

STAR-LEDGER/EAGLETON POLL 98A
JUNE, 1994

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 Christie Whitman is doing as Governor-excellent, good, only fair or poor?

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

3. How would you rate the job Bill Bradley is doing as Senator-excellent, good, only fair or poor?

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

4. How would you rate the job Frank Lautenberg is doing as Senator-excellent, good, only fair or poor?

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

5. Generally speaking, would you say things in New Jersey 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

H1. Overall, how would you rate New Jersey as a place to live--excellent, good, only fair or poor?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

H2. How much pride do you take in being a resident of New Jersey-- a lot, some, a little or none?

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

H3. How would you rate your own town or city as a place to live--excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

H4. How much pride do you take in being a resident of your town or city--a lot, some, a little, or none?

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

H5. Do you think the local property taxes you pay are too high or are they about right--PROBE IF TOO HIGH: Are they much too high or just a little too high?

- 1 MUCH TOO HIGH
- 2 A LITTLE TOO HIGH
- 3 ABOUT RIGHT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

H6. In the past year, have your local property taxes gone up, gone down, or stayed about the same--(PROBE: Have they gone up/gone down a lot or just a little?

- 1 UP A LOT
- 2 UP A LITTLE
- 3 DOWN A LITTLE
- 4 DOWN A LOT
- 5 STAYED SAME
- 6 DON'T KNOW

H7. Which of the following do you think is most responsible for the increase in your local property taxes -- state government, county government, local government, or the local public schools?

- 1 STATE GOVERNMENT
- 2 COUNTY GOVERNMENT
- 3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT
- 4 PUBLIC SCHOOLS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

H8. As you probably know, property taxes provide a variety of local services, such as education and police--There has been some talk lately of "regionalization," where towns combine these services and share costs in order to hold taxes down--Have you heard or read anything about this--IF YES: How much have you read or heard -- a lot, some, or a little?

- 1 A LOT
- 2 SOME
- 3 A LITTLE
- 4 NO--NOT HEARD ABOUT
- 5 DON'T KNOW

H9. Those who favor regionalization feel it would hold costs and taxes down-- Those who oppose it are worried about giving up their own town's control of services--Overall, do you favor or oppose regionalization of services where you live--PROBE: Do you strongly or mildly favor/oppose it?

- 1 STRONGLY FAVOR
- 2 MILDLY FAVOR
- 3 MILDLY OPPOSE
- 4 STRONGLY OPPOSE
- 5 DEPENDS ON TOWN
- 9 DON'T KNOW

H10. Do you think regionalizing your local services with a neighboring town would or would not result in saving money and lower property taxes?

- 1 WOULD
- 2 WOULD NOT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

H11. If your local services are regionalized, do you think the quality of those services will get better, get worse, or stay about the same?

- 1 WILL GET BETTER
- 2 WILL GET WORSE
- 3 STAY ABOUT THE SAME
- 9 DON'T KNOW

H12. I'm going to read you a list of different services that are provided by local property taxes--For each one that I mention, please tell me whether you favor or oppose having your town share that service with a neighboring town if it held down your property taxes--First, do you favor or oppose sharing (READ ITEM) with a neighboring town -- |

- A POLICE PROTECTION?
- B FIRE PROTECTION?

C SCHOOLS ?
 D ROAD AND STREET MAINTENANCE?
 E PUBLIC LIBRARIES?
 F SENIOR CITIZEN ACTIVITIES?

1 FAVOR SHARING
 2 OPPOSE SHARING
 9 DON'T KNOW

Now, on another topic . . .

C1. How serious a problem do you feel crime is in New Jersey--very serious, somewhat serious, or not at all serious?

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

c2. In the past year, would you say that the amount of crime in New Jersey has gone up, gone down, or remained the same?

1 GONE UP
 2 GONE DOWN
 3 STAYED SAME
 9 DON'T KNOW

c3. How serious a problem is crime in your neighborhood--very serious, somewhat serious, or not at all serious?

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

c4. In the past year, would you say that the amount of crime in your neighborhood has gone up, gone down, or remained the same?

1 GONE UP
 2 GONE DOWN
 3 REMAINED SAME
 9 DON'T KNOW

c5. I'm going to read some proposals that have been made for reducing crime in New Jersey--For each, please tell me whether you favor or oppose it. First, do you favor or oppose (READ ITEM). PROBE: Strongly or mildly -- |

A More frequent use of the death penalty?
 B Mandatory life imprisonment for those convicted of three serious criminal offenses?
 C Banning the sale and possession of handguns?
 D Increased funding for more police?
 E Giving judges the option to use corporal punishment in sentencing?
 F Increased funding to build more prisons?
 G Increased funding for programs to rehabilitate criminals, such as drug treatment centers?

- 1 STRONGLY FAVOR
- 2 MILDLY FAVOR
- 3 MILDLY OPPOSE
- 4 STRONGLY OPPOSE
- 9 DK

C6. During the past year have any of the following things happened to you or anyone in your household--First (READ ITEM) -- |

- A Had property vandalized?
- B Had money or Property stolen?
- C Had a car stolen or broken into?
- D Had your home broken into ?
- E Been assaulted or mugged ?

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

now to another topic,

V1. There are a number of attractions, destinations and entertainment activities in New Jersey--What is your favorite place to go to or to visit in New Jersey? (PROBE FOR ONLY ONE)

V2. Have you taken a vacation of a week or more away from home in the last 12 months?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [GO to q.v4]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.v4]

IF "YES" TO Q V2, ASK:

V3. Did you spend your last vacation somewhere in New Jersey, another state in the Northeast, a different part of the country, or out of the country?

- 1 NEW JERSEY
- 2 NORTHEAST
- 3 OTHER U.S.
- 4 OTHER COUNTRY
- 5 OTHER (SPECIFY)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

V4. Overall, how would you rate the state of New Jersey as a place to take a vacation -- excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

V5. Do you think you will -- |

A Take a vacation of a week or more in New Jersey this summer?

B Take a vacation of a week or more outside of New Jersey this summer?
 C Take a day or two or a weekend off to go on a short trip in NJ this summer?
 D Take a day or two or a weekend off to go on a short trip outside of NJ this summer?

1 WILL
 2 WILL NOT
 9 DK

V6. I'm going to read a list of destinations and attractions in New Jersey that you might visit--For each, please tell me if you plan to visit these destinations and attractions this summer--First, how about (START AT DESIGNATED POINT) -- |

A Liberty Science Center?
 B Liberty State Park?
 C The New Jersey State Aquarium (in Camden)?
 D A sporting event at the Meadowlands?
 E Casinos in Atlantic City?
 F The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area?
 G New Jersey Shore?

1 PLAN TO VISIT
 2 DO NOT PLAN TO VISIT
 9 DON'T KNOW

On another topic,

T1. How much do you feel (READ ITEM) should be considered when future plans are being made for New Jersey's transportation system--a great deal, some, not much, or not all -- |

A Reducing traffic congestion?
 B Supporting the state's economy?
 C Reducing air pollution?
 D Saving energy?
 E Protecting the environment by maintaining open spaces?
 F Effectively moving freight or goods such as clothing, food, and other items?
 G Effectively moving people from one location to another?

1 A GREAT DEAL
 2 SOME
 3 NOT MUCH
 4 NOT AT ALL
 9 DK

T2. How much have you read or heard about the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund Authority Act -- a great deal, some, just a little, or not much at all?

1 A GREAT DEAL
 2 SOME
 3 JUST A LITTLE
 4 NOT MUCH AT ALL
 9 DON'T KNOW

T3. Who do you think should be most responsible for funding transportation programs in New Jersey -- the federal government or state government? (IF BOTH, PROBE ONCE.)

- 1 FEDERAL
- 2 STATE
- 3 BOTH -- REFUSES TO CHOOSE
- 4 OTHER (SPECIFY)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

T4. The state tax on gasoline is currently 10 and one-half cents a gallon, with 2 and one-half cents earmarked for transportation and the rest going to the general treasury--Do you think more or less of this tax should be dedicated for transportation, or is the current level about right?

- 1 MORE
- 2 LESS
- 3 ABOUT RIGHT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

IF "1" TO Q T4, ASK:

T5. How many cents of the 10 and one-half cents per gallon should be spent on transportation?

T6. Would you support a 5 cent tax increase on each gallon of gasoline if it was dedicated to funding transportation projects and programs in New Jersey?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.T8]
- 3 DEPENDS [Go to q.T8]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.T8]

IF "1" TO Q T6, ASK:

T7. Would you support a 10 cent tax increase on each gallon of gasoline if it was dedicated to funding transportation projects and programs in New Jersey?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.T9]
- 3 DEPENDS [Go to q.T9]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.T9]

IF "1" TO Q T7, ASK:

T8. Would you support a 25 cent tax increase on each gallon of gasoline if it was dedicated to funding transportation projects and programs in New Jersey?

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

T9. And, would you support or oppose a constitutional amendment requiring the money raised from a new tax to be used only on transportation projects and programs--PROBE: Would you (support/oppose) this strongly or mildly?

- 1 STRONGLY SUPPORT
- 2 MILDLY SUPPORT
- 3 MILDLY OPPOSE
- 4 STRONGLY OPPOSE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

T10. Currently, New Jersey's roads and highways are funded primarily from four sources -- a gasoline tax, tolls, user fees such as car registrations, and other taxes--Which of these sources should most money to fund the state's roads and highways come from?

- 1 GAS TAX
- 2 TOLLS
- 3 CAR REGISTRATIONS
- 4 OTHER TAXES
- 5 OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

Now, I have a few questions about healthy eating . . .

U1. Overall, if you were to grade yourself on healthful eating habits --would you give yourself an A which is the highest grade, B, C, D, or an F which is the lowest grade?

- 1 A
- 2 B
- 3 C
- 4 D
- 5 F
- 9 DON'T KNOW

u2. Now, I'm going to read a list of sources where you can get information about the relationship between diet and health from: How much information do you get about diet and health from (READ ITEM) a lot, a little, or no information -- |

- A Your doctor?
- B Nurse Or physician assistant?
- C Dietitian or nutritionist ?
- D Food advertisements?
- E The media (such as newspapers. magazines, radio and TV)?
- F Food labels or packaging?

- 1 A LOT
- 2 A LITTLE
- 3 NO INFORMATION
- 9 DK

U3. In the past few months has the information on a food label helped you decide what you eat?

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

U4. In the past few months have you noticed any changes in the labels that list nutritional information on food products?

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

u5. Now, I'm going to read a list of different foods--How often do you regularly eat (READ ITEM) -- would you say at least once a day, at least once a week, at least once a month, rarely, or never -- |

- A Fruits?
- B Red meats?
- C Vegetables?
- D French fries?
- E Dairy products?

- 1 AT LEAST ONCE A DAY
- 2 AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK
- 3 AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH
- 4 RARELY
- 5 NEVER
- 9 DK

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 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 [Go to q.D7]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.D7]

(IF "YES" TO Q.D5, ASK:)

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.D10]
- 4 NOT EMPLOYED [Go to q.D10]
- 9 OTHER/REFUSED [Go to q.D10]

(IF #1 OR 2 TO Q D7, ASK:)

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.D11]
- 2 NO

(IF "NO" TO Q D9, ASK:)

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
- 4 NOT EMPLOYED
- 9 OTHER/REFUSED

(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

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. Are there any school-age children now living in your household--IF NECESSARY: By school-age, I mean grades kindergarten through 12th grade?

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

D14. Are you white, black or of Hispanic or Asian 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)

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 OR MORE
- 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