

Questions and Results Tables

Complete question wording (in the order questions appear in the original survey questionnaire) and results tables are below. Column percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. Respondents are Monmouth and Ocean County residents 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]

MONMOUTH + OCEAN COUNTY RESIDENTS					
	Arts Education	Math	English Language Arts	Science	Social Studies and History
A	12%	28%	26%	33%	19%
B	27%	25%	33%	24%	25%
C	32%	24%	19%	19%	22%
D	14%	6%	8%	9%	11%
F	4%	5%	4%	4%	10%
Don’t know	11%	11%	11%	10%	14%
Unweighted N=	100	100	100	100	100

[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]

MONMOUTH + OCEAN COUNTY RESIDENTS					
	Arts Education	Computer Science/ Technology	Health and Physical Education	World Languages	Career and Life Skills Classes
A	19%	22%	24%	22%	11%
B	36%	41%	28%	21%	15%
C	19%	19%	22%	28%	26%
D	10%	3%	4%	6%	14%
F	2%	1%	6%	7%	16%
Don't know	14%	14%	16%	17%	19%
Unweighted N=	99	99	99	99	99

[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:

MONMOUTH + OCEAN COUNTY RESIDENTS			
	In the Classroom During the Day	Cultural Organizations in Your Community	Before- or After- school Programs
Very important	49%	51%	61%
Somewhat important	41%	36%	29%
Not very important	9%	7%	4%
Not at all important	1%	3%	4%
Don't know	1%	4%	2%
Unweighted N=	200	199	200

[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]

MONMOUTH + OCEAN COUNTY RESIDENTS				
	Math	English Language Arts	Science	Social Studies and History
More important	9%	6%	11%	6%
Less important	42%	36%	35%	35%
Just as important	49%	59%	54%	59%
Don't know	0%	0%	0%	0%
Unweighted N=	101	101	101	101

[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]

MONMOUTH + OCEAN COUNTY RESIDENTS				
	Computer Science/ Technology	Health and Physical Education	World Languages	Career and Life Skills Classes
More important	19%	19%	20%	23%
Less important	36%	26%	26%	35%
Just as important	43%	53%	49%	38%
Don't know	2%	1%	4%	4%
Unweighted N=	99	99	99	99

[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:

MONMOUTH + OCEAN COUNTY RESIDENTS			
	In the Classroom During the Day	Cultural Organizations in Your Community	Before- or After- school Programs
Strongly agree	22%	16%	24%
Somewhat agree	32%	34%	38%
Somewhat disagree	19%	19%	10%
Strongly disagree	9%	16%	13%
Don't know	18%	16%	16%
Unweighted N=	199	196	198

**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]**

MONMOUTH + OCEAN COUNTY RESIDENTS

	Become more creative and imaginative	Build confidence	Improve communication skills (speaking/writing)	Become more tolerant of other cultures
A lot	87%	81%	74%	66%
A little	10%	14%	20%	23%
Not at all	2%	5%	5%	10%
Don't know	0%	0%	1%	2%
Unweighted N=	200	200	200	199

	Develop discipline and perseverance	Improve overall academic performance	Gain workforce readiness/career skills
A lot	67%	56%	52%
A little	21%	32%	35%
Not at all	9%	8%	9%
Don't know	3%	3%	3%
Unweighted N=	200	200	199

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

MONMOUTH + OCEAN COUNTY RESIDENTS	
Too much	4%
Not enough	39%
Just the right amount	36%
Don't know	21%
Unweighted N=	200

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?

MONMOUTH + OCEAN COUNTY RESIDENTS	
Local government	14%
State government	17%
Both	61%
Neither	7%
Don't know	0%
Unweighted N=	199

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]

MONMOUTH + OCEAN COUNTY RESIDENTS

	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	8%	6%	8%	11%
In your community	16%	20%	14%	12%
Both	6%	14%	9%	19%
Neither	68%	57%	66%	55%
Don't know	2%	3%	3%	3%
Unweighted N=	199	198	200	199

	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	9%	13%	20%
In your community	27%	29%	22%

Both	16%	16%	19%
Neither	45%	37%	37%
Don't know	3%	4%	2%
Unweighted N=	199	200	200

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]

MONMOUTH + OCEAN COUNTY RESIDENTS

	To a teacher or school administrator	On Facebook, Twitter, or other social media platforms	At a local community or town meeting	At a PTO, PTA, or school board meeting	To an elected official
Yes	29%	34%	17%	9%	8%
No	71%	66%	83%	90%	92%
Unweighted N=	199	199	199	199	199

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?

MONMOUTH + OCEAN COUNTY RESIDENTS	
Yes, I did	76%
No, I did not	23%
Don't know	1%
Unweighted N=	199

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 years or older. This Rutgers-Eagleton Poll was fielded by Braun Research, Inc. 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 completed interviews by landline phone and 400 completed interviews by cell phone, all acquired through random digit dialing. Distribution of household phone use in this sample is as follows:

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

The oversample was conducted by telephone using live callers Aug. 24-29, 2017 and includes 200 Monmouth or Ocean County residents, 18 years or older, in proportion to the relative size of each county. The oversample included 83 completed interviews by landline phone and 117 completed interviews by cell phone, all acquired through random digit dialing. Within the oversample, 105 residents reside in Monmouth County and 95 residents reside in Ocean County. Distribution of household phone use in this oversample is as follows:

Cell only:	35%
Dual Use, Reached on Cell:	24%
Dual Use, Reached on LL:	40%
Landline Only:	1%

The oversample data were weighted to be representative of Monmouth and Ocean County residents, 18 years or older. 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 general population parameters of Monmouth and Ocean County residents: gender, race, age, Hispanic ethnicity, county, and education.

Weighting was done in two stages. The first stage of weighting corrected for different probabilities of selection associated with the number of adults in each household and each respondent's telephone usage patterns. This weighting also adjusts for the overlapping landline and cell sample frames and the relative sizes of each frame and each sample. The final weight, which combined all of the parameters mentioned, was trimmed at the 5th and 95th percentile in order to prevent any individual interview or subset of interviews from having too much influence on the final results. All results are reported with these weighted data. The use of these weights in statistical analysis ensures that the demographic characteristics of the sample closely approximate the demographic characteristics of the target population.

Sample Demographics

Sex	
Male	47%
Female	53%
Age	
18-24	10%

25-34	14%
35-44	15%
45-64	37%
65+	24%
Education	
HS grad or less (incl voc/tech)	37%
Some college	28%
College grad+	35%
Race/Ethnicity	
White, not Hispanic	80%
Black, not Hispanic	5%
Hispanic	10%
Other/mixed, not Hispanic	5%
	3%
Region	
Monmouth	53%
Ocean	47%

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 200 Monmouth and Ocean County residents is +/-6.9 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence interval. The sample weighting design effect is 1.35, making the adjusted margin of error +/- 8.1 percentage points. Thus if 50 percent of Monmouth and Ocean County residents in this sample favor a particular position, we would be 95 percent sure that the true figure is between 41.9 and 58.1 percent (50 +/- 8.1) if all New Jersey adults had 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, 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 and mindALIGNED. 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.