#### 2018 MID-TERM ELECTIONS

# Insights From New Jersey's CD-5 Voters Age 50+



### **Annotated Questionnaire**

Telephone interviews conducted with 604 registered voters by landline (72%) and cell phone (28%) between 9/7/18 and 9/20/18. All data have been weighted by age, gender, race/ethnicity, and geographic distribution according to August 2018 New Jersey State Voter Registration Database statistics. These survey results have a 4.0% margin of error.

(ASK TO SPEAK WITH PERSON ON LIST) I'm calling from Alan Newman Research, a national public opinion polling firm. We are conducting a survey on issues of importance to people like you, and we'd really like to get your opinions on them. This survey is being conducted for research purposes only, and we promise that your name and individual opinions will be kept confidential.

(IF RESPONDENT MENTIONS THE "DO NOT CALL" LIST, SAY:) The Do Not Call List does not apply to survey research. While we certainly respect your right NOT to participate, I assure you that this interview is being conducted for research purposes only, and we hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to express your opinions. We guarantee that your individual responses will be kept completely confidential, and that no one will try to sell you anything as a result of your participation.

#### Screener

S0. Gender. (DO NOT ASK.) Record respondent's gender.

%	n=604
45	1 Male
55	2 Female

S1. Have I reached you on a cell phone or a wired landline phone?

%	n=604
28	1 Cell phone
72	2 Wired landline phone
0	9 Not sure or refused (DO NOT READ)

S2. Are you currently registered to vote?

%	n=604
100	1 Registered
0	2 Not registered [TERMINATE]
0	9 Not sure or refused (DO NOT READ) [TERMINATE]

S3\_A. For statistical purposes only, would you please tell me in what year were you born? \_\_\_\_\_ [IF 1969 OR LATER, TERMINATE; CODED AS AGE]

%	n=604
19	1 50-54
21	2 55-59
17	3 60-64
13	4 65-69
12	5 70-74
6	6 75-79
5	7 80-84
5	8 85+
2	9 Refused but before (DATE) 1968 (DO NOT READ)
0	99 <50 [TERMINATE]

#### Questionnaire

Q1. How likely are you to vote this November in the elections for U.S. Congress and other offices? Would you say you are... [READ LIST]

%	n=604
81	1 Very likely
10	2 Fairly likely
4	3 Just somewhat likely
2	4 Not that likely
1	5 Or will you not vote
2	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

Q2. For each of the following, please tell me whether you worry about this very often, somewhat often, from time to time or almost never? Do you worry about... [READ ITEMS/LIST] [RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q2\_A THROUGH Q2\_G]

1 Very often %	2 Somewhat often %	3 From time to time %	4 Almost never worry %	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ) %	9 Refused (DO NOT READ) %	n=604
53	20	15	9	2	<1	A. How divided America and Americans have become
37	23	18	20	1	1	B. Prices rising faster than your income
25	28	35	10	1	1	C. The threat of terrorism in our country today
32	18	17	31	1	1	D. Not being able to afford the health care you need
18	15	17	44	4	3	E. Having to take care of an aging family member
28	15	13	34	4	5	F. Not being able to retire when you want to, due to financial reasons
47	22	19	11	<1	1	G. Paying too much in taxes
11	7	6	63	5	7	H. Student loan debt

Q3. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the job President Donald Trump is doing?

%	n=604
36	1 Approve
53	2 Disapprove
8	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
3	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

# [ROTATE ORDER OF Q4\_A AND Q4\_B]

Q4\_A. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republicans in Congress are doing?

%	n=604
25	1 Approve
60	2 Disapprove
12	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
3	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

Q4\_B. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the job the Democrats in Congress are doing?

%	n=604
29	1 Approve
53	2 Disapprove
15	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
4	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

POL-1. If the election was being held today, which one of the following candidates for U.S. Congress would you be most likely to vote for? [READ LIST] **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF 1-4]** 

%	n=604
45	1 Democrat, John Gottheimer
29	2 Republican, John McCann
1	3 Libertarian, James Tosone
2	4 Trade, Health, Environment candidate, Wendy Goetz
19	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
4	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

#### Financial Security and Retirement

FIN-1. In general, would you say the U.S. economy is... [READ LIST] [ROTATE DIRECTION OF 1-5]

%	n=604
19	1 Getting much stronger
33	2 Getting somewhat stronger
23	3 Staying the same
13	4 Getting somewhat weaker
5	5 Getting much weaker
6	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

FIN-2. In general, would you say New Jersey's economy is... [READ LIST] [ROTATE DIRECTION OF 1-5]

%	n=604
3	1 Getting much stronger
15	2 Getting somewhat stronger
36	3 Staying the same
28	4 Getting somewhat weaker
11	5 Getting much weaker
7	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

FIN-3. How would you describe your personal financial situation? Would you say you are... [READ LIST]

%	n=604
4	1 Rapidly increasing your wealth
19	2 Slowly getting ahead
43	3 Staying where you are
26	4 Struggling to keep up
7	5 Falling backward
1	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

FIN-4. Which of the following best describes your current employment status? Are you... [READ LIST]

%	n=604
34	1 Retired and not working
8	2 Retired and working at least part time
37	3 Employed full time
10	4 Employed part time
5	5 Not employed but looking for work
4	6 Not employed and not looking for work
1	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

FIN-5a. (IF FIN-4=Retired and not working) How confident are you that you have enough money saved for retirement? [READ LIST]

%	n=205
33	1 Very confident
40	2 Somewhat confident
12	3 Not very confident
14	4 Not confident at all
1	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

FIN-5b. (IF FIN-4≠Retired and not working) How confident are you that you will have enough money saved for retirement? [READ LIST]

%	n=399
13	1 Very confident
34	2 Somewhat confident
22	3 Not very confident
26	4 Not confident at all
4	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

FIN-6. Many employees in New Jersey, especially those who work for small businesses, do not have a way to save for retirement at work. One way to help more residents save would be to set up a retirement savings program in New Jersey. The program would be managed as a private-public partnership but workers would be in control of their retirement savings, allowing them to choose whether to participate, to decide how much to contribute, and to take their account with them if they change jobs. Pre-tax money would automatically be taken out of workers' paychecks and deposited into their retirement savings. How strongly would you support or oppose this program? Would you... [READ LIST]

%	n=604
38	1 Strongly support
32	2 Somewhat support
11	3 Neither support or oppose
4	4 Somewhat oppose
6	5 Strongly oppose
7	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
3	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

#### Social Security and Medicare

SS-1. How important would you say Social Security is to people's financial security in retirement? Would you say it is... [READ LIST]

%	n=604
84	1 Very important
13	2 Somewhat important
2	3 Not very important
1	4 Not at all important
0	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
<1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

SS-2. According to projections in the latest Social Security Trustees' report, Social Security can pay full benefits for 16 years, but if nothing is done to make the program financially sound for the long term, benefits will be cut by nearly 25 percent starting in 2034. How soon, if at all, do you think the government should do something to strengthen Social Security for the future? Do you think they should do something... [READ LIST]

%	n=604
70	1 Immediately
13	2 Within the next 2 years
8	3 Within the next 5 years
3	4 Within the next 10 years
1	5 Within the next 15 years
1	6 Or not at all
1	7 Some other timeframe (VOL)
2	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

MC-1. As you probably know, Medicare is the national health care program for people age 65 and older. How important would you say Medicare is to people's health in retirement? Would you say it is... [READ LIST]

%	n=604
94	1 Very important
4	2 Somewhat important
0	3 Not very important
<1	4 Not at all important
1	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
<1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

MC-2. Medicare is adequately funded today, but if changes are not made, it has been projected that by 2029 the program will not be able to fully pay for the hospital benefits it does now. Which, if any, of the following should Congress do to help put Medicare on stable ground for the future? Should they... [READ LIST] [RANDOMIZE ORDER OF 1-5; ONE RESPONSE ONLY]

%	n=604
13	1 Improve the coordination of patient care
5	2 Reduce unnecessary hospital re-admissions
23	3 Reduce prescription drug costs
9	4 Reduce unnecessary tests and procedures
7	5 Put technology to better use
28	6 All of these (DO NOT READ)
2	7 None of these (DO NOT READ)
12	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
2	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

#### Prescription Drugs

RX-1. Currently, U.S. law bans people from buying prescription drugs from Canada or Europe. Some people believe that the laws should be changed to allow Americans to import lower priced prescription drugs from other countries as long as they are just as safe and effective as those bought in the U.S. Do you believe that people in the U.S. should be able to buy lower-priced drugs from Canada and Europe, or not?

%	n=604
79	1 Yes, should be legal
10	2 No, should not be legal
12	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
<1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

RX-2. Some drug companies with prescription patents take steps to prevent other drug companies from entering the market with less costly generic versions of their drugs. How strongly do you support or oppose legislation to prevent drug companies from trying to stop competitors from entering the market? Do you... [READ LIST]

%	n=604
44	1 Strongly support
11	2 Somewhat support
10	3 Somewhat oppose
26	4 Strongly oppose
8	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

RX-3. Opioids are a group of drugs that include prescription pain killers as well as heroin. How concerned are you about heroin and opioid abuse in your state? Would you say you are... [READ LIST]

%	n=604
41	1 Extremely concerned
31	2 Very concerned
21	3 Somewhat concerned
4	4 Not at all concerned
3	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
0	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

RX-4. How much influence do you think prescription drug companies have over members of Congress? Would you say they have... [READ LIST]

%	n=604
70	1 A lot of influence
19	2 Some influence
3	3 Only a little influence
2	4 No influence at all
6	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
<1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

#### Healthcare

HC-1. Current law prohibits insurance companies from denying coverage or charging those with preexisting conditions more for their health coverage. Some want to repeal this provision of current law because they believe those with pre-existing conditions cost more. Others believe it is unfair to discriminate against those with pre-existing conditions. Which statement do you agree with more? [READ LIST] [RANDOMIZE ORDER OF 1-2]

%	n=604
82	1 It is unfair to deny coverage or make those with pre-existing conditions pay more for their health care.
8	2 We should repeal protection for those with pre-existing conditions because it increases the cost of insurance.
9	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

HC-2. Current law allows insurance companies to charge up to three times more for health insurance for those over age 50. Some in Congress have proposed increasing this to allow insurance companies to charge up to five times or more for health insurance. Which of the following statements do you agree with more? [READ LIST] **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF 1-2]** 

%	n=604
11	1 Older Americans use more health care and it is not fair to raise premiums for
11	everyone else.
	2 Older people already pay more than younger people and increasing it from
79	three to five times more would make insurance unaffordable for people who need
	it most.
9	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

HC-3. In 2013, New Jersey began accepting federal funding to expand Medicaid, the state health insurance program for low income residents, providing better access to health care for more than 480 thousand residents who gained coverage under the new eligibility rules. How strongly do you support or oppose preserving this Medicaid expansion so lower income people who don't have insurance through their jobs or have lost a job can get the care they need? [READ LIST]

%	n=604
46	1 Strongly support
30	2 Somewhat support
7	3 Somewhat oppose
5	4 Strongly oppose
11	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
<1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

#### Caregiving

CG-1. For this survey, I will use the phrase "family caregiver" to mean someone who provides unpaid care for an adult loved one who is ill, frail, elderly, or has a disability. This unpaid care may include assisting with personal needs like bathing and dressing, household chores, meals, shopping, transportation, managing finances or medical care. Are you currently a family caregiver, or providing UNPAID care to an adult loved one?

%	n=604
16	1 Yes, I currently provide care
84	2 No
1	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
0	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

CG-2. (IF CG-1=No) Have you been an unpaid family caregiver at any time in the past?

%	n=507
39	1 Yes, provided care in past
60	2 No
1	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
0	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

CG-3. (IF CG-1=No) How likely do you think it is that you will provide any caregiving or assistance on an unpaid basis for an adult loved one at some point in the future? Is it...? [READ LIST]

%	n=507
16	1 Extremely likely
13	2 Very likely
30	3 Somewhat likely
32	4 Not at all likely
8	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
<1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

CG-4. If you or a family member needed help when the basic tasks of life became difficult due to aging or illness, where would you prefer to receive that care or help? [READ LIST] **[RANDOMIZE 1-4]** 

%	n=604
40	1 At home with assistance from a family caregiver
37	2 At home with assistance from paid, professional help
12	3 In an assisted living facility or group home
2	4 In a nursing home
9	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

CG-5. How strongly do you support or oppose providing an income tax credit to family caregivers who incur expenses for the care and support of an older family member living with them? [READ LIST]

%	n=604
61	1 Strongly support
26	2 Somewhat support
5	3 Neither support nor oppose (DO NOT READ)
1	4 Somewhat oppose
3	5 Strongly oppose
4	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
<1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

CG-6. Recent Congressional proposals would cap the amount of Medicaid funding states receive to care for everyone in the program, including disabled children, and adults and the most vulnerable seniors. This change would mean that New Jersey would be restricted in the number of people they can care for in their own homes and communities. Do you support or oppose capping Medicaid funding? [READ LIST]

%	n=604
10	1 Strongly support
12	2 Somewhat support
9	3 Neither support nor oppose (DO NOT READ)
20	4 Somewhat oppose
37	5 Strongly oppose
12	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

#### **Elections**

Now I have some questions about this November's elections.

ELC-1. I'm going to mention some issues that voters might feel are important in helping them make their voting decisions this year. For you, how important are the candidates' positions on [ITEM]? Very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not at all important?

1 Very important %	2 Somewhat important %	3 Not very important %	4 Not at all important %	8 Not sure (DO NOT READ) %	9 Refused (DO NOT READ) %	n=604
71	23	4	1	<1	<1	A. Jobs and the economy
52	37	6	4	1	1	B. Helping people save for retirement
57	36	5	1	1	<1	C. Helping older people live independently
48	40	7	2	2	1	D. Supporting family caregivers
57	33	6	3	2	<1	E. Addressing opioid and drug addiction problems
78	17	2	1	1	1	F. Strengthening and reforming Social Security
70	24	3	1	1	1	G. Strengthening and reforming Medicare
72	23	2	2	1	<1	H. Addressing rising prescription drug costs
78	19	2	1	1	<1	Lowering healthcare costs

ELC-2. How do you get most of your news about elections and major issues? Do you get it mostly from...? [READ LIST] [ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES]

%	n=604
54	1 Local TV news
46	2 National TV news
33	3 Printed newspaper
30	4 Online newspaper
30	5 Online news sources
22	6 Friends and family
18	7 Radio
5	8 Twitter
13	9 Facebook
3	97 Other (VOL)
<1	98 Not sure (DO NOT READ)
<1	99 Refused (DO NOT READ)

#### Demographics

Now I am going to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

# F1. What is the highest level of education that you completed? [DO NOT READ CHOICES]

%	n=604
0	1 Grade school
2	2 Some high school
15	3 High school graduate (GED)
19	4 Some college, no degree
9	5 Associate's degree (2-year college degree)
28	6 Bachelor's degree (4-year degree)
5	7 Some postgraduate work, no degree
18	8 Master's degree
5	9 Doctoral or law degree (including PhD)
<1	99 Not sure or refused (DO NOT READ)

# F2. Are you currently single and never married, unmarried and living with a partner, married, separated, widowed, or divorced?

%	n=604
11	1 Single
2	2 Unmarried, living with partner
62	3 Married
2	4 Separated
9	5 Widowed
13	6 Divorced
<1	8 Other (VOL)
1	9 Not sure or refused (DO NOT READ)

# F3. Are you (IF MARRIED ADD: "or your spouse") a member of A-A-R-P?

%	n=604
48	1 Yes, AARP member
50	2 No, not AARP member
2	9 Not sure or refused (DO NOT READ)

# F4. Do you currently collect Social Security benefits?

%	n=604
45	1 Yes, collect Social Security benefits
54	2 No, do not collect benefits
1	9 Not sure or refused (DO NOT READ)

F5. Do you currently have any health insurance coverage through Medicare?

%	n=604
47	1 Yes
52	2 No
1	9 Not sure or refused (DO NOT READ)

F6. Are you an active or former military member?

%	n=604
11	1 Yes
89	2 No
<1	9 Not sure or refused (DO NOT READ)

F7. Do you (IF MARRIED: "or your spouse") have a parent or older relative living in your household?

%	n=604
13	1 Yes
87	2 No
0	9 Not sure or refused (DO NOT READ)

F8. Are you from a Hispanic or Spanish-speaking background?

%	n=604
13	1 Yes, Hispanic
86	2 No, not Hispanic
1	9 Not sure or refused (DO NOT READ)

F9. What is your race—white, black or African American, Asian, or something else?

%	n=604
85	1 White
4	2 Black/African American
4	3 Asian
5	4 Hispanic (VOL)
<1	5 Something else
2	9 Not sure or refused (DO NOT READ)

F10. Which of the following do you feel best describes your political perspective? [READ LIST]

%	n=604
25	1 Liberal or progressive
40	2 Moderate
28	3 Conservative
7	9 Not sure or refused (DO NOT READ)

F11. Do you think of yourself as **[INSERT 1-3, ROTATE ORDER]**, or something else?

%	n=604
39	1 A Democrat
30	2 An Independent
26	3 A Republican
2	4 Something else
0	7 Other (DO NOT READ)
3	8 Not sure/ nothing (DO NOT READ)
1	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)

F12. Finally, if you added together the yearly income of all the members of your family who were living at home in 2017, would the total be...? [READ LIST]

%	n=604
7	1 Less than \$25,000
14	2 \$25,000 to less than \$50,000
15	3 \$50,000 to less than \$75,000
20	4 \$75,000 to less than \$100,000
19	5 \$100,000 to less than \$150,000
17	6 \$150,000 or more
1	8 Not sure/ nothing (DO NOT READ)
7	9 Refused (DO NOT READ)