# New Jerseyans Feel Safest in Manhattan

New Jersey voters feel safer in Atlantic City than in other New Jersey cities, and safer in Atlantic City than in Philadelphia, according to the most recent statewide poll by Fairleigh Dickinson University's PublicMind™.  The poll asked about six cities.

Manhattan, however, places first; with nearly three in four (78%) saying they feel somewhat or very safe there.  Just 10% say they don't feel safe in Manhattan.  Atlantic City ranked second with 64% saying they feel somewhat or very safe there, but one in five (21%) say they don't feel safe in AC.  A majority (55%) say they don't feel safe in Newark.   But Camden placed last: just 2% say they feel very safe there and 11% somewhat safe, while almost two-thirds (64%) say they feel not too safe or not safe at all.

"If New Jersey is going to be healthy, its cities will have to be viable," said Peter Woolley, a political scientist and director of the poll. "One measure of viability is how safe people feel going to those cities."

As for Atlantic City, whose fortunes the governor wants to revive, those who have been there in the past year feel safer there than those who haven't been there recently. Three-quarters of those who have been there in the past year (75%) say they feel somewhat or very safe, but only about half of those who haven't been there in the last year (53%) say they feel safe there. "The safer people feel, the more likely they are to make the trip, whether it's to Atlantic City casinos, Newark's Iron Bound restaurants, or Manhattan's galleries," said Woolley.

A third (33%) say they feel very safe in Manhattan, and another 45% somewhat safe, while by contrast only a third (35%) say they feel somewhat or very safe in Newark.  Men feel safer than women in both Manhattan and Newark: 40% of men say they feel very safe in Manhattan compared to 26% of women who agree.

The poll also showed that liberals are statistically more likely than moderates or conservatives to say they feel safe in the state's capital city of Trenton. "I guess they know they have plenty of friends in the legislature, and that the governor can't stay forever," quipped Woolley.

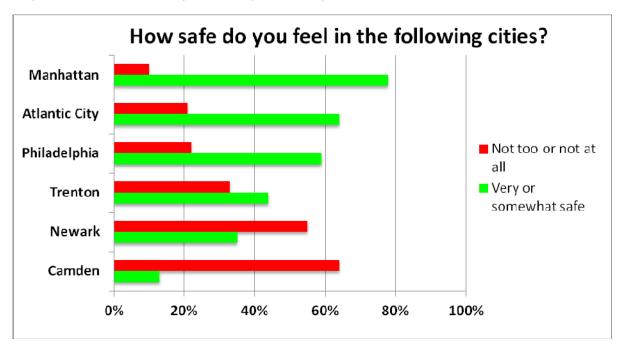| How safe? | Very or somewhat | Not too or not at all |
|---|---|---|
| Camden | 13% | 64% |
| Newark | 35% | 55% |
| Trenton | 43% | 33% |
| Philadelphia | 59% | 22% |
| Atlantic City | 64% | 21% |
| Manhattan | 78% | 10% |

The Fairleigh Dickinson University poll of 800 registered voters statewide was conducted by telephone using both landlines and cell phones from Oct. 17 through Oct. 23, 2011, and has a margin of error of +/-3.5 percentage points.

**Methodology, Questions, and Tables**
The most recent survey by Fairleigh Dickinson University's PublicMind was conducted by telephone from Oct. 17, 2011, through Oct. 23, 2011, using a randomly selected sample of 800 registered voters statewide.  The margin of error for a sample of 800 randomly selected respondents is +/- 3.5 percentage points.  The margin of error for subgroups is larger and varies by the size of that subgroup. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling error. This kind of error, which cannot be measured, arises from a number of factors including, but not limited to, non-response (eligible individuals refusing to be interviewed), question wording, the order in which questions are asked, and variations among interviewers. PublicMind interviews are conducted by Opinion America of Cedar Knolls, NJ, with professionally trained interviewers using a CATI (Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing) system. Random selection is achieved by computerized random-digit dialing. This technique gives every person with a land-line phone number (including those with unlisted numbers) an equal chance of being selected. Landline households are supplemented with a separate, randomly selected sample of cell-phone-only-households, interviewed in the same time frame.  The total combined sample is mathematically weighted to match known demographics of age, race and gender.

## How safe do you feel in the following cities?

| City | Not too or not at all | Very or somewhat safe |
|------|----|----|
| Manhattan | (short) | (long) |
| Atlantic City | (short) | (long) |
| Philadelphia | (medium) | (long) |
| Trenton | (medium) | (medium) |
| Newark | (long) | (medium) |
| Camden | (longest) | (shortest) |

| **Question:** Let me ask you how safe you feel in some cities. In general, how safe do you think you are in ... very safe, somewhat safe, not too safe, not safe at all? | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Atlantic City** | **All** | men | women | libs | mods | cons | northeast | Urban core | northwest | Central | South* |
| Very | 15% | 17 | 13 | 15 | 15 | 12 | 11 | 15 | 12 | 16 | 19 |
| Somewhat | 49% | 50 | 48 | 54 | 48 | 50 | 55 | 44 | 48 | 53 | 41 |
| Not too | 14% | 11 | 16 | 11 | 14 | 16 | 14 | 10 | 16 | 13 | 18 |
| Not at all | 7% | 7 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 14 |
| Unsure (vol) | 16% | 15 | 16 | 18 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 27 | 17 | 12 | 9 |

| **Camden** | **All** | men | women | libs | mods | cons | northeast | Urban core | northwest | Central | South |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Very | 2% | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | -- | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| Somewhat | 11% | 9 | 13 | 13 | 12 | 9 | 9 | 12 | 8 | 10 | 17 |
| Not too | 18% | 18 | 19 | 23 | 19 | 14 | 20 | 12 | 20 | 21 | 19 |
| Not at all | 46% | 48 | 44 | 37 | 47 | 56 | 43 | 39 | 48 | 49 | 53 |
| Unsure (vol) | 22% | 22 | 23 | 25 | 19 | 21 | 26 | 35 | 22 | 20 | 7 |

| Manhattan | All | men | women | libs | mods | cons | northeast | Urban core | northwest | Central | South |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Very | 33% | 40 | 26 | 37 | 38 | 26 | 36 | 34 | 38 | 35 | 18 |
| Somewhat | 45% | 42 | 48 | 51 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 50 | 47 | 43 | 41 |
| Not too | 6% | 3 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| Not at all | 4% | 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 9 |
| Unsure (vol) | 12% | 11 | 12 | 6 | 11 | 14 | 7 | 10 | 8 | 12 | 24 |

| Newark | All | men | women | libs | mods | cons | northeast | Urban core | northwest | Central | South |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Very | 5% | 5 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 5 |
| Somewhat | 30% | 36 | 24 | 36 | 30 | 26 | 35 | 34 | 32 | 31 | 15 |
| Not too | 24% | 22 | 25 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 19 | 27 | 24 | 24 | 25 |
| Not at all | 31% | 27 | 34 | 23 | 30 | 38 | 38 | 28 | 32 | 27 | 34 |
| Unsure (vol) | 11% | 9 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 15 | 21 |

| Philadelphia | All | men | women | libs | mods | cons | northeast | Urban core | northwest | Central | South |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Very | 12% | 13 | 10 | 16 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 13 | 13 | 10 | 18 |
| Somewhat | 47% | 50 | 44 | 51 | 52 | 42 | 40 | 44 | 52 | 54 | 41 |
| Not too | 12% | 11 | 13 | 13 | 12 | 12 | 18 | 9 | 10 | 9 | 20 |
| Not at all | 10% | 9 | 11 | 6 | 10 | 15 | 14 | 4 | 7 | 11 | 15 |
| Unsure (vol) | 19% | 17 | 21 | 14 | 16 | 21 | 23 | 30 | 17 | 16 | 6 |

| Trenton | All | men | women | libs | mods | Cons | northeast | Urban core | northwest | Central | South |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Very | 4% | 5 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 4 |
| Somewhat | 39% | 43 | 35 | 49 | 36 | 37 | 37 | 37 | 42 | 41 | 36 |
| Not too | 16% | 14 | 19 | 15 | 18 | 16 | 11 | 12 | 22 | 18 | 19 |
| Not at all | 17% | 17 | 17 | 13 | 20 | 18 | 17 | 15 | 11 | 20 | 20 |
| Unsure (vol) | 23% | 21 | 26 | 20 | 22 | 24 | 31 | 31 | 23 | 16 | 21 |

*Northwest: *Sussex, Hunterdon, Warren, Morris and Somerset* counties
Northeast: *Passaic and Bergen* counties
Urban Core: *Hudson, Essex and Union* counties
Central: *Ocean, Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth and Middlesex* counties
South: *Cape May, Atlantic, Cumberland, Gloucester, Camden and Salem* counties

**...**how safe do you think you are in Atlantic City... very safe, somewhat safe, not too safe, not safe at all?

| Atlantic City | All | Been to AC in the past 12 months? | | Going to AC in the next 12 months? | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | yes | No | yes | no |
| Very safe | 15% | 19 | 11 | 21 | 8 |
| Somewhat safe | 49% | 56 | 42 | 58 | 38 |
| Not too safe | 14% | 14 | 13 | 11 | 17 |
| Not at all safe | 7% | 8 | 6 | 5 | 9 |
| Unsure (vol) | 16% | 4 | 28 | 5 | 28 |

Exact Question Wording and Order

US1-4 released 10.27.11
NJ1-5 released 10.25.11
NJ6.  Let me ask you how safe you feel in some cities… In general, how safe do you think you are in… ROTATE… very safe, somewhat safe, not too safe, not safe at all? And what about…? ETC.
[PROMPTS IF NECESSARY: "IF you went there" … "just in general" "you can think both day and night"]

Atlantic City
Newark
Trenton
Philadelphia
Manhattan
Camden

NJ7. In the past 12 months, have you been to Atlantic City?
Yes
No

NJ8. In the next 12 months, do you expect to go to Atlantic City?
Yes
No
DK [vol]

**Sample Characteristics (%)**

| Gender | |
|---|---|
| Male | 49 |
| Female | 51 |

| Age | |
|---|---|
| 18-29 | 12 |
| 30-44 | 26 |
| 45-59 | 31 |
| 60+ | 29 |
| Ref. | 2 |

| In addition to being American, would you say you are…? | |
|---|---|
| White | 70 |
| Black | 14 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 8 |
| Asian | 4 |
| Other/ref. | 4 |

| Party ID | |
|---|---|
| Dem. + lean Dem. | 45 |
| ind. + unsure + ref. | 18 |
| Rep. + lean Rep. | 37 |