
- 4 Four or more
- 9 (VOL) Don't know/Refused

D7. Including yourself, how many adults age 18 or over live in your household?

- 1 One
- 2 Two
- 3 Three
- 4 Four
- 5 Five
- 6 Six
- 7 Seven
- 8 Eight or more
- 9 (VOL) Don't know/Refused

D8. 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 \$99,999
- 4 \$100,000 or more
- 9 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused

D9. 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 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused		

D10. Thanks. You've been very helpful. The results of the poll will be released in the Newark Star-Ledger. Sometimes we need to recontact people to verify that this interview took place, or someone writing up the results may want to know more about how you feel. Would it be okay for us to recontact you if necessary? [IF YES, ASK: Could I please have just your first name?]

- 1 YES -----> RECORD NAME: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 NO

D11. And would you like to participate in other polls that we may be conducting using the Internet? [IF Yes, ASK, May I have your email address?]

- 1 Yes >>>> Record email address: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 No/No email or internet access

**New Jersey Library Association questions**

L1. We would like to finish the survey by asking you a few questions about public libraries.

Thinking back over the past 12 months, have you had occasion to go to a public library?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No **GO TO Q. L4**
- 9 Don't know **GO TO Q. L4**

L2. [IF "YES" TO Q. L1, ASK:]  
 How many times during the past 12 months? (CODE NUMBER RANGE 1-99 : 98=98 or more, 99=DK/REF)

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

L3. What are all the reasons or purposes why you have gone to a public library in the past 12 months for yourself? Anything else? **[MULTI-PUNCH--->PROBE TO NEGATIVE]**  
**[DO NOT READ LIST]**

- 1 View exhibits/displays
- 2 Read in the library (unspecific)
- 3 Read magazines or periodicals
- 4 Borrow books
- 5 Borrow cassettes, CDs, movies, DVDs
- 6 Children's activities/take kids
- 7 Use the copy/xerox machine/computer printers
- 8 Getting information/using reference section/research
- 9 Relaxation/social activities
- 10 Attending programs/special events
- 11 Study
- 12 Use computers / the Internet at the library
- 13 Using the library's catalog, webpage, databases
- 14 Computer training at the library
- 15 Other (SPECIFY) \_\_\_\_\_
- 16 Don't know

L4. And, in the past 12 months, have you used a public library's resources through the Internet without actually going to the library?

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

*Thank you very much for your help.*