



Executive Summary

New Jersey Statewide Red Light Camera Survey

This Executive Summary focuses on a National Research Inc. telephone (cell phone and landline) survey conducted in New Jersey on June 6-8. The survey was conducted among 600 likely voters and has a margin of error of +/- 4% in 95 out of 100 cases. The sample is 22% Republican, 35% Democrat and 43% unaffiliated. Males comprise 48% of the sample, and females 52%.

OVERALL SUMMARY

There is broad and deep support (77%) for red light safety cameras at busy intersections in New Jersey. This support transcends partisan and other demographic lines. By a 3 to 1 margin, voters reject the idea that red light cameras are an invasion of privacy and a money grab by municipalities. Voters are most supportive because of the cameras' ability to reduce accidents and save lives, and a strong majority of voters believe that all communities should have access to these cameras, provided that they are not funded by taxpayers.

BROAD SUPPORT OF RED LIGHT SAFETY CAMERAS

- By a **77%-22%** margin, voters **support the use of red light safety cameras** at New Jersey's busiest intersections, to monitor drivers who run red lights.
- When supporters were asked in an open ended question WHY they supported the cameras, **69% cited the safety** of other drivers and pedestrians, and **59% cited law enforcement** and prevention of violating the law. (Numbers sum to more than 100% as multiple responses were accepted)
- When faced with competing arguments for and against red light safety cameras, **71% agreed that they are beneficial** because they make roads safer, while 24% felt that they infringe on drivers' privacy and they are just being used as a "money grab."
- **More than half (56%) report that they are a more careful driver** when they know that red light safety cameras are present.
- **Seven in ten (71%) believe that OTHER drivers are more careful** when they know that red light safety cameras are present.

(more)

- By a **71%-24%** margin, voters feel that **all communities should have access** to this technology, provided that they are not funded with taxpayer dollars.
- When it comes to specific places where cameras might be used, **support was highest in school zones** (74% support), followed by construction zones (59%). Support was less enthusiastic for local roads (45%)

THE BOTTOM LINE

There is strong support for red light cameras at the state's busy intersections and at places where safety is particularly crucial. Voters are most supportive when they know the cameras will not be paid for with public funds. While they are appreciative that the money realized from fining violators will benefit the municipality where the offense takes place, voters are far more supportive of cameras due to the very simple and effective safety features they provide.

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