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**NEW JERSEY VOTERS BACK COURT’S HOUSING RULING 3-1,  
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;  
VOTERS BACK MORE STATE MONEY FOR POOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

New Jersey voters agree 71 – 24 percent with the State Supreme Court ruling that all communities in the state must allow development of affordable housing for middle class and low income people, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Republicans are divided on the affordable housing ruling as 46 percent agree and 48 percent disagree. Every other party, gender, education, age and racial group agrees by wide margins, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll finds.

While 66 percent of voters feel favorably about having affordable housing in their community, 14 percent feel unfavorably and 17 percent feel neither favorably nor unfavorably.

The community where they live has the “right amount” of affordable housing, 53 percent of New Jersey voters say, while 7 percent say their community has “too much” affordable housing and 34 percent say “not enough.”

Looking at another long-simmering issue, New Jersey voters say 65 – 30 percent that the State Supreme Court has the right to order the State Legislature to spend more money to improve public schools in the state’s poorest districts.

“On two hot-button issues, the Mount Laurel cases on affordable housing and the Abbott cases on school funding, New Jerseyans seem to be more liberal than politicians have given them credit for,” said Mickey Carroll, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

“Do communities resent the new Supreme Court ruling that reinstates the requirement for thousands of new units of affordable housing? This poll says 3-1 they don’t. Voters applaud the decision, but they say their own community has the right amount of affordable housing, meaning they might not be happy to see any more.”

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## **Quinnipiac University Poll/February 1, 2017 – page 2**

New Jersey voters say 68 – 29 percent that the State Legislature should spend more tax dollars to improve public schools in the state’s poorest districts. Every listed group supports this, except Republicans, who say no 53 – 44 percent.

Voters also say 65 – 33 percent that the State Legislature should spend more tax dollars to improve all of New Jersey’s public schools. Republicans are divided as 48 percent support this idea, with 50 percent opposed. All other listed groups support increased funding.

In a question comparing two options of increased funding for the poorest districts or the same funding for all districts:

- 36 percent support the same level of state funding for all districts;
- 56 percent support additional funding for poor districts.

“Do voters favor Gov. Christopher Christie's proposal to distribute money for public schools on a strictly per-pupil basis? This poll says they don’t,” Carroll said.

“For years, the state – under court order – has poured much of the state’s aid money into a handful of poor school districts, the so-called Abbott districts. Two-thirds of voters agree with that idea.”

### **Millionaire’s Tax, Drug Addiction**

New Jersey voters support 67 – 23 percent a so-called “millionaire’s tax,” if the money from the tax goes to public schools.

“On that perennial proposal – the millionaire’s tax – voters overall are heavily in favor,” Carroll said. “We don’t have a separate category on millionaire’s responses.”

Garden State voters approve 56 – 39 percent of Gov. Christie’s decision to make curbing drug addiction his top priority for his final year in office.

In an open-ended question, allowing for any answer, 26 percent of New Jersey voters list taxes as the most important issue in this year’s governor’s election. Another 12 percent list the economy, with 11 percent for education and 9 percent for the budget.

From January 26 – 30, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,240 New Jersey voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.8 percentage points. Live interviewers call landlines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa, Colorado, North Carolina, Georgia and the nation as a public service and for research.

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9. What is the most important issue to you in deciding how to vote for Governor this year?

	Tot
Taxes Total	26%
Taxes general	16
Property tax	8
Taxes other	2
Economy Total	12%
Economy general	6
Unemployment/Jobs	4
Economy other	2
Education Total	11%
Education general	9
Teachers	1
Funding education	1
Education other	1
Budget Total	9%
Budget general	1
Pensions	3
Gov too big/Gov spending	1
Budget priorities	1
Budget deficits	1
Budget other	2
Politicians Total	5%
Political affiliation	2
Work against Trump	1
Governor/State leadership/Legsltr	1
Politicians other	1
Integrity/Morality/Character	4%
Healthcare Total	4%
Healthcare/Costs/Ins/HMO's	2
Healthcare other	2
Immigration	2%
Environment/Pollution	1%
Women's issues	1%
Middle/Working class	1%
Infrastructure	1%
Civil Rights & Human Rights	1%
Security/Safety	1%
Senior issues	1%
Abortion	1%
Other	11%
DK/NA	8%

10. In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in New Jersey today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Very satisfied	1%	-	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Smwht satisfied	31	44	29	28	32	30	32	34
Smwht dissatisfied	41	34	44	41	38	43	40	41
Very dissatisfied	26	22	24	29	28	24	27	23
DK/NA	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Very satisfied	2%	2%	-	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Smwht satisfied	41	33	24	35	33	33	33	29
Smwht dissatisfied	43	38	44	36	41	40	40	40
Very dissatisfied	14	25	32	27	26	25	25	28
DK/NA	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	2

12. As you may know, the New Jersey Supreme Court recently ruled that all New Jersey communities must allow the development of affordable housing for middle class and low income people. Do you agree or disagree with this New Jersey Supreme Court decision?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Agree	71%	46%	88%	70%	63%	78%	68%	73%
Disagree	24	48	9	26	33	16	29	23
DK/NA	5	6	2	4	3	6	3	4

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Agree	81%	72%	68%	71%	62%	77%	70%	75%
Disagree	16	23	27	26	36	19	27	18
DK/NA	3	5	4	3	2	4	3	6

13. How do you feel about having affordable housing for middle class and low income people in your community; do you feel favorably, unfavorably, or don't you feel either of these ways?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Favorably	66%	41%	85%	66%	61%	71%	61%	66%
Unfavorably	14	31	4	15	18	11	15	17
Neither	17	25	10	17	19	15	21	14
DK/NA	3	4	2	2	3	2	3	3

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Favorably	76%	66%	65%	63%	57%	68%	63%	75%
Unfavorably	5	14	16	18	19	13	16	10
Neither	18	17	17	16	21	16	18	13
DK/NA	1	3	2	3	3	2	3	2

14. Do you think the community where you live has too much affordable housing for middle class and low income people, not enough affordable housing, or about the right amount of affordable housing for middle class and low income people?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Too much	7%	14%	3%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%
Not enough	34	16	44	36	29	39	29	28
Right amount	53	64	49	52	59	48	59	59
DK/NA	6	6	5	5	5	7	6	5

  

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Too much	6%	4%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	6%
Not enough	38	39	36	28	22	35	29	47
Right amount	52	53	53	56	66	53	59	41
DK/NA	4	4	4	9	5	6	5	7

15. Do you think the state legislature should spend more tax dollars to improve the public schools in New Jersey's poorest areas or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes	68%	44%	84%	67%	63%	72%	62%	64%
No	29	53	13	30	35	24	35	33
DK/NA	3	3	3	3	2	4	2	3

  

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Yes	85%	74%	61%	59%	58%	68%	63%	79%
No	14	23	37	36	40	29	34	17
DK/NA	2	3	3	4	2	3	3	4

16. Do you think the state legislature should spend more tax dollars to improve all of New Jersey's public schools or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes	65%	48%	77%	63%	62%	68%	59%	67%
No	33	50	21	35	37	29	39	32
DK/NA	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1

  

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Yes	70%	72%	60%	61%	58%	66%	62%	72%
No	28	25	39	36	41	32	36	25
DK/NA	2	3	1	3	1	2	2	3

17. Do you think the state Supreme Court was right to order the state legislature to spend more money to improve the public schools in New Jersey's poorest areas or don't you think the state Supreme Court should have done this?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/right	65%	39%	85%	64%	59%	71%	61%	62%
No/shouldn't have	30	55	12	32	38	23	34	34
DK/NA	5	6	3	5	3	6	5	4
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Yes/right	82%	69%	63%	56%	53%	69%	61%	77%
No/shouldn't have	14	28	34	37	43	26	34	19
DK/NA	4	3	4	6	4	5	5	5

18. Would you support or oppose the so called "millionaire's tax", if the money went to New Jersey's public schools?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Support	67%	43%	85%	65%	61%	71%	63%	67%
Oppose	23	45	8	26	30	18	29	23
DK/NA	10	12	8	9	9	11	8	10
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Support	73%	69%	66%	62%	59%	70%	65%	71%
Oppose	18	21	26	28	33	20	26	16
DK/NA	9	11	9	10	8	10	9	13

19. Do you think the state should provide every school district the same amount of funding per student, or do you think the state should continue to provide low income school districts with additional funding per student to make up for lower funding from property taxes?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Same funding	36%	55%	22%	40%	38%	35%	38%	42%
Additional funds	56	36	73	53	55	56	55	50
DK/NA	8	9	5	7	7	9	7	7
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Same funding	23%	29%	42%	44%	42%	38%	40%	27%
Additional funds	72	61	52	48	51	54	53	63
DK/NA	5	10	6	8	7	7	7	10

20. Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Christie's decision to make the curbing of drug addiction his top priority for his final year in office?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							COLLEGE DEG	Yes
Approve	56%	66%	54%	56%	59%	54%	56%	62%
Disapprove	39	32	41	39	37	40	39	35
DK/NA	5	3	5	5	4	6	5	3

  

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Approve	50%	55%	60%	61%	59%	59%	59%	52%
Disapprove	42	41	36	35	38	36	37	42
DK/NA	8	4	3	4	3	5	4	6