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EDITOR'S NOTE: ATTENTION POLITICAL, ASSIGNMENT EDITORS, Professor David Redlawsk may be contacted at 319-400-1134, 732-932-9384, ext. 285, or redlawsk@rutgers.edu Visit <http://eagletonpollblog.wordpress.com> for additional commentary.

**RUTGERS-EAGLETON POLL: ROMNEY LEADS SANTORUM
AS TOP GOP CONTENDER IN NEW JERSEY BUT WOULD LOSE TO OBAMA**

Voters call economy/jobs most important issues

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J – With just over three months until the New Jersey primary and nine months from the presidential election, New Jersey Republicans continue to prefer former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney as their standard-bearer in the battle against President Barack Obama. But Romney has yet to solidify his support here, according to a new Rutgers-Eagleton Poll.

While about a third (36 percent) of GOP voters and “leaners” favor Romney, former U.S. senator, Pennsylvanian Rick Santorum has risen to second at 19 percent. The two are followed by former U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Texas Representative Ron Paul, each of whom claims support from 11 percent of Republicans. Another 14 percent say they would prefer “someone else” not in the field or none of the choices, and 8 percent are unsure.

“Romney has yet to break 40 percent here, reflecting the continued uncertainty about him among Republicans,” said poll Director David Redlawsk, a professor of political science at Rutgers University. “As in other states, we have seen Santorum rise from nearly nothing to become a contender. But for the moment Romney remains well out front in the GOP field.”

Jobs and the economy are the most important issues in their choice for president among a majority of respondents, Redlawsk observed. At the same time, most want a strong leader, someone who shares their values and “cares about people like them.” These desired characteristics aside, a majority also wants a president who will compromise.

In a general election matchup, Obama would beat Romney in New Jersey by 25 percentage points, 56 percent to 31 percent. He led Romney by 19 points in December. “As the president’s favorability ratings and job performance grade improve, he has also improved his electoral position,” noted Redlawsk. “While New Jersey isn’t necessarily in the bag for the president, he has certainly pulled ahead in this traditionally blue state.”

Results are from a poll of 914 registered voters conducted statewide among both landline and cell phone households from Feb. 9-11. The full sample has a margin of error of +/- 3.3 percentage

points. While New Jerseyans must be registered in a political party to vote in its primary, an independent voter can declare party affiliation at the polls and vote. Thus the sample includes a subsample of 289 Republican and Republican-leaning independents, with a margin of error of +/- 5.9 percentage points.

Republicans support Romney, but many are not satisfied with choices

As the election draws closer, only 8 percent of registered Republican and Republican-leaning voters say they do not know who to pick, although another 14 percent wish they had another choice. Among the remaining contenders, 36 percent prefer Romney, up from 28 percent in an open-ended question in December. The race remains fluid, however, as Romney stays below 40 percent, Redlawsk said. He added that Santorum is the most recent beneficiary of the unsettled race. The former senator was named by only 1 percent of GOP voters in December, but now gets 19 percent, and has supplanted Gingrich as New Jersey's second choice.

That the race remains up in the air is reflected in the fact that only 11 percent of Republicans are "very satisfied" with the candidates, while another 57 percent are "somewhat satisfied," Redlawsk said. Nearly a third says they are not satisfied, but this an improvement since last August, when only 3 percent were very satisfied with their choices for the nomination.

Conservatives are more satisfied than moderates: 82 percent are at least somewhat satisfied with the field, although only 19 percent are very satisfied. On the other hand, 5 percent of moderates report being very satisfied and 56 percent are somewhat satisfied with the choices available to them.

"The overall picture here seems to be somewhat grudging support for Romney that has grown slowly over time," said Redlawsk. "But he has always had one or another pesky challenger nipping at his heels here, and now that's Santorum. If Santorum continues to rise nationally, he could be a real threat to Romney in New Jersey."

The economy is the issue but voters eye personal characteristics as well

Sixty percent of voters say the "economy and jobs" is the most important issue when deciding on a presidential candidate. Republicans (64 percent), Democrats (58 percent) and independents (60 percent) all agree.

Across all voters, health care is a very distant second, named by 12 percent of voters, followed by education (9 percent) and the federal budget deficit (8 percent). However, Republicans (11 percent) and independents (10 percent) put the budget deficit second, while Democrats name health care and education (15 percent and 14 percent, respectively) after the economy.

"There is wide agreement that the economy is the most important issues for voters and nothing else comes close," said Redlawsk.

Leadership is the most prized candidate quality, according to 28 percent of all registered voters. “Shares my values” and “cares about me” are next at 20 percent and 19 percent, respectively. Republicans are especially focused on leadership (43 percent) and shared values (18 percent). The spread is closer among Democrats: caring (25 percent) edges leadership (24 percent) and shared values (21 percent).

Voters also favor flexibility in the White House. Almost two-thirds want a president who will compromise to complete an agenda while the remainder prefers a leader who sticks to his beliefs. Seventy percent of independents wish for a compromiser but fewer partisans (62 percent of Democrats, 59 percent of Republicans) are enamored of this trait.

Obama extends lead over Romney

Since December’s Rutgers-Eagleton Poll, Obama has added six percentage points to his 19-point lead over Romney and would now beat the Garden State GOP frontrunner, 56 percent to 31 percent. The president leads among independents, 49 percent to 34 percent, while 90 percent of Democrats say they would stick by the president. Republicans are not quite as united for Romney: 78 percent say they would vote for him.

As for personal traits, Romney wins among voters who want a strong leader, 47 percent to 43 percent. Obama, however, easily wins among those looking for shared values (60 percent to 26 percent) and a caring leader (75 percent to 17 percent).

“Part of Obama’s advantage right now is the contentious Republican race,” said Redlawsk. “Once a nominee is chosen, Republicans are likely to rally around him. Still, with many more Democrats than Republicans in New Jersey, any Republican nominee has to do better among unaffiliated voters than we are seeing now.”

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QUESTIONS AND TABLES BEGIN ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

Questions and Tables

The questions covered in the release of February 23, 2012 are listed below. Column percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. Respondents are Registered Voters (RV).

Q I'd like to ask about some people and groups. Please tell me if your general impression of each one is favorable or unfavorable, or if you do not have an opinion. First, [ROTATE]

	President Barack Obama	Presidential Candidate Mitt Romney
Favorable	60%	27%
Unfavorable	33%	48%
No opn/DK	7%	24%
Unwgt N=	912	911

OBAMA

	Party ID			Ideology			Education			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	HS or Less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work
Fav	90%	55%	17%	90%	61%	22%	55%	61%	59%	64%
Unfav	5%	37%	76%	8%	29%	73%	35%	35%	33%	29%
DK/No Opin	6%	8%	8%	2%	10%	5%	11%	5%	8%	7%
Unwgt N=	318	402	183	187	511	190	201	247	244	215

	Employment				Race		Age			
	Full Time	Part Time	Retired	Not Empl	White	Black	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Fav	62%	65%	55%	59%	50%	93%	75%	58%	60%	54%
Unfav	31%	27%	38%	33%	42%	6%	19%	33%	33%	39%
DK/No Opin	7%	8%	7%	8%	8%	1%	6%	9%	7%	6%
Unwgt N=	397	82	290	141	717	85	54	223	348	279

	Income				Gender		Union Household		
	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+	Male	Female	Private	Public	Not Union
Fav	65%	60%	60%	55%	56%	64%	71%	61%	58%
Unfav	29%	35%	34%	38%	37%	29%	23%	34%	35%
DK/No Opin	6%	5%	6%	7%	7%	7%	6%	5%	8%
Unwgt N=	244	265	132	102	430	482	120	54	720

ROMNEY

	Party ID			Ideology			Education			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	HS or Less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work
Fav	9%	30%	55%	13%	25%	52%	31%	25%	25%	30%
Unfav	68%	47%	15%	72%	48%	25%	46%	49%	53%	45%
DK/No Opin	22%	23%	30%	15%	27%	23%	23%	26%	23%	25%
Unwgt N=	318	401	183	187	509	191	202	246	244	214

**2012 Presidential Election - February
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll**

	Employment				Race		Age			
	Full Time	Part Time	Retired	Not Empl	White	Black	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Fav	27%	22%	35%	18%	33%	13%	20%	24%	28%	35%
Unfav	49%	49%	45%	52%	45%	65%	48%	50%	52%	42%
DK/No Opin	24%	28%	20%	30%	23%	22%	32%	26%	20%	22%
Unwgt N=	396	82	291	140	716	84	54	223	346	280

	Income				Gender		Union Household		
	<50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+	Male	Female	Private	Public	Not Union
Fav	29%	23%	27%	36%	31%	24%	18%	27%	29%
Unfav	43%	57%	52%	43%	49%	48%	65%	59%	45%
DK/No Opin	28%	20%	21%	21%	20%	28%	17%	14%	26%
Unwgt N=	245	264	132	102	430	481	120	54	719

[REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS ONLY]

Q Thinking about the Republican primary for president, which Republican do you prefer as the candidate to run against President Obama? Is it: [ROTATE CANDIDATE NAMES]

Mitt Romney	36%	Or Someone Else	11%
Rick Santorum	19%	None of them (Vol)	3%
Ron Paul	11%	DK	8%
Newt Gingrich	11%		
Unwgt N=		289	

	Ideology			Education			Tea Party Fav	Kind of President	
	Mod	Cons	HS or less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work		Stick to Belief	Compromise
Mitt Romney	38%	34%	36%	37%	33%	39%	30%	27%	40%
Rick Santorum	12%	27%	24%	20%	15%	20%	28%	27%	15%
Ron Paul	15%	6%	9%	17%	12%	2%	8%	5%	14%
Newt Gingrich	9%	14%	21%	4%	13%	9%	18%	21%	7%
Someone Else	16%	5%	4%	8%	14%	16%	5%	8%	12%
None of them (Vol)	5%	1%	0%	4%	4%	6%	2%	1%	5%
DK	6%	12%	5%	10%	8%	8%	10%	11%	7%
Unwgt N=	135	138	70	84	75	59	152	95	178

	Employment		Age			Gender		Religion	
	FT	Retired	30-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female	Cath	Prot
Mitt Romney	36%	43%	33%	33%	44%	34%	38%	37%	36%
Rick Santorum	22%	15%	24%	24%	16%	20%	19%	21%	23%
Ron Paul	9%	5%	10%	11%	2%	12%	9%	12%	9%
Newt Gingrich	9%	16%	10%	8%	16%	13%	10%	8%	10%
Someone Else	14%	4%	13%	11%	6%	9%	12%	11%	8%
None of them	4%	1%	5%	6%	0%	5%	2%	4%	1%
DK	5%	16%	4%	7%	16%	7%	10%	7%	12%
Unwgt N=	124	95	76	103	92	150	139	150	71

[REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS ONLY]

Q Given the Republicans who are running for president in 2012, how satisfied are you with your choices? Are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied or not satisfied?

Very satisfied	11%
Somewhat satisfied	57%
Not satisfied	29%
DK	2%
Unwght N=	289

	Ideology		Education			Tea Party		Kind of President	
	Mod	Cons	HS or less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work	Fav	Stick to Belief	Compromise
Very satisfied	5%	19%	17%	11%	10%	9%	16%	13%	10%
Somewhat satisfied	54%	63%	65%	62%	49%	55%	62%	54%	59%
Not satisfied	39%	16%	17%	26%	40%	32%	22%	28%	31%
DK	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	3%	0%	5%	0%
Unwght N=	135	138	70	84	75	59	152	95	178

	Employment		Age			Gender		Religion	
	FT	Retired	30-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female	Cath	Prot
Very satisfied	9%	12%	7%	16%	15%	10%	13%	11%	8%
Somewhat satisfied	54%	70%	50%	52%	68%	57%	58%	53%	63%
Not satisfied	35%	15%	40%	31%	14%	31%	28%	35%	26%
DK	3%	3%	3%	1%	3%	2%	1%	2%	3%
Unwght N=	124	95	76	103	92	150	139	150	71

[ALL]

Q If the candidates for president in 2012 are [ROTATE ORDER: Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney] will you vote for [SAME ORDER: Obama or Romney] for president?

Obama	56%
Romney	31%
Other (Vol)	2%
Not Vote (Vol)	1%
DK	9%
Unwght N=	908

	Party ID				Ideology			Education		
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	HS or less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work
Obama	90%	49%	11%	83%	59%	17%	52%	59%	57%	57%
Romney	4%	34%	78%	10%	28%	68%	35%	29%	32%	30%
Other (Vol)	1%	3%	2%	1%	2%	4%	2%	2%	4%	1%
Not Vote (Vol)	0%	2%	0%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	0%
DK	6%	12%	8%	6%	10%	10%	9%	9%	6%	11%
Unwght N=	319	398	181	186	509	190	201	244	245	213

**2012 Presidential Election - February
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll**

	Employment				Race		Age			
	FT	PT	Retired	Not Empl	White	Black	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Obama	57%	61%	52%	59%	48%	88%	63%	56%	56%	53%
Romney	30%	27%	35%	31%	37%	7%	24%	31%	32%	36%
Other (Vol)	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%	1%	0%	3%	3%	1%
Not Vote (Vol)	2%	1%	0%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%
DK	9%	8%	10%	6%	11%	4%	12%	9%	8%	8%
Unwght N=	397	81	290	138	713	85	54	223	344	279

	Income				Gender		Born Again	
	< 50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+	Male	Female	Yes	No
Obama	57%	59%	59%	51%	52%	60%	61%	52%
Romney	28%	30%	34%	39%	36%	27%	32%	35%
Other (Vol)	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%	4%	3%
Not Vote (Vol)	2%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%
DK	11%	8%	4%	6%	8%	9%	2%	10%
Unwght N=	245	266	131	102	431	477	125	533

	Religion			Union Household			What Kind of Pres	
	Cath	Prot	Jewish	Public	Private	No	Stick To Beliefs	Compro- mise
Obama	48%	61%	54%	65%	54%	55%	50%	60%
Romney	38%	29%	37%	20%	30%	34%	36%	29%
Other (Vol)	2%	4%	0%	1%	6%	2%	3%	2%
Not Vote (Vol)	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	1%	2%	1%
DK	11%	5%	8%	11%	6%	8%	9%	8%
Unwght N=	395	236	67	120	55	716	278	578

	Obama Impression			Romney Impression			Tea Party Impression		
	Fav	Unfav	No Opin	Fav	Unfav	No Opin	Fav	Unfav	No Opin
Obama	86%	7%	33%	14%	85%	47%	18%	81%	43%
Romney	7%	76%	30%	76%	7%	31%	69%	11%	38%
Som Else	0%	6%	5%	1%	3%	2%	4%	2%	2%
Not Vote	0%	3%	1%	0%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%
DK	6%	8%	32%	9%	4%	18%	7%	5%	16%
Unwght N=	516	323	66	274	428	203	223	456	195

**2012 Presidential Election - February
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll**

Q Which ONE of the following candidate qualities matters MOST in making your decision of who to support for president? [READ 1-6; ROTATE OPTIONS]

	ALL	Gen Election Vote	
		Obama	Romney
Strong Leader	28%	22%	43%
Shares my values	20%	21%	16%
Cares about people like me	19%	25%	10%
High moral character	11%	9%	10%
Can bring people together	10%	11%	8%
Consistent in his beliefs	10%	9%	11%
DK	3%	2%	3%
Unwght N=	909	483	308

	Party ID				Ideology			Education			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	HS or less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work	
Strong Leader	24%	25%	43%	25%	29%	31%	21%	25%	33%	33%	
Shared Values	21%	19%	18%	27%	16%	22%	16%	16%	25%	22%	
Cares abt people	25%	18%	9%	21%	20%	12%	29%	20%	14%	13%	
Moral Character	9%	12%	12%	11%	9%	18%	12%	12%	8%	10%	
Bring people together	10%	12%	10%	9%	11%	9%	10%	11%	11%	10%	
Consistency	8%	12%	7%	5%	12%	7%	7%	12%	8%	11%	
DK	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%	2%	5%	4%	1%	1%	
Unwght N=	317	399	183	187	509	190	200	246	243	215	

	Employment				Race		Age			
	FT	PT	Retired	Not Empl	White	Black	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Strong Leader	29%	21%	30%	30%	29%	24%	30%	27%	29%	29%
Shared Values	21%	24%	19%	12%	20%	21%	19%	21%	18%	20%
Cares abt people	17%	13%	20%	25%	16%	26%	15%	22%	19%	16%
Moral Character	10%	10%	9%	14%	12%	8%	4%	12%	12%	11%
Bring people together	10%	15%	9%	10%	11%	8%	15%	10%	8%	11%
Consistency	11%	11%	8%	7%	9%	10%	16%	7%	11%	7%
DK	2%	5%	4%	2%	3%	2%	1%	1%	3%	6%
Unwght N=	395	82	290	140	714	84	54	223	345	279

	Income				Gender		Born Again	
	< 50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+	Male	Female	Yes	No
Strong Leader	22%	29%	29%	39%	28%	29%	22%	29%
Shared Values	17%	17%	30%	25%	22%	17%	11%	21%
Cares abt people	25%	22%	15%	4%	16%	21%	25%	17%
Moral Character	14%	11%	8%	7%	10%	12%	15%	10%
Bring people together	15%	8%	8%	10%	13%	8%	12%	11%
Consistency	5%	11%	9%	13%	10%	10%	11%	10%
DK	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	4%	3%	3%
Unwght N=	244	264	131	102	426	483	124	533

**2012 Presidential Election - February
Rutgers-Eagleton Poll**

	Religion			Union Household			What Kind of Pres	
	Cath	Prot	Jewish	Public	Private	No	Stick To Beliefs	Compro-mise
Strong Leader	28%	26%	23%	29%	33%	28%	28%	29%
Shared Values	19%	19%	26%	20%	11%	20%	18%	20%
Cares abt people	18%	19%	18%	19%	21%	19%	19%	18%
Moral Character	11%	11%	8%	14%	5%	10%	11%	10%
Bring people together	10%	13%	15%	6%	15%	11%	9%	12%
Consistency	10%	10%	4%	10%	13%	10%	12%	8%
DK	4%	2%	7%	3%	1%	3%	4%	2%
Unwght N=	397	234	66	121	54	716	276	579

	Obama Impression			Romney Impression			Tea Party Impression		
	Fav	Unfav	No Opin	Fav	Unfav	No Opin	Fav	Unfav	No Opin
Strong Leader	24%	39%	21%	38%	23%	29%	36%	26%	28%
Shared Values	21%	19%	16%	19%	23%	14%	21%	23%	13%
Cares abt people	24%	9%	21%	11%	24%	17%	10%	21%	21%
Moral Character	11%	10%	13%	10%	11%	10%	11%	11%	11%
Bring people together	10%	10%	17%	8%	10%	13%	7%	11%	11%
Consistency	9%	11%	5%	12%	7%	11%	12%	8%	12%
DK	2%	3%	6%	2%	2%	5%	3%	1%	5%
Unwght N=	518	324	64	278	425	203	225	455	195

Q Which ONE of the following issues matters MOST in making your decision of who to support for president? [read 1-6; ROTATE OPTIONS]

	ALL	Gen Election Vote	
		Obama	Romney
Economy and Jobs	60%	61%	63%
Health Care	12%	14%	7%
Education	9%	13%	4%
Federal Budget Deficit	8%	5%	14%
Homeland Security & Terrorism	6%	4%	8%
Immigration	2%	1%	2%
Something Else (Vol)	1%	1%	0%
DK	2%	1%	1%
Unwght N=	910	486	307

	Party ID				Ideology			Education		
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	HS or less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work
Econ& Jobs	58%	60%	65%	61%	64%	51%	58%	55%	64%	66%
Health Care	15%	12%	6%	19%	10%	8%	15%	13%	12%	9%
Education	14%	6%	7%	13%	9%	6%	6%	12%	6%	12%
Fed Budg Def	4%	10%	11%	4%	8%	15%	8%	8%	8%	9%
Home Sec/Terr	3%	7%	6%	2%	5%	11%	8%	6%	7%	2%
Immigration	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	5%	3%	2%	1%	1%
Something Else	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%
DK	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%	1%
Unwght N=	317	400	183	185	511	191	200	247	243	215

**2012 Presidential Election - February
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	Employment				Race		Age			
	FT	PT	Retired	Not Empl	White	Black	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Econ& Jobs	65%	55%	59%	54%	63%	56%	40%	66%	64%	59%
Health Care	8%	23%	12%	17%	10%	23%	25%	7%	13%	10%
Education	12%	9%	5%	9%	8%	14%	19%	12%	5%	5%
Fed Budg Def	10%	5%	11%	4%	10%	1%	4%	8%	9%	11%
Home Sec/Terr	4%	8%	8%	6%	6%	6%	8%	4%	4%	9%
Immigration	1%	0%	2%	5%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%
Something Else	0%	0%	0%	3%	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%	0%
DK	1%	1%	4%	1%	2%	0%	0%	1%	1%	5%
Unwght N=	396	81	290	141	716	84	54	224	345	279

	Income				Gender		Born Again	
	< 50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+	Male	Female	Yes	No
Econ& Jobs	52%	62%	64%	66%	62%	59%	51%	67%
Health Care	19%	10%	14%	4%	8%	15%	15%	10%
Education	10%	11%	6%	10%	8%	10%	9%	6%
Fed Budg Def	6%	8%	7%	14%	11%	6%	8%	9%
Home Sec/Terr	8%	3%	5%	4%	4%	7%	9%	5%
Immigration	1%	3%	2%	1%	3%	1%	4%	1%
Something Else	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%	0%
DK	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Unwght N=	245	264	132	102	428	482	125	533

	Religion			Union Household			What Kind of Pres Stick To	
	Cath	Prot	Jewish	Public	Private	No	Beliefs	Compro- mise
Econ& Jobs	63%	65%	60%	49%	60%	63%	51%	64%
Health Care	11%	11%	13%	16%	11%	11%	15%	11%
Education	5%	8%	15%	21%	4%	8%	11%	9%
Fed Budg Def	10%	7%	6%	5%	15%	9%	10%	7%
Home Sec/Terr	6%	6%	5%	5%	3%	6%	7%	5%
Immigration	1%	1%	0%	3%	4%	1%	3%	1%
Something Else	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%
DK	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%
Unwght N=	397	235	67	121	54	718	279	577

	Obama Impression			Romney Impression			Tea Party Impression		
	Fav	Unfav	No Op	Fav	Unfav	No Op	Fav	Unfav	No Op
Econ& Jobs	61%	58%	66%	64%	59%	60%	53%	64%	60%
Health Care	15%	5%	11%	7%	14%	13%	6%	14%	11%
Education	12%	6%	0%	6%	11%	10%	6%	12%	7%
Fed Budg Def	4%	16%	10%	13%	7%	6%	18%	5%	8%
Home Sec/Terr	4%	10%	5%	7%	4%	8%	11%	2%	9%
Immigration	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	4%	1%	2%
Something Else	1%	0%	2%	0%	2%	0%	0%	1%	2%
DK	1%	2%	4%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%
Unwght N=	518	324	65	276	428	203	224	457	195

Q What kind of president does this country need to elect this year? [ROTATE] One who sticks to his beliefs no matter what, or one who compromises to get things done?

	ALL	Gen Election Vote	
		Obama	Romney
Stick to beliefs	31%	28%	36%
Compromise	64%	68%	61%
DK	4%	4%	4%
Unwght N=	905	486	305

	Party ID			Ideology			Education			
	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Middle	Cons	HS or less	Some Coll	Coll Grad	Grad Work
Stick to beliefs	33%	27%	37%	23%	29%	46%	39%	34%	31%	22%
Compromise	62%	70%	59%	72%	67%	50%	58%	59%	66%	74%
DK	5%	3%	4%	5%	4%	4%	3%	6%	3%	4%
Unwght N=	318	396	181	186	507	190	202	247	242	210

	Employment				Race		Age			
	FT	PT	Retired	Not Empl	White	Black	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Stick to beliefs	30%	27%	29%	42%	30%	43%	40%	29%	29%	31%
Compromise	67%	67%	66%	54%	66%	56%	59%	65%	66%	65%
DK	4%	7%	5%	4%	4%	1%	1%	6%	4%	4%
Unwght N=	393	81	290	139	710	85	54	222	344	278

	Income				Gender		Born Again	
	< 50K	50K- <100K	100K- <150K	150K+	Male	Female	Yes	No
Stick to beliefs	36%	35%	30%	13%	32%	31%	46%	28%
Compromise	62%	61%	67%	85%	65%	64%	49%	68%
DK	2%	4%	3%	2%	3%	5%	5%	4%
Unwght N=	243	265	130	100	426	479	124	531

	Religion			Union Household		
	Cath	Prot	Jewish	Public	Private	No
Stick to beliefs	31%	34%	25%	33%	18%	32%
Compromise	65%	62%	64%	62%	76%	64%
DK	4%	3%	12%	5%	5%	4%
Unwght N=	395	236	67	120	54	714

	Obama Impression			Romney Impression			Tea Party Impression		
	Fav	Unfav	No Op	Fav	Unfav	No Op	Fav	Unfav	No Op
Stick to beliefs	27%	40%	31%	31%	32%	31%	43%	23%	34%
Compromise	69%	57%	62%	64%	63%	68%	52%	72%	64%
DK	4%	3%	8%	5%	5%	1%	5%	5%	2%
Unwght N=	518	319	65	276	423	203	222	455	194

Rutgers-Eagleton Poll February 9-11, 2012

The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted by telephone from February 9-11, 2012 with a scientifically selected random sample of 914 New Jersey registered voters. Data are weighted to represent known parameters in the New Jersey population, using gender, age, race, and Hispanic ethnicity matching to 2010 US Census Bureau data. All results are reported with these weighted data. This telephone poll included 734 landline respondents supplemented with 180 cell phone respondents, acquired through random digit dialing.

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 for 914 adults is +/-3.3 percentage points, at a 95 percent confidence interval. Thus if 50 percent of New Jersey voters favored a particular position, 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 adults been interviewed, rather than just a sample. Sampling error increases as the sample size decreases, so statements based on various population subgroups are subject to more error than are statements based on the total sample. 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.

This Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was fielded by Braun Research, Incorporated. The questionnaire was developed and all data analyses were completed in house. The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll is paid for and sponsored by the Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University, a non-partisan academic center focused on the study and teaching of politics and the political process.

**Weighted Sample Characteristics
914 New Jersey Registered Voters**

37% Democrat	47% Male	14% 18-29	71% White
43% Independent	53% Female	32% 30-49	15% Black
20% Republican		39% 50-64	7% Hispanic
		24% 65+	6% Asian/Other/Multi