



EAGLETON INSTITUTE OF POLITICS
— EAGLETON CENTER FOR PUBLIC INTEREST POLLING —

Rutgers-Eagleton Poll #169
September 23-26, 2010
Sample 1350 New Jersey REGISTERED VOTERS ages 18 and
older, including 900 statewide plus 450 in NJ Congressional
District 3

Questions are presented in the order they were administered. Numbering may not necessarily be sequential and question numbers may be missing due to cuts prior to fielding and numbering convention.

Introduction

Hello, my name is _____. I'm conducting an Eagleton Poll for **RUTGERS** University.

I'd like to ask a few questions of the **YOUNGEST MALE** age 18 or older, who is now at home and is a registered voter.

(IF NO MALE AT HOME NOW: Then, may I speak with the **OLDEST FEMALE** age 18 or older who is now at home and is a registered voter?)

WHEN RESPONDENT ON PHONE: Hello, my name is _____. We are conducting a research study on public policy issues in New Jersey.

Your participation is important as only [900/450] residents have been selected to take part in this study. This will take about [10/5] minutes or so and your answers are anonymous. Anonymous means we will not collect any information that could be used to identify you.

Your participation is voluntary, you may end your participation at any time, and you may skip questions you do not want to answer. May I ask the first question? [IF YES] Thanks!

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 900/450 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.

S1. First, are you currently registered to vote in your community?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No → TERMINATE, “OK, thanks, we are only talking to registered voters today”.

[ALL RESPONDENTS GET Q1 AND Q2 – STATEWIDE (FORM A) AND CD-3 (FORM B)]

Q1. And for our records, what is your age?

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

[IF DK/REFUSED IN Q1, ASK:]

Q1A. 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 Refused [vol]

Q2. Next, what is your zip code?

- _____ Enter Zipcode
8 Don't know (Vol.)
9 Refused (Vol.)

[IF IN STATEWIDE SAMPLE AND CANNOT DETERMINE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, ASSIGN TO FORM A; ASK FORM A CONGRESSIONAL RACE QUESTIONS – Q14A-Q14B]

[IF IN STATEWIDE SAMPLE AND R LIVES IN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 3, ASSIGN TO FORM A, BUT ASK FORM B CONGRESSIONAL RACE QUESTIONS – Q15-Q20]

[IF IN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 3 SAMPLE, ASSIGN TO FORM B]

[IF FORM A CONTINUE WITH Q3; IF FORM B SKIP TO Q12.]

Perceptions of Interests/Leadership/Expectations

Q3 Thinking about issues people talk about, how important is each of the following to you personally? Please tell me if it is very important, somewhat important or not important at all? First {Next}...

[ROTATE LIST]

- A. The economy
- B. Health care
- C. Terrorism
- D. The budget deficit
- E. Taxes
- F. Immigration
- G. Unemployment
- H. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan

- 1 Very Important
- 2 Somewhat Important
- 3 Not Important at all
- 8 Don't know/No Opinion [vol]
- 9 Refused

Q4 Would you say the state of New Jersey is currently going in the right direction or has it gone off on the wrong track?

- 1 Right Direction

- 2 Wrong Track
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q5 Thinking back to the last presidential election, did you vote for Barack Obama, John McCain, some other candidate, or were you unable to vote?

- 1 Obama
- 2 McCain
- 3 Some other candidate
- 4 Unable to vote
- 8 Don't remember [Vol]
- 9 Refused

Q6 And in last year's election for New Jersey Governor, did you vote for Republican Chris Christie, Democrat Jon Corzine, Independent Chris Daggett, some other candidate, or were you unable to vote?

- 1 Corzine
- 2 Christie
- 3 Daggett
- 4 Some other candidate
- 5 Unable to vote
- 8 Don't remember [Vol]
- 9 Refused

[SPLIT SAMPLE - RANDOMLY ASSIGN TO VERSION A OR B. EACH VERSION RECEIVES THE SAME QUESTIONS BUT IN A DIFFERENT ORDER]

[VERSION A ORDER: Q7, Q8A/B, Q9, Q10, Q11, Q12]

[VERSION B ORDER: Q10, Q11, Q12, Q7, Q8A/B, Q9]

Q7 Please rate how Governor Chris Christie is handling his job as Governor. Is it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

- 1 Excellent
- 2 Good
- 3 Fair
- 4 Poor
- 8 Don't know/No Opinion [Vol]
- 9 Refused

[SPLIT SAMPLE within existing splits. RANDOM ASSIGN TO EITHER Q8A or Q8B]

Q8A Does Governor Christie's national recognition make you proud to be from New Jersey?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q8B Does Governor Christie make you proud to be from New Jersey?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

[END Q8 SPLIT]

Q9 In the coming weeks, Governor Christie is going on the road to campaign for Republican candidates. Do you think he should go on the campaign trail to do this or should he stay in New Jersey and focus on issues here?

- 1 Go campaigning
- 2 Stay in NJ
- 8 Don't know/Doesn't Matter
- 9 Refused

Q10 I'd like to ask about some people and organizations. Please tell me if your general impression of each one is favorable or unfavorable, or if you do not have an opinion. First, [next]: **[ROTATE]**

- A. The Tea Party movement
- B. Democrats in Congress
- C. Republicans in Congress
- D. President Obama
- E. Governor Christie
- F. The State legislature in Trenton

- 1 Favorable
- 2 Unfavorable
- 8 No Opinion/Don't Know
- 9 Refuse

Q11 Recently New Jersey lost 400 million dollars in federal Race to the Top education funds. How closely have you been following news about the "Race to the Top" controversy? Would you say very closely, somewhat closely, or not at all closely?

- 1 Very closely
- 2 Somewhat closely
- 3 Not at all closely
- 4 Don't know/Have never heard of it [vol]
- 9 Refused

[IF RESPONDENT SAYS DON'T KNOW/HAVE NEVER HEARD OF, THEN SKIP Q12 AND Q24]

Q12 Who would you say is most to blame for losing 400 million dollars in education funds? Is it:

[ROTATE 1-5]

- 1 The NJEA Teachers' Union
- 2 Federal Bureaucrats
- 3 President Obama
- 4 Governor Christie
- 5 Bret Schundler
- 6 Someone else [vol]
- 7 More than one equally to blame [vol]
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

[END SPLIT FOR Qs 7-12]

Q13 There will be an election for US Congress in November. Please rate your level of enthusiasm about voting in this election on a scale from zero to ten, where zero means you're not at all enthusiastic about voting and ten means you're extremely enthusiastic about voting this year. You can use any number from zero to ten, the higher the number the more enthusiastic you are about voting this year.

SCALE: [0-10]

- 11 Will not vote [vol]
- 12 Don't know [vol]
- 13 Refused

[IF Q13 IS 11 (WILL NOT VOTE) SKIP TO Q21]

[IF FORM B SKIP TO Q15]

CONGRESSIONAL RACES NOT IN CD-3. FORM A ONLY

[SPLIT SAMPLE – HALF TO EITHER Q14A or Q14B]

[VERSION A]

Q14A If the election for Congress were today would you vote for the Republican, the Democrat, a third party candidate, or would you not vote?

- 1 Republican
- 2 Democrat
- 3 Third Party [Specify] _____
- 4 Not vote
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

[VERSION B]

Q14B If the election for Congress were today would you vote for your current Congressman, a challenger running against him, or would you not vote?

- 1 Current Congressman
- 2 Challenger
- 4 Not vote
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

[SKIP TO Q21 – STATEWIDE SAMPLE FORM A]

CD3 RESIDENTS ONLY STATEWIDE SAMPLE (FORM A) OR CD-3 SAMPLE (FORM B)

Q15 Now I am going to name some people in politics. Please tell me if your general impression of each one is favorable or unfavorable, or if you have not heard enough about the person. First, [next]: **[ROTATE]**

- A. John Adler
- B. Jon Runyan
- C. Peter DeStefano
- D. Nancy Pelosi

- 1 Favorable
- 2 Unfavorable
- 3 Have not heard enough
- 8 No Opinion/Don't Know [vol]
- 9 Refused

Q16 If the election for Congress were today, would you vote for the Democrat John Adler, the Republican Jon Runyan [ROTATE THESE TWO], a third party candidate, or would you not vote?

- 1 Adler
- 2 Runyan
- 3 Third Party
- 4 Not Vote
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q16A Now, if the election was between Democrat John Adler, Republican Jon Runyan [ROTATE THESE TWO], and independent Peter DeStefano [dee stef ON no] who would you vote for, or would you not vote?

- 1 Adler
- 2 Runyan
- 3 DeStefano
- 4 Not Vote
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q17 Given a choice, would you vote for someone who has years of experience in elected office or for an outsider with little prior experience in government?

- 1 Experience
- 2 Outsider
- 3 Don't know
- 4 Refused

[SPLIT SAMPLE – RANDOMLY ROTATE ORDER OF Q18 AND Q19]

Q18 Jon Runyan has been endorsed by Governor Chris Christie. Does this make you more likely to vote for Runyan, less likely to vote for him, or does it make no difference to you?

- 1 More Likely
- 2 Less Likely
- 3 No Difference
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q19 Jon Adler has been endorsed by President Barack Obama. Does this make you more likely

to vote for Adler, less likely to vote for him, or does it make no difference to you?

- 1 More Likely
- 2 Less Likely
- 3 No Difference
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

[END SPLIT]

Q20 There have been debates between Democrat John Adler and Republican Jon Runyan. Have you heard any of these debates?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 8. Don't Know/Don't Remember
- 9. Refused

[CONTINUE WITH ALL RESPONDENTS – STATEWIDE (FORM A) AND CD-3 (FORM B)]

Q21 Should the Democrats in Washington be given more time to solve the country's problems or is it time to elect Republicans to take charge in Congress?

- 1 Give Democrats more time
- 2 Elect Republicans
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q22 How closely have you followed news about the election this fall? Is it very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

- 1 Very closely
- 2 Somewhat closely
- 3 Not too closely
- 4 Not at all closely
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

[IF FORM B – SKIP TO Q30]

Q23 In just one or two words, please tell me what the most important problem is in New

Jersey today.

[Record Open Ended]

Q24 Thinking again about the loss of Race to the Top education funding, do you think the loss of these funds will affect your local school?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q25 Please rate how Barack Obama is handling his job as President. Is it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

- 1 Excellent
- 2 Good
- 3 Fair
- 4 Poor
- 8 Don't know/No Opinion [Vol]
- 9 Refused

Q26 For each of the following, tell me if you agree or disagree with the statement. First,

[ROTATE Q28A-Q28F]

Q26A The Obama administration is un-American.

Q26B President Obama is a socialist.

Q26C The financial bailout was a good use of taxpayer money.

Q26D I am glad the health care reform bill was passed.

Q26E The federal stimulus program has helped the economy.

Q26F I get angry thinking about the government in Washington.

[Response Options]

- 1 Agree
- 2 Disagree
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q27 Now, thinking about Barack Obama's religious beliefs. Do you happen to know what Barack Obama's religion is?

[OPEN-ENDED; CODE TO LIST, DO NOT READ LIST]

- 1 Protestant [include Christian, Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Pentecostal, Jehovah's Witness, Church of Christ, etc. if offered]
- 2 Roman Catholic
- 3 Jewish
- 4 Mormon [include Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints]
- 5 Orthodox Church (Greek or Russian)
- 6 Islam/Muslim
- 7 Other religion
- 8 No religion, not a believer, atheist, agnostic
- 9 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

[ASK Q27A IF RESPONDENT SAYS OBAMA IS MUSLIM (6)]

Q27A And how did you learn about Obama's religion?

[OPEN ENDED – CODE TO BEST OPTION]

- 1 Any Media or News mention
- 2 Obama's behavior or something he said
- 3 R's Friends or Family said so
- 4 Obama's ancestry – you can tell by his name, appearance or background
- 5 Any mention of from the Internet/blogs/websites
- 6 Other [vol]
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q28 Now, thinking about Chris Christie's religious beliefs. Do you happen to know what Chris Christie's religion is?

[OPEN-ENDED; CODE TO LIST, DO NOT READ LIST]

- 1 Protestant [include Christian, Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Pentecostal, Jehovah's Witness, Church of Christ, etc. if offered]
- 2 Roman Catholic
- 3 Jewish
- 4 Mormon [include Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints]
- 5 Orthodox Church (Greek or Russian)
- 6 Islam/Muslim
- 7 Other religion
- 8 No religion, not a believer, atheist, agnostic
- 9 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

Demographics

We're almost finished. We have just a few more questions to help us understand our survey results.

Q29 Thinking of politics, do you consider yourself to be liberal, conservative, or somewhere in between?

1. Liberal
2. Conservative
3. Somewhere in between
4. Other [vol]
- 8 Don't know [vol]
- 9 Refused [vol]

Q30 In politics today, do you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or something else?

- 1 Democrat
- 2 Republican
- 3 Independent
- 4 Something Else / Other
- 8 Don't know [vol]
- 9 Refused [vol]

Q31 What was the last grade in school you completed? **[CODE TO LIST]**

- 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 Refused

Q32 What is your current employment status? Are you:

- 1 Employed full time
- 2 Employed part time
- 3 Laid off from a job
- 4 A homemaker or stay at home parent
- 5 Retired

- 7 Otherwise Not Employed
- 8 Disabled
- 9 Refused

Q33 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
- 8 Don't Know [vol]
- 9 Refused

Q34 Do you or any member of your household belong to labor union?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refuse

[ASK IF Q35 IS 1 ONLY]

Q35A. Is the union a public employee union?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refuse

Q35 Are you of Latino or Hispanic origin, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or other Spanish background?

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

Q36 Are you white, black or of Asian origin?

- 1 White
- 2 Black (accept African-American)
- 3 Asian
- 4 Hispanic / Latino [vol]

- 5 OTHER, SPECIFY: _____ [vol]
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q37 Last year, that is in 2009, what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes? Just stop me when I get to the right category. **[READ LIST]**

- 1 Less than \$10,000
- 2 10 to under \$20,000
- 3 20 to under \$30,000
- 4 30 to under \$40,000
- 5 40 to under \$50,000
- 6 50 to under \$75,000
- 7 75 to under \$100,000
- 8 100 to under \$150,000
- 9 \$150,000 or more
- 10 [VOL. – DO NOT READ] Don't know/Refused

Q38 Are there any children in your household who are under the age 18 and live with you regularly?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Refused

[IF RESPONDENT REACHED ON CELL PHONE ASK Q39, OTHERWISE SKIP TO Q40]

Q39 I'm talking to you today on a cell phone, right? How many non-cell phones – that is landline phones – do you have in your home, or do you only have cell phones?

[Record Number – 0 if only uses cell phone]

Q40 Gender (BY OBSERVATION)

- 1 Male
- 2 Female

Closing and Additional Informed Consent Language

That completes our survey. Thank you very much for your time and cooperation. If you have any questions about this survey, you may contact Dr. David Redlawsk (*pronounced RED-losk*) at 732-932-9384, ext. 285. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant,

you may contact the administrator of the Rutgers Institutional Review Board at: 732-932-0150, ext. 2104. Have a good day/evening.

Methodology Statement

Rutgers-Eagleton Poll September 23-26, 2010

New Jersey 3rd Congressional District Poll

The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted from September 23-26, 2010 with a scientifically selected random sample of 531 registered voters from the 3rd Congressional District of New Jersey, yielding 335 likely voters. Data are weighted to represent known parameters in the population, including gender, age, race, education, and Hispanic ethnicity. All results are reported with these weighted data. This telephone poll included 486 landline respondents acquired through random digit dialing, and 52 interviews of randomly selected cell phone households.

All surveys are subject to sampling error, which is the expected probable difference between interviewing everyone in a population versus a scientific sampling drawn from that population.

The sampling error for a sample of 538 registered voters is +/-4.2 points, at a 95 percent confidence interval. For the likely voter sub sample of 335 respondents, the margin of error is +/- 5.4 points. Thus if 50 percent of New Jersey 3rd District registered voters favored a particular position, one would be 95 percent confident that the true figure would be between 45.8 and 54.2 percent (50 +/- 4.2) had all 3rd District registered voters been interviewed, rather than just a sample. Sampling error increases as the sample size decreases, so statements based on various population subgroups are subject to more error than are statements based on the total sample. Sampling error does not take into account other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording or context effects.

Data were collected by Braun Research, Incorporated, of Princeton, NJ and were analyzed by staff of the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll. The AAPOR response rate 3 was 21.4%, the refusal rate 2 was 32.1% and the cooperation rate 3 was 40.0% for the landline part of this poll For the cell phone sample, the response rate 3 was 8.6%, the refusal rate 2 was 19.1% and the cooperation rate 3 was 31.2%.