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Visit <http://eagletonpollblog.wordpress.com> for additional commentary. Follow the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll on Face book at <https://www.facebook.com/RutgersEagletonPoll> and Twitter @EagletonPoll.

An Increasing Number of New Jerseyans Appear to Support Obamacare, WNYC/Rutgers-Eagleton Poll Finds

But voters also trust private insurance companies more than government

Results to Be Discussed In-Depth on WNYC's Brian Lehrer Show

Wednesday, October 10 at 10am on 93.9 FM, AM 820, NJPR stations, and www.wnyc.org

A clear majority of New Jersey voters support the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision upholding most of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), according to a new WNYC/Rutgers-Eagleton Poll. Nearly 6-in-10 registered voters in the Garden State say the Supreme Court was right to uphold the law, while 37 percent wanted it struck down. This represents a significant increase in support, compared to the 47 percent who supported the law in a March, 2010 Rutgers-Eagleton Poll. Other key findings of the poll include:

- Given a choice between changing Medicare to a system providing fixed payments to seniors who would then buy their own insurance or maintaining the current system, **more than two-thirds would stick with Medicare as it is**. Only one-quarter supports changing the system to allow purchasing insurance on the market.
- **The ACA's provision expanding Medicaid is popular in New Jersey**, even though the state has not yet decided whether to participate in the expansion. Just over one-third opposes expanding Medicaid eligibility, while **57 percent support extending its coverage to more low income residents**.
- **At the same time, voters are dubious about government decisions about health insurance:** only 35 percent trust government on matters related to health insurance, while 44 percent trust private insurance companies more.

David Redlawsk, director of the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling and professor of political science at Rutgers University, and Lindy Washburn, Senior Writer at the Bergen Record, will appear on WNYC's Peabody Award-winning public affairs program "The Brian Lehrer Show" on

Wednesday, October 10 at 10am to discuss the poll's findings and how they relate to larger national trends. The program airs on WNYC 93.9 FM, AM 820, on New Jersey Public Radio stations (see njpublicradio.org for station information), and via live stream at www.wnyc.org.

“New Jerseyans are for the most part supportive of the affordable health care act,” said **Redlawsk**. “While not all that supportive of government making health insurance decisions, they are still quite happy with the prospects of keeping children on parents’ policies and not being denied coverage for pre-existing conditions.”

“We learn again how incredibly conflicted people are when it comes to both health insurance and the role of government,” said **Brian Lehrer**. “Folks responding to this poll trust private insurance more than government in the abstract, but prefer Medicare to an insurance marketplace in their real lives. It’s also interesting that most New Jerseyans seem to want Governor Christie to opt into the Medicaid expansion, despite the refusal of some other Republican governors to do so.”

Results are from a poll of 790 registered voters conducted statewide among both landline and cell phone households from Sep 27-30. The sample has a margin of error of +/- 3.5 percentage points. Questions on health care issues were developed in consultation with The Brian Lehrer Show on WNYC radio, and were sponsored by WNYC.

Overall support for Affordable Care Act hides partisan differences

While 57 percent of New Jersey voters support the ACA court decision, support is driven by the nearly 80 percent of Democrats who are pleased that the law was upheld. Reflecting their party’s consistent position on “Obamacare,” only 23 percent of Republicans support the Court’s decision, while 74 percent wanted the law struck down. Independents are more supportive than not, at 56 percent to 35 percent.

Support for the law is clearly tied to support for President Barack Obama. Among those who say they will vote for Obama, 82 percent are happy with the decision. But 74 percent of Romney voters wish the ACA had been struck down. Reflecting this, there are also strong racial divisions, with only 52 percent of white voters in favor of the ACA, compared to 77 percent of black voters.

Parents of children under 18 are slightly more supportive of the Supreme Court decision on the health care act than are other voters, at 60 percent. Young people – many of whom may be direct beneficiaries of the law – are for the most part supportive: 61 percent are pleased the law was upheld. But senior citizens are much less so, with only 46 percent happy with the decision, with an equal number wishing the law had been overturned.

Voters who trust government more on health care insurance are overwhelmingly supportive of the Court’s decision, at 80 percent, with only 15 percent preferring the Court had ruled the other way.

But those who trust private insurance companies more see things differently: 60 percent wanted the law struck down, while only 34 percent wanted it upheld.

“To a great extent, the results suggest that partisan voters stick with their parties on this one,” noted Redlawsk. “Democrats trust government, and also want the law, while Republicans do not. At the same time, those with a personal interest in getting coverage – parents of children, and the young voters themselves – are more supportive, while those who see less positive outcomes are much less so. Seniors generally don’t see much direct benefit, and may be worried about Medicare cuts, leading to less support for the law.”

Little stomach for major Medicare change

A large majority of New Jersey voters does not want Medicare to change from the basic government insurance program that it is today. One-quarter support changing to a type of voucher system, where seniors would buy their own insurance, but 69 percent of New Jerseyans reject that idea. Even a majority of voters who say they trust private insurance companies more on health insurance want to retain the current Medicare system, while 85 percent of those trusting government support the current system against a voucher proposal.

Predictable partisan differences arise, but even so, 54 percent of Republicans reject payments to seniors to buy their own coverage. Democrats, not surprisingly, are broadly in favor of the current system: 82 percent want to leave it alone while 64 percent of independents agree. Yet, 52 percent of Romney supporters would leave the system alone, and 81 percent of Obama voters are in the same camp.

Age matters, though not as much as might be expected. Voters over 65, most of whom are on Medicare, are widely in favor of the current system, but even 58 percent of voters under 30 reject a voucher-style alternative.

“Medicare remains a potential third rail in American politics,” said Redlawsk. “And our results in New Jersey reflect that. While Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney has talked of a plan allowing seniors to buy their own insurance with a government-provided stipend, even voters in his own party are not so sure they like the idea. Whether they like the federal government or not, most voters like one of its signature programs just the way it is.”

Despite Medicare support, voters dubious about government and health insurance decisions

More New Jersey voters trust private insurance companies than the government when it comes to matters related to health insurance, reflecting a somewhat contradictory position compared to widespread support for the premier government insurance program, Medicare. Divisions over the role of government mostly reflect standard partisan divisions in American politics. Independents (44 percent)

and especially Republicans (76 percent) are much more trusting of private insurance companies than are Democrats (25 percent). But significant shares of voters say they do not trust either – about 1 in 7 members of both parties -- and 20 percent of independents take this position.

These divisions carry through in predictable ways: while 51 percent of white voters favor private insurance companies, 57 percent of black voters say they trust government more on matters related to health insurance. Voters who support the Supreme Court decision on the ACA are also more likely to trust government, 49 percent versus 26 percent trusting private companies. And voters who oppose the decision are trusting of private companies by a 71 to 14 percent margin.

“People can often hold contradictory opinions,” said Redlawsk. “We all remember the ‘keep your government hands off my Medicare’ comments supposedly made in the early days of the debate over health care. The fact is, while voters are dubious about government decision-making, they are also quite supportive of programs from which they see or expect a direct benefit.”

Redlawsk also pointed out that much of the contradiction comes from Republican voters, who are strongly anti-government, but more supportive than not of Medicare.

Proposed Medicaid Expansion has support

Among the provisions of the health care law is the expansion of Medicaid, the health insurance program for low income Americans. A federal program, Medicaid is administered by the states, and states have some leeway in establishing eligibility. The ACA would expand eligibility to cover many more Americans with the federal government paying at least 90 percent of the cost. In its ruling the Supreme Court allowed states to opt out of the expansion without penalty. New Jersey has not yet announced its decision.

Voters in New Jersey, however, express clear support for Medicaid expansion in the state, with 57 percent in favor and 35 percent opposed. When voters opposed to expansion are told it has little cost to the state, 65 percent of them continue to oppose it, while 23 percent become supporters.

Support for Medicaid expansion decreases as income increases: 65 percent of voters with household incomes under \$50,000 are in favor, while only 48 percent of those making \$150,000 or more agree. Sharp partisan differences emerge, driven in part by dramatic differences between black and white voters, and by age. Half of whites support expansion, while 86 percent of black voters do. Voters under 30 are also strong supporters, at 73 percent, while only 49 percent of those over 65 agree. As a result, 79 percent of Democrats are in favor of expanding Medicaid, while only 15 percent are opposed. But among Republicans, only 30 percent support expansion, while 60 percent are against it. Independents are much more split: 51 percent support and 41 percent oppose Medicaid expansion.

Three-quarters of those who support the decision to uphold the ACA also want to see Medicaid expanded, while 61 percent of voters who wanted the law struck down also oppose expanding Medicaid.

“Support for Medicaid expansion is driven by the same partisan and self-interest dynamic we see in the other health care questions,” said Redlawsk. “Those who might benefit – lower income voters in particular – are much more supportive than those who would not. Likewise, senior citizens, who already have Medicare accessibility, are also less interested in expanding Medicaid. And of course Republicans oppose it and Democrats support it.”

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QUESTIONS AND TABLES BEGIN ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

Questions and Tables

The questions covered in the release of October 10, 2012 are listed below. Column percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. Respondents are New Jersey Registered Voters unless otherwise noted.

Q. Let's talk for a moment about health insurance. First, in general, whom do you trust more in matters related to health insurance, private insurance companies or the government?

		Aff Care Act		Vote	
		Support	Oppose	Obama	Romney
Private companies	44%	26%	71%	23%	76%
Government	35%	49%	14%	53%	7%
Neither (vol)	17%	18%	14%	17%	15%
Don't know (vol)	5%	7%	2%	8%	1%
Unwgt N=	787	430	301	398	294

Registered Voters

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Race	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Male	Female	White	Black
Private companies	25%	44%	76%	20%	42%	76%	45%	43%	51%	22%
Government	51%	33%	9%	57%	34%	12%	36%	34%	29%	57%
Neither (vol)	15%	20%	14%	16%	19%	10%	17%	16%	16%	15%
Don't know (vol)	9%	3%	2%	7%	5%	3%	2%	7%	4%	6%
Unwgt N=	284	297	198	169	413	193	399	388	613	66

	Age				Parent	
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	Yes	No
Private companies	42%	46%	41%	45%	42%	45%
Government	43%	32%	35%	34%	33%	35%
Neither (vol)	8%	20%	19%	13%	21%	14%
Don't know (vol)	7%	3%	5%	8%	4%	5%
Unwgt N=	62	221	294	207	222	561

	Income				Education			
	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+	HS or Less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work
Private companies	44%	41%	47%	45%	45%	50%	42%	38%
Government	36%	37%	39%	30%	29%	29%	36%	43%
Neither (vol)	14%	18%	13%	24%	15%	14%	20%	17%
Don't know (vol)	6%	4%	1%	1%	11%	6%	2%	2%
Unwgt N=	172	242	147	126	171	200	236	175

	Religion				Born Again		Union Household		
	Cath	Prot	Jewish	Other	Yes	Public	Private	No Union	
Private companies	51%	47%	41%	27%	52%	35%	45%	46%	
Government	26%	35%	44%	49%	30%	39%	38%	33%	
Neither (vol)	18%	13%	11%	19%	13%	19%	15%	16%	
Don't know (vol)	5%	6%	3%	4%	5%	7%	3%	5%	
Unwt N=	346	202	66	149	108	114	61	590	

Q. The U.S. Supreme Court recently upheld the Affordable Care Act signed by President Obama. This law limits insurance companies' ability to deny coverage and lets children under age 26 stay on their parents' policy, but also requires uninsured Americans to buy health insurance. Do you support the Supreme Court's decision to uphold the law, or do you think the law should have been struck down?

		Trust on Health Insure			Vote	
		Private	Gov.	Neither	Obama	Romney
Support decision	57%	34%	80%	62%	82%	19%
Struck down	37%	60%	15%	32%	13%	74%
Don't know (vol)	6%	6%	6%	6%	5%	7%
Unwgt N=	784	355	260	127	400	289

Registered Voters

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Race	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Male	Female	White	Black
Support decision	78%	56%	23%	84%	58%	23%	55%	58%	52%	77%
Struck down	16%	35%	74%	12%	35%	68%	41%	34%	42%	14%
Don't know (vol)	6%	9%	3%	3%	6%	9%	4%	8%	6%	9%
Unwgt N=	285	296	196	168	412	192	397	387	612	66

	Age				Parent	
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	Yes	No
Support decision	61%	57%	63%	46%	60%	55%
Struck down	33%	36%	33%	46%	33%	39%
Don't know (vol)	7%	7%	5%	8%	8%	6%
Unwgt N=	63	219	293	206	219	561

	Income				HS or Less	Education		
	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+		Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work
Support decision	50%	59%	60%	63%	45%	52%	62%	69%
Struck down	43%	35%	36%	37%	43%	42%	33%	29%
Don't know (vol)	7%	7%	4%	%	12%	5%	5%	2%
Unwgt N=	171	243	146	125	171	200	233	175

	Religion				Born Again Yes	Union Household		
	Cath	Prot	Jewish	Other		Public	Private	No Union
Support decision	49%	53%	65%	73%	49%	69%	61%	54%
Struck down	43%	40%	35%	21%	43%	26%	34%	40%
Don't know (vol)	7%	7%	0%	6%	7%	4%	5%	7%
Unwt N=	345	200	66	149	106	114	60	587

Q. There is a lot of talk about Medicare, the health insurance program for senior citizens. Which of the following comes closer to your view on how Medicare should be handled in the future? [ROTATE OPTIONS: Medicare should continue with the federal government directly providing seniors with health insurance coverage, OR Medicare should be changed to a system where the federal government gives seniors a fixed amount of money to buy their own health insurance from Medicare or a private plan.]

		Aff Care Act		Trust on Health Insure			Vote	
		Support	Oppose	Private	Gov.	Neither	Obama	Romney
Continue as is	69%	75%	59%	55%	85%	64%	81%	52%
Should be changed	25%	19%	36%	37%	10%	27%	15%	40%
Don't know (vol)	6%	5%	5%	8%	4%	9%	4%	8%
Unwgt N=	784	428	300	358	259	127	398	291

Registered Voters

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Race	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Male	Female	White	Black
Continue as is	82%	64%	54%	81%	72%	48%	66%	71%	68%	71%
Should be changed	13%	30%	39%	14%	23%	44%	30%	21%	26%	24%
Don't know (vol)	6%	6%	7%	5%	6%	8%	4%	8%	6%	5%
Unwgt N=	283	296	197	168	413	191	396	388	612	66

	Age				Parent	
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	Yes	No
Continue as is	58%	66%	70%	75%	68%	69%
Should be changed	34%	27%	25%	19%	22%	27%
Don't know (vol)	8%	7%	5%	5%	9%	5%
Unwgt N=	63	219	295	205	222	559

	Income				HS or Less	Education		
	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+		Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work
Continue as is	76%	69%	64%	66%	71%	67%	71%	64%
Should be changed	17%	25%	30%	32%	19%	27%	24%	32%
Don't know (vol)	7%	6%	6%	3%	10%	7%	5%	4%
Unwgt N=	172	242	147	125	171	200	234	175

	Religion				Born Again	Union Household		
	Cath	Prot	Jewish	Other	Yes	Public	Private	No Union
Continue as is	63%	71%	72%	73%	63%	76%	62%	68%
Should be changed	29%	24%	25%	21%	28%	18%	28%	26%
Don't know (vol)	8%	5%	3%	6%	9%	5%	10%	6%
Unwt N=	344	203	66	149	108	114	61	587

Q. Please think about Medicaid, the government health insurance program for low-income people. New Jersey must decide if it will participate in the Affordable Care Act's Medicaid expansion program. This expansion will increase the number of people covered by Medicaid. But some say Medicaid already covers those who need it most and we cannot afford to spend more. Others say the cost is worth it since nearly half a million more low-income people would get health insurance. How about you? Do you support or oppose expanding Medicaid eligibility in New Jersey?

		Aff Care Act		Trust on Health Insure			Vote	
		Support	Oppose	Private	Gov.	Neither	Obama	Romney
Support	57%	75%	33%	36%	83%	59%	80%	23%
Oppose	35%	19%	61%	54%	13%	34%	15%	66%
Don't know (vol)	8%	7%	6%	10%	4%	7%	6%	11%
Unwgt N=	783	428	300	358	256	128	397	291

Registered Voters

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Race	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Male	Female	White	Black
Support	79%	51%	30%	81%	58%	25%	58%	56%	50%	86%
Oppose	15%	41%	60%	14%	34%	64%	37%	34%	42%	7%
Don't know (vol)	6%	8%	10%	5%	8%	10%	5%	10%	8%	7%
Unwgt N=	284	296	195	169	411	191	396	387	612	65

	Age				Parent	
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	Yes	No
Support	73%	54%	60%	49%	54%	58%
Oppose	18%	38%	34%	41%	36%	35%
Don't know (vol)	9%	8%	6%	10%	10%	7%
Unwgt N=	63	219	294	205	220	560

	Income				Education			
	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+	HS or Less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work
Support	65%	62%	53%	48%	57%	49%	60%	61%
Oppose	28%	32%	42%	44%	33%	42%	34%	32%
Don't know (vol)	7%	6%	5%	8%	10%	10%	6%	7%
Unwgt N=	173	242	146	126	171	200	234	174

	Religion				Born Again		Union Household		
	Cath	Prot	Jewish	Other	Yes	Public	Private	No Union	
Support	47%	59%	60%	74%	62%	59%	62%	56%	
Oppose	43%	34%	37%	19%	29%	34%	33%	36%	
Don't know (vol)	9%	7%	2%	7%	9%	7%	5%	8%	
Unwt N=	343	201	66	150	106	114	61	586	

Q. Would you support Medicaid expansion if you knew the federal government will pay at least 90 percent of the cost? [ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “OPPOSE” IMMEDIATELY ABOVE]

		Aff Care Act		Trust on Health Insure			Vote	
		Support	Oppose	Private	Gov.	Neither	Obama	Romney
Yes	23%	31%	15%	14%	35%	33%	35%	14%
No	65%	51%	77%	76%	42%	58%	47%	76%
Don't know (vol)	13%	18%	7%	10%	23%	9%	18%	10%
Unwgt N=	358	108	216	243	47	53	84	228

Registered Voters

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Race
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Male	Female	White
Yes	37%	22%	14%	50%	25%	11%	18%	26%	21%
No	45%	63%	78%	33%	61%	79%	74%	57%	71%
Don't know (vol)	18%	15%	8%	17%	14%	10%	8%	16%	9%
Unwgt N=	58	154	139	29	181	147	182	176	307

	Age			Parent	
	30-49	50-64	65+	Yes	No
Yes	20%	22%	27%	20%	24%
No	67%	70%	60%	63%	65%
Don't know (vol)	13%	7%	13%	17%	11%
Unwgt N=	109	123	108	108	250

	Income				Education			
	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+	HS or Less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work
Yes	28%	19%	17%	23%	23%	25%	25%	15%
No	61%	66%	70%	69%	57%	62%	66%	76%
Don't know (vol)	11%	15%	13%	8%	20%	13%	9%	9%
Unwgt N=	66	103	71	68	76	111	95	74

	Religion	
	Cath	Prot
Yes	23%	18%
No	64%	66%
Don't know (vol)	13%	16%
Unwt N=	184	93

Q. Which of the following best describes your own current health insurance?

Pay full cost	14%
Pay part of cost	42%
Employer pays	14%
Medicare	20%
Medicaid	2%
None	5%
Parent/Other pays	3%
Unwgt N=	766

Registered Voters

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Race	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Male	Female	White	Black
Pay full cost	9%	16%	17%	12%	13%	18%	16%	11%	15%	8%
Pay part of cost	41%	45%	42%	39%	47%	38%	39%	46%	42%	35%
Employer pays	18%	14%	10%	19%	14%	11%	18%	11%	12%	25%
Medicare	20%	16%	24%	20%	17%	26%	17%	22%	23%	12%
Medicaid	3%	2%	3%	1%	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	6%
None	5%	6%	3%	4%	5%	3%	5%	4%	2%	13%
Parent/Other pays	4%	2%	1%	6%	2%	2%	2%	4%	3%	2%
Unwgt N=	272	291	196	162	405	188	387	379	603	63

	Age				Parent	
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	Yes	No
Pay full cost	14%	13%	20%	5%	13%	14%
Pay part of cost	25%	60%	51%	15%	60%	34%
Employer pays	24%	17%	14%	6%	16%	13%
Medicare	6%	2%	7%	67%	3%	28%
Medicaid	1%	2%	1%	4%	2%	3%
None	12%	6%	5%	1%	5%	5%
Parent/Other pays	17%	1%	2%	-	1%	4%
Unwgt N=	58	216	293	198	222	544

	Income				Education			
	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+	HS or Less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work
Pay full cost	12%	15%	12%	11%	12%	14%	17%	10%
Pay part of cost	23%	46%	52%	58%	34%	37%	52%	44%
Employer pays	8%	14%	19%	21%	7%	15%	14%	22%
Medicare	34%	16%	14%	7%	29%	22%	10%	20%
Medicaid	7%	1%	1%	1%	6%	3%	1%	1%
None	13%	4%	1%	1%	8%	5%	5%	2%
Parent/Other pays	3%	3%	1%	1%	4%	4%	1%	1%
Unwgt N=	168	240	146	126	162	196	232	174

	Religion				Born Again	Union Household		
	Cath	Prot	Jewish	Other	Yes	Public	Private	No Union
Pay full cost	13%	13%	18%	14%	16%	5%	10%	16%
Pay part of cost	46%	39%	33%	42%	36%	63%	47%	38%
Employer pays	11%	14%	12%	24%	12%	13%	21%	14%
Medicare	19%	26%	24%	11%	21%	12%	16%	22%
Medicaid	2%	3%	2%	2%	4%	2%	0%	3%
None	6%	3%	6%	4%	10%	3%	4%	5%
Parent/Other pays	2%	2%	5%	5%	1%	2%	1%	3%
Unwt N=	342	197	64	146	104	111	60	578

WNYC/Rutgers-Eagleton Poll September 27-30, 2012

The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted by telephone from September 27-30, 2012 with a scientifically selected random sample of 790 New Jersey registered voters. This telephone poll included 655 landline respondents and 135 cell phone respondents, all acquired through random digit dialing.

Data are weighted to represent known parameters in the New Jersey registered voter population, using gender, age, race, and Hispanic ethnicity matching to 2010 US Census Bureau data. Data are further weighted to ensure geographical representation by county. 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. The sampling error for 790 registered voters is +/-3.5 percentage points, at a 95 percent confidence interval. Thus if 50 percent of New Jersey registered voters favored a particular position, one would be 95 percent sure that the true figure would be between 46.5 and 53.5 percent (50 +/-3.5) had all New Jersey likely voters been interviewed, rather than just a sample. Sampling error increases as the sample size decreases, so statements based on various population subgroups are subject to more error than are statements based on the total 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 Incorporated and through our in-house calling center. 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 focused on the study and teaching of politics and the political process. Questions on health care issues reported in this release were developed in consultation with staff of the Brian Lehrer Show on WNYC radio, who paid for those questions to be run on the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll.

Weighted Sample Characteristics 790 New Jersey Registered Voters			
38% Democrat	47% Male	12% 18-29	71% White
38% Independent	53% Female	34% 30-49	14% Black
24% Republican		30% 50-64	8% Hispanic
		24% 65+	7% Asian/Other/Multi