



# SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

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## Siena College Poll:

### **Cuomo Holds Big Lead; Voters Split on When He Needs to Declare**

**Lazio Starts Fight for Republican Nomination with Huge Lead over Levy**

*Do Voters Believe Paterson? Sometimes. 1/3 Believe Little or None of what He Says*

**Small Majority Supports Legalizing Medical Marijuana in New York;**

**Voters Oppose Budget Borrowing and Strongly Oppose Closing Parks;**

**Support Remains for Wine in Grocery Stores; Opposition to Soda Tax Increases**

Loudonville, NY. Attorney General Andrew Cuomo maintains a nearly 40-point lead over former Republican Representative Rick Lazio and an even larger lead over Democrat-turned-Republican Suffolk County Executive Steve Levy, who enters the battle for the nomination for governor trailing Lazio by a three-to-one margin among Republicans, according to a new Siena (College) Research Institute poll of registered voters. Voters continue to prefer that Cuomo run for governor, rather than run for re-election as attorney general. For the first time, however, they are divided on whether he needs to make his intentions known now or still has time to wait.

Five percent of voters say they believe everything Governor David Paterson says, 56 percent say they believe some things and not others, while 23 percent say they believe very little, and 12 percent believe nothing of what the Governor says. Voters continue to oppose the soda tax, and they oppose the state borrowing \$6 billion and strongly oppose closing state parks this year. They continue to support allowing grocery stores to sell wine, and by a 50-41 percent margin, voters support legalizing the use of medical marijuana in New York.

“With more than seven months until the election, the undeclared candidate for governor remains the candidate to beat. Cuomo has a 63-22 percent favorable rating. By a two-to-one margin, voters want him to run for

2010 Gubernatorial Horse Race Questions						
Date	Cuomo v. Lazio v. Redlich			Cuomo v. Levy v. Redlich		
	Cuomo	Lazio	Redlich	Cuomo	Levy	Redlich
Mar. 22, 2010	59%	21%	3%	63%	16%	4%
Mar. 8, 2010	63%	25%	NA			
Feb. 22, 2010	63%	26%	NA			
Dec. 14, 2009	68%	22%	NA			
Feb. 24, 2009	66%	16%	NA			

governor rather than for re-election. In potential general election matchups, Cuomo beats Lazio or Levy handily. And that’s before he announces his campaign. Two weeks ago, most voters – including most Democrats and Republicans – said Cuomo had time to wait before declaring his intentions. Now voters are evenly divided, with 44 percent each saying he should declare now, or he still has time to wait,” said Siena pollster Steven Greenberg

“New York politics changes faster than the weather in Albany in March. Just two months ago, it looked like the Democrats were headed to a potentially divisive primary and that Republicans were rallying around presumptive nominee Lazio,” Greenberg said. “Today it looks like Democrats are planning a coronation at their convention, while Republicans seem to be gearing up for a battle of Long Islanders – one a lifelong Republican and one a newly minted convert – with perhaps a western New York Republican businessman in the mix as well.”

Lazio is viewed favorably by 29 percent of voters (42 percent of Republicans) and unfavorably by 27 percent (22 percent of Republicans), while 45 percent don’t know enough to have an opinion. Levy has a 16-16 percent favorable rating (17-17 among Republicans), with 68 percent not having an opinion.

“While Levy is new to the Republican Party and new to the race, he has quite a bit of catching up to do. Right now, Republican voters favor Lazio over Levy by a 45-16 percent margin,” Greenberg said. “After we informed those Republican voters that Lazio is a former Republican Congressman and Levy is the current Democratic Suffolk County Executive and asked their choice again, Lazio expanded his lead to 60-19 percent.”

#### **To Believe Paterson or Not to Believe Paterson? That is the Question**

“The good news for David Paterson – who voters do not want to resign, while they give him the lowest job performance rating of his two years as governor – is that most voters believe some things he says, but not others. The bad news for him is that 35 percent of voters believe very little or nothing of what he says,” Greenberg said.

Paterson’s favorability rating edged up to 25-65 percent, from 21-67 percent two weeks ago. His job performance rating hit an all-time low at 16 percent positive, 83 percent negative. Only 30 percent of voters (down from 37 percent two weeks ago) want to see him resign immediately, while 64 percent (up from 55 percent) want him to serve out the remainder of his term.

#### **Voters Split on Two Proposals in the Ravitch Budget Plan**

“Nearly half of the voters oppose the state borrowing up to \$6 billion over the next three years. About a quarter support it, with a similar number saying they need more information,” Greenberg said. “Creating a new state financial review board is supported by 46 percent of the voters, with 24 percent opposing it and 30 percent wanting more information.

“A majority of voters continues to tell Siena that they oppose health and education cuts, even if it means raising taxes. And while voters seem to be OK with a new financial review board, it seems clear that Lt. Governor Richard Ravitch has a lot more work to do if he’s going to gain public understanding of and support for his budget proposals,” Greenberg said.

**Overall, Voters Say Yes to Legalizing Medical Marijuana; Big Differences Among Demographic Groups**

“Half of New York voters support legalizing the use of medical marijuana in New York, while 41 percent oppose it,” Greenberg said. “Democrats and independents, downstaters, young, white and Jewish voters support it. Republicans, upstaters, older voters, and African American, Catholic and Protestant voters oppose it.”

**Park Closings Strongly Opposed; Wine in Grocery Stores Keeps Support; Soda Tax Opposition Grows**

“By an overwhelming nine-to-one margin, voters oppose the closing of more than 50 parks and historic sites this year, a budget issue that has been the focus of a lot of grassroots public attention,” Greenberg said. “Allowing grocery stores to sell wine, another hotly debated state budget issue, continues to be supported by 57 percent of New York voters, and has majority support among voters of all regions and parties.

“Opposition to the tax on sugared beverages, an issue that has generated big advertising campaigns by supporters and opponents, has grown since last month. Currently 62 percent of voters are opposed to the soda tax, while 34 percent support it. Self described liberal voters are the only group to support the soda tax,” Greenberg said.

**Gillibrand Ratings Remain Constant; Continues to Trail Pataki and Beat Blakeman**

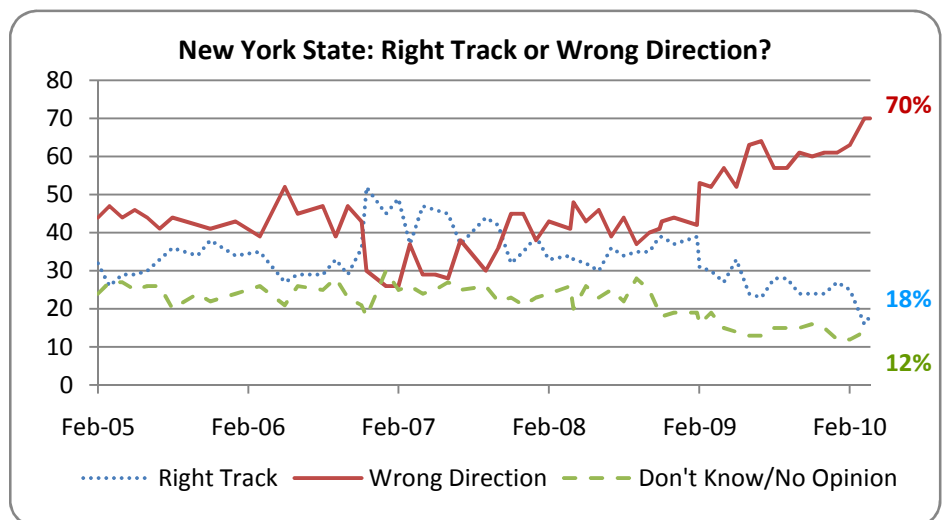
2010 Senate Horse Race Questions				
Date	Gillibrand v. Pataki		Gillibrand v. Blakeman	
	Gillibrand	Pataki	Gillibrand	Blakeman
Mar. 22, 2010	39%	45%	48%	24%
Feb. 22, 2010	41%	47%	51%	24%
Jan. 18, 2010	38%	51%		
Dec. 15, 2009	46%	43%	52%	22%
Mar. 23, 2009	41%	41%		

“Kirsten Gillibrand has seen little change in how she is viewed by voters, or in how they view her compared to potential Republican opponents,” Greenberg said.

**Record Number of Voters Continue to See New York State ‘Headed in the Wrong Direction’**

“For the second consecutive time, a record high 70 percent of voters say that New York is headed in the wrong direction, with 18 percent saying the state is on the right track,” Greenberg said. “At least 60 percent of voters from every party, every region and every age category are pessimistic about the direction of the state.”

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This SRI survey was conducted March 15-18, 2010 by telephone calls to 810 New York State registered voters. It has a margin of error of ± 3.4 percentage points. Data was statistically adjusted by age, party, and gender to ensure representativeness. Sampling was conducted via random digit dialing weighted to reflect known population patterns. SRI is an independent, non-partisan research institute. SRI subscribes to the American Association of Public Opinion Research Code of Professional Ethics and Practices. For more information, please call Steven Greenberg at 518-469-9858. Survey cross-tabulations and frequencies can be found at: [www.Siena.edu/SRI/SNY](http://www.Siena.edu/SRI/SNY).



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## Siena College Poll Trends – March 22, 2010

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about David Paterson?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	25	65	10
March 8, 2010	21	67	12
February 2010	35	55	10
January 2010	38	52	10
December 2009	36	53	12
November 2009	33	56	12
October 2009	27	61	12
September 2009	29	59	13
August 2009	32	55	12
July 2009	36	56	8
June 2009	31	57	11
May 2009	27	60	13
April 2009	27	63	10
March 2009	29	58	13
February 2009	40	47	13
January 29, 2009	54	30	17
January 26, 2009	60	23	16
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>64 (11/08)</b>	<b>67 (3/8/10)</b>	<b>76 (1/07)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>17 (1/07)</b>	<b>8 (1/07)</b>	<b>8 (7/09)</b>

How would you rate the job that David Paterson is doing as Governor – excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	2	14	39	44	1
March 8, 2010	2	17	33	47	2
February 2010	2	20	39	37	1
January 2010	3	21	44	31	1
December 2009	3	20	42	34	2
November 2009	2	19	40	39	2
October 2009	1	18	43	36	1
September 2009	2	16	41	39	2
August 2009	3	20	38	38	2
July 2009	2	20	41	36	1
June 2009	2	18	39	39	2
May 2009	2	16	43	38	1
April 2009	1	17	41	40	2
March 2009	1	18	46	32	2
February 2009	2	26	46	23	3
January 26, 2009	8	43	35	10	4
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>9 (12/08)</b>	<b>48 (10/08)</b>	<b>46 (3/09, 2/09)</b>	<b>47 (3/8/10)</b>	<b>32 (4/08)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>1 (10/09,etc)</b>	<b>14 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>28 (5/08)</b>	<b>4 (9/08, etc.)</b>	<b>1 (1/10, etc.)</b>

Do you think David Paterson should serve out the remainder of his term as Governor until December 31<sup>st</sup> or do you think he should resign immediately and let Lt. Governor Richard Ravitch serve as Governor for the remainder of the year?

DATE	SERVE OUT REMAINDER	RESIGN IMMEDIATELY	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	64	30	6
March 8, 2010	55	37	9
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>64 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>37 (3/8/10)</b>	<b>9 (3/8/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>55 (3/8/10)</b>	<b>30 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>6 (3/22/10)</b>

# Siena College Poll Trends – March 22, 2010

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	63	22	15
March 8, 2010	63	25	12
February 2010	66	21	13
January 2010	67	21	12
December 2009	67	19	14
November 2009	70	20	11
October 2009	67	20	14
September 2009	66	21	13
August 2009	70	14	16
July 2009	63	21	16
June 2009	71	17	12
May 2009	66	20	14
April 2009	66	18	16
March 2009	68	17	15
February 2009	69	18	13
January 26, 2009	64	17	19
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>71 (6/09)</b>	<b>42 (10/06)</b>	<b>24 (1/06, 2/06, 9/07)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>44 (8/06, 10/06)</b>	<b>14 (8/09)</b>	<b>11 (11/09)</b>

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Rick Lazio?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	29	27	45
March 8, 2010	30	29	40
February 2010	31	26	43
January 2010	27	30	43
December 2009	25	25	51
November 2009	29	22	50
October 2009	23	27	50
September 2009	22	25	53
August 2009	21	22	57
July 2009	25	22	53
February 2009	23	23	54
January 26, 2009	19	18	64
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>31 (2/10)</b>	<b>30 (1/10)</b>	<b>64 (1/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>19 (1/09)</b>	<b>18 (1/09)</b>	<b>40 (3/8/10)</b>

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Steve Levy?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	16	16	68
January 2010	17	15	68
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>17 (1/10)</b>	<b>16 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>68 (3/22/10, 3/8/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>16 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>15 (3/8/10)</b>	<b>68 (3/22/10, 3/8/10)</b>

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Richard Ravitch?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	22	16	63
March 8, 2010	22	16	62
October 2009	16	18	66
July 2009	19	19	62
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>22 (3/22/10, 3/8/10)</b>	<b>19 (7/09)</b>	<b>66 (10/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>16 (10/09)</b>	<b>16 (3/22/10, 3/8/10)</b>	<b>62 (3/8/10, 7/09)</b>

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# Siena College Poll Trends – March 22, 2010

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If the 2010 election for governor were held today and the candidates were Andrew Cuomo on the Democratic line, Rick Lazio on the Republican line, and Warren Redlich on the Libertarian Party line, who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED; REDLICH INCLUDED FOR FIRST TIME IN MARCH 22, 2010 SURVEY)

DATE	CUOMO	LAZIO	REDLICH	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	59	21	3	17
March 8, 2010	63	25	NA	11
February 2010	63	26	NA	11
January 2010	66	24	NA	10
December 2009	68	22	NA	10
November 2009	67	22	NA	11
October 2009	66	21	NA	14
September 2009	64	18	NA	18
August 2009	66	16	NA	18
July 2009	65	20	NA	15
February 2009	66	16	NA	18
January 26, 2009	61	17	NA	22
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>68 (12/09)</b>	<b>26 (2/10)</b>	<b>3 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>22 (1/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>59 (3/22/09)</b>	<b>16 (8/09, 2/09)</b>	<b>3 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>10 (1/10, 12/09)</b>

Would you prefer to see Attorney General Andrew Cuomo run for re-election as Attorney General this year or would you prefer to see him run for Governor instead?

DATE	ATTORNEY GENERAL	GOVERNOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	27	55	18
March 8, 2010	29	58	14
February 2010	33	51	17
January 2010	30	53	17
December 2009	31	50	19
November 2009	28	52	19
October 2009	36	49	15
September 2009	34	47	18
August 2009	31	52	17
July 2009	31	45	24
June 2009	35	46	19
May 2009	33	47	20
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>36 (10/09)</b>	<b>58 (3/8/10)</b>	<b>24 (7/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>27 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>45 (7/09)</b>	<b>14 (3/8/10)</b>

Should Andrew Cuomo publicly declare now whether he's running for Attorney General or Governor this year, or does he have time to wait several months before publicly announcing?

DATE	DECLARE NOW	TIME TO WAIT	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	44	44	12
March 8, 2010	38	52	9
February 2010	41	43	16
January 2010	37	49	14
December 2009	35	51	14
November 2009	33	52	14
October 2009	34	53	12
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>44 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>53 (10/09)</b>	<b>16 (2/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>33 (11/09)</b>	<b>43 (2/10)</b>	<b>9 (3/8/10)</b>

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# Siena College Poll Trends – March 22, 2010

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Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kirsten Gillibrand?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	32	29	39
February 2010	34	28	38
January 2010	30	32	38
December 2009	31	22	47
November 2009	34	24	43
October 2009	28	26	46
September 2009	29	24	47
August 2009	29	20	52
May 2009	33	21	46
April 2009	33	23	44
March 2009	26	20	54
February 2009	34	20	46
January 29, 2009	30	14	56
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>34 (2/10, 11/09, 2/09)</b>	<b>32 (1/10)</b>	<b>56 (1/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>28 (10/09)</b>	<b>14 (1/09)</b>	<b>38 (2/10, 1/10)</b>

If Kirsten Gillibrand runs for United States Senator in 2010, would you vote to elect her or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	ELECT	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	28	38	34
February 2010	30	40	30
January 2010	29	45	26
December 2009	30	34	35
November 2009	33	38	29
May 2009	27	39	34
April 2009	20	47	33
March 2009	23	37	39
January 29, 2009	21	29	50
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>33 (11/09)</b>	<b>47 (4/09)</b>	<b>50 (1/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>20 (4/09)</b>	<b>29 (1/09)</b>	<b>26 (1/10)</b>

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about George Pataki?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	56	33	10
February 2010	56	34	9
January 2010	55	34	11
December 2009	53	35	12
November 2009	55	36	9
October 2009	53	34	12
August 2009	53	35	13
May 2009	53	36	11
April 2009	49	43	8
March 2009	49	41	10
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>56 (3/22/10, 2/10)</b>	<b>57 (2/07)</b>	<b>16 (2/05)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>36 (2/07)</b>	<b>33 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>7 (many; most recently 2/07)</b>

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Bruce Blakeman?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	8	8	84
February 2010	5	11	84
December 2009	4	6	90
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>8 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>11 (2/10)</b>	<b>90 (12/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>4 (12/09)</b>	<b>6 (12/09)</b>	<b>84 (3/22/10, 2/10)</b>

# Siena College Poll Trends – March 22, 2010

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If the 2010 election for United States Senator were held today and the candidates were Kirsten Gillibrand on the Democratic line and George Pataki on the Republican line, who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED)

DATE	GILLIBRAND	PATAKI	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	39	45	15
February 2010	41	47	13
January 2010	38	51	11
December 2009	46	43	12
November 2009	45	44	12
October 2009	41	46	13
August 2009	39	42	18
May 2009	43	43	14
March 2009	41	41	18
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>46 (12/09)</b>	<b>51 (1/10)</b>	<b>18 (8/09, 3/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>38 (1/10)</b>	<b>41 (3/09)</b>	<b>11 (1/10)</b>

If the 2010 election for United States Senator were held today and the candidates were Kirsten Gillibrand on the Democratic line and Bruce Blakeman on the Republican line, who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED)

DATE	GILLIBRAND	BLAKEMAN	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	48	24	28
February 2010	51	24	25
December 2009	52	22	26
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>52 (12/09)</b>	<b>24 (3/22/10, 2/10)</b>	<b>28 (3/22/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>48 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>22 (12/09)</b>	<b>25 (2/10)</b>

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Chuck Schumer?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	62	27	10
February 2010	61	29	10
December 2009	60	28	13
November 2009	60	30	10
May 2009	63	25	12
January 29, 2009	66	23	11
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>70 (7/05)</b>	<b>30 (11/09)</b>	<b>17 (2/05)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>60 (12/09, etc.)</b>	<b>20 (2/05, 11/06)</b>	<b>9 (7/05)</b>

If Chuck Schumer runs for United States Senator in 2010, would you vote to elect him or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	ELECT	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	56	31	13
February 2010	55	36	9
November 2009	60	32	8
May 2009	61	31	8
May 2008	54	32	15
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>60 (11/09)</b>	<b>36 (2/10)</b>	<b>15 (5/08)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>55 (5/08)</b>	<b>31 (3/22/10, 5/09)</b>	<b>8 (11/09, 5/09)</b>

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	19	15	66
December 2009	22	10	67
November 2009	20	11	69
August 2009	16	11	74
May 2009	19	16	65
February 2009	16	13	71
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>22 (12/09)</b>	<b>18 (5/07)</b>	<b>80 (6/07)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>7 (6/07, 5/07)</b>	<b>10 (12/09, 11/08)</b>	<b>65 (5/09)</b>



# Siena College Poll Trends – March 22, 2010

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As things stand now, if the election for State Senate were held today, would you vote to re-elect your incumbent Senator or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	RE-ELECT	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	38	44	18
February 2010	41	43	16
January 2010	34	49	17
December 2009	42	42	16
October 2009	40	46	15
September 2009	38	45	17
August 2009	37	43	20
July 2009	31	40	28
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>42 (12/09)</b>	<b>49 (1/10)</b>	<b>28 (7/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>31 (7/09)</b>	<b>40 (7/09)</b>	<b>15 (10/09)</b>

Democrats currently control the State Senate by a 32 to 30 majority. Looking at this year's election, would you prefer to see the Democrats win a larger majority, would you prefer to see the Republicans win control of the Senate, or would you prefer to see the Senate continue to be closely divided between Republicans and Democrats?

DATE	BIGGER DEM	REPUBLICAN	CLOSELY DIVIDED	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	33	22	38	6
January 2010	33	25	38	4
December 2009	36	23	36	5
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>36 (12/09)</b>	<b>25 (1/10)</b>	<b>38 (3/22/10, 1/10)</b>	<b>6 (3/22/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>33 (3/22/10, 1/10)</b>	<b>22 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>36 (12/09)</b>	<b>4 (1/10)</b>

Governor David Paterson said that his proposed state budget closes a budget deficit of more than \$8 billion. Given that health care and education account for the two largest portions of the state budget, which of the following positions best describes how you would prefer the State Legislature close the deficit when the budget is passed? (Choices were rotated): the Legislature should cut spending to both health care and education to help balance the budget; the Legislature should cut spending to health care but not education; the Legislature should cut spending to education but not health care; or the Legislature should not cut spending to either health care or education, even if it means raising taxes.

DATE	BOTH ED. & HEALTH	HEALTH NOT ED.	ED. NOT HEALTH	NOT ED. OR HEALTH EVEN IF TAXES	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	23	8	8	52	9
March 8, 2010	20	8	8	59	5
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>23 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>8 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>8 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>59 (3/8/10)</b>	<b>9 (3/22/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>20 (3/8/10)</b>	<b>8 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>8 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>52 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>5 (3/8/10)</b>

Do you support or oppose allowing grocery stores to sell wine in New York State?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	NEED MORE INFO	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	57	37	5	1
February 2010	58	39	--	3
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>58 (2/10)</b>	<b>39 (2/10)</b>	<b>5 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>3 (2/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>57 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>37 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>5 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>1 (3/22/10)</b>

Do you support or oppose placing a new state tax on soda and other sugared beverages?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	NEED MORE INFO	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	34	62	4	1
February 2010	38	59	--	2
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>38 (2/10)</b>	<b>62 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>4 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>2 (2/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>34 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>59 (2/10)</b>	<b>4 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>1 (3/22/10)</b>

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Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Barack Obama?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	58	37	5
February 2010	61	35	4
January 2010	64	32	4
December 2009	63	32	5
October 2009	65	31	4
September 2009	65	31	4
August 2009	70	23	6
May 2009	72	23	5
April 2009	75	19	6
March 2009	70	23	7
February 2009	74	18	8
January 26, 2009	81	10	9
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>81 (1/09)</b>	<b>37 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>40 (11/06)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>48 (11/06)</b>	<b>10 (1/09)</b>	<b>4 (2/10, 1/10, 10/09, 9/09)</b>

Is the United States on the right track, or is it headed in the wrong direction?

DATE	RIGHT TRACK	WRONG DIRECTION	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 22, 2010	36	54	11
December 2009	43	49	8
October 2009	48	43	10
September 2009	49	42	9
August 2009	52	37	10
July 2009	49	41	10
May 2009	62	31	7
April 2009	61	29	11
March 2009	50	36	14
February 2009	48	39	13
January 26, 2009	61	24	15
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>62 (5/09)</b>	<b>69 (10/08)</b>	<b>17 (9/08)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>19 (10/08)</b>	<b>24 (12/09)</b>	<b>7 (5/09)</b>

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
March 22, 2010	1	6	25	67	1
January 2010	1	9	27	62	1
December 2009	0	6	28	65	1
August 2009	1	7	39	51	1
July 2009	1	7	30	61	1
May 2009	1	8	33	59	0
April 2009	0	4	29	66	1
March 2009	0	6	33	60	1
February 2009	0	7	28	65	0
January 26, 2009	0	7	26	65	1
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>1 (many)</b>	<b>14 (9/08)</b>	<b>43 (10/08)</b>	<b>67 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>4 (9/08)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>0 (many)</b>	<b>6 (3/22/10, etc.)</b>	<b>25 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>41 (9/08)</b>	<b>0 (5/09, 2/09)</b>

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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
March 22, 2010	18	70	12
March 8, 2010	16	70	14
February 2010	25	63	12
January 2010	27	61	12
December 2009	24	61	15
November 2009	24	60	16
October 2009	24	61	15
September 2009	28	57	15
August 2009	28	57	15
July 2009	23	64	13
June 2009	24	63	13
May 2009	33	52	14
April 2009	27	57	15
March 2009	30	52	19
February 2009	31	53	16
January 26, 2009	39	42	19
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>52 (11/06)</b>	<b>70 (3/22/10, 3/8/10)</b>	<b>30 (1/07)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>16 (3/8/10)</b>	<b>26 (1/07)</b>	<b>12 (3/22/10, 2/10, 1/10)</b>

**Poll Trend Notes:** 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 January 2009.

“Highest Ever” and “Lowest Ever” is provided at the bottom of each question.

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