

Rutgers-Eagleton Poll #172
December 2-5, 2010
Sample: 900 New Jersey ADULTS ages 18 and older

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 residents have been selected to take part in this study. This will take about 12 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 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.

Q1 First, 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.**)

POST ELECTION EXPECTATIONS/LEADERSHIP PERCEPTION

Q3 Thanks. First let's talk about how things are going in New Jersey. Please rate how 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

Q4 And 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

Q5 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

Q6 Many people were not able to vote in the recent election because they got sick or they just did not have time. Which of the following best describes you?

[READ FIRST THREE OPTIONS]

- 1 I voted in the election. → **SKIP TO Q8**
- 2 I tried to vote but wasn't able to.
- 3 I did not try to vote.
- 8 Don't know (VOL) → **SKIP TO Q9**
- 9 Refused (VOL) → **SKIP TO Q9**

Q7 Which would you say is the MAIN reason that you did not vote? Was it **[ROTATE 1-4]**:

- 1 Personal Reasons
- 2 You did not like the candidates
- 3 You did not like how the campaign was conducted
- 4 You are not registered to vote
- 5 Or some other reason [Specify]
- 8 Don't know (VOL)
- 9 Refused (VOL)

→ SKIP TO Q9

[ASK ONLY IF Q6 is 1]

Q8 Did you vote for a Democrat, Republican, or some other candidate for U.S. Congress?

- 1 Democrat
- 2 Republican
- 3 Some Other Candidate
- 4 Don't know/Don't remember
- 9 Refused

Q9 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 Barack Obama
- E. Governor Chris Christie
- F. Democrats in the State legislature
- G. Republicans in the State legislature
- H. Senator Robert Menendez
- I. Senator Frank Lautenberg

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

Q10 In just one or two words, please tell me the SINGLE most important thing you would like Congress to fix when the Republicans take over the U.S. House in January?

[Record Open Ended]

- 97 Republicans can't fix anything I care about/similar responses (Vol) → **SKIP TO Q12**
- 98 Don't Know (Vol) → **SKIP TO Q12**
- 99 Refused → **SKIP TO Q12**

Q11 How likely is it that this will actually get done? Is it very likely, somewhat likely, or not at all likely?

- 1 Very Likely
- 2 Somewhat Likely
- 3 Not at all Likely
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q12 Thinking about Congress in Washington and the State legislature in Trenton, which is more important: that our representatives **[ROTATE]** stick to their beliefs or compromise to get laws passed?

- 1 Stick to beliefs
- 2 Compromise
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

AIRPORT SECURITY

Now on another topic.

[QUESTION ORDER EXPERIMENT]

FOR ½ OF SAMPLE ASK Q13 BEFORE Q14-16 BATTERY. FOR OTHER ½ ASK Q13 AFTER Q14-16 BATTERY. THIS IS INDEPENDENT OF THE Q14-16 A/B SPLIT]

Q13 Some people say any airport security measure, no matter how intrusive, is justified to fight terrorism. Others say some measures go too far violating personal privacy without significantly improving security. How about you? Would you support any security measure, or do you believe some measures go too far?

- 1 Support any measure
- 2 Some go too far
- 3 Depends (Vol)
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

[SPLIT SAMPLE – ½ to VERSION A, ½ to VERSION B]

[VERSION A - SCANNER]

Q14A Recent news stories have talked about new airport security measures that use a full body scan producing a nude image. Would you say you are very, somewhat or not at all aware of these new measures?

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

Q15A Some people say that full body scans are too intrusive without improving real security. Others say the scans are needed to help keep the public safe. What do you think? Are such scans too intrusive or necessary to security?

- 1 Too intrusive
- 2 Necessary
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q16A Does knowing you must go through the full body scan make you more likely to fly, less likely to fly, or does it have no effect on the likelihood you would fly?

- 1 More Likely
- 2 Less Likely
- 3 No effect
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

[VERSION B – PAT DOWNS]

Q14B Recent news stories have talked about new airport security measures that use a full body pat-down that includes intimate areas. Would you say you are very, somewhat or not at all aware of these new measures?

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

Q15B Some people say that these full body pat-downs too intrusive without improving real security. Others say the pat-downs are needed to help keep the public safe. What do you think? Are such pat-downs too intrusive or necessary to security?

- 1 Too intrusive
- 2 Necessary
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q16B Does knowing you must go through a full body pat-down make you more likely to fly, less likely to fly, or does it have no effect on the likelihood you would fly?

- 1 More Likely
- 2 Less Likely
- 3 No effect
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

[END SPLIT SAMPLE]

[END QUESTION ORDER EXPERIMENT]

Q17 And how often do you, yourself, fly somewhere on an airline? Is it at least once every two or three months, a couple of times a year, once a year or less, or have you never flown on an airline?

- 1 at least every two/three months
- 2 couple times a year

- 3 once a year or less
- 4 never
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

ARC TUNNEL

Next I would like to ask a few questions about the proposed commuter rail tunnel under the Hudson River to New York City known as the ARC, or Access to the Region's Core project.

[SPLIT SAMPLE. FOR ½ GIVE Q18 FIRST FOLLOWED BY Q19. FOR ½ GIVE Q19 FIRST FOLLOWED BY Q18]

Q18 How important do you think this proposed rail tunnel under the Hudson River from New Jersey to New York would be to the future economic development of New Jersey? Is it very important, somewhat important, or not at all important?

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

Q19 Governor Christie recently cancelled the ARC tunnel project saying that massive cost overruns mean New Jersey can no longer afford it. Do you support or oppose Governor Christie's decision to cancel the tunnel project?

- 1 Support
- 2 Oppose
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

[END SPLIT SAMPLE]

Q20 Now that the ARC tunnel has been cancelled, the federal government says New Jersey will have to pay back 271 million dollars. Knowing this, should New Jersey have continued with the project or cancelled it even though the money has to be paid back?

- 1 Continued
- 2 Cancelled
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q21 Some people argue that without the tunnel, job growth in New Jersey will be badly hurt, since existing commuter trains are running at full capacity. Knowing this, should New Jersey have continued with the project or cancelled it even if it slows future job growth?

- 1 Continued
- 2 Cancelled
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q22 There has been talk that New York might extend a subway line under the river to Secaucus at significantly less cost than the ARC project. Would you support such a plan?

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

QUALITY OF LIFE

Now let's talk about the community where you live.

Q23 How would you rate your community as a place to live? Is it excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

- 1 Excellent
- 2 Good
- 3 Fair
- 4 Poor
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q24 In just one or two words, please tell me what makes quality of life in your local community **[insert response to Q23]**.

[Record open-ended]

- 98 Don't Know
- 99 Refused

Q25 And overall, how would you rate the state of New Jersey as a place to live? Is it excellent, good, only fair or poor?

- 1 Excellent
- 2 Good
- 3 Only Fair
- 4 Poor
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q26 How much pride do you take in living in NJ – a lot, some, a little or none?

- 1 A lot
- 2 Some
- 3 A little
- 4 None
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q27 Thinking back over the last 5 to 10 years, would you say that New Jersey has become a better or worse place to live, or hasn't there been any change?

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 No Change
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Partner I

Q28 The next question is about beach access in New Jersey shore towns. As you may know, many towns receive federal and state funding to maintain and replenish their beaches. And in some of these towns it is very hard for the public to access the beach. Given this, which of the following comes closer to your view? [**ROTATE AND RECORD ORDER OF STATEMENTS**]

Shore towns with largely inaccessible beaches that get government aid for those beaches....

- 1. Should be required to provide visitors with better access

OR

- 2. Should **NOT** be required to provide visitors with better access.

- 1 Statement 1
- 2 Statement 2
- 3 Depends [VOL]
- 8 Don't Know/Unsure
- 9 Refused

Partner II

Now I would like to ask about prescription and over-the-counter medicine in your home.

Q29 Do you currently have any unused, unwanted, or expired prescription and over-the-

counter medicine stored in your home?

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

Q30 In the past month, how frequently did you see or hear news stories or ads sponsored by the American Medicine Chest Challenge asking you to safely dispose of your unused, unwanted, and expired prescription and over-the-counter medicine you keep at home? Would you say it was at least daily, a few times a week, or a few times in the past 30 days?

- 1 At least daily
- 2 A few times a week
- 3 A few times in the past 30 days
- 4 Never (vol)
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q31 In the past month, how many times did you look for information on the Internet about how to safely dispose of your unused, unwanted, and expired prescription and over-the-counter medicine you keep at home? Was it never, once or twice, or at least three times?

- 1 Never
- 2 Once or twice
- 3 At least three times
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q32 In the past month, how many conversations did you have with other people about disposing unused, unwanted, and expired prescription and over-the-counter medicine? Was it none, one or two, or at least three conversations?

- 1 None
- 2 One or two conversations
- 3 At least three conversations
- 8 Don't know (vol)
- 9 Refused

Q33 In the past month, please tell me which of the following actions you took regarding your unused, unwanted, and expired prescription and over-the-counter medicine?

[ROTATE Q33a thru e]

Did you **[insert Q33a through e]**?

- a Take inventory of your prescription and over-the-counter medicine
- b Lock your medicine cabinet
- c Dispose of your unused, unwanted, and expired medicine in your household trash
- d Dispose of your unused, unwanted, and expired medicine at a local disposal site
- e Flush unused, unwanted, and expired medicine down a sink or drain

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

Q34 In the past 30 days, how many times did you talk to your children or someone else's children about the dangers of using prescription drugs without a prescription to get high? Was it never, once or twice, or at least three times?

- 1 Never
- 2 Once or twice
- 3 At least three times
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Partner III

Q35A There has been talk about amending the New Jersey constitution to allow betting on college and professional sports at Atlantic City casinos and horse-tracks around the state. Do you support or oppose such an amendment?

- 1 Support
- 2 Oppose
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q35B If sports betting was allowed throughout New Jersey, not just at casinos and horse-tracks, it could generate an extra \$100 million in state revenue. Knowing this, would you support or oppose sports betting throughout New Jersey?

- 1 Support
- 2 Oppose
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Demographics

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

Q36 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]

Q37 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]

Q38 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

Q39 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

[Only ask if Q39 is 1 or 2]

Q40 Do you commute to New York City for your job?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Refused

Q41 How many years have you lived in New Jersey, or have you lived here all of your life?

[CODE RESPONSE TO OPTIONS]

- 1 Less than one
- 2 1 to less than 3
- 3 3 to less than 6
- 4 6 to less than 10
- 5 10 to less than 20
- 6 20 to less than 30
- 7 30 or more
- 8 All my life
- 9 DK/Refused

Q42 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

Q43 Do you or any member of your household belong to labor union?

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

[ASK IF Q43 IS 1 ONLY]

Q43A. Is the union a public employee union?

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

Q44 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

Q45 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

Q46 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 Don't know/Refused [VOL. – DO NOT READ]

Q47 Are there any children in your household who are under the age 18 and live with you regularly?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Refused

Q48 How many telephone numbers, including all cell phone numbers and non-cell phone numbers (often called landline numbers), does your household currently have?

[Record Open-Ended]

- 98 Don't know/not sure
- 99 Refused

Q49 Of those telephone numbers, how many are for cell phones?

[Record Number]

- 98 Don't Know
- 99 Refused

[IF ANSWER IS ONE OR MORE, ASK Q50.]

Q50 Which type of phone do you currently place and receive the most phone calls from? Is it a cell phone or a land line phone?

- 1 Cell phone
- 2 Landline phone
- 3 Both Equally (vol)
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q51 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-loak*) 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 December 2-6, 2010

New Jersey Statewide Poll

The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted by telephone from December 2-6, 2010 with a scientifically selected random sample of 906 New Jersey adults. Data are weighted to represent known parameters in the New Jersey population, using gender, age, race, and Hispanic ethnicity matching to US Census Bureau data. All results are reported with these weighted data. This telephone poll included 725 landline respondents and 181 cell phone respondents, acquired through random digit dialing.

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 906 adults is +/-3.3 percent, at a 95 percent confidence interval. Thus if 50 percent of New Jersey adults favored a particular position, one would be 95 percent sure that the true figure would be between 46.7 and 53.3 percent (50 +/-3.3) had all New Jersey adults 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.

This Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was fielded by Braun Research, Inc., of Princeton, New Jersey. The questionnaire was developed and all data analysis was completed in house at the Eagleton Institute of Politics Center for Public Interest Polling. The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll is paid for and sponsored by the Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University, a non-partisan academic center focused on the study and teaching of politics and the political process.