



# SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

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## Siena College Poll:

### **Voters: Cuomo Is Not-too-Aggressive & Part of the Solution**

**Battle for Rep. Gov. Nomination Wide Open; Cuomo Leads All 3 Big**

***Voters Overwhelmingly Believe State Government Is Fixable with Right People; 'No' to Withholding State Worker Pay Hikes; 'Yes' to Taxing Big Earner Bonuses; 1 in 5 Support the Tea Party Movement, While 1 in 4 Oppose It***

***At 2:1 Unfavorable, Voters Tell Eliot 'Please Don't Run' – At Least Not Now***

**Loudonville, NY.** Nearly two-thirds of voters think Attorney General Andrew Cuomo will help “clean up the mess in Albany,” compared to 23 percent who think Cuomo is “part of what’s wrong with Albany,” according to a new Siena (College) Research Institute poll of registered voters. Only eight percent of voters believe Cuomo is too aggressive, compared to 16 percent who say he’s not aggressive enough and 64 percent who say he has the right level of aggressiveness. While the ‘winner’ of a three-way Republican gubernatorial primary among Rick Lazio, Steve Levy and Carl Paladino is ‘don’t know,’ Cuomo maintains at least a 35-point lead over each.

Voters overwhelmingly believe Albany is fixable with the right people. A majority supports taxing bonuses of New Yorkers earning at least \$250,000. A plurality oppose Governor David Paterson’s proposal to withhold the four percent pay hike for state workers. By a 25-19 percent margin, voters oppose the Tea Party movement, while nearly half of New Yorkers neither support nor oppose it. Voters still view Eliot Spitzer decidedly unfavorably and they don’t want him to run for office this year, with nearly half saying never again.

“While political insiders may see Andrew Cuomo as Mr. Aggressive, voters certainly don’t see it that way. Nearly two-thirds think he has just the right level of aggressiveness, and twice as many voters think he’s not aggressive enough, compared to those who think he’s too aggressive,” said Siena pollster Steven Greenberg. “And by a margin of 63-23 percent, voters see Cuomo as a person who can help clean up the mess in Albany, rather than as part of what’s wrong with Albany, including a majority of Republicans and conservative voters.”

Cuomo is viewed favorably by 66 percent of voters and unfavorably by 18 percent (up from 63-22 percent last month). A majority (53-31 percent) continue to want him to run for governor rather than for re-election, but for the first time, more voters (49 percent) say he should declare what he’s running for now, compared to 36 percent who say he has time to wait.

“For months, voters have said that Cuomo has time to declare what he’s running for – seemingly agreeing with the Attorney General that it was a time for governing rather than politics,” Greenberg said. “As we are now less than seven months from Election Day, the tide has swung and voters want Cuomo to declare his intentions, and they’d prefer, particularly Democrats, that he run for governor.”

Cuomo currently leads Lazio 61-24 percent, Levy 58-23 percent and Paladino 64-19 percent. When Republicans are asked their preference among the three, Lazio leads with 29 percent, followed by Levy at 15 percent and Paladino at 13 percent. However, 43 percent of Republicans are undecided. Lazio’s favorable/unfavorable rating is 29-25 percent, with 46 percent having no opinion. Levy’s is 21-16 percent, with 63 percent having no opinion, and Paladino is unknown to 76 percent of voters and has an 11-13 percent favorable/unfavorable rating.

“All three Republicans have a long way to go in becoming known to New York voters, particularly Republican primary voters. Lazio has the early lead but this is a very fluid race and opinion could shift dramatically – or not – once voters learn more about the candidates,” Greenberg said. “When it comes to the general election, voters make Cuomo the early – and prohibitive – favorite against any of the Republicans. While none of the three Republican candidates is currently getting more than 12 percent support among Democrats, Cuomo has the support of at least 28 percent of Republicans, and a better than two-to-one lead among independent voters.”

### **Can Albany Be Fixed? Voters Say ‘Yes’**

“An overwhelming 83 percent of voters – including at least three-quarters of every demographic group – say ‘Albany can be fixed if New Yorkers elect the right people to state office.’ Only 13 percent feel that ‘Albany cannot be fixed irrespective of who’s elected to office.’ While voters are very down on the current leadership of New York and strongly feel the state is headed in the wrong direction, there is a very real and very strong sense of optimism that Albany can improve,” Greenberg said. “Now it’s up to the voters to choose among the candidates that they believe can fix Albany.”

### **Tax Bonuses on High End Earners & Don’t Withhold State Workers’ Raises**

“Implementing a temporary tax on bonuses earned by people earning at least \$250,000 per year is supported by 53 percent of voters, while 38 percent oppose the idea,” Greenberg said. “Voters support the bonus tax irrespective of region, age or gender. Democrats, independent voters and self-described liberals and moderates support it, while Republicans, conservatives and Jewish voters oppose it.

“When it comes to the Governor’s proposal to withhold the contractually agreed upon pay raises for state workers, 47 percent oppose the idea, while only 38 percent support it,” Greenberg said. “A plurality of upstate and independent voters support the idea and voters over 55 are evenly divided. A majority or plurality of all other groups of voters – including Republicans and conservatives – thinks it’s a bad idea.”

### **Tea Party Supporters Represent a Significant Bloc of Republican and Conservative Voters**

“While nearly half of New York voters neither support nor oppose the Tea Party movement, supporters are overwhelmingly Republican and conservative and more than one-third of those groups identify themselves as Tea Party supporters,” Greenberg said. “Overall, 19 percent of voters say they support the Tea Party movement, including 35 percent of Republicans and 41 percent of conservatives. One-quarter of voters, including 38 percent of Democrats and 54 percent of liberals say they oppose it. Among those who do have a view one way or the other, New York City, women, young, and Jewish voters are somewhat more likely to oppose the Tea Party movement, while upstate, Catholic and independent voters are somewhat more likely to support it.”

### **Elected Official Spitzer? Voters Say ‘No’**

“Memo to Eliot: put the campaign on hold because voters aren’t ready for your return to electoral politics. While 22 percent of voters think it would be good for Spitzer to run for public office this year, 26 percent say he should wait longer before considering a run, and a plurality of 48 percent think he should never consider running for office again,” Greenberg said. “In the last year, former Governor Spitzer’s favorability rating has slightly improved. It’s now better than that of the man who succeeded him as Governor. However, he is still viewed unfavorably by 59 percent of voters, compared to the one-third of voters who view him favorably. Even Democrats view him unfavorably by 51-41 percent margin,” Greenberg said.

### **With Pataki Out, Gillibrand Leads All Three Republican Opponents – But She’s Not at 50 Percent**

“Kirsten Gillibrand’s favorability rating inched up this month but the biggest boost she got was the announcement by former Governor George Pataki – enjoying his highest favorability rating ever in a Siena College Poll – that he’s taking a pass on the race,” Greenberg said. “While she has three announced Republican opponents – all of whom are unknown to more than 80 percent of voters – and leads all of them by roughly 20 points, she can only muster 46 percent support against each of them.

“When the three Republicans are matched up against each other in a Republican primary, nearly two-thirds of Republicans say they have not yet made a choice. ‘Idol’ dad, Joe DioGuardi, garners 24 percent support among Republicans, while Bruce Blakeman gets seven percent and David Malpass has five percent,” Greenberg said.

### **Tom ‘Who?’ Has Early Two-to-One Lead Over Harry ‘Double Who?’**

“State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli – unknown to more than two-thirds of voters – has an early 42-19 percent lead over Republican Harry Wilson, who is unknown to 88 percent of voters,” Greenberg said. “The Comptroller may be the state’s chief fiscal officer, but it is not an office that voters pay a lot of attention to on a daily basis. These candidates will likely become more familiar to voters when the campaign heats up after Labor Day, but for now, DiNapoli has a lead that closely mirrors the enrollment lead that Democrats hold over Republicans.”

**Budget Crisis Blame Placed on Legislature; Paterson Seen as Less to Blame than National Economy**

“Asked to assess blame for the state’s budget deficit and budget crisis, 41 percent of voters give that ignominious distinction to the Legislature. Twenty-six percent place the blame on the national economy, while only 15 percent blame Governor David Paterson,” Greenberg said. “Although voters continue to view Paterson very unfavorably, and a record high 49 percent now rate the job he is doing as governor as ‘poor,’ when it comes to the budget crisis, voters see the Legislature as a bigger villain than the Governor.”

**Voters Prefer ‘Someone Else’ for State Senate – But that View is Not Held by All**

“Statewide, 37 percent of voters are currently prepared to re-elect their incumbent state senator, while 47 percent would prefer ‘someone else.’ By a margin of 62-23 percent, Republicans overwhelmingly want to elect a new state senator. Democrats, however, do not. By a 45-38 percent margin, Democrats want to re-elect the incumbent,” Greenberg said. “New York City voters, who elect mostly Democrats to the Senate, prefer ‘someone else’ by a 44-40 percent margin, while upstate voters, who send more Republicans to Albany, are anti-incumbent by a significantly larger 51-35 percent.”

**Voters: Direction of State Remains Near Record Low; USA Direction Improves to Nearly Evenly Divided**

“Voters continue to overwhelmingly say New York is headed in the wrong direction – by a better than three-to-one margin. In the last month, however, New York voters say the direction of the country has improved. Last month, 36 percent of voters said the country was on the right track, with 54 percent saying it was headed in the wrong direction. Now, 45 percent say the country is on the right track and 47 percent say the country is headed in the wrong direction,” Greenberg said.

“The improvement voters see in the direction of the country did not significantly boost President Obama’s favorability rating, which stands at 59 percent favorable, 35 percent unfavorable. Democrats have an overwhelmingly favorable view of the President and strongly think the country is on the right track. Republicans have a decidedly unfavorable view of Obama and strongly believe the country is headed in the wrong direction. Independent voters side with the Democrats on Obama and the Republicans on the direction of the county. Half have a favorable view of Obama and half think the country is headed in the wrong direction,” Greenberg said.

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This SRI survey was conducted April 12-15, 2010 by telephone calls to 806 New York State registered voters. It has a margin of error of  $\pm 3.5$  percentage points. It includes 196 Republicans, with a margin of error of  $\pm 7.0$  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 – April 2010

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2010	25	65	10
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
April 2010	2	15	34	49	1
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>49 (4/10)</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 (4/10, etc.)</b>

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2010	66	18	15
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
April 2010	29	25	46
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
April 2010	21	16	63
March 22, 2010	16	16	68
January 2010	17	15	68
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>21 (4/10)</b>	<b>16 (4/10, 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>63 (4/10)</b>

(REPS ONLY) If the Republican primary for governor were held today and the candidates were Rick Lazio, Steve Levy and Carl Paladino, who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED)

DATE	LAZIO	LEVY	PALADINO	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2010	29	15	13	43
March 22, 2010	45	16	NA	40
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>45 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>16 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>13 (4/10)</b>	<b>43 (4/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>29 (4/10)</b>	<b>15 (4/10)</b>	<b>13 (4/10)</b>	<b>40 (3/22/10)</b>

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If the 2010 election for governor were held today and the candidates were Andrew Cuomo on the Democratic line and Rick Lazio on the Republican line, who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED)

DATE	CUOMO	LAZIO	REDLICH	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2010	61	24	NA	16
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>

If the 2010 election for governor were held today and the candidates were Andrew Cuomo on the Democratic line and Steve Levy on the Republican line, who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED)

DATE	CUOMO	LEVY	REDLICH	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2010	58	23	NA	19
March 22, 2010	63	16	4	17
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>63 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>23 (4/10)</b>	<b>4 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>19 (4/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>58 (4/10)</b>	<b>16 (3/23/10)</b>	<b>4 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>17 (3/22/10)</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
April 2010	31	53	16
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
April 2010	49	36	15
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>49 (4/10)</b>	<b>53 (10/09)</b>	<b>16 (2/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>33 (11/09)</b>	<b>36 (4/10)</b>	<b>9 (3/8/10)</b>

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2010	34	25	41
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 (4/10, etc.)</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
April 2010	27	40	33
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 Bruce Blakeman?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2010	6	6	88
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 (4/10, 12/09)</b>	<b>84 (3/22/10, 2/10)</b>

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2010	62	29	9
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>62 (4/10)</b>	<b>57 (2/07)</b>	<b>16 (2/05)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>36 (2/07)</b>	<b>29 (4/10)</b>	<b>7 (many; most recently 2/07)</b>



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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
April 2010	38	47	15
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 (4/10, 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
April 2010	46	26	28
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>26 (4/10)</b>	<b>28 (4/10, 3/22/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>46 (4/10)</b>	<b>22 (12/09)</b>	<b>25 (2/10)</b>

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2010	20	12	69
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>

If Tom DiNapoli runs for State Comptroller in 2010, would you vote to elect him or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	ELECT	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2010	21	25	54
November 2009	28	30	42
August 2009	17	28	56
May 2009	22	25	53
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>28 (11/09)</b>	<b>30 (11/09)</b>	<b>56 (8/07)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>17 (8/09)</b>	<b>25 (4/10, 5/09)</b>	<b>42 (11/09)</b>

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Eliot Spitzer?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2010	33	59	8
April 2009	25	72	4
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>75 (1/07)</b>	<b>79 (3/08)</b>	<b>34 (2/05)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>13 (3/08)</b>	<b>10 (1/07)</b>	<b>4 (4/09)</b>

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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
April 2010	37	47	16
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>

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
April 2010	56	37	5	2
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 (4/10, 3/22/10)</b>	<b>3 (2/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>56 (4/10)</b>	<b>37 (4/10, 3/22/10)</b>	<b>5 (4/10, 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
April 2010	33	62	4	0
March 22, 2010	34	62	4	1
February 2010	38	59	--	2
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>38 (2/10)</b>	<b>62 (4/10, 3/22/10)</b>	<b>4 (4/10, (3/22/10)</b>	<b>2 (2/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>33 (4/10)</b>	<b>59 (2/10)</b>	<b>4 (4/10, 3/22/10)</b>	<b>0 (4/10)</b>

Do you support or oppose borrowing up to \$6 billion over the next three years to get New York State through this fiscal crisis?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	NEED MORE INFO	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2010	26	51	22	0
March 22, 2010	27	48	26	0
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>27 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>51 (4/10)</b>	<b>26 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>0 (4/10, 3/22/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>26 (4/10)</b>	<b>48 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>21 (4/10)</b>	<b>0 (4/10, 3/22/10)</b>

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2010	59	35	6
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>

# Siena College Poll Trends – April 2010

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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
April 2010	45	47	9
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>

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 2010	20	68	11
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>11 (4/10)</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.