

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC
Form N-CSR
July 31, 2003

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-CSR

CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Investment Company Act file number 811-6570

Name of Fund: MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc.

Fund Address: P.O. Box 9011
Princeton, NJ 08543-9011

Name and address of agent for service: Terry K. Glenn, President, MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc., 800 Scudders Mill Road, Plainsboro, NJ 08536. Mailing address: P.O. Box 9011, Princeton, NJ 08543-9011

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (609) 282-2800

Date of fiscal year end: 11/30/03

Date of reporting period: 12/01/02 - 05/31/03

Item 1 - Attach shareholder report

[LOGO] Merrill Lynch Investment Managers

Semi-Annual Report
May 31, 2003

MuniYield
New Jersey
Fund, Inc.

www.mlim.ml.com

MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND, INC.

The Benefits and
Risks of
Leveraging

MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc. utilizes leveraging to seek to enhance the yield and net asset value of its Common Stock. However, these objectives cannot be achieved in all interest rate environments. To leverage, the Fund issues Preferred Stock, which pays dividends at prevailing short-term interest rates, and invests the proceeds in long-term municipal bonds. The interest earned on these investments is paid to Common Stock shareholders in the form of dividends, and the value of these portfolio holdings is reflected in the per share net asset value of the Fund's Common Stock. However, in order to benefit Common Stock shareholders, the yield curve must be positively sloped; that is, short-term interest rates must be lower than long-term interest rates. At the same time, a period of generally declining interest rates will benefit Common

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

Stock shareholders. If either of these conditions change, then the risks of leveraging will begin to outweigh the benefits.

To illustrate these concepts, assume a fund's Common Stock capitalization of \$100 million and the issuance of Preferred Stock for an additional \$50 million, creating a total value of \$150 million available for investment in long-term municipal bonds. If prevailing short-term interest rates are approximately 3% and long-term interest rates are approximately 6%, the yield curve has a strongly positive slope. The fund pays dividends on the \$50 million of Preferred Stock based on the lower short-term interest rates. At the same time, the fund's total portfolio of \$150 million earns the income based on long-term interest rates. Of course, increases in short-term interest rates would reduce (and even eliminate) the dividends on the Common Stock.

In this case, the dividends paid to Preferred Stock shareholders are significantly lower than the income earned on the fund's long-term investments, and therefore the Common Stock shareholders are the beneficiaries of the incremental yield. However, if short-term interest rates rise, narrowing the differential between short-term and long-term interest rates, the incremental yield pickup on the Common Stock will be reduced or eliminated completely. At the same time, the market value of the fund's Common Stock (that is, its price as listed on the New York Stock Exchange) may, as a result, decline. Furthermore, if long-term interest rates rise, the Common Stock's net asset value will reflect the full decline in the price of the portfolio's investments, since the value of the fund's Preferred Stock does not fluctuate. In addition to the decline in net asset value, the market value of the fund's Common Stock may also decline.

As a part of its investment strategy, the Fund may invest in certain securities whose potential income return is inversely related to changes in a floating interest rate ("inverse floaters"). In general, income on inverse floaters will decrease when short-term interest rates increase and increase when short-term interest rates decrease. Investments in inverse floaters may be characterized as derivative securities and may subject the Fund to the risks of reduced or eliminated interest payments and losses of invested principal. In addition, inverse floaters have the effect of providing investment leverage and, as a result, the market value of such securities will generally be more volatile than that of fixed-rate, tax-exempt securities. To the extent the Fund invests in inverse floaters, the market value of the Fund's portfolio and the net asset value of the Fund's shares may also be more volatile than if the Fund did not invest in these securities.

Swap Agreements

The Fund may also invest in swap agreements, which are over-the-counter contracts in which one party agrees to make periodic payments based on the change in market value of a specified bond, basket of bonds, or index in return for periodic payments based on a fixed or variable interest rate or the change in market value of a different bond, basket of bonds or index. Swap agreements may be used to obtain exposure to a bond or market without owning or taking physical custody of securities.

MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc., May 31, 2003

DEAR SHAREHOLDER

For the six months ended May 31, 2003, the Common Stock of MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc. had a net annualized yield of 6.06%, based on a period-end per share net asset value of \$15.89 and \$.480 per share income dividends. Over the same

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

period, the total investment return on the Fund's Common Stock was +10.64%, based on a change in per share net asset value from \$14.84 to \$15.89, and assuming reinvestment of \$.480 per share ordinary income dividends.

For the six-month period ended May 31, 2003, the Fund's Auction Market Preferred Stock had an average yield of 1.00% for Series A and .92% for Series B.

For a description of the Fund's total investment return based on a change in the per share market value (as measured by the trading price of the Fund's share on the New York Stock Exchange), and assuming reinvestment of dividends, please refer to the Financial Highlights section of the Financial Statements included in this report. As a closed-end fund, the Fund's shares may trade in the secondary market at a premium or discount to the Fund's net asset value. As a result, total investment returns based on changes in the Fund's market value can vary significantly from total investment return based on changes in the Fund's net asset value.

The Municipal Market Environment

During the six months ended May 31, 2003, long-term interest rates generally decreased with the bulk of this decline occurring in April and May. Early in the period, geopolitical tensions and volatile equity valuations continued to overshadow economic fundamentals as they have for most of the last 12 months. In December 2002, the U.S. Commerce Department announced that third-quarter 2002 real U.S. gross domestic product grew at a 4% rate, well above the 1.3% rate exhibited during the second quarter of 2002. Despite this, and other examples of positive economic activity, U.S. Treasury bond yields declined more than 25 basis points (.25%) to 4.75% by late December as investors became increasingly concerned about potential military conflicts with both Iraq and North Korea.

International political tensions moderated somewhat in early 2003 and U.S. equity markets rallied strongly in reaction to President Bush's proposed economic stimulus/tax-reduction proposal. By mid-January 2003, U.S. Treasury bond yields rose to above 5% on expectations of stronger U.S. economic growth later in 2003. Reacting to disappointing 2002 holiday sales and corporate managements' attempts to scale back analysts' expectations of future earnings, equity markets were unable to maintain their earlier gains. By the end of February 2003, the Standard & Poor's (S&P) 500 Index had declined by approximately 10%. Fearing an eventual U.S./Iraq military confrontation, investors again sought the safety of U.S. Treasury obligations and the prices of fixed income issues rose. By the end of February 2003, U.S. Treasury bond yields had declined to 4.67%.

Bond yields continued to fall into early March. Once direct U.S. military action against Iraq began, however, bond yields quickly rose. Prior uncertainty surrounding the Iraqi situation was obviously removed and early U.S. military successes fostered the hope that hostilities would be quickly and positively concluded. Concurrently, the S&P 400 Index rose over 6% as investors, in part, sold fixed income issues to purchase equities in anticipation of a strong U.S. economic recovery once the Iraqi conflict was resolved. By mid-March, U.S. Treasury bond yields again rose above 5%. However, there was growing sentiment that hostilities may not be resolved in a matter of weeks, and U.S. Treasury bond yields again declined to end the month at 4.81%.

For the six months ended May 31, 2003, long-term U.S. Treasury bond yields ratcheted back to near 5% by mid-April as U.S. equity markets continued to improve and the safe-haven premium U.S. Treasury issues had commanded prior to the beginning of the Iraqi conflict continued to be withdrawn. However, with the swift, positive resolution of the Iraqi war, investors quickly resumed their focus on the fragile U.S. economic recovery. Business activity in the United States has remained sluggish, especially job creation. Investors have also been concerned that the recent SARS outbreak would have a material, negative impact

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

on world economic conditions, especially in China and Japan. First-quarter 2003 U.S. gross domestic product was released in late April initially estimating U.S. economic activity to be growing at 1.60%, well below many analysts' assessments. These factors, as well as the possibility that the Federal Reserve Board could again lower short-term interest rates to encourage more robust U.S. economic growth, pushed bond prices higher during the last two weeks of the period. By April 30, 2003, long-term U.S. Treasury bond yields had declined to almost 4.75%.

At its early May meeting, the Federal Reserve Board left the short-term interest rate target unchanged at 1.25%, its lowest level in more than 40 years. In its accompanying statement, the Federal Reserve Board noted that while the pace of U.S. economic growth was likely to expand going forward, the "probability of an unwelcome substantial fall in inflation" was a matter of greater concern. Many fixed income investors quickly concluded that since the Federal Reserve Board's focus was now centered on preventing future deflation, additional reduction in short-term interest rates could be expected. Given already low nominal interest rates, these investors also believed that the Federal Reserve Board was likely to purchase longer-term U.S. Treasury issues to push bond yields lower to further stimulate U.S. economic activity, especially the already-vibrant housing industry. These factors combined to trigger a major bond rally for the remainder of the month. At the end of May 2003, long-term U.S. Treasury bond yields fell to approximately 4.375%, a decline of approximately 40 basis points during the month. For the past six months, long-term U.S. Treasury bond yields declined over 65 basis points to their lowest levels since the early 1960s.

During the period ended May 31, 2003, long-term tax-exempt bond yields also fell. However, yield volatility was reduced relative to that seen in U.S. Treasury issues, as municipal bond prices were much less sensitive to worldwide geopolitical pressures both on a daily and weekly basis. Tax-exempt bond prices generally followed their taxable counterparts higher, responding to a more positive U.S. fixed income environment and continued slow economic growth. Municipal bond yields generally declined through February 2003. At February 28, 2003, long-term tax-exempt revenue bond yields, as measured by the Bond Buyer Revenue Bond Index, fell to approximately 5.05%. However, similar to U.S. Treasury bond yields, once military action began in Iraq, municipal bond yields rose sharply to nearly 5.20% before declining to approximately 4.80% by the end of May. For the past six months, long-term tax-exempt bond yields fell approximately 45 basis points, slightly less than U.S. Treasury obligations.

A number of factors combined to generate consistently strong demand for municipal bonds throughout the six-month period ended May 31, 2003. Generally weak U.S. equity markets supported continued positive demand for tax-exempt products as investors sought the relative security of fixed income issues. Also, with tax-exempt money market rates near 1%, the demand for longer maturity municipal issues increased as investors opted to buy longer maturity issues rather than remain in cash reserves. Additionally, investors received approximately \$30 billion in January 2003 from bond maturities, coupon income and proceeds from early redemptions. An additional \$50 billion in similar monies are expected to be received from June to August 2003. However, these positive demand factors have not been totally able to offset the increase in tax-exempt new-issue supply, preventing more significant declines in tax-exempt bond yields. This modest underperformance served to make municipal bonds a particularly attractive purchase relative to their taxable counterparts. Throughout most of the yield curve, municipal bonds have been available for purchase at yields near or exceeding those of comparable Treasury issues. Compared to their recent historical averages of 82% - 88% of U.S. Treasury yields, municipal bond yield ratios in their current 95% - 105% range are likely to prove attractive to long-term investors.

Declining U.S. equity markets and escalating geopolitical pressures have resulted in reduced economic activity and consumer confidence. It is important

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

to note that, despite all the recent negative factors impeding the growth of U.S. businesses, the U.S. economy still grew at an approximate 2.50% rate for all of 2002, twice that of 2001. Similar expansion is expected for early 2003. Lower oil prices, reduced geopolitical uncertainties,

2 & 3

MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc., May 31, 2003

increased Federal spending for defense, and a sizeable proposed Federal tax cut are all factors that should promote stronger economic growth later this year. However, it is questionable to expect that business and investor confidence can be so quickly restored as to trigger dramatic, explosive U.S. economic growth and engender associated, large-scale interest rate increases. The resumption of solid economic growth is likely to be a gradual process accompanied by equally graduated increases in bond yields. Moderate economic growth, especially within a context of negligible inflationary pressures, should not greatly endanger the positive fixed income environments tax-exempt products currently enjoy.

Specific to New Jersey, the state faces a deteriorating fiscal situation as continuing sluggish economic growth has resulted in lower-than-anticipated tax receipts. In fiscal 2003, a projected deficit of roughly \$5.3 billion was addressed by a combination of spending reductions and revenue enhancements. Among initiatives proposed by Governor McGreevey were a restructuring of the Corporate Business Tax, a hike in cigarette taxes and the imposition of delayed funding increases for municipalities, schools and certain state agencies. An additional \$1.8 billion was raised in August 2002 with the securitization of a portion of the state's anticipated tobacco settlement revenues. While these efforts were successful in balancing the budget, the significant reliance on non-recurring revenues will require further measures in the next year as a means to achieving structural balance. Indeed, on February 4, 2003, the Governor introduced the state's fiscal 2004 budget totaling \$23.7 billion in which it was proposed to eliminate a projected \$5 billion deficit with substantial job cuts, \$3.7 billion in spending reductions, and higher taxes on hotels, cigarettes and casinos. In addition to these measures, the state chose to complete the securitization of its share of tobacco settlement revenues arising from the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement with another \$1.65 billion issue that closed in late February 2003. Other issuance worthy of note occurred in March 2003 as the state refinanced \$375 million in taxable pension obligation bonds and subsequently raised \$500 million with the sale of Garden State Preservation Trust open space and farmland preservation bonds. Importantly, in early April 2003, New Jersey's Supreme Court, in a 4 - 3 vote, narrowly upheld the state's right to let authorities issue lease-backed debt without voter approval. In its decision, the Court ruled that because the state legislature must annually vote to approve the lease payments, the debt does not constitute a general obligation of the State. Currently, Moody's Investors Service assigns the state a rating of Aa2 with a negative outlook, while Standard & Poor's maintains a rating of AA with a stable outlook. While these ratings clearly reflect such underlying fundamental strengths as a highly educated workforce and a diverse economic base, it seems likely that prospects for the state's credit ratings hinge largely on the degree to which policymakers successfully deal with the fiscal and economic challenges that lie ahead.

Portfolio Strategy

During the six-month period ended May 31, 2003, portfolio activity consisted primarily of the modest reallocation of portfolio assets into longer-dated securities. In some cases, funding for these purchases came from the early redemption of a portion of the Fund's more seasoned holdings as issuers sought to refinance existing debt in the current low interest rate environment. Other

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

sources included proceeds from the sale of bonds that have been advance refunded and, as a consequence, were valued at substantial premiums. Despite the attractive coupon income typically associated with this type of bond, the premiums tended to amortize at a rapid pace offsetting some of the income-related benefits. Given the uncertainty over future reinvestment prospects, we considered it prudent to lock in gains on the appreciated securities and reinvest the proceeds in high quality bonds maturing in the 20-year - 25-year range. The shape of the municipal yield curve has become unusually steep in recent months, offering an attractive opportunity to add incremental yield to the portfolio by modestly extending the average maturity of its holdings.

In terms of sector allocation, tax-backed obligations represented the single largest portfolio commitment, comprising roughly 36% of portfolio assets. The majority of these holdings were bonds issued by a broad cross section of local school districts and municipalities as well as state agencies carrying the implicit guarantee of the state. At approximately 18%, health care was the portfolio's next largest sector holding, while transportation issues and industrial development bonds comprised the next two largest concentrations, at 13% and 11%, respectively. Several of the investments within these two categories represented exposure to higher-yielding, low investment grade credits. Credit spreads within the municipal market remain wide on a historical basis and, in our opinion, offer attractive value both in terms of total return potential as well as income enhancement. Nevertheless, the overall credit profile remained quite strong with about 85% of portfolio assets rated in one of the top three rating categories by at least one of the major rating agencies.

In the months ahead, our portfolio strategy will be premised on the expectation that an aggressively accommodative monetary policy, coupled with improving consumer sentiment and business confidence, will spark an economic rebound. Recently, prospects for the passage of an aggressive economic stimulus bill improved dramatically, further raising the likelihood of stronger economic growth. Nevertheless, fixed income markets remain well bid, as existing geopolitical risks are likely to dominate investors' thoughts for the near term. With this in mind, the portfolio remains positioned for stable-to-modestly higher interest rates, while the adoption of a fully defensive stance appears unwarranted until such time as these risks subside. As before, cash reserves will be maintained at minimal levels, reflecting a strong emphasis on preserving the Fund's competitive income distribution.

During the six-month period ended May 31, 2003, the Fund's borrowing costs remained in the 1% - 1.50% range, with interest rates presently near 1%. These very attractive funding levels, in combination with the steep tax-exempt yield curve, continued to generate a significant income benefit to the Fund's Common Stock shareholder. We do not expect any material reduction in the Fund's borrowing costs in 2003, although expectations of an additional modest easing by the Federal Reserve Board have recently risen. We expect the Fund's short-term borrowing costs to remain at current attractive levels for the coming months. However, should the spread between short-term and long-term interest rates narrow, the benefits of leverage will decline and the yield to the Fund's Common Stock shareholder will be reduced. (For a more complete explanation of the benefits and risks of leveraging, see page 1 of this report to shareholders.)

In Conclusion

We appreciate your ongoing interest in MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc., and we look forward to assisting you with your financial needs in the months and years ahead.

Sincerely,

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

/s/ Terry K. Glenn

Terry K. Glenn
President and Director

/s/ Kenneth A. Jacob

Kenneth A. Jacob
Senior Vice President

/s/ John M. Loffredo

John M. Loffredo
Senior Vice President

/s/ Theodore R. Jaeckel Jr.

Theodore R. Jaeckel Jr.
Vice President and Portfolio Manager

June 16, 2003

4 & 5

MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc., May 31, 2003

PROXY RESULTS

During the six-month period ended May 31, 2003, MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc.'s Common Stock shareholders voted on the following proposal. The proposal was approved at a shareholders' meeting on April 28, 2003. A description of the proposal and number of shares voted are as follows:

		Shares Vo
		For
1. To elect the Fund's Directors:	Terry K. Glenn	13,424,8
	James H. Bodurtha	13,445,0
	Joe Grills	13,440,4
	Robertta Cooper Ramo	13,446,8
	Robert S. Salomon, Jr.	13,440,6
	Stephen B. Swensrud	13,436,0

During the six-month period ended May 31, 2003, MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc.'s Preferred Stock shareholders (Series A & B) voted on the following proposal. The proposal was approved at a shareholders' meeting on April 28, 2003. A description of the proposal and number of shares voted are as follows:

1. To elect the Fund's Board of Directors: Terry K. Glenn, James H. Bodurtha, Joe Grills, Herbert I. London, Andre F. Perold, Roberta Cooper Ramo, Robert S. Salomon, Jr. and Stephen B. Swensrud

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

(in Thousands)

STATE	S&P Ratings	Moody's Ratings	Face Amount	Municipal Bonds
New Jersey--128.8%	AA	NR*	\$ 1,000	Burlington County, New Jersey, Bridge Commission (Governmental Leasing Program), 5.25% due 8/1/2023
	AAA	Aaa	6,925	Cape May County, New Jersey, Industrial Pollution Authority Revenue Bonds (Atlantic City Electric Company), Series A, 7.20% due 11/01/2029 (d)
	NR*	Aaa	3,930	Delaware River Port Authority of Pennsylvania, Series 396, 10.553% due 1/01/2019
	NR*	Aaa	2,470	Essex County, New Jersey, Improvement Authority Series A (b): 4.50% due 10/01/2023
	NR*	Aaa	2,620	5% due 10/01/2028
	AAA	Aaa	6,860	Garden State Preservation Trust, New Jersey, Revenue Bonds, Series B: 5.12%** due 11/01/2023 (c)
	AAA	Aaa	4,540	5.25%** due 11/01/2028
	AAA	Aaa	3,440	Garden State Preservation Trust, New Jersey, Series A, 5% due 11/01/2020 (c)
	BBB	NR*	1,180	Gloucester County, New Jersey, Improvement Authority Resource Recovery Revenue Refunding Bonds (Waste-to-Energy Project): AMT, Series B, 7% due 12/01/2029
	BBB	NR*	2,000	Series A, 6.85% due 12/01/2029
	AAA	Aaa	1,500	Hudson County, New Jersey, COP, Refunding, 6.125% due 11/01/2024
	AAA	NR*	13,950	Hudson County, New Jersey, Improvement Authority Revenue Refunding Bonds (Hudson County Leasehold Improvement), due 10/01/2024 (b)
	AAA	Aaa	3,090	Jackson Township, New Jersey, School District, 5% due 4/15/2018
	AAA	Aaa	3,750	5% due 4/15/2019
	AAA	Aaa	2,235	Monmouth County, New Jersey, Improvement Authority Loan Revenue Refunding Bonds (a): 5% due 12/01/2015
	AAA	Aaa	2,345	5% due 12/01/2016

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

				New Jersey EDA, EDR (Masonic Charity Foundati
A+	NR*	600	5.25% due 6/01/2024	
A+	NR*	685	5.25% due 6/01/2032	
BBB-	NR*	1,500	New Jersey EDA, First Mortgage Revenue Bonds Series C, 5.50% due 1/01/2028	
				New Jersey EDA, First Mortgage Revenue Refund Village), Series A:
BBB-	NR*	1,250	5.50% due 1/01/2018	
BBB-	NR*	3,500	5.50% due 1/01/2025	
NR*	Aaa	5,575	New Jersey EDA, Natural Gas Facilities Revenue Corporation), RIB, Series 371, 10.77% due 10/	
				New Jersey EDA, Revenue Bonds:
A	NR*	700	(Department of Human Services), 5% due 7/01	
A	NR*	1,220	(Department of Human Services), 5% due 7/01	
A	NR*	750	(Department of Human Services), 5% due 7/01	
AAA	Aaa	2,400	(Educational Testing Service), Series B, 6.	
NR*	Aaa	3,850	(Saint Barnabas Project), Series A, 6.30%**	
AAA	Aaa	5,000	(School Facilities--Construction), GO, Seri	
				due 6/15/2019 (a)
AAA	Aaa	10,000	(Transportation Project), Sublease, Series	
				due 5/01/2015 (c)
AAA	Aaa	2,500	New Jersey EDA, Revenue Refunding Bonds (RWJ Corporation), 6.50% due 7/01/2024 (c)	

Portfolio

Abbreviations

To simplify the listings of MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc.'s portfolio holdings in the Schedule of Investments, we have abbreviated the names of many of the securities according to the list on the right.

AMT	Alternative Minimum Tax (subject to)
COP	Certificates of Participation
DRIVERS	Derivative Inverse Tax-Exempt Receipts
EDA	Economic Development Authority
EDR	Economic Development Revenue Bonds
GO	General Obligation Bonds
M/F	Multi-Family
RIB	Residual Interest Bonds

6 & 7

MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc., May 31, 2003

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (continued)

(in Thousands)

STATE	S&P Ratings	Moody's Ratings	Face Amount	Municipal Bonds
=====				
New Jersey	NR*	Aaa	\$ 3,335	New Jersey EDA, Water Facilities Revenue Bond

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

(concluded)

417, 12.25% due 11/01/2034 (b) (e)

AAA	Aaa	1,850	New Jersey EDA, Water Facilities Revenue Refunding Bonds (Water), AMT, Series B, 5.125% due 4/01/2022 (b) (e)
AAA	Aaa	5,975	New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust Revenue Bonds (Environmental Infrastructure), Series A, 5.25% due 7/01/2026
A	A2	1,305	New Jersey Health Care Facilities Financing Authority Revenue Bonds (Catholic Health East), Series A, 6.25% due 7/01/2026
BB+	NR*	3,345	New Jersey Health Care Facilities Financing Authority Revenue Bonds (Pascack Valley Hospital Association), 6.625% due 7/01/2026
AAA	Aaa	4,000	(Robert Wood University), 5.70% due 7/01/2026
NR*	Baa2	1,875	(Somerset Medical Center), 5.50% due 7/01/2026
NR*	Baa1	6,640	(South Jersey Hospital), 6% due 7/01/2026
AA	NR*	2,000	(Southern Ocean County Hospital), 5.125% due 7/01/2026
NR*	Baa1	4,200	(Southern Ocean County Hospital), Series A, 6.25% due 7/01/2026
A-	A3	1,020	New Jersey Health Care Facilities Financing Authority Refunding Bonds: (Atlantic City Medical Center), 6.25% due 7/01/2026
A-	A3	2,185	(Atlantic City Medical Center), 5.75% due 7/01/2026
BBB	NR*	2,000	(Christian Health Care Center), Series A, 5.25% due 7/01/2026
BBB+	NR*	5,500	(Holy Name Hospital), 6% due 7/01/2025
AAA	Aaa	2,155	(Jersey Shore Medical Center), 6.75% due 7/01/2026
AAA	Aaa	1,500	(Meridian Health System Obligation Group), 5.25% due 7/01/2026
AAA	Aaa	2,250	(Meridian Health System Obligation Group), 5.25% due 7/01/2026
AAA	Aaa	2,195	(Meridian Health System Obligation Group), 5.25% due 7/01/2026
AAA	Aaa	1,000	(Monmouth Medical Center), Series C, 6.25% due 7/01/2026
BBB-	Baa3	2,075	(Saint Elizabeth Hospital Obligation Group), 5.25% due 7/01/2026
AAA	Aaa	4,150	New Jersey State Educational Facilities Authority Capital Improvement Revenue Bonds, Series A, 5.25% due 7/01/2017
AAA	Aaa	1,730	New Jersey State Educational Facilities Authority Revenue Bonds (Rowan University), Series B (b): 5.25% due 7/01/2017
AAA	Aaa	1,620	5.25% due 7/01/2018
AAA	Aaa	3,870	New Jersey State Educational Facilities Authority Revenue Bonds: (Princeton Theological Seminary), 5% due 7/01/2017
AA	NR*	1,000	(Rider University), 5% due 7/01/2017 (f)
AAA	Aaa	1,515	(William Paterson University), Series E, 5.25% due 7/01/2017
AAA	Aaa	1,595	(William Paterson University), Series E, 5.25% due 7/01/2017
AAA	Aaa	1,680	(William Paterson University), Series E, 5.25% due 7/01/2017
AA	Aa2	2,105	New Jersey State, GO, AMT, 7.05% due 7/15/2000
AAA	Aaa	8,600	New Jersey State Higher Education Assistance Authority Revenue Bonds, AMT, Series A, 5.30% due 6/01/2026
AA-	A1	2,500	New Jersey State Highway Authority, Garden State Turnpike Authority Revenue Refunding Bonds, 5.625% due 1/01/2030
AAA	Aaa	5,350	New Jersey State Housing and Mortgage Finance Authority Revenue Bonds, AMT (d): Series CC, 5.80% due 10/01/2020
AAA	Aaa	1,385	Series M, 7% due 10/01/2026
AAA	Aaa	3,335	Series U, 5.60% due 10/01/2012

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

	AAA	Aaa	1,925	New Jersey State Housing and Mortgage Finance Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series A, 6.05% due
	AAA	Aaa	7,150	New Jersey State Transit Corporation, COP: 6.50% due 4/01/2007 (c) (g)
	A-	A2	3,620	(Federal Transit Administration Grants), Se due 9/15/2014
	AAA	Aaa	5,250	New Jersey State Transportation Trust Fund Au System Revenue Bonds, Series B, 5% due 6/15/2
	AAA	Aaa	1,540	New Jersey State Transportation Trust Fund Au System Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series B (d) (
	AAA	Aaa	7,000	6% due 12/15/2011 6% due 12/15/2011
	AAA	Aaa	5,000	New Jersey State Turnpike Authority, Turnpike Bonds, Series A, 5.75% due 1/01/2019 (d)
	AA-	A1	5,000	Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Co Bonds, 93rd Series, 6.125% due 6/01/2094
	AAA	Aaa	4,435	Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Re Receipts, AMT, Class R, Series 10, 10.248% du
	AAA	Aaa	5,300	Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Re DRIVERS, Series 153, 8.999% due 9/15/2012 (b)
	AAA	Aaa	2,000	Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Sp Revenue Bonds (JFK International Air Terminal due 12/01/2022 (d)
	A	NR*	4,280	South Jersey Port Corporation of New Jersey, 4.75% due 1/01/2018
	A	NR*	2,485	4.85% due 1/01/2019
	A	NR*	2,000	5% due 1/01/2020
	A-	Baa2	5,510	Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation of N 6.75% due 6/01/2039
	A-	Baa2	4,010	7% due 6/01/2041
	AAA	Aaa	1,585	Union County, New Jersey, Utilities Authority Refunding Bonds (Ogden Martin System of Union
	AAA	Aaa	1,175	5.375% due 6/01/2017 5.375% due 6/01/2018
	AAA	Aaa	945	University of Medicine and Dentistry, New Jer Series A (a): 5.50% due 12/01/2018
	AAA	Aaa	1,900	5.50% due 12/01/2019
	AAA	Aaa	1,870	5.50% due 12/01/2020
	AAA	Aaa	1,435	5.50% due 12/01/2021
Pennsylvania--1.7%	A-	A2	3,645	Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission, Revenue Refunding Bonds, 5% due 7/01/2028

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc., May 31, 2003

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (concluded)

(in Thousands)

	S&P Ratings	Moody's Ratings	Face Amount	Municipal Bonds
Puerto Rico--8.2%	AAA	Aaa	\$ 5,250	Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority, Power R Series HH, 5.25% due 7/01/2029 (c)
	NR*	Baa2	2,000	Puerto Rico Industrial, Tourist, Educational, Environmental Control Facilities Revenue Bond Facility--AES Puerto Rico Project), AMT, 6.62
	AAA	NR*	8,750	Puerto Rico Public Buildings Authority Revenue Series 211, 9.10% due 7/01/2021 (d) (e)
Virgin Islands--1.6%	BBB-	Baa3	3,500	Virgin Islands Government Refinery Facilities (Hovensa Coker Project), AMT, 6.50% due 7/01/
				Total Municipal Bonds (Cost--\$287,802)--140.3
				Shares Held
				Short-Term Securities
				1,103
				CMA New Jersey Municipal Money Fund (i)
				Total Short-Term Securities (Cost--\$1,103)--0
				Total Investments (Cost--\$288,905)--140.8%
				Other Assets Less Liabilities--2.4%
				Preferred Stock, at Redemption Value--(43.2%)
				Net Assets Applicable to Common Stock--100.0%

* Not Rated.

** Represents a zero coupon; the interest rate shown reflects the effective yield at the time of purchase by the Fund.

(a) AMBAC Insured.

(b) FGIC Insured.

(c) FSA Insured.

(d) MBIA Insured.

(e) The interest rate is subject to change periodically and inversely based upon prevailing market rates. The interest rate shown is the rate in effect at May 31, 2003.

(f) Radian Insured.

(g) Prerefunded.

(h) XL Capital Insured.

(i) Investments in companies considered to be an affiliate of the Fund (such companies are defined as "Affiliated Companies" in Section 2(a)(3) of the Investment Company Act of 1940) are as follows:

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

(in Thousands)

Affiliate	Net Activity	Dividend Income
CMA New Jersey Municipal Money Fund	\$ (47)	\$5

See Notes to Financial Statements.

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

As of May 31, 2003

Assets:	Investments, at value (identified cost--\$288,904,547)
	Cash
	Interest receivable
	Prepaid expenses and other assets
	Total assets
Liabilities:	Payables:
	Dividends to Common Stock shareholders
	Investment adviser
	Other affiliates
	Accrued expenses and other liabilities
	Total liabilities
Preferred Stock:	Preferred Stock, at redemption value, par value \$.05 per share (2,400 Series A shares and 1,500 Series B shares of AMPS* issued and outstanding at \$25,000 per share liquidation preference)
Net Assets Applicable to Common Stock:	Net assets applicable to Common Stock
Analysis of Net Assets Applicable to Common Stock:	Common Stock, par value \$.10 per share (14,203,242 shares issued and outstanding)
	Paid-in capital in excess of par
	Undistributed investment income--net
	Accumulated realized capital losses on investments--net
	Unrealized appreciation on investments--net
	Total accumulated earnings--net
	Total--Equivalent to \$15.89 net asset value per share of Common Stock (market price--\$15.32)

* Auction Market Preferred Stock.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

10 & 11

MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc., May 31, 2003

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the Six Months Ended May 31, 2003

=====	
Investment Income:	Interest
	Dividends
	Total income
=====	
Expenses:	Investment advisory fees
	Commission fees
	Accounting services
	Professional fees
	Transfer agent fees
	Printing and shareholder reports
	Listing fees
	Directors' fees and expenses
	Custodian fees
	Pricing fees
	Other
	Total expenses before reimbursement
	Reimbursement of expenses
	Total expenses after reimbursement
	Investment income--net
=====	
Realized &	Realized gain on investments--net
Unrealized Gain on	Change in unrealized appreciation on investments--net
Investments--Net:	Total realized and unrealized gain on investments--net
=====	
Dividends to	Investment income--net
Preferred Stock	
Shareholders:	Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations
=====	

See Notes to Financial Statements.

STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets:

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

Operations:	Investment income--net	\$
	Realized gain (loss) on investments--net	
	Change in unrealized appreciation on investments--net	
	Dividends and distributions to Preferred Stock shareholders	
	Net increase in net assets resulting from operations	
Dividends & Distributions to Common Stock Shareholders:	Investment income--net	
	Realized gain on investments--net	
	Net decrease in net assets resulting from dividends and distributions to Common Stock shareholders	
Capital Stock Transactions:	Value of shares issued to Common Stock shareholders in reinvestment of dividends and distributions	
Net Assets Applicable to Common Stock:	Total increase in net assets applicable to Common Stock	
	Beginning of period	
	End of period*	\$
	* Undistributed investment income--net	\$

See Notes to Financial Statements.

12 & 13

MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc., May 31, 2003

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The following per share data and ratios have been derived from information provided in the financial statements.		For the Six Months Ended	
		May 31,	
Increase (Decrease) in Net Asset Value:		2003	2002
Per Share Operating Performance:+	Net asset value, beginning of period	\$ 14.84	\$ 14.78
	Investment income--net	.53@@@	1.06
	Realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments--net	1.03	.05
	Dividends and distributions to Preferred Stock shareholders:		
	Investment income--net	(.03)	(.09)
	Realized gain on investments--net	--	--
	In excess of realized gain on investments--net ...	--	--

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

	Total from investment operations	1.53	1.02
	Less dividends and distributions to Common Stock shareholders:		
	Investment income--net	(.48)	(.96)
	Realized gain on investments--net	--	--
	In excess of realized gain on investments--net ...	--	--
	Total dividends and distributions to Common Stock shareholders	(.48)	(.96)
	Net asset value, end of period	\$ 15.89	\$ 14.84
	Market price per share, end of period	\$ 15.32	\$ 14.07
=====			
Total Investment Return:**	Based on market price per share	12.32%*	4.27
	Based on net asset value per share	10.64%*	7.22
=====			
Ratios Based on Average Net Assets Of Common Stock:	Total expenses, net of reimbursement and excluding reorganization expenses***	1.02%*	1.05
	Total expenses, excluding reorganization expenses***	1.02%*	1.05
	Total expenses***	1.02%*	1.05
	Total investment income--net***	6.98%*	7.06
	Amount of dividends to Preferred Stock shareholders	.44%*	.58
	Investment income--net, to Common Stock shareholders	6.54%*	6.48
=====			
Ratios Based on Average Net Assets Of Common & Preferred Stock:***	Total expenses, net of reimbursement and excluding reorganization expenses	.70%*	.72
	Total expenses, excluding reorganization expenses ..	.71%*	.72
	Total expenses	.71%*	.72
	Total investment income--net	4.81%*	4.83
=====			
Ratios Based on Average Net Assets Of Preferred Stock:	Dividends to Preferred Stock shareholders	.97%*	1.25
=====			
Supplemental Data:	Net assets, applicable to Common Stock, end of period (in thousands)	\$225,720	\$210,727
	Preferred Stock outstanding, end of period (in thousands)	\$ 97,500	\$ 97,500
	Portfolio turnover	17.81%	41.47
=====			
Leverage:	Asset coverage per \$1,000	\$ 3,315	\$ 3,161
=====			
Dividends Per Share	Series A--Investment income--net	\$ 125	\$ 325

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

On Preferred Stock		=====	=====
Outstanding:++	Series B--Investment income--net	\$ 115	\$ 292
		=====	=====

* Annualized.

** Total investment returns based on market value, which can be significantly greater or lesser than the net asset value, may result in substantially different returns. Total investment returns exclude the effects of sales charges.

*** Do not reflect the effect of dividends to Preferred Stock shareholders.

+ Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to current year presentation.

++ The Fund's Preferred Stock was issued on November 30, 1992 for Series A and February 7, 2000 for Series B.

@ Aggregate total investment return.

@@ Amount is less than \$(.01) per share.

@@@ Based on average shares outstanding.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

14 & 15

MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc., May 31, 2003

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Significant Accounting Policies:

MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc. (the "Fund") is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, as a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company. The Fund's financial statements are prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, which may require the use of management accruals and estimates. These unaudited financial statements reflect all adjustments, which are, in the opinion of management, necessary to a fair statement of the results for the interim period presented. All such adjustments are of a normal, recurring nature. The Fund determines and makes available for publication the net asset value of its Common Stock on a weekly basis. The Fund's Common Stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol MYJ. The following is a summary of significant accounting policies followed by the Fund.

(a) Valuation of investments -- Municipal bonds are traded primarily in the over-the-counter markets and are valued at the most recent bid price or yield equivalent as obtained by the Fund's pricing service from dealers that make markets in such securities. Financial futures contracts and options thereon, which are traded on exchanges, are valued at their closing prices as of the close of such exchanges. Options written or purchased are valued at the last sale price in the case of exchange-traded options. In the case of options traded in the over-the-counter market, valuation is the last asked price (options written) or the last bid price (options purchased). Securities with remaining maturities of sixty days or less are valued at amortized cost, which approximates market value. Securities and assets for which market quotations are not readily available are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by or under the direction of the Board of Directors of the Fund, including valuations furnished by a pricing service retained by the Fund, which may utilize a matrix system for valuations. The procedures of the pricing service and its valuations are reviewed by the officers of the Fund under the general supervision of the Board of Directors.

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

(b) Derivative financial instruments -- The Fund may engage in various portfolio investment strategies both to increase the return of the Fund and to hedge, or protect, its exposure to interest rate movement and movements in the securities markets. Losses may arise due to changes in the value of the contract or if the counterparty does not perform under the contract.

o Financial futures contracts -- The Fund may purchase or sell financial futures contracts and options on such futures contracts. Futures contracts are contracts for delayed delivery of securities at a specific future date and at a specific price or yield. Upon entering into a contract, the Fund deposits and maintains as collateral such initial margin as required by the exchange on which the transaction is effected. Pursuant to the contract, the Fund agrees to receive from or pay to the broker an amount of cash equal to the daily fluctuation in value of the contract. Such receipts or payments are known as variation margin and are recorded by the Fund as unrealized gains or losses. When the contract is closed, the Fund records a realized gain or loss equal to the difference between the value of the contract at the time it was opened and the value at the time it was closed.

o Options -- The Fund is authorized to write covered call options and purchase put options. When the Fund writes an option, an amount equal to the premium received by the Fund is reflected as an asset and an equivalent liability. The amount of the liability is subsequently marked to market to reflect the current market value of the option written. When a security is purchased or sold through an exercise of an option, the related premium paid (or received) is added to (or deducted from) the basis of the security acquired or deducted from (or added to) the proceeds of the security sold. When an option expires (or the Fund enters into a closing transaction), the Fund realizes a gain or loss on the option to the extent of the premiums received or paid (or gain or loss to the extent the cost of the closing transaction exceeds the premium paid or received).

Written and purchased options are non-income producing investments.

o Forward interest rate swaps -- The Fund is authorized to enter into forward interest rate swaps. In a forward interest rate swap, the Fund and the counterparty agree to pay or receive interest on a specified notional contract amount, commencing on a specified future effective date, unless terminated earlier. The value of the agreement is determined by quoted fair values received daily by the Fund from the counterparty. When the agreement is closed, the Fund records a realized gain or loss in an amount equal to the value of the agreement.

(c) Income taxes -- It is the Fund's policy to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute substantially all of its taxable income to its shareholders. Therefore, no Federal income tax provision is required.

(d) Security transactions and investment income -- Security transactions are recorded on the dates the transactions are entered into (the trade dates). Realized gains and losses on security transactions are determined on the identified cost basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Interest income is recognized on the accrual basis. The Fund amortizes all premiums and discounts on debt securities.

(e) Dividends and distributions -- Dividends from net investment income are declared and paid monthly. Distributions of capital gains are recorded on the ex-dividend dates.

2. Investment Advisory Agreement and Transactions with Affiliates:

The Fund has entered into an Investment Advisory Agreement with Fund Asset

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

Management, L.P. ("FAM"). The general partner of FAM is Princeton Services, Inc. ("PSI"), an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. ("ML & Co."), which is the limited partner.

FAM is responsible for the management of the Fund's portfolio and provides the necessary personnel, facilities, equipment and certain other services necessary to the operations of the Fund. For such services, the Fund pays a monthly fee at an annual rate of .50% of the Fund's average weekly net assets, including proceeds from the issuance of Preferred Stock. For the six months ended May 31, 2003, FAM reimbursed the Fund in the amount of \$3,504.

For the six months ended May 31, 2003, the Fund reimbursed FAM \$3,578 for certain accounting services.

Certain officers and/or directors of the Fund are officers and/or directors of FAM, PSI, and/or ML & Co.

3. Investments:

Purchases and sales of investments, excluding short-term securities, for the six months ended May 31, 2003 were \$56,107,994 and \$55,162,203, respectively.

Net realized gains (losses) for the six months ended May 31, 2003 and net unrealized gains as of May 31, 2003 were as follows:

	Realized Gains (Losses)	Unrealized Gains
Long-term investments	\$ 660,398	\$28,992,302
Financial futures contracts	(507,751)	--
Total	\$ 152,647	\$28,992,302

As of May 31, 2003, net unrealized appreciation for Federal income tax purposes aggregated \$29,200,401, of which \$29,276,991 related to appreciated securities and \$76,590 related to depreciated securities. The aggregate cost of investments at May 31, 2003 for Federal income tax purposes was \$288,696,448.

4. Stock Transactions:

The Fund is authorized to issue 200,000,000 shares of stock, including Preferred Stock, par value \$.10 per share, all of which were initially classified as Common Stock. The Board

16 & 17

MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc., May 31, 2003

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (concluded)

of Directors is authorized, however, to reclassify any unissued shares of stock without approval of holders of Common Stock.

Common Stock

Shares issued and outstanding during the six months ended May 31, 2003 and the year ended November 30, 2002 remained constant.

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

Preferred Stock

AMPS are redeemable shares of Preferred Stock of the Fund, with a par value of \$.05 per share and a liquidation preference of \$25,000 per share plus accrued and unpaid dividends, that entitle their holders to receive cash dividends at an annual rate that may vary for the successive dividend periods. The yields in effect at May 31, 2003 were as follows: Series A, 1.08% and Series B, 1.05%.

Shares issued and outstanding during the six months ended May 31, 2003 and the year ended November 30, 2002 remained constant.

The Fund pays commissions to certain broker-dealers at the end of each auction at an annual rate ranging from .25% to .375%, calculated on the proceeds of each auction. For the six months ended May 31, 2003, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, an affiliate of FAM, earned \$61,229 as commissions.

5. Capital Loss Carryforward:

On November 30, 2002, the Fund had a net capital loss carryforward of \$8,257,247, of which \$1,401,088 expires in 2007 and \$6,856,159 expires in 2008. This amount will be available to offset like amounts of any future taxable gains.

6. Subsequent Event:

The Fund paid a tax-exempt income dividend to holders of Common Stock in the amount of \$.080000 per share on June 27, 2003 to shareholders of record on June 16, 2003.

MANAGED DIVIDEND POLICY

The Fund's dividend policy is to distribute all or a portion of its net investment income to its shareholders on a monthly basis. In order to provide shareholders with a more consistent yield to the current trading price of shares of Common Stock of the Fund, the Fund may at times pay out less than the entire amount of net investment income earned in any particular month and may at times in any month pay out such accumulated but undistributed income in addition to net investment income earned in that month. As a result, the dividends paid by the Fund for any particular month may be more or less than the amount of net investment income earned by the Fund during such month. The Fund's current accumulated but undistributed net investment income, if any, is disclosed in the Statement of Net Assets, which comprises part of the financial information included in this report.

QUALITY PROFILE

The quality ratings of securities in the Fund as of May 31, 2003 were as follows:

S&P Rating/Moody's Rating	Percent of Total Investments
AAA/Aaa	70.5%
AA/Aa	4.9
A/A	11.1
BBB/Baa	12.1
BB/Ba	1.1
NR (Not Rated)	0.3

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Terry K. Glenn, President and Director
James H. Bodurtha, Director
Joe Grills, Director
Herbert I. London, Director
Andre F. Perold, Director
Roberta Cooper Ramo, Director
Robert S. Salomon, Jr., Director
Stephen B. Swensrud, Director
Kenneth A. Jacob, Senior Vice President
John M. Loffredo, Senior Vice President
Theodore R. Jaeckel Jr., Vice President
Donald C. Burke, Vice President and Treasurer
Brian D. Stewart, Secretary

Custodian

The Bank of New York
100 Church Street
New York, NY 10286

Transfer Agents

Common Stock:

The Bank of New York
101 Barclay Street
New York, NY 10286

Preferred Stock:

The Bank of New York
100 Church Street
New York, NY 10286

NYSE Symbol

MYJ

[LOGO] Merrill Lynch Investment Managers

[GRAPHIC OMITTED]

MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc. seeks to provide shareholders with as high a level of current income exempt from Federal and New Jersey income taxes as is consistent with its investment policies and prudent investment management by investing primarily in a portfolio of long-term, investment-grade municipal obligations the interest on which, in the opinion of bond counsel to the issuer, is exempt from Federal income tax and New Jersey personal income taxes.

This report, including the financial information herein, is transmitted to shareholders of MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc. for their information. It is not a prospectus. Past performance results shown in this report should not be considered a representation of future performance. The Fund has leveraged its Common Stock and intends to remain leveraged by issuing Preferred Stock to provide the Common Stock shareholders with a potentially higher rate of return. Leverage creates risks for Common Stock shareholders, including the likelihood of greater volatility of net asset value and market price of shares of the Common Stock, and the risk that fluctuations in the short-term dividend rates of the Preferred Stock may affect the yield to Common Stock shareholders.

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

Statements and other information herein are as dated and are subject to change.

A description of the policies and procedures that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities is available (1) without charge, upon request, by calling toll-free 1-800-MER-FUND (1-800-637-3863); (2) on www.mutualfunds.ml.com; and (3) on the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc.
Box 9011
Princeton, NJ
08543-9011

[RECYCLED LOGO] Printed on post-consumer recycled paper

#16381--5/03

Item 2 - Did registrant adopt a code of ethics, as of the end of the period covered by this report, that applies to the registrant's principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions, regardless of whether these individuals are employed by the registrant or a third party? If not, why not? Briefly describe any amendments or waivers that occurred during the period. State here if code of ethics/amendments/waivers are on website and give website address-. State here if fund will send code of ethics to shareholders without charge upon request-- N/A (annual requirement only and not required to be answered until the registrant's fiscal year-end on or after July 15, 2003)

Item 3 - Did the registrant's board of directors determine that the registrant either: (i) has at least one audit committee financial expert serving on its audit committee; or (ii) does not have an audit committee financial expert serving on its audit committee? If yes, disclose name of financial expert and whether he/she is "independent," (fund may, but is not required, to disclose name/independence of more than one financial expert) If no, explain why not. -N/A (annual requirement only and not required to be answered until the registrant's fiscal year-end on or after July 15, 2003)

Item 4 - Disclose annually only (not answered until December 15, 2003)

(a) Audit Fees - Disclose aggregate fees billed for each of the last two fiscal years for professional services rendered by the principal accountant for the audit of the registrant's annual financial statements or services that are normally provided by the accountant in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements for those fiscal years. N/A.

(b) Audit-Related Fees - Disclose aggregate fees billed in each of the last two fiscal years for assurance and related services by the principal accountant that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit of the registrant's financial statements and are not reported under paragraph (a) of this Item. Registrants shall describe the nature of the services comprising the fees disclosed under this category. N/A.

(c) Tax Fees - Disclose aggregate fees billed in each of the last two fiscal years for professional services rendered by the principal accountant for tax compliance, tax advice, and

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

tax planning. Registrants shall describe the nature of the services comprising the fees disclosed under this category. N/A.

(d) All Other Fees - Disclose aggregate fees billed in each of the last two fiscal years for products and services provided by the principal accountant, other than the services reported in paragraphs (a) through (c) of this Item. Registrants shall describe the nature of the services comprising the fees disclosed under this category. N/A.

(e) (1) Disclose the audit committee's pre-approval policies and procedures described in paragraph (c) (7) of Rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X. N/A.

(e) (2) Disclose the percentage of services described in each of paragraphs (b) through (d) of this Item that were approved by the audit committee pursuant to paragraph (c) (7) (i) (C) of Rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X. N/A.

(f) If greater than 50%, disclose the percentage of hours expended on the principal accountant's engagement to audit the registrant's financial statements for the most recent fiscal year that were attributed to work performed by persons other than the principal accountant's full-time, permanent employees. N/A.

(g) Disclose the aggregate non-audit fees billed by the registrant's accountant for services rendered to the registrant, and rendered to the registrant's investment adviser (not including any sub-adviser whose role is primarily portfolio management and is subcontracted with or overseen by another investment adviser), and any entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the adviser that provides ongoing services to the registrant for each of the last two fiscal years of the registrant. N/A.

(h) Disclose whether the registrant's audit committee has considered whether the provision of non-audit services that were rendered to the registrant's investment adviser (not including any subadviser whose role is primarily portfolio management and is subcontracted with or overseen by another investment adviser), and any entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the investment adviser that provides ongoing services to the registrant that were not pre-approved pursuant to paragraph (c) (7) (ii) of Rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X is compatible with maintaining the principal accountant's independence. N/A.

Item 5 - If the registrant is a listed issuer as defined in Rule 10A-3 under the Exchange Act, state whether or not the registrant has a separately-designated standing audit committee established in accordance with Section 3(a) (58) (A) of the Exchange Act. If the registrant has such a committee, however designated, identify each committee member. If the entire board of directors is acting as the registrant's audit committee in Section 3(a) (58) (B) of the Exchange Act, so state.

If applicable, provide the disclosure required by Rule 10A-3(d) under the Exchange Act regarding an exemption from the listing standards for audit committees. N/A

(Listed issuers must be in compliance with the new listing rules by the earlier of their first annual shareholders meeting after January 2004,

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

or October 31, 2004 (annual requirement))

Item 6 - Reserved

Item 7 - For closed-end funds that contain voting securities in their portfolio, describe the policies and procedures that it uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to those portfolio securities.

Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures

Each Fund's Board of Directors/Trustees has delegated to Merrill Lynch Investment Managers, L.P. and/or Fund Asset Management, L.P. (the "Investment Adviser") authority to vote all proxies relating to the Fund's portfolio securities. The Investment Adviser has adopted policies and procedures ("Proxy Voting Procedures") with respect to the voting of proxies related to the portfolio securities held in the account of one or more of its clients, including a Fund. Pursuant to these Proxy Voting Procedures, the Investment Adviser's primary objective when voting proxies is to make proxy voting decisions solely in the best interests of each Fund and its shareholders, and to act in a manner that the Investment Adviser believes is most likely to enhance the economic value of the securities held by the Fund. The Proxy Voting Procedures are designed to ensure that the Investment Adviser considers the interests of its clients, including the Funds, and not the interests of the Investment Adviser, when voting proxies and that real (or perceived) material conflicts that may arise between the Investment Adviser's interest and those of the Investment Adviser's clients are properly addressed and resolved.

In order to implement the Proxy Voting Procedures, the Investment Adviser has formed a Proxy Voting Committee (the "Committee"). The Committee is comprised of the Investment Adviser's Chief Investment Officer (the "CIO"), one or more other senior investment professionals appointed by the CIO, portfolio managers and investment analysts appointed by the CIO and any other personnel the CIO deems appropriate. The Committee will also include two non-voting representatives from the Investment Adviser's Legal department appointed by the Investment Adviser's General Counsel. The Committee's membership shall be limited to full-time employees of the Investment Adviser. No person with any investment banking, trading, retail brokerage or research responsibilities for the Investment Adviser's affiliates may serve as a member of the Committee or participate in its decision making (except to the extent such person is asked by the Committee to present information to the Committee, on the same basis as other interested knowledgeable parties not affiliated with the Investment Adviser might be asked to do so). The Committee determines how to vote the proxies of all clients, including a Fund, that have delegated proxy voting authority to the Investment Adviser and seeks to ensure that all votes are consistent with the best interests of those clients and are free from unwarranted and inappropriate influences. The Committee establishes general proxy voting policies for the Investment Adviser and is responsible for determining how those policies are applied to specific proxy votes, in light of each issuer's unique structure, management, strategic options and, in certain circumstances, probable economic and other anticipated consequences of alternate actions. In so doing, the Committee may determine to vote a particular proxy in a manner contrary to its generally stated policies. In addition, the Committee will be responsible for ensuring that all reporting and recordkeeping requirements related to proxy voting are fulfilled.

The Committee may determine that the subject matter of a recurring proxy issue is not suitable for general voting policies and requires a

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

case-by-case determination. In such cases, the Committee may elect not to adopt a specific voting policy applicable to that issue. The Investment Adviser believes that certain proxy voting issues require investment analysis - such as approval of mergers and other significant corporate transactions - akin to investment decisions, and are, therefore, not suitable for general guidelines. The Committee may elect to adopt a common position for the Investment Adviser on certain proxy votes that are akin to investment decisions, or determine to permit the portfolio manager to make individual decisions on how best to maximize economic value for a Fund (similar to normal buy/sell investment decisions made by such portfolio managers). While it is expected that the Investment Adviser will generally seek to vote proxies over which the Investment Adviser exercises voting authority in a uniform manner for all the Investment Adviser's clients, the Committee, in conjunction with a Fund's portfolio manager, may determine that the Fund's specific circumstances require that its proxies be voted differently.

To assist the Investment Adviser in voting proxies, the Committee has retained Institutional Shareholder Services ("ISS"). ISS is an independent adviser that specializes in providing a variety of fiduciary-level proxy-related services to institutional investment managers, plan sponsors, custodians, consultants, and other institutional investors. The services provided to the Investment Adviser by ISS include in-depth research, voting recommendations (although the Investment Adviser is not obligated to follow such recommendations), vote execution, and recordkeeping. ISS will also assist the Fund in fulfilling its reporting and recordkeeping obligations under the Investment Company Act.

The Investment Adviser's Proxy Voting Procedures also address special circumstances that can arise in connection with proxy voting. For instance, under the Proxy Voting Procedures, the Investment Adviser generally will not seek to vote proxies related to portfolio securities that are on loan, although it may do so under certain circumstances. In addition, the Investment Adviser will vote proxies related to securities of foreign issuers only on a best efforts basis and may elect not to vote at all in certain countries where the Committee determines that the costs associated with voting generally outweigh the benefits. The Committee may at any time override these general policies if it determines that such action is in the best interests of a Fund.

From time to time, the Investment Adviser may be required to vote proxies in respect of an issuer where an affiliate of the Investment Adviser (each, an "Affiliate"), or a money management or other client of the Investment Adviser (each, a "Client") is involved. The Proxy Voting Procedures and the Investment Adviser's adherence to those procedures are designed to address such conflicts of interest. The Committee intends to strictly adhere to the Proxy Voting Procedures in all proxy matters, including matters involving Affiliates and Clients. If, however, an issue representing a non-routine matter that is material to an Affiliate or a widely known Client is involved such that the Committee does not reasonably believe it is able to follow its guidelines (or if the particular proxy matter is not addressed by the guidelines) and vote impartially, the Committee may, in its discretion for the purposes of ensuring that an independent determination is reached, retain an independent fiduciary to advise the Committee on how to vote or to cast votes on behalf of the Investment Adviser's clients.

In the event that the Committee determines not to retain an independent fiduciary, or it does not follow the advice of such an independent fiduciary, the powers of the Committee shall pass to a subcommittee, appointed by the CIO (with advice from the Secretary of the Committee), consisting solely of Committee members selected by the CIO. The CIO shall

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

appoint to the subcommittee, where appropriate, only persons whose job responsibilities do not include contact with the Client and whose job evaluations would not be affected by the Investment Adviser's relationship with the Client (or failure to retain such relationship). The subcommittee shall determine whether and how to vote all proxies on behalf of the Investment Adviser's clients or, if the proxy matter is, in their judgment, akin to an investment decision, to defer to the applicable portfolio managers, provided that, if the subcommittee determines to alter the Investment Adviser's normal voting guidelines or, on matters where the Investment Adviser's policy is case-by-case, does not follow the voting recommendation of any proxy voting service or other independent fiduciary that may be retained to provide research or advice to the Investment Adviser on that matter, no proxies relating to the Client may be voted unless the Secretary, or in the Secretary's absence, the Assistant Secretary of the Committee concurs that the subcommittee's determination is consistent with the Investment Adviser's fiduciary duties.

In addition to the general principles outlined above, the Investment Adviser has adopted voting guidelines with respect to certain recurring proxy issues that are not expected to involve unusual circumstances. These policies are guidelines only, and the Investment Adviser may elect to vote differently from the recommendation set forth in a voting guideline if the Committee determines that it is in a Fund's best interest to do so. In addition, the guidelines may be reviewed at any time upon the request of a Committee member and may be amended or deleted upon the vote of a majority of Committee members present at a Committee meeting at which there is a quorum.

The Investment Adviser has adopted specific voting guidelines with respect to the following proxy issues:

- o Proposals related to the composition of the Board of Directors of issuers other than investment companies. As a general matter, the Committee believes that a company's Board of Directors (rather than shareholders) is most likely to have access to important, nonpublic information regarding a company's business and prospects, and is therefore best-positioned to set corporate policy and oversee management. The Committee, therefore, believes that the foundation of good corporate governance is the election of qualified, independent corporate directors who are likely to diligently represent the interests of shareholders and oversee management of the corporation in a manner that will seek to maximize shareholder value over time. In individual cases, the Committee may look at a nominee's history of representing shareholder interests as a director of other companies or other factors, to the extent the Committee deems relevant.
- o Proposals related to the selection of an issuer's independent auditors. As a general matter, the Committee believes that corporate auditors have a responsibility to represent the interests of shareholders and provide an independent view on the propriety of financial reporting decisions of corporate management. While the Committee will generally defer to a corporation's choice of auditor, in individual cases, the Committee may look at an auditors' history of representing shareholder interests as auditor of other companies, to the extent the Committee deems relevant.
- o Proposals related to management compensation and employee benefits. As a general matter, the Committee favors disclosure of an issuer's compensation and benefit policies and opposes excessive compensation, but believes that compensation matters are normally best determined by an issuer's board of directors, rather than shareholders. Proposals to "micro-manage" an issuer's compensation practices or to set arbitrary restrictions on compensation or benefits will, therefore, generally not be

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

supported.

- o Proposals related to requests, principally from management, for approval of amendments that would alter an issuer's capital structure. As a general matter, the Committee will support requests that enhance the rights of common shareholders and oppose requests that appear to be unreasonably dilutive.
- o Proposals related to requests for approval of amendments to an issuer's charter or by-laws. As a general matter, the Committee opposes poison pill provisions.
- o Routine proposals related to requests regarding the formalities of corporate meetings.
- o Proposals related to proxy issues associated solely with holdings of investment company shares. As with other types of companies, the Committee believes that a fund's Board of Directors (rather than its shareholders) is best-positioned to set fund policy and oversee management. However, the Committee opposes granting Boards of Directors authority over certain matters, such as changes to a fund's investment objective, that the Investment Company Act envisions will be approved directly by shareholders.

Proposals related to limiting corporate conduct in some manner that relates to the shareholder's environmental or social concerns. The Committee generally believes that annual shareholder meetings are inappropriate forums for discussion of larger social issues, and opposes shareholder resolutions "micromanaging" corporate conduct or requesting release of information that would not help a shareholder evaluate an investment in the corporation as an economic matter. While the Committee is generally supportive of proposals to require corporate disclosure of matters that seem relevant and material to the economic interests of shareholders, the Committee is generally not supportive of proposals to require disclosure of corporate matters for other purposes.

Item 8 -- Reserved

Item 9(a) - The registrant's certifying officers have reasonably designed such disclosure controls and procedures to ensure material information relating to the registrant is made known to us by others particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared. The registrant's certifying officers have determined that the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures are effective based on our evaluation of these controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this report.

Item 9(b) -- There were no significant changes in the registrant's internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect these controls subsequent to the date of their evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

Item 10 - Exhibits

10(a) - Attach code of ethics or amendments/waivers, unless code of ethics or amendments/waivers is on website or offered to shareholders upon request without charge. N/A.

10(b) - Attach certifications pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. Attached hereto.

Edgar Filing: MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC - Form N-CSR

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc.

By: /s/ Terry K. Glenn

Terry K. Glenn,
President of
MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc.

Date: July 23, 2003

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By: /s/ Terry K. Glenn

Terry K. Glenn,
President of
MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc.

Date: July 23, 2003

By: /s/ Donald C. Burke

Donald C. Burke,
Chief Financial Officer of
MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc.

Date: July 23, 2003

Attached hereto as a furnished exhibit are the certifications pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.