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Siena New York Primary Polls:

Dems: Spitzer in a Landslide; Cuomo Leads Green for AG

Spitzer Maintains 60 Point Lead Over Suozzi

Reps: 60% of Voters Have Not Decided for Gov or Senate

Faso & McFarland Have Small Leads Over Weld & Spencer

Loudonville, NY – After both candidates spent more than a month and millions of dollars in the first round of television advertising, Attorney General Eliot Spitzer leads Nassau County Executive Thomas Suozzi by a better than six-to-one margin in the race for the Democratic nomination for Governor among likely primary voters, according to a new Siena (College) Research Institute poll of New York voters released today. On the Republican side, more than 60 percent of likely primary voters have yet to make up their minds in either the contest for Governor or for United States Senator.

“In December’s Siena Poll, before his candidacy was officially declared, Tom Suozzi trailed Eliot Spitzer 72-8 percent. After declaring his candidacy, touring the state and spending millions of dollars on television ads, Suozzi only picked up three percent of Democratic primary voters and trails Spitzer 72-11 percent,” said Joe Caruso, Director of Polling for the Siena Research Institute (SRI). “While there are still five months until the primary, Spitzer has seen his commanding lead shrink by only three points in the last four months.”

Spitzer’s favorable/unfavorable rating with Democratic primary voters is 76-9 percent. It was 77-6 percent in December. Suozzi’s favorable/unfavorable rating grew from 14-7 percent in December to 26-15 percent in the current poll, with 59 percent responding “don’t know” or “no opinion.”

“While Spitzer continues to enjoy a favorable rating from more than three-quarters of Democratic primary voters, Suozzi continues to be unknown to nearly 60 percent of primary voters,” Caruso said. “The good news for Suozzi is that in the last four months he has nearly doubled his favorable rating, the bad news is that his unfavorable rating has also doubled and three in five primary voters – including nearly two-thirds outside of the suburbs – still do not have an opinion of him.”

In the race for the Democratic nomination for Attorney General, former HUD Secretary Andrew Cuomo leads former New York City Public Advocate Mark Green 34-21 percent. The other four candidates – Assemblyman Richard Brodsky, Charlie King, Sean Maloney, and Denise O’Donnell – combined for eight percent of the vote, with O’Donnell getting four percent.

“Since December, Cuomo’s 17 point lead has narrowed to 13 points today. Unfortunately for the other four candidates, none has even begun to register with Democratic primary voters, more than one-third of whom still do not know who they will support,” Caruso said. “While the race between Cuomo and Green is too close to call in New York City, Cuomo has a 20 point lead in the downstate suburbs and a commanding 41-7 percent lead upstate.”

On the other side of the aisle, the race for the Republican nomination for Governor and United States Senator are wide open with more than six in ten Republican primary voters undecided on whom to support in either race.

“Right now it’s a real horse race between former Assembly Minority Leader John Faso with 18 percent of the vote to former Massachusetts Governor William Weld’s 15 percent,” Caruso said. “The clear winner at the moment is undecided at 62 percent.

“The same story is seen in the Republican race to challenge Hillary Clinton, where former pentagon official Katherine McFarland leads former Yonkers Mayor John Spencer 20-18 percent. Sixty-three percent of Republican primary voters said ‘I don’t know’ when asked who they support,” Caruso said.

The four Republican candidates are virtually unknown to three-quarters of Republican primary voters. Weld’s favorable/unfavorable rating 16-7 percent, while Faso is at 19-6 percent. Spencer has a favorable/unfavorable rating of 15-6 percent, while McFarland is at 15-7 percent.

“The Republican candidates have a lot of ground to cover and a lot of voters to talk to if they are to become known to voters – particularly Republican voters – over the next five months,” Caruso said. “Between 75 and 79 percent of likely Republican primary voters do not know enough about any of the four statewide candidates to have either a favorable or unfavorable opinion of them.”

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This SRI Democratic survey was conducted March 29 – April 3, 2006 telephone calls to 421 likely Democratic primary voters (margin of error: \pm 4.9 percentage points) in New York State. This SRI Republican survey was conducted April 5-12, 2006 telephone calls to 413 likely Republican 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.

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

4. 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	76%	77%	75%	75%	81%	77%	80%	72%	61%	74%	80%	75%	76%	78%	83%	84%	55%	85%
unfavorable	9%	11%	7%	10%	3%	10%	9%	7%	17%	10%	9%	13%	6%	8%	7%	8%	18%	8%
don't know/no opinion	15%	12%	17%	15%	16%	13%	11%	21%	22%	16%	11%	13%	18%	13%	10%	8%	27%	8%

5. 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	26%	28%	24%	22%	55%	20%	28%	28%	6%	23%	27%	31%	22%	28%	30%	27%	24%	0%
unfavorable	15%	15%	14%	13%	16%	17%	12%	13%	39%	13%	17%	13%	15%	14%	14%	19%	9%	31%
don't know/no opinion	59%	57%	61%	65%	29%	64%	60%	59%	56%	65%	56%	56%	64%	58%	55%	54%	67%	69%

6. David Patterson

	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	17%	19%	14%	20%	15%	9%	13%	36%	11%	13%	17%	18%	16%	18%	18%	5%	24%	15%
unfavorable	9%	10%	7%	10%	10%	4%	7%	8%	22%	10%	4%	9%	11%	11%	9%	11%	7%	8%
don't know/no opinion	75%	71%	79%	69%	76%	87%	80%	56%	67%	77%	79%	73%	73%	71%	73%	84%	69%	77%

7. I know it's still a little way off, but if the Democratic primary for governor was held tomorrow and the candidates were: Eliot Spitzer and Tom Suozzi, for whom would you vote? [Names asked in rotated order]

	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%	72%	71%	71%	68%	75%	74%	66%	67%	71%	72%	74%	69%	74%	77%	73%	58%	77%
Tom Suozzi	11%	12%	10%	10%	11%	13%	11%	10%	0%	10%	9%	12%	12%	12%	12%	16%	11%	0%
don't know/no opinion	18%	16%	19%	19%	21%	12%	15%	25%	33%	19%	19%	14%	19%	14%	12%	11%	31%	23%

8. Looking at the Democratic primary for New York State Attorney General, if it was being held tomorrow and the candidates were: Richard Brodsky, Andrew Cuomo, Mark Green, Charlie King, Sean Maloney, and Denise O'Donnell, for whom would you vote? [Names asked in rotated order]

	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%	2%	2%	8%	3%	4%	0%	0%	3%	1%	4%	3%	3%	3%	0%	5%	15%
Andrew Cuomo	34%	34%	34%	31%	35%	41%	35%	33%	17%	23%	30%	35%	39%	34%	39%	35%	25%	31%
Mark Green	21%	19%	23%	29%	15%	7%	20%	31%	17%	23%	26%	22%	15%	27%	17%	19%	24%	8%
Charlie King	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	0%	3%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Sean Maloney	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%
Denise O'Donnell	4%	4%	4%	2%	3%	7%	3%	0%	22%	6%	7%	4%	2%	4%	5%	5%	4%	0%
don't know/no opinion	37%	39%	35%	35%	39%	39%	37%	33%	44%	45%	34%	34%	40%	31%	34%	38%	42%	46%

Demographics:																				
Race/Ethnicity:		t																		
Caucasian/white		73%																		
African American/Black		15%																		
Hispanic/Latino		4%																		
Other		5%																		
refused		3%																		
Total		100%																		
Region:		t																		
NYC		59%																		
NYC Sub		15%																		
Upstate		26%																		
Total		100%																		
Age:		t																		
18-34		8%																		
35-49		22%																		
50-64		33%																		
65+		36%																		
refused		2%																		
		100%																		
Gender:		t																		
male		50%																		
female		50%																		
		100%																		
Political:		t																		
liberal		29%																		
mod. Liberal		35%																		
mod. conservative		9%																		
conservative		13%																		
moderate		3%																		
not sure		7%																		
refused		3%																		
		100%																		

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

5. John Spencer

	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	15%	17%	14%	15%	16%	15%	15%	11%	25%	19%	17%	16%	11%	26%	16%	13%	17%	0%
unfavorable	6%	7%	5%	5%	8%	5%	6%	11%	0%	4%	8%	6%	6%	10%	8%	6%	6%	0%
don't know/no opinion	79%	76%	81%	80%	76%	80%	79%	78%	75%	78%	75%	78%	83%	65%	76%	80%	77%	100%

6. William Weld

	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	16%	21%	10%	15%	17%	15%	15%	22%	0%	19%	15%	16%	16%	23%	6%	18%	15%	25%
unfavorable	7%	11%	3%	8%	8%	5%	6%	11%	25%	4%	4%	6%	10%	6%	2%	8%	8%	13%
don't know/no opinion	78%	68%	87%	77%	75%	80%	78%	67%	75%	78%	81%	79%	74%	71%	92%	74%	77%	63%

7. Kathleen "KT" McFarland

	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	15%	18%	12%	16%	14%	15%	15%	13%	25%	26%	15%	15%	11%	13%	27%	15%	14%	0%
unfavorable	7%	10%	3%	8%	8%	5%	6%	13%	0%	4%	7%	6%	8%	6%	4%	8%	6%	13%
don't know/no opinion	79%	72%	85%	76%	79%	80%	79%	75%	75%	70%	78%	79%	81%	81%	69%	76%	80%	88%

8. Randy Daniels

	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	8%	10%	5%	4%	3%	12%	7%	0%	25%	11%	12%	6%	5%	6%	14%	6%	8%	13%
unfavorable	3%	5%	0%	5%	3%	1%	2%	13%	0%	7%	2%	3%	2%	6%	2%	4%	1%	0%
don't know/no opinion	90%	85%	94%	91%	94%	87%	90%	88%	75%	81%	86%	91%	93%	87%	84%	90%	91%	88%

9. John Faso

	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	19%	22%	17%	20%	14%	22%	20%	33%	0%	11%	15%	24%	20%	16%	24%	23%	17%	13%
unfavorable	6%	11%	1%	4%	6%	7%	5%	22%	25%	7%	8%	6%	5%	16%	4%	6%	4%	13%
don't know/no opinion	75%	66%	82%	76%	80%	71%	75%	44%	75%	81%	77%	70%	76%	68%	71%	71%	79%	75%

10. I know it's still a little way off, but if the Republican primary for governor was held tomorrow and the candidates were: Randy Daniels, John Faso, and William Weld, for whom would you vote? [Names asked in rotated order]

	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
Randy Daniels	5%	8%	3%	4%	3%	7%	5%	11%	0%	4%	9%	4%	2%	10%	6%	3%	6%	0%
John Faso	18%	21%	16%	20%	14%	20%	18%	33%	25%	7%	17%	24%	16%	26%	20%	20%	17%	13%
William Weld	15%	18%	12%	11%	17%	15%	16%	22%	0%	26%	11%	14%	17%	16%	12%	16%	13%	25%
don't know/no opinion	62%	53%	70%	65%	66%	58%	62%	33%	75%	63%	62%	57%	65%	48%	61%	60%	63%	63%

11. Looking at the Republican primary for United States Senator, if it was being held tomorrow and the candidates were: John Spencer and Kathleen "KT" McFarland, for whom would you vote? [Names asked in rotated order]

	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
John Spencer	18%	23%	14%	15%	21%	17%	19%	11%	0%	19%	22%	16%	18%	26%	14%	18%	21%	0%
Kathleen "KT" McFarland	20%	19%	20%	19%	18%	21%	19%	44%	0%	19%	20%	21%	18%	29%	22%	18%	20%	13%
don't know/no opinion	63%	58%	66%	66%	61%	62%	63%	44%	100%	63%	58%	63%	64%	45%	63%	64%	60%	88%

Demographics:

Race/Ethnicity:	t
Caucasian/white	91%
African American/Black	2%
Hispanic/Latino	1%
Other	4%
refused	2%
Total	100%

Region:	t
NYC	18%
NYC Sub	32%
Upstate	50%
Total	100%

Age:	t
18-34	7%
35-49	26%
50-64	34%
65+	32%
refused	2%
Total	100%

Gender:	t
male	47%
female	53%
Total	100%

Political:	t
liberal	8%
mod. Liberal	12%
mod. conservative	35%
conservative	38%
moderate	2%
not sure	4%
refused	2%
Total	100%