As New Jersey prepares to elect a new Governor a poll done by the Eagleton Institute shows that cynicism about government continues to grow in the state.

Eagleton asked a statewide sample of 1235 persons: "In your opinion, is your state government very corrupt, somewhat corrupt, or not at all corrupt?" A total of 23% said "very corrupt", 63% said "somewhat corrupt", only 6% said "not at all corrupt" and 8% had no opinion.

The combined response for "very corrupt" and "somewhat corrupt", 86%, represents a very substantial increase from previous polls. Responses to the same question on a poll conducted last May showed 70% of the sample saying state government was "very" or "somewhat" corrupt and 8% saying "not at all corrupt."

The May 1973 poll showed 14% of the sample judging state government to be "very corrupt" compared to 22.6% giving the same response two weeks ago.

Corruption in state government seems to be having an impact on voters' gubernatorial preference. The sample was asked which gubernatorial candidate, Byrne or Sandman, did they think was better able to handle corruption in state government. Byrne was the choice of 37% and Sandman was the choice of 13%, while the remaining 50% registered no choice.

Poll results show that the survey respondents' candidate choice on the corruption issue is further related to the Watergate affair. An analysis of the poll results must keep in mind that the Eagleton survey was executed prior to the resignation of Attorney General Richardson and the firing of Special Prosecutor Cox and Assistant
Attorney General Ruckelshaus. Respondents were asked how they felt about Nixon's handling of the Watergate affair. Among the 24% of the sample who registered approval, 27% said Byrne was better able to handle corruption in state government, 18% said Sandman and 65% registered no choice. Among the 66% of the sample who disapproved of Nixon's handling of the Watergate affair, 44% said Byrne is better able to handle corruption in state government, 10% said Sandman and 45% registered no choice.

The New Jersey Poll is conducted by the Eagleton Institute of Rutgers University. A random sample of 1235 New Jersey residents were interviewed by telephong during the period from October 5 to October 13.

Copyright, The Eagleton Institute, 1973
TO: POLITICAL REPORTERS
FROM: JOHN BLYDENBURGH
SUBJECT: THE NEW JERSEY POLL, RELEASE #5, WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 31, 1973

The questions on which this analysis is based are as follow:

"In your opinion, is your state government very corrupt, somewhat corrupt, or not at all corrupt?"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very and Somewhat</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Don't Know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 1973</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1973</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 1973</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"There has been considerable concern recently about the problem of corruption in government. Which of the two candidates—Brendan Byrne or Charles Sandman—do you think can best handle corruption in state government?"

- Byrne 37%
- Sandman 13%
- Don't Know/No opinion 50%

"Would you say you approve or disapprove the way President Nixon has been handling his part of the Watergate Affair?"

- Approve 24%
- Disapprove 66%
- Don't Know 9%
**Credit References (Supporting Evidence)**

| Course | UNM | UNL | UNM | UNL
|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----
| 12     | 8   | 0   | 4   | 0   |
| 0      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |

The next step for your reference list is to prepare the following:

- **Address**
- **Telephone**
- **Name and Position**
- **Reference**

Insert additional information as necessary. Please note any changes or updates.

The content of this document is an excerpt from the University of Futura's Credit Reference Program.