



NJ SPOTLIGHT ON CITIES 2016 CONFERENCE SPECIAL:

**NEW JERSEYANS HAVE MIXED VIEWS ON NJ CITIES,
BELIEVE SCHOOL FUNDING LAWS HAVE HAD LITTLE
IMPACT IN LOCAL OR URBAN DISTRICTS**

**Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling
and
NJ Spotlight**

October 2016

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GENERAL POPULATION METHODOLOGY

The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted by telephone using live callers September 6-10, 2016 with a scientifically selected random sample of 802 New Jersey adults, 18 or older. 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 441 landline and 361 cell phone adults, all acquired through random digit dialing. Distribution of household phone use in this sample is:

Cell Only:	21%
Dual Use, Reached on Cell:	25%
Dual Use, Reached on LL:	51%
Landline Only:	4%

Data were weighted to the demographics of adults in New Jersey. Weights account for the probability of being selected within the sample frame, adjusting for frame overlap, as well as the probability of being sampled within a household, based on the number of individuals living in the household for respondents reached via landline and on the number of adults sharing a phone for respondents reached via cell. The sample was weighted using a raking algorithm to several demographic variables reflecting the general population parameters of the state of New Jersey: gender, race, age, and Hispanic ethnicity. The final weights, which combined all of the parameters mentioned, were trimmed at the 5th and 95th percentile so as to not accord too much weight to any one case or subset of cases. All results are reported with these weighted data.

All surveys are subject to sampling error, which is the expected probable difference between interviewing everyone in a population versus a scientific sampling drawn from that population. Sampling error should be adjusted to recognize the effect of weighting the data to better match the population. In this poll, the simple sampling error for the 802 adults is +/-3.5 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence interval. The sample weighting design effect is 1.27, making the adjusted margin of error +/- 3.9 percentage points for the adult sample.

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 46.1 and 53.9 percent (50 +/-3.9) 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 in partnership with the New Jersey Arts Education Partnership and all data analyses were completed in house by the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling (ECPIP). The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll is paid for and sponsored by the Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University, a non-partisan academic center for the study of politics and the political process. Full questionnaires are available on request, and can also be accessed through our archives at eagletonpoll.rutgers.edu. For more information, please contact eagleton.poll@rutgers.edu.

Weighted Sample Characteristics			
802 New Jersey Adults			
37% Democrat	48% Male	28% 18-34	63% White
43% Independent	52% Female	26% 35-49	12% Black
20% Republican		28% 50-64	16% Hispanic
		18% 65+	9% Asian/Other/Multi

SURVEY QUESTION RESULTS: NEW JERSEY GENERAL POPULATION

The questions covered in this report are listed below. Column percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. Respondents are New Jersey adults; all percentages are of weighted results. All percentages are of weighted results; all sample sizes listed are unweighted. Caution should be used in interpreting results in which the sample size is less than 100 respondents.

Q. How would you rate cities in New Jersey as a place to live – excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

		Christie Favorability		Christie Job Approval		NJ Track	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove	Right	Wrong
						direction	track
Excellent	10%	13%	8%	13%	9%	17%	7%
Good	34%	37%	34%	41%	32%	45%	31%
Only fair	34%	31%	34%	27%	35%	27%	37%
Poor	14%	14%	15%	14%	15%	8%	17%
Depends on the city (vol)	6%	4%	7%	5%	7%	3%	8%
Don't know (vol)	1%	0%	2%	0%	2%	0%	1%
Unwgt N=	798	181	531	204	544	194	540

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Parental Status		Live in City	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	Yes	No	Yes	No
Excellent	10%	10%	10%	11%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	8%	11%
Good	38%	34%	28%	38%	35%	29%	33%	36%	37%	33%	29%	36%
Only fair	29%	38%	35%	28%	37%	34%	38%	30%	34%	34%	43%	30%
Poor	14%	12%	20%	12%	13%	20%	14%	15%	15%	14%	16%	14%
Depends on the city (vol)	7%	6%	6%	9%	4%	7%	4%	8%	4%	7%	4%	7%
Don't know (vol)	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%	1%	2%	0%	2%	0%	1%
Unwgt N=	300	334	159	196	421	164	394	404	248	543	218	580

	Race		Age				Income			
	White	Non-wht	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+
Excellent	10%	10%	9%	13%	9%	9%	8%	10%	8%	16%
Good	33%	36%	41%	35%	30%	29%	33%	34%	39%	33%
Only fair	33%	36%	36%	33%	31%	35%	34%	37%	31%	29%
Poor	14%	14%	10%	12%	20%	15%	18%	13%	16%	12%
Depends on the city (vol)	7%	5%	3%	6%	8%	9%	5%	5%	5%	9%
Don't know (vol)	2%	0%	0%	1%	1%	3%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Unwgt N=	492	281	155	191	290	162	194	233	139	138

	Education				Region				Union Household		
	HS or Less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/ South	Shore	Yes	No
Excellent	9%	9%	7%	15%	11%	9%	16%	8%	8%	13%	9%
Good	32%	30%	36%	40%	27%	37%	32%	30%	42%	31%	35%
Only fair	37%	39%	33%	26%	44%	34%	30%	35%	27%	31%	35%
Poor	16%	16%	15%	10%	11%	14%	12%	19%	14%	19%	13%
Depends on the city (vol)	4%	5%	9%	7%	7%	6%	5%	5%	8%	6%	6%
Don't know (vol)	1%	2%	0%	2%	1%	0%	4%	2%	0%	0%	1%
Unwgt N=	166	216	239	175	124	293	108	141	132	185	600

Q. Over the past 5 years or so, would you say cities in New Jersey have been getting better or worse as a place to live - or hasn't there been much change?

		Trend Oct 1984	Christie Favorability		Christie Job Approval		NJ Track	
			Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove	Right direction	Wrong track
Better	23%	25%	24%	24%	24%	23%	30%	20%
Worse	30%	34%	33%	29%	30%	30%	18%	36%
Hasn't been much change	37%	34%	35%	36%	38%	37%	45%	34%
Depends on the city (vol)	6%	-	4%	7%	6%	7%	5%	6%
Don't know (vol)	4%	7%	3%	3%	3%	3%	1%	4%
Unwgt N=	798	500	181	531	204	545	195	539

	Party ID				Ideology		Gender		Parental Status		Live in City	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Yes	Yes	Male	Female	Yes	No	Yes	No
Better	28%	21%	18%	32%	21%	15%	27%	19%	22%	24%	25%	22%
Worse	29%	31%	30%	23%	31%	38%	27%	33%	33%	29%	34%	28%
Hasn't been much change	33%	38%	44%	32%	40%	39%	40%	35%	38%	37%	32%	39%
Depends on the city (vol)	8%	6%	2%	10%	5%	3%	2%	9%	5%	7%	8%	5%
Don't know (vol)	2%	4%	6%	3%	3%	5%	3%	4%	3%	4%	0%	5%
Unwgt N=	301	334	158	196	421	163	393	405	247	544	218	580

	Race		Age				Income			
	White	Non-wht	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+
Better	20%	28%	27%	26%	21%	17%	17%	30%	21%	28%
Worse	28%	34%	25%	33%	32%	30%	36%	27%	28%	24%
Hasn't been much change	41%	31%	41%	33%	35%	42%	37%	35%	44%	36%
Depends on the city (vol)	5%	7%	5%	6%	8%	3%	8%	5%	4%	7%
Don't know (vol)	6%	0%	2%	2%	4%	8%	3%	3%	3%	4%
Unwgt N=	491	282	155	191	290	162	194	233	139	137

	Education				Region					Union Household	
	HS or Less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/ South	Shore	Yes	No
Better	10%	21%	30%	27%	31%	21%	27%	18%	23%	21%	24%
Worse	42%	33%	27%	21%	32%	34%	21%	29%	28%	37%	28%
Hasn't been much change	41%	36%	35%	39%	21%	40%	41%	41%	41%	36%	37%
Depends on the city (vol)	3%	7%	5%	8%	13%	5%	3%	5%	6%	4%	7%
Don't know (vol)	5%	3%	2%	5%	3%	1%	8%	7%	3%	2%	4%
Unwgt N=	166	217	239	174	123	293	108	142	132	185	600

Q. What do you think is the MOST important thing that can be done to make cities in New Jersey a better place to live?

		Christie Favorability		Christie Job Approval		NJ Track	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove	Right direction	Wrong track
Provide more job opportunities	23%	22%	24%	24%	24%	20%	24%
Improve public safety	23%	28%	21%	21%	23%	25%	23%
Improve the quality of schools	18%	10%	20%	12%	20%	17%	18%
Create more affordable housing	12%	9%	14%	8%	14%	8%	14%
Encourage new business development	11%	15%	9%	20%	7%	18%	9%
Something else (vol)	13%	16%	12%	15%	12%	13%	13%
Unwgt N=	792	182	524	205	537	197	532

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Parental Status		Live in City	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	Yes	No	Yes	No
Provide more job opportunities	28%	22%	19%	27%	23%	20%	24%	23%	25%	23%	21%	24%
Improve public safety	19%	23%	30%	22%	21%	30%	21%	25%	20%	24%	23%	23%
Improve the quality of schools	19%	18%	14%	16%	20%	14%	17%	18%	19%	17%	20%	17%
Create more affordable housing	16%	11%	7%	10%	14%	10%	10%	15%	12%	13%	14%	12%
Encourage new business development	8%	12%	14%	15%	10%	10%	16%	6%	11%	11%	8%	12%
Something else (vol)	10%	14%	15%	11%	12%	16%	12%	13%	13%	13%	14%	12%
Unwgt N=	296	332	159	193	420	161	389	403	245	541	218	574

	Race		Age				Income			
	White	Non-wht	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+
Provide more job opportunities	23%	24%	20%	21%	27%	25%	27%	23%	26%	21%
Improve public safety	25%	21%	23%	20%	24%	26%	16%	29%	23%	20%
Improve the quality of schools	18%	17%	20%	20%	16%	14%	16%	18%	15%	23%
Create more affordable housing	11%	15%	13%	16%	9%	12%	16%	14%	8%	6%
Encourage new business development	11%	12%	17%	9%	10%	7%	10%	7%	13%	17%
Something else (vol)	13%	12%	7%	14%	14%	16%	14%	10%	15%	13%
Unwgt N=	487	280	156	190	285	161	191	232	139	137

Q. Over the last three decades, school funding in New Jersey has significantly increased to ensure that children in poorer school districts have had the same opportunity for an education as students in richer school districts. Do you think these school funding laws have increased, decreased, or not significantly changed the quality of public school education for most students in: [ORDER ROTATED]

New Jersey's urban school districts

		Christie Favorability		Christie Job Approval		NJ Track	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove	Right direction	Wrong track
Increased	21%	18%	22%	23%	21%	30%	18%
Decreased	16%	15%	17%	16%	17%	10%	19%
Not significantly changed	44%	52%	43%	47%	44%	44%	46%
Don't know (vol)	18%	16%	19%	14%	18%	16%	17%
Unwgt N=	797	182	529	204	543	196	537

	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Parental Status		Live in City	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	Yes	No	Yes	No
Increased	25%	20%	17%	24%	21%	18%	27%	16%	21%	22%	21%	21%
Decreased	18%	13%	19%	11%	19%	16%	13%	19%	18%	15%	16%	16%
Not significantly changed	39%	49%	43%	46%	44%	45%	46%	43%	44%	45%	49%	43%
Don't know (vol)	17%	18%	21%	19%	16%	21%	15%	22%	17%	19%	13%	20%
Unwgt N=	302	333	157	195	422	162	393	404	247	544	216	581

	Race		Age				Income			
	White	Non-wht	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<50K	50K-100K	100K-150K	150K+
Increased	21%	21%	27%	21%	19%	17%	19%	24%	21%	26%
Decreased	14%	18%	13%	22%	16%	13%	13%	17%	16%	20%
Not significantly changed	46%	41%	42%	42%	48%	46%	48%	42%	48%	39%
Don't know (vol)	18%	19%	19%	15%	17%	23%	19%	16%	15%	14%
Unwgt N=	491	281	155	191	289	162	194	233	139	137

	Education				Region			Union Household			
	HS or Less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/ South	Shore	Yes	No
Increased	18%	18%	19%	32%	21%	21%	25%	19%	22%	23%	21%
Decreased	19%	19%	14%	12%	18%	16%	9%	17%	18%	17%	16%
Not significantly changed	44%	46%	48%	38%	45%	43%	41%	48%	45%	44%	44%
Don't know (vol)	19%	17%	19%	18%	16%	20%	25%	16%	14%	15%	19%
Unwgt N=	165	217	241	173	123	291	108	142	133	184	601

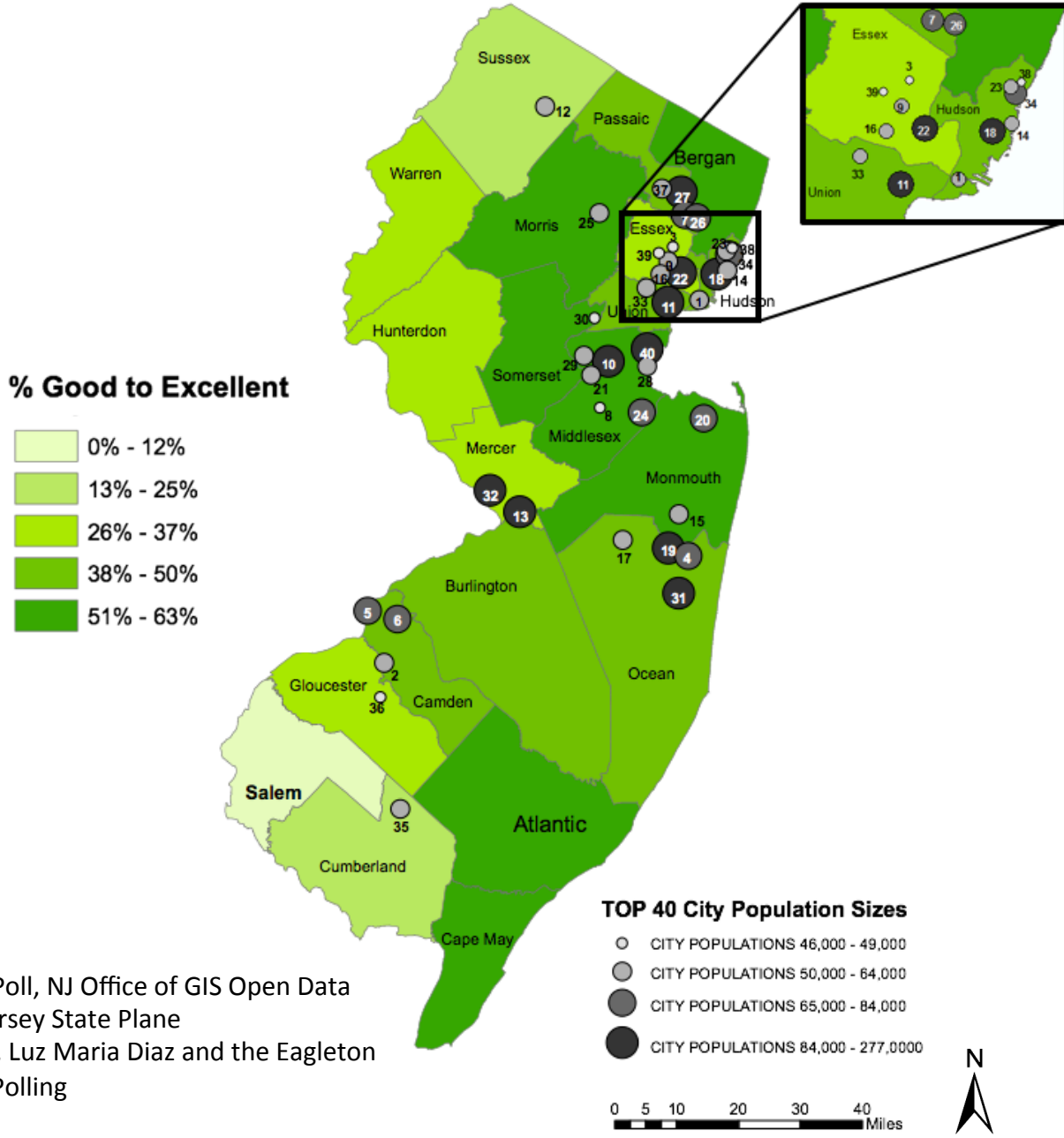
Your local school district

		Christie Favorability		Christie Job Approval		NJ Track	
		Fav	Unfav	Approve	Disapprove	Right	Wrong
						direction	track
Increased	24%	21%	24%	23%	24%	30%	22%
Decreased	14%	17%	14%	15%	14%	12%	16%
Not significantly changed	49%	52%	50%	51%	50%	48%	50%
Don't know (vol)	13%	9%	12%	12%	11%	9%	11%
Unwgt N=	796	182	529	204	542	196	536

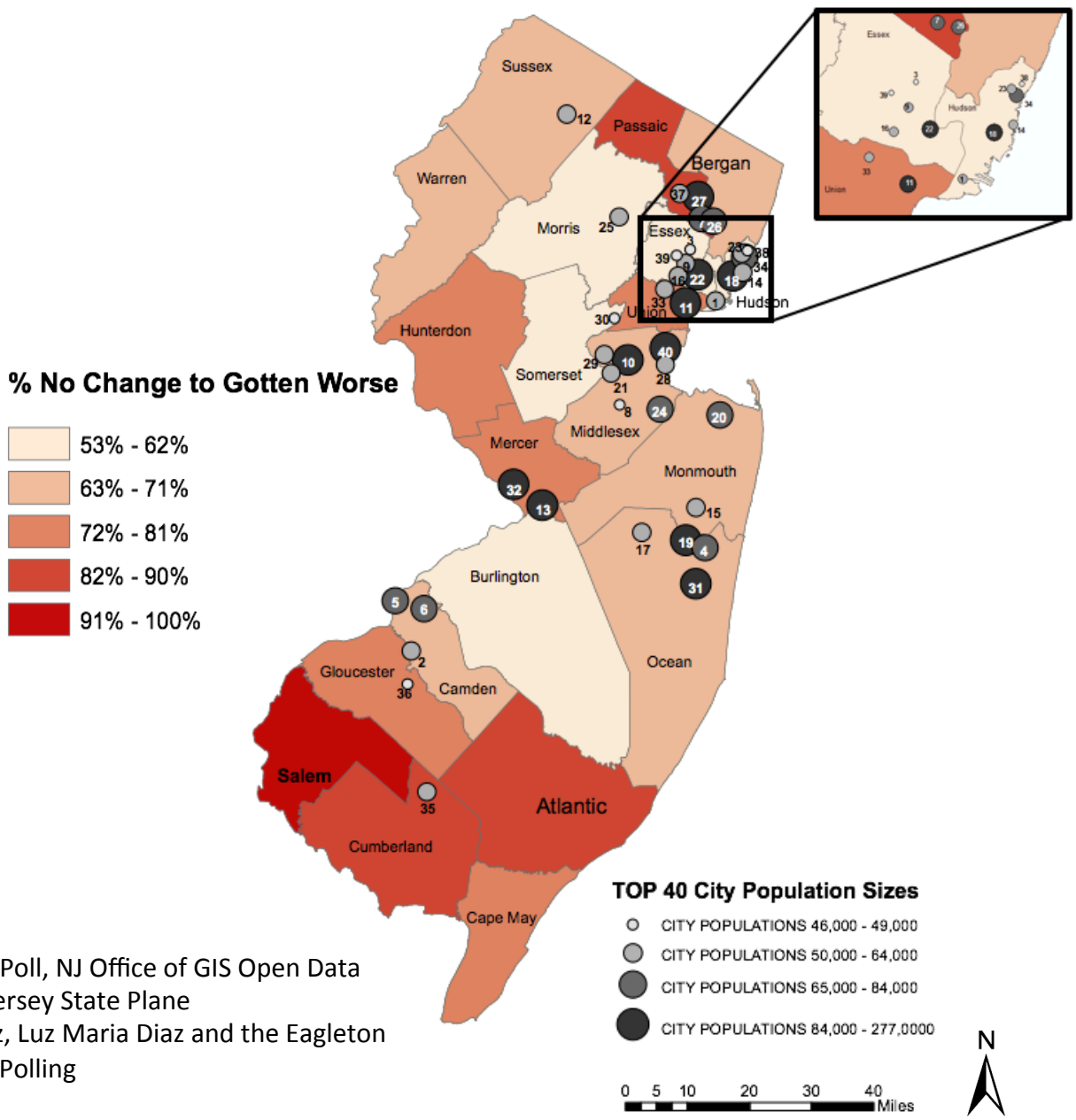
	Party ID			Ideology			Gender		Parental Status		Live in City	
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	Female	Yes	No	Yes	No
Increased	27%	21%	25%	23%	23%	26%	26%	22%	26%	23%	22%	25%
Decreased	18%	11%	14%	10%	16%	14%	13%	15%	17%	13%	18%	13%
Not significantly changed	47%	53%	47%	53%	49%	45%	51%	47%	49%	49%	51%	49%
Don't know (vol)	8%	15%	14%	13%	11%	14%	10%	15%	7%	15%	10%	14%
Unwgt N=	302	332	157	195	421	162	392	404	247	543	216	580

	Race		Age				Income			
	White	Non-wht	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+
Increased	23%	26%	25%	23%	23%	25%	19%	32%	21%	23%
Decreased	11%	20%	13%	20%	12%	12%	15%	14%	10%	19%
Not significantly changed	55%	40%	49%	44%	57%	45%	48%	45%	54%	53%
Don't know (vol)	11%	14%	13%	13%	8%	17%	17%	9%	14%	5%
Unwgt N=	490	281	155	191	289	161	194	233	138	137

	Education				Region				Union Household		
	HS or Less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work	Urban	Suburb	Exurban	Phil/ South	Shore	Yes	No
Increased	24%	24%	21%	28%	24%	25%	28%	22%	21%	33%	21%
Decreased	18%	14%	13%	13%	17%	16%	7%	14%	14%	15%	14%
Not significantly changed	45%	51%	53%	46%	46%	47%	50%	53%	53%	47%	50%
Don't know (vol)	13%	11%	13%	13%	14%	11%	15%	12%	13%	6%	14%
Unwgt N=	165	216	241	173	123	291	108	141	133	184	600



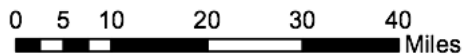
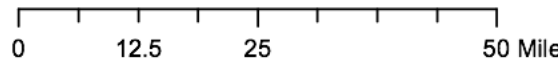
Source: Rutgers-Eagleton Poll, NJ Office of GIS Open Data
 Projection: NAD83-New Jersey State Plane
 Created By: Bethany Holtz, Luz Maria Diaz and the Eagleton
 Center for Public Interest Polling



Source: Rutgers-Eagleton Poll, NJ Office of GIS Open Data
 Projection: NAD83-New Jersey State Plane
 Created By: Bethany Holtz, Luz Maria Diaz and the Eagleton
 Center for Public Interest Polling

Top 40 NJ Cities

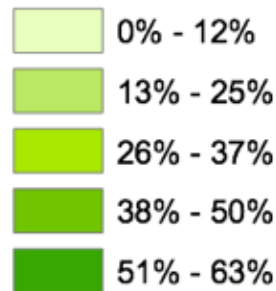
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|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 1). Bayonne | 21). New Brunswick |
| 2). Blackwood | 22). Newark |
| 3). Bloomfield | 23). North Bergen |
| 4). Brick | 24). Old Bridge |
| 5). Camden | 25). Parsippany-Troy Hills |
| 6). Cherry Hill | 26). Passaic |
| 7). Clifton | 27). Paterson |
| 8). East Brunswick | 28). Perth Amboy |
| 9). East Orange | 29). Piscataway |
| 10). Edison | 30). Plainfield |
| 11). Elizabeth | 31). Toms River |
| 12). Franklin | 32). Trenton |
| 13). Hamilton | 33). Union |
| 14). Hoboken | 34). Union City |
| 15). Howell | 35). Vineland |
| 16). Irvington | 36). Washington Township |
| 17). Jackson | 37). Wayne |
| 18). Jersey City | 38). West New York |
| 19). Lakewood | 39). West Orange |
| 20). Middleton | 40). Woodbridge |



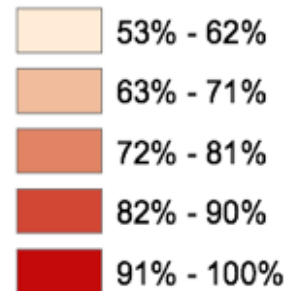
TOP 40 City Population Sizes

- CITY POPULATIONS 46,000 - 49,000
- CITY POPULATIONS 50,000 - 64,000
- CITY POPULATIONS 65,000 - 84,000
- CITY POPULATIONS 84,000 - 277,000

% Good to Excellent

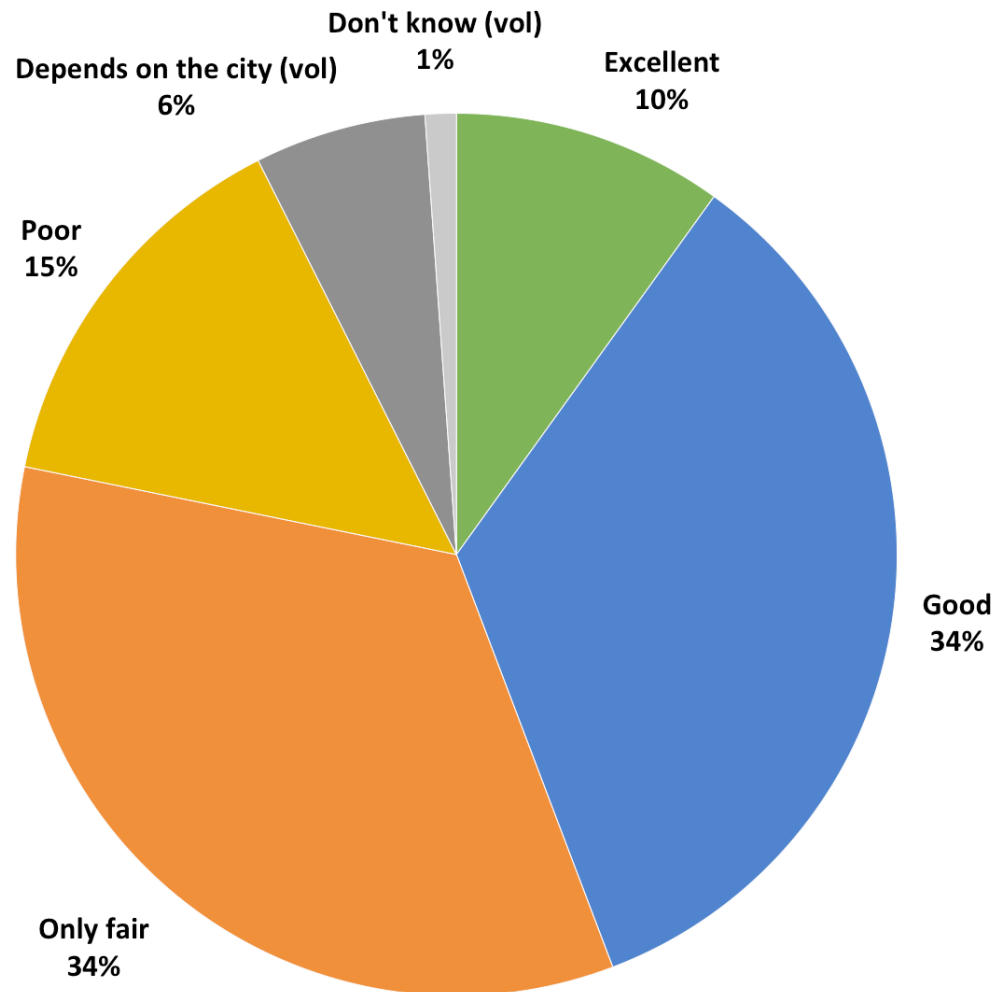


% No Change to Gotten Worse



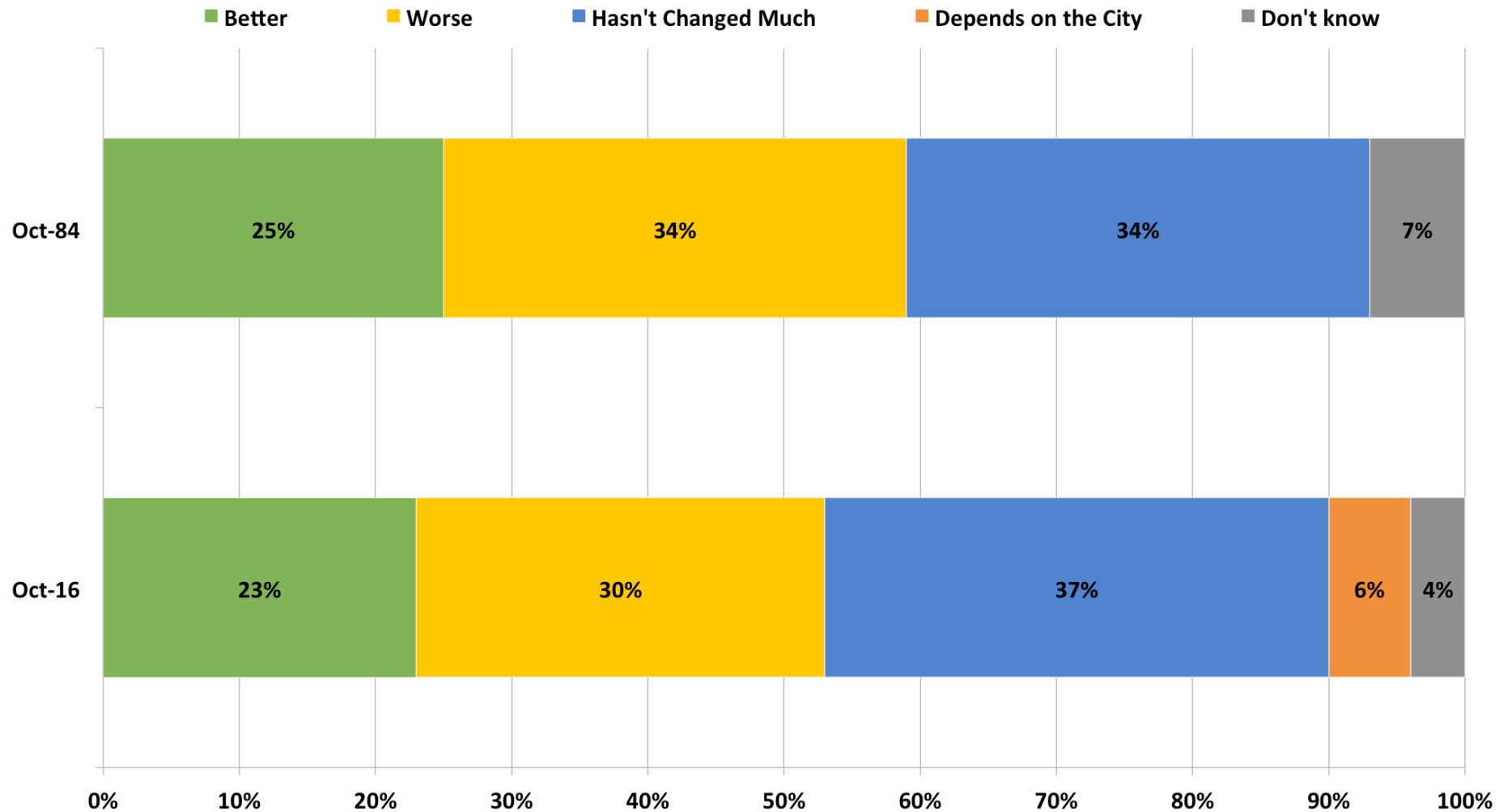
Source: New Brunswick Tomorrow, NJ Office of GIS Open Data
 Projection: NAD83-New Jersey State Plane
 Created By: Bethany Holtz, Luz Maria Diaz and ECPIP

"How would you rate cities in New Jersey as a place to live – excellent, good, only fair, or poor?"

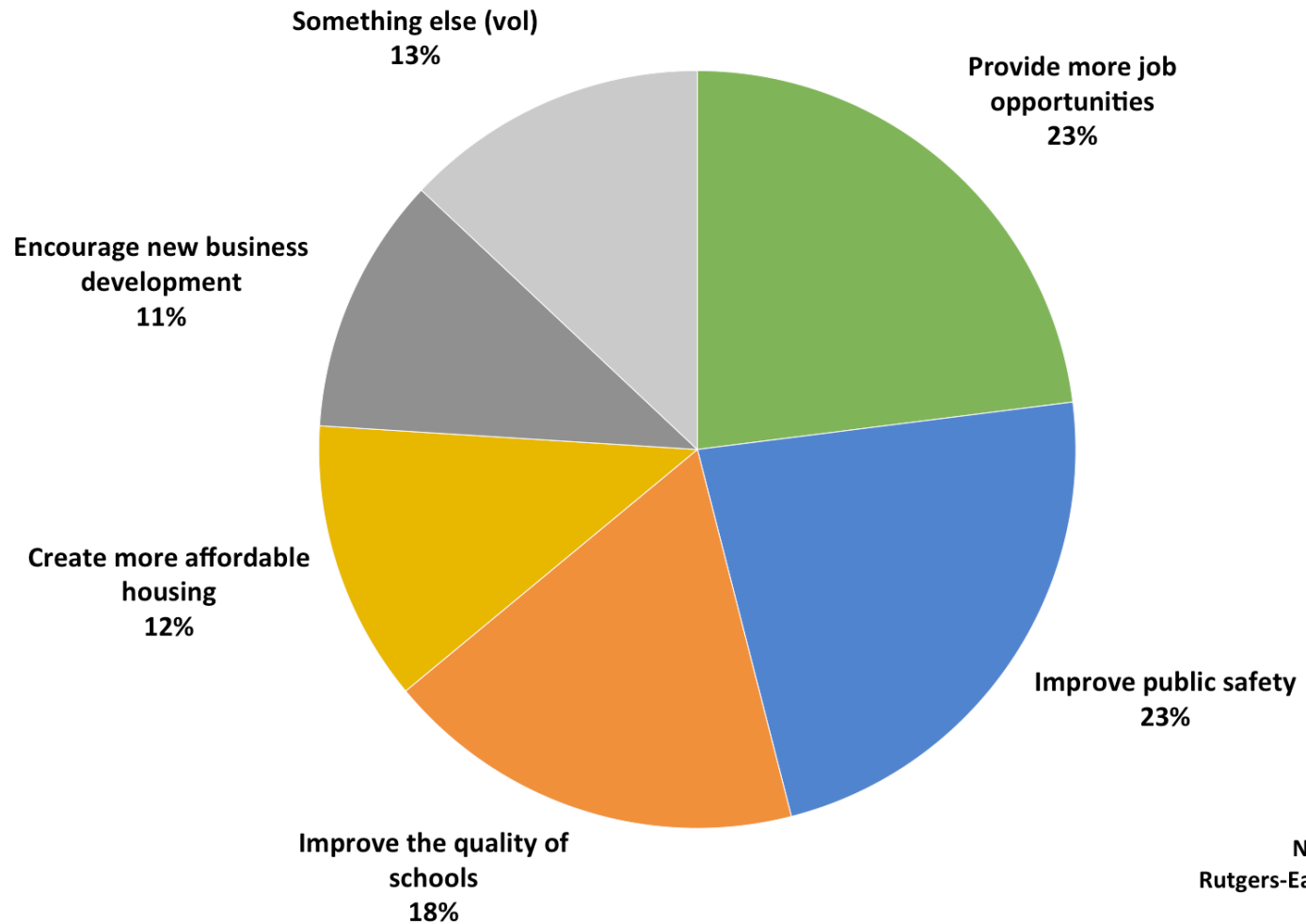


New Jersey adults
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll 2016

"Over the past 5 years or so, would you say cities in New Jersey have been getting better or worse as a place to live - or hasn't there been much change?"



"What do you think is the MOST important thing that can be done to make cities in New Jersey a better place to live?"



New Jersey adults
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll 2016

EVERYONE CITIES BUDGET HELPFUL
EDUCATION DEMOCRAT
MIDDLE WANT PUTTING
HELL PROPERTY RUN COST LESS PEOPLE JOBS ADULTS
INDIVIDUAL ECONOMIC YOUNG PUBLIC BUILDINGS INEQUALITY MAKE GETTING SAFER PATHS
INVOLVED ILLEGAL
BETTER CLASS FREE PLUS HIGH STEP
GUNS LOWERING SCHOOL SOCIAL RENT JERSEY LIVING
RID IMPROVE MONEY SPACE POLICE
STOP RECREATION SAFETY WHATEVER GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY
PROGRAMS DEAL START POOR
GET LIFE CHILDREN CORRUPTION CITY TAXING PROVIDE YOUTH NEW
GENERATION DECREASING CRIME DRIVERS USING CRACK OPEN GRAFT AHEAD
DEVELOPMENT PARENT CLINTON ANSWER EVERYBODY
MAINTENANCE/CLEANING RACES SEEING ANSWER EVERYBODY
RACIAL TALKING KEEP LAW GUN TAX HELPING EXPENSIVE
TAX
HISpanic UNDESIRABLES NEEDS OVERDEVELOPMENT IMPROVEMENT YOUNGER
CONTROL TRANSPORTATION INVOLVEMENT
ROADS

PEOPLE
COMMUNITY
LOWER
TAXES
TRANSPORTATION

"Over the last three decades, school funding in New Jersey has significantly increased to ensure that children in poorer school districts have had the same opportunity for an education as students in richer school districts. Do you think these school funding laws have increased, decreased, or not significantly changed the quality of public school education for most students in:"

