

Rutgers-Eagleton Poll

Oct. 18-23, 2007 (#163)
Survey of New Jersey Residents, 18+ (n = 1,000 All Adults/12 minutes)

A. Gender (BY OBSERVATION)

- 1 Male
- 2 Female

NJ1. Overall, how would you rate New Jersey as a place to live—excellent, good, only fair or Poor (Trend from September 2003 legislative election poll)?

- 1 Excellent
- 2 Good
- 3 Only Fair
- 4 Poor
- 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 (GO TO Q. QG1A-B)
- 9 Don't Know/Refused (GO TO Q. QG1A-B) (DO NOT READ)

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

- 1 Democrat (GO TO DEM1)
- 2 Republican (GO TO GOP1)
- 3 Independent (GO TO PID2)
- 4 Something Else / Other (GO TO PID2)
- 9 Don't know/Refused (GO TO PID2) (DO NOT READ)

PID2. Do you lean more toward the Democratic Party or more toward the Republican Party?

- 1 Democratic Party (GO TO DEM1)
- 2 Republican Party (GO TO GOP1)
- 3 OTHER PARTY (GO TO M1) (DO NOT READ)
- 4 NEITHER (GO TO M1) (DO NOT READ)
- 9 Don't Know / Refused (GO TO M1) (DO NOT READ)

GOP1. Next, I am going to read a list of names, and I can repeat the list if that helps New Jersey plans to hold its presidential primaries Feb. 5. If the Republican primary for president were held today, which of the following would you support for the Republican nomination: [see below], or someone else (ROTATE NAMES)?

- 1 Mitt Romney
- 2 Rudy Giuliani
- 3 Fred Thompson
- 4 John McCain
- 5 Mike Huckabee
- 6 Ron Paul
- 7 Sam Brownback
- 8 Duncan Hunter
- 9 Tom Tancredo
- 10 Someone else (Specify)
- 98 Don't know (GO TO Q. GOP2a) (DO NOT READ)
- 99 Refused (GO TO Q. GOP2a) (DO NOT READ)

GOP2. Are you very sure about voting for [FILL NAME – Q. GOP1]; or might you change your mind before the primary?

- 1 Very sure
- 2 Might change
- 9 Don't know/Refused (DO NOT READ)

GOP2a. Overall, how satisfied are you with the choice of candidates for the Republican nomination for president – are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not very satisfied, or not at all satisfied?

- 1 Very satisfied
- 2 Somewhat satisfied
- 3 Not very satisfied
- 4 Not at all satisfied
- 9 Don't know/refused (DO NOT READ)

[ROTATE Q. GOP3A – Q. GOP3D]

GOP3A. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think is the strongest leader [READ AND ROTATE CANDIDATE OPTIONS 1, 2, 3 and 4] [IF SOME OTHER CANDIDATE, ASK:] If you had to choose between [READ OPTIONS 1, 2, 3 and 4]?

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Rudy Giuliani | |
| 2 | Fred Thompson | |
| 3 | John McCain | |
| 4 | Mitt Romney | |
| 5 | All | (DO NOT READ) |
| 6 | Any two | (DO NOT READ) |
| 7 | Any three | (DO NOT READ) |
| 8 | None | (DO NOT READ) |
| 9 | Don't know/Refused | (DO NOT READ) |

GOP3B. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think is the most honest and trustworthy [READ AND ROTATE CANDIDATE OPTIONS 1, 2, 3 and 4] [IF SOME OTHER CANDIDATE, ASK:] If you had to choose between [READ OPTIONS 1, 2, 3 and 4]?

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Rudy Giuliani | |
| 2 | Fred Thompson | |
| 3 | John McCain | |
| 4 | Mitt Romney | |
| 5 | All | (DO NOT READ) |
| 6 | Any two | (DO NOT READ) |
| 7 | Any three | (DO NOT READ) |
| 8 | None | (DO NOT READ) |
| 9 | Don't know/Refused | (DO NOT READ) |

GOP3C. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think has the best chance of getting elected president in November 2008 [READ AND ROTATE CANDIDATE OPTIONS 1, 2, 3 and 4] [IF SOME OTHER CANDIDATE, ASK:] If you had to choose between [READ OPTIONS 1, 2, 3 and 4]?

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Rudy Giuliani | |
| 2 | Fred Thompson | |
| 3 | John McCain | |
| 4 | Mitt Romney | |
| 5 | All | (DO NOT READ) |
| 6 | Any two | (DO NOT READ) |
| 7 | Any three | (DO NOT READ) |
| 8 | None | (DO NOT READ) |
| 9 | Don't know/Refused | (DO NOT READ) |

GOP3D. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think is the most inspiring [READ AND ROTATE CANDIDATE OPTIONS 1, 2, 3 and 4] [IF SOME OTHER CANDIDATE, ASK:] If you had to choose between [READ OPTIONS 1, 2, 3 and 4]?

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Rudy Giuliani | |
| 2 | Fred Thompson | |
| 3 | John McCain | |
| 4 | Mitt Romney | |
| 5 | All | (DO NOT READ) |
| 6 | Any two | (DO NOT READ) |
| 7 | Any three | (DO NOT READ) |
| 8 | None | (DO NOT READ) |
| 9 | Don't know/Refused | (DO NOT READ) |

[After completing rotation of Q. GOP3A through Q. GOP3D, GO TO Q. M1]

DEM1. Next, I am going to read a list of names, and I can repeat the list if that helps New Jersey plans to hold its presidential primaries Feb. 5 If the Democratic primary for president were held today, which of the following would you support for the Democratic nomination: [see below], or someone else? (ROTATE NAMES)

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Hillary Clinton | |
| 2 | Barack Obama | |
| 3 | Bill Richardson | |
| 4 | John Edwards | |
| 5 | Joe Biden | |
| 6 | Dennis Kucinich | (pronounced Koo-si-nitch) |
| 7 | Chris Dodd | |
| 8 | Mike Gravel | (pronounced Gra-VELL) |
| 9 | Someone else (Specify) | |
| 98 | Don't know | (GO TO Q. DEM3a) (DO NOT READ) |
| 99 | Refused | (GO TO Q. DEM3a) (DO NOT READ) |

DEM3. Are you very sure about voting for [FILL NAME – Q. DEM1]; or might you change your mind before the primary?

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

DEM3a. Overall, how satisfied are you with the choice of candidates for the Democratic nomination for president -- are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not very satisfied, or not at all satisfied?

- 5 Very satisfied
- 6 Somewhat satisfied
- 7 Not very satisfied
- 8 Not at all satisfied
- 9 Don't know/refused (DO NOT READ)

[ROTATE Q. DEM4A – Q. DEM4D]

DEM4A. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think is the strongest leader **[READ AND ROTATE CANDIDATE OPTIONS 1, 2, and 3] [IF SOME OTHER CANDIDATE, ASK:]** If you had to choose between **[READ OPTIONS 1, 2, and 3]**?

- 1 Hillary Clinton
- 2 Barack Obama
- 3 John Edwards
- 4 All (DO NOT READ)
- 5 Any two (DO NOT READ)
- 6 None (DO NOT READ)
- 9 Don't know/Refused (DO NOT READ)

DEM4B. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think is the most honest and trustworthy **[READ AND ROTATE CANDIDATE OPTIONS 1, 2, and 3] [IF SOME OTHER CANDIDATE, ASK:]** If you had to choose between **[READ OPTIONS 1, 2, and 3]**?

- 1 Hillary Clinton
- 2 Barack Obama
- 3 John Edwards
- 4 All (DO NOT READ)
- 5 Any two (DO NOT READ)
- 6 None (DO NOT READ)
- 9 Don't know/Refused (DO NOT READ)

DEM4C. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think has the best chance of getting elected president in November 2008 **[READ AND ROTATE CANDIDATE OPTIONS 1, 2, and 3] [IF SOME OTHER CANDIDATE, ASK:]** If you had to choose between **[READ OPTIONS 1, 2, and 3]**?

- 1 Hillary Clinton
- 2 Barack Obama
- 3 John Edwards

- 4 All (DO NOT READ)
- 5 Any two (DO NOT READ)
- 6 None (DO NOT READ)
- 9 Don't know/Refused (DO NOT READ)

DEM4D. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think is the most inspiring
[READ AND ROTATE CANDIDATE OPTIONS 1, 2, and 3] [IF SOME OTHER CANDIDATE, ASK:] If you had to choose between **[READ OPTIONS 1, 2, and 3]**?

- 1 Hillary Clinton
- 2 Barack Obama
- 3 John Edwards
- 4 All (DO NOT READ)
- 5 Any two (DO NOT READ)
- 6 None (DO NOT READ)
- 9 Don't know/Refused (DO NOT READ)

M1. In the general presidential election, if Hillary Clinton were the Democratic Party's candidate and Rudy Giuliani were the Republican Party's candidate, who would you be more likely to vote for: Hillary Clinton, the Democrat, or Rudy Giuliani, the Republican
(IF UNSURE): As of today, who do you lean more toward?

- 1 Hillary Clinton
- 2 Rudy Giuliani
- 3 Other candidate (SPECIFY) (DO NOT READ)
- 7 Wouldn't vote (DO NOT READ)
- 8 Don't know/Undecided (DO NOT READ)
- 9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

M3. In the general presidential election, if Barack Obama were the Democratic Party's candidate and Rudy Giuliani were the Republican Party's candidate, who would you be more likely to vote for: Barack Obama, the Democrat, or Rudy Giuliani, the Republican
(IF UNSURE): As of today, who do you lean more toward?

- 1 Barack Obama
- 2 Rudy Giuliani
- 3 Other candidate (SPECIFY) (DO NOT READ)
- 7 Wouldn't vote (DO NOT READ)
- 8 Don't know/Undecided (DO NOT READ)
- 9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

AE1. There is an election this November in New Jersey Even though this has not received a lot of attention yet, do you happen to know which offices are up for a vote [**DO NOT READ RESPONSE CATEGORIES**]?

- 1 Names State Assembly, Senate, and/or Legislature (**DO NOT READ**)
- 2 Names other office—such as President, Governor, U.S. Senator, Congress (**DO NOT READ**)
- 3 Assembly/Senate/Legislature & Other (**DO NOT READ**)
- 9 Don't know/Refused/No answer (**DO NOT READ**)

AE2. Most people do not vote in the State Legislature elections. How about you -- do you think you definitely will vote, probably will vote or probably not vote in the November election for State Legislature?

- 1 Definitely will
- 2 Probably will
- 3 Probably will not (**GO TO Q. AE6**) (**DO NOT READ**)
- 4 Definitely will not (**GO TO Q. AE6**) (**DO NOT READ**)
- 9 Don't know/Refused (**GO TO Q. AE6**) (**DO NOT READ**)

AE3. And if the election was held today, would you vote for the Republican or Democratic candidates for Assembly in your district?

[Note to interviewers: New Jersey elects two Assembly members per district, so it is possible for voters to split their votes, and choose one Democrat and one Republican in the district.]

- 1 Republican
- 2 Democratic
- 3 Split/other (**DO NOT READ**)
- 9 Don't know/Undecided/Refused (**DO NOT READ**)

AE4. And if the election was held today, would you vote for the Republican or Democratic candidate for Senate in your district?

- 1 Republican
- 2 Democratic
- 3 Other (**DO NOT READ**)
- 9 Don't know/Undecided/Refused (**DO NOT READ**)

AE5. If Governor Jon Corzine (**pronounced Core-zign**) campaigned for the Democratic candidates in your district would this make you more likely to support them, less likely, or make no difference in how you would vote?

- 1 More likely
- 2 Less likely
- 3 No difference
- 9 Don't know **(DO NOT READ)**

AE6. Now I'm going to read to you a list of issues that the next State Legislature may address, and I can repeat the list if it helps Which one of the following issues should be the top priority for the State Legislature 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 None of the above **(DO NOT READ)**
- 8 Other (specify) **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

ST1. Voters in November also will decide whether the state should issue 450 million dollars in bonds to provide grants for stem cell research If the election were held today, would you vote for or against the bond issue **(IF UNSURE):** As of today, which way are you leaning?

- 1 For the bond issue **(GO TO Q. TX1)**
- 2 Against the bond issue **(GO TO Q. ST2)**
- 3 Don't know/Undecided **(GO TO Q. TX1) (DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Refused **(GO TO Q. TX1) (DO NOT READ)**

ST2. Which of the following statements comes closest to your reason for voting against the state bond issue to pay for stem cell research?

- 1 I oppose embryonic stem cell research on moral grounds
- 2 I think the state can't afford to borrow money for stem cell research
- 3 Both statements **(DO NOT READ)**
- 4 Neither statement **(DO NOT READ)**
- 5 Other reason (specify) **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

TX1. Voters in November will decide whether to dedicate one-half of one percent of the state sales tax toward property tax reform. If the election were held today, would you vote for or against dedicating one-half of one percent of the sales tax to property tax reform **(IF UNSURE)**: As of today, which way are you leaning?

- 1 For
- 2 Against
- 3 Don't know/Undecided **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

SP1. Voters in November will decide whether the state should issue 200 million dollars in bonds to buy land for recreation and conservation purposes, to preserve farmland, and to pay for historic preservation projects. If the election were held today, would you vote for or against this bond issue **(IF UNSURE)**: As of today, which way are you leaning?

- 1 For the bond issue
- 2 Against the bond issue
- 3 Don't know/Undecided **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

[ROTATE Q. G1A- Q. G1B]

QG1A. Now, I'm going to read you some proposals about the legal rights of gay and lesbian couples in New Jersey. For each, please tell me whether you would favor or oppose it: allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally (T)?

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

QG1B. Now, I'm going to read you some proposals about the legal rights of gay and lesbian couples in New Jersey. For each, please tell me whether you would favor or oppose it: allowing gays and lesbians to form a civil union that would give them many of the same rights and benefits as a married man and woman (T)?

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

QG2. The New Jersey Legislature last year approved allowing gays and lesbians to form civil unions. In general, has the law succeeded or failed [**ROTATE SUCCEEDED AND FAILED**] in giving gays and lesbians many of the same rights and benefits as a married man and woman, or don't you know enough to say?

- 1 The law has succeeded
- 2 The law has failed
- 3 Don't know enough to say
- 4 Has succeeded in some ways but failed in others (**DO NOT READ**)
- 9 Refused (**DO NOT READ**)

QG3. Would you favor or oppose a state constitutional amendment that would define marriage as being between a man and a woman, thus barring marriages between gay or lesbian couples?

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

QG4. Do you personally know anybody who is gay or lesbian? [**IF YES, ASK: And are you close to that person?**]

- 1 Yes, close
- 2 Yes, not close
- 3 No
- 4 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 Core-zign**) is handling his job as Governor (T)?

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

L1. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the New Jersey State Legislature is doing (T)?

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

L2. And how about the people who represent YOUR DISTRICT in the New Jersey State Legislature Do you approve or disapprove of the job they are doing?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 3 Mixed; approve of one or more, disapprove of one or more **(DO NOT READ)**
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

R4. Next, we'd like to ask a few questions about religion How often do you attend church, synagogue, or other worship services: at least once a week, almost every week, about once a month, seldom or never?

- 1 At least once a week
- 2 Almost every week
- 3 About once a month
- 4 Seldom
- 5 Never
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

R5. Would you describe yourself as a born again or evangelical Christian, or not?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

R6. 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 Some other religion
- 6 Atheist
- 7 Agnostic
- 9 Don't know/refused **(DO NOT READ)**

C1. On another topic, how much political corruption would you say there is in New Jersey – a lot, some, only a little, or none at all (T)?

- 1 A lot
- 2 Some
- 3 Only a little
- 4 None at all
- 9 Don't Know / Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

C2. Would you say there is more or less political corruption in New Jersey today than there was five years ago, or is it about the same (T)?

- 1 More today
- 2 Less today
- 3 About the same
- 9 Don't know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

ID1. 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 **(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

02 Bergen

03 Burlington

04 Camden

05 Cape May

06 Cumberland

07 Essex

99 Don't Know / Refused

08 Gloucester

09 Hudson

10 Hunterdon

11 Mercer

12 Middlesex

13 Monmouth

14 Morris

15 Ocean

16 Passaic

17 Salem

18 Somerset

19 Sussex

20 Union

21 Warren

DO NOT READ