

STAR-LEDGER/EAGLETON POLL 115A
OCTOBER, 1997

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

- 1a. How would you rate the job Bill Clinton is doing as President-- excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

1 EXCELLENT
2 GOOD
3 ONLY FAIR
4 POOR
9 DK

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. 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 tack?

1 RIGHT DIRECTION
2 WRONG TRACK
9 DON'T KNOW

- 4a. 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.R-1]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.R-1]

5. 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 VOTE
- 2 PROBABLY VOTE
- 3 PROBABLY NOT VOTE
- 4 DEFINITELY NOT VOTE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

6. 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

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

- 1 NAMES WHITMAN [Go to q.9]
- 2 DOES NOT NAME WHITMAN

(IF "DOES NOT NAME WHITMAN", TO Q.7, ASK:)

8. The Republican candidate is Christie Whitman--have you ever heard of her before?

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

(IF "YES" TO Q.8, or #1 to Q.7, ASK:)

9. How much do you think you know about Christie Whitman--a lot, some or just a little?

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

10. Is your general impression of Christie Whitman favorable or unfavorable, or don't you really have an opinion about her-- **(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

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

1 NAMES JIM MCGREEVEY [Go to q.13]

2 DOES NOT NAME HIM MCGREEVEY [Go to q.12]

(IF "DOES NOT NAME MCGREEVEY" TO Q.11, ASK:)

12. The Democratic candidate is Jim McGreevey--have you ever heard of him before?

1 YES

2 NO [Go to q.14]

9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.14]

(IF "YES" TO Q.12, OR #1 TO Q.11, ASK:)

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

1 A LOT

2 SOME

3 A LITTLE

4 NOTHING (VOL)

9 DON'T KNOW

14. Is your general impression of Jim McGreevey 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

15. Do you know who the LIBERTARIAN candidate for Governor is?

1 NAMES MURRAY SABRIN (SAY-BRIN) [Go to q.17]

2 DOES NOT NAME SABRIN [Go to q.16]

(IF "DOES NOT NAME SABRIN" TO Q.15, ASK:)

16. The Libertarian candidate is Murray Sabrin (SAY-BRIN)--have you ever heard of him before?

1 YES

2 NO [Go to q.18]

9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.18]

(IF "YES" TO Q.16, or #1 to Q.15, ASK:)

17. How much do you think you know about Murray Sabrin (SAY-BRIN)--a lot, some or just a little?

1 A LOT

2 SOME

3 A LITTLE

- 4 NOTHING (VOL)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

18. Is your general impression of Murray Sabrin (SAY-BRIN) 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

[ROTATE CHOICES]

19. Suppose the election for Governor was held today and you had to choose right now--would you vote for [Christie Whitman the Republican], [Jim McGreevey the Democrat], or [Murray Sabrin the Libertarian]--**(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 WHITMAN [Go to q.21A]
- 2 MCGREEVEY [Go to q.21A]
- 3 SABRIN [Go to q.21A]
- 4 WON'T VOTE [Go to q.23]
- 8 OTHER CANDIDATE [Go to q.23]
- 9 UNDECIDED/DON'T KNOW [Go to q.20]

[IF "UNDECIDED OR DON'T KNOW" TO Q.19]

20. At this moment do you lean more towards [Whitman], or more towards [McGreevey] or more towards [Sabrin]?

[ROTATE CHOICES]

- 1 WHITMAN [Go to q.22]
- 2 MCGREEVEY [Go to q.22]
- 3 SABRIN [Go to q.22]
- 9 NEITHER/UNDECIDED/DON'T KNOW [Go to q.23]

[IF WHITMAN, MCGREEVEY, OR SABRIN TO Q.19]

21a. Are you very sure about voting for (McGreevey/Whitman/Sabrin); or might you change your mind before election day?

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

21b. When did you decide who you were going to vote for--in the last few days, in the last couple weeks, in the last month or two, or did you know all along?

- 1 LAST FEW DAYS
- 2 LAST 2 WEEKS
- 3 LAST MONTH/TWO
- 4 KNOW ALL ALONG
- 5 DURING THIS INTERVIEW
- 9 DK

- 22A. **[IF CANDIDATE NAMED IN Q.19 OR Q.20]:** What is the main reason why you are going to vote for (Candidate Named) - (FIRST MENTION)?
- 22B. **[IF CANDIDATE NAMED IN Q.19 OR Q.20]:** What is the main reason why you are going to vote for (Candidate Named) - (SECOND MENTION)?
- 22C. **[IF CANDIDATE NAMED IN Q.19 OR Q.20]:** What is the main reason why you are going to vote for (Candidate Named) - (THIRD MENTION)?
23. Thinking about the job Christie Whitman has done as governor, do you think she deserves to be re-elected or do you think it is time for a change?

- 1 YES, DESERVES RE-ELECTED
 2 NO, TIME FOR A CHANGE
 3 DEPENDS
 9 DON'T KNOW

24. How much have you read or heard about the candidates suggestions to reform taxes in New Jersey--a great deal, some, not much, or nothing at all?

- 1 A GREAT DEAL
 2 SOME
 3 NOT MUCH
 4 NOTHING AT ALL [Go to q.25]
 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.25]

ASK ALL EXCEPT THOSE SAYING NOTHING AT ALL OR DON'T KNOW TO Q.24:

- 24a. And, which candidates suggestions to reform taxes have you heard the most about--Jim McGreevey's or Christie Whitman's **[ROTATE CANDIDATE CHOICES]**?

- 1 CHRISTIE WHITMAN
 2 JIM MCGREEVEY
 3 BOTH
 4 NEITHER
 9 DON'T KNOW

25. Which candidate do you think would do a better job at handling the issue of taxes (Christie Whitman) or (Jim McGreevey)?

[ROTATE RESPONSES]

- 1 CHRISTIE WHITMAN
 2 JIM MCGREEVEY
 9 DON'T KNOW

26. Both candidates have made suggestions on how to reform auto insurance-- How much have you read or heard about these proposals--a great deal, some, not much, or nothing at all?

- 1 A GREAT DEAL
 2 SOME
 3 NOT MUCH

- 4 NOTHING AT ALL
- 9 DON'T KNOW

ASK ALL EXCEPT THOSE SAYING NOTHING AT ALL OR DON'T KNOW TO Q.26:

26a. And, which candidates suggestions on how to reform auto insurance have you heard the most about--Jim McGreevey's or Christie Whitman's?

[ROTATE CANDIDATE CHOICES]

- 1 CHRISTIE WHITMAN
- 2 JIM MCGREEVEY
- 3 BOTH
- 4 NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

27. Which candidate do you think would do a better job at handling the issue of auto insurance [Christie Whitman] or [Jim McGreevey]?

[ROTATE CHOICES]

- 1 CHRISTIE WHITMAN
- 2 JIM MCGREEVEY
- 9 DON'T KNOW

28. In general, how would you rate the job public schools are doing here in New Jersey?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR
- 9 DK

29. Thinking back over the last few years, would you say that the quality of education in New Jersey has been getting better, getting worse, or has it stayed the same?

- 1 GETTING BETTER
- 2 GETTING WORSE
- 3 STAYED THE SAME
- 4 DEPENDS
- 9 DK

30. How much have you read or heard about the candidates' suggestions to improve education in New Jersey?

- 1 A GREAT DEAL
- 2 SOME
- 3 NOT MUCH
- 4 NOTHING AT ALL
- 9 DK

ASK ALL EXCEPT THOSE SAYING NOTHING AT ALL OR DON'T KNOW TO Q30.

30a. And, which candidates' suggestions to improve education have you

heard the most about -- Jim McGreevey's or Christie Whitman's?
[ROTATE CANDIDATE CHOICES]

- 1 CHRISTIE WHITMAN
- 2 JIM MCGREEVEY
- 3 BOTH
- 4 NEITHER
- 9 DK

31. Which candidate do you think would do a better job at handling the issue of education -- [Christie Whitman] or [Jim McGreevey]?
[ROTATE CANDIDATE CHOICES]

- 1 CHRISTIE WHITMAN
- 2 JIM MCGREEVEY
- 9 DK

32. Based upon what you have seen or heard of the campaign for Governor, would you say that in general this year's campaign has been positive or negative?

- 1 Positive [Go to q.33]
- 2 Negative [Go to q.32a]
- 3 Both positive and negative [Go to q.32a]
- 4 Neither/has been neutral [Go to q.33]
- 9 DK [Go to q.33]

32a. **[IF NEGATIVE OR BOTH IN Q.32, ASK:]** In your view, whose campaign has been more negative, [Whitman's] or [McGreevey's]?
[ROTATE CHOICES]

- 1 WHITMAN MORE NEGATIVE
- 2 MCGREEVEY MORE NEGATIVE
- 3 BOTH
- 9 DK

33. Has the way this year's campaign for Governor been conducted made you more likely or less likely to go out and vote, or hasn't it made a difference?

- 1 MORE LIKELY TO VOTE
- 2 LESS LIKELY TO VOTE
- 3 NO DIFFERENCE
- 9 DK

34. Thinking about the way the state is run, do you think New Jersey will be run better over the next four years [if McGreevey is elected], or [if Whitman is re-elected], or won't it make a difference?

[ROTATE TWO CANDIDATE CHOICES]

- 1 BETTER IF MCGREEVEY ELECTED
- 2 BETTER IF WHITMAN IS RE-ELECTED
- 3 MAKES NO DIFFERENCE
- 4 DEPENDS
- 9 DK

35. And, will life be better for you and your family over the next four years [if McGreevey is elected], or [if Whitman is re-elected], or won't it make a difference?

[ROTATE TWO CANDIDATE CHOICES]

- 1 BETTER IF MCGREEVEY ELECTED
- 2 BETTER IF WHITMAN IS RE-ELECTED
- 3 MAKES NO DIFFERENCE
- 4 DEPENDS
- 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 [Go to q.XD7a]
- 2 TEMPORARILY LAID OFF [Go to q.D9]
- 3 RETIRED [Go to q.D9]
- 4 NOT EMPLOYED [Go to q.D9]
- 9 OTHER/REFUSED [Go to q.D9]

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

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

XD9a. Are you a member of a union?

- 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 children under the age of 18 years old?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 9 DK

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 OTHER
- 5 NONE/ATHEIST/AGNOSTIC
- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

D16. What was your age on your last birthday?

/ ____ / ____ / (CODE # OF YEARS, 99 = REFUSED)

D17. [IF REFUSED IN D.16, ASK:] Is it between...(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?

/ ____ / ____ / ____ / ____ /
 County Town

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 to \$100,000; or \$100,000 or more?

- 1 UNDER \$35,000 [Go to q.D19A]
- 2 \$35,000 TO \$69,999 [Go to q.D19B]
- 3 \$70,000 TO \$100,000
- 4 \$100,000 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