



SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

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For Immediate Release:
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Siena New York Poll:

Spitzer Overwhelming Choice of Democrats for Governor

Cuomo Has Big Lead for Democratic AG Nomination Only 1 of 5 Democrats Has Choice for Lt. Governor

Loudonville, NY – Attorney General Eliot Spitzer enters 2006 with a nine to one lead over potential rival Nassau County Executive Thomas Suozzi in a potential Democratic gubernatorial primary, according to a new Siena (College) Research Institute poll of New York voters released today.

“If Tom Suozzi decides to challenge Eliot Spitzer in a Democratic primary for governor, he faces a huge uphill climb,” said Joe Caruso, Director of Polling for the Siena Research Institute (SRI). “Spitzer currently enjoys a 64 point lead, with 72 percent to Suozzi’s 8 percent.

“Primary Day is a long time away, but given his statewide name recognition and commanding fundraising lead, Spitzer has a dominating lead among New York Democrats,” Caruso said. “While attracting six percent of New York City Democrats and only three percent of upstate Democrats, Suozzi does garner the support of 24 percent of Democrats in the downstate suburbs.”

Spitzer has a 77-6 percent favorable-unfavorable rating with New York Democrats, with 18 percent not knowing him or having no opinion. Suozzi begins the year with nearly four out of five Democrats having no knowledge or opinion of him. He has a 14-7 percent favorable-unfavorable rating (50-5 percent in the suburbs; 10-8 percent in New York City; and, 2-7 percent upstate).

“In the race for the nomination for Attorney General, Andrew Cuomo has a large lead, with 37 percent of Democrats supporting him. Mark Green has the support of 20 percent of Democrats. Denise O’Donnell, Richard Brodsky, Charlie King, and Sean Maloney combined garner the support of only 10 percent of Democrats,” Caruso said. “While Cuomo has the early lead – including a small lead in New York City and large leads in the suburbs and upstate – 35 percent of Democrats have yet to choose a favorite in a race that has gotten very little public attention.

“Four out of five Democrats currently have no preference in the race for the nomination for Lt. Governor. Assemblyman Tom DiNapoli leads the field with 10 percent. Jon Cohen, Leecia Eve, Dennis Mehiel, and Joseph Ruggiero all have between one and four percent support,” Caruso said.

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This SRI survey was conducted December 15-21, 2005 by telephone calls to 403 likely Democratic primary voters (margin of error: \pm 4.9 percentage points) in New York State. For more information or comments, please call Joe Caruso, SRI Director of Polling, at 518-542-7814 or Steven Greenberg at 518-469-9858. Survey cross-tabulations and frequencies can be found at: http://www.siena.edu/sri/results/2005/05_Dec_NYPoll.htm.

I'm going to read the names of several people in public life and I'd like for you to tell me whether you have a favorable opinion or an unfavorable opinion of each of the people I name. [Names asked in rotated order]

1. Eliot Spitzer

	GENDER			Region			Ethnic			AGE				Political				
	Total	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./Black	Latino	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	liberal	mod. Liberal	mod. Conserv.	conserv.	moderate
favorable	77%	81%	73%	73%	81%	82%	81%	59%	61%	58%	77%	77%	81%	82%	85%	74%	47%	90%
unfavorable	6%	6%	5%	8%	2%	3%	4%	7%	11%		7%	8%	3%	7%	1%	13%	8%	0%
don't know/no opinion	18%	13%	22%	19%	18%	15%	14%	34%	28%	42%	16%	14%	16%	11%	14%	13%	44%	10%

2. Tom Suozzi

	GENDER			Region			Ethnic			AGE				Political				
	Total	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./Black	Latino	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	liberal	mod. Liberal	mod. Conserv.	conserv.	moderate
favorable	14%	13%	14%	10%	50%	2%	15%	7%	17%	10%	8%	21%	12%	12%	15%	17%	8%	40%
unfavorable	7%	9%	6%	8%	5%	7%	5%	10%	17%	6%	11%	8%	4%	7%	8%	6%	11%	10%
don't know/no opinion	79%	77%	80%	82%	45%	91%	80%	83%	67%	84%	81%	70%	84%	81%	77%	78%	81%	50%

3. I know it is a long way off, but if the Democratic primary for governor were held tomorrow and the candidates were Eliot Spitzer and Tom Suozzi, for whom would you vote? (rotate choices)

	GENDER			Region			Ethnic			AGE				Political				
	Total	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./Black	Latino	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	liberal	mod. Liberal	mod. Conserv.	conserv.	moderate
Eliot Spitzer	72%	76%	68%	72%	56%	79%	75%	59%	61%	77%	76%	64%	76%	75%	78%	67%	53%	90%
Tom Suozzi	8%	8%	8%	6%	24%	3%	8%	5%	17%	3%	6%	12%	6%	5%	7%	20%	8%	0%
don't know/no opinion	20%	16%	24%	22%	19%	18%	17%	36%	22%	19%	18%	24%	18%	20%	15%	13%	39%	10%

4. Looking at the Democratic primary for New York State Attorney General, if it were being held tomorrow for whom would you vote?

	GENDER			Region			Ethnic			AGE				Political				
	Total	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./Black	Latino	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	liberal	mod. Liberal	mod. Conserv.	conserv.	moderate
Richard Brodsky	3%	4%	1%	2%	3%	4%	4%			6%		3%	4%	2%	2%	4%	3%	20%
Andrew Cuomo	37%	39%	35%	33%	45%	39%	34%	48%	33%	39%	39%	35%	36%	40%	36%	30%	39%	40%
Mark Green	20%	16%	23%	26%	16%	7%	17%	29%	28%	10%	26%	17%	20%	21%	23%	15%	14%	0%
Charlie King	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	0%	3%	1%	2%	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%	10%
Sean Maloney	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	0%
Denise O'Donnell	5%	4%	5%	3%	2%	9%	4%	2%	11%	6%	2%	10%	1%	3%	5%	7%	8%	0%
don't know/no opinion	35%	34%	35%	33%	32%	39%	39%	19%	28%	35%	33%	32%	38%	32%	33%	43%	36%	30%

5. Looking at the Democratic primary for New York State Lieutenant Governor, if it were being held tomorrow for whom would you vote?

	GENDER			Region			Ethnic			AGE				Political				
	Total	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./Black	Latino	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	liberal	mod. Liberal	mod. Conserv.	conserv.	moderate
Jon Cohen	3%	5%	1%	3%	3%	2%	2%	7%	6%	6%	2%	2%	4%	3%	2%	4%	6%	0%
Tom DiNapoli	10%	8%	12%	7%	23%	10%	11%	7%	11%	6%	9%	14%	8%	8%	11%	9%	14%	20%
Leecia Eve	4%	5%	4%	6%	0%	4%	2%	10%	28%	6%	2%	5%	4%	2%	4%	6%	8%	10%
Dennis Mehiel	1%	2%	0%	1%	0%	2%	1%	0%	6%	0%	1%	2%	0%	2%	0%	0%	3%	0%
Joseph Ruggiero	3%	1%	4%	2%	6%	2%	3%	2%	6%	3%	4%	2%	1%	0%	4%	6%	0%	10%
don't know/no opinion	79%	80%	79%	82%	68%	80%	82%	74%	44%	77%	82%	73%	83%	85%	80%	76%	69%	60%

