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Three-quarters of New Jerseyans Think U.S. Should Play At Least a Minor Role in Ukraine
Support is split on sending additional troops to Eastern Europe

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. (March 14, 2022) – As Russia's invasion of Ukraine continues, New Jerseyans see a role for the United States but are divided on whether the United States should send more of its own troops to Eastern Europe to further discourage Russia, according to a new Rutgers-Eagleton poll.

Thirty-six percent say the U.S. should have a major role in the situation between Russia and Ukraine. Another 37 percent say a minor role; 21 percent believe the U.S. should have no role at all, however, while 6 percent are unsure.

Forty-six percent support sending additional U.S. troops into Eastern Europe to deter Russia, but 43 percent oppose such a move and 11 percent either have no opinion or are unsure.

"New Jerseyans mostly echo national views on the U.S.'s role when it comes to Russia's invasion of Ukraine," said Ashley Koning, an assistant research professor and director of the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling (ECPIP) at Rutgers University–New Brunswick. "But with New Jersey having one of the largest Ukrainian populations in the country, residents here are slightly more likely than Americans nationwide to want to see the U.S. play a major role in the conflict and send additional troops."

Forty-five percent of those earning $100 thousand in household income or more and those who have a 4-year degree or more (44 percent) say the U.S. should play a major role, compared to about one-third of those with less schooling or lower income. Preference for the U.S. playing a major role also increases with age.

Democrats (52 percent) and Republicans (51 percent), alike, are slightly more supportive of sending additional troops than Independents (41 percent). Support is also higher among those who have done graduate work than those with lower education levels and increases with age.

"Ukraine is one of the few issues where respondents mostly agree nowadays, including across

partisan lines," said Jessica Roman, a research associate with the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling (ECPIP) at Rutgers University–New Brunswick. "Only minor differences emerge within key demographics, but the division in how the United States should be involved is widespread across all subgroups."

Results are from a statewide poll of 1,044 adults contacted by live interviewers on landlines and cell phones from February 25 – March 4. The full sample has a margin of error of +/- 3.5 percentage points. The subsample within the first question has a margin of error of +/- 4.8 percentage points, while the subsample within the second question has a margin of error of +/- 5.1 percentage points.

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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 Megan Schumann at megan.schumann@rutgers.edu.

ABOUT RUTGERS—NEW BRUNSWICK
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 statewide polling operations in the United States. Now celebrating its 50th 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 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 New Jersey adults; all percentages are of weighted results. Interpret groups with samples sizes under 100 with extreme caution.

U1. **Do you support or oppose sending additional US troops into Eastern Europe to try to discourage further Russian invasion of Ukraine?**
Note: This question was part of a split sample. Half of respondents received U1 and half received U2.

Support	46%
Oppose	43%
No opinion	6%
Don't know	5%
Unweighted N=	521

	Party ID			Gender		Race or Ethnicity		Age			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Man	Woman	White, Non-Hispanic	Non-White	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Support	52%	41%	51%	49%	44%	51%	42%	38%	44%	51%	52%
Oppose	39%	47%	44%	45%	41%	41%	45%	45%	46%	41%	42%
No opinion	4%	7%	2%	3%	7%	3%	8%	9%	5%	6%	2%
DK	6%	5%	3%	2%	7%	5%	4%	8%	5%	2%	4%
Unwt N=	168	221	110	242	269	282	209	115	119	168	112

	Income		Education	
	<$100K	$100K+	Some college or less	College grad or more
Support	43%	51%	46%	47%
Oppose	45%	43%	42%	44%
No opinion	6%	4%	6%	6%
DK	6%	2%	6%	3%
Unwt N=	252	192	237	275

U2. **How much of a role do you think the U.S. should have in the situation between Russia and Ukraine? A major role, minor role, or no role at all?**
Note: This question was part of a split sample. Half of respondents received U1 and half received U2.

Major role	36%
Minor role	37%
No role at all	21%
Don't know	6%
Unweighted N=	511

	Party ID			Gender		Race or Ethnicity		Age			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Man	Woman	White, Non-Hispanic	Non-White	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Major role	40%	33%	33%	39%	33%	37%	34%	24%	37%	43%	42%
Minor role	37%	35%	46%	39%	37%	39%	36%	45%	36%	36%	30%
No role	14%	25%	21%	21%	21%	19%	24%	26%	22%	15%	22%
DK	8%	6%	1%	2%	9%	5%	6%	5%	5%	7%	5%
Unwt N=	171	201	118	259	238	286	191	111	119	164	107

	Income		Education	
	<$100K	$100K+	Some college or less	College grad or more
Major role	33%	45%	30%	44%
Minor role	33%	42%	39%	35%
No role	25%	11%	24%	16%
DK	8%	3%	6%	5%
Unwt N=	255	191	228	277

Methodology
The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted by telephone using live interviewers February 25 – March 4, 2022, with a scientifically selected random sample of 1,044 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. This poll included 255 adults reached on a landline phone and 789 adults reached on a cell phone, all acquired through random digit dialing. Distribution of phone use in this sample is:

	Individual	Household
Cell Only	51%	51%
Dual Use	25%	25%
Dual Use, Reached on LL	23%	23%
Landline Only	2%	1%

The data were weighted to be representative of the residential adult population of New Jersey. The weighting balances sample demographics to target population parameters. The sample is balanced, by form, to match parameters for sex, age, education, region, race/ethnicity and phone use. The sex, age, education, race/ethnicity and region parameters were derived from 2019 American Community Survey PUMS data. The phone use parameter was derived from estimates provided by the National Health Interview Survey Early Release Program.[1]

Weighting was done in two stages. The first stage of weighting corrects for different probabilities of selection across the RDD samples 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.[2]

The second stage of weighting balances sample demographics, by form, 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 survey estimates. 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.

A series of weight variables was computed. One weight for estimates based on the total sample (weight), plus separate weights for each of the different split samples.

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

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[1] NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, 2017–2019; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017–2019.

[2] Buskirk, T. D., & Best, J. (2012). Venn Diagrams, Probability 101 and Sampling Weights Computed for Dual Frame Telephone RDD Designs. Journal of Statistics and Mathematics, 15, 3696-3710.

sample design and systematic non-response. [3]

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 1,044 New Jersey adults is +/-3.0 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence interval.[4] This means that in 95 out every 100 samples using the same methodology, estimated proportions based on the entire sample will be no more than 3.0 percentage points away from their true values in the population. The design effect[5] is 1.30, making the adjusted margin of error +/- 3.5 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 46.5 and 53.5 percent (50 +/- 3.5) 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. The questionnaire was developed and all data analyses were completed in house by the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling (ECPIP). Jessica Roman, MPP, 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
1,044 New Jersey Adults**

Male	48%	**Democrat**	32%	**18-34**	27%	**HS or Less**	30%	**White**	57%
Female	52%	**Independent**	44%	**35-49**	25%	**Some College**	29%	**Black**	12%
		Republican	24%	**50-64**	28%	**College Grad**	22%	**Hispanic**	19%
				65+	21%	**Grad Work**	19%	**Other**	12%

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[3] The composite design effect for a sample of size n, with each case having a weight, w, is computed as deff=nw2w2.

[4] The survey's maximum margin of error is the largest 95% confidence interval for any estimated proportion based on the total sample – one around 50%.

[5] 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.