

Rutgers-Eagleton Poll #195
December 3-9, 2014
Sample: 900 NJ ADULTS

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 - LANDLINE

Hello, my name is _____. I'm conducting a research study for the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling. I'm not selling anything and just need a few minutes I'd like to ask a few questions of the YOUNGEST MALE over 18 who is now at home

(IF NO MALE AT HOME NOW: Then may I speak with you?)

[REINTRO AS NEEDED]

Hello, my name is _____. I am conducting a research study for the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling. I am not selling anything, and just need a few minutes. Would you talk with me for a bit?

- 1 YES, CONTINUE WITH RESPONDENT
- 0 UNWILLING, END INTERVIEW

Introduction – CELL PHONE

Hello, my name is _____. I'm conducting a research study for the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling. I am not selling anything and just need a few minutes. I know I am reaching you on a cell phone. We need to talk to people with cell phones to ensure we represent all of New Jersey. Are you currently driving, walking, or in any public place that might distract you?

- 0 DISTRACTED → **RESCHEDULE/TERMINATE**
- 1 NOT DISTRACTED, now is a good time to talk

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 about 850 people statewide 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:

-- Can you help me; we could really use your cooperation and we are interested in what you think.

QD7 To ensure we are reaching people of all ages, would you please tell me your age?

_____ (ENTER AGE: 98=98+, 99 = REFUSED)

[IF Don't Know/REFUSED IN QD7, ASK:]

QD8 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)

**[IF REFUSED IN BOTH QD7 and QD8 TERMINATE, We must know age.
IF UNDER 18, TERMINATE, too young.]**

QD5 May I please have your home zip code?

_____ (RECORD)

- 8 Don't Know (VOL)
- 9 Refused (VOL)

QD5A And what county do you live in?

[Choose from list of NJ Counties]

IF NOT NEW JERSEY BASED ON COUNTY, TERMINATE: Thank you, we are only talking to New Jersey residents today.

WHEN RESPONDENT ON PHONE: Great. We are talking to New Jersey residents to conduct a research study on public policy issues. Your participation is important as only about 850 people statewide will be selected to take part in this study. This should only take less than 15 minutes. Your answers are confidential and will only be reported in combination with others. Your participation is voluntary, you may end at any time, and you may skip questions you do not want to answer. May I ask the first question? [IF YES] Thanks!

1. No → **Attempt Convert**
2. YES

[CODE GENDER BY OBSERVATION]

QD26 Respondent Gender

- 1 Male
- 2 Female

QD1 Are you NOW registered to vote where you live or haven't you been able to register so far?

- 1 Now registered to vote
- 2 Haven't been able to register so far
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

LEADERSHIP PERCEPTION; 2014 US SENATE ELECTION

Q1 Thanks! First, I'd like to ask about some people and groups. Please tell me if your general impression of each one is favorable or unfavorable, or if you do not have an opinion. If you do not know the name, just say so. First:

[RANDOMIZE ORDER Q1A-Q1G]

- Q1A President Barack Obama.
- Q1B Governor Chris Christie.
- Q1C U.S. Senator Cory Booker.
- Q1D Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.
- Q1E Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno [Gwa-DAH-NO].
- Q1F Republicans in The United States Congress
- Q1G Democrats in the United States Congress

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

JOB RATINGS - ALL

Q2 Now, please rate how Barack Obama is handling his job as President, using a grading scale from A to F. You can give him any full letter grade, A, B, C, D, or F.

- 1 A
- 2 B

- 3 C
- 4 D
- 5 F
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q3 And overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q4 Now please rate how Chris Christie is handling his job as governor, using a grading scale from A to F. You can give him any full letter grade, A, B, C, D, or F.

- 1 A
- 2 B
- 3 C
- 4 D
- 5 F
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q5 And overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Chris Christie is handling his job as governor?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q6 Now I am going to list some specific areas where I would like you to tell me if you approve or disapprove of the job Chris Christie is doing as Governor. First:

[RANDOMIZE ORDER Q6A-Q6G]

- Q6A New Jersey's economy and jobs
- Q6B Hurricane Sandy recovery
- Q6C Taxes
- Q6D Education and Schools
- Q6E The state budget
- Q6F Crime and drugs
- Q6G The state pension fund situation

- 1 Approve

- 2 Disapprove
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q7 And overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Cory Booker is handling his job as a U.S. Senator?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

[IF NOT REGISTERED VOTER (IF QD1 NOT = 1) SKIP TO QD2]

Q8 Thinking back to the election for the U.S. Senate in November, did you vote for [**ROTATE**: Democrat Cory Booker, Republican Jeff Bell], someone else, or did you not have a chance to vote in the election?

- 1 Booker
- 2 Bell
- 3 Other
- 4 Not Vote
- 8 Don't Know/Don't Remember
- 9 Refused

2016 PRESIDENTIAL RACE (RVs ONLY AFTER PARTISAN ID)

QD2 In politics today, do you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or something else?

- 1 Democrat → SKIP TO QD4
- 2 Republican → SKIP TO QD4
- 3 Independent
- 4 Something Else/Other
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

QD3 Would you say that you lean toward the Democrats, the Republicans, or neither party?

- 1 Democrat
- 2 Republican
- 3 Neither
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

QD4 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
9. Refused

[IF NOT REGISTERED VOTER (IF QD1 NOT = 1) SKIP TO Q14]

[REPUBLICANS AND R LEANERS ONLY – QD2 OR QD3=2]

Q9 The 2016 presidential election is far away, but thinking ahead to the Republican primary for president, who would be your first choice for the Republican candidate? Just tell me a name.

[DO NOT READ. OPEN-ENDED – CODE TO LIST]

1. Ben Carson
2. Bobby Jindal
3. Chris Christie
4. Jeb Bush
5. John Kasich
6. Marco Rubio
7. Michael Bloomberg
8. Mike Huckabee
9. Mitt Romney
10. Newt Gingrich
11. Paul Ryan
12. Rand Paul
13. Rick Perry
14. Rick Santorum
15. Rob Portman
16. Ron Paul
17. Rudy Giuliani
18. Sarah Palin
19. Scott Walker
20. Ted Cruz
- 77 Other [SPECIFY]
- 88 Don't know
- 99 Refused

[REPUBLICANS AND R LEANERS ONLY – QD2 OR QD3=2]

Q10 And who would be your second choice for the 2016 Republican candidate? Just tell me a name if you have a second choice.

[DO NOT READ. OPEN-ENDED – CODE TO LIST]

1. Ben Carson
2. Bobby Jindal
3. Chris Christie
4. Jeb Bush
5. John Kasich
6. Marco Rubio
7. Michael Bloomberg
8. Mike Huckabee
9. Mitt Romney
10. Newt Gingrich
11. Paul Ryan
12. Rand Paul
13. Rick Perry
14. Rick Santorum
15. Rob Portman
16. Ron Paul
17. Rudy Giuliani
18. Sarah Palin
19. Scott Walker
20. Ted Cruz
- 66 No one
- 77 Other [**SPECIFY**]
- 88 Don't know
- 99 Refused

[DEMOCRATS AND D LEANERS ONLY – QD2 OR QD3=1]

Q11 The 2016 presidential election is far away, but thinking ahead to the Democratic primary for president, who would be your first choice for the Democratic candidate? Just tell me the name.

[DO NOT READ. OPEN-ENDED – CODE TO LIST]

1. Andrew Cuomo
2. Brian Schweitzer
3. Cory Booker
4. Elizabeth Warren
5. Hillary Clinton
6. Joe Biden
7. Martin O'Malley
8. James (Jim) Webb
- 77 Other [**SPECIFY**]
- 88 Don't know → **SKIP TO Q13**
- 99 Refused → **SKIP TO Q13**

[DEMOCRATS AND D LEANERS ONLY – QD2 OR QD3=1]

Q12 And who would be your second choice for the 2016 Democratic candidate? Just tell me the name if you have a second choice.

[DO NOT READ. OPEN-ENDED – CODE TO LIST]

1. Andrew Cuomo
2. Brian Schweitzer
3. Cory Booker
4. Elizabeth Warren
5. Hillary Clinton
6. Joe Biden
7. Martin O'Malley
8. James (Jim) Webb
- 66 No one
- 77 Other **[SPECIFY]**
- 88 Don't know → **SKIP TO Q13**
- 99 Refused → **SKIP TO Q13**

Q13 There is a lot of talk about Governor Christie running for president. Do you think he will run in 2016, or not?

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

Q14 If the election for president were today, and the candidates were **[ROTATE ORDER: Republican Chris Christie and Democrat Hillary Clinton]**, for whom would you vote?

- 1 Christie
- 2 Clinton
- 3 Someone else (vol)
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q15 In general, are the decisions Christie is making lately about various issues, including whether to sign or veto bills, more about **[ROTATE ORDER: what's best for NJ or more about his potential run for president]**?

- 1 Best for New Jersey
- 2 Potential run for president
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

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Q16 Governor Christie has frequently travelled outside of New Jersey to fundraise and campaign as part of his duties as the Chairman of the Republican Governor's Association. Do you think the governor's travel schedule has hurt his ability to be an effective governor in New Jersey, or has it not affected his ability to govern?

- 1 Hurts his ability
- 2 Does not have an effect
- 3 Helps ability to govern (VOL)
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

2014 MIDTERMS (OTHER THAN FIRST QUESTION SHOULD BE ALL, NOT JUST RV)

Let's talk a bit about the midterm elections this past November.

[IF NOT REGISTERED VOTER (IF QD1 NOT = 1) SKIP TO Q19]

Q18 Thinking back to the election for your U.S. House Representative, did you vote for [ROTATE: a Democrat, a Republican], someone else, or did you not have a chance to vote?

- 1. Democrat
- 2. Republican
- 3. Someone else
- 4. Did not vote
- 8 Don't know/Don't remember
- 9 Refused

Q19 To the best of your knowledge, which political party will have control of Congress starting in January? [ROTATE: The Republicans or the Democrats]?

- 1 Republicans
- 2 Democrats
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q20 In the new Congress starting in January, do you think Republican control of the Senate will change the way things are going in this country a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

- 1 A lot
- 2 Some
- 3 Not much
- 4 Not at all
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q21 How much do you think Barack Obama will be able to accomplish in his remaining two years as president? A lot of what he would like to do, some, not much, or nothing at all?

- 1 A lot
- 2 Some
- 3 Not much
- 4 Not at all
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q22 Do you think relations between Republicans and Democrats will get better, worse, or stay about the same?

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 Stay about the same
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q24 In just one or two words, please tell me the SINGLE most important thing you would like to see fixed when the new Congress starts in January?

[RECORD OPEN ENDED]

- 77 Can't fix anything I care about/similar responses (Vol) → **SKIP TO Q26**
- 98 Don't Know (Vol) → **SKIP TO Q26**
- 99 Refused → **SKIP TO Q26**

Q25 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

Q26 Thinking about Congress, 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

RIGHT/WRONG TRACK AND ISSUES

Now let's move onto New Jersey.

Q27 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 Going in the right direction
- 2 On the wrong track
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q28 Of the following, which is the MOST important problem facing New Jersey today? Is it: **[RANDOMIZE OPTION ORDER FOR 1-9, READ 1-10]**

- 1 Hurricane Sandy recovery
- 2 The economy and jobs
- 3 Taxes, including property taxes
- 4 Education and Schools
- 5 Crime and Drugs
- 6 Government spending
- 7 Health Care
- 8 Government corruption and abuse of power
- 9 The state pension fund
- 10 Or is it something else? **[SPECIFY]**
- 88 Don't know (vol)
- 99 Refused (vol)

ROADS AND GAS TAX

Let's talk for a moment about road and bridge conditions in New Jersey.

[SPLIT SAMPLE – RANDOMLY ASSIGN 1/6 TO QA, QB, QC, QD, QE, QF]

[VERSION QA – conditions first, gas tax “gas tax increase 10%/gallon” second]

Q29A How would you rate the condition of the local roads in your area? Are they excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

- 1 Excellent

- 2 Good
- 3 Only fair
- 4 Poor
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q30A In the past few years, do you think the local roads in your area have gotten better, worse or stayed the same?

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 Stayed the same
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q31A Other than toll roads like the Parkway and Turnpike, how would you rate the highways throughout New Jersey--excellent, good, only fair or poor?

[If respondent volunteers that it depends on where you are in the State, PROBE: Well, overall how would rate the roads in New Jersey, not including toll roads ... excellent, good, only fair, or poor?]

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

Q32A Legislative leaders have proposed increasing New Jersey's gasoline tax, which at 15 cents a gallon is nearly the lowest in the country. Any increase would be dedicated to pay for road maintenance and improvements. Do you support or oppose this gas tax increase?

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

Q33A If the only way New Jersey could raise the money to maintain and improve the state's roads were to either **[ROTATE: raise the gas tax OR borrow the necessary money]**, which would you prefer?

- 1 Raising the gas tax
- 2 Borrowing the necessary money
- 3 Neither/ Maintenance, Improvements not needed (vol)

- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q34A One proposal is to increase the gas tax by about 25 cents per gallon, raising an additional \$1.2 billion per year for road and bridge repairs. Given current prices, this would increase gas costs by about ten percent. Would you support or oppose this proposed increase in the gas tax?

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

[SKIP TO Q35]

[VERSION QB – gas tax “gas tax increase 10%/gallon” first, conditions second]

Q32B Legislative leaders have proposed increasing New Jersey's gasoline tax. Any increase would be dedicated to pay for road maintenance and improvements. Do you support or oppose this gas tax increase?

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

Q33B If the only way New Jersey could raise the money to maintain and improve the state's roads were to either **[ROTATE: raise the gas tax OR borrow the necessary money]**, which would you prefer?

- 1 Raising the gas tax
- 2 Borrowing the necessary money
- 3 Neither/ Maintenance, Improvements not needed (vol)
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q34B One proposal is to increase the gas tax by about 25 cents per gallon, raising an additional \$1.2 billion per year for road and bridge repairs. Given current prices, this would increase gas costs by about ten percent. Would you support or oppose this proposed increase in the gas tax?

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

Q29B How would you rate the condition of the local roads in your area: excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

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

Q30B In the past few years, do you think the local roads in your area have gotten better, worse or stayed the same?

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 Stayed the same
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q31B Other than toll roads like the Parkway and Turnpike, how would you rate the highways throughout New Jersey--excellent, good, only fair or poor?

[If respondent volunteers that it depends on where you are in the State, PROBE: Well, overall how would rate the roads in New Jersey, not including toll roads ... excellent, good, only fair, or poor?]

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

[SKIP TO Q35]

[VERSION C – conditions first, gas tax “80 cents/day” second]

Q29C How would you rate the condition of the local roads in your area: excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

- 1 Excellent
- 2 Good
- 3 Only fair
- 4 Poor
- 8 Don't know

9 Refused

Q30C In the past few years, do you think the local roads in your area have gotten better, worse or stayed the same?

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 Stayed the same
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q31C Other than toll roads like the Parkway and Turnpike, how would you rate the highways throughout New Jersey--excellent, good, only fair or poor?

[If respondent volunteers that it depends on where you are in the State, PROBE: Well, overall how would rate the roads in New Jersey, not including toll roads ... excellent, good, only fair, or poor?]

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

Q32C Legislative leaders have proposed increasing New Jersey's gasoline tax, which at 15 cents a gallon is nearly the lowest in the country. Any increase would be dedicated to pay for road maintenance and improvements. Do you support or oppose this gas tax increase?

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

Q33C If the only way New Jersey could raise the money to maintain and improve the state's roads were to either **[ROTATE: raise the gas tax OR borrow the necessary money]**, which would you prefer?

- 1 Raising the gas tax
- 2 Borrowing the necessary money
- 3 Neither/ Maintenance, Improvements not needed (vol)
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q34C One proposal is to increase the gas tax by about 25 cents per gallon, raising an additional 1.2

billion dollars per year for road and bridge repairs. For the typical New Jersey driver, this would add about 80 cents a day to driving costs. Would you support or oppose this proposed increase in the gas tax?

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

[SKIP TO Q35]

[VERSION D – gas tax "80 cents/day" first, conditions second]

Q32D Legislative leaders have proposed increasing New Jersey's gasoline tax. Any increase would be dedicated to pay for road maintenance and improvements. Do you support or oppose this gas tax increase?

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

Q33D If the only way New Jersey could raise the money to maintain and improve the state's roads were to either **[ROTATE: raise the gas tax OR borrow the necessary money]**, which would you prefer?

- 1 Raising the gas tax
- 2 Borrowing the necessary money
- 3 Neither/ Maintenance, Improvements not needed (vol)
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q34D One proposal is to increase the gas tax by about 25 cents per gallon, raising an additional 1.2 billion dollars per year for road and bridge repairs. For the typical New Jersey driver, this would add about 80 cents a day to driving costs. Would you support or oppose this proposed increase in the gas tax?

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

Q29D How would you rate the condition of the local roads in your area: excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

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

Q30D In the past few years, do you think the local roads in your area have gotten better, worse or stayed the same?

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 Stayed the same
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q31D Other than toll roads like the Parkway and Turnpike, how would you rate the highways throughout New Jersey--excellent, good, only fair or poor?

[If respondent volunteers that it depends on where you are in the State, PROBE: Well, overall how would rate the roads in New Jersey, not including toll roads ... excellent, good, only fair, or poor?]

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

[SKIP TO Q35]

[VERSION E –conditions first, gas tax “triple” second]

Q29E How would you rate the condition of the local roads in your area: excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

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

Q30E In the past few years, do you think the local roads in your area have gotten better, worse or

stayed the same?

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 Stayed the same
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q31E Other than toll roads like the Parkway and Turnpike, how would you rate the highways throughout New Jersey--excellent, good, only fair or poor?

[If respondent volunteers that it depends on where you are in the State, PROBE: Well, overall how would rate the roads in New Jersey... excellent, good, only fair, or poor?]

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

Q32E Legislative leaders have proposed increasing New Jersey's gasoline tax, which at 15 cents a gallon is nearly the lowest in the country. Any increase would be dedicated to pay for road maintenance and improvements. Do you support or oppose this gas tax increase?

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

Q33E If the only way New Jersey could raise the money to maintain and improve the state's roads were to either **[ROTATE: raise the gas tax OR borrow the necessary money]**, which would you prefer?

- 1 Raising the gas tax
- 2 Borrowing the necessary money
- 3 Neither/ Maintenance, Improvements not needed (vol)
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q34E One proposal is to increase the gas tax by about 25 cents per gallon, raising an additional \$1.2 billion per year for road and bridge repairs. This would nearly triple the state's share of the gas tax. Would you support or oppose this proposed increase in the gas tax?

- 1 Support
- 2 Oppose

- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

[SKIP TO Q35]

[VERSION F – gas tax “triple” first, conditions second]

Q32F Legislative leaders have proposed increasing New Jersey’s gasoline tax. Any increase would be dedicated to pay for road maintenance and improvements. Do you support or oppose this gas tax increase?

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

Q33F If the only way New Jersey could raise the money to maintain and improve the state’s roads were to either **[ROTATE: raise the gas tax OR borrow the necessary money]**, which would you prefer?

- 1 Raising the gas tax
- 2 Borrowing the necessary money
- 3 Neither/ Maintenance, Improvements not needed (vol)
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q34F One proposal is to increase the gas tax by about 25 cents per gallon, raising an additional \$1.2 billion per year for road and bridge repairs. This would nearly triple the state’s share of the gas tax. Would you support or oppose this proposed increase in the gas tax?

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

Q29F How would you rate the condition of the local roads in your area: excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

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

Q30F In the past few years, do you think the local roads in your area have gotten better, worse or stayed the same?

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 Stayed the same
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q31F Other than toll roads like the Parkway and Turnpike, how would you rate the highways throughout New Jersey--excellent, good, only fair or poor?

[If respondent volunteers that it depends on where you are in the State, PROBE: Well, overall how would rate the roads in New Jersey... excellent, good, only fair, or poor?]

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

[SKIP TO Q35]

[END SPLIT SAMPLE]

Q35 There is talk about combining an increase in the gas tax with a decrease in estate and inheritance taxes. While the gas tax would go up, the amount of taxes paid on estates after death would go down. Would such an agreement make you more likely or less likely to support an increase in the gas tax?

- 1 More Likely
- 2 Less Likely
- 3 Neither/No effect/No Difference (VOL)
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q36 With gas prices having fallen at least 70 cents per gallon in the last few months, do you think it is a better or worse time to increase the gas tax?

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 No time is good (VOL)
- 8 Don't know

9 Refused

Q37 And how often do you drive a motor vehicle, regardless of whether it is for work or for personal use? Is it almost every day or more, a few days a week, a few days a month, a few days a year, or do you never drive?

- 1 Almost every day (or more)
- 2 Few days a week
- 3 Few days a month
- 4 Few days a year
- 5 Never
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

FERGUSON & IMMIGRATION

[SPLIT SAMPLE, RANDOMLY ASSIGN 1/4 TO Q38A, 1/4 to Q38B, 1/4 to Q38C, 1/4 to Q38D]

Q38A Now, let's turn to some national issues. Recently a grand jury refused to indict [**in-dite**] Darren Wilson, the police officer who shot and killed Michael Brown, an unarmed teenager in Ferguson, Missouri. Do you think it was the right decision to not charge the police officer with a crime, or was it the wrong decision?

- 1 Right Decision
- 2 Wrong Decision
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q38B Now, let's turn to some national issues. Recently a grand jury refused to indict [**in-dite**] Darren Wilson, the police officer who shot and killed Michael Brown, an unarmed black teenager in Ferguson, Missouri. Do you think it was the right decision to not charge the police officer with a crime, or was it the wrong decision?

- 1 Right Decision
- 2 Wrong Decision
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q38A Now, let's turn to some national issues. Recently a grand jury refused to indict [**in-dite**] Daniel Panteleo, the police officer who choked to death Eric Garner, an unarmed man on Staten Island. Do you think it was the right decision to not charge the police officer with a crime, or was it the wrong decision?

- 1 Right Decision
- 2 Wrong Decision
- 8 Don't Know

9 Refused

Q38B Now, let's turn to some national issues. Recently a grand jury refused to indict [**in-dite**] Daniel Panteleo, the police officer who choked to death Eric Garner, an unarmed black man on Staten Island. Do you think it was the right decision to not charge the police officer with a crime, or was it the wrong decision?

- 1 Right Decision
- 2 Wrong Decision
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

[END SPLIT SAMPLE]

Q39 Last month, President Obama took executive action to spare about 5 million undocumented immigrants from deportation, refocusing enforcement efforts on "felons, not families." Those who will be able to avoid deportation are mostly parents and young people. Do you support or oppose Obama's new policy on undocumented immigrants?

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

Q40 And do you think Obama went too far with using an executive order as he did, or did he not go far enough?

- 1 Too far
- 2 Not far enough
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q41 Republicans are angry with Obama, saying he should work with Congress to reform immigration laws, not do it by himself. Obama says Congress has been unable to pass needed reforms, and he had no choice. Given this, and whether you support Obama's decision or not, do you think he should have kept trying to work with Congress, or did Obama have no choice but to act by himself?

- 1 Work with Congress
- 2 No choice but to act
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q42 Which one of the following should Republicans in Congress pursue next in response to Obama? Should they: **[ROTATE OPTIONS 1-4; READ 1-4]**

- 1 File a lawsuit against Obama
- 2 Shut down the government
- 3 Impeach Obama
- 4 Pass their own immigration reform law
- 5 Do nothing at all (vol)
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

BLACK FRIDAY SHOPPING

Q43 As you may know, the Friday after Thanksgiving – also known as “Black Friday” – is one of the biggest shopping days of the year, and bargains now continue for much of the weekend. Did you do any shopping – whether in person or online – at any point during “Black Friday” weekend, or not?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No → **SKIP TO Q45**
- 9 Refused (VOL) → **SKIP TO Q45**

Q44 How did you complete most of your shopping during “Black Friday” weekend? In person, online, or both?

- 1 In person
- 2 Online
- 3 Both
- 4 Home shopping television channel/television in general (vol)
- 5 Something else entirely (vol)
- 9 Refused (VOL)

Q45 Some stores also have sales strictly online the Monday after “Black Friday” weekend, called “Cyber Monday.” Did you do any shopping online on “Cyber Monday”?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Refused (VOL)

[IF Q43 = 2 or 9 AND Q45 = 2 or 9, SKIP TO Q47]

Q46 Approximately how much do you think you spent total in purchases during “Black Friday” weekend and “Cyber Monday” combined? Just give me an estimated dollar amount.

[CODE NUMBER]

- 88 Don't know
- 99 Refused

Q47 Some stores began “Black Friday” sales early by opening Thanksgiving Day itself. Do you think **[ROTATE: stores should have opened on Thanksgiving, or do you think stores should have remained closed so retail employees could spend the holiday with their loved ones]**?

- 1 Opened on Thanksgiving
- 2 Remained closed
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused (VOL)

Q48 Did you yourself do any shopping in person on Thanksgiving Day, or not?

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

[LIST EXPERIMENT – RANDOMLY ASSIGN 1/3 to VERSION A, 1/3 to VERSION B and 1/3 to VERSION C]

[VERSION A – CONTROL]

Q49A Now I am going to read you three things that sometimes make people angry or upset. After I read all three, just tell me HOW MANY of them upset you. I don't want to know which ones, just HOW MANY.

An increase in the tax on gasoline.
Professional athletes getting multi-million-dollar contracts.
Large corporations polluting the environment.

Now, how MANY UPSET you? Just give me a number from 0 to 3.

[RESPONSE – KEY NUMBER FROM 0 to 3]

- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

[VERSION B]

Q49B Now I am going to read you four things that sometimes make people angry or upset. After I read all three, just tell me HOW MANY of them upset you. I don't want to know which ones, just HOW MANY.

An increase in the tax on gasoline.
Professional athletes getting multi-million-dollar contracts.

Large corporations polluting the environment.
An African-American candidate winning an election.

Now, how MANY UPSET you? Just give me a number from 0 to 4.

[RESPONSE – KEY NUMBER FROM 0 to 4]

- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

[VERSION C]

Q49C Now I am going to read you four things that sometimes make people angry or upset. After I read all three, just tell me HOW MANY of them upset you. I don't want to know which ones, just HOW MANY.

An increase in the tax on gasoline.
Professional athletes getting multi-million-dollar contracts.
Large corporations polluting the environment.
A mixed-race family moving in next door.

Now, how MANY UPSET you? Just give me a number from 0 to 4.

[RESPONSE – KEY NUMBER FROM 0 to 4]

- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

[END SPLIT SAMPLE]

Now I have a few questions about yourself.

Q50 How good of an actor would you be? Would you be a very good, good, poor, or very poor actor?

- 1 Very good
- 2 Good
- 3 Poor
- 4 Very poor
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused (VOL)

Q51 For each the following statements, please tell me if it is always true in your case, usually true, rarely true, or never true.

Q51A When you are uncertain how to act in a social situation, you look to the behavior of others for cues.

Q51B In groups of people, you are usually the center of attention.

- 1 Always true
- 2 Usually true
- 3 Rarely true
- 4 Never true
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Finally, I am going to read some statements that some people agree with and others disagree with. For each please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree nor disagree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the statement. First,

Q52 Irish, Italian, Jewish, and many other minorities overcame prejudice and worked their way up. Blacks should do the same without any special favors.

- 1 Strongly Agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Neither Agree nor Disagree
- 4 Disagree
- 5 Strongly Disagree
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q53 It's really a matter of people not trying hard enough; if blacks would only try harder, they could be just as well off as whites.

- 1 Strongly Agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Neither Agree nor Disagree
- 4 Disagree
- 5 Strongly Disagree
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q54 Generations of slavery and discrimination have created conditions that make it difficult for blacks to work their way out of the lower class.

- 1 Strongly Agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Neither Agree nor Disagree
- 4 Disagree
- 5 Strongly Disagree

- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

DEMOGRAPHICS

We're almost finished. Now we have a few last questions to help us understand our results.

QD6 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 (VOL)

QD9 What is your primary employment status? Are you: [**READ 1-8**]

[**IF RESPONDENT SAYS SELF-EMPLOYED, PROMPT WITH "AND ARE YOU SELF-EMPLOYED FULL TIME OR PART TIME?"**]

- 1 Employed full time [CODE ALSO FOR THOSE SELF-EMPLOYED FULL TIME]
- 2 Employed part time [CODE ALSO FOR THOSE SELF-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 (VOL)

QD10 Are you Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Muslim, some other religion, Atheist or agnostic?

- 1 Catholic → **ASK QD11**
- 2 Protestant → **ASK QD11**
- 3 Jewish
- 4 Muslim
- 5 Some other religion
- 6 Atheist
- 7 Agnostic
- 8 Don't Know (VOL)
- 9 Refused (VOL)

[ASK ONLY IF QD10 = 1,2]

QD11 Would you describe yourself as a born again or evangelical Christian?

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

QD12 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 Refused (vol)

QD13 Do you or any member of your household belong to a labor union?

- 1. Yes → **ASK QD14**
- 2. No
- 8 Don't Know (VOL)
- 9 Refused (VOL)

[ASK ONLY IF QD13 = 1]

QD14 Is the union a public employee union?

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

QD15 Were you born in the United States?

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

QD16 Were either of your parents born outside of the United States?

- 0 No
- 1 Yes
- 8 Don't Know

9 Refused

QD17 Are you of Latino or Hispanic origin, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or some other Spanish background?

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

QD18 Are you white, Black or of Asian origin, or are you some other race, or multi-racial?

- 1 White (includes Caucasian)
- 2 Black (includes African-American)
- 3 Asian (includes Asian-Indian, South Asian, East Asian, Chinese, Japanese)_
- 4 Hispanic / Latino / Spanish (VOL)
- 5 OTHER, SPECIFY: _____
- 6 Multi-racial
- 8 Don't know (VOL)
- 9 Refused (VOL)

QD19 Are you married, in a committed relationship, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

- 1 Married
- 2 Committed relationship
- 3 Widowed
- 4 Divorced
- 5 Separated
- 6 Never married
- 9 Refused (VOL)

QD21 Last year, that is in 2013, 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 \$25,000
- 2 25 to under \$50,000
- 3 50 to under \$75,000
- 4 75 to under \$100,000
- 5 100 to under \$150,000
- 6 \$150,000 or more
- 8 Don't know [VOL. – DO NOT READ]
- 9 Refused [VOL. – DO NOT READ]

[IF REACHED ON CELL PHONE ASK:]

QD34C Do you have any landline phones in your household or do you only use cell phones?

1. Landline in Household (reached on Cell)
2. Only use Cell
9. Refused (VOL)

[IF REACHED ON CELL PHONE ASK:]

QD35C Do you share your cell phone for personal use (at least one-third of the time) with other adults?

1. Yes
2. No
9. Refused

[ASK ONLY IF QD35C = 1]

QD40C How many adults – including you – share the cell phone?
____ **[ENTER NUMBER: 99= REFUSED]**

[IF REACHED ON LANDLINE PHONE ASK:]

QD34L Do you have any cell phones in your household or do you only use landline phones?

3. Cell in Household (reached on LL)
4. Only use landline
9. Refused (VOL)

[IF REACHED ON LANDLINE PHONE ASK:]

QD35L How many adults are in your household?
____ **[ENTER NUMBER: 99= REFUSED]**

QD99 And finally, just for statistical purposes what do you think *my* race is? African American, white, Latino, or Asian American, or are you not sure?

1. African American
2. White
3. Latino
4. Asian (include Indian (not native American))
5. Something else (vol)
8. Not sure
9. Refused

Closing and Additional Informed Consent Language

That completes our survey. Thank you very much for your time and cooperation. If you have any questions, you may contact Dr. David Redlawsk (*pronounced RED-loak*) at 732-932-9384. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact the administrator of the Rutgers Institutional Review Board at 732-235-9806. Have a good day/evening.

Methodology Statement

Rutgers-Eagleton Poll December 3 – 10, 2014

The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted by telephone using live callers December 3-10, 2014 with a scientifically selected random sample of 750 New Jersey adults including 646 registered voters. This telephone poll included 423 landline and 327 cell phone adults, all acquired through random digit dialing. Distribution of household phone use in this sample is:

Cell Only:	22%
Dual Use, Reached on Cell:	22%
Dual Use, Reached on LL:	50%
Landline Only:	6%

Data for registered voters (N=646) and all adults (N=750) were weighted separately to the demographics of registered voters and adults in New Jersey, respectively. Both weights account for the probability of being selected within the sample frame and the probability of being sampled within a household, based on the number of individuals living in the household and the phone composition (cell, landline) of the household. The samples were weighted to several demographic variables reflecting the population parameters of the state of New Jersey: gender, race, age, and Hispanic ethnicity. The final weight, which combined all of the parameters mentioned, was trimmed at the 5th and 95th percentile so as to not accord too much weight to any one case or subset of cases. All results are reported with these weighted data.

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. Sampling error should be adjusted to recognize the effect of weighting the data to better match the population. In this poll, the simple sampling error for the 750 adults is +/-3.6 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence interval. The adult sample weighting design effect is 1.25, making the adjusted margin of error +/- 4.0 percentage points for the adult sample. The simple sampling error for 646 registered voters is +/-3.9 percentage points. The weighting design effect for the registered voter sample is 1.22, making the adjusted margin of error +/-4.3 percentage points for the registered voter sample.

Thus if 50 percent of New Jersey adults in this sample favor a particular position, we would be 95 percent sure that the true figure is between 46.0 and 54.0 percent (50 +/-4.0) if all New Jersey adults had 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 in house by the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling.

The questionnaire was developed and all data analyses were completed in house. The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll is paid for and sponsored by the Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University, a non-partisan academic center for the study of politics and the political process.