

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE THURSDAY APRIL 28, 2016

EDITOR'S NOTE: ATTENTION POLITICAL, ASSIGNMENT EDITORS, Poll Assistant Director Ashley Koning may be contacted at 908-872-1186 (cell), 848-932-8940 (office), or akoning@rutgers.edu. Poll Director David Redlawsk may be reached at 319-400-1134 (cell) or redlawsk@rutgers.edu. Questions and tables are available at: <http://eagletonpoll.rutgers.edu/rutgers-eagleton-Christie-Booker-Menendez-NJ-Apr2016>. Find all releases at <http://eagletonpoll.rutgers.edu>, and visit our blog at <http://eagletonpollblog.wordpress.com> for additional commentary. Follow the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/RutgersEagletonPoll> and Twitter [@EagletonPoll](https://twitter.com/EagletonPoll).

CHRISTIE'S NJ RATINGS HIT NEW ALL-TIME LOWS POST-TRUMP SUPPORT, BUT VOTERS CITE GOV.'S ATTITUDE, GOVERNING, AND DISHONESTY AS MAIN REASONS

Menendez and especially Booker garner better ratings than Gov.; six in ten still believe New Jersey is off on the wrong track

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. – As Gov. Chris Christie's top pick for president continues to climb in the polls, the governor's own ratings have dropped to their lowest yet, according to the latest Rutgers-Eagleton Poll. Just 26 percent of New Jersey registered voters now have a favorable opinion of Christie – down three points since February. Sixty-four percent are unfavorable toward the governor, up five points since February and now at its highest point yet since Christie first took office.

Christie's favorability continues to drop among his own party base: 56 percent of Republicans feel favorable toward the governor, a seven-point decline since last polled two months earlier, while 34 percent say they are unfavorable. Independents and Democrats continue to be mostly unfavorable, at 63 percent and 87 percent, respectively.

Voters are kinder in their ratings to U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez than they are to Christie, even in the face of Menendez's ongoing federal indictment: while only 29 percent are favorable toward the senior senator, just 32 percent are outright unfavorable, and 39 percent have no opinion. Not even Republicans reach a majority in their opposition to Menendez, a stark constraint to the nine in 10 Democrats who feel the same about Christie.

Voters are most positive toward U.S. Sen. Cory Booker: 48 percent are favorable, 23 percent are unfavorable, and another 30 percent have no opinion. Sixty-four percent of Democrats, 47 percent of independents, and even 26 percent of Republicans like Booker.

“Among the New Jersey politicians we poll, Governor Christie continues to generate the most negativity among voters, even more so than the state's currently indicted senator,” said Ashley Koning, assistant director of the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling (ECPIP) at Rutgers University. “Not even Christie's backing of Donald Trump has helped him with New Jersey Republicans, who give

Trump higher ratings than Christie and are now more likely than ever to vote for Trump come June.”

When voters are asked to justify their ratings on the governor, favorable and unfavorable voters alike point to Christie’s character, his overall job as governor, and his honesty (or lack thereof). Among those favorable, 35 percent like him because of the overall job he is doing, 16 percent mention something about him being honest and trustworthy, 13 percent point to his character and attitude, and 11 percent reference his policy decisions.

Among those unfavorable toward him, 15 percent point to his character, personality, or attitude as the main reason behind their negative rating; another 7 percent specifically say something about his confrontational, bully-like persona. An additional 15 percent cite Christie’s overall job as governor and governing style. Fourteen percent say he is dishonest and untrustworthy. Other negative reasons include his lack of care for New Jersey (9 percent), his handling of education in general and teachers specifically (8 percent), his policy decisions and actions (7 percent), his ineffectiveness (6 percent), and his handling of unions and state workers (4 percent). Just 3 percent mention something about his support for Donald Trump as a reason for their unfavorable rating, as do another 3 percent about Christie’s role in the 2016 presidential election, in general.

“Negativity toward Christie continues to grow, but not entirely because of his support for GOP frontrunner Donald Trump or his own involvement with the 2016 election cycle,” said Koning. “Instead, Christie’s unpopularity stems from the same longstanding reasons that voters have cited in both their praise and condemnation of him throughout his tenure – reasons that disenchanted voters emphasize now more than ever two months after Christie’s return to governing full time.”

Christie’s overall job approval has likewise taken a hit: 31 percent approve (down six points) to 63 percent disapprove (up three points). Christie fares no better on a variety of individual issues. The governor falls to new lows on Superstorm Sandy recovery (43 percent approve, 47 percent disapprove) and education (31 percent approve, 60 percent disapprove). He continues to do worst on fiscal issues like the state pension fund situation (18 percent approve, 62 percent disapprove), the state budget (26 percent approve, 57 percent disapprove), and taxes (26 percent approve, 64 percent disapprove). Christie also fares poorly when it comes to transportation and infrastructure (28 percent approve, 59 percent disapprove) and the economy and jobs (31 percent approve, 59 percent disapprove). Voters are split on how Christie is handling crime and drugs (41 percent approve, 42 percent disapprove).

As with their views of the governor, voters remain mostly negative about the state’s overall direction: 31 percent continue to believe New Jersey is headed in the right direction, while 60 percent say the state has gone off on the wrong track. About six in 10 voters have consistently said the state is off on the wrong track since April 2015.

Taxes persist as the most important problem in New Jersey (now at 26 percent), consistently taking the top spot over the economy and jobs since October 2014.

Results are from a statewide poll of 886 adults contacted by live callers on both landlines and cell phones from April 1 to 8, 2016, including 738 registered voters reported on in this release. Interviews were done in English and, when requested, Spanish.

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QUESTIONS AND TABLES START ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

Questions and Tables

The questions covered in the release of April 28, 2016 are listed below. Column percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. Respondents are New Jersey Registered Voters; all percentages are of weighted results.

Q. First, I'd like to ask you about some people. 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.
[ORDER RANDOMIZED]

	GOV. CHRIS CHRISTIE	U.S. SEN. CORY BOOKER	U.S. SEN. ROBERT MENENDEZ
Favorable	26%	48%	29%
Unfavorable	64%	23%	32%
No opn/don't know person	10%	30%	39%
Unwgt N=	735	737	736

GOV. CHRIS CHRISTIE (click for trend graph)

	2/16	2/16	12/15	10/15	8/15	4/15	2/15	12/14	10/14	8/14	4/14	2/14	1/14	11/13	10/13	9/13	6/13
Trend	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV
Fav	31%	29%	33%	35%	30%	38%	37%	44%	42%	49%	50%	49%	46%	65%	61%	60%	64%
Unfav	60%	59%	59%	55%	59%	48%	53%	46%	45%	40%	42%	40%	43%	27%	28%	32%	26%
DK	9%	12%	8%	10%	11%	14%	10%	11%	12%	10%	9%	11%	11%	8%	11%	8%	11%
N=	708	752	698	779	756	716	694	644	730	747	727	726	754	800	798	812	761

	4/13	2/13	11/12	9/12	8/12	6/12	3/12	2/12	11/11	10/11	8/11	4/11	2/11
Trend	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV
Fav	64%	70%	67%	48%	49%	50%	46%	47%	49%	49%	45%	44%	46%
Unfav	26%	20%	25%	42%	40%	39%	42%	42%	37%	39%	47%	42%	44%
DK	10%	10%	9%	11%	11%	11%	12%	11%	14%	12%	8%	14%	10%
N=	816	695	1105	787	911	1,064	514	910	752	803	613	769	810

	Party ID			Gender		Race		Age				Region				
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-White	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South	Shore
Favorable	9%	23%	56%	30%	23%	29%	20%	13%	31%	26%	30%	14%	25%	38%	24%	32%
Unfavorable	87%	63%	34%	60%	68%	62%	69%	76%	57%	66%	60%	74%	66%	56%	65%	57%
Don't know	4%	14%	10%	10%	9%	9%	11%	11%	12%	8%	10%	12%	9%	6%	11%	11%
Unwt N=	224	329	176	363	372	520	197	99*	152	256	228	90*	260	119	138	128

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

U.S. SEN. CORY BOOKER (click for trend graph)

	Party ID			Gender		Race		Age				Region				
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-White	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South	Shore
Favorable	64%	47%	26%	48%	47%	45%	53%	39%	46%	53%	48%	61%	50%	43%	37%	49%
Unfavorable	10%	20%	44%	26%	19%	25%	18%	12%	25%	23%	27%	15%	26%	26%	21%	21%
Don't know	26%	33%	30%	26%	33%	31%	29%	49%	29%	24%	25%	25%	24%	31%	42%	31%
Unwt N=	225	329	177	363	374	522	197	99*	153	257	228	90*	261	119	138	129

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

U.S. SEN. ROBERT MENENDEZ (click for trend graph)

	Party ID			Gender		Race		Age				Region				
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-white	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South	Shore
Favorable	37%	29%	18%	32%	27%	26%	34%	18%	29%	30%	35%	38%	29%	29%	24%	27%
Unfavorable	23%	31%	49%	38%	27%	37%	23%	17%	28%	39%	38%	23%	33%	34%	31%	38%
Don't know	40%	41%	33%	30%	47%	36%	43%	65%	44%	31%	27%	39%	38%	36%	44%	35%
Unwt N=	225	328	177	364	372	521	196	98*	153	258	227	89*	262	119	137	129

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

Q. In just a word or two, please tell me *why* you feel [FAVORABLE/UNFAVORABLE] toward Chris Christie. [OPEN-ENDED, RECORD VERBATIM]

Favorable Toward Christie (click for word cloud)

Governing style and overall job as governor	35%
Honesty and straightforwardness	16%
Character, attitude, and personality	13%
Policy decisions and actions	11%
Improving New Jersey	8%
Getting things done, effective	4%
Hurricane Sandy leadership	3%
Taxes	3%
Handling of unions, state workers, and pension	1%
Support of Trump	1%
2016 election	<1%
Something else	4%
Unwgt N=	193

Unfavorable Toward Christie (click for word cloud)

Character, attitude, and personality	15%
Governing style and overall job as governor	15%
Untrustworthy, deceitful, and dishonest	14%
Wrong priorities, hurting NJ, does not care about NJ citizens	9%
Education and teachers	8%
Policy decisions and actions	7%
Confrontational, bully-like persona	7%
Not getting things done, ineffective	6%
Handling of unions, state workers, and pension	4%
Support of Trump	3%
2016 election	3%
Handling of economy	2%
Hurricane Sandy leadership	2%
Bridgeway, other scandals	2%
Taxes	1%
Something else	2%
Unwgt N=	446

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

[\(Click here for trend graph\)](#)

	Booker Favorability													
			Fav		Unfav									
Approve	45%		83%		9%									
Disapprove	17%		3%		66%									
Don't know	37%		14%		25%									
Unwgt N=	727		350		170									
	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Race		Age			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	68%	39%	25%	69%	45%	18%	44%	46%	41%	53%	44%	45%	47%	44%
Disapprove	5%	17%	36%	7%	12%	43%	23%	13%	19%	13%	11%	20%	17%	20%
Don't know	27%	44%	39%	24%	42%	39%	33%	41%	39%	33%	45%	35%	36%	36%
Unwt N=	223	324	174	169	383	162	361	366	514	195	97	150	255	225

	Education				Region					
	HS or Less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South	Shore	
Approve	45%	44%	46%	46%	57%	44%	44%	40%	44%	
Disapprove	17%	19%	16%	19%	12%	22%	20%	13%	16%	
Don't know	38%	37%	38%	35%	31%	34%	35%	47%	40%	
Unwt N=	152	184	206	179	89*	258	116	135	129	

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

Q. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Robert Menendez is handling his job as a U.S. Senator?

[\(Click here for trend graph\)](#)

	Menendez Favorability													
			Fav		Unfav									
Approve	33%		84%		11%									
Disapprove	28%		3%		76%									
Don't know	38%		14%		14%									
Unwgt N=	727		222		245									
	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Race		Age			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	43%	30%	23%	45%	32%	23%	35%	32%	30%	39%	27%	32%	34%	38%
Disapprove	16%	30%	44%	21%	27%	42%	37%	20%	33%	20%	17%	25%	33%	34%
Don't know	41%	40%	33%	35%	41%	34%	28%	48%	37%	40%	55%	44%	33%	28%
Unwt N=	224	324	173	170	384	160	361	366	513	197	98*	151	253	225

	Education				Region				
	HS or Less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South	Shore
Approve	31%	34%	34%	33%	39%	35%	33%	34%	24%
Disapprove	29%	25%	28%	32%	22%	28%	30%	21%	41%
Don't know	40%	40%	38%	35%	39%	37%	37%	44%	35%
Unwt N=	153	185	207	176	90*	258	118	134	127

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

Q. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Chris Christie is handling his job as governor?

[\(Click here for trend graph\)](#)

		Christie Favorability		NJ Right/Wrong Track	
		Fav	Unfav	Right Direction	Wrong Track
Approve	31%	91%	7%	71%	10%
Disapprove	63%	8%	90%	23%	87%
Don't know	6%	1%	3%	6%	3%
Unwgt N=	732	202	460	228	441

Trend	2/16	2/16	12/15	10/15	8/15	4/15	2/15	12/14	10/14	8/14	4/14	2/14	1/14	11/13
	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV
Approve	37%	33%	33%	39%	37%	41%	42%	48%	49%	52%	55%	55%	53%	68%
Disapprove	60%	61%	62%	56%	59%	54%	52%	47%	46%	41%	41%	39%	41%	26%
Don't know	4%	6%	4%	6%	4%	5%	6%	5%	5%	7%	4%	6%	6%	6%
Unwgt N=	709	747	689	773	749	713	690	637	730	749	724	725	747	795

Trend	10/13	9/13	6/13	4/13	2/13	11/12
	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV
Approve	67%	66%	70%	68%	73%	67%
Disapprove	29%	31%	25%	26%	23%	26%
Don't know	5%	4%	5%	5%	4%	7%
Unwgt N=	794	809	756	810	696	533

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Race		Age			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	13%	29%	59%	13%	29%	56%	34%	28%	33%	27%	16%	40%	32%	32%
Disapprove	82%	64%	37%	82%	64%	38%	58%	68%	63%	63%	77%	52%	65%	62%
Don't know	5%	7%	4%	5%	7%	5%	8%	4%	4%	10%	7%	8%	4%	7%
Unwt N=	224	327	175	170	388	161	361	371	516	197	99	152	256	225

	Education				Region				
	HS or Less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South	Shore
Approve	28%	30%	33%	33%	20%	30%	42%	29%	36%
Disapprove	62%	64%	61%	66%	66%	66%	56%	62%	62%
Don't know	10%	6%	6%	1%	14%	5%	2%	9%	2%
Unwt N=	154	187	210	175	90*	260	118	137	127

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

Q. 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]

[\(Click here for trend graph\)](#)

	NJ's economy and jobs	Taxes	Education and schools	Sandy recovery	Crime and drugs	The state budget	State Pension fund situation	Transportation
Approve	31%	26%	31%	43%	41%	26%	18%	28%
Disapprove	59%	64%	60%	47%	42%	57%	62%	59%
DK	10%	10%	9%	10%	18%	17%	20%	13%
Unwgt N=	735	729	735	734	729	734	731	733

	NJ's Economy and Jobs	Christie Favorability		Christie Overall Job Approval	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove
Approve	31%	72%	13%	70%	13%
Disapprove	59%	19%	79%	21%	80%
Don't know	10%	10%	7%	9%	7%
Unwgt N=	735	203	458	237	455

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Region				
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South	Shore
Approve	15%	32%	52%	14%	31%	51%	37%	25%	20%	29%	41%	32%	35%
Disapprove	75%	59%	36%	79%	57%	39%	54%	63%	70%	61%	49%	55%	57%
Don't know	10%	9%	12%	7%	12%	9%	9%	12%	10%	10%	11%	13%	8%
Unwt N=	225	328	176	170	388	164	362	373	90*	260	119	137	129

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

	Taxes	Christie Favorability		Christie Overall Job Approval	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove
Approve	26%	59%	11%	58%	11%
Disapprove	64%	33%	79%	35%	81%
Don't know	10%	8%	10%	7%	9%
Unwgt N=	729	200	456	235	454

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Region				
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South	Shore
Approve	13%	26%	43%	12%	27%	40%	33%	20%	19%	23%	33%	27%	30%
Disapprove	74%	64%	50%	77%	64%	52%	59%	69%	70%	68%	56%	62%	60%
Don't know	13%	10%	7%	12%	9%	9%	8%	12%	10%	9%	11%	11%	10%
Unwt N=	223	326	175	167	386	163	359	370	89*	258	118	135	129

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

Education and Schools		Christie Overall			
		Christie Favorability		Approval	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove
Approve	31%	71%	13%	63%	16%
Disapprove	60%	21%	79%	29%	78%
Don't know	9%	8%	7%	8%	7%
Unwgt N=	735	202	459	236	456

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Region			Phil/	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	South	Shore
Approve	16%	32%	48%	13%	30%	51%	36%	26%	18%	29%	43%	34%	31%
Disapprove	74%	60%	42%	79%	60%	41%	56%	64%	73%	62%	51%	58%	56%
Don't know	10%	8%	10%	8%	10%	9%	9%	10%	9%	10%	6%	8%	13%
Unwt N=	225	327	177	170	388	164	363	372	90*	261	118	138	128

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

Hurricane Sandy Recovery		Christie Favorability		Christie Overall Approval	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove
		Approve	43%	75%	30%
Disapprove	47%	16%	62%	15%	65%
Don't know	10%	10%	8%	9%	6%
Unwgt N=	734	201	460	236	457

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Region			Phil/	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	South	Shore
Approve	28%	43%	63%	34%	42%	55%	48%	38%	34%	41%	53%	48%	40%
Disapprove	62%	45%	29%	60%	49%	29%	41%	52%	57%	48%	38%	42%	51%
Don't know	9%	12%	7%	6%	9%	15%	11%	9%	10%	11%	9%	10%	9%
Unwt N=	225	328	176	169	388	164	361	373	90*	258	119	138	129

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

Crime and drugs		Christie Favorability		Christie Overall Approval	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove
		Approve	41%	72%	29%
Disapprove	42%	15%	54%	17%	55%
Don't know	18%	13%	17%	13%	18%
Unwgt N=	729	201	456	235	453

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Region			Phil/	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	South	Shore
Approve	31%	41%	56%	32%	41%	51%	48%	34%	34%	41%	53%	38%	38%
Disapprove	51%	39%	31%	53%	40%	33%	39%	44%	47%	46%	27%	39%	44%
Don't know	18%	20%	13%	15%	19%	16%	13%	22%	19%	14%	20%	22%	18%
Unwt N=	223	324	176	169	385	162	359	370	89*	259	118	135	128

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

The state budget		Christie Favorability		Christie Overall Approval	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove
Approve	26%	69%	9%	64%	9%
Disapprove	57%	14%	78%	18%	80%
Don't know	17%	17%	13%	18%	11%
Unwgt N=	734	202	459	235	456

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Region				
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/ South	Shore
Approve	11%	24%	50%	8%	26%	50%	33%	20%	14%	23%	40%	32%	25%
Disapprove	73%	57%	36%	78%	58%	31%	51%	62%	68%	59%	46%	53%	57%
Don't know	16%	19%	14%	14%	16%	19%	16%	17%	18%	18%	14%	15%	19%
Unwt N=	225	327	176	170	388	163	362	372	90*	261	119	135	129

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

The state pension fund situation		Christie Favorability		Christie Overall Approval	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove
Approve	18%	44%	6%	39%	8%
Disapprove	62%	30%	78%	33%	79%
Don't know	20%	26%	16%	28%	13%
Unwgt N=	731	199	459	234	456

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Region				
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/ South	Shore
Approve	9%	16%	31%	6%	17%	33%	21%	15%	13%	19%	27%	13%	14%
Disapprove	73%	61%	50%	78%	62%	46%	58%	66%	62%	59%	56%	71%	65%
Don't know	18%	23%	19%	16%	21%	21%	22%	19%	25%	21%	17%	16%	21%
Unwt N=	224	326	176	169	386	163	361	370	90*	260	118	134	129

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

Transportation		Christie Favorability		Christie Overall Job Approval	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove
Approve	28%	55%	15%	56%	14%
Disapprove	59%	29%	76%	30%	76%
Don't know	13%	16%	9%	14%	9%
Unwgt N=	733	201	459	236	456

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Region				
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/ South	Shore
Approve	20%	25%	42%	19%	27%	41%	31%	26%	31%	26%	32%	23%	33%
Disapprove	69%	61%	45%	73%	61%	43%	60%	59%	61%	63%	60%	58%	52%
Don't know	11%	14%	13%	8%	13%	16%	9%	16%	8%	12%	9%	19%	15%
Unwt N=	224	328	176	168	389	163	361	372	89*	258	119	138	129

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

Q. Would you say the state of New Jersey is currently going in the right direction or has it gone off on the wrong track?

		Christie			
		Christie Favorability		Christie Overall Job Approval	
		Fav	Unfav	App	Dis
Going in the right direction	31%	69%	15%	71%	12%
On the wrong track	60%	21%	80%	20%	84%
Don't know	9%	10%	5%	9%	5%
Unwgt N=	729	202	455	235	453

	Party ID			Gender		Race		Age			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-white	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Right direction	21%	29%	47%	34%	28%	33%	29%	29%	40%	27%	28%
Wrong track	71%	63%	42%	57%	63%	59%	61%	61%	53%	64%	63%
Don't know	8%	8%	11%	8%	9%	8%	9%	10%	7%	9%	9%
Unwt N=	223	325	176	359	370	517	195	98*	152	254	225

	Education				Region					
	HS or Less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South	Shore	
Right direction	27%	35%	31%	29%	26%	29%	39%	31%	31%	
Wrong track	61%	61%	57%	65%	65%	61%	56%	60%	62%	
Don't know	12%	5%	11%	6%	9%	10%	5%	10%	7%	
Unwt N=	154	184	208	177	89*	258	119	134	129	

* Small N, results should be interpreted with caution

Q. Of the following, which is the MOST important problem facing New Jersey today? Is it:

Taxes, including property taxes	26%
Government corruption and abuse of power	17%
The economy and jobs	14%
Education and schools	12%
Crime and drugs	9%
The state pension fund	7%
Transportation and infrastructure	6%
Government spending	4%
Something else	3%
Dont know	2%
Unwght N	736

The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted by telephone using live callers April 1-8, 2016 with a scientifically selected random sample of 886 New Jersey adults, 18 or older. The sample contains a subsample of 738 registered voters. Respondents within a household are selected by asking randomly for the youngest adult male or female currently available. If the named gender is not available, the youngest adult of the other gender is interviewed. The poll was available in Spanish for respondents who requested it. This telephone poll included 513 landline and 373 cell phone adults, all acquired through

random digit dialing using a sample obtained from Survey Sampling International. Distribution of household phone use in this sample is:

Cell Only:	18%
Dual Use, Reached on Cell:	25%
Dual Use, Reached on LL:	51%
Landline Only:	7%

Data were weighted to the demographics of registered voters in New Jersey. 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 using a raking algorithm to several demographic variables reflecting the registered voter 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 738 registered voters is +/- 3.6 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence interval. The registered voter subsample weighting design effect is 1.21, making the adjusted margin of error +/- 4.0 percentage points for the registered voter subsample.

Thus if 50 percent of New Jersey registered voters in this sample favor a particular position, we would be 95 percent sure that the true figure is between 46 and 54 percent (50 +/-4.0) if all New Jersey registered voters had been interviewed, rather than just a 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 (ECPIP), with additional calling by Braun Research, Inc. 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. Full questionnaires are available on request, and can also be accessed at the Eagleton Poll archive at www.eagletonpoll.rutgers.edu. For more information, please contact eagleton.poll@rutgers.edu.

Weighted Sample Characteristics			
738 New Jersey Registered Voters			
32% Democrat	47% Male	17% 18-29	69% White
44% Independent	53% Female	24% 35-49	12% Black
24% Republican		34% 50-64	13% Hispanic
		24% 65+	6% Asian/Other/Multi