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CONTACT:

Dr. Ashley Koning, Director
Office: 848-932-8940
Cell: 908-872-1186
akoning@rutgers.edu

Release available at: <http://eagletonpoll.rutgers.edu/Murphy-Dec2017>. Find all releases at <http://eagletonpoll.rutgers.edu>. Follow the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/RutgersEagletonPoll> and Twitter [@EagletonPoll](https://twitter.com/EagletonPoll).

**NEW JERSEY GREETES GOVERNOR-ELECT MURPHY WITH CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM
POSITIVITY ABOUT STATE'S FUTURE GROWTH**

Large Support for Many of Murphy's Policy Proposals, But Partisan Differences Persist

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. – New Jerseyans see a glimmer of hope for the Garden State following Phil Murphy's gubernatorial victory in November, according to the latest Rutgers-Eagleton Poll. After an increasingly pessimistic outlook about the state for the past two years, residents have slightly reversed course: while 60 percent believe New Jersey is still going off on the wrong track, 30 percent now say the state is headed in the right direction – a double-digit increase since August. Moreover, a plurality (46 percent) thinks that things will get better under the upcoming Murphy administration; 20 percent, on the other hand, believe things will get worse, 23 percent say they will remain the same, and 10 percent are unsure.

A majority of New Jerseyans is enthusiastic at some level about Murphy becoming the state's next governor: 23 percent are "very" enthusiastic, and 35 percent are "somewhat" enthusiastic. More than a third of residents, on the other hand, are not enthusiastic – 13 percent "not very" and 24 percent "not at all." Just over half believes Murphy has a clear plan for what he wants to do in the state; the other half are evenly divided between feeling Murphy does not have a clear strategy and being unsure.

Six in 10 residents say they have at least some knowledge (17 percent "a lot," 44 percent "some") of what Murphy wants to do as governor, and New Jerseyans show sizeable support for a number of promises

Murphy made during the campaign. Large majorities favor providing employees with a minimum number of paid sick days (80 percent), restoring funding for family planning services (75 percent), fully funding the public-employee pension system (68 percent), raising the minimum wage to \$15 per hour (68 percent), strengthening state gun laws (59 percent), and legalizing the sale and use of recreational marijuana (53 percent). New Jerseyans continue to oppose casino expansion (61 percent) and legalized betting on college sports (55 percent).

When asked what issue Murphy should tackle first upon taking office, a quarter mentions something about taxes: 20 percent say taxes, in general, and another 7 percent specifically mention property taxes. Fourteen percent believe education should be his top concern. No other issue receives more than 6 percent.

“Post-election, New Jerseyans are eager about a new administration and what it may bring,” said Dr. Ashley Koning, assistant research professor and director of the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling (ECPIP) at Rutgers University-New Brunswick. “But even as optimism grows, the state is in dire financial straits and taxes still reign as a top concern, which may limit what Gov. Murphy is able to do.”

Murphy’s recognition has grown post-election. New Jerseyans are now more favorable than unfavorable toward the governor-elect, 37 percent to 25 percent; 35 percent still have no opinion of him and 3 percent do not know who he is. This is a marked difference from just a few months ago, when two-thirds of residents either did not recognize Murphy or could not form an opinion of him either way.

Most residents have yet to form an impression of the state’s incoming lieutenant governor: 60 percent have no opinion of Sheila Oliver, while another 19 percent are favorable, and 14 percent are unfavorable.

Results are from a statewide poll of 1,203 adults contacted by live callers on both landlines and cell phones from Nov. 15-27, 2017. The sample has a margin of error of +/-3.0 percentage points. Some questions reported in this release were asked of a sub-sample, resulting in approximately 600 respondents and a margin of error of 4.3 percentage points. Interviews were done in English and, when requested, Spanish.

Partisanship drives a wedge on views about the state, Murphy, and policy

Not everyone shares a positive outlook on the state and new administration. Republicans (20 percent) and Independents (24 percent) are about half as likely as Democrats to say New Jersey is going in the right direction (41 percent). Republicans are especially negative, with 72 percent saying the state has gone off on the wrong track.

Partisan divides persist when residents are asked about their feelings toward Murphy himself. Six in 10 Democrats have a favorable impression toward the governor-elect, while the same number of Republicans has an unfavorable one. Independents are split (25 percent favorable to 28 percent unfavorable), with a plurality (42 percent) not giving an opinion either way.

Enthusiasm for Murphy is also highest among his base: 41 percent of Democrats are “very” enthusiastic, compared to 13 percent of independents and 7 percent of Republicans. Democrats are also more likely than their counterparts to believe Murphy has a clear plan – 66 percent, versus 42 percent among independents and 44 percent among Republicans.

Partisans also take opposing sides on a number of Murphy’s campaign promises. Large majorities of Democrats support Murphy’s biggest proposals, including marijuana legalization (67 percent) and raising the minimum wage to \$15 per hour (89 percent). Two-thirds of Republicans, on the other hand, oppose each of these. Yet a majority of Republicans back paid sick days (67 percent) and funding family planning services (57 percent); just over half support fully funding the pension system (52 percent) and expanding casino gambling to other parts of New Jersey (52 percent).

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QUESTIONS AND TABLES START ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

Questions and Tables

The questions covered in the release for December 12, 2017 are listed below. Column percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. Respondents are New Jersey adults; all percentages are of weighted results.

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

Going in the right direction	30%
Off on the wrong track	60%
Don't know	10%
Unwgt N=	1199

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race		Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	\$50K- <\$100K	\$100K- <\$150K	\$150K+
Right direction	41%	24%	20%	38%	23%	20%	30%	29%	25%	38%	42%	25%	24%	26%	35%	29%	26%	25%
Wrong track	50%	64%	72%	52%	65%	71%	60%	60%	65%	51%	42%	66%	69%	65%	53%	63%	66%	67%
Don't know	9%	12%	9%	10%	12%	9%	10%	11%	10%	11%	15%	9%	7%	9%	12%	7%	8%	8%
Unwt N=	452	504	221	595	267	319	618	581	798	366	288	292	369	250	282	374	174	200

Q. There are a lot of important policy issues facing the state. Please tell me if you support or oppose each of the following proposals: [SPLIT SAMPLE]

[VERSION A - RANDOMIZE ORDER]

	Legalizing the sale/use of recreational marijuana	Raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour	Fully funding the public-employee pension system	Providing employees with a minimum number of paid sick days
Support	53%	68%	68%	80%
Oppose	43%	28%	23%	17%

[VERSION B - RANDOMIZE ORDER]

	Legalizing betting on college sports in New Jersey	Restoring funding for family planning services	Strengthening state gun laws	Expanding casino gambling to other parts of New Jersey outside of Atlantic City
Support	36%	75%	59%	35%
Oppose	55%	17%	35%	61%
Don't know	9%	8%	5%	4%
Unwght N=	603	601	601	603

Legalizing the sale/use of recreational marijuana

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race					Age					Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	\$50K- <\$100K	\$100K- <\$150K	\$150K+				
Support	67%	50%	33%	66%	45%	36%	54%	53%	53%	54%	70%	49%	50%	39%	54%	59%	57%	43%				
Oppose	30%	45%	66%	30%	51%	62%	43%	43%	45%	40%	26%	46%	46%	61%	43%	37%	40%	52%				
Don't know	3%	5%	1%	4%	4%	2%	3%	4%	3%	6%	4%	5%	4%	1%	2%	4%	2%	6%				
Unwt N=	236	250	113	306	140	155	313	295	396	190	148	147	184	129	138	194	95	103				

Raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race					Age					Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	\$50K- <\$100K	\$100K- <\$150K	\$150K+				
Support	89%	64%	32%	88%	64%	30%	59%	77%	60%	85%	78%	77%	57%	61%	81%	68%	61%	59%				
Oppose	10%	29%	67%	11%	28%	67%	37%	20%	36%	13%	18%	21%	39%	37%	17%	26%	36%	39%				
Don't know	1%	7%	1%	1%	8%	3%	4%	2%	4%	2%	4%	2%	4%	2%	2%	5%	3%	2%				
Unwt N=	237	249	113	307	139	155	313	295	395	191	147	147	185	129	138	195	95	103				

Fully funding the public-employee pension system

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race		Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100K	<\$150K	\$150K+
Support	82%	62%	52%	79%	60%	53%	66%	71%	67%	71%	74%	68%	61%	72%	72%	70%	74%	64%
Oppose	13%	26%	42%	14%	28%	38%	26%	21%	25%	19%	14%	22%	32%	26%	20%	21%	19%	32%
Don't know	5%	12%	6%	6%	13%	9%	8%	9%	8%	10%	13%	11%	6%	2%	9%	8%	7%	4%
Unwt N=	236	250	113	306	140	155	313	295	396	190	148	147	184	129	138	194	95	103

Providing employees with a minimum number of paid sick days

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race		Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100K	<\$150K	\$150K+
Support	87%	78%	67%	86%	78%	68%	75%	84%	82%	78%	78%	81%	79%	80%	77%	82%	85%	77%
Oppose	10%	17%	32%	12%	16%	30%	20%	14%	16%	17%	17%	15%	17%	19%	21%	15%	14%	20%
Don't know	3%	5%	1%	3%	6%	2%	5%	2%	2%	5%	4%	4%	3%	1%	2%	3%	1%	3%
Unwt N=	237	250	113	307	140	155	314	295	396	191	148	147	185	129	138	195	95	103

Legalizing betting on college sports in New Jersey

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race		Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100K	<\$150K	\$150K+
Support	35%	34%	46%	34%	37%	42%	46%	27%	35%	39%	43%	43%	31%	27%	43%	40%	33%	27%
Oppose	55%	58%	48%	56%	55%	52%	46%	63%	56%	52%	46%	51%	62%	62%	48%	54%	59%	64%
Don't know	11%	8%	6%	10%	7%	6%	7%	10%	9%	8%	11%	6%	7%	11%	10%	6%	7%	9%
Unwt N=	218	261	111	293	130	169	313	290	414	176	140	148	190	125	146	182	80	103

Restoring funding for family planning services

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race		Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100K	<\$150K	\$150K+
Support	89%	70%	57%	91%	68%	53%	67%	83%	71%	83%	85%	73%	71%	72%	82%	73%	75%	72%
Oppose	6%	22%	29%	5%	22%	35%	25%	9%	21%	9%	9%	20%	19%	20%	11%	22%	20%	23%
Don't know	5%	8%	13%	4%	10%	12%	8%	8%	8%	7%	6%	7%	10%	8%	7%	6%	5%	5%
Unwt N=	217	261	110	292	130	168	310	291	412	176	140	147	190	124	145	182	80	103

Strengthening state gun laws

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race		Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100K	<\$150K	\$150K+
Support	71%	55%	44%	74%	47%	40%	51%	67%	56%	64%	57%	57%	59%	66%	60%	55%	57%	61%
Oppose	26%	40%	45%	23%	43%	52%	42%	29%	38%	31%	37%	39%	36%	27%	33%	40%	38%	38%
Don't know	3%	5%	11%	2%	9%	8%	7%	4%	6%	5%	6%	4%	5%	7%	6%	5%	6%	1%
Unwt N=	217	261	110	292	131	167	311	290	412	176	140	147	191	123	144	182	80	103

Expanding casino gambling to other parts of New Jersey outside of Atlantic City

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race		Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100K	<\$150K	\$150K+
Support	30%	31%	52%	29%	31%	47%	42%	28%	34%	38%	41%	39%	29%	30%	36%	38%	34%	40%
Oppose	63%	65%	48%	65%	64%	52%	53%	69%	63%	56%	52%	58%	67%	67%	60%	56%	66%	58%
Don't know	6%	4%	0%	5%	5%	1%	5%	4%	3%	7%	7%	3%	4%	3%	4%	7%	0%	2%
Unwt N=	217	262	111	292	131	169	313	290	414	176	140	147	191	125	145	183	80	103

[FULL SAMPLE]

Q. Is your general impression of Phil Murphy favorable or unfavorable, or do you not have an opinion about him?

Favorable	37%
Unfavorable	25%
No opinion	35%
Don't know person	3%
Unweighted N=	1200

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race		Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non- wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	\$50K- <\$100K	\$100K- <\$150K	\$150K+
Favorable	63%	25%	12%	59%	20%	10%	34%	41%	32%	47%	43%	39%	33%	34%	43%	36%	42%	35%
Unfavorable	6%	28%	61%	6%	28%	62%	33%	18%	34%	8%	14%	22%	35%	31%	14%	26%	28%	35%
No opinion	30%	42%	25%	33%	47%	26%	31%	38%	31%	41%	40%	36%	30%	33%	40%	35%	29%	27%
DK person	2%	4%	2%	2%	5%	2%	3%	3%	2%	4%	4%	4%	2%	3%	4%	3%	1%	2%
Unwt N=	451	506	221	594	267	321	619	581	799	366	287	294	368	251	282	374	173	202

[HALF SAMPLE]

Q. And what about his lieutenant governor-elect? Is your general impression of Sheila Oliver favorable or unfavorable, or do you not have an opinion about her?

Favorable	19%
Unfavorable	14%
No opinion	60%
Don't know person	7%
Unweighted N=	598

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race		Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non- wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	\$50K- <\$100K	\$100K- <\$150K	\$150K+
Favorable	32%	12%	8%	31%	10%	5%	14%	24%	17%	25%	17%	23%	17%	20%	22%	18%	22%	20%
Unfavorable	7%	17%	22%	7%	15%	28%	22%	7%	19%	6%	11%	13%	20%	12%	12%	14%	16%	17%
No opinion	56%	63%	61%	58%	67%	57%	57%	63%	57%	64%	66%	58%	56%	59%	58%	62%	56%	59%
DK person	5%	8%	9%	5%	8%	9%	8%	6%	8%	5%	6%	6%	7%	9%	8%	6%	6%	4%
Unwt N=	217	259	109	290	130	167	309	289	410	175	140	148	186	124	145	180	79	102

Q. How enthusiastic are you that Phil Murphy will become New Jersey's next governor – very enthusiastic, somewhat enthusiastic, not very enthusiastic, or not enthusiastic at all?

Very enthusiastic	23%
Somewhat enthusiastic	35%
Not very enthusiastic	13%
Not enthusiastic at all	24%
Don't know	6%
Unweighted N=	598

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race		Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	\$50K- <\$100K	\$100K- <\$150K	\$150K+
Very	41%	13%	7%	39%	8%	5%	19%	26%	18%	31%	27%	21%	21%	20%	28%	20%	26%	15%
Somewhat	40%	39%	17%	44%	41%	15%	32%	38%	31%	43%	39%	37%	30%	36%	36%	37%	36%	35%
Not very	5%	13%	26%	7%	12%	24%	14%	12%	14%	9%	10%	15%	14%	12%	8%	14%	14%	16%
Not at all	9%	28%	45%	7%	29%	50%	32%	16%	32%	9%	13%	21%	33%	28%	21%	26%	20%	31%
Don't know	4%	7%	5%	3%	10%	6%	3%	8%	4%	9%	11%	6%	2%	4%	8%	4%	4%	3%
Unwt N=	217	259	109	290	130	167	310	288	410	175	140	147	187	124	145	181	79	101

Q. How much do you know about what Phil Murphy wants to do as Governor – a lot, some, a little or nothing at all?

A lot	17%
Some	44%
A little	23%
Nothing at all	13%
Don't know	3%
Unweighted N=	599

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race		Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	\$50K- <\$100K	\$100K- <\$150K	\$150K+
A lot	14%	18%	23%	13%	15%	26%	24%	11%	22%	7%	16%	19%	20%	12%	13%	19%	14%	29%
Some	55%	38%	39%	55%	31%	36%	34%	53%	44%	45%	46%	41%	44%	46%	40%	49%	52%	45%
A little	18%	25%	24%	19%	27%	25%	29%	17%	22%	25%	21%	25%	24%	21%	23%	20%	26%	17%
Nothing at all	11%	16%	11%	11%	22%	10%	10%	16%	10%	19%	13%	12%	10%	19%	21%	10%	7%	8%
Don't know	2%	3%	1%	2%	5%	2%	3%	3%	2%	3%	4%	3%	2%	1%	3%	2%	1%	1%
Unwt N=	217	260	109	290	131	167	311	288	411	175	140	148	188	123	145	181	79	102

Q. Do you think Phil Murphy has a clear plan for what he wants to do in New Jersey, or not?

Yes	51%
No	25%
Don't know	24%
Unweighted N=	597

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race		Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	\$50K- <\$100K	\$100K- <\$150K	\$150K+
Yes	66%	42%	44%	66%	33%	42%	47%	56%	51%	53%	55%	57%	49%	45%	53%	54%	57%	50%
No	15%	30%	39%	16%	31%	39%	29%	21%	28%	19%	17%	17%	35%	30%	18%	24%	29%	31%
Don't know	18%	28%	18%	19%	36%	19%	23%	24%	20%	27%	28%	26%	16%	26%	29%	21%	15%	19%
Unwt N=	216	258	110	289	131	166	309	288	409	175	140	148	186	123	145	180	79	101

Q. Do you think things in New Jersey under Phil Murphy will get better, get worse, or will they stay about the same?

Better	46%
Worse	20%
Same	23%
Don't know	10%
Unweighted N=	600

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race		Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100K	<\$150K	\$150K+
Better	73%	39%	11%	73%	31%	12%	39%	54%	37%	66%	58%	47%	37%	45%	52%	43%	49%	42%
Worse	4%	24%	48%	3%	20%	53%	27%	14%	28%	5%	12%	18%	24%	28%	14%	26%	19%	25%
Same	17%	24%	32%	17%	32%	26%	25%	22%	26%	17%	18%	25%	29%	20%	23%	24%	23%	28%
Don't know	7%	13%	9%	7%	17%	9%	9%	11%	8%	11%	12%	10%	10%	8%	12%	7%	10%	5%
Unwt N=	217	260	110	290	131	168	311	289	412	175	140	148	188	124	145	182	79	102

Q. In just a word or two, what issue do you think Phil Murphy should focus on FIRST as governor of New Jersey?

Taxes	20%
Education and schools	14%
Property taxes	7%
Crime	6%
Marijuana	5%
State pension fund	5%
Economy	4%
Health care	4%
Government corruption and abuse of power	4%
Transportation	4%
Jobs	3%
Minimum wage	3%
Government spending	2%
Drugs, addiction	2%
Environment	1%
Other	12%
Don't know	4%
Unweighted N=	596

Top 5 Priorities

	Party ID			Party ID w/ leaners			Gender		Race		Age					Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Non-wht.	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100K	<\$150K	\$150K+	
Taxes	15%	20%	33%	15%	18%	32%	25%	16%	24%	15%	13%	19%	24%	27%	17%	23%	22%	24%	
Education	17%	12%	9%	15%	15%	9%	11%	17%	11%	20%	22%	12%	10%	9%	13%	14%	17%	13%	
Property taxes	7%	8%	3%	7%	7%	5%	6%	7%	7%	5%	2%	7%	10%	7%	4%	4%	11%	10%	
Crime	6%	5%	8%	6%	5%	7%	8%	5%	4%	9%	9%	4%	5%	5%	10%	6%	0%	5%	
Marijuana	5%	6%	5%	5%	5%	7%	6%	4%	7%	2%	6%	6%	6%	2%	6%	3%	3%	6%	
Unwt N=	216	258	110	289	129	168	308	288	409	175	139	147	187	123	145	180	79	102	

The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted by telephone using live callers Nov. 15-27, 2017 with a scientifically selected random sample of 1,203 New Jersey adults, 18 or older. The sample contains a subsample of 600 New Jersey adults, as reported on in this release. 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 516 landline and 687 cell phone adults, all acquired through random digit dialing. Distribution of household phone use in this sample is:

Cell Only:	31%
Dual Use, Reached on Cell:	26%
Dual Use, Reached on LL:	41%
Landline Only:	2%

The data were weighted to be representative of New Jersey adults. The weighting balanced sample demographics to population parameters. The sample is balanced, by form¹, to match parameters for sex, age, education, race/ethnicity, region, and phone use. The sex, age, education and race/ethnicity parameters were derived from 2015 American Community Survey PUMS data. The region parameter was derived from 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates based on total population. The phone use parameter derived from estimates provided by the National Health Interview Survey Early Release Program.^{2,3,4} Weighting was done in two stages. The first stage of weighting corrected for different probabilities of selection associated with the number of adults in each household and each respondent's telephone usage patterns. This weighting also adjusts for the overlapping landline and cell sample frames and the

¹ Most of the survey had a split sample design, randomly assigning half of respondents to Form A (N=603) and half to Form B (N=600). Certain sets of questions are only asked to one half of the sample or the other.

² NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, 2011–2015; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2010–2014; and infoUSA.com consumer database, 2011–2015.

³ Blumberg SJ, Luke JV. Wireless substitution: Early release of estimates from the National Health Interview Survey, July–December 2014. National Center for Health Statistics. June 2015.

⁴ Blumberg SJ, Luke JV. Wireless substitution: Early release of estimates from the National Health Interview Survey, July–December 2016. National Center for Health Statistics. May 2017.

relative sizes of each frame and each sample. The second stage of weighting balanced sample demographics to match target population parameters. Weights were trimmed at the 3rd and 97th percentile to prevent individual interviews from having too much influence on the final results. The use of these weights in statistical analysis ensures that the demographic characteristics of the sample closely approximate the demographic characteristics of the target population.

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 1,203 New Jersey adults is +/-2.8 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence interval. The design effect is 1.14, making the adjusted margin of error +/- 3.0 percentage points. Thus if 50 percent of New Jersey adults in this sample favor a particular position, we would be 95 percent sure that the true figure is between 47 and 53 percent (50 +/- 3.0) if all New Jersey adults had been interviewed, rather than just a sample.

The simple sampling error for the subsamples of approximately 600 New Jersey adults is +/-4.0 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence interval. The design effect is 1.14, making the adjusted margin of error +/- 4.3 percentage points. Thus if 50 percent of New Jersey adults in this sample favor a particular position, we would be 95 percent sure that the true figure is between 45.7 and 54.3 percent (50 +/- 4.3) if all New Jersey adults 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 by Braun Research, Inc. The questionnaire was developed and all data analyses were completed in house by the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling (ECPIP). Dr. Cliff Zukin, Professor Emeritus of Political Science and Public Policy and Senior Survey Advisor to ECPIP, assisted with this questionnaire and analysis. The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll is paid for and sponsored by the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 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 through our archives at eagletonpoll.rutgers.edu. For more information, please contact poll@eagleton.rutgers.edu.

**Weighted Sample Characteristics
1,203 New Jersey Adults**

Male	49%	Democrat	39%	18-34	27%	HS or Less	34%	White	59%
Female	51%	Independent	43%	35-49	24%	Some College	30%	Black	12%
		Republican	18%	50-64	30%	College Grad	22%	Hispanic	18%
				65+	20%	Grad Work	14%	Other	10%