

## Poll: New Jerseyans don't think we're 'back to normal' after Sandy

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A majority of New Jerseyans believe it will take one to five years for the state to get "back to normal" after Hurricane Sandy and roughly 90 percent think Shore communities need to construct seawalls or dunes to prevent similar flood damage from happening in the future, a new Rutgers-Eagleton Poll released today found.

Sixty-four percent of New Jerseyans questioned believe it will take years for the state to fully recover from the storm, according the poll, compared with just 15 percent who believe "normalcy" will return with a year.

"Most residents recognize Sandy recovery is a long-term process, and know it will be quite some time before we have recovered," said David Redlawsk, director of the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll and a political science professor at Rutgers University. "In addition, they support efforts to ensure damage of this magnitude is less likely in the future, even if it means implementing such costly measures as dune construction and elevated buildings."

Residents were split, however, on whether shorefront properties should be repaired to conditions before the storm or rebuilt with significant modifications, according to the poll. The poll also showed half of the state's residents were personally affected by the storm, 10 percent of them seriously.

Rutgers surveyed 923 people for the poll from April 3 to 7. The margin of error is 3.2 percentage points.

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