

STAR-LEDGER/EAGLETON POLL 89
SEPTEMBER 1992

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 ALL MY LIFE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

2. HOW would you rate the job Jim Florio is doing as Governor-excellent, good, only fair or poor?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR
- 9 DON'T XNOW

3. And how would you rate the job the New Jersey State Legislature is doing--excellent, good, only fair or poor?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR
- 9 DON'T KNOW

4. How good a job are the representatives from your district in the State senate and Assembly doing--excellent, good, only fair or poor?

- 1. EXCELLENT
- 2. GOOD
- 3. ONLY FAIR
- 4. POOR
- 9. DON'T KNOW

5. Which party controls the New Jersey State Legislature--the Republicans or the Democrats?

- 1 DEMOCRATS
- 2 REPUBLICANS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

6. How would you rate the job George Bush is doing as President-excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR
- 9 DON'T KNOW

7. Thinking back over George Bush's first term in office, do you think he deserves to be re-elected for a second term or not?

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

8. How would you rate the job Dan Quayle is doing as Vice President--excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR
- 9 DON'T KNOW

9. And, how would you rate the job Congress has done during the past year -- excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR
- 9 DON'T KNOW

10. How would you rate the job the representative to Congress from your district is doing--excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR
- 9 DON'T KNOW

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

- 1 DEMOCRAT [Go to q.13]
- 2 REPUBLICAN [Go to q.13]
- 3 INDEPENDENT [Go to q.13]
- 4 OTHER/REFUSED [Go to q.13]
- 5 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

(IF NO/DON'T KNOW TO Q.11, ASK:)

12. Do you plan to register so you can vote in the Presidential election?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.14]

9 DON'T KNOW

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

- 1 DEFINITELY WILL VOTE [Go to q.15]
- 2 PROBABLY WILL VOTE [Go to q.15]
- 3 PROBABLY NOT VOTE
- 4 DEFINITELY NOT VOTE
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.15]

14. What is the main reason why you aren't planning on voting?

15. How much interest do you have in this election--a lot, some, a little or none at all?

- 1 A LOT
- 2 SOME
- 3 A LITTLE
- 4 NONE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

16. In your opinion, how much of a difference will the outcome of this election make in the way the government is run for the next few years--a great deal of difference, some difference, or not very much difference?

- 1 A GREAT DEAL OF DIFFERENCE
- 2 SOME DIFFERENCE
- 3 NOT VERY MUCH DIFFERENCE
- 8 DEPENDS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

17. Now I'd like to get your general feelings about the Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates--For each name please tell me whether you have a favorable or unfavorable impression--If you don't have an opinion on some just say so--First, how about (START AT DESIGNATED POINT) do you have a favorable or unfavorable impression of him--IF FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE, PROBE: "Is that very (favorable/unfavorable) or only somewhat (favorable/unfavorable)--Next, how about(REPEAT RESPONSE OPTIONS AS NECESSARY) -- |

- A Bill Clinton?
- B George Bush?
- C Al Gore?
- D Dan Quayle?

- 1 VERY FAVORABLE
- 2 SOMEWHAT FAVORABLE
- 3 SOMEWHAT UNFAVORABLE
- 4 VERY UNFAVORABLE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

18. If the election for President were held today and you had to choose between Bill Clinton, the Democrat; and George Bush, the Republican; who would you vote

for--IF RESPONDENT SAYS OTHER, PROBE: "But if you had to choose only between Clinton and Bush who would you vote for"?

- 1 CLINTON
- 2 BUSH
- 3 PEROT [Go to q.23]
- 4 OTHER [Go to q.23]
- 5 WOULDN'T VOTE [Go to q.23]
- 9 DON'T KNOW/UNDECIDED [Go to q.20]

IF #1 OR #2 TO Q.18. ASK:)

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

- 1 SURE/FIRM
- 2 MIGHT CHANGE/DON'T KNOW

IF #9 TO Q.18 ASK:)

20. Do you lean more toward Clinton, or more towards Bush?

- 1 CLINTON
- 2 BUSH
- 9 DON'T KNOW

21. What is the most important reason why you favor (CANDIDATE NAMED IN Q.18 OR Q.20)?

22. Would you say you are voting more for (CANDIDATE NAMED IN Q.18 OR Q.20) or more against (OTHER CANDIDATE)?

- 1 MORE FOR
- 2 MORE AGAINST
- 9 DON'T KNOW

23. To the best of your knowledge, will Ross Perot's name be on the ballot in New Jersey or not?

- 1 YES, ON BALLOT
- 2 NO, NOT ON BALMT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

24. Even though Ross Perot stopped campaigning for president, his name will be on the ballot and you can vote for him--If the election for President were held today and you had to choose between Bill Clinton, the Democrat: George Bush, the Republican: or Ross Perot, who would you vote for?

- 1 CLINTON
- 2 BUSH
- 3 PEROT
- 4 OTHER
- 8 WOULDN'T VOTE
- 9 DON'T KNOW/UNDECIDED

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

- 1 SURE/FIRM
- 2 MIGHT CHANGE/DON'T ENOW

26. This summer Ross Perot was actively campaigning for President--At any time did you consider voting for Perot, or not?

- 1 YES, CONSIDERED VOTING FOR PEROT
- 2 NO, DID NOT EVER CONSIDER VOTING FOR PEROT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

27. If Ross Perot announces that he is re-entering the Presidential race and begins to actively campaign would you consider voting for him or not?

- 1 YES, CONSIDER VOTING FOR PEROT
- 2 NO, WOULD NOT CONSIDER VOTING FOR PEROT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

28. Which of these two statements best describes your opinion -- Voting for a third party candidate is throwing away your vote because that person doesn't have a chance to win, OR voting for a third party candidate sends a message that the political system needs to change?

- 1 Voting for a third party candidate is throwing away your vote because that person doesn't have a chance to win
- 2 Voting for a third party candidate sends a message that the political system needs to change
- 3 NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

29. Overall, how satisfied are you with the current field of candidates running for president this year -- very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

- 1 VERY SATISFIED
- 2 SOMEWHAT SATISFIED
- 3 SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED
- 4 VERY DISSATISFIED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

30. Different people are concerned with different issues--What do you feel is the most important problem facing the country that the next President will have to solve?

31. Which candidate would be more likely to do what you want done about this problem--Bush, Clinton, or wouldn't there be any difference between them?

- 1 BUSH
- 2 CLINTON
- 3 NO DIFFERENCE
- 4 PEROT
- 8 DEPENDS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

32A. We're interested in finding out which issues are important to YOU in this Presidential election--Please tell me if you personally think each of the following is very important, somewhat important, or not very important--First, (ROTATE ITEM 1) would you classify this as very important, somewhat important, or not very important in this Presidential election -- |

- 1 reducing the budget deficit?
- 2 doing what you want done about abortion?
- 3 reducing the risk of war?
- 4 holding down taxes?
- 5 reducing crime and drug use?
- 6 keeping the country militarily strong?
- 7 cleaning up and protecting the environment?
- 8 providing social services such as day care and aid to the needy?
- 9 managing the economy and keeping the country prosperous?
- 10 improving the educational system?
- 11 securing equal rights for women?
- 12 controlling health care costs?
- 13 providing jobs?
- 14 promoting family values?
- 15 improving race relations?
- 16 providing leadership in foreign policy?

- 1 VERY IMPORTANT
- 2 SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT
- 3 NOT VERY IMPORTANT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

32B. Regardless of which candidate you might favor, please tell me which one-- Bush or Clinton--you think would do a better job of |

- 1 reducing the budget deficit?
- 2 doing what you want done about abortion?
- 3 reducing the risk of war?
- 4 holding down taxes?
- 5 reducing crime and drug use?
- 6 keeping the country militarily strong?
- 7 cleaning up and protecting the environment?
- 8 providing social services such as day care and aid to the needy ?
- 9 managing the economy and keeping the country prosperous?
- 10 improving the educational system?
- 11 securing equal rights for women?
- 12 controlling health care costs?
- 13 providing jobs?
- 14 promoting family values?
- 15 improving race relations?
- 16 providing leadership in foreign policy?

- 1 BUSH
- 2 CLINTON
- 9 DON'T KNOW

33. Which candidate has a clearer vision of the country's future--Bush or Clinton?

- 1 BUSH
- 2 CLINTON

9 DON'T KNOW

34. And who cares more about people like you?

1 BUSH

2 CLINTON

9 DON'T KNOW

35. Who is more honest?

1 BUSH

2 CLINTON

9 DON'T KNOW

36. Who is more sincere-Bush or Clinton?

1 BUSH

2 CLINTON

9 DON'T KNOW

37. And who is more competent?

1 BUSH

2 CLINTON

9 DON'T KNOW

38. Who is more intelligent?

1 BUSH

2 CLINTON

9 DON'T KNOW

39. Who would bring better people into government?

1 BUSH

2 CLINTON

9 DON'T KNOW

40. Who is more experienced?

1 BUSH

2 CLINTON

9 DON'T KNOW

41. Which one is a stronger leader?

1 BUSH

2 CLINTON

9 DON'T KNOW

42. Which candidate do you trust more--Bush or Clinton?

1 BUSH

2 CLINTON

9 DON'T KNOW

43. There has been a lot of talk about raising taxes to reduce the federal budget deficit--Do you feel that taxes should, or should not be raised to reduce the deficit?

- 1 SHOULD
- 2 SHOULD NOT
- 8 DEPENDS
- 9 NO OPINION

ROTATE ITEMS 44 AND 45:

44. If Bill Clinton is elected, do you think taxes will be raised or not?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 8 DEPENDS
- 9 NO OPINION

45. If George Bush is elected, do you think taxes will be raised or not?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 8 DEPENDS
- 9 NO OPINION

46. There will be an election for the U.S. House of Representatives in your district in November--If you were voting today, would you vote for the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?

- 1 DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE
- 2 REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE
- 3 OTHER CANDIDATE
- 9 UNDECIDED/NO OPINION

47. Do you know which party controls Congress--IF YES, PROBE: Which one?

- 1 NO
- 2 DEMOCRATS
- 3 REPUBLICANS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

48. Which party would you rather see in control of the Congress--the Democrats or the Republicans?

- 1 DEMOCRATS
- 2 REPUBLICANS
- 3 NEITHER
- 4 DEPENDS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

49. As you probably know, the Republicans have been in the White House for the last 12 years--Have you been pretty satisfied with the way things have been run, or do you think it's time for a change?

- 1 PRETTY SATISFIED
- 2 TIME FOR A CHANGE
- 3 BOTH

9 DEPENDS ON CHANGE, DON'T KNOW

50. Some say that the country's current economic problems are mainly the result of the performance of Republican president George Bush--Others claim that the country's economic problems are mainly the result of the performance of the Democratically controlled Congress--Who do you feel is most responsible for the country's economic problems, President Bush, the Democratic Congress, or both?

- 1 PRESIDENT BUSH
- 2 CONGRESS
- 3 BOTH
- 4 NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

51. Which of these two statements best describes your opinion?

- 1 It's better to have a President and a majority of Congress from the same political party so they can work together and get things done
- 2 It's better to have a President and a majority of Congress from different political parties so they can watch over each other and represent different points of view
- 9 DON'T KNOW

52. Generally speaking, would you say things in the country are going in the right direction, or have they pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?

- 1 RIGHT DIRECTION
- 2 WRONG TRACK
- 9 DON'T KNOW

53. Which of the candidates for president will be best able to move the nation in the right direction over the next 4 years -- Republican George Bush or Democrat Bill Clinton?

- 1 BUSH
- 2 CLINTON
- 3 NO DIFFERENCE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

54. People have lots of different opinions about our government--I am going to read you a series of statements--For each one, please tell me whether you agree or disagree--First, how about (START AT DESIGNATED POINT)--Do you agree or disagree--PROBE: Do you strongly or mildly (agree/disagree)|

A The Republicans have controlled the presidency long enough, it's time to vote in a Democrat?

B The Democrats have controlled Congress long enough, it's time to vote in the Republicans?

C The candidates in this presidential campaign are addressing the issues and concerns most important to me?

D The political situation in the country makes me feel frustrated?

E The government does a good job of representing people like me?

F I often get angry about actions government takes?

G Many people I know are so disappointed with politics that they don't get involved anymore?

H People like me don't have a voice in government?

I Many political candidates make promises that they do not keep?

- 1 STRONGLY AGREE
- 2 MILDLY AGREE
- 3 MILDLY DISAGREE
- 4 STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

55. Did you vote in the Presidential election in 1984--IF YES, ASK: Did you vote for Ronald Reagan the Republican or Walter Mondale the Democrat?

- 1 NO
- 2 REAGAN
- 3 MONDALE
- 4 OTHER
- 5 NO, NOT OLD ENOUGH TO VOTE
- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

56. Did you vote in the Presidential election in 1988--IF YES, ASK: Did you vote for George Bush the Republican or Michael Dukakis the Democrat?

- 1 NO
- 2 BUSH
- 3 DUKAKIS
- 4 OTHER
- 5 NO, NOT OLD ENOUGH TO VOTE
- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

ASK EVERYONE:

57. Overall, how satisfied are you with your current standard of living--very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

- 1 VERY SATISFIED
- 2 SOMEWHAT SATISFIED
- 3 SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED
- 4 VERY DISSATISFIED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

58. Thinking about your family's financial situation over the last year, have things gotten better, worse, or stayed about the same?

- 1 BETTER
- 2 WORSE
- 3 SAME
- 9 DON'T KNOW

59. And looking ahead, do you think you that a year from now you and your family will be better off financially, worse off, or about the same as now?

- 1 BETTER
- 2 WORSE
- 3 SAME
- 9 DON'T KNOW

60. Do you think your financial situation is more likely to improve if Republican George Bush is elected or if Democrat Bill Clinton is elected?

- 1 BUSH
- 2 CLINTON
- 3 NEITHER/BOTH
- 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 [Got to q.D3]
- 3 INDEPENDENT
- 4 SOMETHING ELSE/OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

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 OPINION

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
- 9 DON'T KNOW

D6. Did you over 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 [Go to q.XD7b]
- 3 RETIRED [Go to q.D10]
- 4 NOT EMPLOYED [Go to q.D10]
- 9 OTHER/REFUSED [Go to q.D10]

(IF 'EMPLOYED' TO Q. D7, ASK:)

XD7a. And how concerned are you that you might become unemployed within the next year--Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not too concerned about becoming unemployed?

- 1 VERY CONCERNED
- 2 SOMEWHAT CONCERNED
- 3 NOT TOO CONCERNED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

IF "TEMPORARILY LAID OFF" TO Q. D7. ASK:)

XD7b. How confident are you that you will be able to find a Job within the next 3 months--are you very confident, somewhat confident, or not too confident about this?

- 1 VERY CONFIDENT
- 2 SOMEWHAT CONFIDENT
- 3 NOT TOO CONFIDENT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

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
- 2 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

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

- 1 EMPLOYED
- 2 TEMPORARILY LAID OFF [Go to q.XD10b]
- 3 RETIRED [Go to q.D11]
- 4 NOT EMPLOYED [Go to q.D11]
- 9 OTHER/REFUSED [Go to q.D11]

(IF 'EMPLOYED' TO Q.D10, ASK:)

XD10a. And how concerned are you that the chief wage earner in your household might become unemployed within the next year--Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not too concerned about the chief wage earner becoming unemployed?

- 1 VERY CONCERNED
- 2 SOMEWHAT CONCERNED
- 3 NOT TOO CONCERNED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

(IF 'TEMPORARILY LAID OFF' TQ Q.D10, ASK:)

XD10b. How confident are you that the chief wage earner will be able to find a job within the next 3 months--are you very confident, somewhat confident, or not too confident about this?

- 1 VERY CONFIDENT
- 2 SOMEWHAT CONFIDENT
- 3 NOT TOO CONFIDENT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

(IF #1 OR #2 TO Q.D10, ASK:)

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

ASK EVERYONE

XD11A. In the last 12 months, has any adult in your household been out of work and actively looking for a job?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.D12]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.D12]

XD11B. Did that person find a job or not?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 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

XD13a. Do you have any school age children who are younger than 18 years old?

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

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

- 1 WHITE
- 2 BLACK
- 3 HISPANIC
- 4 ASIAN
- 5 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?

D19. SO that we can group all answers, is your total annual family income before taxes: Under \$35,000; between \$35,000 to just under \$70,000; or \$70,000 or more?

- 1 UNDER \$35,000
- 2 \$35,000 TO \$69,999

- 3 \$70,000 TO \$100,000
- 4 MORE THAN \$100,000
- 9 DON'T KNOW

D19a. Is that: under \$10,000; \$10,000-\$20,000; \$20,000-\$30,000, or over \$30,000?

- 1 UNDER \$10,000
- 2 \$10,000-\$20,000
- 3 \$20,000-\$30,000
- 4 OVER \$30,000
- 9 DON'T KNOW

D19b. Is that: \$35,000 to \$50,000 or over \$50,000?

- 1 \$35,000 TO \$50,000
- 2 OVER \$50,000
- 9 DON'T KNOW