

The Star-Ledger/**Eagleton-Rutgers Poll**

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A story based on the survey findings presented in this release and background memo will appear in the Friday, September 28, Star-Ledger. We ask users to properly attribute this copyrighted information to "*The Star-Ledger/Eagleton-Rutgers Poll*."

NEW JERSEY REACTS TO SEPTEMBER 11, 2001: PATRIOTISM & PRAYER; ANGER & ATTACK

Patriotism laced with anger is New Jersey's reaction to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Just over one-fifth say they know of someone who was seriously injured or lost that day, and the vast majority believe the United States should take military action against those responsible, even if it means that innocent people will be killed.

A new Star-Ledger/Eagleton-Rutgers Poll conducted between September 22 and 26 finds that massive numbers of New Jerseysans have taken the tragedy to heart by engaging in ceremonial behaviors and group activities. A staggering 90 percent of Garden State residents say they have prayed for the victims of the attack; 80 percent have displayed an American flag on their car or where they live; six in ten say they have sung a patriotic song with others; almost half have attended a gathering or memorial service in their community.

New Jerseyans do not expect a return to the way of the world pre-September 11; most expect some important, permanent changes to result from the terrorist attack. Most people believe Americans will have to give up some of their personal freedoms in order for the country to effectively fight terrorism, and half are even willing to do so personally. Four in ten are hesitant to fly or to travel overseas. And a similar number appears willing to use ethnic profiling in treating travelers from Middle Eastern countries with more suspicion than others. Three in ten say they are now less likely to trust Arab-Americans, and nearly eight in ten support more restrictive immigration practices on those coming from the Middle East.

The poll, conducted with a random sample of 895 New Jersey residents and having a sampling error of plus or minus 3.3 percentage points, finds the events of September 11 united citizens and reinforced a sense of common identity. Some 89 percent say they have been feeling "patriotic" and 78 percent say they have been feeling "part of a larger community." In addition, 81 percent described themselves as "angry." The terrorist attack put a number of other emotions

The Star-Ledger/Eagleton-Rutgers Poll • Eagleton Institute of Politics

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into play as well: 66 percent describe themselves as feeling “religious,” while about 45 percent each described themselves as “depressed,” “nervous” or “scared.”

One-third of all Garden State residents say they are personally worried “a great deal” that they or a close friend or relative may be the victim of a further terrorist assault; two-thirds of New Jerseyans say they are at least “somewhat worried” this could happen.

The scope of the terrorist attack and the destruction of the World Trade Center Towers represent a watershed event in the minds of most New Jerseyans: just 10 percent feel that “in time things will get back to normal in the country and be pretty much like they were before the attack.” In stark contrast, 86 percent agree with the statement, “things will be different from this time on; the attack will bring some important permanent changes.”

Already, about 40 percent say they are less likely than before to travel on a plane or overseas; about half this number say they are less willing to travel either to New York City or Washington D.C.

And New Jerseyans seem primed for sacrifice—70 percent believe Americans will have to give up some of their personal freedoms in order to effectively fight terrorism. Incredibly, half of all adults say they would be willing to have their e-mail read or phone tapped without a warrant in order to fight terrorism, effectively giving up their civil liberties.

The current survey finds 73 percent saying they are “extremely proud” to be an American, with another 22 percent saying they are “very proud” to be so. Remarkably, not a single one of the 895 people interviewed by phone said they were “not very proud” to be an American.

There is tremendous support for the United States taking military action against those responsible for the attacks—86 percent support and just 7 percent oppose military action. Support for military action drops a bit—to 65 percent—when survey respondents are told that innocent people would also die.

“The reverse side of increased patriotism may be more suspicion and hostile acts towards people of Mideast origin in this country,” said Cliff Zukin, the Poll’s director. Zukin noted that 30 percent in the current survey acknowledge they will be less likely to trust Arab-Americans.

Additionally, in what amounts to a sanctioning of ethnic profiling, a significant minority of 40 percent of New Jerseyans believe that immigration and airport officials should treat travelers from Middle Eastern countries with more suspicion than travelers from other countries,

and 78 percent believe that immigration from the Middle East to the United States should be more restrictive than it is today, with almost one-quarter (23%) saying that immigration from the Mideast should be halted entirely.

Here is what New Jerseyans say they have done in the week following the terrorist attack on September 11:

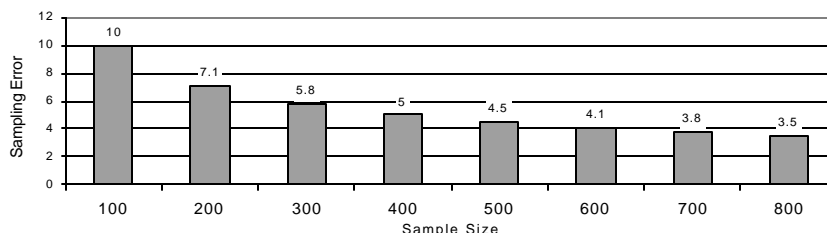
- 90 percent prayed for the victims of the attack
- 80 percent displayed an American flag on their car or at home
- 67 percent talked about the event with a stranger
- 61 percent sang a patriotic song with others
- 47 percent attended a gathering or memorial service in their community
- 38 percent held an organized discussion of what happened at school/work
- 32 percent sent an e-mail message about the event to a friend

The Star-Ledger/Eagleton-Rutgers Poll

BACKGROUND MEMO – RELEASE (EP133-1) September 28, 2001

The latest *Star-Ledger*/Eagleton-Rutgers Poll was conducted by telephone from September 22-26 with a scientifically selected random sample of 895 New Jersey adults. The figures in this release are based on this sample size. 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. The sampling error is ± 3.3 percent, at a 95 percent confidence interval. Thus if 50 percent of New Jersey likely voters were found to support military action against terrorists, one would be 95 percent sure that the true figure would be between 46.7 and 53.3 percent (50 ± 3.3) had all New Jersey likely voters been interviewed, rather than just a sample. Sampling error increases as the sample size decreases, so statements based on various population subgroups, such as separate figures reported for Republicans, Independents or Democrats, are subject to more error than are statements based on the total sample. The following chart shows the relationship between sample size and sampling error.

Sample Size and Sampling Error



Sampling error does not take into account other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording or context effects. The verbatim wording of all questions asked is reproduced in this background memo. The sample has been stratified based on county and the data have been weighted on age and education to insure an accurate proportional representation of the state. The questions referred to in this release are as follows:

"Do you personally know someone who was seriously injured or lost as a result of the attacks, or not?"

[T1]

| | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>DK</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| September 2001 | 23% | 76% | 1% | 100% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 28 | 72 | -- | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 27 | 72 | 1 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 15 | 85 | -- | 100 | (250) |

"Are you personally worried that you or a close relative or friend might be the victim of a further terrorist attack in this country—is this something that worries you a great deal, somewhat, not too much, or not at all?" [T2]

| | <u>Great Deal</u> | <u>Somewhat Worried</u> | <u>Not Too Worried</u> | <u>Not at all Worried</u> | <u>DK</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| September 2001 | 34% | 35% | 19% | 12% | 1% | 101% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | | | |
| --North | 33 | 35 | 20 | 11 | 1 | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 33 | 34 | 17 | 15 | 1 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 35 | 38 | 19 | 8 | -- | 100 | (250) |

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“I’d like to read you a list of emotions. For each one, please tell me whether that describes how you have been feeling as a result of the attacks. **[RANDOMIZE A-G]** First, have you been feeling (A. Patriotic, B. Scared, C. Angry, D. Religious, E. Part of a larger community, F. Depressed, and G. Nervous) or not?” [T3]

| | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>DK</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| <u>Patriotic</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 89% | 8% | 2% | 99% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 87 | 11 | 3 | | (390) |
| --Central | 90 | 6 | 4 | | (240) |
| --South | 94 | 5 | 1 | | (250) |
| <u>Scared</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 47% | 53% | 1% | 101% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 52 | 47 | 1 | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 43 | 56 | 1 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 43 | 57 | -- | 100 | (250) |
| <u>Angry</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 81% | 18% | 1% | 100% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 79 | 20 | 1 | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 82 | 17 | 1 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 85 | 14 | 1 | 100 | (250) |
| <u>Religious</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 66% | 33% | 1% | 100% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 66 | 34 | -- | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 64 | 35 | 1 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 67 | 32 | 1 | 100 | (250) |
| <u>Part of a larger community</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 78% | 19% | 3% | 100% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 80 | 19 | 1 | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 80 | 15 | 5 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 77 | 20 | 3 | 100 | (250) |
| <u>Depressed</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 46% | 54% | -- | 100% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 50 | 50 | -- | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 43 | 56 | 1 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 44 | 56 | -- | 100 | (250) |
| <u>Nervous</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 47% | 53% | 1% | 101% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 49 | 51 | -- | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 44 | 54 | 2 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 47 | 52 | 1 | 100 | (250) |

‘I’d like you to think back to the week following the attack, and tell me whether or not you did any of the following. Just yes or no will be fine. Did you[**RANDOMIZE A-F**] (A. Pray for the victims of the attack, B. Attend a gathering or memorial service in your community, C. Sing a patriotic song with others, D. Talk about the event with a stranger, E. Send an e-mail message about the event to a friend through the Internet, F. Display an American flag on your car or at home)? [T6]

| | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>DK</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|--|------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| <u>Pray for the victims of the attack</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 90% | 10 % | 1% | 101% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 88 | 10 | 1 | 99 | (390) |
| --Central | 89 | 10 | 1 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 93 | 7 | -- | 100 | (250) |
| <u>Attend a gathering or memorial service in your community</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 47% | 53% | -- | 100% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 49 | 51 | 1 | 101 | (390) |
| --Central | 48 | 52 | -- | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 46 | 54 | -- | 100 | (250) |
| <u>Sing a patriotic song with others</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 61% | 38% | -- | 99% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 62 | 38 | -- | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 55 | 44 | 1 | 99 | (240) |
| --South | 64 | 36 | -- | 100 | (250) |
| <u>Talk about the event with a stranger</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 67% | 33% | -- | 100% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 67 | 33 | -- | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 65 | 34 | -- | 99 | (240) |
| --South | 71 | 29 | -- | 100 | (250) |
| <u>Send an e-mail message about the event to a friend through the Internet</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 32% | 68% | -- | 100% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 36 | 64 | -- | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 36 | 64 | -- | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 26 | 74 | -- | 100 | (250) |
| <u>Display an American flag on your car or at home</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 80% | 20% | -- | 100% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 80 | 20 | -- | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 75 | 24 | -- | 99 | (240) |
| --South | 83 | 17 | -- | 100 | (250) |

"Did you come together at work or school for an organized discussion of what happened? IF YES, PROBE: Was that at work, at school or both?" [T6G]

| | <u>Yes Work</u> 28% | <u>Yes- School</u> 5% | <u>Yes- Both</u> 5% | <u>No</u> 62% | <u>DK</u> -- | <u>Total</u> 100% | <u>(n)</u> (895) |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| September 2001 | | | | | | | |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | | | |
| --North | 27 | 7 | 5 | 61 | -- | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 28 | 3 | 3 | 65 | 1 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 30 | 4 | 5 | 61 | -- | 100 | (250) |

"Some people have reported that they plan to change their behaviors in the future, now that the threat of terrorism has become so real. Others don't plan to change what they do very much. Please tell me whether you are, or are not, less likely to do any of the following things as a result of the attacks. First, are you less likely to [RANDOMIZE A-E] (A. Travel on airplanes, B. Travel into New York City, C. Travel to Washington D.C., D. Travel overseas and Trust Arab Americans or not? [T7]

| | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>DK</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| <u>Travel on Airplanes</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 39% | 59% | 2% | 100% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 36 | 63 | 1 | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 40 | 57 | 3 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 41 | 55 | 4 | 100 | (250) |
| <u>Travel in to New York City</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 24% | 76% | 1% | 101% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 22 | 78 | 1 | 101 | (390) |
| --Central | 23 | 76 | 1 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 27 | 72 | -- | 99 | (250) |
| <u>Travel Into DC</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 22% | 76% | 2% | 100% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 21 | 75 | 4 | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 16 | 84 | 1 | 101 | (240) |
| --South | 27 | 73 | 1 | 101 | (250) |
| <u>Travel Overseas</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 43% | 54% | 3% | 100% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 42 | 54 | 4 | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 45 | 52 | 3 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 46 | 53 | 1 | 100 | (250) |
| <u>Trust Arab Americans</u> | | | | | |
| September 2001 | 30% | 63% | 7% | 100% | (895) |
| <u>Region</u> | | | | | |
| --North | 30 | 63 | 8 | 101 | (390) |
| --Central | 27 | 67 | 7 | 101 | (240) |
| --South | 32 | 60 | 7 | 99 | (250) |

"Which of the following two statements best describes how you feel: In time things will get back to normal in the country and be pretty much like they were before the attack, or things will be different from this time on; the attack will bring some important permanent changes" [T8]

| | <u>Get Back to Normal</u> | <u>Different From This Time On</u> | <u>Both/ Depends</u> | <u>DK</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| September 2001 | 10% | 86% | 2% | 1% | 99% | (895) |
| <i>Region</i> | | | | | | |
| --North | 10 | 88 | 1 | 1 | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 13 | 82 | 3 | 2 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 9 | 88 | 2 | 1 | 100 | (250) |

"Do you think the United States should or should not take military action against whoever is responsible for the attacks?" [QT9]

| | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>DK</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| September 2001 | 86% | 7% | 7% | 100% | (895) |
| <i>Region</i> | | | | | |
| --North | 86 | 8 | 6 | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 83 | 8 | 9 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 91 | 3 | 6 | 100 | (250) |

ASKED OF THOSE WHO SUPPORT MILITARY ACTION:

"And do you think military action should or should not be taken even if it means that innocent people are killed?" [QT10]

| | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>DK</u> | <u>Said "No" to QT9</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| September 2001 | 65% | 17% | 11% | 7% | 100% | (895) |
| <i>Region</i> | | | | | | |
| --North | 65 | 18 | 10 | 8 | 101 | (390) |
| --Central | 58 | 23 | 11 | 8 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 74 | 13 | 10 | 3 | 100 | (250) |

"Do you think immigration and airport officials should treat travelers from Middle Eastern countries with more suspicion than they treat travelers from other countries, or should they be treated the same?" [T11]

| | <u>Suspicion</u> | <u>Same</u> | <u>DK</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| September 2001 | 40% | 56% | 4% | 100% | (895) |
| <i>Region</i> | | | | | |
| --North | 45 | 50 | 5 | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 37 | 59 | 3 | 99 | (240) |
| --South | 36 | 62 | 2 | 100 | (250) |

"Do you think immigration from the Middle East to the United States should be more restrictive than it is now, or should things remain as they are? IF YES: Should it be halted altogether, or just limited?" [T12]

| | <u>Yes, halted</u> | <u>Yes, limit it</u> | <u>No, remain as is</u> | <u>DK</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| September 2001 | 23% | 55% | 17% | 5% | 100% | (895) |
| <i>Region</i> | | | | | | |
| --North | 25 | 53 | 17 | 5 | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 22 | 55 | 17 | 6 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 23 | 58 | 16 | 4 | 101 | (250) |

"Do you think Americans will have to give up some of their personal freedoms in order for the country to effectively fight terrorism, or not?" [T13]

| | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>DK</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| September 2001 | 70% | 26% | 4% | 100% | (895) |
| <i>Region</i> | | | | | |
| --North | 71 | 26 | 3 | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 63 | 31 | 6 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 74 | 23 | 3 | 100 | (250) |

"Would you personally be willing to have your e-mail read or phone tapped without a warrant in order to effectively fight terrorism, or not?" [T14]

| | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>DK</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| September 2001 | 50% | 45% | 5% | 100% | (895) |
| <i>Region</i> | | | | | |
| --North | 54 | 40 | 5 | 99 | (390) |
| --Central | 46 | 49 | 4 | 99 | (240) |
| --South | 50 | 46 | 4 | 100 | (250) |

"How proud are you to be an American -- extremely proud, very proud, somewhat proud, or not very proud?" [T15]

| | <u>Extremely proud</u> | <u>Very proud</u> | <u>Somewhat proud</u> | <u>DK</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| September 2001 | 73% | 22% | 4% | 1% | 100% | (895) |
| <i>Region</i> | | | | | | |
| --North | 71 | 21 | 7 | 1 | 100 | (390) |
| --Central | 71 | 24 | 3 | 2 | 100 | (240) |
| --South | 77 | 20 | 2 | 1 | 100 | (250) |