MONMOUTH
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NEW JERSEY: OFFSETTING PARTISAN SHIFTS IN GARDEN STATE QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Statewide rating stable, but dips for local schools, neighborhood safety

West Long Branch, NJ – More than 6 in 10 New Jerseyans continue to give positive ratings to their home state as a place to live, but views of some local aspects of the state's quality of life have declined, particularly around schools and safety. The **Monmouth ("Mon-muth") University Poll's** benchmark index rating has remained stable due to offsetting partisan shifts in opinion, with Republicans feeling more negative than at the beginning of the year and Democrats feeling more positive.

Monmouth's exclusive Garden State Quality of Life Index score now stands at +23, which is similar to January's +24 rating and slightly lower than last year's +27 rating. The current reading is near the midpoint of scores since Monmouth first started tracking the quality of life index in 2010. The index number jumped to +37 at the beginning of the Covid pandemic in April 2020, but dropped back to +25 in May 2021. In prior years, the index rating ranged between +18 and +31, with an outlying low point of +13 registered in February 2019.

The statewide index score has held steady since the beginning of the year, but there have been some regional shifts. Specifically, the index score has dropped in counties making up the Northern Shore (from +35 to +23) and Garden Core (from +14 to +2) regions. It has gone up in the Delaware Valley region (from +19 to +29) and held steady elsewhere. The Central Hills region (+38) continues to record the highest quality of life index score.

These regional shifts correlate with a change in partisan views of New Jersey's quality of life. The Garden State Quality of Life Index score has dropped among Republicans (from +16 to +5) since January, at the same time it has risen among Democrats (from +37 to +46) and held steady among independents (from +17 to +16). The Northern Shore and Garden Core regions are significantly more Republican than other parts of the state.

"As with everything in society today, how people view what's going on in their own backyards seems to be filtered through a partisan lens," said Patrick Murray, director of the independent Monmouth University Polling Institute.

The Garden State Quality of Life Index was created by the Monmouth University Polling Institute in 2010 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.

	NJ TOTAL	GENDER		AGE			RACE		INCOME		
		Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White	Black/ Hispanic	<$50K	$50-100K	>$100K
August 2023	**+23**	+17	+28	+23	+20	+25	+30	+11	+13	+15	+34
January 2023	**+24**	+21	+28	+29	+23	+22	+31	+15	+7	+27	+31
April 2022	**+27**	+24	+30	+24	+25	+31	+30	+23	+18	+24	+35
May 2021	**+25**	+20	+29	+24	+24	+27	+25	+20	+17	+25	+31
April 2020	**+37**	+34	+41	+34	+38	+40	+43	+26	+29	+37	+44
September 2019	**+24**	+21	+26	+21	+20	+32	+31	+13	+18	+20	+33
February 2019	**+13**	+14	+12	+10	+11	+18	+17	+4	+2	+14	+20
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									
	REGION							COMMUNITY TYPE	
	North East	Urban Core	Route 1 Corridor	Central Hills	Northern Shore	Delaware Valley	Garden Core	Urban	Stable Town	Growing Suburb
August 2023	+26	+15	+26	+38	+23	+29	+2	+8	+29	+24
January 2023	+25	+15	+24	+40	+35	+19	+14	0	+29	+33
April 2022	+28	+16	+28	+42	+34	+27	+19	+15	+31	+31
May 2021	+31	+23	+23	+33	+26	+20	+13	+20	+26	+26
April 2020	+41	+30	+40	+49	+46	+33	+21	+18	+41	+45
September 2019	+20	+10	+23	+42	+32	+26	+17	+6	+30	+30
February 2019	+21	-1	+16	+27	+21	-3	+9	-1	+15	+19
April 2018	+24	+8	+18	+34	+18	+14	+11	+2	+23	+24
July 2017	+25	+18	+34	+33	+35	+22	+13	+7	+31	+29
July 2015	+21	+4	+22	+35	+22	+17	+10	-2	+28	+23
February 2015	+31	+13	+24	+38	+31	+11	+19	+11	+30	+27
September 2014	+23	+8	+12	+42	+27	+18	+4	+10	+22	+19
April 2014	+24	+10	+22	+43	+29	+25	+23	+4	+26	+33
February 2014	+27	+16	+20	+37	+30	+14	+16	+6	+28	+28
December 2013	+31	+15	+26	+40	+25	+14	+17	+5	+29	+30
September 2013	+27	+8	+21	+52	+33	+27	+19	+1	+34	+32
April 2013	+31	+4	+19	+38	+22	+21	+21	-3	+30	+27
February 2013	+31	+17	+35	+37	+36	+25	+23	+11	+33	+36
December 2012	+36	+18	+26	+47	+40	+21	+31	+9	+37	+37
September 2012	+29	+14	+17	+45	+33	+26	+13	-1	+27	+31
July 2012	+37	+12	+30	+37	+34	+22	+18	+8	+34	+34
April 2012	+38	+26	+27	+44	+34	+22	+28	+20	+35	+36
February 2012	+33	+17	+27	+35	+29	+19	+22	+11	+31	+29
October 2011	+31	+6	+22	+45	+35	+18	+23	-1	+31	+34
August 2011	+24	+16	+21	+38	+27	+26	+6	+4	+29	+25
May 2011	+28	+17	+16	+41	+29	+22	+20	+6	+29	+28
December 2010	+26	+15	+22	+38	+23	+14	+17	+12	+23	+27

Examining individual components of the index finds that more than 6 in 10 New Jerseyans say the state is either an excellent (20%) or good (42%) place to live, while 25% say it is only fair and 12% rate the state as poor. The current positive rating of 62% is similar to recent poll results (63% in January 2023 and 64% in April 2022). The all-time high mark for this rating was 84% positive in February 1987. The record low was 50% in February 2019, but it improved to 61% by September of that year.

While state-level rating results have remained steady, some local metrics in the Garden State Quality of Life Index have dipped since the beginning of the year. Specifically, 70% of residents currently rate their own town or city as an excellent or good place to live. This is down from 77% who said the same in January but close to the 73% positive result in Monmouth's 2022 poll. This rating has been given to fluctuations over the past decade, with a range of 67% to 79% since 2013. New Jerseyans' ratings for environmental quality in their local area have been stable, currently at 75% positive, which is similar to both the beginning of this year (78%) and last year (76%).

The poll finds larger declines, however, in two areas – local schools and public safety. Currently, 56% of New Jerseyans rate their local schools as either excellent or good. This number stood at 60% positive in January and 63% positive last year. While the school rating did hover just above 50% positive

for most of the late 1970s into the early 1990s, it has rarely dipped below the 60% mark in polling in the past three decades (hitting 59% in February 2019 and April 2013). Prior to the current poll, the previous low point for positive ratings of local schools was 52% in September 1993.

The percentage of New Jerseyans who currently feel very safe in their own neighborhoods at night stands at 58%, which is lower than 64% in January and 65% in 2022. This marks only the second time since 2010 that this metric fell below the 60% mark (58% in September 2014 and 59% in December 2010). It has generally ranged between 60% and 68% very safe while topping 70% on two occasions (71% in July 2017 and 74% in April 2020). However, polls taken in the 1980s and 1990s found a much lower sense of security among Garden State residents (between 42% and 53% very safe).

"Schools and safety have been hot-button topics for the past few years. It should come as no surprise that political clashes over these issues are having an impact on how New Jerseyans view their own quality of life in the state," said Murray.

The *Monmouth University Poll* was conducted by telephone from August 10 to 14, 2023 with 814 New Jersey adults. The question results in this release have a margin of error of +/- 5.4 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)
August 2023	**62%**	**20%**	**42%**	**25%**	**12%**	**0%**	**(814)**
January 2023	*63%*	*18%*	45%	25%	12%	0%	*(809)*
April 2022	*64%*	19%	45%	22%	13%	1%	*(802)*
May 2021	*59%*	16%	43%	27%	14%	0%	*(706)*
April 2020	*68%*	24%	44%	23%	7%	1%	*(704)*
September 2019	*61%*	15%	46%	26%	12%	1%	*(713)*
February 2019	*50%*	11%	39%	32%	17%	1%	*(604)*
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)*

Trend*: (Q1 Continued)	Excellent/ Good	Excellent	Good	Only Fair	Poor	(VOL) Don't know	(n)
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)

[*Q2-12 previously released.*]

13. 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)
August 2023	**70%**	**28%**	**42%**	**22%**	**7%**	**0%**	**(814)**
January 2023	77%	34%	43%	18%	5%	0%	(809)
April 2022	73%	32%	41%	20%	7%	0%	(802)
May 2021	76%	33%	43%	19%	5%	0%	(706)
April 2020	79%	39%	40%	16%	5%	0%	(704)
September 2019	72%	32%	40%	20%	7%	0%	(713)
February 2019	67%	30%	37%	21%	11%	0%	(604)
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 14-16 WERE ROTATED*]

14.   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)
August 2023	**75%**	**28%**	**47%**	**19%**	**5%**	**1%**	**(814)**
January 2023	78%	30%	48%	17%	5%	1%	(809)
April 2022	76%	31%	45%	17%	7%	0%	(802)
May 2021	76%	32%	44%	18%	6%	0%	(706)
April 2020	81%	36%	45%	15%	4%	0%	(704)
September 2019	72%	31%	41%	22%	6%	1%	(713)
February 2019	71%	27%	44%	21%	8%	0%	(604)
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)

15.   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)
August 2023	**56%**	**22%**	**34%**	**23%**	**15%**	**6%**	**(814)**
January 2023	60%	19%	41%	22%	11%	6%	(809)
April 2022	63%	24%	39%	16%	11%	10%	(802)
May 2021	64%	24%	40%	18%	8%	10%	(706)
April 2020	73%	33%	40%	16%	4%	7%	(704)
September 2019	60%	26%	34%	23%	9%	9%	(713)
February 2019	59%	19%	40%	22%	10%	9%	(604)
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)

Trend*: (Q15 Continued)	Excellent/ Good	Excellent	Good	Only Fair	Poor	(VOL) Don't know	(n)
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)

16.   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)
August 2023	**58%**	**36%**	**5%**	**0%**	**(814)**
January 2023	64%	32%	4%	1%	(809)
April 2022	65%	29%	5%	0%	(802)
May 2021	67%	31%	2%	0%	(706)
April 2020	74%	22%	3%	1%	(704)
September 2019	68%	27%	5%	0%	(713)
February 2019	64%	29%	7%	0%	(604)
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)

[*Q17-47 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 August 10 to 14, 2023 with a probability-based random sample of 814 New Jersey adults age 18 and older. Interviews were conducted in English, and included 245 live landline telephone interviews, 360 live cell phone interviews, and 209 online surveys via a cell phone text invitation. Telephone numbers were selected through random digit dialing and landline respondents were selected with a modified Troldahl-Carter youngest adult household screen. Monmouth is responsible for all aspects of the survey design, data weighting and analysis. The full sample is weighted for region, age, education, gender and race based on US Census information (ACS 2021 one-year survey). Interviewing services were provided by Braun Research, with sample obtained from Dynata. 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 5.4 percentage points adjusted for sample design effects (1.56). 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.

Standard Region (by county):
North – Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Union, Warren
Central – Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Somerset
South – Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Ocean, Salem

Expanded Region (by county): *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), *Garden Core* (Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Salem, Sussex, Warren).

Demographics (weighted)
Party (self-reported): 22% Republican, 43% Independent, 35% Democrat
Sex: 49% Male, 51% Female
Age: 27% 18-34, 34% 35-54, 39% 55+
Race: 55% White, 13% Black, 19% Hispanic, 13% Asian/Other
College: 58% No degree, 42% 4 year degree

MARGIN OF ERROR		unweighted sample	moe (+/-)
TOTAL		814	5.4%
REGISTERED VOTER	Yes	778	5.5%
	No	36	25.5%
SELF-REPORTED PARTY ID	Republican	163	12.0%
	Independent	347	8.2%
	Democrat	280	9.1%
REGION	North	379	7.9%
	Central	247	9.7%
	South	179	11.4%
GENDER	Male	393	7.7%
	Female	421	7.5%
AGE	18-34	165	11.9%
	35-54	299	8.9%
	55+	333	8.4%
RACE	White, non-Hispanic	547	6.6%
	Other	248	9.7%
COLLEGE GRADUATE	No degree	293	8.9%
	4 year degree	516	6.7%
INCOME	<$50K	110	14.6%
	$50 to <$100K	227	10.2%
	$100K+	406	7.6%
CHILDREN IN HOME	Yes	186	11.2%
	No	620	6.2%

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		TOTAL	REG VOTER		PARTY ID			REGION OF STATE		
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	North	Central	South
1\L1. Overall, how would you rate New Jersey as a place to live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	20%	20%	23%	6%	16%	35%	22%	22%	14%
	Good	42%	42%	45%	35%	40%	52%	43%	47%	38%
	Only Fair	25%	26%	24%	40%	31%	10%	24%	22%	32%
	Poor	12%	12%	7%	18%	12%	4%	11%	8%	17%
	[VOL] Dont know	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%

		GENDER		AGE			RACE		COLLEGE GRAD	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White non-Hisp	Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	No degree	4 yr degree
1\L1. Overall, how would you rate New Jersey as a place to live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	18%	22%	24%	18%	19%	20%	21%	18%	23%
	Good	40%	45%	40%	41%	45%	46%	38%	39%	48%
	Only Fair	25%	26%	29%	26%	22%	23%	28%	29%	20%
	Poor	15%	8%	5%	15%	14%	11%	13%	13%	10%
	[VOL] Dont know	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%

		INCOME			CHILDREN IN HOME	
		<$50K	$50-100K	$100K+	Yes	No
1\L1. Overall, how would you rate New Jersey as a place to live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	13%	19%	23%	19%	21%
	Good	47%	35%	47%	42%	43%
	Only Fair	28%	32%	20%	29%	24%
	Poor	12%	13%	10%	10%	12%
	[VOL] Dont know	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%

		TOTAL	REG VOTER		PARTY ID			REGION OF STATE		
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	North	Central	South
13\L2. How would you rate your town or city as a place to live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	28%	29%	25%	29%	23%	36%	27%	35%	24%
	Good	42%	42%	45%	41%	43%	43%	41%	40%	49%
	Only fair	22%	22%	27%	24%	26%	16%	24%	22%	20%
	Poor	7%	7%	2%	6%	8%	5%	8%	3%	8%
	[VOL] Dont know	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

		GENDER		AGE			RACE		COLLEGE GRAD	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White non-Hisp	Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	No degree	4 yr degree
13\L2. How would you rate your town or city as a place to live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	26%	31%	28%	25%	32%	35%	21%	24%	34%
	Good	41%	43%	36%	50%	40%	45%	39%	40%	45%
	Only fair	24%	21%	25%	20%	22%	16%	29%	27%	17%
	Poor	9%	5%	11%	5%	6%	4%	10%	10%	3%
	[VOL] Dont know	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

		INCOME			CHILDREN IN HOME	
		<$50K	$50-100K	$100K+	Yes	No
13\L2. How would you rate your town or city as a place to live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	21%	24%	34%	26%	29%
	Good	40%	41%	45%	48%	40%
	Only fair	27%	26%	18%	20%	23%
	Poor	12%	9%	3%	6%	7%
	[VOL] Dont know	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

		TOTAL	REG VOTER		PARTY ID			REGION OF STATE		
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	North	Central	South
14\L3. How would you rate the quality of the environment in the area where you live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	28%	28%	27%	31%	22%	35%	26%	33%	28%
	Good	47%	46%	50%	45%	49%	47%	46%	45%	50%
	Only fair	19%	19%	18%	17%	21%	15%	21%	19%	16%
	Poor	5%	5%	1%	6%	6%	2%	7%	1%	6%
	[VOL] Dont know	1%	1%	3%	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%

		GENDER		AGE			RACE		COLLEGE GRAD	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White non-Hisp	Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	No degree	4 yr degree
14\L3. How would you rate the quality of the environment in the area where you live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	27%	30%	24%	26%	33%	32%	24%	25%	33%
	Good	46%	47%	45%	49%	44%	49%	43%	44%	50%
	Only fair	20%	18%	22%	20%	18%	16%	24%	24%	13%
	Poor	6%	5%	7%	5%	4%	2%	9%	7%	3%
	[VOL] Dont know	1%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%

		INCOME			CHILDREN IN HOME	
		<$50K	$50-100K	$100K+	Yes	No
14\L3. How would you rate the quality of the environment in the area where you live - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	20%	24%	34%	25%	29%
	Good	43%	46%	50%	53%	45%
	Only fair	22%	27%	13%	18%	19%
	Poor	16%	3%	2%	4%	6%
	[VOL] Dont know	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%

		TOTAL	REG VOTER		PARTY ID			REGION OF STATE		
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	North	Central	South
15\L4. How would you rate the job your local schools are doing - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	22%	22%	34%	19%	18%	30%	20%	30%	18%
	Good	34%	34%	27%	28%	33%	41%	35%	33%	34%
	Only fair	23%	23%	17%	24%	25%	17%	21%	19%	30%
	Poor	15%	14%	20%	20%	18%	6%	17%	14%	11%
	[VOL] Dont know	6%	7%	2%	9%	6%	6%	7%	4%	8%

		GENDER		AGE			RACE		COLLEGE GRAD	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White non-Hisp	Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	No degree	4 yr degree
15\L4. How would you rate the job your local schools are doing - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	18%	26%	17%	24%	24%	27%	17%	21%	24%
	Good	33%	35%	31%	37%	33%	36%	32%	31%	37%
	Only fair	26%	20%	24%	19%	26%	21%	26%	24%	21%
	Poor	16%	13%	22%	13%	11%	8%	22%	17%	12%
	[VOL] Dont know	7%	6%	6%	7%	6%	8%	4%	7%	6%

		INCOME			CHILDREN IN HOME	
		<$50K	$50-100K	$100K+	Yes	No
15\L4. How would you rate the job your local schools are doing - excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	Excellent	17%	18%	27%	26%	21%
	Good	36%	36%	34%	32%	34%
	Only fair	29%	21%	20%	24%	22%
	Poor	14%	18%	14%	16%	14%
	[VOL] Dont know	5%	8%	5%	1%	8%

		TOTAL	REG VOTER		PARTY ID			REGION OF STATE		
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	North	Central	South
16\L5. How safe do you feel in your neighborhood at night - very safe, somewhat safe, or not at all safe?	Very safe	58%	58%	55%	54%	50%	71%	54%	65%	57%
	Somewhat safe	36%	36%	44%	35%	45%	26%	40%	30%	34%
	Not at all safe	5%	6%	2%	10%	5%	3%	5%	4%	8%
	[VOL] Dont know	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%

		GENDER		AGE			RACE		COLLEGE GRAD	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White non-Hisp	Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	No degree	4 yr degree
16\L5. How safe do you feel in your neighborhood at night - very safe, somewhat safe, or not at all safe?	Very safe	58%	57%	51%	58%	61%	64%	51%	50%	68%
	Somewhat safe	35%	38%	44%	37%	31%	32%	40%	41%	30%
	Not at all safe	7%	4%	5%	5%	7%	3%	9%	8%	2%
	[VOL] Dont know	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%

		INCOME			CHILDREN IN HOME	
		<$50K	$50-100K	$100K+	Yes	No
16\L5. How safe do you feel in your neighborhood at night - very safe, somewhat safe, or not at all safe?	Very safe	47%	51%	67%	60%	57%
	Somewhat safe	41%	41%	30%	33%	37%
	Not at all safe	10%	7%	2%	6%	5%
	[VOL] Dont know	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%