

Rutgers- Eagleton Poll

---

OCT. 29-31, 2006 (#161)  
Survey of New Jersey Residents, 18+ (n = 800 All Adults/15 minutes)

A. Gender (BY OBSERVATION)

- 1 Male
- 2 Female

**[ROTATE QPF1-PF2]**

PF1. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Robert Menendez (pronounced Meh-nehn-dehz) If you haven't heard of him or don't have an opinion of him, just tell me and we'll move on.

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

PF2. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Tom Kean Jr (pronounced Kane) If you haven't heard of him or don't have an opinion of him, just tell me and we'll move on.

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

RL1. Are you currently registered to vote at the address where you now live or not?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No **(GOTO Q B1 – Bush job approval)**
- 9 Don't Know/Refused **(DO NOT READ) (GOTO Q B1 – Bush job approval)**

RL2. As you may know, there will be an election for the United States Senate from New Jersey in November How much interest do you have in this election – a lot, some, a little, or none at all (T)?

- 1 A lot
- 2 Some
- 3 A little

- 4 None at all
- 9 Don't know / Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

RL2b. Have you already voted in the upcoming Senate election by mailing an absentee ballot, or not?

- 1 Yes, have voted **(GOTO RL2c)**
- 2 No, have not voted **(GOTO RL3)**
- 9 Don't know / Refused **(DO NOT READ) (GOTO RL3)**

RL2c. For whom did you vote Was it **(ROTATE)** Robert Menendez, the Democrat, Tom Kean, Jr, the Republican, or some other candidate for Senate?

- 1 Menendez **(GOTO S11)**
- 2 Kean, Jr. **(GOTO S11)**
- 3 Other candidate (SPECIFY) **(GOTO S11)**
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ) (GOTO S11)**

RL3. Do you think you will definitely vote, probably vote, probably NOT vote, or definitely NOT vote in the election for United States senator?

- 1 Definitely will
- 2 Probably will
- 3 Probably will not
- 4 Definitely will not
- 9 Don't know / Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

S1. If the election for the U.S. Senate were held today, for whom would you vote **(ROTATE)**

Robert Menendez (pronounced Meh-nehn-dehz), the Democrat, Tom Kean Jr (pronounced Kane), the Republican, or some other candidate for Senate?

- 1 Menendez **(GOTO Q S2)**
- 2 Kean Jr **(GOTO QS2)**
- 3 Other candidate, (SPECIFY) **(GOTO QS1a)**
- 7 Wouldn't vote **(DO NOT READ) (GO TO QS11)**
- 8 Don't know/Undecided **(DO NOT READ) (GOTO QS1a)**
- 9 Refused **(DO NOT READ) (GOTO QS1a)**

S1a. At this moment do you lean more towards **(ROTATE)** Menendez or more towards Kean Jr?

- 1 Menendez
- 2 Kean Jr
- 8 NEITHER/UNDECIDED **(DO NOT READ) (GO TO QS11)**
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ) (GO TO QS11)**

S2. Are you very sure about voting for [FILL NAME – QS1/QS1a]; or might you change your mind before Election Day(T)?

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

**(DO NOT READ)**

S11. What is the most important issue to you personally in determining whom to vote for? **[DO NOT READ LIST ACCEPT ONLY ONE ANSWER – PROBE FOR MOST IMPORTANT]**

- 1 The economy (general)/Unemployment/jobs/Stock market
- 2 War in Iraq
- 3 Gun control
- 4 Corporate responsibility/Enron/Tyco/corporate scandals/greed
- 5 Taxes and tax reform
- 6 Property taxes
- 7 Social security/retirement
- 8 Morals/ethics/personal integrity
- 9 Defense/War on terrorism/National security/homeland security
- 10 Health care
- 11 Environment
- 12 Education
- 13 Abortion/choice
- 14 Crime
- 97 No Issue/party
- 98 Other, specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 Don't know/Refused/Nothing

**[ROTATE G3 WITH G4]**

G3. Does Robert Menendez now hold or has he ever held the position of United States Senator?

- 1 Yes, he now holds or has held this position
- 2 No
- 9 Don't know/Refused

**(DO NOT READ)**

G4. Does Robert Menendez now hold or has he ever held the position of United States Senator?

- 1 Yes, he now holds or has held this position
- 2 No
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

**[CATI: ROTATE CA1B-CA1D]**

CA1B. Just relying on your sense of the personal qualities of the candidates, and not their party labels, which one of the candidates (ROTATE AND READ OPTIONS #1-2), would you prefer to have over for dinner [IF SOME OTHER CANDIDATE, ASK:] If you had to choose between (READ OPTIONS #1-2)?

**ANSWER CHOICES:**

- 1 Robert Menendez
- 2 Tom Kean, Jr.
- 3 Neither **(DO NOT READ)**
- 4 Both **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Don't know / Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

CA1C. Just relying on your sense of the personal qualities of the candidates, and not their party labels, which one of the candidates (ROTATE AND READ OPTIONS #1-2), would you prefer to coach your child, or a child you know, in sports [IF SOME OTHER CANDIDATE, ASK:] If you had to choose between (READ OPTIONS #1-2)?

**ANSWER CHOICES:**

- 1 Robert Menendez
- 2 Tom Kean, Jr.
- 3 Neither **(DO NOT READ)**
- 4 Both **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Don't know / Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

CA1D. Just relying on your sense of the personal qualities of the candidates, and not their party labels, which one of the candidates (ROTATE AND READ OPTIONS #1-2), would you prefer to manage your family finances [IF SOME OTHER CANDIDATE, ASK:] If you had to choose between (READ OPTIONS #1-2)?

**ANSWER CHOICES:**

- 1 Robert Menendez
- 2 Tom Kean, Jr.
- 3 Neither **(DO NOT READ)**
- 4 Both **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Don't know / Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

**[ROTATE S6 WITH S7]**

S6. How closely do you associate Republican Tom Kean, Jr with the policies and actions of the administration of President George W Bush?

- 1 Very closely
- 2 Somewhat closely
- 3 Not closely at all
- 9 Don't Know / Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

S7. How closely do you associate Democrat Robert Menendez with the policies and actions of the administration of Governor Jon Corzine?

- 1 Very closely
- 2 Somewhat closely
- 3 Not closely at all
- 9 Don't Know / Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

S8A. Regardless of how you plan to vote in the Senate election, please just tell me whether you think the statement “is honest and trustworthy” applies more to **(RANDOMIZE)** Tom Kean Jr or Robert Menendez.

- 1 Kean
- 2 Menendez
- 3 Both/Same/Neither **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Don't know **(DO NOT READ)**

S8B. Regardless of how you plan to vote in the Senate election, please just tell me whether you think the statement “has the experience needed to effectively represent New Jersey in Washington” applies more to **(RANDOMIZE)** Tom Kean Jr or Robert Menendez.

- 1 Kean
- 2 Menendez
- 3 Both/Same/Neither **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Don't know **(DO NOT READ)**

S8C. Regardless of how you plan to vote in the Senate election, please just tell me whether you think the statement “shares your views on the war in Iraq” applies more to **(RANDOMIZE)** Tom Kean Jr or Robert Menendez.

- 1 Kean
- 2 Menendez
- 3 Both/Same/Neither **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Don't know **(DO NOT READ)**

S8D. Regardless of how you plan to vote in the Senate election, please just tell me whether you think the statement “is more likely to stand up to the leaders of his own party when he disagrees with them” applies more to **(RANDOMIZE)** Tom Kean Jr or Robert Menendez.

- 1 Kean
- 2 Menendez
- 3 Both/Same/Neither **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Don't know **(DO NOT READ)**

**[RANDOMLY ROTATE C1 AND C2]**

C1. In your view, have Tom Kean, Jr'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 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

C2. In your view, have Robert Menendez'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 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

B1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as President (T)?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

J1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Jon Corzine (pronounced Cor-zyne) is handling his job as Governor (T)?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

GA1. The New Jersey Supreme Court has ordered the State Legislature to pass a law granting gay and lesbian couples the same legal rights as married couples Do you agree or disagree **[ROTATE agree and disagree in question stem]** with the court decision?

- 1 Agree
- 2 Disagree
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

GA2. The State Legislature can respond to the court decision by **[ROTATE FOLLOWING TWO OPTIONS IN QUESTION STEM]** allowing gay and lesbian couples to enter into civil unions that have the same legal rights as married couples, or by allowing gay and lesbian couples to get married Which do you think the Legislature should do?

- 1 Allow gay and lesbian couples to enter into civil unions
- 2 Allow gay and lesbian couples to get married
- 3. The legislature should refuse to follow the court's ruling **(DO NOT READ)**
- 4 Other (specify) **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

GA3. The court decision has prompted some state legislators to propose amending the New Jersey constitution to define marriage as being only between a man and a woman Would you support or oppose **[ROTATE support and oppose in the stem]** that amendment?

- 1 Support
- 2 Oppose
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

PID1. In politics today, do you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or something else?

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

**[ASK THE FOLLOWING THREE QUESTIONS – RL3a, RL4 AND RL5 – ONLY IF RL1=1. 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 Don't know / Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

RL4. Did you vote in the 2005 election for governor in New Jersey?

- 1 Yes

- 2 No
- 8 (VOL) Not eligible to vote in 2005 due to age or living outside of New Jersey
- 9 Don't Know / Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

RL5. Did you vote in the 2004 presidential election?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 Not eligible to vote in 2004 due to age **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Don't Know / Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

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 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

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 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

D4. 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/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

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



- 1 White
- 2 Black
- 3 Asian
- 4 Hispanic / Latino **(DO NOT READ)**
- 5 OTHER, SPECIFY: \_\_\_\_\_ **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

D6. 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 Don't Know / Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

D7. 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 <b>(DO NOT READ)</b> |               |             |