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MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND INC
Form N-CSRS
August 03, 2004

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

FORM N-CSRS

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: 11/30/04

Date of reporting period: 12/01/03 - 05/31/04

Item 1 - Report to Stockholders

[LOGO] Merrill Lynch Investment Managers

www.mlim.ml.com

MuniYield New Jersey
Fund, Inc.

Semi-Annual Report
May 31, 2004

[LOGO] Merrill Lynch Investment Managers

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, net of dividends to Preferred Stock, 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 Stock shareholders. If either of these

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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. As of May 31, 2004, the percentage of the Fund's total net assets invested in inverse floaters was 12.26% before the deduction of Preferred Stock.

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. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement.

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Dear Shareholder

For the six-month and 12-month periods ended May 31, 2004, the Lehman Brothers Municipal Bond Index posted respective returns of -.22% and -.03%. Its taxable counterpart, the Lehman Brothers Aggregate Bond Index, returned +.60% for the six-month period and -.44% for the 12-month period ended May 31, 2004. Amid considerable month-to-month volatility, tax-exempt bond yields rose over the past year, generally mimicking the movement of U.S. Treasury yields. Given their tax-exempt status, however, municipal bonds continued to be an attractive fixed income investment alternative.

By May month-end, the Federal Reserve Board appeared poised to raise the Federal Funds target rate from its 45-year low of 1%. This anticipated shift in monetary policy was largely prompted by better-than-expected employment reports for the months of March, April and May, as well as by rising producer prices. The good news on the employment front -- previously a dim spot in an otherwise bright economic picture -- helped cause the yield on the 10-year Treasury bond to spike 75 basis points (.75%), from 3.91% on April 1 to 4.66% on May 28.

Equity markets, in the meantime, gleaned support from the improving economic environment and provided attractive returns. Although we did experience a market correction toward the end of the period, for the six months and 12 months ended May 31, 2004, the Standard & Poor's 500 Index returned +6.79% and +18.33%, respectively. Significant fiscal and monetary stimulus in 2003, including low interest rates and tax cuts, opened the door to consumer spending, capital spending, increases in exports and long-awaited job growth. As expected, these developments led the way to improvements in corporate earnings -- a positive for stock markets.

The events and efforts of the past year leave us with a much stronger economy today. Of course, markets will always fluctuate, and there are many uncertainties -- including the possibility of geopolitical events -- that can translate into negative market movements. Keeping this in mind, however, we encourage you to revisit your portfolio and your asset allocation strategy to ensure you are well positioned to take advantage of the opportunities that lie ahead. Importantly, your financial advisor can help you develop a strategy most suitable for your circumstances through all types of market and economic cycles.

We thank you for trusting Merrill Lynch Investment Managers with your investment assets, and we look forward to serving you in the months and years ahead.

Sincerely,

/s/ Terry K. Glenn

Terry K. Glenn
President and Director

MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND, INC.

MAY 31, 2004

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[LOGO] Merrill Lynch Investment Managers

A Discussion With Your Fund's Portfolio Manager

We maintained a defensive market posture throughout the period, but moderated that stance at period-end as interest rates inched higher.

Describe the recent market environment relative to municipal bonds.

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Long-term bond yields rose over the past six months, as bond prices -- which move opposite yields -- declined. For much of the period, bond prices actually moved higher (yields declined) as it appeared the Federal Reserve Board, without evidence of meaningful employment growth, was content to maintain short-term interest rates at historic lows. In early April, however, a surprisingly strong monthly jobs report triggered fears that the long-accommodative Federal Reserve Board might raise interest rates sooner than many had expected. As a result, bond yields rose (prices fell) for the remainder of the period. At the end of May, long-term U.S. Treasury bond yields had climbed to 5.35%, representing an increase of more than 20 basis points (.20%) over the past six months. Yields on ten-year Treasury issues stood at 4.65% as of period-end, an increase of more than 20 basis points.

Tax-exempt bond yields generally mimicked the movement of their taxable counterparts. Long-term revenue bond yields, as measured by the Bond Buyer Revenue Bond Index, rose approximately 25 basis points over the past six months. For the same period, yields on AAA-rated issues maturing in 30 years rose approximately 25 basis points to 4.99% while yields on 10-year, AAA-rated issues increased more than 35 basis points to nearly 3.95%, according to Municipal Market Data. The slightly larger increase in 10-year bond yields may be attributed to the fact that recent issuance has been heavily concentrated in the 10-year - 20-year range. The resulting supply imbalance prompted higher intermediate bond yields (and lower prices). Longer-maturity and lower-rated issues continued to benefit from more favorable supply/demand factors and, therefore, have seen less price depreciation. Overall, municipal bond supply increased approximately 5% compared to the same six-month period a year ago, with the pace of underwriting accelerating in the last three months of the period.

Overall, demand for tax-exempt municipal bonds has remained positive. Federal Reserve Board statistics showed that U.S. household holdings of municipal securities increased by more than \$25 billion during the fourth quarter of 2003 to approximately \$680 billion.

Describe conditions in the State of New Jersey.

At period-end, New Jersey had credit ratings of AA from Standard & Poor's, Aa2 from Moody's and AA from Fitch. In early March, however, Moody's placed the state's credit rating under review for a possible downgrade.

Following two years of tax-revenue shortfalls, New Jersey's projected revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004, were more optimistic than forecasted, thanks primarily to better-than-expected income tax and sales tax receipts -- both signs of economic improvement. Underscoring the economy's recovery was a substantial decline in the state's unemployment rate. At 5.4% in February 2004, the state unemployment rate was below the national average of 5.6% and down from 6% the prior year.

The 2005 state budget, despite a modest general fund surplus, relies on the use of a number of one-time revenues. These include an expected \$1.5 billion in bonds backed by cigarette tax revenues and revenues from a proposed vehicle surcharge for "unsafe driving." Measured as a percentage of general fund revenues, New Jersey's projected 2005 budget deficit is one of the nation's largest. For the third straight year, the budget does not propose any increases in state income tax or sales tax rates. However, the state authorized higher corporate taxes, effective beginning in 2003, and a hotel occupancy tax that takes effect this year. The 2005 budget also proposes an increase in state cigarette taxes, already the highest in the United States, and raising \$199 million from various surcharges on pollution-related products and services. New Jersey recently authorized a significant amount of new debt issuance, including \$6.2 billion in school construction bonds and \$650 million annually for

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transportation trust bonds.

How did the Fund perform during the period in light of the existing market conditions?

For the six-month period ended May 31, 2004, the Common Stock of MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc. had net annualized yields of 6.52% and 7.03%, based on a period-end per share net asset value of \$14.68 and a per share market price of \$13.62, respectively, and \$.480 per share income dividends. Over the same period, the total investment return on the Fund's Common Stock was -1.44%, based on a

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change in per share net asset value from \$15.39 to \$14.68, and assuming reinvestment of \$.480 per share ordinary income dividends.

For the six-month period ended May 31, 2004, the Fund's Auction Market Preferred Stock (AMPS) had an average yield of .88% for Series A and .88% for Series B.

The Fund's total return for the period, based on net asset value, modestly lagged the -1.25% average return of the Lipper category of New Jersey Municipal Debt Funds. (Funds in this Lipper category invest in securities exempt from taxation in New Jersey or a city in New Jersey.) The Fund's relative underperformance is primarily attributed to two factors. First was the portfolio's defensive positioning. Given our concerns about the market environment -- specifically, the negative price impact associated with rising interest rates -- we sought to shorten the Fund's duration relative to our peers in order to limit the Fund's sensitivity to interest rate moves. Persistent market strength through the first half of the period, characterized by relatively low rates, caused the lag in performance. However, as market conditions deteriorated during the remainder of the period, our defensive positioning helped enhance the Fund's returns. Second, unlike many of its Lipper peers, the Fund is precluded from investing in speculative grade bonds, reflecting the lower risk tolerance of an investment grade portfolio. These issues were among the market's best performers during the period.

For a description of the Fund's total investment return based on a change in the per share market value of the Fund's Common Stock (as measured by the trading price of the Fund's shares on the New York Stock Exchange), and assuming reinvestment of dividends, please refer to the Financial Highlights section 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 market value of the Fund's Common Stock can vary significantly from total investment returns based on changes in the Fund's net asset value.

What changes were made to the portfolio during the period?

Portfolio activity during the period was restricted in large part by the significant decline in New Jersey tax-exempt issuance. Over the past six months, approximately \$5.5 billion in bonds were issued by New Jersey municipalities, representing a decline of about 25% compared to the same period a year ago.

Cash reserves were kept at minimal levels throughout the period while sector concentrations continued to reflect above-market weightings in education and health care issues. In addition, our constructive outlook for credit spreads prompted an above-market concentration at the lower end of the investment grade spectrum, where we found what we believed to be a compelling balance of risk and reward. Nevertheless, the Fund continued to be disadvantaged by the conservative

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NR*	Aaa	3,930	Delaware River Port Authority of Pennsylvania Jersey Revenue Bonds, RIB, Series 396, 10 due 1/01/2019 (c) (e)
NR*	Aaa	2,620	Essex County, New Jersey, Improvement Authority Bonds, Series A, 5% due 10/01/2028 (b)
AAA	Aaa	6,860	Garden State Preservation Trust, New Jersey Appreciation Revenue Bonds, Series B: 5.12%** due 11/01/2023 (c)
AAA	Aaa	4,540	5.25%** due 11/01/2028
AAA	Aa3	4,300	Garden State Preservation Trust, New Jersey and Farmland Preservation Revenue Bonds, 5.80% due 11/01/2022
AAA	Aa3	5,460	5.75% due 11/01/2028
AAA	Aaa	3,440	Garden State Preservation Trust, New Jersey Bonds, Series A, 5% due 11/01/2020 (c)
BBB	NR*	1,180	Gloucester County, New Jersey, Improvement Authority Solid Waste Resource Recovery Revenue Refunding Bonds (Waste Management Inc. 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 Bonds due 12/01/2016 (d)
AAA	NR*	13,950	Hudson County, New Jersey, Improvement Authority Lease Revenue Refunding Bonds (Hudson County Project), 5.375% 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	Aa1	1,455	Middlesex County, New Jersey, Improvement Authority County-Guaranteed Revenue Bonds (Golf Course) 5.25% due 6/01/2022
AAA	Aa1	3,050	5% due 6/01/2029
NR*	Baa1	1,000	Middlesex County, New Jersey, Improvement Authority Revenue Bonds (George Street Student Housing) Series A, 5% due 8/15/2023
AAA	Aaa	2,235	Monmouth County, New Jersey, Improvement Authority Governmental Loan Revenue Refunding Bonds 5% due 12/01/2015
AAA	Aaa	2,345	5% due 12/01/2016
NR*	Aaa	825	Morris County, New Jersey, Improvement Authority Bonds (Pooled Program): 5% due 8/15/2017
NR*	Aaa	860	5% due 8/15/2018
NR*	Aaa	890	5% due 8/15/2019

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

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securities according to the list at 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

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Schedule of Investments (continued) (in Thousands)

	S&P Ratings	Moody's Ratings	Face Amount	Municipal Bonds
=====				
New Jersey (continued)				

				New Jersey EDA, EDR (Masonic Charity Found Jersey):
	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 Bo Village), Series C, 5.50% due 1/01/2028

				New Jersey EDA, First Mortgage Revenue Re Series A:
	BBB-	NR*	1,250	(Fellowship Village), 5.50% due 1/0
	BBB-	NR*	3,500	(Fellowship Village), 5.50% due 1/0
	NR*	NR*	2,500	(The Winchester Gardens at Ward Hom 5.75% due 11/01/2024
	NR*	NR*	2,000	(The Winchester Gardens at Ward Hom 5.80% due 11/01/2031

	NR*	Aaa	5,575	New Jersey EDA, Natural Gas Facilities Re Bonds (NUI Corporation), RIB, Series 371, due 10/01/2022 (a) (e)

				New Jersey EDA, Revenue Bonds:
	A	NR*	400	(Department of Human Services), 5%
	A	NR*	220	(Department of Human Services), 5%
	NR*	Aaa	3,850	(Saint Barnabas Project), Series A, due 7/01/2024 (d)
	AAA	Aaa	10,000	(Transportation Project), Sublease, due 5/01/2009 (c) (g)

	NR*	Aaa	3,335	New Jersey EDA, Water Facilities Revenue Series 417, 12.38% due 11/01/2034 (b) (e)

	AAA	Aaa	1,850	New Jersey EDA, Water Facilities Revenue (American Water), AMT, Series B, 5.125% d

	AAA	Aaa	5,975	New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure T Bonds (Environmental Infrastructure), Ser

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due 9/01/2017

A	A2	1,100	New Jersey Health Care Facilities Financing Authority Health System Revenue Bonds (Catholic Health System), Series A, 5.375% due 11/15/2033

			New Jersey Health Care Facilities Financing Authority Revenue Bonds:
AAA	Aaa	2,155	(Jersey Shore Medical Center), 6.75% due 7/01/2019 (a)
BB+	NR*	2,345	(Pascack Valley Hospital Association), 5.5% due 7/01/2036
AAA	Aaa	4,000	(Robert Wood University), 5.70% due 7/01/2023
NR*	Baa2	1,875	(Somerset Medical Center), 5.50% due 7/01/2036
NR*	Baa1	6,640	(South Jersey Hospital), 6% due 7/01/2031 (f)
AA	NR*	2,000	(Southern Ocean County Hospital), 5.5% due 7/01/2031 (f)
NR*	Baa1	4,200	(Southern Ocean County Hospital), 5.5% due 7/01/2023

			New Jersey Health Care Facilities Financing Authority Revenue Refunding Bonds:
A	A3	1,020	(Atlantic City Medical Center), 6.25% due 7/01/2023
A	A3	2,185	(Atlantic City Medical Center), 5.75% due 7/01/2023
BBB	Baa1	1,650	(Capital Health System Inc.), Series A, 5.5% due 7/01/2023
BBB+	NR*	5,500	(Holy Name Hospital), 6% due 7/01/2023
AAA	Aaa	1,500	(Meridian Health System Obligation), 5.5% due 7/01/2019 (c)
AAA	Aaa	2,250	(Meridian Health System Obligation), 5.5% due 7/01/2024 (c)
AAA	Aaa	2,195	(Meridian Health System Obligation), 5.5% due 7/01/2029 (c)

AAA	Aaa	4,150	New Jersey State Educational Facilities Authority Education, Capital Improvement Revenue Bonds, Series A, 5.125% due 9/01/2022 (a)

			New Jersey State Educational Facilities Authority Bonds:
NR*	Baa3	1,000	(Bloomfield College), Series A, 6.875% due 7/01/2033
BBB+	Baa1	2,000	(Georgian Court College Project), Series A, 5.5% due 7/01/2033
AAA	Aaa	1,730	(Rowan University), Series B, 5.25% due 7/01/2033
AAA	Aaa	1,620	(Rowan University), Series B, 5.25% due 7/01/2033

			New Jersey State Educational Facilities Authority Refunding Bonds:
AAA	Aaa	5,000	(Montclair State University), Series A, 5.5% due 7/01/2034
AAA	Aaa	3,870	(Princeton Theological Seminary), Series A, 5.5% due 7/01/2034
AAA	Aaa	3,725	(Princeton University), Series E, 5.5% due 7/01/2034
AA	NR*	1,000	(Rider University), 5% due 7/01/2018 (h)
AAA	Aaa	1,515	(William Paterson University), Series A, 5.5% due 7/01/2018 (h)
AAA	Aaa	1,595	(William Paterson University), Series B, 5.5% due 7/01/2019 (h)
AAA	Aaa	1,680	(William Paterson University), Series C, 5.5% due 7/01/2020 (h)

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MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND, INC.

MAY 31, 2004

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[LOGO] Merrill Lynch Investment Managers

Schedule of Investments (continued)

(in Thousands)

S&P Ratings	Moody's Ratings	Face Amount	Municipal Bonds
New Jersey (concluded)			
AAA	Aaa	\$ 7,215	New Jersey State Higher Education Assistance Student Loan Revenue Bonds, AMT, Series A due 6/01/2017 (a)
AAA	A1	2,500	New Jersey State Highway Authority, Garden State General Revenue Refunding Bonds, 5.625% due 6/01/2017 (a)
AAA	Aaa	5,350	New Jersey State Housing and Mortgage Finance Authority Buyer Revenue Bonds, AMT (d): Series CC, 5.80% due 10/01/2020
AAA	Aaa	3,335	Series U, 5.60% due 10/01/2012
AAA	Aaa	1,795	New Jersey State Housing and Mortgage Finance Authority Housing Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series A due 11/01/2020 (a)
AAA	Aaa	3,650	New Jersey State Transit Corporation, COPCO 6.50% due 4/01/2007 (c) (g)
A-	A2	3,620	(Federal Transit Administration Grant) 5.75% due 9/15/2014
AAA	Aaa	5,250	New Jersey State Transportation Trust Fund Transportation System Revenue Bonds: Series B, 5% due 6/15/2013 (a)
AA-	Aa3	7,400	Series C, 5.50% due 6/15/2019
AAA	Aaa	7,000	New Jersey State Transportation Trust Fund Transportation System Revenue Refunding Bonds, 6% due 12/15/2011 (d) (g)
AAA	Aaa	5,000	New Jersey State Turnpike Authority, Turnpike Refunding Bonds, Series A, 5.75% due 1/01/2012 (a)
AA-	A1	5,000	Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Revenue Bonds, 93rd Series, 6.125% due 6/01/2012 (a)
AAA	Aaa	4,435	Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Trust Receipts, AMT, Class R, Series 10, due 1/15/2017 (c) (e)
AAA	Aaa	5,300	Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Refunding Bonds, DRIVERS, AMT, Series 153 due 9/15/2012 (b) (e)
AAA	Aaa	2,000	Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Obligation Revenue Bonds (JFK International Airport) AMT, Series 6, 5.75% due 12/01/2022 (d)

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South Jersey Port Corporation of New Jersey			
Refunding Bonds:			
A	NR*	4,280	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

Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation			
Revenue Bonds:			
BBB	Baa3	5,510	6.75% due 6/01/2039
BBB	Baa3	3,010	7% due 6/01/2041

Union County, New Jersey, Utilities Authority			
Lease Revenue Refunding Bonds (Ogden Martin			
Union), AMT, Series A (a) (e):			
AAA	Aaa	1,585	5.375% due 6/01/2017
AAA	Aaa	1,175	5.375% due 6/01/2018

University of Medicine and Dentistry, New Jersey			
Bonds, Series A (a):			
AAA	Aaa	945	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

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MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND, INC.

MAY 31, 2004

Schedule of Investments (concluded)

(in Thousands)

S&P Ratings	Moody's Ratings	Face Amount	Municipal Bonds
=====			
Puerto Rico--7.5%			

A	Baa1	\$ 1,100	Puerto Rico Commonwealth Highway and Transportation Authority, Transportation Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series J, 5.50% due 7/01/2024
NR*	Baa3	1,900	Puerto Rico Industrial, Tourist, Educational and Environmental Control Facilities Revenue Refunding Bonds (Cogeneration Facility--AES Puerto Rico Power Plant), 6.625% due 6/01/2026
A-	Baa1	3,000	Puerto Rico Public Buildings Authority, Government Facilities Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series A, 6.50% due 7/01/2033
AAA	NR*	8,750	Puerto Rico Public Buildings Authority Revenue Refunding Bonds, DRIVERS, Series 211, 9.178% due 7/01/2021

Virgin Islands--2.7%			

BBB-	Baa3	3,500	Virgin Islands Government Refinery Facilities Revenue Refunding Bonds (Hovensa Coker Project), 6.50% due 7/01/2024

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Receive a variable rate equal to
7-Day Bond Market Association
Municipal Swap Index Rate and pay
a fixed rate of 4.385%

Broker, J.P. Morgan Chase Bank		
Expires November 2018	\$2,510	\$ (26)

Receive a variable rate equal to
7-Day Bond Market Association
Municipal Swap Index Rate and
pay a fixed rate equal to 4.625%

Broker, J.P. Morgan Chase Bank		
Expires November 2028	\$5,310	(73)

Total		\$ (99)
		=====

See Notes to Financial Statements.

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[LOGO] Merrill Lynch Investment Managers

Statement of Net Assets

As of May 31, 2004

Assets

Investments in unaffiliated securities, at value (identified cost--\$302,901,015)	
Investments in affiliated securities, at value (identified cost--\$324,331)	
Cash	
Receivables:	
Interest	\$
Securities sold	
Dividends from affiliates	
Prepaid expenses	
Total assets	

Liabilities

Unrealized depreciation on forward interest rate swaps	
Payables:	
Securities purchased	1
Dividends to Common Stock shareholders	
Investment adviser	
Other affiliates	
Accrued expenses	
Total liabilities	

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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)

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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	(1
Unrealized appreciation on investments--net	1

Total accumulated earnings--net	
Total--Equivalent to \$14.68 net asset value per share of Common Stock (market price--\$13.62)	

* Auction Market Preferred Stock.
 See Notes to Financial Statements.

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Statement of Operations

For the Six Months Ended May 31, 2004

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Investment Income

Interest	
Dividends from affiliates	
Total income	

=====

Expenses

Investment advisory fees	\$
Commission fees	
Accounting services	
Transfer agent fees	
Professional fees	
Printing and shareholder reports	
Listing fees	
Directors' fees and expenses	

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Custodian fees
 Pricing fees
 Other

 Total expenses before reimbursement
 Reimbursement of expenses

 Total expenses after reimbursement

 Investment income--net

=====
 Realized & Unrealized Loss on Investments--Net

Realized loss on investments--net
 Change in unrealized appreciation on investments--net

 Total realized and unrealized loss on investments--net

=====
 Dividends to Preferred Stock Shareholders

Investment income--net

 Net Decrease in Net Assets Resulting from Operations

See Notes to Financial Statements.

MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND, INC.

MAY 31, 2004

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[LOGO] Merrill Lynch Investment Managers

Statements of Changes in Net Assets

Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets:
 =====

Operations

Investment income--net	\$
Realized gain (loss) on investments--net	
Change in unrealized appreciation on investments--net	(1
Dividends to Preferred Stock shareholders	
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations ..	(

=====
 Dividends to Common Stock Shareholders

Investment income--net	(
Net decrease in net assets resulting from dividends to Common Stock shareholders	(

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Net Assets Applicable to Common Stock

Total increase (decrease) in net assets applicable to Common Stock	(1
Beginning of period	21
End of period*	\$ 20
* Undistributed investment income--net	\$

See Notes to Financial Statements.

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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, 2004	----- For t 2003	
Increase (Decrease) in Net Asset Value:			
=====			
Per Share Operating Performance			

Net asset value, beginning of period	\$ 15.39	\$ 14.84	\$
Investment income--net .....	.52000	1.05000	
Realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments--net	(.72)	.52	
Dividends and distributions to Preferred Stock shareholders:			
Investment income--net	(.03)	(.06)	
Realized gain on investments--net	--	--	
Total from investment operations	(.23)	1.51	
Less dividends and distributions to Common Stock shareholders:			
Investment income--net	(.48)	(.96)	
Realized gain on investments--net	--	--	
Total dividends and distributions to Common Stock shareholders	(.48)	(.96)	
Net asset value, end of period	\$ 14.68	\$ 15.39	\$
Market price per share, end of period	\$ 13.62	\$ 14.34	\$
=====			
Total Investment Return**			
Based on market price per share	(1.86%)@	8.90%	
Based on net asset value per share	(1.44%)@	10.81%	

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=====
Ratios Based on Average Net Assets of Common Stock

Expenses, net of reimbursement and excluding reorganization expenses***	1.00%*	1.02%
Total expenses, excluding reorganization expenses***	1.01%*	1.02%
Total expenses***	1.01%*	1.02%
Total investment income--net***	6.80%*	6.94%
Amount of dividends to Preferred Stock shareholders .....	.39%*	.40%
Investment income--net, to Common Stock shareholders	6.41%*	6.54%

=====
Ratios Based on Average Net Assets of Common & Preferred Stock***++

Total expenses, net of reimbursement and excluding reorganization expenses .....	.69%*	.70%
Total expenses, excluding reorganization expenses .....	.70%*	.70%
Total expenses .....	.70%*	.70%
Total investment income--net	4.70%*	4.78%

=====
Ratios Based on Average Net Assets of Preferred Stock++

Dividends to Preferred Stock shareholders88%*	.89%
--	-------	------

MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND, INC.

MAY 31, 2004

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[LOGO] Merrill Lynch Investment Managers

Financial Highlights (concluded)

	For the Six Months Ended	For the Year	
	May 31, 2004	2003	2002
The following per share data and ratios have been derived from information provided in the financial statements.			

=====
Supplemental Data

Net assets applicable to Common Stock, end of period (in thousands)	\$208,518	\$218,642	\$210,727
--	-----------	-----------	-----------

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Preferred Stock outstanding, end of period (in thousands)	\$ 97,500	\$ 97,500	\$ 97,500
Portfolio turnover	4.65%	28.93%	41.47%
=====			
Leverage	-----		
Asset coverage per \$1,000	\$ 3,139	\$ 3,242	\$ 3,161
=====			
Dividends Per Share on Preferred Stock Outstanding++			
Series A--Investment income--net ...	\$ 110	\$ 225	\$ 325
Series B--Investment income--net ...	\$ 110	\$ 219	\$ 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 effect 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.

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MAY 31, 2004

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 U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, which may require the use of management accruals and estimates. Actual results may differ from these 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 daily 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 last available bid price in the over-the-counter market or on the basis of yield equivalents as obtained by the Fund's pricing service from one or more dealers that make markets in the securities. Financial futures contracts and options thereon, which are traded on

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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). Swap agreements are valued by quoted fair values received daily by the Fund from the counterparty. Short-term investments with a remaining maturity 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.

(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 movements 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 may 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.

MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND, INC.

MAY 31, 2004

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[LOGO] Merrill Lynch Investment Managers

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

- o Forward interest rate swaps -- The Fund may enter into forward interest rate swaps. In a forward interest rate swap, the Fund and the counterparty agree to make periodic net payments on a specified notional contract amount, commencing on a specified future effective date, unless terminated

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earlier. 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 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, 2004, FAM reimbursed the Fund in the amount of \$11,046.

For the six months ended May 31, 2004, the Fund reimbursed FAM \$3,271 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, 2004 were \$32,292,781 and \$14,354,610, respectively.

Net realized gains (losses) for the six months ended May 31, 2004 and net unrealized appreciation/depreciation as of May 31, 2004 were as follows:

	Realized Gains (Losses)	Unrealized Appreciation/ Depreciation
Long-term investments	\$ 631,599	\$ 11,041,968
Forward interest rate swaps	(834,066)	(98,661)
Total	\$ (202,467)	\$ 10,943,307
	=====	=====

As of May 31, 2004, net unrealized appreciation for Federal income tax purposes aggregated \$11,309,428, of which \$12,716,295 related to appreciated securities and \$1,406,867 related to depreciated securities. The aggregate cost of investments at May 31, 2004 for Federal income tax purposes was \$302,957,886.

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

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MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND, INC.

MAY 31, 2004

Notes to Financial Statements (concluded)

Preferred Stock

Auction Market Preferred Stock 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, 2004 were as follows: Series A, .90% and Series B, .95%.

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, 2004, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, an affiliate of FAM, earned \$58,420 as commissions.

5. Capital Loss Carryforward:

On November 30, 2003, the Fund had a net capital loss carryforward of \$7,948,348, of which \$1,092,188 expires in 2007 and \$6,856,160 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 29, 2004 to shareholders of record on June 14, 2004.

Proxy Results

During the six-month period ended May 31, 2004, MuniYield New Jersey Fund, Inc.'s Common Stock shareholders voted on the following proposal. The proposal was approved at a shareholders' meeting on April 27, 2004. A description of the proposal and number of shares voted are as follows:

		Shares Voted For	Shares From
1. To elect the Fund's Directors:	James H. Bodurtha	13,337,121	459
	Joe Grills	13,325,345	471
	Roberta Cooper Ramo	13,331,103	465
	Robert S. Salomon, Jr.	13,331,965	464
	Stephen B. Swensrud	13,320,984	475

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During the six-month period ended May 31, 2004, 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 27, 2004. A description of the proposal and number of shares voted are as follows:

		Shares Voted For	Shares W From V
1. To elect the Fund's Board of Directors:	James H. Bodurtha	3,680	14
	Joe Grills	3,680	14
	Herbert I. London	3,680	14
	Andre F. Perold	3,680	14
	Roberta Cooper Ramo	3,676	15
	Robert S. Salomon, Jr.	3,680	14
	Stephen B. Swensrud	3,680	14

MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND, INC.

MAY 31, 2004

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[LOGO] Merrill Lynch Investment Managers

Quality Profile

The quality ratings of securities in the Fund as of May 31, 2004 were as follows:

S&P Rating/Moody's Rating	Percent of Total Investments
AAA/Aaa	67.9%
AA/Aa	5.5
A/A	8.8
BBB/Baa	15.6
BB/Ba	0.8
NR (Not Rated)	1.4

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 stable level of dividend distributions, 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.

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MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND, INC.

MAY 31, 2004

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
Phillip S. Gillespie, 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
101 Barclay Street - 7 West
New York, NY 10286

NYSE Symbol

MYJ

Electronic Delivery

The Fund offers electronic delivery of communications to its shareholders. In order to receive this service, you must register your account and provide us with e-mail information. To sign up for this service, simply access this Web site <http://www.icsdelivery.com/live> and follow the instructions. When you visit this site, you will obtain a personal identification number (PIN). You will need this PIN should you wish to update your e-mail address, choose to discontinue this service and/or make any other changes to the service. This service is not available for certain retirement accounts at this time.

MUNIYIELD NEW JERSEY FUND, INC.

MAY 31, 2004

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[LOGO] Merrill Lynch Investment Managers

www.mlim.ml.com

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

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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. 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) at www.mutualfunds.ml.com; and (3) on the Securities and Exchange Commission's Web site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

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

#16381 -- 5/04

- Item 2 - Code of Ethics - Not Applicable to this semi-annual report
- Item 3 - Audit Committee Financial Expert - Not Applicable to this semi-annual report
- Item 4 - Principal Accountant Fees and Services - Not Applicable to this semi-annual report
- Item 5 - Audit Committee of Listed Registrants - Not Applicable to this semi-annual report
- Item 6 - Schedule of Investments - Not Applicable
- Item 7 - Disclosure of Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures for Closed-End Management Investment Companies - Not Applicable to this semi-annual report
- Item 8 - Purchases of Equity Securities by Closed-End Management Investment Company and Affiliated Purchasers - Not Applicable
- Item 9 - Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders - Not Applicable
- Item 10 - Controls and Procedures
- 10(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

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of these controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this report.

- 10(b) - There were no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(d)) that occurred during the last fiscal half-year of the period covered by this report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Item 11 - Exhibits attached hereto

11(a) (1) - Code of Ethics - Not Applicable to this semi-annual report

11(a) (2) - Certifications - Attached hereto

11(a) (3) - Not Applicable

11(b) - Certifications - Attached hereto

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 19, 2004

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 19, 2004

By: /s/ Donald C. Burke

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

Date: July 19, 2004