

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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*For more commentary from Professor Redlawsk see*  
<http://eagletonpoll.blogspot.com>

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*Question wording and tables are available at the end of this release*

**RUTGERS-EAGLETON POLL FINDS NEW JERSEYANS  
ARE A BIT APPREHENSIVE ABOUT THE FUTURE**

**New Jerseyans worry more about health insurance, the income gap  
and personal finances than they did a decade ago.**

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. – A new Rutgers-Eagleton poll finds that while New Jerseyans are no more pessimistic overall, they worry more about economic issues than they did 10 years ago. The poll asked 903 adults to assess the state's economic future as well as their own economic, social and quality of life concerns over the next 10 years. Similar questions were asked in a 1999 Rutgers-Eagleton Poll.

The poll was conducted Nov. 6-10 and has a margin of error of +/-3.3 percentage points for the full sample and +/- 4.6 percentage points for subsamples of about 450 respondents.

**Living in New Jersey the Next 10 Years**

New Jerseyans' outlook on the next ten years is mixed: Only 35 percent think conditions will get better, 41 percent say they will stay the same, and 19 percent think they will get worse. Following the election Governor-elect Chris Christie's victory, 43 percent of Republicans are more optimistic about the state's future; 32 percent of Democrats, and 34 percent of Independents have positive outlooks. In 1999, New Jerseyans had similar feelings about the coming decade when 38 percent thought things would be better, while 27 percent thought they would worsen.

"New Jerseyans are simply unsure about how good a place to live the state will be in 10 years," said David Redlawsk, director of the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll and professor of political science at Rutgers University. "Ten years ago, about 60 percent also thought the state would either stay the same or get worse as a place to live. There is clearly a long-term lack of positive expectations about the future of New Jersey."

### **Some Optimism about the Overall Economy; Pessimism about the Specifics**

Asked about New Jersey's future economic strength, almost two-thirds of respondents say the economy will get stronger, but the optimism does not extend to perceptions about affordable living here. Almost half believe New Jersey will be less affordable 10 years from now and while 35 percent think it will be more affordable. As a result, 51 percent of residents think the state will be a worse place to retire while only 19 percent think it will be better.

Other economic concerns include healthcare and the gap between the wealthy and the poor. Almost half (45 percent) of New Jerseyans believe healthcare will be less affordable, and 65 percent think the gap between the rich and poor will grow.

Men are more optimistic about the future of the economy than are women by a 69 percent to 56 percent margin, and when asked about the future of affordable health care in the state, those earning \$50,000 to \$75,000 annually were the least optimistic, with only 29 percent believing affordability would improve.

A decade ago, 68 percent thought economic conditions would improve, and 57 percent believed New Jersey would be less affordable in the future. Pessimism about retiring in New Jersey remained the same in 1999 as in 2009. "As bad as the economy is, most people see it having nowhere to go but up," said Redlawsk. "At the same time, New Jerseyans are deeply pessimistic about affordability and New Jersey as a place to retire, and have been for years. There are few if any bright spots right now."

### **Race Relations and Conditions in the Cities**

Residents believe that race relations will improve over the next 10 years, with 58 percent optimistic (compared to 52 percent in 1999) and only 19 percent pessimistic. Democrats (61 percent) and independents (58 percent) are more optimistic than Republicans (53 percent). Latinos (63 percent) are more hopeful than whites (61 percent) and blacks (46 percent).

New Jerseyans are mixed on conditions in New Jersey cities, with 40 percent saying they will worsen and 39 percent saying they will improve. The respective figures were 39 percent and 44 percent in 1999. Latino respondents (59 percent) are the most positive, and whites (32 percent) the most negative. Blacks (44 percent) fall in between.

### **New Jerseyans More Pessimistic About Personal Situation**

New Jerseyans are more pessimistic about their own situations than they were a decade ago. Just about half anticipate their job situations and incomes will improve, compared to 58

percent and 65 percent, respectively, in 1999. At 18 percent, more than three times as many current respondents expect their incomes to worsen in the coming decade than in the earlier group.

New Jerseyans also have mixed feelings about prospects for their own health care. Only 34 percent of all respondents expect their access to good-quality health care to improve, while 36 percent said they expect it to stay the same, and 25 percent expect decreased health care availability and quality. Almost two-third of younger respondents (ages 18 to 34) are worried “a lot” about availability, compared to just over 50 percent of older residents. Overall, concerns are up substantially since the earlier poll, when 43 percent of all respondents said they worried “a lot” about health care, compared to 56 percent today.

Age also is a factor in optimistic or pessimistic outlooks, and younger respondents tend to be more upbeat, Redlawsk noted. About 74 percent of those aged 18-34 anticipate improvement in their jobs and 69 percent expect better incomes. Though they worry about health care quality and availability, only 24 percent expect it to be worse in the future.

“The optimism of youth is visible in how people view their personal situations,” said Redlawsk. “While older New Jerseyans are even more pessimistic than they used to be, young people retain a sense that the future will be better.”

Despite their concerns about New Jersey’s future, Democrats are more optimistic about their personal situations than are Republicans. Only 11 percent of Democrats say their income will decline, compared to 21 percent of Republicans. Similarly, 40 percent of Democrats anticipate better access to good-quality healthcare in 10 years compared to 23 percent of Republicans.

“The partisan differences are striking,” said Redlawsk. While Republicans are much more likely to think New Jersey will be a better place to live in ten years, Democrats are more likely to think their own personal situation will be better in the future.”

### **New Jerseyans Worry, Worry, Worry**

Although New Jerseyans are fairly optimistic about their personal futures, they continue to worry – 46 percent worry “a lot,” about having enough money to live comfortably, 55 percent worry about health care and 50 percent worry about sufficient retirement funds. Women are more negative about their personal futures in terms of having sufficient money to live comfortably, retire and retain access to good-quality health care.

Overall, New Jerseyans worry more now about their future than they did in 1999. Today, 46 percent worry a lot about whether or not they will have enough money to live comfortably, compared to only 27 percent a decade ago. Insecurity about retirement is also greater in 2009. New Jerseyans are 22 points more likely to say they worry “a lot” about having enough money for retirement now than ten years ago, 55 percent to 33 percent.

**QUESTIONS AND TABLES BEGIN ON THE NEXT PAGE**

**Rutgers-Eagleton Poll November 6-10, 2009  
Questions and Tables**

The questions covered in the release of November 17, 2009 are list below. Column percentages may not add to 100 percent due to rounding. All percentages are of New Jersey adults.

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**Now, thinking ahead to the NEXT TEN YEARS or so, please tell me whether you expect New Jersey to be a better or worse place for each of the following items. If you think it will stay the same or don't have an opinion on something just say so.**

**[ALL RESPONDENTS]**

**First, overall as a place to live, will New Jersey be better, worse, or the same?**

	<b>1999</b>	<b>2009</b>
Better	38%	35%
Worse	27%	19%
Same	33%	41%
Don't Know	3%	3%
N	802	903

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
Better	32%	34%	43%	37%	34%	41%	34%	32%	33%	36%	37%	45%
Worse	21%	18%	18%	20%	18%	20%	19%	18%	18%	22%	19%	23%
Same	44%	43%	34%	39%	43%	38%	43%	44%	44%	37%	42%	30%
DK	3%	5%	6%	3%	5%	1%	5%	7%	5%	5%	2%	3%
N	339	369	190	431	473	274	361	268	617	97	52	119

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30-49K</u>	<u>50-74K</u>	<u>75-99K</u>	<u>100K+</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
Better	37%	42%	26%	33%	36%	40%	35%	37%	28%
Worse	17%	15%	28%	17%	19%	19%	18%	20%	20%
Same	43%	38%	41%	49%	41%	38%	43%	39%	47%
DK	3%	4%	5%	2%	4%	2%	5%	4%	5%
N	137	125	131	121	248	246	229	234	194

**[GROUP A]**

**As a place to enjoy the natural environment, will New Jersey be better, worse, or the same?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Better	32%	37%
Worse	35%	16%
Same	29%	44%
Don't Know	4%	3%
N	402	472

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
Better	35%	39%	38%	40%	35%	43%	33%	37%	34%	34%	55%	52%
Worse	20%	15%	13%	14%	19%	21%	15%	13%	17%	8%	14%	16%
Same	42%	44%	46%	43%	44%	36%	48%	46%	46%	54%	31%	29%
DK	3%	2%	4%	4%	2%	0%	4%	5%	3%	3%	0%	4%
N	177	183	110	229	243	151	178	142	312	61	29	56

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30-49K</u>	<u>50-74K</u>	<u>75-99K</u>	<u>100K+</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
Better	39%	50%	26%	33%	37%	40%	36%	37%	35%
Worse	17%	10%	26%	20%	16%	16%	17%	17%	15%
Same	40%	35%	47%	46%	47%	41%	42%	44%	50%
DK	4%	4%	2%	2%	1%	4%	5%	2%	1%
N	82	68	66	46	135	133	123	127	91

**As a place to settle down and retire, will New Jersey be better, worse, or the same?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Better	21%	19%
Worse	47%	51%
Same	26%	23%
Don't Know	6%	2%
N	402	472

*New Jersey Post Election  
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll Nov 17, 2009*

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
Better	18%	20%	21%	25%	14%	19%	20%	18%	18%	28%	7%	28%
Worse	54%	53%	45%	52%	51%	52%	57%	45%	55%	33%	77%	46%
Same	22%	24%	26%	20%	28%	23%	20%	30%	22%	28%	17%	26%
DK	6%	3%	8%	4%	7%	5%	3%	7%	5%	10%	0%	0%
N	177	182	110	229	243	151	177	142	312	60	30	57

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30– 49K</u>	<u>50– 74K</u>	<u>75– 99K</u>	<u>100K +</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
Better	27%	31%	12%	15%	14%	29%	20%	15%	11%
Worse	42%	36%	56%	56%	60%	41%	46%	65%	56%
Same	27%	27%	27%	26%	21%	26%	28%	18%	24%
DK	5%	7%	5%	2%	5%	4%	7%	3%	8%
N	83	67	66	46	136	133	123	126	91

**[GROUP B]**

**As a place that's affordable to live, will New Jersey be better, worse, or the same?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
More Affordable (1999) / Better (2009)	12%	35%
Less Affordable / Worse	57%	46%
No Change / Same	27%	8%
Don't Know	4%	11%
N	400	432

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
Better	14%	16%	23%	14%	18%	15%	19%	15%	15%	11%	14%	25%
Worse	58%	58%	46%	57%	55%	59%	57%	51%	56%	53%	46%	64%
Same	28%	23%	28%	26%	24%	26%	21%	31%	26%	36%	36%	12%
DK	0%	4%	4%	3%	2%	0%	3%	4%	3%	0%	5%	0%
N	162	187	190	201	230	123	186	124	305	36	22	61

*New Jersey Post Election  
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll Nov 17, 2009*

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30– 49K</u>	<u>50– 74K</u>	<u>75– 99K</u>	<u>100K +</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
Better	14%	16%	14%	20%	14%	15%	18%	20%	12%
Worse	51%	58%	55%	54%	58%	51%	56%	56%	62%
Same	35%	21%	29%	25%	25%	33%	25%	19%	25%
DK	0%	5%	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%	5%	2%
N	57	57	65	76	113	114	106	108	104

**As a place to raise a family, will New Jersey be better, worse, or the same?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Better	32%	27%
Worse	27%	23%
Same	36%	45%
Don't Know	5%	4%
N	400	432

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
Better	24%	24%	43%	23%	31%	26%	28%	26%	26%	25%	18%	36%
Worse	19%	28%	20%	28%	19%	17%	25%	27%	24%	28%	4%	23%
Same	53%	43%	34%	45%	46%	52%	42%	44%	46%	36%	64%	37%
DK	5%	5%	3%	4%	5%	5%	5%	3%	4%	11%	14%	5%
N	161	187	79	202	231	123	184	124	306	36	22	62

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30– 49K</u>	<u>50– 74K</u>	<u>75– 99K</u>	<u>100K +</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
Better	23%	21%	20%	32%	33%	26%	24%	32%	26%
Worse	16%	12%	33%	27%	29%	24%	22%	26%	21%
Same	59%	61%	41%	39%	36%	49%	50%	32%	51%
DK	2%	5%	5%	1%	2%	1%	4%	10%	3%
N	56	57	64	74	114	114	106	107	102

**[GROUP A]**

Now, I would like you to continue thinking about the next TEN YEARS for the following three questions:

**Will the economy in New Jersey be stronger or will it be weaker?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Stronger	68%	62%
Weaker	21%	22%
Stay the Same	3%	7%
Don't Know	8%	9%
N	402	471

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
Stronger	55%	61%	75%	69%	56%	68%	60%	60%	64%	65%	38%	63%
Weaker	29%	22%	13%	20%	25%	16%	28%	22%	22%	18%	31%	21%
Same	7%	7%	6%	6%	7%	9%	5%	6%	5%	8%	17%	7%
DK	10%	10%	6%	6%	12%	7%	8%	12%	9%	8%	14%	9%
N	178	182	110	229	242	151	176	143	312	60	29	56

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30-49K</u>	<u>50-74K</u>	<u>75-99K</u>	<u>100K+</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
Better	60%	72%	58%	59%	63%	62%	66%	65%	52%
Worse	13%	16%	29%	24%	26%	17%	22%	25%	26%
Same	17%	8%	9%	2%	3%	7%	6%	6%	8%
DK	10%	5%	5%	15%	8%	13%	6%	3%	14%
N	82	67	66	46	133	132	122	126	90

*New Jersey Post Election  
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll Nov 17, 2009*

**Will race relations in New Jersey improve or will they get worse?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Improve	52%	58%
Get Worse	34%	19%
Stay the Same	8%	15%
Don't Know	7%	8%
N	402	469

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
Improve	61%	58%	53%	57%	59%	55%	57%	62%	61%	46%	59%	63%
Get Worse	16%	23%	20%	22%	17%	21%	22%	15%	16%	21%	28%	25%
Same	15%	13%	17%	14%	16%	20%	12%	13%	16%	25%	7%	5%
DK	9%	6%	9%	7%	9%	4%	10%	10%	8%	8%	7%	7%
N	178	181	109	228	242	152	175	144	310	61	29	57

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30-49K</u>	<u>50-74K</u>	<u>75-99K</u>	<u>100K +</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
Improve	67%	55%	55%	56%	58%	60%	55%	56%	62%
Get Worse	18%	25%	20%	13%	22%	19%	18%	19%	22%
Same	8%	15%	20%	11%	45%	11%	16%	18%	13%
DK	6%	4%	5%	20%	6%	10%	10%	7%	3%
N	82	67	65	46	135	132	121	127	91

**Will health care be more affordable or will it be less affordable?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
More Affordable	28%	35%
Less Affordable	68%	45%
Stay the Same	1%	8%
Don't Know	3%	11%
N	402	471

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Rutgers-Eagleton Poll Nov 17, 2009*

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
More Affordable	41%	35%	26%	35%	36%	38%	33%	34%	28%	61%	31%	56%
Less Affordable	42%	48%	48%	49%	43%	48%	48%	42%	48%	33%	59%	40%
Same	5%	7%	15%	7%	8%	11%	7%	6%	10%	0%	7%	4%
DK	12%	10%	12%	9%	13%	3%	11%	19%	14%	7%	3%	0%
N	177	183	109	229	242	151	177	144	312	61	29	57

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30-49K</u>	<u>50-74K</u>	<u>75-99K</u>	<u>100K +</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
More Affordable	50%	41%	29%	33%	31%	45%	39%	22%	35%
Less Affordable	34%	40%	52%	52%	47%	41%	43%	57%	41%
Same	5%	12%	8%	9%	10%	2%	8%	12%	11%
DK	11%	7%	11%	7%	12%	12%	10%	9%	13%
N	82	68	65	46	135	132	122	127	91

**[GROUP B]**

**Now, I would like you to continue thinking about the next TEN YEARS for the following three questions:**

**Will the public education system improve or will it get worse?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Improve	60%	47%
Get Worse	25%	35%
Stay the same	8%	10%
Don't Know	7%	8%
N	400	431

*New Jersey Post Election  
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll Nov 17, 2009*

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
Improve	50%	46%	47%	39%	54%	52%	46%	44%	44%	58%	48%	55%
Get Worse	34%	35%	39%	43%	28%	39%	36%	31%	35%	52%	33%	31%
Same	10%	10%	9%	10%	9%	9%	8%	14%	11%	0%	15%	10%
DK	6%	10%	5%	7%	9%	0%	10%	11%	10%	0%	5%	5%
N	160	187	79	201	230	123	183	124	304	36	21	62

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30-49K</u>	<u>50-74K</u>	<u>75-99K</u>	<u>100K +</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
Improve	62%	49%	35%	49%	43%	53%	47%	38%	51%
Get Worse	36%	28%	38%	33%	38%	32%	35%	42%	32%
Same	0%	16%	15%	11%	11%	10%	8%	11%	11%
DK	2%	7%	12%	7%	8%	5%	11%	8%	7%
N	55	57	66	75	113	114	107	107	103

**Will conditions in New Jersey's cities get better or will they get worse?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Get Better	44%	39%
Get Worse	39%	40%
Stay the same	7%	14%
Don't Know	9%	7%
N	400	431

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
Better	46%	35%	32%	36%	40%	43%	37%	37%	32%	44%	57%	59%
Worse	39%	40%	45%	44%	36%	38%	42%	40%	44%	53%	19%	25%
Same	11%	15%	19%	15%	14%	16%	13%	14%	16%	3%	14%	10%
DK	4%	11%	4%	5%	9%	3%	8%	9%	8%	0%	10%	7%
N	160	187	78	200	231	122	183	124	305	36	21	61

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Rutgers-Eagleton Poll Nov 17, 2009*

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30– 49K</u>	<u>50– 74K</u>	<u>75– 99K</u>	<u>100K +</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
Better	45%	41%	35%	36%	35%	42%	36%	35%	40%
Worse	36%	46%	39%	47%	44%	40%	41%	47%	33%
Same	12%	11%	23%	4%	17%	15%	12%	12%	18%
DK	7%	2%	3%	12%	4%	3%	11%	6%	9%
N	56	56	66	74	112	113	106	108	102

**Will the gap between rich and poor will get larger or will it get smaller?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Get Larger	68%	65%
Get Smaller	21%	20%
Stay the same	6%	9%
Don't Know	5%	6%
N	400	432

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
Larger	71%	64%	52%	67%	63%	69%	69%	55%	61%	63%	67%	84%
Smaller	20%	20%	23%	18%	21%	20%	18%	23%	20%	29%	33%	10%
Same	5%	9%	18%	11%	7%	12%	5%	13%	13%	0%	0%	0%
DK	4%	7%	8%	4%	8%	0%	8%	9%	6%	3%	0%	7%
N	162	187	79	201	230	122	185	125	305	35	21	61

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30– 49K</u>	<u>50– 74K</u>	<u>75– 99K</u>	<u>100K +</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
Larger	66%	63%	72%	60%	66%	59%	70%	64%	65%
Smaller	16%	23%	12%	25%	20%	25%	15%	22%	18%
Same	11%	9%	12%	7%	10%	13%	7%	8%	10%
DK	7%	5%	3%	8%	4%	3%	8%	6%	8%
N	56	57	65	75	113	114	107	108	103

**[GROUP A]**

**Thinking about YOUR OWN situation over the next TEN YEARS or so, for each of the following tell me whether you expect your life to get better, worse or stay the same. If something does not apply to you just say so.**

**Your job situation?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Better	58%	51%
Worse	7%	9%
Same	31%	37%
Don't Know	2%	2%
N	585	392

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
Better	52%	54%	47%	52%	51%	74%	45%	24%	42%	69%	43%	80%
Worse	10%	9%	8%	11%	6%	7%	9%	14%	9%	4%	15%	12%
Same	34%	36%	46%	35%	40%	18%	45%	57%	47%	21%	43%	8%
DK	3%	2%	0%	2%	2%	1%	1%	5%	2%	6%	0%	0%
N	147	157	88	202	189	147	161	86	251	52	28	51

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30-49K</u>	<u>50-74K</u>	<u>75-99K</u>	<u>100K+</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
Better	55%	63%	44%	42%	59%	55%	52%	54%	44%
Worse	5%	16%	12%	10%	9%	9%	8%	11%	8%
Same	38%	21%	42%	40%	41%	35%	39%	33%	45%
DK	2%	0%	2%	8%	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%
N	65	57	48	40	121	106	101	112	73

**Your housing situation?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Better	48%	37%
Worse	8%	12%
Same	41%	50%
Don't Know	1%	1%
N	802	463

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**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
Better	42%	33%	35%	37%	37%	58%	34%	19%	30%	56%	21%	60%
Worse	9%	17%	11%	15%	10%	11%	13%	13%	11%	3%	28%	18%
Same	47%	48%	53%	45%	52%	31%	52%	66%	57%	37%	52%	23%
DK	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%	3%	0%	0%
N	176	179	107	226	237	151	177	143	304	60	29	57

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30-49K</u>	<u>50-74K</u>	<u>75-99K</u>	<u>100K +</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
Better	39%	38%	36%	30%	37%	39%	29%	48%	30%
Worse	6%	19%	14%	11%	14%	11%	16%	10%	12%
Same	52%	42%	49%	59%	48%	48%	53%	41%	57%
DK	3%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	1%	1%	0%
N	83	63	63	46	133	127	120	126	90

**The income you and your family have?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Better	65%	50%
Worse	5%	18%
Same	27%	30%
Don't Know	1%	2%
N	802	461

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
Better	56%	47%	44%	51%	48%	69%	54%	24%	43%	62%	52%	71%
Worse	11%	22%	21%	19%	16%	15%	15%	23%	20%	4%	23%	14%
Same	32%	28%	33%	27%	33%	13%	28%	51%	36%	32%	25%	5%
DK	2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	0%	9%
N	174	178	107	221	241	148	173	140	303	59	27	56

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	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30– 49K</u>	<u>50– 74K</u>	<u>75– 99K</u>	<u>100K +</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
Better	52%	57%	36%	37%	55%	44%	48%	56%	52%
Worse	7%	16%	27%	17%	23%	20%	19%	14%	19%
Same	33%	27%	38%	46%	20%	33%	31%	29%	28%
DK	7%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%	2%	1%	1%
N	82	65	64	46	132	131	122	122	87

**The availability of good quality health care?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Better	No Data	34%
Worse		25%
Same		36%
Don't Know		5%
N		462

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
Better	40%	34%	23%	36%	31%	44%	27%	31%	25%	56%	38%	53%
Worse	21%	26%	31%	26%	24%	23%	28%	24%	26%	10%	45%	25%
Same	34%	37%	37%	33%	39%	28%	40%	40%	43%	25%	17%	23%
DK	5%	4%	9%	5%	6%	5%	6%	6%	6%	10%	0%	0%
N	173	180	103	227	236	150	173	140	304	61	29	57

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30– 49K</u>	<u>50– 74K</u>	<u>75– 99K</u>	<u>100K +</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
Better	47%	48%	25%	28%	23%	43%	36%	26%	27%
Worse	18%	20%	31%	20%	32%	18%	24%	30%	30%
Same	31%	26%	34%	46%	40%	31%	37%	41%	35%
DK	4%	6%	9%	6%	4%	8%	2%	3%	8%
N	80	66	64	46	135	128	121	125	88

**[GROUP B]**

**Different people have different concerns as they look ahead to the next TEN YEARS or so. Please tell me if you personally worry about the following a lot, some, or hardly at all. If something does not apply to you just say so.**

**Not having enough money to live comfortably?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Worry A Lot	27%	46%
Worry Some	39%	32%
Worry Hardly at All	32%	21%
Don't know	1%	3%
N	802	422

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
A lot	50%	49%	31%	36%	55%	45%	52%	39%	43%	56%	39%	59%
Some	30%	30%	45%	36%	29%	31%	32%	35%	34%	21%	50%	30%
Hardly	21%	19%	24%	27%	15%	22%	16%	25%	23%	24%	11%	10%
DK	0%	2%	0%	1%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	2%
N	156	183	78	197	224	120	183	119	298	34	18	63

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30-49K</u>	<u>50-74K</u>	<u>75-99K</u>	<u>100K+</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
A lot	61	57	48	45	32	64	46	46	28
Some	23	32	34	31	36	19	36	32	43
Hardly	12	9	18	23	32	16	14	22	30
DK	4	2	0	1	0	1	3	0	0
N	57	56	65	74	108	111	104	105	101

**Having good quality health care available?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Worry A Lot	43%	56%
Worry Some	31%	26%
Worry Hardly at All	25%	17%
Don't know	1%	0%
N	802	424

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**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
A lot	62%	56%	46%	48%	64%	63%	54%	53%	55%	60%	62%	61%
Some	22%	28%	31%	29%	23%	23%	32%	21%	28%	20%	29%	20%
Hardly	15%	16%	23%	22%	13%	14%	15%	24%	17%	20%	5%	20%
DK	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	5%	0%
N	157	185	78	197	228	122	183	120	300	35	21	61

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30-49K</u>	<u>50-74K</u>	<u>75-99K</u>	<u>100K+</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
A lot	70%	75%	48%	55%	38%	68%	59%	47%	50%
Some	20%	18%	36%	19%	35%	19%	30%	34%	22%
Hardly	7%	5%	16%	26%	27%	12%	10%	19%	27%
DK	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%
N	54	57	63	74	111	113	105	104	103

**Having enough money to retire?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Worry A Lot	33%	55%
Worry Some	36%	28%
Worry Hardly at All	29%	16%
Don't know	2%	1%
N	802	390

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
A lot	54%	59%	47%	48%	61%	52%	60%	49%	56%	59%	53%	52%
Some	27%	24%	42%	30%	26%	29%	29%	21%	29%	18%	24%	32%
Hardly	18%	15%	11%	21%	11%	18%	9%	25%	15%	24%	18%	16%
DK	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	0%	6%	0%
N	145	165	74	178	212	114	180	96	270	34	17	62

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	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30– 49K</u>	<u>50– 74K</u>	<u>75– 99K</u>	<u>100K +</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
A lot	61%	64%	59%	55%	47%	68%	54%	57%	41%
Some	21%	15%	32%	26%	32%	18%	23%	32%	41%
Hardly	12%	22%	7%	19%	20%	14%	21%	10%	18%
DK	6%	0%	2%	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%
N	49	50	59	69	106	103	96	98	91

**Being able to afford decent housing?**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2009</u>
Worry A Lot	20%	38%
Worry Some	28%	31%
Worry Hardly at All	51%	30%
Don't know	1%	1%
N	802	409

**2009**

	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>18/34</u>	<u>35/54</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Latino</u>
A lot	42%	38%	26%	31%	44%	41%	40%	32%	33%	53%	50%	46%
Some	31%	31%	34%	33%	30%	38%	31%	24%	31%	24%	33%	36%
Hardly	27%	29%	40%	35%	26%	20%	29%	43%	35%	24%	17%	18%
DK	0%	2%	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%
N	151	180	73	189	219	121	178	111	288	34	18	61

	<u>&lt;30K</u>	<u>30– 49K</u>	<u>50– 74K</u>	<u>75– 99K</u>	<u>100K +</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>	<u>College Degree</u>	<u>Grad School</u>
A lot	47%	44%	40%	46%	19%	48%	35%	37%	30%
Some	27%	32%	32%	18%	39%	21%	45%	35%	24%
Hardly	22%	22%	27%	36%	41%	30%	18%	28%	44%
DK	4%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	0%	1%
N	55	54	62	72	104	109	98	102	99

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The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted from November 6-10, 2009 with a scientifically selected random sample of 903 New Jersey adults. Data are weighted to represent known parameters in the New Jersey population, including gender, age, race, education, and Hispanic ethnicity. All results are reported with these weighted data.

This Poll included two samples. One was a random sample of 452 New Jersey adults, selected via random digit dialing of landline telephones in the state. The second sample was collected through call backs to a randomly selected 451 respondents from the 903 respondents in the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll of October 15-20, 2009. The original sample was randomly selected via random digit dialing of landlines in New Jersey. The two samples are combined for this report and weighted to reflect the demographics of the State of New Jersey as described above.

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 a sample of 903 adults is +/-3.3 points, at a 95 percent confidence interval. Thus if 50 percent of New Jersey adults favored a particular position, one would be 95 percent sure that the true figure would be between 45.9 and 54.1 percent (50 + 3.3) had all New Jersey adults 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.

**Weighted Sample Characteristics  
(Full Sample N=903)**

37% Dem	48% Male	31% 18-34	68% White
40% Independent	52% Female	40% 35-54	11% Black
22% Republican		29% 55+	13% Hispanic
			6% Asian
			2% Other