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NEW JERSEY: STATE RATING HITS 38 YEAR LOW AS QUALITY OF LIFE VIEWS EBB

Property taxes persist as public's top concern

West Long Branch, NJ – New Jerseyans' views of their home state quality of life have dropped, due in part by a record low rating for the state as a place to live according to polling going back to 1980. The ***Monmouth University Poll*** finds that opinion of local communities has not dropped by as much, which has kept the Garden State Quality of Life Index score from completely tanking. The state issue that aggravates New Jerseyans the most is the highest-in-the-nation property tax burden, which has been at the top of the list of public grievances for the better part of a decade.

Currently, just over half of New Jersey residents say their state is either an excellent (15%) or good (39%) place to call home, while 29% rate it as only fair and 17% as poor. This 54% positive rating is statistically similar to the July 2015 result of 55% and the August 2011 result of 57%. However, it does mark a numerical low point for this metric in state opinion polls going back to 1980.

The top state concern mentioned by New Jerseyans is property taxes. Just under half (45%) name this issue as one of the most important facing the state right now. Those mentioning other taxes amount to 25% combined. Fewer residents mention education (16%), jobs (14%), the economy and cost of living in general (14%), transportation infrastructure (14%), or crime, guns, and drugs (12%) as being among the most pressing concerns facing New Jersey today. Property taxes have been the most common top-of-mind response to this question for at least ten years, with the only exception coming during the economic downturn when this concern shared the top spot with jobs in 2012 and was actually displaced by jobs as the number one issue in 2013.

“Unless you’ve had your head in the sand for the past ten years, you know that New Jersey’s onerous property tax burden is the single most cited reason for what ails the state. Trenton lawmakers have avoided tackling this problem for too long and we now see it eroding satisfaction with life in the

Garden State as a whole. Given these results, it's no surprise that more and more New Jerseyans are choosing to vote with their feet by simply moving out of the state," said Patrick Murray, director of the independent Monmouth University Polling Institute.

Monmouth's exclusive Garden State Quality of Life Index score now stands at +18, which is down from +25 in July 2017 and matches prior lows of +18 in July 2015 and September 2014. Over the past eight years, this index has ranged from the current low of +18 to a high of +31 (April 2012). Half of the index score comes from residents' overall rating of the state as a place to live and the remaining half comes from four questions that ask residents to evaluate the quality of life in their local communities.

The quality of life index score took its biggest hit in the central part of the state, going from +35 last year to +18 currently in the Northern Shore (Monmouth, Ocean) and from +34 last year to +18 currently in the Route 1 Corridor (Mercer, Middlesex, Union). The affluent Central Hills area (Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset) retains the highest score at +34 (basically unchanged from +33 last year), while the Urban Core (Essex, Hudson) has the lowest at +8 (down from +18 last year).

"Even though New Jerseyans are starting to sour on the state as whole, views of their local communities remain more positive. This sentiment may help to keep people here for the time being but it doesn't overcome the more fundamental statewide problems," said Murray.

Just over 7-in-10 New Jerseyans rate their own town or city as an excellent (30%) or good (41%) place to live, with 20% rating it as only fair and 9% as poor. The current 71% positive rating is down from the numerical high of 77% recorded last year, but it is still in the mid-range of results for this question going back to polling since 1977. The percentage of Garden State residents who currently say they feel very safe in their own neighborhoods at night (65%) is also down from last year's numerical high of 71%, but remains well above the all-time low of 42% recorded back in 1993.

The current poll registers relatively high ratings for local environmental quality at 73% positive – 29% excellent and 44% good, which is just slightly off last year's mark of 76%. Ratings for the job local schools are doing stands at 60% positive – 24% excellent and 36% good – which is down from 65% in 2017, but is still within the normal range for this question's results over the past decade.

The Garden State Quality of Life Index was created by the Monmouth University Polling Institute to serve as a resident-based indicator of the quality of life offered by the state of New Jersey. The index is based on five separate poll questions: overall opinion of the state as a place to live – which contributes half the index score – and ratings of one's hometown, the performance of local schools, the quality of the local environment, and feelings of safety in one's own neighborhood. The index can potentially range from -100 to +100.

GARDEN STATE QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX											
	NJ TOTAL	<u>GENDER</u>		<u>AGE</u>			<u>RACE</u>		<u>INCOME</u>		
		Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White	Black/ Hispanic	<\$50K	\$50- 100K	>\$100K
April 2018	+18	+16	+20	+22	+14	+20	+22	+5	+8	+16	+27
July 2017	+25	+25	+24	+15	+26	+30	+32	+6	+8	+23	+41
July 2015	+18	+18	+18	+25	+11	+20	+24	+5	n/a	n/a	n/a
February 2015	+23	+21	+26	+26	+18	+28	+29	+10	+13	+30	+31
September 2014	+18	+19	+17	+12	+20	+20	+23	+5	+13	+15	+30
April 2014	+25	+24	+25	+31	+20	+25	+27	+16	+17	+24	+33
February 2014	+23	+28	+18	+23	+21	+26	+27	+11	+8	+23	+35
December 2013	+24	+25	+23	+24	+21	+27	+29	+10	+10	+24	+35
September 2013	+26	+26	+26	+27	+23	+30	+33	+10	+17	+25	+42
April 2013	+21	+19	+24	+19	+19	+27	+29	+3	+12	+19	+35
February 2013	+29	+28	+30	+30	+27	+31	+36	+12	+20	+30	+36
December 2012	+30	+31	+29	+30	+30	+30	+36	+14	+17	+33	+38
September 2012	+24	+28	+20	+16	+21	+32	+30	+5	+10	+23	+37
July 2012	+27	+26	+29	+21	+31	+30	+32	+16	+16	+31	+37
April 2012	+31	+33	+28	+25	+30	+37	+36	+19	+24	+28	+42
February 2012	+25	+20	+30	+25	+24	+26	+29	+13	+17	+23	+38
October 2011	+24	+24	+24	+23	+21	+29	+31	+7	+15	+25	+31
August 2011	+22	+25	+19	+27	+19	+21	+26	+9	+9	+22	+32
May 2011	+23	+24	+22	+23	+22	+23	+26	+14	+15	+22	+32
December 2010	+21	+20	+23	+23	+20	+23	+26	+13	+15	+21	+31

GARDEN STATE QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX											
		<u>REGION</u>						<u>COMMUNITY TYPE</u>			
		North east	Urban Core	Route 1 Corridor	Central Hills	Northern Shore	Delaware Valley	Garden Core	Urban	Stable Town	Growing Suburb
April 2018	+24	+8	+18	+18	+34	+18	+14	+11	+2	+23	+24
July 2017	+25	+18	+34	+34	+33	+35	+22	+13	+7	+31	+29
July 2015	+21	+4	+22	+35	+22	+17	+17	+10	-2	+28	+23
February 2015	+31	+13	+24	+38	+31	+11	+11	+19	+11	+30	+27
September 2014	+23	+8	+12	+42	+27	+18	+18	+4	+10	+22	+19
April 2014	+24	+10	+22	+43	+29	+25	+25	+23	+4	+26	+33
February 2014	+27	+16	+20	+37	+30	+14	+14	+16	+6	+28	+28
December 2013	+31	+15	+26	+40	+25	+14	+14	+17	+5	+29	+30
September 2013	+27	+8	+21	+52	+33	+27	+27	+19	+1	+34	+32
April 2013	+31	+4	+19	+38	+22	+21	+21	+21	-3	+30	+27
February 2013	+31	+17	+35	+37	+36	+25	+25	+23	+11	+33	+36
December 2012	+36	+18	+26	+47	+40	+21	+21	+31	+9	+37	+37
September 2012	+29	+14	+17	+45	+33	+26	+26	+13	-1	+27	+31
July 2012	+37	+12	+30	+37	+34	+22	+22	+18	+8	+34	+34
April 2012	+38	+26	+27	+44	+34	+22	+22	+28	+20	+35	+36
February 2012	+33	+17	+27	+35	+29	+19	+19	+22	+11	+31	+29
October 2011	+31	+6	+22	+45	+35	+18	+18	+23	-1	+31	+34
August 2011	+24	+16	+21	+38	+27	+26	+26	+6	+4	+29	+25
May 2011	+28	+17	+16	+41	+29	+22	+22	+20	+6	+29	+28
December 2010	+26	+15	+22	+38	+23	+14	+14	+17	+12	+23	+27

The *Monmouth University Poll* was conducted by telephone from April 6 to 10, 2018 with 703 New Jersey adults. The results in this release have a margin of error of +/- 3.7 percentage points for the full sample. The poll was conducted by the Monmouth University Polling Institute in West Long Branch, NJ.

QUESTIONS AND RESULTS

(* Some columns may not add to 100% due to rounding.)

1. Overall, how would you rate New Jersey as a place to live – excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

TREND:	Excellent/ Good	Excellent	Good	Only Fair	Poor	(VOL) Don't know	(n)
April 2018	54%	15%	39%	29%	17%	1%	(703)
July 2017	59%	15%	44%	28%	13%	0%	(800)
May 2016	62%	16%	46%	28%	10%	0%	(806)
July 2015	55%	12%	43%	30%	15%	0%	(503)
May 2015	63%	13%	50%	27%	10%	1%	(500)
February 2015	63%	15%	48%	25%	11%	1%	(805)
September 2014	61%	13%	48%	25%	13%	1%	(802)
June 2014	62%	15%	47%	26%	11%	0%	(800)
April 2014	64%	15%	49%	26%	10%	0%	(803)
February 2014	63%	15%	48%	26%	11%	0%	(803)
December 2013	65%	20%	45%	26%	9%	0%	(802)
September 2013	65%	19%	46%	25%	10%	1%	(783)
April 2013	61%	15%	46%	27%	11%	0%	(806)
February 2013	68%	18%	50%	24%	7%	1%	(803)
December 2012	72%	20%	52%	21%	5%	1%	(816)
September 2012	65%	15%	50%	23%	11%	0%	(805)
July 2012	69%	17%	52%	23%	8%	0%	(803)
April 2012	70%	20%	50%	23%	7%	0%	(804)
February 2012	62%	15%	47%	26%	11%	1%	(803)
October 2011	67%	15%	52%	24%	8%	0%	(817)
August 2011	57%	14%	43%	31%	11%	1%	(802)
May 2011	59%	14%	45%	29%	11%	0%	(807)
December 2010	63%	17%	46%	26%	10%	1%	(2864)
October 2007	63%	17%	46%	25%	12%	1%	(1001)
August 2004	68%	22%	46%	21%	10%	1%	(800)
May 2003	72%	20%	52%	23%	5%	0%	(1002)
April 2001	76%	23%	53%	19%	4%	1%	(802)
March 2000	76%	25%	51%	17%	6%	0%	(800)
May 1999	76%	22%	54%	19%	5%	0%	(800)
February 1994	71%	18%	53%	22%	7%	0%	(801)
March 1990	68%	21%	47%	25%	6%	1%	(800)
February 1988	78%	27%	51%	17%	4%	1%	(800)
February 1987	84%	31%	53%	11%	4%	0%	(800)
May 1985	81%	29%	52%	14%	3%	1%	(500)
October 1984	80%	29%	51%	15%	4%	1%	(1000)
January 1981	66%	16%	50%	26%	7%	1%	(1003)
July 1980	68%	18%	50%	23%	7%	2%	(1005)

[Q2-6 previously released.]

7. In your opinion, what are the most important one or two issues facing the state of New Jersey right now? [LIST WAS NOT READ. IF "TAXES" MENTIONED, INTERVIEWER ASKS FOR SPECIFIC TYPE.] [Note: Results add to more than 100% because multiple responses were accepted.]

TREND:	April 2018	July 2017	December 2013	December 2012	February 2012	July 2009*
Property taxes	45%	48%	25%	31%	42%	45%
Income tax	9%	8%	7%	6%	8%	7%
Sales tax	8%	7%	2%	3%	4%	4%
Other tax, general taxes	8%	5%	12%	6%	3%	5%
Jobs	14%	14%	35%	30%	42%	18%
Economy, cost of living	14%	10%	10%	19%	19%	27%
State budget, govt. spending	7%	8%	4%	5%	8%	18%
Education/public schools	16%	14%	21%	10%	20%	12%
Higher education	3%	3%	3%	2%	3%	n/a
Transportation, infrastructure	14%	10%	2%	3%	2%	1%
Environment	4%	4%	2%	2%	1%	2%
Health insurance, care	6%	10%	11%	8%	5%	18%
Crime, guns, drugs	12%	9%	6%	4%	5%	2%
Public pensions/benefits	3%	5%	2%	2%	2%	n/a
Housing	5%	6%	3%	2%	1%	n/a
Illegal immigration	7%	3%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Auto insurance	1%	3%	0%	1%	1%	n/a
Superstorm Sandy recovery	n/a	n/a	8%	23%	n/a	n/a
Legalize marijuana	5%	2%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Opioid crisis	4%	2%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	8%	12%	9%	4%	8%	11%
Nothing/no answer	4%	3%	4%	4%	4%	3%
(n)	(703)	(800)	(802)	(816)	(803)	(792)

[*July 2009 question for registered voters only: was "In your opinion, what are the most important one or two issues that the candidates for governor should talk about?"]

[Q8-31 previously released.]

32. How would you rate your town or city as a place to live – excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

TREND:	Excellent/ Good	Excellent	Good	Only Fair	Poor	(VOL) Don't know	(n)
April 2018	71%	30%	41%	20%	9%	0%	(703)
July 2017	77%	37%	40%	16%	7%	0%	(800)
July 2015	71%	29%	42%	19%	10%	0%	(503)
February 2015	72%	29%	43%	21%	7%	0%	(805)
September 2014	69%	24%	45%	22%	10%	0%	(802)
April 2014	71%	27%	44%	20%	9%	0%	(803)
February 2014	70%	31%	39%	23%	7%	0%	(803)
December 2013	70%	29%	41%	21%	8%	1%	(802)
September 2013	72%	32%	40%	18%	9%	1%	(783)
April 2013	67%	29%	38%	25%	8%	0%	(806)
February 2013	73%	30%	43%	20%	7%	0%	(803)
December 2012	74%	32%	42%	17%	9%	0%	(816)
September 2012	72%	33%	39%	19%	9%	0%	(805)
July 2012	74%	32%	42%	18%	7%	1%	(803)
April 2012	76%	34%	42%	17%	7%	0%	(804)
February 2012	74%	33%	41%	21%	5%	0%	(803)
October 2011	73%	26%	47%	20%	8%	0%	(817)
August 2011	76%	28%	48%	18%	6%	0%	(802)
May 2011	73%	33%	40%	20%	7%	0%	(807)
December 2010	73%	27%	46%	20%	8%	0%	(2864)
May 2003	74%	29%	45%	19%	7%	0%	(1002)
April 2001	73%	28%	45%	21%	6%	0%	(802)
May 1995	70%	30%	40%	21%	8%	0%	(802)
June 1994	72%	31%	41%	19%	9%	0%	(801)
September 1988	72%	26%	46%	18%	9%	1%	(500)
October 1984	71%	30%	41%	21%	7%	1%	(999)
June 1980	67%	23%	44%	24%	9%	0%	(1005)
May 1977	66%	25%	41%	24%	10%	0%	(1005)

[QUESTIONS 33, 34 AND 35 WERE ROTATED]

33. How would you rate the quality of the environment in the area where you live – excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

TREND:	Excellent/ Good	Excellent	Good	Only Fair	Poor	(VOL) Don't know	(n)
April 2018	73%	29%	44%	20%	6%	1%	(703)
July 2017	76%	37%	39%	14%	8%	1%	(800)
July 2015	71%	27%	44%	20%	9%	0%	(503)
February 2015	72%	27%	45%	23%	4%	0%	(805)
September 2014	72%	24%	48%	21%	5%	1%	(802)
April 2014	76%	27%	49%	18%	6%	0%	(803)
February 2014	73%	29%	44%	21%	6%	0%	(803)
December 2013	69%	27%	42%	24%	7%	0%	(802)
September 2013	75%	30%	45%	18%	7%	1%	(783)
April 2013	70%	27%	43%	22%	7%	0%	(806)
February 2013	71%	26%	45%	24%	4%	2%	(803)
December 2012	73%	25%	48%	20%	7%	1%	(816)
September 2012	72%	30%	42%	20%	7%	0%	(805)
July 2012	74%	30%	44%	19%	7%	1%	(803)
April 2012	75%	30%	45%	18%	6%	1%	(804)
February 2012	77%	29%	48%	17%	5%	0%	(803)
October 2011	72%	25%	47%	19%	9%	0%	(817)
August 2011	79%	31%	48%	16%	5%	0%	(802)
May 2011	79%	33%	46%	15%	6%	0%	(807)
December 2010	66%	14%	52%	25%	9%	0%	(2864)
April 2001	70%	27%	43%	22%	7%	1%	(402)
September 1988	53%	10%	43%	31%	15%	1%	(500)

34. How would you rate the job your local schools are doing – excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

TREND:	Excellent/ Good	Excellent	Good	Only Fair	Poor	(VOL) Don't know	(n)
April 2018	60%	24%	36%	23%	10%	7%	(703)
July 2017	65%	26%	39%	20%	10%	6%	(800)
July 2015	60%	27%	33%	22%	9%	8%	(503)
February 2015	61%	21%	40%	24%	8%	7%	(805)
September 2014	60%	21%	39%	24%	9%	7%	(802)
April 2014	63%	24%	39%	22%	9%	6%	(803)
February 2014	61%	22%	39%	22%	10%	7%	(803)
December 2013	60%	20%	40%	23%	12%	5%	(802)
September 2013	62%	24%	38%	21%	7%	9%	(783)
April 2013	59%	21%	38%	27%	9%	5%	(806)
February 2013	64%	24%	40%	20%	7%	9%	(803)
December 2012	61%	21%	40%	23%	7%	9%	(816)
September 2012	61%	27%	34%	21%	10%	8%	(805)
July 2012	61%	22%	39%	20%	11%	8%	(803)
April 2012	63%	23%	40%	21%	7%	8%	(804)
February 2012	68%	26%	42%	16%	8%	8%	(803)
October 2011	60%	21%	39%	20%	13%	7%	(817)
August 2011	63%	19%	44%	26%	6%	5%	(802)
May 2011	63%	24%	39%	22%	10%	6%	(807)
December 2010	64%	24%	40%	23%	8%	5%	(2864)
August 2004	61%	24%	37%	17%	12%	9%	(800)
April 2001	64%	21%	43%	21%	6%	9%	(802)
September 1999	62%	18%	44%	21%	9%	8%	(802)
September 1998	62%	20%	42%	23%	9%	7%	(804)
February 1996	60%	20%	40%	20%	11%	9%	(804)
September 1993	52%	16%	36%	29%	14%	5%	(801)
January 1992	53%	15%	38%	26%	15%	5%	(800)
October 1987	60%	14%	46%	23%	6%	11%	(500)
October 1986	55%	15%	40%	26%	10%	9%	(800)
October 1983	59%	16%	43%	23%	10%	8%	(802)
May 1978	52%	12%	40%	25%	12%	11%	(1003)

35. How safe do you feel in your neighborhood at night – very safe, somewhat safe, or not at all safe?

TREND:	Very safe	Somewhat safe	Not at all safe	(VOL) Don't know	(n)
April 2018	65%	29%	5%	0%	(703)
July 2017	71%	22%	6%	0%	(800)
July 2015	67%	27%	6%	0%	(503)
February 2015	62%	33%	4%	0%	(805)
September 2014	58%	36%	6%	0%	(802)
April 2014	66%	30%	4%	1%	(803)
February 2014	67%	28%	6%	0%	(803)
December 2013	60%	33%	7%	0%	(802)
September 2013	65%	27%	7%	1%	(783)
April 2013	66%	28%	6%	0%	(806)
February 2013	63%	30%	6%	1%	(803)
December 2012	64%	29%	6%	1%	(816)
September 2012	65%	25%	6%	0%	(805)
July 2012	60%	32%	7%	1%	(803)
April 2012	64%	31%	5%	1%	(804)
February 2012	62%	32%	5%	0%	(803)
October 2011	62%	31%	7%	0%	(817)
August 2011	63%	31%	6%	0%	(802)
May 2011	68%	27%	5%	0%	(807)
December 2010	59%	35%	6%	0%	(2864)
February 1993	42%	44%	13%	0%	(801)
October 1987	51%	36%	11%	2%	(499)
October 1984	53%	36%	9%	2%	(500)
May 1981	43%	43%	13%	1%	(497)

[Q36-39 previously released.]

Note: All trend results prior to 2005 come from Rutgers University’s Eagleton Poll.

METHODOLOGY

The *Monmouth University Poll* was sponsored and conducted by the Monmouth University Polling Institute from April 6 to 10, 2018 with a random sample of 703 New Jersey adults age 18 and older, in English. This includes 421 contacted by a live interviewer on a landline telephone and 282 contacted by a live interviewer on a cell phone. Telephone numbers were selected through random digit dialing and landline respondents were selected with a modified Troidahl-Carter youngest adult household screen. Monmouth is responsible for all aspects of the survey design, data weighting and analysis. Final sample is weighted for region, age, education, gender and race based on US Census information. Data collection support provided by Braun Research (field) and SSI (RDD sample). For results based on this sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling has a maximum margin of plus or minus 3.7 percentage points (unadjusted for sample design). Sampling error can be larger for sub-groups (see table below). In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

Region in this report is defined by county boundaries: Northeast (Bergen, Passaic), Urban Core (Essex, Hudson), Route 1 Corridor (Mercer, Middlesex, Union), Central Hills (Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset), Northern Shore (Monmouth, Ocean), Delaware Valley (Burlington, Camden, Gloucester), and Garden Core (Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Salem, Sussex, Warren).

<p><i>DEMOGRAPHICS</i> <i>Self-Reported</i> 21% Republican 41% Independent 38% Democrat</p> <p>48% Male 52% Female</p> <p>28% 18-34 36% 35-54 36% 55+</p> <p>60% White 13% Black 17% Hispanic 10% Asian/Other</p>

MARGIN OF ERROR		<i>unweighted</i>	<i>moe</i>
		<i>sample</i>	<i>(+/-)</i>
TOTAL		703	3.7%
REGISTERED VOTER	Yes	632	3.9%
	No	71	11.6%
SELF-REPORTED	Republican	152	8.0%
PARTY ID	Independent	276	5.9%
	Democrat	262	6.1%
GENDER	Male	342	5.3%
	Female	361	5.2%
AGE	18-34	142	8.2%
	35-54	231	6.5%
	55+	320	5.5%
RACE	White non-Hispanic	473	4.5%
	Other	201	6.9%
COLLEGE GRADUATE	No degree	310	5.6%
	4 year degree	389	5.0%
INCOME	<\$50K	163	7.7%
	\$50 to <100K	202	6.9%
	\$100K+	285	5.8%
REGION	North	323	5.5%
	Central	185	7.2%
	South	189	7.1%

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		TOTAL	REG VOTER		PARTY ID			GENDER		AGE 3		
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+
Q1/L1. Overall, how would you rate New Jersey as a place to live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	15%	14%	18%	10%	13%	19%	15%	15%	21%	12%	13%
	Good	39%	39%	34%	29%	36%	49%	32%	45%	37%	40%	39%
	Only Fair	29%	28%	34%	36%	28%	25%	32%	26%	30%	27%	30%
	Poor	17%	18%	11%	25%	22%	7%	21%	14%	11%	20%	18%
	[VOL] Dont Know	1%	0%	3%	0%	2%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%

		RACE 2		COLLEGE GRAD		INCOME			REGION OF STATE		
		White	Other	No degree	4 yr degree	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	North	Central	South
Q1/L1. Overall, how would you rate New Jersey as a place to live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	15%	15%	15%	15%	12%	15%	14%	17%	12%	12%
	Good	41%	36%	35%	47%	35%	36%	47%	38%	45%	34%
	Only Fair	27%	31%	30%	25%	31%	34%	22%	27%	27%	35%
	Poor	17%	18%	20%	12%	22%	14%	16%	18%	15%	19%
	[VOL] Dont Know	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%

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		TOTAL	REG VOTER		PARTY ID			GENDER		AGE 3	
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Male	Female	18-34	35-54
Q7. In your opinion, what are the most important one or two issues facing the state of New Jersey right now? [OPEN-END, MULTIPLE RESPONSE]	Property taxes	45%	47%	30%	59%	39%	44%	49%	41%	24%	55%
	Income tax	9%	10%	5%	15%	10%	5%	13%	6%	6%	10%
	Sales tax	8%	8%	3%	12%	10%	3%	11%	5%	2%	9%
	Other, general taxes	8%	9%	1%	14%	8%	5%	11%	5%	4%	9%
	Jobs	14%	12%	27%	14%	14%	11%	11%	16%	17%	12%
	Economy, cost of living	14%	15%	10%	9%	16%	15%	11%	18%	20%	14%
	State budget, government spending	7%	8%	1%	11%	7%	5%	9%	5%	5%	7%
	Education, public schools	16%	17%	14%	11%	12%	24%	13%	19%	20%	16%
	Higher education, state universities and colleges	3%	3%	3%	2%	4%	2%	3%	3%	6%	1%
	Transportation, roads, infrastructure	14%	14%	13%	11%	18%	11%	15%	13%	13%	12%
	Environment	4%	4%	0%	0%	5%	5%	5%	2%	4%	3%
	Health care, health insurance	6%	6%	5%	6%	4%	8%	5%	7%	4%	8%
	Crime, guns, drugs	12%	12%	11%	9%	14%	12%	11%	12%	14%	13%
	Public worker pensions & benefits	3%	3%	1%	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%	1%	4%
	Housing, housing costs	5%	4%	11%	3%	6%	5%	4%	6%	4%	5%
	Illegal immigration	7%	8%	2%	13%	6%	3%	7%	7%	4%	8%
	Auto insurance	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%	3%	1%	2%	0%	3%
	Marijuana legalization	5%	5%	5%	3%	7%	4%	6%	5%	11%	3%
	Opioid crisis	4%	4%	8%	2%	4%	6%	4%	5%	6%	4%
	Corruption	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	0%
Other	7%	7%	5%	6%	6%	8%	6%	7%	6%	3%	
[VOL] Nothing, NA	4%	3%	9%	2%	4%	4%	3%	4%	6%	3%	

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		AGE 3	RACE 2		COLLEGE GRAD		INCOME			REGION OF STATE
		55+	White	Other	No degree	4 yr degree	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	North
Q7. In your opinion, what are the most important one or two issues facing the state of New Jersey right now? [OPEN-END, MULTIPLE RESPONSE]	Property taxes	52%	48%	39%	43%	48%	30%	49%	56%	43%
	Income tax	11%	10%	7%	8%	11%	8%	7%	13%	9%
	Sales tax	11%	9%	4%	8%	7%	7%	9%	7%	5%
	Other, general taxes	10%	10%	6%	7%	9%	6%	7%	9%	4%
	Jobs	12%	9%	21%	15%	11%	22%	13%	6%	15%
	Economy, cost of living	11%	14%	15%	13%	17%	14%	19%	12%	12%
	State budget, government spending	8%	8%	5%	5%	10%	4%	7%	9%	7%
	Education, public schools	13%	13%	21%	13%	21%	12%	17%	22%	16%
	Higher education, state universities and colleges	2%	1%	5%	2%	4%	2%	2%	4%	3%
	Transportation, roads, infrastructure	16%	15%	12%	12%	17%	12%	10%	19%	14%
	Environment	4%	5%	2%	3%	5%	4%	4%	3%	4%
	Health care, health insurance	6%	7%	5%	6%	6%	5%	6%	6%	9%
	Crime, guns, drugs	8%	10%	14%	15%	6%	16%	10%	8%	12%
	Public worker pensions & benefits	3%	3%	2%	2%	4%	0%	2%	5%	3%
	Housing, housing costs	5%	4%	6%	6%	3%	10%	5%	1%	6%
	Illegal immigration	8%	8%	5%	6%	7%	7%	5%	8%	7%
	Auto insurance	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	0%	2%	2%	1%
	Marijuana legalization	4%	6%	4%	4%	8%	6%	6%	5%	4%
	Opioid crisis	4%	4%	4%	5%	3%	4%	6%	2%	3%
	Corruption	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Other	10%	7%	6%	8%	4%	8%	5%	6%	6%	
[VOL] Nothing, NA	2%	4%	3%	5%	1%	6%	3%	1%	3%	

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		REGION OF STATE	
		Central	South
Q7. In your opinion, what are the most important one or two issues facing the state of New Jersey right now? [OPEN-END, MULTIPLE RESPONSE]	Property taxes	50%	44%
	Income tax	11%	9%
	Sales tax	10%	10%
	Other, general taxes	15%	8%
	Jobs	8%	17%
	Economy, cost of living	14%	20%
	State budget, government spending	8%	6%
	Education, public schools	17%	16%
	Higher education, state universities and colleges	4%	1%
	Transportation, roads, infrastructure	15%	11%
	Environment	6%	2%
	Health care, health insurance	1%	5%
	Crime, guns, drugs	12%	10%
	Public worker pensions & benefits	3%	2%
	Housing, housing costs	4%	4%
	Illegal immigration	7%	7%
	Auto insurance	2%	1%
	Marijuana legalization	5%	8%
	Opioid crisis	6%	6%
	Corruption	2%	1%
Other	8%	7%	
[VOL] Nothing, NA	1%	6%	

		TOTAL	REG VOTER		PARTY ID			GENDER		AGE 3		
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+
Q32/L2. How would you rate your town or city as a place to live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	30%	31%	23%	35%	30%	29%	32%	28%	24%	37%	29%
	Good	41%	41%	43%	42%	38%	43%	42%	40%	39%	36%	48%
	Only Fair	20%	19%	27%	13%	21%	23%	17%	22%	27%	18%	15%
	Poor	9%	9%	6%	10%	10%	6%	8%	9%	8%	9%	8%
	[VOL] Dont Know	0%	0%	2%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%

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		RACE 2		COLLEGE GRAD		INCOME			REGION OF STATE		
		White	Other	No degree	4 yr degree	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	North	Central	South
Q32/L2. How would you rate your town or city as a place to live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	33%	25%	26%	38%	17%	31%	41%	32%	33%	25%
	Good	45%	37%	41%	43%	48%	42%	38%	38%	47%	41%
	Only Fair	15%	27%	23%	15%	21%	21%	16%	21%	15%	23%
	Poor	7%	11%	11%	5%	13%	6%	5%	9%	6%	11%
	[VOL] Dont Know	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

		TOTAL	REG VOTER		PARTY ID			GENDER		AGE 3		
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+
Q33/L3. How would you rate the quality of the environment in the area where you live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	29%	30%	27%	35%	33%	22%	32%	27%	29%	27%	32%
	Good	44%	44%	42%	45%	37%	51%	43%	44%	36%	45%	48%
	Only Fair	20%	19%	27%	13%	24%	19%	17%	23%	27%	20%	15%
	Poor	6%	7%	4%	5%	5%	8%	7%	5%	7%	8%	4%
	[VOL] Dont Know	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%

		RACE 2		COLLEGE GRAD		INCOME			REGION OF STATE		
		White	Other	No degree	4 yr degree	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	North	Central	South
Q33/L3. How would you rate the quality of the environment in the area where you live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	32%	24%	27%	34%	22%	25%	39%	30%	30%	28%
	Good	46%	41%	43%	45%	44%	48%	43%	40%	49%	44%
	Only Fair	18%	23%	22%	16%	25%	23%	13%	21%	17%	23%
	Poor	3%	12%	7%	5%	9%	4%	5%	9%	3%	4%
	[VOL] Dont Know	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%

		TOTAL	REG VOTER		PARTY ID			GENDER		AGE 3		
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+
Q34/L4. How would you rate the job your local schools are doing - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	24%	24%	26%	24%	24%	23%	25%	24%	24%	22%	27%
	Good	36%	36%	37%	42%	34%	35%	37%	35%	34%	36%	38%
	Only Fair	23%	23%	19%	23%	20%	25%	22%	23%	28%	22%	19%
	Poor	10%	10%	10%	7%	13%	9%	9%	11%	10%	13%	8%
	[VOL] Dont Know	7%	7%	8%	3%	9%	8%	7%	7%	4%	7%	9%

		RACE 2		COLLEGE GRAD		INCOME			REGION OF STATE		
		White	Other	No degree	4 yr degree	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	North	Central	South
Q34/L4. How would you rate the job your local schools are doing - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	26%	22%	23%	26%	20%	18%	33%	26%	30%	17%
	Good	37%	33%	35%	38%	38%	35%	33%	33%	39%	39%
	Only Fair	21%	26%	23%	22%	24%	24%	22%	26%	15%	24%
	Poor	9%	12%	12%	7%	10%	15%	6%	9%	9%	12%
	[VOL] Dont Know	7%	8%	7%	6%	8%	7%	6%	6%	7%	8%

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		TOTAL	REG VOTER		PARTY ID			GENDER		AGE 3		
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+
Q35/L5. How safe do you feel in your neighborhood at night - very safe, somewhat safe, or not at all safe?	Very safe	65%	65%	67%	73%	67%	59%	72%	59%	58%	65%	70%
	Somewhat safe	29%	29%	28%	24%	27%	34%	23%	35%	30%	32%	26%
	Not at all safe	5%	6%	5%	3%	6%	6%	5%	6%	10%	3%	4%
	[VOL] Dont Know	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%

		RACE 2		COLLEGE GRAD		INCOME			REGION OF STATE		
		White	Other	No degree	4 yr degree	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	North	Central	South
Q35/L5. How safe do you feel in your neighborhood at night - very safe, somewhat safe, or not at all safe?	Very safe	70%	56%	60%	74%	56%	64%	74%	64%	67%	65%
	Somewhat safe	28%	33%	32%	24%	34%	31%	23%	30%	29%	29%
	Not at all safe	3%	9%	7%	2%	8%	4%	3%	6%	4%	5%
	[VOL] Dont Know	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%