SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Tuesday, April 22, 2014



SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

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For Immediate Release:

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Siena College Poll:

Head-to-Head, Cuomo Leads Astorino by 30 Points; But By Only 15 Points In 3-Way Race with Liberal WFP Candidate

Most Voters Know Little About Moreland Commission; Overwhelmingly Side with Fed Prosecutor Over Governor That Moreland Should Have Continued Schneiderman & DiNapoli Each Unknown to More Than Half of Voters; Only About One-Third Say they Are Prepared to Re-Elect Either One

Loudonville, NY. In a head-to-head matchup, Governor Andrew Cuomo continues to hold a better than two-to-one lead over Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino, 58-28 percent (down a little from 61-26 percent last month). However, if the race includes a Working Families Party candidate perceived to be more liberal or progressive than Cuomo, his lead falls to 15 points, with 39 percent for Cuomo, and 24 percent each for Astorino and the unnamed WFP candidate, according to a Siena College Poll of New York voters released today.

Although 84 percent of voters say corruption in Albany is a serious problem, less than one-third have followed the Moreland Commission closely and only one-quarter have heard or read at least some about the disbanding of the Commission. Nonetheless, by a 61-23 percent margin, voters side with a federal prosecutor that the Moreland Commission should have continued investigating state government corruption rather than the governor, who says that the new ethics law passed as part of the budget justifies disbanding the Moreland Commission.

Fewer than half the voters have an opinion about Attorney General Eric Schneiderman or State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli. Only about one-third of voters are prepared to re-elect either. A large majority of voters wants to see a coalition of Democrats and Republicans continue to control the State Senate next year.

"While Cuomo continues to hold a dominant position in a head-to-head matchup against Astorino, his lead is cut in half when a WFP candidate perceived to be more liberal or progressive than Cuomo is added to the mix," said Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg. "More than 30 percent of Democrats, liberals, union households, New York City and black voters opt for a liberal WFP candidate. In a three-way race, independents are virtually evenly divided with 31 percent supporting Cuomo, 29 percent the WFP candidate and 27 percent Astorino.

"It's been 24 years since a minor party candidate grabbed 20 percent of the gubernatorial vote, however, clearly facing opponents from both sides of the political spectrum would create a challenge for Cuomo," Greenberg said.

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Cuomo's favorability rating is 57-38 percent (down from 58-34 percent last month) and his job performance is unchanged, 45-54 percent (46-54 percent last month). By a 50-41 percent margin voters say they are prepared to re-elect Cuomo compared to preferring 'someone else' (49-41 percent last month). Astorino has an 18-16 percent favorability rating, with 66 percent having no opinion (17-19-65 percent last month).

"Cuomo's dilemma with a challenge from the left can be at least partly explained by the fact that Democrats see Cuomo as not liberal enough. More than twice as many Democrats describe Cuomo as moderate rather than liberal. By better than two-to-one, they want to see him be more of a liberal. By four-to-one, they see him as a pragmatic Democrat rather than a partisan Democrat. And by nearly two-to-one they say he's favored business groups and their positions over labor unions and their positions," Greenberg said.

Among all voters, 46 percent describe Cuomo as moderate, compared to 35 percent liberal and 11 percent conservative. They are evenly divided on whether he should be more of a liberal or more of a conservative. By a 59-29 percent margin, voters describe Cuomo as a pragmatic Democrat who works well with Republicans rather than a partisan Democrat who doesn't work well with Republicans. And by a 41-27 percent margin, voters say Cuomo favors business and their views over unions and their views.

Most Voters Not Familiar with Moreland; Wish it Continued to Investigate Albany Corruption
Forty-one percent of voters say corruption in Albany is a very serious problem, with another 43 percent saying
it's somewhat serious. Yet, only 30 percent say they have followed news about the Moreland Commission even
somewhat closely, while 37 percent say they have not followed it at all. Only 26 percent say they heard some
about the disbanding of the Commission, while 41 percent heard nothing at all. By a 53-28 percent margin voters
say the new laws represent a bad compromise rather than thinking it was the best that could be expected.

"While most voters did not follow the news about the Moreland Commission and the budget compromise that led to its disbanding, the vast majority of voters think that corruption in state government is a serious problem. A strong majority – including 66 percent who heard at least some about the disbanding of the Commission – feel that the budget resolution was a bad compromise that didn't do enough to end corruption," Greenberg said.

"When asked whether they agree more with a federal prosecutor, who says the Commission should have been allowed to continue investigating corruption, or the governor, who says the new laws justify disbanding the Commission, voters overwhelmingly side with the prosecutor," Greenberg said. "At least 55 percent from every party and region side with the prosecutor, including 73 percent who heard some about the Moreland disbanding.

"The word Moreland no longer poses an investigative threat to legislators or others in state government," Greenberg said. "The question now is will it pose a political threat to the governor?"

State Comptroller & Attorney General: Unknown to Majority of Voters. Re-election Vulnerability? Schneiderman is viewed favorably by 27 percent and unfavorably by 20 percent, with 53 percent having no opinion (virtually unchanged from 27-19-55 percent in February). Currently, 35 percent of voters say they are prepared to re-elect him with 32 percent preferring 'someone else (up a little from 29-33 percent in January). DiNapoli has 29-17-54 percent favorability rating (up a little from 26-21-54 percent in February). His re-elect rating is 32-35 percent (down a little from 35-30 percent in January).

"In this year's down ballot races, the incumbents remain unknown or little known to most voters despite DiNapoli having served for more than seven years and Schneiderman more than three," Greenberg said. "With six months until Election Day, voters are not enthusiastic about re-electing either one. However, with both having no publicly identified opponent, it's still too early to say either is electorally vulnerable. Potentially vulnerable? For sure."

Continued Bi-Partisan Control of State Senate in 2015 is Strongly Supported

"Only 16 percent of voters want to see the Republicans control the State Senate in 2015 after this year's elections. Another 22 percent want the Democrats in control. However, a strong majority, 58 percent, want to see a coalition of Republicans and Democrats – like exists today – control the Senate next year," Greenberg said. "That includes 64 percent of independents and 56 percent of both Democrats and Republicans, as well as a majority of voters from every region of the state."

Seventy-three percent of voters say they are at least somewhat familiar with the Common Core learning standards, up from 61 percent in February. A plurality of voters, 37 percent, continues to say they are too demanding, with 23 percent each saying they are just right or not demanding enough. While 38 percent say they are confident Common Core will better prepare students for college and careers, 55 percent say they are not

confident. In February, confidence was virtually even with 46 percent confident and 47 percent not confident.

New Yorkers More Familiar with Common Core; Less Confident It Will Better Prepare Students

"Given the extensive public debate about education and the Common Core over the last several months, more New Yorkers are familiar with the Common Core. However, that familiarity has decreased confidence among voters that the Common Core will better prepare students upon graduation. A strong majority from outside of New York City is either not very or not at all confident that the new learning standards will make graduates better prepared," Greenberg said. "Also, only 26 percent think all that's gone on over the last three years to improve the quality of public education has moved schools in the right direction, compared to 28 percent who say those efforts have moved schools in the wrong direction, and a plurality, 43 percent, who say there's been little impact."

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This Siena College Poll was conducted April 12-17, 2014 by telephone calls to 772 New York State registered voters. It has an overall margin of error of \pm 3.5 percentage points. Data was statistically adjusted by age, party, region and gender to ensure representativeness. Sampling was conducted via random digit dialing to landline and cell phones weighted to reflect known population patterns. The Siena College Research Institute, directed by Donald Levy, Ph.D., conducts political, economic, social and cultural research primarily in New York State. SRI, an independent, non-partisan research institute, subscribes to the American Association of Public Opinion Research Code of Professional Ethics and Practices. For more information, call Steve Greenberg at (518) 469-9858. For survey cross-tabs: www.Siena.edu/SRI/SNY.



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Siena College Poll Trends – April 2014

Q. 3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Andrew Cuomo?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	57	38	6
March 2014	58	34	7
February 2014	60	35	5
January 2014	66	28	6
November 2013	61	32	6
October 2013	62	32	6
September 2013	64	32	4
August 2013	65	30	5
HIGHEST EVER	77 (2/11)	42 (10/06)	24 (1/06, 2/06, 9/07)
LOWEST EVER	44 (8/06, 10/06)	14 (8/09)	3 (10/20/10)

Q. 12 How would you rate the job that Andrew Cuomo is doing as Governor? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	Poor D	OON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	9	36	36	18	1
March 2014	7	39	35	19	1
February 2014	7	41	38	13	1
January 2014	10	44	35	11	1
November 2013	7	37	39	17	1
October 2013	8	44	34	13	1
September 2013	11	38	36	14	1
August 2013	9	43	33	13	2
HIGHEST EVER	17 (1/12)	47 (4/12, etc.)	39 (11/13)	19 (3/14	28 (1/11)
LOWEST EVER	7 (Sever	ral) 34 (1/11)	24 (1/11)	4 (2/11	, 1/11) 1 (many)

Q.9 I know it's a ways off, but as things stand now, if Andrew Cuomo runs for re-election as Governor this year, would you vote to re-elect him or would you prefer someone else? A

DATE	RE-ELECT CUOMO	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	50	41	9
March 2014	49	41	10
February 2014	54	37	9
January 2014	57	33	10
November 2013	51	41	9
October 2013	52	38	10
September 2013	52	39	10
August 2013	55	35	9
HIGHEST EVER	62 (12/12)	41 (4/14, 3/14,	11/13, 6/13) 10 (3/14, 10/13, 9/13)
LOWEST EVER	49 (3/14)	29 (12/12)	7 (6/13, 4/13)

Q. 13 Overall, would you say that in his first three plus years, Andrew Cuomo has been an effective governor, or has not been an effective governor?

Č			MIXED/
DATE	HAS BEEN EFFECTIVE	HAS NOT BEEN EFFECTIVE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	63	30	7
March 2014	64	28	8
HIGHEST EVER	68 (4/13)	30 (4/14)	8 (3/14, 4/13)
LOWEST EVER	63 (4/14)	25 (4/13)	7 (4/14)

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Q. 14 Based on what you've seen of him as Governor so far, would you describe Andrew Cuomo as a liberal, a moderate or a conservative?

DATE	LIBERAL	MODERATE	CONSERVATIVE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	35	46	11	8
February 2014	31	52	9	7
September 2013	36	46	12	6
HIGHEST EVER	36 (9/1	3) 60 (3/11)	15 (4/11,	2/11) 10 (4/11, 1/11)
LOWEST EVER	21 (2/1	1) 46 (4/14,	3/13) 8 (7/11)	6 (9/13)

Q. 4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Rob Astorino?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	18	16	66
March 2014	17	19	65
February 2014	11	15	73
January 2014	14	10	76
November 2013	12	14	75
HIGHEST EVER	18 (4/14)	19 (3/14)	76 (1/14)
LOWEST EVER	11 (2/14)	10 (1/14)	65 (3/14)

Q. 33 If the 2014 election for governor was held today and the candidates were Andrew Cuomo on the Democratic line and Rob Astorino on the Republican line, who would you vote for? (Choices were rotated.)

			OTHER/WON'T VOTE/
DATE	Сиомо	ASTORINO	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	58	28	14
March 2014	61	26	13
February 2014	64	22	15
January 2014	67	19	14
November 2013	63	24	13
HIGHEST EVER	67 (1/14)	28 (4/14)	15 (2/14)
LOWEST EVER	58 (4/14)	19 (1/14)	13 (3/14, 11/13)

Q.7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the New York State Assembly?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	36	47	17
March 2014	39	46	16
February 2014	37	49	14
January 2014	41	43	16
November 2013	34	48	19
October 2013	43	41	16
September 2013	38	49	14
August 2013	37	48	15
HIGHEST EVER	45 (1/13)	61 (7/10)	19 (11/13, 12/12)
LOWEST EVER	25 (7/10)	40 (12/12)	12 (4/13, 1/10)

Q. 8 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the New York State Senate?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	40	48	12
March 2014	39	49	13
February 2014	37	51	12
January 2014	46	42	12
November 2013	35	52	12
October 2013	41	47	12
September 2013	40	51	10
August 2013	40	48	12
HIGHEST EVER	46 (1/14, 5	/12) 74 (7/09)	14 (12/12, 6/11)
LOWEST EVER	20 (7/09)	41 (12/12)	6 (7/09)

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Q. 5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Eric Schneiderman?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	27	20	53
February 2014	27	19	55
January 2014	27	15	58
November 2013	27	16	57
September 2013	23	18	60
August 2013	25	15	60
HIGHEST EVER	29 (10/31/	27 (10/31/10)	86 (11/09)
LOWEST EVER	8 (11/09)	6 (5/10, 11)	/09) 44 (10/31/10)

Q. 10 If Eric Schneiderman runs for re-election as Attorney General this year, would you vote to re-elect him or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	RE-ELECT SCHNEIDERMAN	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	35	32	33
January 2014	29	33	38
HIGHEST EVER	35 (4/14)	33 (1/14)	38 (1/14)
LOWEST EVER	29 (1/14)	32 (4/14)	33 (4/14)

Q. 6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Thomas DiNapoli?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	29	17	54
February 2014	26	21	54
January 2014	28	17	55
November 2013	27	19	54
September 2013	26	20	55
August 2013	26	18	57
HIGHEST EVER	` '	0/20/10) 36 (10/31/10)	` ,
LOWEST EVER	7 (6/07, 5/0	7) 10 (12/09, 11	/08) 37 (10/31/10)

Q. 11 If Tom DiNapoli runs for re-election as State Comptroller this year, would you vote to re-elect him or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	RE-ELECT DINAPOLI	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	32	35	33
January 2014	35	30	35
HIGHEST EVER	35 (1/14)	35 (4/14)	35 (1/14)
LOWEST EVER	32 (4/14)	30 (1/14)	33 (4/14)

Q. 24 The Governor has proposed launching a pilot or test program to permit about 20 New York hospitals to provide medical marijuana to patients being treated for serious illness. Which of the following three options best describes how you feel about this: the Governor's test program is the way to go; New York should immediately move beyond a test program and make medical marijuana legal, as about 20 states have already done; or medical marijuana should remain illegal in New York? (Choices were rotated.)

	GOVERNOR'S LEGALIZE MEDICAL KEEP MEDICAL DON'T KNOW/					
DATE	TEST PROGRAM	MARIJUANA	MARIJUANA ILLEGAL	NO OPINION		
April 2014	26	51	21	3		
March 2014	31	47	20	3		
February 2014	32	45	20	3		
January 2014	28	49	21	2		
HIGHEST EVER	32 (2/14)	51 (4/14)	21 (4/14, 1/14)	3 (4/14, 3/14, 2/14)		
LOWEST EVER	26 (4/14)	45 (2/14)	20 (3/14, 2/14)	2 (1/14)		

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Q. 25 Looking beyond the issue of medical marijuana, two states – Colorado and Washington – have legalized and regulated marijuana for recreational use. Do you support or oppose passing a similar law in New York to legalize and regulate marijuana for recreational use?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	43	52	5
March 2014	42	54	4
February 2014	43	53	4
January 2014	41	54	5
HIGHEST EVER	43 (4/14, 2/14)	54 (3/14, 1/14)	5 (4/14, 1/14)
LOWEST EVER	41 (1/14)	52 (4/14)	4 (3/14, 2/14)

Q. 27 The State Department of Environmental Conservation is expected to soon issue a decision on whether or not to allow hydrofracking – that is the proposed method to recover natural gas from parts of upstate New York – to move forward. How much have you heard or read about it – a great deal, some, not very much, or nothing at all?

DATE	A GREAT DEAL	SOME	NOT VERY MUCH	NOTHING	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	31	35	18	16	1
March 2014	29	33	22	15	1
February 2014	28	32	22	18	1
October 2013	27	33	20	19	1
September 2013	30	32	17	21	0
August 2013	34	31	17	19	0
HIGHEST EVER	35 (6/13)	39 (10/1	2) 22 (3/14, etc	c.) 21 (9/1	3) 1 (many)
LOWEST EVER	27 (10/13, etc	.) 29 (5/13	13 (6/13)	12 (10/	(12) 0 (many)

Q. 28 Do you support or oppose the Department of Environmental Conservation allowing hydrofracking to move forward in parts of upstate New York?

	No	T ENOUGH INFORMATION/
SUPPORT ()PPOSE D	ON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
41	43	17
40	42	19
38	43	19
38	43	19
37	45	18
41	42	17
42 (12/12, 10/12)	45 (9/13, 4/13)	27 (5/12)
37 (9/13, 6/13, 5/12	36 (12/12, 10/12,	5/12) 12 (8/13)
	41 40 38 38 37 41 42 (12/12, 10/12)	SUPPORT OPPOSE D 41 43 40 42 38 43 38 43 37 45 41 42

Q. 29 Now, looking at public education in New York, how familiar are you with the Common Core learning standards in math and English that the State Education Department has adopted for all public schools in New York?

	VERY	SOMEWHAT	NOT VERY	NOT AT ALL	
DATE	FAMILIAR	FAMILIAR	FAMILIAR	FAMILIAR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	27	46	14	11	1
February 2014	23	38	21	18	1
November 2013	22	37	20	21	0
HIGHEST EVER	<mark>27 (4/1</mark> -	4) 46 (4/14)	21 (2/14)	21 (11/	13)
LOWEST EVER	22 (11/	13) 37 (11/13)	14 (4/14)	11 (4/1	4) 0 (11/13)

Q. 30 Based on what you do know, do you think the Common Core standards are too demanding, about right, or not demanding enough?

	Too	ABOUT	NOT DEMANDING	DON'T HAVE	DON'T KNOW/
DATE	DEMANDING	RIGHT	ENOUGH	ENOUGH INFO	NO OPINION
April 2014	37	23	23	10	6
February 2014	36	23	24	9	7
November 2013	34	23	27	10	6
HIGHEST EVER	37 (4/14)	23 (4/14,	etc.) 27 (11/13)	10 (4/14, 11/13)	7 (2/14)
LOWEST EVER	34 (11/13	3) 23 (4/14,	etc.) 23 (4/14)	9 (2/14)	6 (4/14, 11/13)

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Q. 31 The State Education Department says the Common Core standards will help prepare students to be more college or career ready upon graduation. How confident are you that implementing the Common Core in New York's schools will make students more college or career ready upon graduation?

	VERY	SOMEWHAT	NOT VERY	NOT AT ALL	DON'T KNOW/
DATE	CONFIDENT	CONFIDENT	CONFIDENT	CONFIDENT	NO OPINION
April 2014	9	29	28	27	6
February 2014	13	33	28	19	8
November 2013	9	36	28	21	7
HIGHEST EVER	13 (2/14)	36 (11/13	28 (4/14, etc.)	27 (4/14)	8 (2/14)
LOWEST EVER	9 (4/14, 1)	1/13) 29 (4/14)	28 (4/14, etc.)	19 (2/14)	6 (4/14)

Q. 32 Given all that's gone on in education over the last three years, would you say that efforts to improve the quality of public education in New York State have moved New York schools in the right direction or the wrong direction, or have had little impact at all?

DATE	RIGHT DIRECTION	WRONG DIRECTION	LITTLE IMPACT	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	26	28	43	4
November 2013	28	22	44	5
HIGHEST EVER	28 (11/13)	28 (4/14)	44 (11/13)	5 (11/3)
LOWEST EVER	26 (4/14)	22 (11/13)	43 (4/14)	4 (4/14)

Q. 2 How would you describe the fiscal condition of New York State right now? Would you describe it as excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	Poor	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	2	20	46	30	3
March 2014	2	19	45	30	4
February 2014	2	22	43	31	2
January 2014	2	27	42	27	2
September 2013	1	20	47	30	2
August 2013	3	20	43	30	4
HIGHEST EVER	3 (8/13)	27 (1/14)	49 (8/12)	67 (3/	(22/10) 4 (3/14, etc.)
LOWEST EVER	0 (many)	6 (3/22/10	, etc.) 25 (3/22/10)	27 (1/	(14) 0 (4/11, etc.)

Q. 1 Is New York State on the right track, or is it headed in the wrong direction?

DATE	RIGHT TRACK	WRONG DIRECTION	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2014	46	44	10
March 2014	46	43	12
February 2014	48	40	12
January 2014	52	36	12
November 2013	46	44	10
October 2013	44	44	12
September 2013	43	46	11
August 2013	47	40	13
HIGHEST EVER	57 (1/13)	76 (10/31/10)	30 (1/07)
LOWEST EVER	14 (10/10)	26 (1/07)	7 (5/13)

Poll Trend Notes:

All surveys are of registered voters except for the polls of August and October 2012, October 2010, September and October 2008, and September and October 2006, which are polls of likely voters.

Trends reflect questions asked at least twice since the first Siena College Poll in February 2005.

Results listed here include all times questions have been asked since August 2013.

[&]quot;Highest Ever" and "Lowest Ever" is provided at the bottom of each question.

[^] Inconsequential wording change.