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**SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY**  
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**For Immediate Release:** Wednesday, September 6, 2006  
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**NYS Consumer Confidence for August down 2.4 pts**  
**NYS is 21.6 pts below Nation's *current* confidence,**  
**but NYS *future* confidence is above the Nation**  
**Republicans take big hit on future confidence**

Loudonville, NY - New York State consumer confidence fell 2.4 points in August, while the nation's confidence fell 2.7 points, according to the latest poll by the Siena (College) Research Institute (SRI). At 74.1, New York State's overall consumer confidence is 7.9 points below the nation's\* 82.0 confidence level.

August 2006 Consumer Confidence:	The Nation*	New York State	diff. points	New York State	Metro New York City	Upstate NY
<b>Overall</b>	<b>82.0 (-2.7)</b>	<b>74.1 (-2.4)</b>	<b>-7.9</b>	<b>74.1 (-2.4)</b>	<b>76.6 (-3.4)</b>	<b>69.3 (-1.4)</b>
<b>Current</b>	<b>103.8 (+0.3)</b>	<b>82.2 (-4.2)</b>	<b>-21.6</b>	<b>82.2 (-4.2)</b>	<b>82.6 (-4.2)</b>	<b>82.6 (-4.2)</b>
<b>Future</b>	<b>68.0 (-4.5)</b>	<b>68.9 (-1.2)</b>	<b>+0.9</b>	<b>68.9 (-1.2)</b>	<b>72.7 (-2.9)</b>	<b>60.8 (+0.5)</b>

( ) reflects the point change from previous month. \*National data compiled by the U. of Michigan

In August, buying plans were *up* for major home improvements, 4.0 points to 23.0%; *down* for cars and trucks, 2.5 points to 13.4%; for furniture, 3.1 points to 20.7%; for homes, 0.1 of a point to 6.3%; and stayed the same for computers, 18.8%.

**“Consumer confidence is down and there is no question it’s about energy, interest rates and Iraq,” said Dr. Douglas Lonnstrom, professor of statistics and finance at Siena College and SRI Director. “The recent drop in gas prices came too late to have an effect these numbers. Interesting to note that New Yorkers current mood is over 20 points below the nation but we are more optimistic about the future.”**

Each month since January 1999, the SRI survey establishes a Consumer Confidence index number for New York State consumers. This index number allows a direct comparison of New Yorkers to all Americans (“the nation”) as surveyed by the University of Michigan’s Consumer Sentiment index. The SRI survey measures *current* and *future* consumer confidence, which combined provides the *overall* consumer confidence. SRI further looks at confidence in New York State by region (metro New York City and Upstate), age, income, gender and party.

<b>Consumer Confidence in New York State (index numbers): August 2006</b>			
<b>(Groups listed in descending order by Overall CCI Rating)</b>			
	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Future</b>
Republicans	81.8 (-5.3)	95.9 (-1.5)	72.7 (-7.8)
Higher income	78.1 (-2.5)	90.6 (-3.0)	70.1 (-2.2)
Metro NYC	76.6 (-3.4)	82.6 (-4.2)	72.7 (-2.9)
Men	76.3 (-1.2)	82.6 (-5.3)	72.3 (+1.5)
Under Age 55	75.6 (-6.9)	83.4 (-9.0)	70.6 (-5.5)
<b>New York State</b>	<b>74.1 (-2.4)</b>	<b>82.2 (-4.2)</b>	<b>68.9 (-1.2)</b>
Age 55+	72.3 (+3.2)	81.5 (+2.3)	66.4 (+3.9)
Women	72.0 (-4.2)	82.2 (-3.4)	65.5 (-4.6)
Democrats	71.0 (-3.8)	75.0 (-8.4)	68.4 (-0.9)
Upstate NY	69.3 (-1.4)	82.6 (-4.2)	60.8 (+0.5)
Lower income	67.4 (-3.6)	70.5 (-8.3)	65.5 (-0.4)

The SRI survey of Consumer Confidence was conducted in August 2006 by random telephone calls to 574 New York State residents over the age of 18. As consumer confidence is expressed as an index number developed after statistical calculations to a series of questions, “margin of error” does not apply. Buying plans, which are shown as a percentage based on answers to a specific question, do have a margin of error of  $\pm 4.0$  points. For more information or comments, please call Dr. Douglas Lonnstrom, Siena College professor of finance and statistics and SRI Director, at 518-783-2362 (office) or 518-456-6073 (home).

Siena Research Institute														
New York State Survey														
Statewide Monthly Consumer Confidence														
Tracking Summary														
Results of random phone poll of 620 New York State residents in April, 2006, margin of error +/-3.9.														
Conducted by the Siena Research Institute, Loudonville, NY.														
Please check which, if any, of the items you plan to buy in the next SIX months.														
OVERALL	Apr-05	May-05	Jun-05	Jul-05	Aug-05	Sep-05	Oct-05	Nov-05	Dec-05	Jan-06	Feb-06	Mar-06	<b>Apr-06</b>	
Car/Truck														
Yes	16.6	14.1	15.8	10.8	10.6	14.5	12.5	13.1	11.0	12.5	14.1	13.5	<b>17.3</b>	<b>3.8</b>
No	81.0	82.7	80.3	86.8	86.8	83.7	85.4	85.0	85.2	84.6	83.5	83.1	<b>80.3</b>	-2.8
Not Sure	2.4	3.2	3.9	2.4	2.7	1.8	2.1	1.9	3.9	2.9	2.4	3.4	<b>2.4</b>	-1.0
Computer														
Yes	17.2	15.9	14.0	15.0	13.1	15.5	14.1	16.9	14.7	15.1	15.8	15.7	<b>16.6</b>	<b>0.9</b>
No	76.8	79.1	81.3	78.7	81.6	79.9	79.4	79.5	79.7	79.5	77.1	80.0	<b>78.2</b>	-1.8
Not Sure	6.0	5.0	4.7	6.3	5.4	4.6	6.4	3.5	5.6	5.5	7.1	4.3	<b>5.2</b>	0.9
Furniture														
Yes	21.4	22.3	21.8	20.5	19.2	22.9	23.0	22.3	19.5	24.1	22.0	23.2	<b>20.2</b>	<b>-3.0</b>
No	71.7	71.3	72.3	71.5	73.3	71.2	71.2	71.9	73.9	69.8	72.6	70.6	<b>71.8</b>	1.2
Not Sure	6.9	6.4	6.0	8.1	7.5	6.0	5.8	5.8	6.6	6.1	5.5	6.2	<b>8.1</b>	1.9
Home														
Yes	6.1	5.3	5.6	5.6	5.4	7.2	6.3	7.9	4.5	4.2	5.5	6.2	<b>5.2</b>	<b>-1.0</b>
No	90.7	90.4	90.6	90.0	90.8	90.1	90.7	89.4	90.6	93.6	91.2	90.8	<b>92.6</b>	1.8
Not Sure	3.2	4.3	3.7	4.3	3.8	2.8	3.1	2.7	4.8	2.2	3.4	3.0	<b>2.3</b>	-0.7
Major Home Improvement														
Yes	21.4	19.6	20.2	21.4	17.3	16.3	20.7	17.4	18.7	20.7	23.5	21.7	<b>21.9</b>	<b>0.2</b>
No	73.3	75.3	74.4	74.6	77.7	79.9	74.6	76.3	76.6	73.7	70.7	72.5	<b>74.8</b>	2.3
Not Sure	5.3	5.1	5.5	4.0	5.0	3.8	4.7	6.3	4.7	5.6	5.8	5.8	<b>3.2</b>	-2.6



Siena Research Institute														
Summary Consumer Confidence Index														
New York State														
Results of random phone poll of 620 New York State residents in April, 2006.														
	Apr-05	May-05	Jun-05	Jul-05	Aug-05	Sep-05	Oct-05	Nov-05	Dec-05	Jan-06	Feb-06	Mar-06	Apr-06	diff.
<b>NATION**</b>														
ICS*	87.7	86.9	96.0	96.5	89.1	76.9	74.2	81.6	91.5	91.2	86.7	88.9	87.4	-1.5
ICC*	104.4	104.9	113.2	113.5	108.2	98.1	91.2	100.2	109.1	110.3	105.6	109.1	109.2	0.1
ICE*	77.0	75.3	85.0	85.5	76.9	63.3	63.2	69.6	80.2	78.9	74.5	76.0	73.4	-2.6
<b>NYS</b>														
ICS*	77.3	79.3	80.6	82.8	74.8	72.2	72.5	77.5	82.5	80.2	80.7	83.3	73.8	-9.5
ICC*	86.8	88.3	91.7	93.2	85.6	78.4	77.7	84.9	89.4	88.7	90.6	92.1	84.5	-7.6
ICE*	71.3	73.5	73.5	76.1	67.9	68.1	69.1	72.7	78.1	74.7	74.4	77.6	66.9	-10.7
<b>METRO NYC</b>														
ICS*	80.6	84.3	83.9	86.1	77.6	78.4	75.6	81.8	86.2	85.0	81.8	87.3	76.2	-11.1
ICC*	86.8	90.9	90.9	94.3	88.7	82.2	78.4	87.9	91.7	90.6	90.2	93.2	84.1	-9.1
ICE*	76.6	80.0	79.3	80.8	70.6	75.9	73.7	77.8	82.7	81.5	76.4	83.4	71.0	-12.4
<b>OUTSIDE METRO NYC</b>														
ICS*	71.3	70.8	74.5	77.2	68.3	66.7	65.8	70.2	76.0	71.0	78.7	76.8	69.1	-7.7
ICC*	87.5	84.5	92.8	91.3	79.6	75.8	75.0	80.0	85.3	85.3	91.3	90.9	84.9	-6.0
ICE*	60.8	62.0	62.8	68.1	61.1	60.8	59.9	64.0	70.1	61.8	70.6	67.6	58.9	-8.7
<b>DEMOCRAT</b>														
ICS*	74.5	76.6	76.6	78.7	73.3	68.2	68.9	74.2	81.5	78.2	79.4	82.2	73.8	-8.4
ICC*	83.0	87.1	88.3	88.7	86.0	76.2	75.0	84.5	86.8	86.0	90.2	87.1	83.0	-4.1
ICE*	69.1	69.8	69.1	72.3	65.2	63.0	65.0	67.6	78.1	73.2	72.5	79.1	67.9	-11.2
<b>REPUBLICAN</b>														
ICS*	85.6	93.6	92.0	87.4	80.0	86.4	83.3	83.0	92.7	86.5	93.5	89.9	77.9	-12.0
ICC*	98.9	101.5	103.0	100.0	90.9	89.0	87.9	89.4	101.2	96.6	103.8	100.0	90.6	-9.4
ICE*	77.1	88.5	84.9	79.3	73.0	84.7	80.3	78.8	87.3	80.0	86.8	83.4	69.8	-13.6
<b>Age - UNDER 55</b>														
ICS*	80.2	85.3	84.3	84.7	78.5	77.5	75.7	80.6	86.8	84.7	84.0	87.1	80.5	-6.6
ICC*	88.7	91.7	94.7	95.1	90.2	81.5	81.9	87.1	93.6	92.8	94.3	95.5	91.3	-4.2
ICE*	74.7	81.3	77.6	78.1	71.0	74.9	71.8	76.4	82.5	79.6	77.4	81.7	73.5	-8.2
<b>Age - 55+</b>														
ICS*	73.5	71.1	75.1	80.6	69.1	64.8	68.0	72.9	77.3	73.6	75.6	77.3	65.4	-11.9
ICC*	84.9	84.9	86.8	90.9	78.8	74.7	72.4	82.2	84.5	82.6	84.1	87.1	75.4	-11.7
ICE*	66.2	62.3	67.6	74.0	62.8	58.4	65.2	66.9	72.7	67.9	70.1	71.0	58.9	-12.1
<b>MALE</b>														
ICS*	80.5	79.1	83.9	83.0	75.3	75.1	76.2	80.6	89.3	81.6	82.7	85.8	75.0	-10.8
ICC*	88.7	89.4	94.7	93.2	85.6	80.0	82.2	87.9	94.0	88.7	88.7	94.0	82.6	-11.4
ICE*	75.2	72.5	76.9	76.4	68.6	72.0	72.3	75.9	86.4	77.1	78.8	80.5	70.1	-10.4
<b>FEMALE</b>														
ICS*	74.5	79.7	77.3	82.4	74.5	69.5	68.9	74.5	76.2	78.8	79.1	81.5	72.5	-9.0
ICC*	85.6	87.5	89.0	92.8	86.0	77.3	73.1	82.2	85.3	89.0	92.1	91.3	86.4	-4.9
ICE*	67.4	74.7	69.8	75.7	67.2	64.5	66.2	69.6	70.3	72.3	70.8	75.2	63.5	-11.7
<b>Household Income - \$50,000/yr</b>														
ICS*	70.4	71.7	74.8	74.2	70.8	70.1	66.2	71.4	72.5	76.8	73.6	75.6	69.3	-6.3
ICC*	76.6	79.2	83.0	82.2	77.3	74.7	69.4	75.8	76.2	81.5	81.9	81.9	75.8	-6.1
ICE*	66.4	66.9	69.6	69.1	66.7	67.2	64.2	68.6	70.1	73.7	68.4	71.5	65.2	-6.3
<b>Household Income \$50,000+/yr</b>														
ICS*	84.6	85.8	86.7	89.3	76.9	73.1	76.9	82.8	89.8	83.9	87.1	90.1	78.1	-12.0
ICC*	97.4	97.4	98.9	101.5	90.9	80.7	85.3	92.8	99.3	96.2	97.7	100.4	91.7	-8.7
ICE*	76.4	78.3	78.8	81.5	67.9	68.1	71.5	76.4	83.7	75.9	80.3	83.4	69.3	-14.1

ICS = Overall Consumer Confidence  
 ICC = Current Consumer Confidence  
 ICE = Future Consumer Confidence

\*\* National Index compiled by University of Michigan