Penn, Schoen & Berland Associates, Inc.

NJASCU Survey

October 06, 2009

Methodology

Penn, Schoen and Berland Associates, LLC, conducted online interviews from September 30 to October 5, 2009 among 671 likely 2009 Gubernatorial election voters in New Jersey. The margin of error for the entire sample is +/- 3.78 at the 95% confidence level.

Note: All numbers cited represent percentages (%). Some percentages add to more or less than 100% due to rounding error.

Findings

1. In general, would you say that things in the country are headed in the right direction or are they off on the wrong track?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Right direction	46	50	43	55	54	44	42	42	73	19	45	38
Wrong track	54	50	57	45	46	56	58	58	27	81	55	62

2. In general, would you say that things in New Jersey are headed in the right direction or are they off on the wrong track?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Right direction	28	28	27	54	48	16	23	30	40	14	27	19
Wrong track	72	72	73	46	52	84	77	70	60	86	73	81

3. In your opinion, what would you say is the most important issue facing New Jersey today?

% "Very Important"	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Taxes	**86**	**83**	**89**	**64**	**74**	**90**	**91**	**91**	**80**	**91**	**87**	**89**
State spending	76	73	80	62	71	77	81	81	66	87	76	79
Corruption in state government	75	72	79	64	72	75	78	80	69	80	77	79
Unemployment /Jobs	75	69	81	75	71	75	75	80	80	70	76	77
Budget issues	71	68	74	69	66	71	74	69	65	73	75	70
Healthcare	61	50	72	69	61	62	54	66	75	51	56	59
Education including higher education	**53**	**48**	**59**	**67**	**59**	**55**	**46**	**48**	**59**	**48**	**52**	**61**
Transportation, highways and roads	34	35	33	32	32	35	37	31	35	32	35	36

Note: showing only "very important"

4. If you had to pick just one which issue is the MOST important issue facing New Jersey today?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Taxes	44	42	46	16	36	47	55	44	34	52	47	48
Unemployment /Jobs	24	26	22	32	27	22	20	26	34	13	24	23
Corruption in state government	13	13	13	10	13	12	12	17	8	18	12	14
Healthcare	6	4	8	17	9	5	4	3	8	6	4	4
State spending	5	6	4	7	4	7	2	5	2	6	6	5
Budget issues	4	5	3	5	4	4	3	4	6	2	3	3
Education including higher education	2	2	2	9	2	2	1	0	4	1	1	1
Transportation, highways, and roads	1	2	0	4	2	0	1	0	2	1	1	0
Other	1	1	2	0	2	2	1	0	1	1	2	2

5. In your opinion, how important are New Jersey state colleges and universities to keeping good jobs in New Jersey?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Very important	44	42	45	67	47	47	36	33	52	38	40	49
Somewhat important	42	43	41	22	47	43	39	50	37	45	43	39
Not very important	13	15	12	10	4	9	22	17	10	16	14	11
Not at all important	2	1	2	0	2	1	4	0	1	1	3	1

6. In your opinion, how important are New Jersey state colleges and universities to keeping New Jersey families in New Jersey?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Very important	37	33	41	54	37	41	29	33	41	35	35	43
Somewhat important	42	44	40	32	47	43	42	38	46	39	40	41
Not very important	18	21	16	14	13	14	22	27	12	24	20	14
Not at all important	3	2	4	0	3	2	6	2	2	3	5	2

7. If the election for Governor and Lieutenant Governor was held today for whom would you vote?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Republicans **Chris Christie** and Kim Guadagno	43	44	42	30	40	44	44	48	13	77	40	47
Democrats **Jon Corzine** and Loretta Weinberg	38	40	36	55	44	33	33	41	74	9	28	34
Independents **Chris Daggett** and Frank Esposito	16	13	18	15	14	20	17	7	13	11	25	16
Other	3	3	3	0	2	3	6	4	1	3	7	4

8. Which of the candidates do you think has the best plan for college opportunity and to keep higher education affordable in the State of New Jersey?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Democrats **Jon Corzine** and Loretta Weinberg	33	34	31	53	40	30	26	31	64	7	25	29
Republicans **Chris Christie** and Kim Guadagno	24	25	24	18	30	30	19	22	8	47	19	29
Independents **Chris Daggett** and Frank Esposito	9	7	10	9	7	10	9	8	5	7	15	8
None of the above	34	34	34	20	22	31	47	38	23	39	42	34

9. From what you have seen, read, or heard, do students get an excellent, good, fair or poor education at the nine state colleges and universities?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Excellent	18	15	22	12	17	16	22	23	20	20	15	20
Good	64	67	61	72	67	63	62	62	66	61	65	62
Fair	16	15	16	15	14	20	12	15	13	17	18	16
Poor	2	2	2	1	2	2	4	0	2	2	2	2

10. What do you think is the correct percentage of out-of-state students attending the nine state colleges and universities?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Less than 10%	16	14	17	15	15	19	10	22	16	13	20	17
Between 11% and 20%	39	41	36	33	31	38	41	47	35	40	42	38
Between 21% and 30%	33	32	33	43	39	33	30	25	36	30	31	32
Between 31% and 40%	10	11	9	9	15	8	15	4	12	12	6	12
41% or more	2	1	4	0	0	3	4	3	1	5	1	1

11. If Trenton had more control over state colleges and universities would people from New Jersey have greater or less college opportunity?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Greater opportunity with more state control	44	44	43	61	54	40	31	46	59	32	38	39
Less opportunity with more state control	56	56	57	39	46	60	69	54	41	68	62	61

12. If Trenton had more control over New Jersey's nine state colleges and universities, would they be more or less subject to political interference?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
More subject to interference	87	92	82	79	82	82	91	96	85	87	90	88
Less subject to interference	13	8	18	21	18	18	9	4	15	13	10	12

13. Some people say that less government bureaucracy and less state regulation would help the colleges and universities to be more efficient and serve students better. Do you…

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Strongly agree	34	39	30	37	22	31	43	34	19	58	25	36
Somewhat agree	47	43	51	41	62	54	42	31	53	34	55	52
Somewhat disagree	18	18	18	15	16	15	14	35	26	9	19	12
Strongly disagree	1	1	1	7	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0

14. If the state was going to invest more money annually to support higher education and serve more New Jersey students, who should decide how to spend the money?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Let the governor and legislature decide how to spend the money	11	15	7	28	14	10	6	12	15	7	12	9
Let state agencies in Trenton decide how to spend the money	10	9	12	5	12	13	15	0	14	6	12	9
Let non-partisan boards of trustees of each college and college presidents decide how to spend the money	79	76	81	66	74	78	80	88	71	87	77	81

15. Whom do you trust the most to assure that the nine state colleges and universities make future progress in terms of college affordability, quality and accountability?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
The Governor of New Jersey	12	13	11	23	12	9	7	20	17	6	12	10
The New Jersey State Legislature	17	17	18	21	21	20	16	8	25	13	14	17
State college/ university presidents and their nonpartisan trustee boards	71	70	71	56	67	71	77	72	58	81	74	74

16. How much do you think tuition and required educational fees cost per year at the typical New Jersey state college or university?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
$5, 000 - $10, 000	13	10	15	20	14	12	13	9	17	9	12	14
$10, 001 - $15, 000	32	37	28	39	30	33	31	32	30	33	33	32
$15, 001 - $20, 000	33	30	36	20	31	34	35	37	33	31	35	32
$20, 001 or more	22	22	22	20	25	21	22	22	20	27	19	22

17. In your opinion, how affordable is the cost of an education at the nine state colleges and universities when you consider the cost of tuition and required educational fees?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Very affordable	9	13	5	15	10	7	7	10	9	9	8	9
Somewhat affordable	43	43	42	53	40	39	47	37	43	44	40	40
Not very affordable	38	36	41	29	40	40	33	47	37	37	42	38
Not at all affordable	10	8	13	3	10	13	12	6	11	9	11	13

18. In your opinion, what is the main cause for recent increases in state college tuition?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
The bad economy and state budget cuts	45	41	49	52	47	49	38	43	50	41	43	44
Inability of colleges to cut back on spending	18	22	13	13	17	14	19	27	14	16	23	15
Rising costs of new programs and technology	19	19	19	17	21	19	18	19	20	20	16	20
State-mandated costs and regulation	19	18	19	18	16	19	25	10	15	23	18	21

19. Is the cost of tuition at New Jersey state colleges and universities a lot more affordable, somewhat more affordable, somewhat less affordable, or a lot less affordable than it was 2 to 3 years ago?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
A lot more affordable	3	4	2	7	6	3	2	0	6	2	0	2
Somewhat more affordable	4	6	3	7	10	4	3	1	4	4	5	4
About the same	21	20	22	29	16	20	21	24	24	26	12	19
Somewhat less affordable	53	53	53	38	54	51	60	54	49	51	61	55
A lot less affordable	18	17	19	20	14	21	14	21	16	17	22	19

20. New Jersey spends at least twice as much per student per year on K-12 education compared to per student spending for higher education at state colleges and universities. Would you say…

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
New Jersey **should spend at least as much** to educate a college student as it does to educate a K-12 student	38	35	41	41	42	43	30	35	39	39	36	43
New Jersey **should spend more** to educate a college student than the current amount but not as much as it spends to educate a K-12 student	28	31	25	40	31	24	28	26	31	23	29	26
The current amount New Jersey spends to educate a college student is **about what it should be** compared to spending on a K-12 student	34	34	35	20	27	34	41	39	30	38	35	31

21. How available is financial aid for most students at New Jersey state colleges and universities? Would you say it is available to almost all students, available to most students, available to some students, or available to only a few students?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Available to almost all students	11	11	11	9	9	15	8	10	12	9	11	11
Available to most students	30	39	22	50	32	23	27	41	34	24	34	24
Available to some students	46	42	49	27	53	50	45	43	43	50	43	49
Available to only a few students	13	8	18	14	6	13	21	7	11	16	12	15

22. Which comes closer to your view? Financial aid to New Jersey state colleges and universities...

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Benefits people like me and my family	31	33	30	53	43	34	25	13	42	23	29	34
Benefits others but not me or my family	69	67	70	47	57	66	75	87	58	77	71	66

23. Which comes closer to your view?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Qualified New Jersey students, applying to a New Jersey state college or University of their choice, **usually get admitted.**	61	64	58	71	68	62	57	52	67	57	57	58
Many qualified New Jersey applicants **get turned away** from the New Jersey state college or university of their choosing	39	36	42	29	32	38	43	48	33	43	43	42

24. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements?

%Strongly Agree %Agree/%Disagree	All (%)	Gender		Age				
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+
New Jersey students should have the opportunity to live on campus at the state college or university of their choice.	42 92/9	37 90/10	46 93/7	60 93/6	47 95/4	43 91/9	43 90/10	20 93/8
New Jersey needs to expand the capacity of the state colleges and universities to keep our brightest students here.	35 82/18	34 81/19	37 83/17	30 83/17	36 80/20	39 87/13	39/ 81/19	25 77/23
Expanding access to the state's colleges and universities will help create new jobs, new businesses, and improve New Jersey's economy.	32 86/13	28 86/13	36 87/13	37 85/15	40 89/10	34 87/13	30 86/15	23 88/12
The New Jersey economy is losing hundreds of millions of dollars a year because New Jersey students are forced to go to out of state schools.	21 67/33	22 64/36	20 69/30	17 66/34	20 76/24	20 68/32	22 64/36	23 61/40
There are too few seats in New Jersey's state colleges and universities.	14 62/38	12 62/39	17 63/38	27 68/32	11 62/38	11 65/35	16 63/37	12 53/47

Question 24 continued…

%Strongly Agree %Agree/%Disagree	All (%)	Party ID			With Children Under 25
		D	R	I	
New Jersey students should have the opportunity to live on campus at the state college or university of their choice.	42 92/9	52 95/6	34 89/11	39 93/7	47 92/9
New Jersey needs to expand the capacity of the state colleges and universities to keep our brightest students here.	35 82/18	42 90/9	26 76/24	37 79/20	44 88/13
Expanding access to the state's colleges and universities will help create new jobs, new businesses, and improve New Jersey's economy.	32 86/13	44 91/9	24 82/17	27 87/14	36 89/12
The New Jersey economy is losing hundreds of millions of dollars a year because New Jersey students are forced to go to out of state schools.	21 67/33	25 67/33	20 67/33	17 66/34	23 74/26
There are too few seats in New Jersey's state colleges and universities.	14 62/38	19 68/32	9 57/43	14 61/39	17 69/31

25. NJ leads the nation in losing high school graduates to out of state institutions. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose state investment in new academic facilities to keep more college-bound high school graduates in New Jersey?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Strongly support	30	28	31	33	30	30	26	33	37	23	28	34
Somewhat support	51	50	51	46	57	53	48	47	51	51	50	51
Somewhat oppose	13	14	12	15	8	11	17	13	9	16	13	10
Strongly oppose	7	8	6	6	5	7	9	7	3	10	9	6

26. Last year, the State of New Jersey decided to appropriate $3.9 billion on K-12 school construction. Currently there is no state plan to invest funds on higher education facilities construction nor has there been such a plan over the past decade. Going forward, how much should the state spend on higher education facilities over the next decade?

	All (%)	Gender		Age					Party ID			With Children Under 25
		M	F	18-24	25-34	35-49	49-64	65+	D	R	I	
Nothing -- as it does now	23	23	23	15	16	24	25	29	15	34	21	22
About one third of what it is spending on school construction: $1.3 billion	41	45	37	38	55	35	38	48	44	39	40	38
About two thirds of what it is spending on school construction: $2.6 billion	19	17	20	23	15	22	16	18	23	14	19	19
About the same as what it is spending on school construction: $3.9 billion	17	14	20	23	14	19	21	5	18	14	20	20