

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

**EMBARGOED — NOT FOR RELEASE UNTIL: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1991**

**RELEASE: SL/EP 36-1 (EP 86-1)**

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## **RELEASE INFORMATION**

A story based on the survey findings presented in this release and background memo will appear in Sunday's *Star-Ledger*. Other newspapers may also use this information in their Sunday editions. Electronic media may release after 5:00 P.M. Saturday, November 2, 1991. We ask users to properly attribute this copyrighted information to "The Star-Ledger/Eagleton Poll".

## **REPUBLICAN TREND IN 1991 LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS**

Statewide, more New Jersey voters favor Republican than Democratic candidates for the State Senate and the Assembly. Interest in this election is up considerably from 1987, the last election when all 180 seats were contested. About 4-in-10 voters say they are very interested in the legislative races.

*The Star-Ledger/Eagleton Poll* conducted by telephone between October 22 and 30, 1991 with 539 New Jersey adults who say they are registered and will "definitely" or "probably" vote on election day also finds that voters feel Governor Jim Florio should be an issue in these legislative races. While close to a majority say that anti-Florio campaigns won't make a difference in their candidate choice, 35 percent report this tactic makes a candidate more likely to get their support. In addition, there does not seem to be an anti-incumbent feeling in the state. Only about 1-in-10 voters say they are less likely to vote for incumbents.

It should be noted that the results of a general statewide survey cannot be used to project what might happen in any of the 40 election districts. However, the statewide trend to vote for Republicans rather than Democrats is stronger than in any comparable election in the past ten years.

### **ATTENTION RADIO STATIONS:**

Audio is available after 5:00 P.M. on Saturday, November 2, 1991 from (908)932-3605 (Rutgers Feature Phone).

*THE 1991 SENATE AND ASSEMBLY ELECTION*

*THE SENATE RACES*

In the New Jersey Senate election, statewide the Republicans have a 9 point advantage over the Democrats. Forty-four percent report they will select a Republican compared to 35 percent who say they prefer a Democrat and 18 percent who have not decided on a candidate. In addition, 3 percent say they will vote for an independent candidate in their district. These results are a reversal of the Democratic statewide trend that was reported in the 1987 and 1983 elections for the State Senate. In 1987, the Democrats had an 8 point advantage over the Republicans with a 41 to 33 percent margin and 26 percent undecided; in 1983, 42 percent selected a Democratic candidate compared to 33 percent who said they would vote for a Republican.

When the undecided voters are asked to select a candidate they "lean" toward in the Senate race, the Republican advantage is 7 points over the Democrats by a margin of 47 to 40 percent; 10 percent continue to say they are undecided and 3 percent select an independent candidate.

Among those voters who identified the party of the candidate they plan to vote for, about 2-in-3 say they are sure about their choice. In addition, more than 6-in-10 report they had decided about their choice in the past month or earlier.

Republican Senate candidates are benefiting more than Democrats from partisan support. While 77 percent of those who favored Republican candidates in past legislative elections plan to vote for a Republican, 67 percent of prior Democratic voters will choose a Democrat. In addition, among the voters who have been non-partisan in past legislative elections, the Republican candidates had a 10 point advantage over the Democrats by a margin of 40 to 30 percent.

Gains for the Republican Senate candidates are likely to come from those voters who are most affected by the 1990 changes in New Jersey's tax programs. Republican candidates have a 2-to-1 advantage over Democratic candidates among married voters with household incomes that are \$70,000 or more. While 50 percent of this group plans to vote for a Republican Senate candidate, 26 percent will select a Democrat. Also, single voters with incomes of \$35,000 or more prefer Republicans to Democrats by a 46 to 38 percent margin. While married voters with incomes under \$70,000 were not a direct focus of the new tax programs, they also prefer Republican candidates over Democrats 42 to 37 percent. One group that is giving Democratic candidates more support than Republicans are those voters who are single and have incomes that are less than \$35,000. Among this group, Democrats have a 2-to-1 advantage with 51 percent saying they favor the Democratic candidate for State Senate and 26 percent the Republican.

On a regional basis, voters in North, Central, and South Jersey are all more likely to say they will vote for Republican rather than Democratic Senate candidates. However, voters in the northern part of the state (38%) are somewhat more likely to say they will select a Democratic candidate than those who live in Central (33%) or South Jersey (33%).

### *THE ASSEMBLY RACES*

The Republican trend in the New Jersey Assembly races is similar to the State Senate. Statewide, Republicans have a 6 point advantage over the Democrats. Forty percent report they will select Republican Assembly candidates compared to 34 percent who will vote for Democrats; 22 percent have not decided on a candidate. In addition, 5 percent say they will divide their votes between candidates for both parties or vote for independent candidates.

In 1987 and 1983 the statewide trend in the Assembly election was clearly Democratic. The Democrats had a 10 point advantage over the Republicans in 1987 with a 41 to 31 percent margin; in 1983 Democrats had an 8 point advantage with 42 percent giving a Democratic preference compared to 30 percent who said they would vote Republican.

When the undecided voters are asked to select an Assembly candidate they are currently "leaning" toward, the Republican advantage over the Democrats stays at 6 points by a margin of 45 to 39 percent with 12 percent undecided. Two percent say they will split their vote between candidates from each party and 2 percent prefer independent candidates.

Among those voters who identified the party of the candidates they plan to vote for, about 2-in-3 say they are sure about their choices. In addition, more than 6-in-10 report they decided their choice of candidates in the past month or earlier.

The Republican Assembly candidates are also getting more support from traditional Republican voters than the Democrats are giving to their candidates. Seventy-two percent of those who favored Republican candidates in past legislative elections plan to vote for a Republican compared to 66 percent of prior Democratic voters who will vote for that party's candidates. Among the voters who have been non-partisan in past legislative elections, the Republican candidates have an 11 point advantage over the Democrats by a margin of 36 to 25 percent.

Voters who are most affected by the 1990 changes in New Jersey's tax programs reflect the same trend in the Assembly as in the Senate elections. Republican Assembly candidates have close to

a 2-to-1 advantage over Democratic candidates among married voters with household incomes that are \$70,000 or more--48 percent plan to vote Republican compared to 25 percent Democratic. Also, single voters with incomes of \$35,000 or more prefer Republicans to Democrats by a margin of 41 to 36 percent. Among married voters with incomes under \$70,000 the partisan preference is close with 37 percent selecting Republicans and 36 percent Democrats. Similar to the Senate race, voters who are single and have incomes that are less than \$35,000 give Democrats a 2-to-1 advantage with 52 percent selecting Democrats and 25 percent Republicans.

Voters in North, Central, and South Jersey are all more likely to say they will vote for Republican rather than Democratic Assembly candidates. However, in the northern part of the state the support for Democrats (37%) and Republicans (39%) is very close. In Central Jersey Republicans have a 7 point advantage over Democrats by a 39 to 32 percent margin. The strongest Republican support is in South Jersey where 42 percent say they will select Republican candidates and 31 percent Democrats.

"Overall it looks like Republican candidates will have an advantage over their Democratic opponents in the 1991 legislative elections," said Janice Ballou, Director of the Poll. "The extent of the statewide Republican margin is a major shift from past legislative races in the 1980's."

Overall, similar to their partisan preference for candidates, more voters would like to see Republicans in control of the State Legislature than Democrats. While 45 percent say they would like to see a Republican legislature, 34 percent want the Democrats in control. This is a reversal from 1987 when 40 percent preferred a legislature controlled by the Democrats and 1983 when 43 percent wanted a Democratic legislature.

### *THE FLORIO FACTOR*

Even though he is not a candidate in this election, the programs and policies of Governor Jim Florio have been the focus of many legislative races throughout the state. A majority of voters thinks that the Governor should be an issue in the election. Fifty-four percent of the voters say the Governor should be an issue, 40 percent do not think he should.

As would be expected, voters who say they support Republican candidates for Senate and Assembly (71%) are more likely than those who support Democrats (35%) to feel the Governor should be a

campaign issue. In addition, among those voters who have not decided on legislative candidates, more than half say Florio should be a factor.

Overall, 47 percent feel that if a candidate campaigns against Governor Florio it will not make any difference in their candidate choice. However, 35 percent say they are "more likely" to vote for a candidate who campaigns against the Governor, compared to 13 percent who say they are "less likely." Among those who say they will select a Republican, half say they are more likely to support a candidate who campaigns against the Governor.

Ballou noted, "Many candidates have targeted Governor Florio as an issue in the legislative elections. These results suggest that this message has reached a majority of the voters. The anti-Florio theme reinforces what some voters already feel and therefore, they are the most likely to be influenced by this issue."

#### *THE INCUMBENCY FACTOR*

While there has been speculation that this legislative election might reflect a strong anti-incumbent climate, 64 percent of the voters say that a candidate's incumbent status will not make any difference. Only 13 percent say incumbency will make them "less likely" to support a candidate compared to 16 percent who say "more likely."

#### *AWARENESS AND INTEREST*

More voters express interest in this 1991 election than in similar past elections. Close to 9-in-10 voters say they are "very" (43%) or "somewhat" (44%) interested in the outcome of the election. In comparison, in 1987, 30 percent were "very interested" and only 21 percent felt this way in 1983.

While 53 percent say they have read or heard "a great deal" (11%) or "some" (42%) about the election, 35 percent say "not much" and 11 percent "nothing at all." However, without assistance, about 4-in-10 could identify the specific state offices that were up for election, while 6-in-10 could not.

With respect to their current knowledge about the composition of the state legislature, about 6-in-10 identify Democrats as being in control compared to 20 percent who say Republicans are the majority party and 23 percent who did not know. While 42 percent of the voters think their district is represented by both Democrats and Republicans, 23 percent say they have Democratic legislators, 16 percent Republican, and 19 percent do not know the party of their district representatives.

BACKGROUND MEMO--RELEASE SL/EP36-1 (EP86-1), SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1991

**NOTE:** This release on the election is based on New Jerseyans who are "likely" voters. These are people who say they are registered to vote and who report they will definitely or probably vote.

The latest *Star-Ledger*/Eagleton Poll was conducted between October 22 and October 30, 1991, when a random sample of 800 New Jerseyans, 18 years and older, was interviewed by telephone. This release reports the results for the 539 respondents who reported being registered to vote and saying they would "definitely" or "probably" vote in November's election. Figures based on this sample size are subject to a sampling error of about  $\pm 4.3$  percent. Sampling error is the probable difference in results between interviewing everyone in the population versus a scientific sample taken from that population. Sampling error does not take into account other possible sources of error inherent in any study of public opinion. The questions and figures referred to in this release are presented below. The location of each question on the actual questionnaire is in brackets.

"Which party controls the New Jersey State Legislature--the Republicans or the Democrats?" [Q.3]

|                      | <u>Democrats</u> | <u>Republicans</u> | <u>Don't Know</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>October, 1991</b> |                  |                    |                   |              |            |
| <b>Likely Voters</b> |                  | 57%                |                   | 20%          | 23%        |
|                      |                  | 100%               | (539)             |              |            |

"Are you aware of what state offices are up for election in November? Which ones?" [Q.4]

|                      | <u>State Senators</u> | <u>State Assembly</u> | <u>State Legislature/<br/>Both Senate<br/>and Assembly</u> | <u>Other</u> | <u>Don't Know</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------|-------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>October, 1991</b> |                       |                       |  |              |                   |              |            |
| <b>Likely Voters</b> |                       | 10%                   |  | 5%           |                   | 23%          | 3%         |
|                      |                       | 60%                   |  | 101%         | (539)             |              |            |

"Do you know if the people from your district who represent you in the Legislature are Democrats, Republicans or both?" [Q.6]

|                      | <u>Democrats</u> | <u>Republicans</u> | <u>Both</u> | <u>Don't Know</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>October, 1991</b> |                  |                    |             |                   |              |            |
| <b>Likely Voters</b> |                  | 23%                |             | 16%               |              | 42%        |
|                      |                  | 19%                |             | 100%              | (539)        |            |

**PAST SURVEYS**

|               |    |    |    |    |     |       |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|-----|-------|
| October, 1987 | 10 | 13 | 51 | 26 | 100 | (500) |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|-----|-------|

"In November, there will be an election for the representatives from your district in the State Senate and Assembly. How much have you read or heard about this election--a great deal, some, not much, or nothing at all?" [Q.9]

|                      | <u>A</u><br><u>Great Deal</u> | <u>Some</u> | <u>Not</u><br><u>Much</u> | <u>Nothing</u><br><u>At All</u> | <u>Don't</u><br><u>Know</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>October, 1991</b> |                               |             |                           |                                 |                             |              |            |
| <b>Likely Voters</b> |                               | 11%         |                           | 42%                             |                             | 35%          | 11%        |
|                      |                               | --          |                           | 99%                             | (539)                       |              |            |

"How interested are you in the outcome of the election for the New Jersey State Assembly and Senate--very interested, somewhat interested, not very interested, or not at all interested?" [Q.11a]

|                      | <u>Very</u><br><u>Interested</u> | <u>Somewhat</u><br><u>Interested</u> | <u>Not Very</u><br><u>Interested</u> | <u>Not At All</u><br><u>Interested</u> | <u>Don't</u><br><u>Know</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>Likely Voters</b> |                                  | 43%                                  |                                      | 44%                                    |                             | 9%           | 3%         |
|                      |                                  | 1%                                   |                                      | 100%                                   | (539)                       |              |            |

**PAST SURVEYS**

|               |    |           |    |     |   |     |       |
|---------------|----|-----------|----|-----|---|-----|-------|
| October, 1987 | 30 | 49        | 15 | 3   | 3 | 100 | (760) |
| October, 1983 | 21 | \ /<br>60 |    | 19* | 1 | 101 | (611) |

\*Category of 'not very' and 'not at all' interested were combined on earlier surveys.

"Which party would you rather see in control of the State Legislature, the Democrats or the Republicans/" [Q.11b]

|                            | <u>Democrats</u> | <u>Republicans</u> | <u>Neither/</u><br><u>No Difference</u> | <u>Don't</u><br><u>Know</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------|---|-----------------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>Likely Voters</b>       |                  | 34%                |   | 45%                         |              | 12%        |
|                            |                  | 9%                 |   | 100%                        | (539)        |            |
| <b><u>PAST SURVEYS</u></b> |                  |                    |   |                             |              |            |
| October, 1987              | 40               | 35                 | 15                                      | 10                          | 100          | (760)      |
| October, 1983              | 43               | 32                 | 19                                      | 7                           | 101          | (568)      |

1991 STATE SENATE ELECTION

"If the election were held today, would you vote for the Democratic or Republican candidate for the State Senate from your district?" [Q.12]

|                                     | <u>Democratic</u> | <u>Republican</u> | <u>Independent</u> | <u>Don't Know</u>          | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>Likely Voters</b>                | <b>18%</b>        | <b>35%</b>        | <b>100%</b>        | <b>44%</b><br><b>(538)</b> |              | <b>3%</b>  |
| <b><u>PAST SURVEYS</u></b>          |                   |                   |                    |                            |              |            |
| October, 1987                       | 41                | 33                | --                 | 26                         | 100          | (723)      |
| October, 1983                       | 42                | 33                | --                 | 26                         | 101          | (569)      |
| October, 1981                       | 36                | 27                | --                 | 37                         | 100          | (547)      |
| <b><u>Party ID</u></b>              |                   |                   |                    |                            |              |            |
| --Democrat                          | 80                | 7                 | 2                  | 11                         | 100          | (162)      |
| --Independent                       | 28                | 36                | 6                  | 30                         | 100          | (187)      |
| --Republican                        | 3                 | 88                | 1                  | 8                          | 100          | (177)      |
| <b><u>Region</u></b>                |                   |                   |                    |                            |              |            |
| --North                             | 38                | 42                | 3                  | 17                         | 100          | (252)      |
| --Central                           | 33                | 46                | 3                  | 19                         | 101          | (153)      |
| --South                             | 33                | 44                | 4                  | 19                         | 100          | (133)      |
| <b><u>Marital Status/Income</u></b> |                   |                   |                    |                            |              |            |
| --Single/under \$35,000             | 51                | 26                | 4                  | 20                         | 101          | (78)       |
| --Single/\$35,000 and over          | 38                | 46                | 5                  | 10                         | 99           | (82)       |
| --Married/under \$70,000            | 37                | 42                | 3                  | 18                         | 100          | (164)      |
| --Married/\$70,000 and over         | 26                | 50                | --                 | 24                         | 100          | (103)      |
| <b><u>Candidate Favored</u></b>     |                   |                   |                    |                            |              |            |
| <b><u>In Past Elections</u></b>     |                   |                   |                    |                            |              |            |
| --Democrat                          | 67                | 16                | 2                  | 15                         | 100          | (213)      |
| --Republican                        | 7                 | 77                | 2                  | 14                         | 100          | (198)      |
| --Depends on Candidate              | 30                | 40                | 8                  | 23                         | 101          | (101)      |

ASKED OF "UNDECIDED" VOTERS:

"Are you leaning more toward the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?" [Q.13]

|                                | <u>Democratic</u> | <u>Republican</u>         | <u>Don't Know/<br/>Neither</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>Undecided Likely Voters</b> |                   | <b>24%</b><br><b>100%</b> | <b>(96)</b>                    | <b>20%</b>   | <b>56%</b> |



ASKED OF "DECIDED" VOTERS:

"Are you very sure about your choice, or might you change your mind before election day?" [Q.14a]

|                      | <u>Sure<br/>About Choice</u> | <u>Might<br/>Change Mind</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>Likely Voters</b> | 65%                          | 100%                         | (445)        | 35%        |

"When did you decide who you would vote for--in the last few days, in the last couple of weeks, in the last month or two, or did you know all along?" [Q.14b]

|                      | <u>Last<br/>Few Days</u> | <u>Last<br/>Couple<br/>Of Weeks</u> | <u>Last Month<br/>Or Two</u> | <u>Earlier/<br/>Known<br/>All Along</u> | <u>Don't<br/>Know</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|-----------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>Likely Voters</b> |                          | 10%                                 | 14%                          | 15%                                     | 101%                  | (444)        | 17%        |
|                      |                          |                                     |                              |   |                       |              | 45%        |

1991 STATE SENATE VOTE CHOICE WITH UNDECIDED INDICATING "LEANING"

|                                      | <u>Democratic</u> | <u>Republican</u> | <u>Independent</u> | <u>Undecided/<br/>Don't Know</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b><u>With Leaners Included:</u></b> |                   |                   |                    |                                  |              |            |
| <b>Likely Voters</b>                 | 10%               | 40%               | 100%               | 47%                              | (537)        | 3%         |

PAST SURVEYS

|               |    |    |    |    |     |       |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|-----|-------|
| October, 1987 | 47 | 38 | -- | 15 | 100 | (706) |
| October, 1983 | 49 | 39 | -- | 12 | 100 | (569) |

1991 STATE SENATE VOTE CHOICE WITH "FIRMNESS" OF VOTE AND "LEANING" CHOICE

|                      | <u>Firm<br/>Democratic</u> | <u>Soft<br/>Dem.</u> | <u>Lean<br/>Dem.</u> | <u>Undecided</u> | <u>Lean<br/>Republican</u> | <u>Soft<br/>Rep.</u> | <u>Firm<br/>Rep.</u> | <u>Independent</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>Likely Voters</b> | 23%                        | 29%                  | 12%                  | 3%               | 4%                         | 99%                  | (537)                | 10%                | 4%           | 14%        |

**1991 STATE ASSEMBLY ELECTION**

"If the election were held today, would you vote for the Democratic or Republican candidates for State Assembly?" [Q.15]

|   | <u>Democratic</u> | <u>Republican</u> | <u>Other</u> | <u>Don't Know</u>          | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>Likely Voters</b>                                | <b>22%</b>        | <b>34%</b>        | <b>101%</b>  | <b>40%</b><br><b>(539)</b> |              | <b>5%</b>  |
| <b><u>PAST SURVEYS</u></b>                          |                   |                   |              |                            |              |            |
| October, 1987                                       | 41                | 31                | 2            | 25                         | 99           | (722)      |
| October, 1983                                       | 42                | 30                | 3            | 24                         | 99           | (568)      |
| <i><u>Party ID</u></i>                              |                   |                   |              |                            |              |            |
| --Democrat  | 80                | 4                 | 4            | 13                         | 101          | (162)      |
| --Independent                                       | 26                | 30                | 9            | 36                         | 101          | (188)      |
| --Republican  | 3                 | 84                | 2            | 12                         | 101          | (177)      |
| <i><u>Region</u></i>                                |                   |                   |              |                            |              |            |
| --North   | 37                | 39                | 4            | 20                         | 100          | (252)      |
| --Central   | 32                | 39                | 6            | 23                         | 100          | (153)      |
| --South   | 31                | 42                | 3            | 24                         | 100          | (133)      |
| <i><u>Marital Status/<br/>Income</u></i>            |                   |                   |              |                            |              |            |
| --Single/Under \$35,000                             | 52                | 25                | 6            | 18                         | 101          | (78)       |
| --Single/\$35,000 and over                          | 36                | 41                | 6            | 17                         | 100          | (82)       |
| --Married/Under \$70,000                            | 36                | 37                | 3            | 24                         | 100          | (164)      |
| --Married/\$70,000 and over                         | 27                | 48                | 1            | 25                         | 101          | (104)      |
| <i><u>Candidate Favor<br/>In Past Elections</u></i> |                   |                   |              |                            |              |            |
| --Democratic  | 66                | 12                | 5            | 17                         | 100          | (213)      |
| --Republican  | 7                 | 72                | 2            | 19                         | 100          | (199)      |
| --Depends on Candidate                              | 25                | 36                | 8            | 31                         | 100          | (101)      |

**ASKED OF "UNDECIDED" VOTERS:**

"Are you leaning more toward the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?" [Q.16]

|                                | <u>Democratic</u> | <u>Republican</u>         | <u>Don't Know<br/>Neither</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>Undecided Likely Voters</b> |                   | <b>24%</b><br><b>100%</b> | <b>(122)</b>                  | <b>23%</b>   | <b>53%</b> |

ASKED OF "DECIDED" VOTERS:

"Are you very sure about your choice, or might you change your mind before election day?" [Q.17a]

|                      | <u>Sure<br/>About Choice</u> | <u>Might<br/>Change Mind</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>Likely Voters</b> | <b>68%</b><br><b>100%</b>    |                              | <b>(419)</b> | <b>32%</b> |

"When did you decide who you would vote for--in the last few days, in the last couple of weeks, in the last month or two, or did you know all along?" [Q.17b]

|                      | <u>Last<br/>Few Days</u> | <u>Last<br/>Couple<br/>Of Weeks</u> | <u>Last Month<br/>Or Two</u> | <u>Earlier/<br/>Known<br/>All Along</u> | <u>Don't<br/>Know</u> | <u>Total</u>               | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>Likely Voters</b> |                          | <b>10%</b><br><b>10%</b>            |                              | <b>19%</b><br><b>100%</b>               |                       | <b>15%</b><br><b>(418)</b> | <b>46%</b> |

1991 STATE ASSEMBLY VOTE CHOICE WITH UNDECIDED INDICATING "LEANING"

|                               | <u>Democratic</u> | <u>Undecided</u>        | <u>Republican</u> | <u>Split</u>              | <u>Independent</u> | <u>Total</u>               | <u>(n)</u> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| <i>With Leaners Included:</i> |                   |                         |                   |                           |                    |                            |            |
| <b>Likely Voters</b>          |                   | <b>39%</b><br><b>2%</b> |                   | <b>12%</b><br><b>100%</b> |                    | <b>45%</b><br><b>(538)</b> | <b>2%</b>  |

PAST SURVEYS

|               |    |    |    |   |    |     |       |
|---------------|----|----|----|---|----|-----|-------|
| October, 1987 | 45 | 15 | 37 | 2 | -- | 100 | (721) |
| October, 1983 | 49 | 14 | 35 | 3 | -- | 101 | (568) |

STATE ASSEMBLY VOTE CHOICE WITH "FIRMNESS" OF VOTE

|                      | <u>Firm<br/>Democratic</u> | <u>Soft<br/>Dem.</u>     | <u>Leans<br/>Dem.</u> | <u>Undecided</u>        | <u>Leans<br/>Republican</u> | <u>Soft<br/>Rep.</u>   | <u>Firm<br/>Rep.</u> | <u>Independent</u>        | <u>Split</u> | <u>Total</u>              | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|------------|
| <b>Likely Voters</b> |                            | <b>22%</b><br><b>28%</b> |                       | <b>12%</b><br><b>2%</b> |                             | <b>5%</b><br><b>3%</b> |                      | <b>12%</b><br><b>100%</b> |              | <b>5%</b><br><b>(538)</b> | <b>11%</b> |

"And in past elections, did you usually favor the Democratic or the Republican candidates for the State Legislature in Trenton? [Q.18]

|                                | <u>Democratic</u> | <u>Republican</u> | <u>Depends On Candidate</u> | <u>Not Eligible</u> | <u>Don't Know</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------|
| Likely Voters                  |                   | 39%<br>4%         |                             | 37%<br>100%         |                   | 19%          | 1%         |
| <i>Senate Vote Intention</i>   |                   |                   |                             |                     |                   |              |            |
| --Democratic                   | 75                | 7                 | 16                          | 1                   | 1                 | 100          | (213)      |
| --Undecided                    | 25                | 31                | 27                          | 2                   | 16                | 101          | (52)       |
| --Republican                   | 14                | 64                | 18                          | 1                   | 3                 | 100          | (255)      |
| <i>Assembly Vote Intention</i> |                   |                   |                             |                     |                   |              |            |
| --Democratic                   | 77                | 7                 | 14                          | 1                   | 1                 | 100          | (184)      |
| --Undecided                    | 30                | 27                | 29                          | 3                   | 10                | 99           | (63)       |
| --Republican                   | 12                | 67                | 17                          | --                  | 3                 | 99           | (213)      |

"Some of the candidates for the State Assembly and Senate have been campaigning against Governor Jim Florio. In your opinion, should Governor Jim Florio be an issue in the election for State Senate and Assembly or not?" [Q.19]

|                                | <u>Yes, Should Be An Issue</u> | <u>No, Should Not Be An Issue</u> | <u>Don't Know</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>Likely Voters</b>           |                                | <b>54%</b><br><b>100%</b>         |                   | <b>40%</b>   | <b>6%</b>  |
|                                |                                |                                   | <b>(539)</b>      |              |            |
| <i>Senate Vote Intention</i>   |                                |                                   |                   |              |            |
| --Democratic                   | 35                             | 57                                | 8                 | 100          | (213)      |
| --Undecided                    | 56                             | 33                                | 12                | 101          | (52)       |
| --Republican                   | 71                             | 26                                | 3                 | 100          | (255)      |
| <i>Assembly Vote Intention</i> |                                |                                   |                   |              |            |
| --Democratic                   | 35                             | 58                                | 7                 | 100          | (184)      |
| --Undecided                    | 51                             | 36                                | 13                | 100          | (63)       |
| --Republican                   | 71                             | 25                                | 4                 | 100          | (213)      |

"If a candidate in your district campaigns against Governor Jim Florio, will this make you more likely to support that candidate, less likely to support that candidate, or won't it make any difference?" [Q.20]

|                      | <u>More<br/>Likely</u> | <u>Less<br/>Likely</u> | <u>No<br/>Difference</u> | <u>Don't<br/>Know</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u> |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------|
| <b>Likely Voters</b> |                        | <b>35%<br/>6%</b>      |                          | <b>13%<br/>101%</b>   | <b>(539)</b> | <b>47%</b> |
| <i>Senate Vote</i>   |                        |                        |                          |                       |              |            |
| <u>Intention</u>     |                        |                        |                          |                       |              |            |
| --Democratic         | 19                     | 26                     | 49                       | 6                     | 100          | (213)      |
| --Undecided          | 20                     | 12                     | 61                       | 7                     | 100          | (52)       |
| --Republican         | 51                     | 3                      | 42                       | 4                     | 100          | (255)      |
| <i>Assembly Vote</i> |                        |                        |                          |                       |              |            |
| <u>Intention</u>     |                        |                        |                          |                       |              |            |
| --Democratic         | 18                     | 25                     | 48                       | 9                     | 100          | (184)      |
| --Undecided          | 23                     | 7                      | 61                       | 9                     | 100          | (63)       |
| --Republican         | 51                     | 2                      | 42                       | 5                     | 100          | (213)      |

"And, if a candidate in your district is an incumbent--that is someone who currently holds that position--will this make you more likely to support that candidate, less likely to support that candidate, or won't it make any difference?" [Q.21]

|                      | <u>More<br/>Likely</u> | <u>Less<br/>Likely</u> | <u>No<br/>Difference</u> | <u>Don't<br/>Know</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>(n)</u>   |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Likely Voters        |                        | 16%<br>6%              |                          | 13%<br>99%            |              | 64%<br>(539) |
| <i>Senate Vote</i>   |                        |                        |                          |                       |              |              |
| <u>Intention</u>     |                        |                        |                          |                       |              |              |
| --Democratic         | 18                     | 14                     | 64                       | 4                     | 100          | (213)        |
| --Undecided          | 2                      | 14                     | 80                       | 4                     | 100          | (52)         |
| --Republican         | 17                     | 12                     | 62                       | 9                     | 100          | (255)        |
| <i>Assembly Vote</i> |                        |                        |                          |                       |              |              |
| <u>Intention</u>     |                        |                        |                          |                       |              |              |
| --Democratic         | 20                     | 14                     | 63                       | 3                     | 100          | (184)        |
| --Undecided          | 8                      | 15                     | 69                       | 8                     | 100          | (63)         |
| --Republican         | 17                     | 13                     | 62                       | 8                     | 100          | (213)        |