

Questions and Tables

The questions covered in the release for September 14, 2017 are listed below. Column percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. Respondents are New Jersey adults 18 years and older; all percentages are of weighted results.

Let’s talk a bit about public schools and education in New Jersey.

[SPLIT SAMPLE]

[VERSION A]

Q. For each of the following academic subjects, please rate how you feel public schools in your district are doing in terms of providing education in that area, using a grading scale from A to F. You can give any full letter grade for each subject – A, B, C, D, or F.

[RANDOMIZE ORDER]

	Arts Education	Math	English Language Arts	Science	Social Studies and History
A	15%	27%	27%	24%	19%
B	29%	29%	29%	31%	28%
C	25%	21%	19%	18%	20%
D	8%	5%	5%	8%	8%
F	7%	5%	5%	4%	9%
Don’t know	16%	13%	15%	15%	16%
Unweighted N=	351	351	351	350	351

[VERSION B]

Q. For each of the following academic subjects, please rate how you feel public schools in your district are doing in terms of providing education in that area, using a grading scale from A to F. You can give any full letter grade for each subject – A, B, C, D, or F. [RANDOMIZE ORDER]

	Arts Education	Computer Science/ Technology	Health and Physical Education	World Languages	Career and Life Skills Classes
A	17%	20%	18%	13%	8%
B	29%	31%	29%	23%	21%
C	22%	23%	24%	30%	27%
D	10%	7%	8%	10%	13%
F	7%	5%	8%	8%	14%
Don’t know	15%	14%	13%	16%	16%
Unweighted N=	355	356	356	356	356

[END SPLIT SAMPLE]

Now let's talk specifically about arts education – which includes lessons in dance, music, theater, visual arts, media arts, and other forms of creativity taught by certified professionals.

Q. Please tell me if you think it is very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not at all important for K-12 students to receive an education in the arts through each of the following:

	In the Classroom During the Day	Cultural Organizations in Your Community	Before- or After- school Programs
Very important	57%	56%	66%
Somewhat important	32%	32%	26%
Not very important	6%	6%	3%
Not at all important	3%	3%	2%
Don't know	1%	3%	2%
Unweighted N=	712	712	712

[SPLIT SAMPLE – SAME SPLIT AS ABOVE]

[VERSION A]

Q. Please tell me whether or not you think arts education is more important, less important, or just as important for a child to learn as each of the following academic areas: [RANDOMIZE ORDER]

	Math	English Language Arts	Science	Social Studies and History
More important	20%	22%	19%	19%
Less important	36%	25%	31%	25%
Just as important	43%	53%	50%	56%
Don't know	0%	0%	0%	0%
Unweighted N=	355	355	355	355

[VERSION B]

Q. Please tell me whether or not you think arts education is more important, less important, or just as important for a child to learn as each of the following academic areas: [RANDOMIZE ORDER]

	Computer Science/ Technology	Health and Physical Education	World Languages	Career and Life Skills Classes
More important	23%	23%	23%	23%
Less important	26%	21%	21%	31%
Just as important	49%	56%	54%	45%
Don't know	1%	0%	2%	1%

Unweighted N= 358 358 358 358
[END SPLIT SAMPLE]

Q. And from what you know or have heard, please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree that students in your area have enough opportunities to participate in arts education programs through each of the following:

	In the Classroom During the Day	Cultural Organizations in Your Community	Before- or After- school Programs
Strongly agree	28%	24%	33%
Somewhat agree	32%	31%	29%
Somewhat disagree	15%	17%	12%
Strongly disagree	11%	14%	12%
Don't know	14%	15%	14%
Unweighted N=	710	709	710

Q. Please tell me if you think arts education can help students a lot, some, a little, or not at all in each of the following ways: [RANDOMIZE ORDER]

	Become more creative and imaginative	Build confidence	Improve communication skills (speaking/writing)	Become more tolerant of other cultures
A lot	87%	81%	74%	73%
A little	10%	16%	20%	21%
Not at all	2%	3%	4%	5%
Don't know	1%	1%	1%	1%
Unweighted N=	712	712	712	710

	Develop discipline and perseverance	Improve overall academic performance	Gain workforce readiness/career skills
A lot	69%	60%	53%
A little	23%	32%	35%
Not at all	6%	6%	10%
Don't know	2%	2%	2%
Unweighted N=	712	711	712

Q. Do you think your local public school district spends too much, not enough, or just the right amount on arts education?

Too much	5%
Not enough	48%
Just the right amount	31%
Don't know	16%

Unweighted N= 712

Q. Let's talk for a minute about funding for the arts in New Jersey, in general. Who do you think should provide funding for the arts? Local government, state government, both, or neither?

Local government	9%
State government	15%
Both	68%
Neither	6%
Don't know	2%
Unweighted N=	712

Now let's talk a bit about your own involvement in arts-related activities.

Q. Please tell me whether or not you have done any of the following arts-related activities either at a local school, in your community, BOTH at a local school and in your community, or neither place in the past 12 months: [RANDOMIZE ORDER]

	Volunteered to help with an arts program or event	Shared something about an arts program or event on Facebook, Twitter, or other social media platforms	Donated to or raised money for an arts program or event	Taken a child to an arts program or event
At a local school	11%	6%	14%	12%
In your community	14%	18%	14%	16%
Both	8%	11%	8%	14%
Neither	66%	64%	63%	56%
Don't know	1%	2%	1%	1%
Unweighted N=	708	707	709	707

	Discussed an arts program or event with others	Attended an arts program or event	Encouraged a child to participate in an arts program or event
At a local school	11%	18%	24%
In your community	24%	24%	18%
Both	17%	16%	21%
Neither	47%	41%	37%
Don't know	1%	1%	1%
Unweighted N=	710	709	710

**Q. Please tell me whether you have talked about arts education with any of the following people or in any of the following settings in the past 12 months. Just tell me yes or no for each.
[RANDOMIZE ORDER]**

	To a teacher or school administrator	At a local community or town meeting	At a PTO, PTA, or school board meeting
Yes	35%	17%	14%
No	65%	83%	86%
Unweighted N=	710	710	710

	To an elected official	On Facebook, Twitter, or other social media platforms
Yes	10%	30%
No	90%	70%
Unweighted N=	710	710

Q. Thinking back to when you yourself were in school, did you take any courses that allowed you to learn about and enjoy the arts, or not?

Yes, I did	75%
No, I did not	24%
Don't know	1%
Unweighted N=	712

The Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was conducted by telephone using live callers Aug. 24-28, 2017 with a scientifically selected random sample of 714 New Jersey adults, 18 or older. Respondents within a household are selected by asking randomly for the youngest adult male or female currently available. If the named gender is not available, the youngest adult of the other gender is interviewed. The poll was available in Spanish for respondents who requested it. This telephone poll included 314 landline and 400 cell phone adults, all acquired through random digit dialing. Distribution of household phone use in this sample is:

Cell Only:	31%
Dual Use, Reached on Cell:	25%
Dual Use, Reached on LL:	43%
Landline Only:	1%

Data were weighted to the demographics of registered voters in New Jersey. Weights account for the probability of being selected within the sample frame and the probability of being sampled within a household, based on the number of individuals living in the household and the phone composition (cell, landline) of the household. The samples were weighted using a raking algorithm to several demographic variables reflecting the registered voter parameters of the state of New Jersey: gender, race, age, Hispanic ethnicity, county, and education. The final weight, which combined all of the parameters mentioned, was trimmed at the 5th and 95th percentile so as to not accord too much weight to any one case or subset of cases. All results are reported with these weighted data.

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. Sampling error should be adjusted to recognize the effect of weighting the data to better match the population. In this poll, the simple sampling error for 714 New Jersey adults is +/-3.7 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence interval. The sample weighting design effect is 1.23, making the adjusted margin of error +/- 4.1 percentage points. Thus if 50 percent of New Jersey registered voters in this sample favor a particular position, we would be 95 percent sure that the true figure is between 45.9 and 54.1 percent (50 +/- 4.1) if all New Jersey adults had been interviewed, rather than just a 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, Inc. The questionnaire was developed and all data analyses were completed in house by the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling (ECPIP) in partnership with Arts Ed NJ. This Rutgers-Eagleton Poll is paid for and sponsored by the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, a non-partisan academic center for the study of politics and the political process, with support from Arts Ed NJ. Full questionnaires are available on request, and can also be accessed through our archives at eagletonpoll.rutgers.edu. For more information, please contact poll@eagleton.rutgers.edu.

Weighted Sample Characteristics			
714 New Jersey Adults (18+)			
39% Democrat	48% Male	22% 18-29	58% White
42% Independent	52% Female	33% 30-49	12% Black
19% Republican		28% 50-64	20% Hispanic
		18% 65+	10% Other