

“Nearly two-thirds give Cuomo a negative rating for improving the state’s economy. Two-thirds rate him negatively for balancing the needs of upstate and downstate – including at least 60 percent from each region. And nearly three-quarters give him negative grades for improving the quality of public education and reducing corruption in state government,” Greenberg said.

“On education, corruption and balancing upstate/downstate needs, more voters say Cuomo’s doing a poor job than say he’s doing an excellent or good job combined,” Greenberg said. “Democrats only give the

Governor positive ratings on two issues – the prison break and making the state business friendly – while a majority of Democrats give him a negative rating on five of the issues. Even voters who view Cuomo favorably only give him positive rating on four issues, while they give him negative grades on four issues.”

Cuomo Job Performance Ratings		
Specific Issues	Positive (Excellent/Good)	Negative (Fair/Poor)
Overall job performance rating as Governor	39% (7%/32%)	60% (40%/20%)
Overseeing NY’s response to the recent prison break	52% (15%/37%)	43% (23%/20%)
Making NY more business friendly	45% (8%/37%)	50% (30%/20%)
Improving NY’s economy	34% (4%/30%)	63% (38%/25%)
Protecting the rights of NYC tenants	29% (4%/25%)	50% (31%/19%)
Handling the recently completed 2015 legislative session	28% (3%/25%)	55% (38%/17%)
Balancing needs of both upstate & downstate	25% (3%/22%)	66% (36%/30%)
Improving the quality of public education in NY	24% (4%/20%)	73% (32%/41%)
Reducing corruption in state government	20% (4%/16%)	74% (35%/39%)
Siena College Poll – July 15, 2015		

Cuomo/de Blasio Feud: NYC Voters with de Blasio; Suburbanites/Upstaters Side Stronger with Cuomo

Cuomo v. de Blasio								
Issue	New York State		New York City		Democrats		Republicans	
	Cuomo	De Blasio	Cuomo	De Blasio	Cuomo	De Blasio	Cuomo	De Blasio
More representative your political beliefs	41%	32%	34%	47%	39%	44%	51%	13%
More effective getting things done	53%	27%	50%	36%	52%	33%	59%	16%
More trustworthy	39%	31%	35%	42%	35%	41%	53%	15%
Who do you side with in apparent feud?	39%	28%	33%	37%	36%	38%	52%	13%
Siena College Poll – July 15, 2015								

“Among all voters across the state – as well as among Republicans, independents, upstaters and downstate suburbanites – Cuomo is seen as more effective, trustworthy and representative of their views. And thus these groups all side with Cuomo over de Blasio in their ongoing public war of words,” Greenberg said. “But New York City voters and Democrats are more in the de Blasio camp. Although even Democrats and City voters believe Cuomo is more effective, a plurality of them believe that de Blasio is more trustworthy, more representative of their beliefs, and by narrow margins, lean to de Blasio over Cuomo in the public feud.

“Voters under 35 years-old and black voters are also more firmly in the de Blasio camp,” Greenberg said. “In the feud, white voters side with Cuomo two-to-one, while black voters side with de Blasio more than two-to-one.”

De Blasio, Not Viewed Favorably Statewide, is Comparable to Cuomo with Dems & NYC Voters

De Blasio has a negative 37-43 percent favorability rating statewide, down sharply from 41-27 percent in November 2013, immediately after his election, Greenberg said. However, among New York City voters, he is viewed favorably 58-36 percent, compared to Cuomo's 57-33 percent, and among Democrats he has a 52-32 percent favorability rating, compared to Cuomo's 63-31 percent.

Voters: There's a ConCon Vote? We Support It!

While only six percent of New Yorkers say they have heard or read a great deal or even some about the 2017 vote on whether New York should hold a Constitutional Convention, and 75 percent say they have heard nothing at all about it, by an overwhelming 69-15 percent margin, voters support having a Constitutional Convention, Greenberg said. Huge majorities of voters from every party and region, voters of every age group, gender, race and religion, as well as every ideology and income bracket support having a ConCon.

When the Siena Poll last asked about the ConCon, voters were strongly in support of 58-26 percent in June 2010 however, events in Albany over the last few years seem to have only intensified the support of voters for the state to have its first Constitutional Convention in half a century, Greenberg said.

Corruption Still Very Serious Issue; Half of Voters Now Say They Are Less Likely to Re-Elect Legislators

With 90 percent of voters saying state government corruption is a serious problem of 51 percent saying very serious it is not surprising that 49 percent of voters say recent scandals make them less likely to re-elect their state legislators next year, up from 37 percent in May, Greenberg said. Only 11 percent say they are more likely to re-elect, while 34 percent say the recent scandals will have no effect on their vote for legislators next year, down from 49 percent in May.

Plurality of Voters See State Heading in the Wrong Direction

Only 40 percent of voters think the state is headed on the right track, while 45 percent think the state is headed in the wrong direction, down a little from 44-46 percent in May, Greenberg said. Upstaters say the state is headed in the wrong direction by a 20-point margin, and downstate suburbanites agree by a 13-point margin. New York City voters say the state is on the right track by a 12-point margin, down from a 15-point margin in May.

###

This Siena College Poll was conducted July 6-9, 2015 by telephone calls conducted in English to 802 New York State registered voters. Respondent sampling was initiated by asking for the youngest male in the household. It has an overall margin of error of ± 3.9 percentage points including the design effects resulting from weighting. Sampling was conducted via a stratified dual frame probability sample provided by Survey Sampling International of landline and cell phone telephone numbers from within New York State weighted to reflect known population patterns. Data was statistically adjusted by age, party, region and gender to ensure representativeness. The Siena College Research Institute, directed by Donald Levy, Ph.D., conducts political, economic, social and cultural research primarily in NYS. 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](tel:5184699858). For survey cross-tabs: www.Siena.edu/SRI/SNY.



SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

www.siena.edu/sri

Siena College Poll Trends – July 2015

Q. 4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Andrew Cuomo?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
July 2015	49	44	7
May 2015	53	44	3
April 2015	56	39	5
March 2015	57	39	4
February 2015	59	37	4
January 2015	60	35	5
December 2014	58	37	4
October 2014*	54	43	3
September 2014*	55	40	5
HIGHEST EVER	77 (2/11)	44 (7/15, 5/15)	24 (1/06, 2/06, 9/07)
LOWEST EVER	44 (8/06, 10/06)	14 (8/09)	3 (10/20/10)

Q. 19 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	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
July 2015	7	32	40	20	1
May 2015	9	32	36	23	0
April 2015	9	35	35	20	1
March 2015	6	37	37	19	1
February 2015	9	35	38	17	1
January 2015	11	36	35	16	1
December 2014	7	35	40	17	1
October 2014*	9	34	32	25	0
September 2014*	7	35	35	21	1
HIGHEST EVER	17 (1/12)	47 (4/12, etc.)	40 (7/15, 12/14)	25 (10/14)	28 (1/11)
LOWEST EVER	6 (3/15)	32 (7/15, 5/15)	24 (1/11)	4 (2/11, 1/11)	0 (5/15, 10/14)

Q. 20 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
July 2015	33	45	13	10
July 2014*	33	47	11	9
HIGHEST EVER	36 (9/13)	60 (3/11)	15 (4/11, 2/11)	10 (7/15, 4/11, 1/11)
LOWEST EVER	21 (2/11)	45 (7/15)	8 (7/11)	6 (9/13)

Q. 5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the New York State Assembly?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
July 2015	37	49	14
May 2015	43	46	10
April 2015	38	49	13
March 2015	41	46	14
February 2015	43	45	12
January 2015	42	41	17
December 2014	39	41	20
September 2014*	40	44	16
HIGHEST EVER	45 (1/13)	61 (7/10)	20 (12/14)
LOWEST EVER	25 (7/10)	40 (12/12)	10 (5/15)

Siena College Poll Trends – July 2015

Page 2

Q. 7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Carl Heastie?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
July 2015	12	15	74
May 2015	12	16	72
April 2015	11	19	69
March 2015	11	15	74
February 2015	14	14	73
HIGHEST EVER	14 (2/15)	19 (4/15)	74 (7/15, 3/15)
LOWEST EVER	11 (4/15, 3/15)	14 (2/15)	69 (4/15)

Q. 6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the New York State Senate?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
July 2015	38	50	12
May 2015	41	49	9
April 2015	42	48	10
March 2015	44	46	10
February 2015	45	44	11
January 2015	45	44	11
December 2014	41	44	14
September 2014*	40	46	14
July 2014*	41	45	14
HIGHEST EVER	46 (1/14, 5/12)	74 (7/09)	14 (12/14, 7/14, 12/12, 6/11)
LOWEST EVER	20 (7/09)	41 (12/12)	6 (7/09)

Q. 8 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about John Flanagan?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
July 2015	12	13	75
May 2015	17	14	69
HIGHEST EVER	17 (5/15)	14 (5/15)	75 (7/15)
LOWEST EVER	12 (7/15)	13 (7/15)	69 (5/15)

Q. 33 How serious a problem would you say corruption is in state government in Albany? Would you say it's very serious, somewhat serious, not very serious, or not at all serious?

DATE	VERY SERIOUS	SOMEWHAT SERIOUS	NOT VERY SERIOUS	NOT AT ALL SERIOUS	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
July 2015	51	39	6	1	3
May 2015	50	40	7	1	2
April 2015	49	39	7	2	4
March 2015	49	38	7	2	4
February 2015	51	41	4	2	2
August 2014	47	39	8	1	5
HIGHEST EVER	51 (7/15, 2/15)	41 (2/15)	8 (8/14)	2 (4/15, 3/15, 2/15)	5 (8/14)
LOWEST EVER	47 (8/14)	38 (3/15)	4 (2/15)	1 (7/15, 5/15, 8/14)	2 (5/15, 2/15)

Q. 34 Will the recent corruption scandals make you more likely to re-elect your state legislators next year, less likely to re-elect your state legislators next year, or will the scandals have no effect on your vote for state legislators next year?

DATE	MORE LIKELY TO RE-ELECT	LESS LIKELY TO RE-ELECT	NO EFFECT ON VOTE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
July 2015	11	49	34	6
July 2014*	11	37	49	3
HIGHEST EVER	11 (7/15, 5/15)	49 (7/15)	49 (5/15)	6 (7/15)
LOWEST EVER	11 (7/15, 5/15)	37 (5/15)	34 (7/15)	3 (5/15)

Siena College Poll Trends – July 2015

Page 3

Q. 36 Do you support or oppose having a New York State Constitutional Convention in which delegates propose changes to the State Constitution for voters to approve or reject?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
July 2015	69	15	16
June 2010	58	26	16
August 2009	63	25	12
HIGHEST EVER	69 (7/15)	26 (6/10)	16 (7/15, 6/10)
LOWEST EVER	58 (6/10)	15 (7/15)	12 (8/09)

Q. 9 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Eric Schneiderman?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
July 2015	30	21	50
March 2015	35	19	46
December 2014	32	22	46
October 2014*	41	20	39
September 2014*	27	23	50
HIGHEST EVER	41 (10/14)	27 (10/31/10)	86 (11/09)
LOWEST EVER	8 (11/09)	6 (5/10, 11/09)	39 (10/14)

Q. 10 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Thomas DiNapoli?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
July 2015	27	16	57
March 2015	29	18	53
December 2014	27	19	53
October 2014*	35	19	46
September 2014*	30	17	52
HIGHEST EVER	35 (10/14)	36 (10/31/10)	80 (6/07)
LOWEST EVER	7 (6/07, 5/07)	10 (12/09, 11/08)	37 (10/31/10)

Q. 15 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Bill de Blasio?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
July 2015	37	43	20
November 2013	41	27	32
HIGHEST EVER	41 (11/13)	43 (7/15)	32 (11/13)
LOWEST EVER	37 (7/15)	27 (11/13)	20 (7/15)

Q. 3 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
July 2015	2	27	42	26	3
April 2015	1	26	44	26	3
February 2015	2	26	45	25	2
December 2014	3	26	40	28	2
September 2014*	2	28	41	25	4
HIGHEST EVER	3 (12/14, 8/13)	29 (7/14)	49 (8/12)	67 (3/22/10)	4 (9/14, etc.)
LOWEST EVER	0 (many)	6 (3/22/10, etc.)	25 (3/22/10)	25 (2/15, 9/14, 7/14)	0 (4/11, etc.)

Siena College Poll Trends – July 2015

Page 4

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
July 2015	40	45	15
May 2015	44	46	10
April 2015	46	42	12
March 2015	46	42	12
February 2015	49	41	10
January 2015	46	45	9
December 2014	41	45	14
October 2014*	46	46	8
September 2014*	48	43	10
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 July thru October 2014, August/October 2012, October 2010, September/October 2008, and September/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 September 2014. “Highest Ever” and “Lowest Ever” is provided at the bottom of each question.
 ^ Inconsequential wording change.