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Rutgers-Eagleton Poll: New Jerseyans Are Well Informed About COVID-19, Majority Taking Appropriate Actions

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. (May 20, 2020) – New Jerseyans are well informed about COVID-19, including how it is transmitted, its major symptoms, what to do if infected, which populations are most at risk, and how to take preventative action, according to the latest Rutgers-Eagleton Poll.

Most New Jerseyans are well aware of how the virus is transmitted: 97% correctly answer that being in close physical proximity with an infected individual, as well as touching surfaces that contain small amounts of bodily fluids from an infected individual, are ways the virus can spread. More than eight in ten (83%) correctly know it cannot be transmitted through mosquito bites. About nine in ten are aware that a COVID-19 vaccine is not yet available (93%) and that the seasonal flu vaccine does not protect people from it (91%).

Almost all residents know the two most common symptoms. About nine in ten correctly identify them as fever (95%) and dry cough (90%). New Jerseyans are less clear on whether other symptoms are indicative of the virus, however. Seventy-four percent believe a rash is not a common sign, while 19% say it is. Like many viruses, a rash indeed may be a symptom, but at the time of this survey, rash was not confirmed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as a symptom of COVID-19. Residents are mixed on whether nasal congestion – usually a sign of allergies during this season – is an indication of coronavirus: 45% say it is, while 47% say it is not. The latest guidance from the CDC does not include nasal congestion as a symptom. The [complete list of symptoms](#) offered by the CDC currently includes: cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell and, less commonly noted, gastrointestinal symptoms.

“Virtually all New Jerseyans are well versed in the basics that we have known from the very beginning about this virus,” said Ashley Koning, assistant research professor and director of the [Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling \(ECPIP\)](#) at [Rutgers University–New Brunswick](#). “The

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problem is, however, that what we know about the virus keeps evolving, with more symptoms being added to official lists in the last week or so alone. This constantly changing landscape can cause confusion, so New Jerseyans must continue to be vigilant in informing themselves about the virus.”

An overwhelming majority also understands the correct actions to take if a person believes they are infected. Eighty-six percent know that, as recommended by the CDC and health professionals, someone who suspects they have COVID-19 should stay home and call a medical provider; just 13% believe a symptomatic individual should immediately seek care at an emergency room or urgent care facility, which is not recommended by public health officials in most cases. Under most circumstances, symptoms of COVID-19 are mild and can be managed at home while practicing self-isolation. If an individual has [an emergency warning sign](#) (including trouble breathing), however, medical attention should be sought right away.

When it comes to identifying the groups who are most at risk, more than nine in ten New Jerseyans correctly believe that those over the age of 60 (96%) and those with chronic health conditions (98%) have a higher risk than others of developing serious medical issues if they become infected with COVID-19. Two-thirds of residents (67%), on the other hand, believe that children do not face more risks than other groups, while about a quarter (27%) believe they do. At the time of this survey, the health complications experienced by children were not well known. More recent evidence points to the need to study further the potential health complications in children infected by the coronavirus.

In general, 72% correctly believe that most people infected with COVID-19 recover without developing serious complications, compared to 18% who think most of those infected develop serious complications that require intensive care; another 10 percent are unsure.

When it comes to prevention, 31% strongly agree and 37% somewhat agree that they feel confident in their ability to prevent themselves and their family from becoming infected with the coronavirus. Almost all furthermore agree (71% strongly, 24% somewhat) that they know what actions to take to prevent infection among themselves or a family member.

As for what those preventative measures should be, virtually all are aware of the major recommendations by public health experts. One hundred percent know that experts have recommended frequent handwashing, 98% know that avoiding gatherings with large numbers of people and staying home if sick are recommended, and 97% know that healthy people should wear face masks in public.

Most New Jerseyans say they have heeded experts’ recommendations: 96% say they are washing their hands with soap and water more frequently, 98% have worn a face mask and/or gloves, and 88% have used more disinfectant, such as hand sanitizer and wipes.

Recommended social distancing measures have proven to be slightly more challenging for some throughout the outbreak. Eighty percent say they have not left home except for essential

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services such as food and medical care. Seventy-four percent have not invited anyone into their home who is not a member of their household. About three-quarters (74%) say they have either cancelled, rescheduled, or decided against making travel plans; a similar number (72%) say they have cancelled hosting or attending a large event or gathering.

“A large majority of New Jerseyans say they are following social distancing orders but not to the same extent as somewhat easier measures, like handwashing and masks,” noted Koning. “Social distancing will only become harder as the weather gets nicer, as more restrictions get lifted, and as residents take more calculated risks, so these numbers will undoubtedly change in the weeks to come.”

Results are from a statewide poll of 1,502 adults contacted by live callers on landlines and cell phones from April 22 – May 2. The full sample has a margin of error of +/-2.9 percentage points; the subsamples of 747 and 755 adults each have a margin of error of +/-4.1 percentage points. Interviews were done in English and, when requested, Spanish.

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Broadcast interviews: Rutgers University–New Brunswick has broadcast-quality TV and radio studios available for remote live or taped interviews with Rutgers experts. For more information, contact Neal Buccino neal.buccino@echo.rutgers.edu.

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Rutgers University–New Brunswick is where Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, began more than 250 years ago. Ranked among the world’s top 60 universities, Rutgers’s flagship university is a leading public research institution and a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities. It is home to internationally acclaimed faculty and has 12 degree-granting schools and a Division I Athletics program. It is the Big Ten Conference’s most diverse university. Through its community of teachers, scholars, artists, scientists, and healers, Rutgers is equipped as never before to transform lives.

ABOUT THE EAGLETON CENTER FOR PUBLIC INTEREST POLLING (ECPIP)

Home of the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll, ECPIP was established in 1971 and is the oldest and one of the most respected university-based state survey research centers in the United States. Now in its 48th year and with the publication of over 200 polls, ECPIP’s mission is to provide scientifically sound, non-partisan information about public opinion. To read more about ECPIP and view all of our press releases, published research, and data archive, please visit our website: eagletonpoll.rutgers.edu. You can also visit our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

ABOUT THE EAGLETON INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

The Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling is a unit of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University–New Brunswick. The Eagleton Institute studies how American politics and

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government work and change, analyzes how the democracy might improve, and promotes political participation and civic engagement. The Institute explores state and national politics through research, education, and public service, linking the study of politics with its day-to-day practice. To learn more about Eagleton programs and expertise, visit eagleton.rutgers.edu.

QUESTIONS AND TABLES START ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

Questions and Tables

The questions covered in this release are listed below. Column percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. Respondents are of New Jersey adults; all percentages are of weighted results. Interpret groups with samples sizes under 100 with extreme caution.

Q. For each of the following please tell me if you think this is a common symptom of coronavirus, or not. First, [INSERT ITEM], is this a symptom of coronavirus, or not? How about [INSERT ITEM]?

	Fever	Dry cough	Nasal congestion	Rash
Yes	95%	90%	45%	19%
No	3%	7%	47%	74%
Don't know (vol)	2%	3%	8%	7%
Unwght N=	1502	1501	1501	1502

Fever

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50k	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	95%	95%	96%	94%	96%	97%	90%	92%	96%	94%	96%	93%	90%	95%	98%	99%
No	4%	4%	2%	4%	3%	2%	9%	6%	3%	4%	3%	3%	8%	3%	2%	1%
Don't know (vol)	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%	0%	0%
Unwght N=	587	556	303	726	776	1010	175	198	186	474	543	289	301	429	270	355

	Education				Region				Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+		
Yes	91%	95%	98%	98%	95%	95%	96%	95%	95%	95%	95%	
No	5%	4%	1%	1%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	
Don't know (vol)	3%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	
Unwght N=	262	366	477	393	251	539	199	268	245	947	532	

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Dry cough

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	92%	90%	89%	90%	90%	92%	87%	86%	94%	92%	92%	83%	88%	90%	96%	95%
No	7%	8%	6%	7%	7%	5%	10%	10%	5%	7%	6%	12%	10%	8%	3%	3%
Don't know (vol)	1%	2%	4%	3%	2%	2%	2%	4%	1%	2%	2%	5%	2%	3%	1%	2%
Unwght N=	587	555	303	725	776	1010	174	198	186	473	543	289	300	429	270	355

	Education				Region			Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	85%	91%	93%	94%	94%	90%	95%	86%	89%	90%	90%
No	9%	8%	6%	4%	4%	7%	4%	11%	10%	7%	7%
Don't know (vol)	5%	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	2%	4%	2%	3%	2%
Unwght N=	261	366	477	393	251	538	199	268	245	946	532

Nasal congestion

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	46%	45%	42%	44%	46%	43%	48%	49%	49%	45%	42%	47%	50%	44%	43%	42%
No	48%	45%	52%	46%	47%	49%	45%	45%	44%	49%	49%	42%	41%	46%	51%	53%
Don't know (vol)	7%	10%	6%	10%	6%	8%	7%	7%	8%	6%	8%	11%	9%	10%	6%	5%
Unwght N=	587	555	303	725	776	1010	174	198	186	473	543	289	300	429	270	355

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	Education				Region			Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	46%	46%	44%	44%	47%	46%	40%	45%	45%	44%	47%
No	42%	48%	50%	50%	47%	45%	49%	49%	45%	47%	46%
Don't know (vol)	12%	7%	5%	6%	6%	8%	11%	6%	10%	9%	7%
Unwght N=	261	366	477	393	251	538	199	268	245	946	532

Rash

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	20%	19%	17%	17%	21%	18%	21%	21%	7%	18%	23%	23%	25%	17%	14%	17%
No	74%	73%	77%	76%	73%	74%	71%	72%	89%	77%	68%	67%	68%	73%	80%	80%
Don't know (vol)	6%	8%	6%	8%	7%	8%	8%	6%	5%	5%	9%	11%	7%	9%	6%	4%
Unwght N=	587	556	303	726	776	1010	175	198	186	474	543	289	301	429	270	355

	Education				Region			Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	22%	18%	14%	19%	20%	17%	20%	23%	15%	20%	17%
No	69%	76%	80%	74%	76%	74%	74%	71%	77%	72%	77%
Don't know (vol)	9%	6%	6%	7%	5%	9%	6%	6%	8%	8%	6%
Unwght N=	262	366	477	393	251	539	199	268	245	947	532

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Q. Compared to other groups, do you think [INSERT ITEM] have a higher risk of developing serious medical issues if they become infected with coronavirus, or not? How about (INSERT NEXT ITEM)?

	People over the age of 60	Children	People w/chronic health conditions
Yes, higher risk	96%	27%	98%
No, do not have higher risk	3%	67%	1%
Don't know (vol)	1%	6%	1%
Unwght N=	1501	1501	1502

People over the age of 60

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	98%	95%	93%	96%	95%	95%	96%	98%	99%	97%	93%	93%	94%	96%	96%	97%
No	2%	4%	5%	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%	1%	1%	5%	5%	3%	4%	3%	2%
Don't know (vol)	0%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	0%	0%	1%	2%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%
Unwght N=	587	555	303	726	775	1010	174	198	186	473	543	289	301	428	270	355

	Education				Region				Children in HH		
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/ South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	94%	95%	97%	97%	97%	95%	96%	96%	95%	95%	96%
No	4%	4%	2%	2%	1%	4%	3%	3%	4%	4%	2%
Don't know (vol)	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Unwght N=	262	366	476	393	251	539	199	267	245	947	531

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Children

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	30%	28%	18%	25%	29%	20%	46%	38%	29%	30%	24%	26%	43%	28%	16%	15%
No	64%	65%	76%	69%	65%	73%	46%	58%	68%	65%	70%	63%	52%	64%	79%	82%
Don't know (vol)	6%	7%	5%	6%	6%	6%	8%	4%	3%	5%	6%	11%	5%	9%	5%	3%
Unwght N=	586	556	303	726	775	1010	174	198	186	473	543	289	301	429	269	355

	Education				Region				Children in HH		
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	34%	31%	21%	17%	28%	27%	27%	30%	25%	29%	25%
No	60%	62%	74%	76%	63%	67%	68%	65%	68%	65%	70%
Don't know (vol)	6%	6%	5%	7%	9%	6%	4%	5%	7%	6%	5%
Unwght N=	262	366	477	392	251	538	199	268	245	947	531

People with chronic health conditions, such as heart disease, cancer, or diabetes

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	98%	98%	97%	97%	99%	98%	98%	98%	96%	99%	98%	98%	97%	99%	99%	99%
No	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	2%	3%	0%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Don't know (vol)	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%
Unwght N=	587	556	303	726	776	1010	175	198	186	474	543	289	301	429	270	355

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	Education				Region			Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	95%	98%	99%	100%	100%	96%	99%	99%	98%	97%	98%
No	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	3%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%
Don't know (vol)	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%
Unwght N=	262	366	477	393	251	539	199	268	245	947	532

Q. As far as you know, have public health experts recommended [INSERT ITEM] as a way to help slow the spread of coronavirus, or not? How about [INSERT NEXT ITEM] – have public health experts recommended this as a way to help slow the spread of coronavirus, or not?

	Frequent hand washing	Healthy people wearing facemasks in public	Avoid gatherings with large numbers of people	Staying home if you are feeling sick
Yes, recommended	100%	97%	98%	98%
No, not recommended	0%	2%	2%	1%
Don't know (vol)	0%	1%	0%	0%
Unwght N=	1502	1502	1502	1501

Frequent hand washing

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50k	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	99%	100%
No	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Don't know (vol)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Unwght N=	587	556	303	726	776	1010	175	198	186	474	543	289	301	429	270	355

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	Education				Region			Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
No	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Don't know (vol)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Unwght N=	262	366	477	393	251	539	199	268	245	947	532

Healthy people wearing facemasks in public

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	98%	97%	95%	96%	97%	97%	98%	95%	95%	97%	97%	96%	95%	97%	97%	98%
No	2%	1%	4%	3%	2%	2%	2%	3%	5%	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%	2%
Don't know (vol)	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	3%	2%	1%	0%	1%
Unwght N=	587	556	303	726	776	1010	175	198	186	474	543	289	301	429	270	355

	Education				Region			Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	96%	96%	97%	97%	94%	96%	96%	98%	98%	96%	97%
No	2%	3%	2%	2%	5%	2%	3%	2%	1%	2%	2%
Don't know (vol)	2%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%
Unwght N=	262	366	477	393	251	539	199	268	245	947	532

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Avoiding gatherings with large numbers of people

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	99%	98%	95%	98%	98%	98%	99%	96%	97%	98%	98%	98%	97%	98%	99%	97%
No	1%	1%	5%	2%	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	3%
Don't know (vol)	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Unwght N=	587	556	303	726	776	1010	175	198	186	474	543	289	301	429	270	355

	Education				Region			Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	97%	97%	99%	99%	99%	97%	99%	97%	98%	98%	98%
No	3%	2%	1%	1%	0%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Don't know (vol)	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Unwght N=	262	366	477	393	251	539	199	268	245	947	532

Staying home if you are feeling sick

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	98%	98%	99%	98%	99%	99%	98%	96%	100%	99%	98%	97%	97%	100%	100%	99%
No	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	4%	0%	1%	1%	3%	3%	0%	0%	0%
Don't know (vol)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Unwght N=	587	555	303	725	776	1009	175	198	185	474	543	289	301	429	270	355

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	Education				Region			Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	96%	99%	100%	99%	98%	98%	98%	98%	100%	99%	98%
No	3%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	0%	1%	1%
Don't know (vol)	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Unwght N=	261	366	477	393	251	538	199	268	245	946	532

Q. As far as you know, is each of the following a way that coronavirus is transmitted, or not? First:

	Being in close physical proximity with someone who is infected	Touching surfaces that contain small amounts of bodily fluids from someone who is infected	Through mosquito bites
Yes	97%	97%	8%
No	2%	2%	83%
Don't know (vol)	0%	1%	9%
Unwght N=	1502	1501	1501

Being in close physical proximity with someone who is infected

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	98%	97%	96%	97%	97%	97%	95%	98%	97%	97%	97%	99%	98%	98%	98%	96%
No	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%	3%	3%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	4%
Don't know (vol)	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%
Unwght N=	587	556	303	726	776	1010	175	198	186	474	543	289	301	429	270	355

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	Education				Region				Children in HH		
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	98%	96%	98%	99%	97%	97%	98%	99%	97%	98%	96%
No	2%	4%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%	3%
Don't know (vol)	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Unwght N=	262	366	477	393	251	539	199	268	245	947	532

Touching surfaces that contain small amounts of bodily fluids from someone who is infected

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	97%	97%	95%	96%	97%	96%	97%	96%	99%	97%	96%	95%	97%	97%	97%	96%
No	3%	2%	4%	3%	2%	3%	1%	3%	1%	2%	3%	4%	1%	2%	3%	3%
Don't know (vol)	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%
Unwght N=	587	556	302	725	776	1009	175	198	186	473	543	289	301	428	270	355

	Education				Region				Children in HH		
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	96%	97%	98%	95%	97%	96%	97%	98%	95%	96%	98%
No	2%	3%	1%	4%	2%	3%	3%	1%	4%	3%	1%
Don't know (vol)	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Unwght N=	262	365	477	393	251	538	199	268	245	947	531

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Through mosquito bites

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50k	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	7%	9%	7%	7%	10%	5%	12%	14%	7%	7%	8%	11%	16%	5%	2%	6%
No	85%	80%	84%	83%	82%	87%	75%	76%	88%	84%	82%	78%	72%	85%	91%	89%
Don't know (vol)	8%	11%	9%	10%	8%	8%	13%	11%	5%	9%	10%	11%	12%	10%	7%	5%
Unwght N=	587	556	302	726	775	1009	175	198	186	474	542	289	301	429	270	355

	Education				Region			Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	12%	9%	5%	5%	8%	8%	8%	9%	8%	8%	8%
No	78%	81%	90%	86%	85%	79%	87%	83%	85%	82%	84%
Don't know (vol)	11%	10%	6%	9%	7%	13%	5%	8%	7%	10%	8%
Unwght N=	262	366	476	393	251	539	199	268	244	946	532

Q. As far as you know, is there a vaccine to protect people from the current coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, or not?

Yes	4%
No	93%
Don't know (vol)	3%
Unwght N=	1502

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50k	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	2%	6%	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%	8%	3%	5%	4%	4%	6%	5%	2%	2%
No	95%	92%	93%	94%	93%	96%	88%	90%	96%	92%	95%	92%	91%	94%	97%	97%
Don't know (vol)	3%	3%	3%	2%	3%	1%	8%	2%	1%	3%	1%	4%	3%	1%	1%	1%
Unwght N=	587	556	303	726	776	1010	175	198	186	474	543	289	301	429	270	355

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	Education				Region			Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	7%	4%	1%	2%	5%	3%	6%	3%	4%	4%	4%
No	88%	94%	97%	96%	91%	93%	94%	94%	94%	93%	94%
Don't know (vol)	5%	2%	1%	1%	4%	3%	0%	3%	2%	3%	2%
Unwght N=	262	366	477	393	251	539	199	268	245	947	532

Q. As far as you know, does the vaccine for influenza, or seasonal flu, protect people from the current coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, or not?

Yes	4%
No	91%
Don't know (vol)	5%
Unwght N=	1501

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50k	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	4%	4%	5%	5%	4%	3%	3%	10%	2%	5%	4%	6%	10%	4%	0%	1%
No	92%	92%	88%	90%	91%	93%	88%	85%	96%	91%	91%	86%	82%	91%	98%	97%
Don't know (vol)	5%	3%	7%	5%	5%	4%	9%	4%	2%	4%	5%	9%	7%	5%	2%	2%
Unwght N=	587	556	302	725	776	1010	175	197	185	474	543	289	300	429	270	355

	Education				Region			Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	7%	4%	3%	2%	6%	4%	6%	3%	3%	5%	4%
No	85%	91%	94%	95%	90%	89%	92%	90%	95%	90%	92%
Don't know (vol)	7%	5%	3%	2%	4%	6%	2%	7%	2%	5%	4%
Unwght N=	262	365	477	393	251	538	199	268	245	946	532

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Q. As far as you know, do most people infected with coronavirus [ROTATE: recover without developing serious complications], or do most people [develop serious complications that require intensive care]?

Recover without developing serious complications	72%
Develop serious complications that require intensive care	18%
Don't know (vol)	10%
Unwght N=	1497

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50k	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Recover w/o complications	68%	73%	79%	74%	71%	79%	53%	63%	74%	74%	75%	65%	56%	72%	86%	87%
Develop complications	21%	18%	13%	16%	19%	12%	29%	28%	20%	16%	15%	21%	31%	16%	11%	8%
Don't know (vol)	11%	9%	8%	10%	10%	9%	18%	9%	6%	9%	10%	14%	14%	11%	3%	6%
Unwght N=	585	554	302	722	775	1008	173	197	186	471	542	288	299	427	270	355

	Education				Region			Children in HH				
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+		
Recover w/o complications	63%	69%	82%	82%	64%	69%	79%	74%	80%	72%	74%	
Develop complications	25%	20%	10%	10%	24%	19%	13%	17%	12%	17%	18%	
Don't know (vol)	12%	11%	7%	8%	12%	11%	8%	9%	8%	11%	8%	
Unwght N=	259	365	477	392	251	537	197	267	245	946	528	

Q. As far as you know, if someone thinks they are having symptoms of coronavirus, should they [ROTATE: stay home and call a doctor or medical provider] or should they [seek health care immediately at an emergency room or urgent care facility]?

Stay home and call a doctor/medical provider	86%
Seek health care immediately	13%
Something else (vol)	1%
Don't know (vol)	1%
Unwght N=	1502

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	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50k	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Stay home, call provider	83%	86%	89%	84%	87%	91%	64%	85%	86%	87%	86%	84%	74%	88%	91%	94%
Seek care immediately	15%	13%	10%	15%	11%	7%	34%	14%	13%	13%	12%	14%	25%	9%	8%	5%
Something else (vol)	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%
Don't know (vol)	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%
Unwght N=	587	556	303	726	776	1010	175	198	186	474	543	289	301	429	270	355

	Education				Region			Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Stay home, call provider	82%	84%	89%	91%	83%	87%	91%	81%	86%	85%	86%
Seek care immediately	17%	14%	9%	8%	15%	13%	8%	16%	12%	13%	12%
Something else (vol)	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Don't know (vol)	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%
Unwght N=	262	366	477	393	251	539	199	268	245	947	532

Q. Please tell me whether or not you have taken any of the following actions because of the current coronavirus outbreak. Just say yes or no. First:

	Washed your hands with soap and water more often	Worn a face mask and/or gloves	Stocked up on items such as food, household supplies, or medications	Used more disinfectants, such as hand sanitizers and wipes
Yes	96%	98%	72%	88%
No	4%	2%	28%	12%
Unwght N=	751	751	750	751

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	Have not left home except for essential services such as food or medical care	Have not invited anyone into your home who is not a member of your household	Cancelled, rescheduled, or decided against making travel plans	Cancelled hosting or attending a large event or gathering
Yes	80%	74%	74%	72%
No	20%	26%	26%	28%
Unwght N=	749	749	750	749

Washed your hands with soap and water more often

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	98%	94%	95%	93%	98%	97%	94%	96%	94%	97%	95%	98%	96%	94%	97%	95%
No	2%	6%	5%	7%	2%	3%	6%	4%	6%	3%	5%	2%	4%	6%	3%	5%
Unwght N=	293	274	158	356	395	500	92	101	94	242	277	132	154	209	143	168

	Education				Region				Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+		
Yes	96%	96%	96%	96%	95%	97%	98%	92%	95%	97%	95%	
No	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%	3%	2%	8%	5%	3%	5%	
Unwght N=	129	186	239	194	121	266	101	133	130	476	259	

Worn a face mask and/or gloves

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	98%	98%	97%	98%	98%	97%	98%	99%	99%	99%	100%	93%	99%	98%	96%	99%
No	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	7%	1%	2%	4%	1%
Unwght N=	293	274	158	356	395	500	92	101	94	242	277	132	154	209	143	168

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	Education				Region				Children in HH		
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	98%	97%	98%	99%	95%	99%	99%	98%	100%	98%	99%
No	2%	3%	2%	1%	5%	1%	1%	2%	0%	2%	1%
Unwght N=	129	186	239	194	121	266	101	133	130	476	259

Stocked up on items such as food, household supplies, or medications

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	82%	66%	64%	72%	72%	67%	76%	84%	73%	81%	69%	61%	70%	74%	68%	76%
No	18%	34%	36%	28%	28%	33%	24%	16%	27%	19%	31%	39%	30%	26%	32%	24%
Unwght N=	293	274	157	355	395	499	92	101	93	242	277	132	153	209	143	168

	Education				Region				Children in HH		
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	69%	73%	76%	71%	76%	72%	63%	71%	75%	68%	77%
No	31%	27%	24%	29%	24%	28%	37%	29%	25%	32%	23%
Unwght N=	128	186	239	194	121	266	101	133	129	476	258

Used more disinfectants, such as hand sanitizers and wipes

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Yes	91%	85%	88%	87%	89%	88%	83%	91%	86%	92%	86%	83%	89%	82%	89%	89%
No	9%	15%	12%	13%	11%	12%	17%	9%	14%	8%	14%	17%	11%	18%	11%	11%
Unwght N=	293	274	158	356	395	500	92	101	94	242	277	132	154	209	143	168

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	Education				Region				Children in HH		
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	86%	92%	87%	85%	90%	87%	84%	90%	87%	88%	88%
No	14%	8%	13%	15%	10%	13%	16%	10%	13%	12%	12%
Unwght N=	129	186	239	194	121	266	101	133	130	476	259

Have not left home except for essential services such as food or medical care

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	\$50k- <\$100k	\$100k- <150k	\$150k+
Yes	83%	77%	81%	76%	83%	80%	86%	82%	81%	77%	80%	83%	82%	85%	74%	73%
No	17%	23%	19%	24%	17%	20%	14%	18%	19%	23%	20%	17%	18%	15%	26%	27%
Unwght N=	293	282	144	369	380	509	82	97	92	232	265	157	147	219	127	187

	Education				Region				Children in HH		
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	75%	82%	81%	82%	83%	79%	82%	72%	83%	80%	80%
No	25%	18%	19%	18%	17%	21%	18%	28%	17%	20%	20%
Unwght N=	133	179	237	199	130	273	97	135	114	470	273

Have not invited anyone into your home who is not a member of your household

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	\$50k- <\$100k	\$100k- <150k	\$150k+
Yes	77%	73%	68%	72%	76%	78%	69%	62%	76%	76%	73%	71%	61%	77%	85%	78%
No	23%	27%	32%	28%	24%	22%	31%	38%	24%	24%	27%	29%	39%	23%	15%	22%
Unwght N=	293	282	144	369	380	508	83	97	92	232	266	156	147	220	126	187

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	Education				Region				Children in HH		
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	64%	72%	83%	85%	77%	74%	77%	67%	76%	74%	73%
No	36%	28%	17%	15%	23%	26%	23%	33%	24%	26%	27%
Unwght N=	133	180	237	198	130	272	97	135	115	470	273

Cancelled, rescheduled, or decided against making travel plans

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50k	\$50k- <\$100k	\$100k- <150k	\$150k+
Yes	77%	71%	71%	74%	73%	72%	75%	68%	84%	77%	75%	61%	60%	74%	84%	89%
No	23%	29%	29%	26%	27%	28%	25%	32%	16%	23%	25%	39%	40%	26%	16%	11%
Unwght N=	294	282	144	370	380	509	83	97	92	232	266	156	146	220	127	187

	Education				Region				Children in HH		
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	61%	74%	82%	85%	78%	68%	83%	67%	80%	71%	77%
No	39%	26%	18%	15%	22%	32%	17%	33%	20%	29%	23%
Unwght N=	133	180	237	199	130	273	98	134	115	470	273

Cancelled hosting or attending a large event or gathering

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50k	\$50k- <\$100k	\$100k- <150k	\$150k+
Yes	72%	74%	69%	69%	76%	71%	72%	68%	83%	76%	70%	63%	59%	77%	79%	84%
No	28%	26%	31%	31%	24%	29%	28%	32%	17%	24%	30%	37%	41%	23%	21%	16%
Unwght N=	293	282	144	370	379	508	83	97	92	232	265	156	146	219	127	187

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	Education				Region				Children in HH		
	HS or less	Some college	College grad	Graduate work	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/South Shore	0	1+	
Yes	65%	69%	79%	82%	72%	69%	81%	68%	79%	68%	79%
No	35%	31%	21%	18%	28%	31%	19%	32%	21%	32%	21%
Unwght N=	133	180	236	199	130	273	97	134	115	469	273

Q. Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each of the following statements:

	I know what actions to take to prevent myself and my family from becoming infected with the coronavirus	I feel confident I can prevent myself and my family from becoming infected with the coronavirus if it becomes more widespread in the United States
Strongly agree	71%	31%
Somewhat agree	24%	37%
Somewhat disagree	3%	16%
Strongly disagree	1%	14%
Don't know (vol)	1%	1%
Unwght N=	1502	1501

I know what actions to take to prevent myself and my family from becoming infected with the coronavirus.

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50K	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Strongly agree	69%	71%	75%	69%	73%	73%	60%	77%	64%	72%	74%	73%	75%	70%	73%	71%
Somewhat agree	25%	24%	22%	26%	22%	23%	29%	18%	31%	22%	22%	21%	19%	24%	22%	27%
Somewhat disagree	3%	3%	2%	3%	3%	2%	5%	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%	4%	1%
Strongly disagree	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	4%	0%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	0%
Don't know (vol)	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%
Unwght N=	587	556	303	726	776	1010	175	198	186	474	543	289	301	429	270	355

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	Education				Region			Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some	College	Graduate	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/ South Shore	0	1+	
		college	grad	work							
Strongly agree	72%	71%	72%	68%	68%	69%	78%	73%	70%	72%	70%
Somewhat agree	20%	24%	24%	28%	23%	27%	19%	21%	23%	24%	24%
Somewhat disagree	4%	2%	3%	3%	5%	2%	1%	3%	3%	2%	3%
Strongly disagree	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%
Don't know (vol)	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	2%	2%	1%	1%
Unwght N=	262	366	477	393	251	539	199	268	245	947	532

I feel confident I can prevent myself and my family from becoming infected with the coronavirus if it becomes more widespread in the United States.

	Party ID			Gender		Race/ethnicity			Age				Income			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	<\$50k	<\$100k	<150k	\$150k+
Strongly agree	29%	30%	38%	34%	28%	27%	33%	40%	29%	29%	30%	36%	38%	30%	23%	30%
Somewhat agree	36%	39%	37%	36%	38%	40%	32%	30%	38%	38%	35%	39%	29%	41%	42%	39%
Somewhat disagree	17%	18%	10%	14%	18%	17%	15%	16%	17%	18%	17%	14%	16%	15%	22%	15%
Strongly disagree	17%	12%	13%	15%	14%	14%	19%	13%	16%	15%	16%	10%	17%	13%	13%	14%
Don't know (vol)	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	0%	2%
Unwght N=	587	555	303	725	776	1010	175	197	186	473	543	289	301	429	270	355

	Education				Region			Children in HH			
	HS or less	Some	College	Graduate	Urban	Suburban	Exurban	Phil/ South Shore	0	1+	
		college	grad	work							
Strongly agree	36%	30%	29%	25%	30%	31%	32%	32%	28%	32%	29%
Somewhat agree	34%	39%	38%	39%	37%	37%	42%	38%	34%	38%	36%
Somewhat disagree	11%	18%	19%	20%	18%	18%	15%	11%	18%	17%	16%
Strongly disagree	18%	12%	11%	15%	13%	13%	11%	17%	19%	12%	17%
Don't know (vol)	2%	0%	3%	0%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Unwght N=	261	366	477	393	251	538	199	268	245	946	532

NJ Coronavirus Awareness and Actions May 2020 Rutgers-Eagleton Poll

Methodology

The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted by telephone using live callers April 22 to May 2, 2020, with a scientifically selected random sample of 1,502 New Jersey adults, 18 or older. Persons without a telephone could not be included in the random selection process. 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 452 adults reached on a landline phone and 1050 adults reached on a cell phone, all acquired through random digit dialing. Distribution of household phone use in this sample is:

Cell Only:	43%
Dual Use, Reached on Cell:	27%
Dual Use, Reached on LL:	29%
Landline Only:	1%

The data were weighted to be representative of the non-institutionalized adult population of New Jersey. The weighting balanced sample demographics to target population parameters. The sample is balanced to match parameters for sex, age, education, race/ethnicity, region and phone use. The sex, age, education, race/ethnicity and region parameters were derived from 2018 American Community Survey PUMS data. The phone use parameter was derived from estimates provided by the National Health Interview Survey Early Release Program.¹²³ Weighting was done in two stages. The first stage of weighting corrected for different probabilities of selection associated with the number of adults in each household and each respondent's telephone usage patterns. This adjustment also accounts for the overlapping landline and cell sample frames and the relative sizes of each frame and each sample. This first stage weight was applied to the entire sample which included all adults. The second stage of the weighting balanced sample demographics to match target population benchmarks. This weighting was accomplished using SPSSINC RAKE, an SPSS extension module that simultaneously balances the distributions of all variables using the GENLOG procedure. Weights were trimmed to prevent individual interviews from having too much influence on the final results. The use of these weights in statistical analysis ensures that the demographic characteristics of the sample closely approximate the demographic characteristics of the target population.

All surveys are subject to sampling error, which is the expected probable difference between interviewing everyone in a population versus a scientific sampling drawn from that population. Sampling error should be adjusted to recognize the effect of weighting the data to better match the population. In this poll, the simple sampling error for 1,502 New Jersey adults is +/-2.5 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence interval. The design effect⁴ is 1.31, making the adjusted margin of error +/- 2.9

¹ NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, 2014-2018; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012-2016; and infoUSA.com consumer database, 2013-2018.

² Blumberg SJ, Luke JV. Wireless substitution: Early release of estimates from the National Health Interview Survey, January-June 2018. National Center for Health Statistics. December 2018.

³ Blumberg SJ, Luke JV. Wireless substitution: Early release of estimates from the National Health Interview Survey, July-December 2018. National Center for Health Statistics. June 2019.

⁴ Post-data collection statistical adjustments require analysis procedures that reflect departures from simple random sampling. We calculate the effects of these design features so that an appropriate adjustment can be incorporated into tests of statistical significance when using these data. The so-called "design effect" or *deff* represents the loss in statistical efficiency that results from a disproportionate sample design and systematic non-response.

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percentage points. Thus, if 50 percent of New Jersey adults in this sample favor a particular position, we would be 95 percent sure that the true figure is between 47.1 and 52.9 percent (50 +/- 2.9) if all New Jersey adults had been interviewed, rather than just a sample.

Sampling error does not consider 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. with sample from Dynata. The questionnaire was developed and all data analyses were completed in house by the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling (ECPIP). Dr. William Young assisted with analysis and preparation of this report. The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll is paid for and sponsored by the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, a non-partisan academic center for the study of politics and the political process. Full questionnaires are available on request, and can also be accessed through our archives at eagletonpoll.rutgers.edu. For more information, please contact poll@eagleton.rutgers.edu.

Weighted Sample Characteristics
1,502 New Jersey Adults

Male	48%	Democrat	40%	18-34	26%	HS or Less	31%	White	59%
Female	52%	Independent	39%	35-49	24%	Some College	29%	Black	12%
		Republican	21%	50-64	30%	College Grad	22%	Hispanic	19%
				65+	21%	Grad Work	18%	Other	10%