

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2012**

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** ATTENTION POLITICAL, ASSIGNMENT EDITORS, Professor David Redlawsk may be contacted at 319-400-1134 (Cell), 732-932-9384, ext. 285 (office), or [redlawsk@rutgers.edu](mailto:redlawsk@rutgers.edu). Visit our blog at <http://eagletonpollblog.wordpress.com> for additional commentary. Follow the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll on Twitter @EagletonPoll Facebook and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/RutgersEagletonPoll>.

## **HIGH MARKS FOR CHRISTIE, OBAMA, AND BIPARTISANSHIP IN SANDY AFTERMATH, RUTGERS-EAGLETON POLL FINDS**

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J –Garden Staters have responded very positively to NJ Gov. Chris Christie's leadership following Superstorm Sandy, according to a new Rutgers-Eagleton Poll. More than 90 percent praise the governor for his handling of the storm: 69 percent say Christie handled the crisis "very well" and another 23 percent say he handled it "somewhat well."

And what about the headline-making, controversy-causing bipartisan relationship between Governor Christie and President Obama in Sandy's wake? Eighty-one percent of New Jerseyans believe the two politicians showed "needed cooperation and bipartisanship," compared to only 12 percent who think Christie "went too far in his praise" of the president.

The governor's overall favorability rating now stands at 65 percent with all residents and 67 percent among registered voters, up more than 15 points from before the storm. Sixty-one percent of respondents say they support Christie more strongly due to his handling of the storm.

"Governor Christie has emerged as a clear leader in this crisis, with New Jerseyans applauding his efforts, and in particular his literal and figurative embrace of President Obama in a time of need," said David Redlawsk, director of the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll and professor of political science at Rutgers. "Despite a recent *New York Times* story that some national GOP leaders are condemning the governor for his show of bipartisanship, New Jerseyans of all stripes say it was exactly the right thing to do."

New Jersey residents also commend President Obama, with 84 percent of residents saying Obama did "somewhat" or "very well" during the crisis. But most say this had no effect on how they voted: more than three-quarters of voters say the president's response made no difference, while 18 percent say his assistance with Sandy made them more likely to vote for him.

Results are from a poll of 1,228 New Jersey adults conducted statewide among both landline and cell phone households from Nov 14-17. The sample has a margin of error of +/- 2.8 percentage points. Within this sample is a subsample of 1,108 registered voters; this subsample has a margin of error of +/- 2.9 percentage points.

### **Strong bipartisan support for Christie**

Democrats, independents, and Republicans all applaud the governor's storm efforts. Two-thirds of Democrats and independents, and 78 percent of Republicans, say Christie did very well. Sixty

percent of Democrats and independents say they now are stronger Christie supporters; 68 percent of Republicans feel the same. The governor's favorability has reached bipartisan highs, with 49 percent of Democrats, 70 percent of independents, and 89 percent of Republicans saying they now have a favorable impression of Christie. Only 38 percent of Democrats report an unfavorable impression, a drop from 68 percent in early October, when only 22 percent of Democrats felt favorably toward the governor.

"Christie's bipartisan outreach and his visible leadership resulted in high marks from people of all political persuasions," said Redlawsk. "This is a nice exception to the typical partisan splits over nearly anything the governor does. In a time of crisis, people expect their elected leaders to put politics aside, and when that happens, they respond very positively."

Christie receives high praise even from his customary detractors. Almost three-quarters of women (72 percent) think Christie handled the crisis very well, and 64 percent say they are now more supportive of him. Fifty-three percent of black residents and 61 percent of Hispanics say the governor did very well. Forty-three percent of blacks and 55 percent of Hispanics also say they are now more supportive of Christie.

The governor's strongest support comes from those regions most heavily affected by Superstorm Sandy. Eighty-three percent of shore county residents say Christie handled the crisis very well, as do 76 percent of northwestern New Jersey (exurban) residents. More than 60 percent in each region are now more supportive of Christie because of his actions. Little difference in opinion exists between those personally affected by the storm and those who were not.

"The governor has clearly built a reservoir of goodwill through his aggressive approach to Sandy," said Redlawsk. "The timing makes things interesting – those intending to run against him next year must make their decisions soon, yet the governor is clearly riding high right now. How long this reservoir lasts will help determine who gets in and who stays out of the 2013 gubernatorial race."

### **Obama's response also praised**

While the president's support does not quite reach the lofty levels seen for Christie, majorities of most groups say the president did at least somewhat well handling the crisis.

Virtually all Democrats commend him, and 76 percent say he did very well. While 61 percent of GOP respondents give the president a positive rating on his post-Sandy actions, only 27 percent say the president did very well.

Obama's response to the storm had little impact on voters on Election Day, however, except for those already likely to vote for him. Thirty percent of Democrats say Obama's storm response made them more likely to vote for him, compared to 12 percent of independents and five percent of Republicans. About one-fifth of women and 30 percent of black voters feel the same. Voters in the hardest hit regions – exurban and shore counties, which lean Republican – were most likely to say Obama's response had no effect on their votes at all (81 percent and 77 percent, respectively).

Newark Mayor Cory Booker's storm efforts, though not as well known throughout the rest of the state, notably score highly in urban areas, with 58 percent saying the mayor did somewhat or very well with the crisis. One-third are unsure.

**Christie-Obama storm tour earns strong bipartisan support**

In the midst of countless media stories and GOP controversy over Christie's praise and embrace of Obama after the storm, New Jersey residents – including over two-thirds of Christie's own party – support the show of bipartisanship by the Governor and the President. Eighty-eight percent of Democrats, 80 percent of independents, and 69 percent of Republicans say Christie's gratitude toward and interaction with Obama was a necessary display of bipartisanship. Only a quarter of Republicans feel Christie went too far and possibly hurt Mitt Romney's presidential campaign. Likewise, 67 percent of conservatives support the bipartisan showing. Among those who voted, 68 percent of Romney supporters feel the bipartisanship was necessary, while 28 percent think Christie's praise of the President was detrimental.

**Sandy made voting more difficult for a few**

Despite the storm's timing, few voters had trouble casting their ballots. Only 7 percent of voters personally affected by Sandy say they found it difficult to vote. Statewide, 86 percent of voters said they experienced no difficulty at all. Among registered voters who said they failed to get to the polls, 20 percent say the storm played a role, though most had other reasons for not voting. Residents living in areas most affected by Sandy, shore and exurban counties are more likely to blame the storm for their failure to vote.

"Turnout here was noticeably lower than in most presidential elections," noted Redlawsk, "but it's hard to determine if Sandy was the reason. It seems likely that much of the drop was Sandy-related, although it also might be attributed to the fact New Jersey was not a battleground state."

# # #

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

**Questions and Tables**

The questions covered in the release of November 21, 2012 are listed below. Column percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. Respondents are New Jersey Adults or New Jersey Registered Voters as labeled; all percentages are of weighted results.

**Q. First, I'd like to ask about some people and groups. Please tell me if your general impression of each one is favorable or unfavorable, or if you do not have an opinion. {RANDOMIZE ORDER}**

	President Barack Obama		Governor Chris Christie		Newark Mayor Corey Booker	
	ALL	RVs	ALL	RVs	ALL	RVs
Favorable	65%	61%	65%	67%	50%	52%
Unfavorable	27%	32%	25%	25%	11%	11%
No opinion/DK	8%	7%	10%	8%	39%	37%
Unwgt N=	1225	1106	1225	1105	1225	1105

**[ADDITIONAL POLITICAL FIGURE IMPRESSIONS, AND JOB PERFORMANCE QUESTIONS, REGISTERED VOTER, PARTISANSHIP, AND VOTING QUESTIONS CAME BEFORE THE FOLLOWING]**

**[FOLLOWING ASKED ONLY OF REGISTERED VOTERS WHO WERE UNABLE TO VOTE IN THE ELECTION]**

**Q. And why were you unable to vote in this election?**

	RVs
Superstorm Sandy	20%
Didn't like candidates	12%
Didn't like how campaigns were conducted	1%
Personal reasons	41%
Other	23%
Don't usually vote	3%
Unwgt N=	83

**[FOLLOWING TWO QUESTIONS ASKED ONLY OF REGISTERED VOTERS WHO VOTED]**

**Q. Given the damage caused by Superstorm Sandy, many people who voted still found it difficult to vote. How about you, how difficult was it to cast your vote? Was it:**

	RVs
Very difficult	2%
Somewhat difficult	3%
Not very difficult	8%
Not difficult at all	87%
Don't know (vol)	2%
Unwgt N=	1020

**Superstorm Sandy Political Implications Nov 2012  
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll**

	Party ID			Ideology			Affected by Sandy	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Yes	No
Very	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%
Somewhat	3%	3%	4%	3%	4%	3%	5%	1%
Not very	8%	8%	9%	11%	8%	7%	10%	5%
Not at all	88%	86%	85%	86%	86%	89%	83%	93%
Unwgt N=	419	355	233	242	519	240	666	353

	Region					Gender		Race			
	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South	Shore	Male	Female	White	Black	Hisp	Other
Very	2%	2%	2%	0%	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%	4%	2%
Somewhat	7%	2%	4%	2%	4%	2%	4%	3%	3%	5%	4%
Not very	9%	7%	11%	5%	11%	10%	6%	8%	6%	8%	16%
Not at all	82%	89%	83%	93%	82%	85%	88%	87%	90%	84%	78%
Unwt N=	162	345	162	182	169	468	552	750	101	77	73

	Age				Income			
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	> 150K
Very	3%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Somewhat	4%	4%	4%	2%	5%	4%	3%	1%
Not very	11%	8%	9%	7%	5%	10%	6%	13%
Not at all	83%	87%	85%	90%	88%	85%	89%	84%
Unwt N=	105	334	367	201	232	280	166	148

**Q. Did President Obama's response to Superstorm Sandy make you more likely to vote for him, less likely to vote for him, or did it not make a difference to your vote?**

	RVs
More likely	18%
Less likely	5%
No difference	76%
Don't know (vol)	1%
Unwgt N=	1018

	Party ID			Ideology			Affected by Sandy	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Yes	No
More likely	30%	12%	5%	33%	16%	8%	17%	21%
Less likely	0%	5%	13%	1%	4%	11%	6%	3%
No difference	69%	82%	81%	66%	79%	81%	77%	76%
Don't know (vol)	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Unwgt N=	418	354	233	242	517	240	664	353

	Region					Gender		Race			
	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South	Shore	Male	Female	White	Black	Hisp	Other
More likely	26%	18%	13%	18%	16%	17%	20%	15%	29%	23%	31%
Less likely	5%	4%	6%	4%	7%	4%	5%	5%	1%	5%	3%
No diff	69%	76%	81%	76%	77%	79%	74%	78%	70%	71%	64%
Don't know	0%	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%
Unwt N=	162	343	163	182	168	468	550	750	101	77	73

*Superstorm Sandy Political Implications Nov 2012  
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll*

	Age				Income			
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	> 150K
More likely	35%	16%	16%	15%	24%	20%	11%	11%
Less likely	1%	4%	5%	7%	5%	4%	3%	6%
No difference	64%	79%	78%	76%	69%	76%	85%	83%
Don't know (vol)	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%	0%	1%	0%
Unwt N=	105	333	368	200	232	280	166	148

**[FOLLOWING ASKED OF ALL RESPONDENTS]**

**Q. How well do you think each of the following people or organizations have been handling the crisis, its aftermath, and recovery efforts? For each tell me if they have handled the crisis very well, somewhat well, somewhat poorly or very poorly? [RANDOMIZE ORDER]**

**Governor Chris Christie**

	All Adults
Very well	69%
Somewhat well	23%
Somewhat poorly	3%
Very poorly	2%
Don't know (vol)	3%
Unwgt N=	1225

	Christie Favorability			Personally Affected by Sandy	
	Favorable	Unfavorable	No opin/DK	Yes	No
Very well	82%	45%	43%	70%	67%
Somewhat well	15%	37%	35%	23%	22%
Somewhat poorly	1%	6%	6%	3%	3%
Very poorly	%	7%	2%	2%	3%
Don't know (vol)	1%	4%	14%	2%	5%
Unwgt N=	818	290	114	807	416

	Party ID				Ideology	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons
Very well	66%	67%	78%	71%	69%	70%
Somewhat well	26%	22%	15%	23%	23%	22%
Somewhat poorly	3%	3%	1%	2%	2%	4%
Very poorly	2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	%
Don't know (vol)	3%	4%	4%	2%	3%	3%
Unwgt N=	487	469	254	284	648	264

	Region				Gender		Race				
	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	Male	Female	White	Black	Hisp	Other	
Very well	67%	65%	76%	61%	83%	66%	72%	75%	53%	61%	60%
Somewht well	23%	27%	18%	27%	12%	25%	20%	19%	33%	23%	35%
Somewht poor	4%	3%	1%	4%	2%	3%	3%	2%	6%	5%	%
Very poorly	2%	2%	3%	4%	1%	2%	2%	1%	4%	6%	0%
Don't know	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	2%	5%	5%	5%
Unwt N=	215	418	177	212	203	570	655	855	125	115	107

**Superstorm Sandy Political Implications Nov 2012**  
**Rutgers-Eagleton Poll**

	Age				Income			
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	> 150K
Very well	58%	68%	76%	73%	61%	73%	81%	70%
Somewhat well	31%	25%	17%	18%	27%	20%	18%	25%
Somewhat poorly	4%	4%	2%	1%	6%	2%	0%	1%
Very poorly	3%	1%	2%	4%	4%	1%	0%	1%
Don't know (vol)	5%	2%	3%	4%	2%	3%	1%	3%
Unwt N=	161	420	409	220	304	335	181	166

**Newark Mayor Corey Booker**

All Adults	
Very well	27%
Somewhat well	22%
Somewhat poorly	3%
Very poorly	3%
Don't know (vol)	46%
Unwgt N=	1223

	Booker Favorability			Personally Affected by Sandy	
	Favorable	Unfavorable	No opin/DK	Yes	No
Very well	42%	8%	14%	27%	27%
Somewhat well	25%	21%	17%	22%	21%
Somewhat poorly	1%	6%	3%	2%	3%
Very poorly	1%	11%	2%	4%	1%
Don't know (vol)	31%	53%	64%	45%	48%
Unwgt N=	612	132	476	805	416

	Party ID				Ideology	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons
Very well	34%	23%	19%	33%	28%	19%
Somewhat well	24%	19%	20%	25%	22%	17%
Somewhat poorly	2%	3%	4%	2%	3%	2%
Very poorly	1%	5%	2%	%	4%	2%
Don't know (vol)	39%	50%	56%	40%	44%	59%
Unwgt N=	486	468	254	283	647	264

	Region					Gender		Race			
	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South	Shore	Male	Female	White	Black	Hisp	Other
Very well	33%	31%	23%	20%	22%	25%	29%	24%	34%	33%	24%
Somewhat well	25%	21%	23%	22%	17%	23%	20%	20%	30%	17%	27%
Somewhat poorly	3%	3%	2%	4%	2%	3%	2%	3%	1%	1%	4%
Very poorly	4%	3%	3%	4%	1%	3%	3%	2%	1%	9%	2%
Don't know (vol)	35%	43%	50%	51%	59%	46%	46%	50%	34%	40%	43%
Unwt N=	216	415	177	212	203	568	655	852	125	115	107

*Superstorm Sandy Political Implications Nov 2012  
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll*

	Age				Income			
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	> 150K
Very well	36%	27%	23%	24%	33%	25%	28%	20%
Somewhat well	24%	22%	19%	21%	23%	21%	25%	23%
Somewhat poorly	1%	3%	3%	1%	2%	3%	2%	4%
Very poorly	4%	2%	3%	2%	4%	4%	1%	1%
Don't know (vol)	36%	45%	51%	51%	38%	46%	44%	51%
Unwt N=	162	420	408	218	304	335	178	166

**President Barack Obama**

All Adults	
Very well	56%
Somewhat well	28%
Somewhat poorly	6%
Very poorly	7%
Don't know (vol)	4%
Unwgt N=	1224

	Obama Favorability			Personally Affected by Sandy	
	Favorable	Unfavorable	No opin/DK	Yes	No
Very well	75%	14%	41%	56%	55%
Somewhat well	23%	38%	42%	28%	29%
Somewhat poorly	1%	17%	6%	7%	5%
Very poorly	%	23%	5%	7%	6%
Don't know (vol)	2%	8%	6%	3%	5%
Unwgt N=	758	369	94	807	415

	Party ID				Ideology	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons
Very well	76%	47%	27%	77%	56%	30%
Somewhat well	20%	34%	34%	20%	31%	30%
Somewhat poorly	1%	6%	16%	1%	5%	14%
Very poorly	%	8%	17%	1%	5%	20%
Don't know (vol)	2%	5%	6%	2%	3%	6%
Unwgt N=	488	467	254	284	648	263

	Region					Gender		Race			
	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South Shore		Male	Female	White	Black	Hisp	Other
Very well	63%	59%	44%	53%	50%	51%	59%	49%	78%	65%	58%
Somewhat well	25%	26%	33%	31%	30%	32%	25%	31%	15%	21%	38%
Somewhat poorly	4%	5%	8%	6%	7%	7%	5%	8%	1%	4%	%
Very poorly	4%	6%	10%	6%	9%	6%	7%	9%	2%	5%	0%
Don't know (vol)	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%	3%	4%	5%	4%
Unwt N=	216	417	176	211	204	569	655	853	125	115	107

**Superstorm Sandy Political Implications Nov 2012**  
**Rutgers-Eagleton Poll**

	Age				Income			
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	> 150K
Very well	57%	57%	53%	56%	62%	54%	59%	44%
Somewhat well	37%	30%	25%	20%	26%	32%	24%	35%
Somewhat poorly	3%	6%	6%	9%	3%	6%	8%	9%
Very poorly	0%	5%	9%	12%	6%	5%	7%	7%
Don't know (vol)	3%	3%	6%	3%	3%	3%	2%	5%
Unwt N=	162	419	409	220	304	336	181	165

**Q. Did Governor Christie's response to Superstorm Sandy make you more supportive of him, less supportive of him, or did it have no effect on how supportive you are of the governor?**

All Adults	
More supportive	61%
Less supportive	3%
No effect	35%
Don't know (vol)	1%
Unwgt N=	1226

	Christie Favorability			Personally Affected by Sandy	
	Favorable	Unfavorable	No opin/DK	Yes	No
More supportive	74%	35%	43%	61%	60%
Less supportive	1%	9%	8%	4%	2%
No effect	25%	56%	43%	34%	38%
Don't know (vol)	0%	0%	6%	1%	1%
Unwgt N=	819	290	114	808	416

	Party ID				Ideology	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons
More supportive	60%	58%	68%	65%	61%	57%
Less supportive	3%	5%	%	2%	3%	4%
No effect	36%	36%	32%	31%	34%	39%
Don't know (vol)	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%
Unwgt N=	487	469	255	284	649	264

	Region				Gender		Race				
	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	Male	Female	White	Black	Hisp	Other	
More supportive	63%	60%	61%	54%	67%	57%	64%	64%	43%	55%	70%
Less supportive	3%	3%	3%	6%	3%	4%	3%	1%	10%	6%	2%
No effect	32%	36%	36%	40%	30%	38%	32%	34%	45%	37%	27%
Don't know (vol)	2%	1%	1%	%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%
Unwt N=	215	418	177	212	204	570	656	855	125	116	107

*Superstorm Sandy Political Implications Nov 2012  
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll*

	Age				Income			
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	> 150K
More supportive	61%	58%	61%	66%	52%	61%	69%	67%
Less supportive	4%	3%	2%	3%	6%	2%	3%	2%
No effect	33%	38%	36%	30%	41%	37%	29%	31%
Don't know (vol)	2%	1%	1%	%	1%	1%	0%	0%
Unwt N=	161	421	409	220	304	336	181	166

**Q. Governor Christie praised and embraced President Obama, during his visit after the storm, stating that this was not a time for partisan politics. Some say this showed needed cooperation and bipartisanship in a time of crisis. Others say the governor went too far in his praise of the president and hurt Mitt Romney's campaign. What is your opinion?**

	All Adults
Showed needed cooperation/bipartisanship	81%
Christie went too far in his praise	12%
Don't Know (vol)	7%
Unwgt N=	1215

	Christie Favorability			Obama Favorability			Personally Affected by Sandy	
	Fav	Unfav	No opinion/ DK	Fav	Unfav	No opinion/ DK	Yes	No
Needed	83%	78%	76%	88%	65%	80%	82%	81%
Too far	12%	17%	4%	6%	29%	6%	12%	13%
Don't know (vol)	5%	6%	19%	6%	6%	13%	7%	6%
Unwgt N=	812	286	114	751	367	94	798	415

	Party ID				Ideology			Presid Vote	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Obama	Romney	
Needed	88%	80%	69%	92%	83%	67%	92%	68%	
Too far	6%	13%	25%	5%	10%	28%	4%	28%	
Don't know (vol)	6%	7%	6%	3%	7%	5%	4%	4%	
Unwgt N=	485	463	252	281	644	261	551	351	

	Region				Gender		Race				
	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	Male	Female	White	Black	Hisp	Other	
Needed	81%	81%	81%	81%	81%	79%	83%	81%	81%	78%	89%
Too far	13%	12%	11%	12%	12%	14%	10%	14%	8%	15%	4%
Don't know (vol)	6%	7%	7%	6%	7%	7%	6%	6%	11%	7%	6%
Unwt N=	214	414	175	211	201	563	652	847	125	113	107

	Age					Income		
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	> 150K
Needed	79%	82%	82%	81%	81%	83%	86%	85%
Too far	7%	11%	14%	17%	12%	12%	9%	11%
Don't know (vol)	14%	7%	4%	2%	8%	4%	5%	4%
Unwt N=	160	418	406	216	301	333	180	165

---

**Rutgers-Eagleton Poll November 14-17, 2012**

The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted by telephone from November 14-17, 2012 with a scientifically selected random sample of 1228 New Jersey adults. This telephone poll included 900 landline respondents and 338 cell phone respondents, all acquired through random digit dialing. Distribution of the phone sample is:

Cell Phone Only Household:	10%
Landline Only Household:	7%
Both landline/Cell Reached on Cell:	17%
Both landline/Cell Reached on Landline:	66%

Data are weighted to represent known parameters in the New Jersey adult population, using gender, age, race, and Hispanic ethnicity matching to US Census Bureau data. 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 1228 adults is +/-2.8 percentage 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 47.2 and 52.8 percent (50 +/-2.8) 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.

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.

<b>Weighted Sample Characteristics 1228 New Jersey Adults</b>			
43% Democrat	48% Male	19% 18-29	63% White
37% Independent	52% Female	36% 30-49	12% Black
20% Republican		28% 50-64	16% Hispanic
		17% 65+	9% Asian/Other/Multi

Within the adult sample, a total of 1108 respondents said they were registered voters. This subsample has a margin of error of +/-2.9 percentage points.

<b>Weighted Sample Characteristics 1108 New Jersey Registered Voters</b>			
43% Democrat	47% Male	13% 18-29	74% White
35% Independent	53% Female	32% 30-49	13% Black
22% Republican		31% 50-64	8% Hispanic
		24% 65+	6% Asian/Other/Multi