

EAGLETON POLL 76 (SL/EP26)  
OCTOBER 1989

Hello, my name is (first and last name)--I'm on the staff of the Eagleton Poll, and I'm taking a public opinion survey of New Jersey adults for Rutgers University--I'd like your views on what New Jersey is like as a place to live and on some topics currently in the news

1. To begin with, for how many years have you lived in New Jersey, or have you lived here all of your life?

- 1 LESS THAN ONE
- 2 ONE OR TWO
- 3 3- 5
- 4 6- 10
- 5 11 - 20
- 6 21 - 30
- 7 MORE THAN 30
- 8 ALLMY LIFE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

2. Are you currently registered to vote here in New Jersey--IF YES, PROBE: As a Democrat, Republican, Independent or something else?

- 1 YES, DEMOCRAT
- 2 YES, REPUBLICAN
- 3 YES, INDEPENDENT
- 4 YES, OTHER
- 5 YES, REFUSED PARTY
- 6 NO [Go to q.59]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.59]

3. As of now, how likely are you to vote in the election for governor this November--will you definitely vote, probably vote, probably not vote, or definitely not vote?

- 1 DEFINITELY WILL VOTE
- 2 PROBABLY WILL VOTE
- 3 PROBABLY WILL NOT VOTE [Go to q.59]
- 4 DEFINITELY WILL NOT VOTE [Go to q.59]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.59]

4. How interested are you in the outcome of this election--very, somewhat, not very, or not at all interested?

- 1 VERY INTERESTED
- 2 SOMENHAT INTERESTED
- 3 NOT VERY INTERESTED
- 4 NOT AT ALL INTERESTED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

5. Do you know who the Republican candidate for Governor is?

- 1 NAMES COURTER [Go to q.7]
- 2 DOES NOT NAME COURTER [Go to q.6]

6. The Republican candidate is Jim Courter--have you ever heard of him before?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.10]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.10]

7. How much do you think you know about Jim Courter--a lot, some or just a little?

- 1 A LOT
- 2 SOME
- 3 A LITTLE
- 4 NOTHING
- 9 DON'T KNOW

8. Is your general impression of Courter favorable or unfavorable, or don't you really have an opinion about him--IF FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE, PROBE: Is that very (favorable/unfavorable) or somewhat (favorable/ unfavorable)?

- 1 VERY FAVORABLE
- 2 SOMEWHAT FAVORABLE
- 3 SOMEWHAT UNFAVORABLE
- 4 VERY UNFAVORABLE
- 9 NO OPINION/DON'T KNOW

9. How would you describe Courter--as a liberal, a moderate, a conservative or aren't you sure?

- 1 LIBERAL
- 2 MODERATE
- 3 CONSERVATIVE
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE

10. And, do you know who the Democratic candidate for Governor is?

- 1 NAMES FLORIO [Go to q.12]
- 2 DOES NOT NAME FLORIO [Go to q.11]

11. The Democratic candidate is Jim Florio--have you ever heard of him before?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.15]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.15]

12. How much do you think you know about Florio--a lot, some or just a little?

- 1 A LOT
- 2 SOME
- 3 A LITTLE
- 4 NOTHING
- 9 DON'T KNOW

13. Is your general impression of Florio favorable or unfavorable, or don't you really have an opinion about him--IF FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE, PROBE: Is that very (favorable/unfavorable) or somewhat (favorable/ unfavorable)?

- 1 VERY FAVORABLE
- 2 SOMEWHAT FAVORABLE

- 3 SOWEWHAT UNFAVORABLE
- 4 VERY UNFAVORABLE
- 9 NO OPINION/DON'T KNOW

14. How would you describe Florio--as a liberal, a moderate, a conservative or aren't you sure?

- 1 LIBERAL
- 2 MODERATE
- 3 CONSERVATIVE
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE

15. What do you think is the most important problem facing the state that whoever is elected Governor will have to face?

Do NOT READ RESPONSE OPTIONS. PROBE FOR ONE RESPONSE AND CIRCLE APPROPRIATE CODE, IF MORE THAN ONE RESPONSE GIVEN, ASK WHICH IS MOST IMPORTANT--IF UNCLEAR WHERE TO CODE, WRITE RESPONSE IN "OTHER"

16. Regardless of who you plan to vote for, who do you think will do a better job of handling this problem: Jim Courter the Republican (or) Jim Florio the Democrat?

- 1 COURTER
- 2 FLORIO
- 3 BOTH/NO DIFFERENCE
- 4 NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

17. If the election was today, would you vote for Jim Courter, the Republican: or Jim Florio, the Democrat--IF 'WOULDN'T VOTE," PROBE: Would you not vote because you're undecided now, or don't you plan to vote in the election?

- 1 COURTER [Go to q.18]
- 2 FLORIO [Go to q.18]
- 3 WON'T VOTE [Go to q. 21]
- 4 OTHER CANDIDATE [Go to q.21]
- 9 UNDECIDED/DON'T KNOW [Go to q.20]

18. Are you very sure about your choice, or might you change your mind before election day?

- 1 SURE/FIRM
- 2 MIGHT CHANGE/D.K.

19. When did you decide who you would vote for--in the last few days, in the last couple of weeks, in the last month or two, or before that?

- 1 RIGHT NOW/DURING INTERVIEW
- 2 LAST FEW DAYS/
- 3 LAST WEEK OR TWO
- 4 LAST MONTH OR TWO
- 5 BEFORE THAT/EARLIER
- 8 OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

(IF #9 TO Q.17. ASK:)

20. Do you lean more towards Courter, or more towards Florio?

- 1 COURTER
- 2 FLORIO
- 9 NEITRER/UWDECIDED/DON'T KNOW

(IF #1,2,OR 9 TO Q.17, ASK Q.21 TO Q.24, OTHERS GO TO Q25:)

21. Overall, which candidate--Florio or Courter--has a better understanding of the problems and important issues facing New Jersey?

- 1 FLORIO
- 2 COURTER
- 3 BOTH/NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

22. If Republican Jim Courter was elected governor, do you think he would continue most of the same policies of Governor Kean's administration, or do you think he has different ideas than Kean about how the state should be run?

- 1 SAME POLICIES
- 2 HAS DIFFERENT IDEAS
- 3 BOTH--SOME SAME, SOME DIFFERENT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

23. I'm going to read you a short list of issues Regardless of which candidate you might favor, please tell me which one--Courter or Florio--you think would do a better job of handling each--First (DESIGNATED POINT) who would be better-- Courter or Florio|

- A managing the economy and keeping the state prosperous?
- B keeping government honest and free from corruption?
- C Providing strong leadership for the state?
- D protecting the environment?
- E balancing the state budget?
- F providing social services such as day care and aid to the needy
- G handling the drug problem?
- H holding down taxes?
- I controlling growth and development?
- J handling public school education?
- K fixing the auto insurance problem?
- L doing what you want done about abortion?

- 1 COURTER
- 2 FLORIO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

24. Which one of these issues do you feel will be the most important in your decision on who to vote for on election day--If you'd like, I'll read through the list again for you--CIRCLE ONLY ONE CODE IN COLUMN UNDER Q.24 ABOVE?

- 1 managing the economy and keeping the state prosperous
- 2 keeping government honest and free from corruption
- 3 Providing strong leadership for the state
- 4 protecting the environment

- 5 balancing the state budget
- 6 providing social services such as day care and aid to the needy
- 7 handling the drug problem
- 8 holding down taxes
- 9 controlling growth and development
- 10 handling public school education
- 11 fixing the auto insurance problem
- 12 doing what you want done about abortion
- 13 none - other
- 99 DON'T KNOW

25. Did you watch any of (yesterday's/Wednesday's) debate between Courter and Florio on TV or listen to it on the radio?

- 1 YES [Go to q.26a]
- 2 NO/DON'T KNOW [Go to q.26b]

26A. Have you seen or read any news stories about their debate?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

26b. Have you seen or read any news stories about their debate?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

IF #1, 2, OR 9 TO Q. 26A OR "YES" TO Q. 26B ASK Q27 TO Q29:)

27. Who do you think actually got the best of the debate--Courter or Florio--IF CHOICE MADE, PROBE: By a lot or just a little?

- 1 COURTER--A LOT
- 2 COURTER--A LITTLE
- 3 FLORIO--A LOT
- 4 FLORIO--A LITTLE
- 5 NOBODY WON/NO OPINION

28. Based on what you saw or heard about the debate, did your overall impression of Jim Florio become more favorable, less favorable, or didn't your view of him change?

- 1 MORE FAVORABLE
- 2 LESS FAVORABLE
- 3 DIDN'T CHANGE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

29. How about your impression of Jim Courter--did this become more favorable, less favorable, or didn't your view of him change?

- 1 MORE FAVORABLE
- 2 LESS FAVORABLE
- 3 DIDN'T CHANGE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

30. Regardless of who you plan to vote for, who do you think will win the election for Governor?

- 1 FLORIO
- 2 COURTER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

31. From which of the following have you gathered most of your information about the race for Governor--radio, TV, newspapers, magazines, or from other people-- IF MORE THAN ONE SOURCE GIVEN, PROBE: From which would you say you get more information? (SINGLE RECORD ONLY)

- 1 RADIO
- 2 TV
- 3 NEWSPAPERS
- 4 MAGAZINES
- 5 OTHER PEOPLE
- 6 CAMPAIGN LITERATURE IN MAIL/CONTACTED BY CAMPAIGNS
- 7 COMBINATION, INCLUDING TV
- 8 COMBINATION, NOT INCLUDING TV
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO INFORMATION

32. Would you say that you have gotten more information from the candidates' advertisements on television, or from news programs on television?

- 1 ADS
- 2 TV NEWS
- 3 BOTH--THE SAME
- 4 NO INFORMATION FROM EITHER/DON'T WATCH TV
- 9 DON'T KNOW

33. Have you seen or heard any of Florio's television or radio advertisements?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.37]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.37]

34. And has what you've seen or heard in Florio's advertisements made you more likely to support him, less likely, or have they made no difference?

- 1 MORE LIKELY
- 2 LESS LIKELY
- 3 NO DIFFERENCE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

35. How useful have Florio's ads been in helping you understand where the candidates stand on the issues--very useful, somewhat useful, not very useful, or not at all useful?

- 1 VERY
- 2 SOMEWHAT
- 3 NOT VERY
- 4 NOT AT ALL
- 9 DON'T KNOW

36. And how truthful and accurate do you think Florio's ads have been--very, somewhat, not very, or not at all truthful?

- 1 VERY TRUTHFUL
- 2 SOMEWHAT TRUTHFUL
- 3 NOT VERY TRUTHFUL
- 4 NOT AT ALL TRUTHFUL
- 9 DON'T KNOW

37. Have you seen any of Courter's television or radio advertisements?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.41]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.41]

38. And has what you've seen or heard in Courter's advertisements made you more likely to support him, less likely, or have they made no difference?

- 1 MORE LIKELY
- 2 LESS LIKELY
- 3 NO DIFFERENCE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

39. How useful have Courter's ads been in helping you understand where the candidates stand on the issues--very useful, somewhat useful, not very useful, or not at all useful?

- 1 VERY
- 2 SOMEWHAT
- 3 NOT VERY
- 4 NOT AT ALL
- 9 DON'T KNOW

40. And how truthful and accurate do you think Courter's ads have been--very, somewhat, not very, or not at all truthful?

- 1 VERY TRUTHFUL
- 2 SOMEWHAT TRUTHFUL
- 3 NOT VERY TRUTHFUL
- 4 NOT AT ALL TRUTHFUL
- 9 DON'T KNOW

41. Some people believe that less government regulation of auto insurance would create more competition between companies and lower insurance rates--Others believe there must be strict regulation of insurance companies to keep rates from going up even higher--How about you--do you think there needs to be strict regulation of auto insurance companies to keep rates down, or do you think less regulation would lead to more competition and lower rates?

- 1 NEED STRICT REGULATION
- 2 LESS REGULATION
- 3 BOTH/IN-BETWEEN
- 8 DEPENDS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

42. Do you think Jim Courter favors Strict regulation or less regulation of auto insurance companies, or aren't you sure?

- 1 STRICT REGULATION

- 2 LESS REGULATION
- 3 NOT SURE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

43. And, do you think Jim Florio favors strict regulation or less regulation of auto insurance companies, or aren't you sure?

- 1 STRICT REGULATION
- 2 LESS REGULATION
- 3 NOT SURE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

44. Thinking about abortion, in general, which of the following three views comes closest to your own - ALL WOMEN SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO ABORTION IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES, ALL WOMEN SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO HAVE AN ABORTION, BUT ONLY IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, or NO WOMEN SHOULD BE ALLOWED AN ABORTION FOR ANY CIRCUMSTANCE?

- 1 ALL WOMEN SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO ABORTION IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES
- 2 ALL WOMEN SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO HAVE AN ABORTION, BUT ONLY IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES
- 3 NO WOMEN SHOULD BE ALLOWED AN ABORTION FOR ANY CIRCUMSTANCE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

45. Which candidate for governor, Florio or COUrter, would you say is personally more in favor of protecting a woman's right to have an abortion or aren't you sure?

- 1 FLORIO
- 2 COURTER
- 3 BOTH
- 4 NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

46. In November there will also be an election for the New Jersey State Assembly. How interested are you in this election--very interested, somewhat interested, not very interested, or not at all interested?

- 1 VERY INTERESTED
- 2 SOMEWHAT INTERESTED
- 3 NOT VERY INTERESTED
- 4 NOT AT ALL INTERESTED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

47. If the election for State Assembly was held today, would you vote for the Democratic or Republican candidates from your district?

- 1 DEMOCRATIC
- 2 REPUBLICAN
- 3 1 DEM., 1 REP.
- 4 1 DEM., DON'T KNOW OTHER
- 5 1 REP., DON'T KNOW OTHER
- 8 OTHER (WON'T VOTE)
- 9 DON'T KNOW



48. Most people do not vote in every election--I'm going to ask you about some past elections--If you can't recall whether you voted or if you weren't eligible to Vote, just say so--Did you vote in the June 1989 primary elections for Governor?

- 1 NO
- 2 YES
- 8 NO--NOT ELIGIBLE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

49. Did you vote in the Presidential election in 1988?

50. Did you vote for George Bush the Republican or Michael Dukakis the Democrat?

- 1 BUSH
- 2 DUKAKIS
- 3 OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

51. Did you vote in the 1987 election for the State Senate and Assembly?

52. And, how about the 1985 election for Governor?

53. Did you vote in the 1981 election for Governor between Tom Kean the Republican and Jim Florio the Democrat?

54. Did you vote for Kean or Florio?

- 1 KEAN
- 2 FLORIO
- 3 CAN'T REMEMBER/DON'T KNOW
- 4 OTHER
- 9 REFUSED

55. In past elections, did you usually favor the Democratic or the Republican candidate for Governor? (INTERVIEWER'S NOTE: IF RESPONDENT SAYS "SOMETIMES DEMOCRAT" OR "SOMETIMES REPUBLICAN," CIRCLE CHOICE 3)

- 1 DEMOCRAT
- 2 REPUBLICAN
- 3 DEPENDS ON CANDIDATES
- 4 NOT ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN PAST--TOO YOUNG, NOT IN STATE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

Now I have some general questions about charitable organizations.

56. Have you ever heard of the United Way?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

57. In the past 12 months, since September of 1988, did you yourself give money to the United Way?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.]

58. Was that through work or some other way?

- 1 WORK DONATION/DRIVE
- 2 SOME OTHER WAY
- 9 DON'T KNOW

59. Have you ever heard of the Black United Fund of New Jersey?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.]

60. In the past 12 months, since September of 1988, did you yourself give money to the Black United Fund of New Jersey?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.]

61. Was that through work or some other way?

- 1 WORK DONATION/DRIVE
- 2 SOME OTHER WAY
- 9 DON'T KNOW

62. In general, are you in favor of, not in favor of, or neutral about having a charitable fund for the benefit of the Black community--IF "IN FAVOR" OR "NOT IN FAVOR," PROBE: Are you strongly or mildly (in favor/not in favor) of this?

- 1 STRONGLY FAVOR
- 2 MILDLY FAVOR
- 3 NEUTRAL
- 4 MILDLY NOT IN FAVOR
- 5 STRONGLY NOT IN FAVOR
- 8 DEPENDS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

Just a few more questions so we can classify your answers.

D1. In politics as of today, do you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or something else?

- 1 DEMOCRAT [Go to q.D3]
- 2 REPUBLICAN [Go to q.D3]
- 3 INDEPENDENT
- 4 SOMETHING ELSE/OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

(IF #3, 4, OR 9 TO Q. D1. ASK)

D2. Do you lean more toward the Democratic Party or more toward the Republican Party?

- 1 DEMOCRATIC PARTY
- 2 REPUBLICAN PARTY
- 3 OTHER PARTY
- 4 NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO

D3. Regardless of the political party you might favor, do you consider yourself to be a liberal, conservative, or somewhere in between?

- 1 LIBERAL [Go to q.D5]
- 2 CONSERVATIVE [Go to q.D5]
- 3 SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

(IF #3 OR 9 TO Q. D3. ASK)

D4. Do you lean more toward the liberal side or more toward the conservative side?

- 1 LIBERAL
- 2 CONSERVATIVE
- 3 OTHER/NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

D5. Did you receive a high school diploma?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.D7]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.D7]

D6. Did you ever attend college--IF YES, ASK: Did you graduate?

- 1 YES, GRADUATED
- 2 YES, DID NOT GRADUATE
- 3 JUNIOR COLLEGE--GRADUATE
- 4 VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL SCHOOL
- 5 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

D7. Are you currently employed, temporarily laid off, retired or not employed?

- 1 EMPLOYED
- 2 TEMPORARILY LAID OFF
- 3 RETIRED [Go to q.D9]
- 4 NOT EMPLOYED [Go to q.D9]
- 9 OTHER/REFUSED [Go to q.D9]

D8. Do you get paid at an hourly rate, a salary, or are you self-employed?

- 1 HOURLY (AND PIECEWORK)
- 2 SALARIED (AND COMMISSIONS)
- 3 SELF-EMPLOYED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

D9. Are you the chief wage earner in your household?

- 1 YES [Go to q.12]
- 2 NO [Go to q.10]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.12]

D10. Is the chief wage earner in your household currently employed, temporarily laid off, retired or not employed?

- 1 EMPLOYED
- 2 TEMPORARILY LAID OFF
- 3 RETIRED [Go to q.D12]
- 4 NOT EMPLOYED [Go to q.D12]
- 9 OTHER/REFUSED [Go to q.D12]

D11. Does/did the chief wage earner get paid at an hourly rate, paid a salary, or is the chief wage earner self-employed?

- 1 HOURLY (AND PIECEWORK)
- 2 SALARIED (AND COMMISSIONS)
- 3 SELF-EMPLOYED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

D12. Do you own or rent your apartment or house?

- 1 OWN
- 2 RENT
- 3 LIVE RENT FREE WITH PARENTS/RELATIVES
- 4 BOTH OWN AND RENT
- 9 NOT DETERMINED

D13. Are you married, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

- 1 MARRIED
- 2 WIDOWED
- 3 DIVORCED
- 4 SEPARATED
- 5 NEVER MARRIED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

D13A. Including yourself, how many members of your household are 18 or over?

- 1 ONE
- 2 Two
- 3 THREE
- 4 FOUR
- 5 FIVE
- 6 SIX
- 7 SEVEN
- 8 EIGHT OR OVER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

D14. Are you white, black or of Hispanic origin?

- 1 WRITE
- 2 BLACK

- 3 HISPANIC
- 4 OTHER (SPECIFY:
- 9 NOT DETERMINED

D15. Do you consider yourself to be Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, or something else?

- 1 CATHOLIC
- 2 PROTESTANT
- 3 JEWISH
- 4 NONE/ATHEIST/AGNOSTIC
- 5 OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

D16. What was your age on your last birthday?

(CODE # OF YEARS, 99 = REFUSED AND CODE)  
99 REFUSED

D17. In what age group are you [read choices]?

- 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 NO ANSWER/REFUSED

D18. Where do you live--in what township or municipality?

D18a. In what county is that?

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D19. So that we can group all answers, what is your total annual family income before taxes: Under \$10,000; \$10,000 to \$20,000; \$20,000 to \$30,000; \$30,000 to \$50,000; over \$50,000?

- 1 UNDER \$10,000
- 2 \$10,001 - \$20,000
- 3 \$20,001 - \$30,000
- 4 \$30,001 - \$50,000
- 5 OVER \$50,000
- 9 REFUSED/DON'T KNOW