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SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

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PDF version; crosstabs; website:

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**Siena New York Poll:**

## **Voters View Gov. Paterson Favorably & with Optimism**

*Spitzer Tanks with Voters; His Job Performance Matches Legislature's*

### **Overwhelming Support for Income Tax Surcharge for Millionaires; Slight Support for Republicans Retaining Control of State Senate**

**Loudonville, NY.** Governor David Paterson is viewed favorably by 58 percent of voters and unfavorably by 10 percent, according to a new Siena (College) Research Institute poll of registered voters released today. The poll shows that 60 percent of voters are very or somewhat confident that the Governor and state leaders will solve the problems New Yorkers face, and 60 percent also believe that the change from Eliot Spitzer to Paterson will be good for New York. While 79 percent of voters have an unfavorable view of Spitzer, they rate his job performance as Governor as virtually the same as the job performance of both the State Assembly and State Senate. The Siena New York poll also shows overwhelming support for an income tax surcharge on millionaires and a small plurality of voters believing the State Senate should remain in Republican control.

“While two-thirds of voters are not very familiar with David Paterson, by a 58-10 percent margin voters have a favorable view of the new governor,” said Steven Greenberg, spokesman for the Siena New York Poll. “As he assumes state government’s top job, voters are inclined to view Governor Paterson favorably and they are both hopeful he will be a good governor, and optimistic that he will be a problem solver. Paterson’s standing with voters did not change appreciably over the course of the week, despite the headlines and stories.”

Six in ten voters say the change from Spitzer to Paterson is good for New York, while only four percent say it is bad and 24 percent say it will have no effect. Similarly, 60 percent of voters – including two-thirds of Democrats and half of Republicans – say they are very or somewhat confident that the new governor and state government will solve the problems faced by New Yorkers.

When asked to look forward two years to the next gubernatorial election, 41 percent of voters (52 percent of Democrats and 29 percent of Republicans) say the most likely statement they will make is that Paterson has become a great governor; 21 percent (15 percent of Democrats and 30 percent of Republicans) think they will say he has been an adequate governor, and three percent think they will say that he was not up to the job.

African Americans, Catholics and upstaters are more likely to think Paterson will become a great governor.

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“In February 2007 Eliot Spitzer’s favorable/unfavorable rating was 74-12 percent. Upon his exit as governor, those numbers have completely reversed as 79 percent of New York voters have an unfavorable view of Spitzer and only 13 percent have a favorable view,” Greenberg said. “At the same time, however, his final job performance rating – 31 percent positive, 66 percent negative – virtually matches how voters view the job performance of both the State Senate and the State Assembly.”

The Assembly has a 28-65 percent job performance rating and the Senate has a 29-65 percent job performance rating. Republicans and upstaters are most negative in their view of both houses’ performance. In looking at the leaders of both houses, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver is viewed favorably by 24 percent of voters and unfavorably by 31 percent. It improved slightly from 22-37 percent in October 2007. Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno saw a dramatic improvement in his rating, 32-32 percent, up from 23-38 percent in October.

Thirty-six percent of voters think the governor’s top priority should be jobs and the economy, followed by controlling state spending and taxes (31 percent), education (16 percent), health care (11 percent), and government reform and ethics (5 percent). Democrats focus on jobs; Republicans on taxes and spending.

“Voters strongly believe that pocketbook issues are where the Governor should focus his attention,” Greenberg said. “And while one-third of voters believe the top priority should be controlling state spending and taxes, an overwhelming 72 percent of voters, including 60 percent of Republicans, think that the Assembly’s proposal to raise the personal income tax on millionaires.

“Not surprisingly, Democrats and Republicans differ strongly over who should control the State Senate. By a 68-24 percent margin, Democrats want to see their party gain control. A larger margin of Republicans, 80-15 percent, wants to see their party maintain control. Independent voters provide the swing, with 56 percent favoring Republican control and only 32 percent favoring Democratic control,” Greenberg said.

Overall, 57 percent of voters think it is very or somewhat significant that Paterson has become New York’s first African American governor, compared to 41 percent who think it’s not very or not at all significant. Two-thirds of voters believe Paterson’s legal blindness will not impact his job performance at all. A majority of voters, and a majority of virtually every demographic group, would urge the new governor to take positions he believes are right and try to make them happen, rather than compromise to build consensus.

“If Gov. Paterson follows that advice, it could be a short honeymoon since there are some strong difference on issues between Democrats and Republicans, as well as upstaters and downstaters,” Greenberg said.

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## Siena New York Poll Trends – March 24, 2008

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 24, 2008	58	10	31
January 2007	17	8	76

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 24, 2008	53	25	22
January 2008	51	29	20
December 2007	52	29	19
November 2007	56	27	17
October 2007	54	29	17
September 2007	51	26	24
July 2007	55	26	19
June 2007	49	31	20
May 2007	51	32	18
April 2007	52	31	18
March 2007	50	32	19
February 2007	45	35	20
January 2007	48	29	23
November 15, 2006	50	36	15
November 3, 2006	49	36	15
October 2006	44	42	15
September 2006	50	35	15
August 2006	44	35	21
June 2006	47	29	24
January 2006	45	31	24

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Michael Bloomberg?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 24, 2008	67	18	15
January 2008	59	24	17
October 2007	68	20	12
July 2007	65	19	17
June 2007	62	20	18

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Joe Bruno?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 24, 2008	32	32	36
October 2007	22	38	40
July 2007	23	42	36
March 2007	17	37	46
January 2007	17	36	47
May 2006	21	29	50
July 2005	26	30	44
April 2005	18	30	52

# Siena New York Poll Trends – March 24, 2008

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Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Sheldon Silver?

<b>DATE</b>	<b>FAVORABLE</b>	<b>UNFAVORABLE</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION</b>
March 24, 2008	24	31	44
October 2007	22	37	42
July 2007	24	34	42
March 2007	23	35	42
January 2007	20	37	43
May 2006	24	31	45
July 2005	28	34	38
April 2005	19	30	50

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

<b>DATE</b>	<b>FAVORABLE</b>	<b>UNFAVORABLE</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION</b>
March 24, 2008	13	79	7
February 2008	41	46	13
January 2008	44	41	15
December 2007	36	51	13
November 2007	41	46	13
October 2007	54	36	10
September 2007	56	26	18
July 2007	59	28	14
June 2007	64	22	15
May 2007	67	21	12
April 2007	67	20	13
March 2007	62	20	18
February 2007	74	12	14
January 2007	75	10	16
November 15, 2006	75	14	12
November 3, 2006	74	17	10
October 2006	69	20	12
September 2006	74	16	10
August 2006	71	15	15
June 2006	68	16	16
May 2006	63	19	19
March 2006	62	18	20
January 2006	59	19	23
November 2005	65	15	20
October 2005	61	19	20
August 2005	60	14	26
July 2005	62	15	22
June 2005	59	15	25
May 2005	58	17	25
April 2005	53	18	29
March 2005	50	18	32
February 2005	48	17	34

# Siena New York Poll Trends – March 24, 2008

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

(NOTE: for March 24, 2008 poll, questions was worded: “Looking back on his 15 months in office, how would you rate the job that Eliot Spitzer did as Governor? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?”)

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 24, 2008	4	27	38	28	4
February 2008	4	29	45	20	3
January 2008	3	29	44	20	5
December 2007	3	24	41	29	3
November 2007	4	29	37	27	4
October 2007	4	37	38	17	4
September 2007	5	39	38	11	8
July 2007	7	39	34	14	6
June 2007	9	46	30	7	8
May 2007	11	46	27	9	7
April 2007	10	45	31	7	7
March 2007	8	39	31	8	13
February 2007	15	43	21	3	20
January 2007	11	37	15	4	33

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 24, 2008	56	32	13
March 3, 2008	56	31	13
February 2008	60	30	10
January 2008	57	28	15
December 2007	55	30	15
September 2007	56	24	20
June 2007	53	24	23
May 2007	58	22	20
April 2007	55	23	22
March 2007	52	20	28
February 2007	52	21	28
January 2007	50	17	34
November 15, 2006	48	12	40

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about John McCain?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 24, 2008	54	34	12
March 3, 2008	48	41	11
February 2008	55	34	11
January 2008	56	27	17
December 2007	53	29	18
June 2007	43	39	19
May 2007	42	44	14
April 2007	45	39	15
March 2007	45	34	21
February 2007	47	33	19
January 2007	51	29	21
November 15, 2006	56	24	20

– more –

# Siena New York Poll Trends – March 24, 2008

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Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Hillary Clinton?

<b>DATE</b>	<b>FAVORABLE</b>	<b>UNFAVORABLE</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION</b>
March 24, 2008	52	43	5
March 3, 2008	54	39	7
February 2008	53	43	4
January 2008	60	35	5
December 2007	51	44	5
November 2007	55	39	6
October 2007	53	41	6
September 2007	57	37	7
July 2007	59	35	6
June 2007	54	39	7
May 2007	56	39	5
April 2007	50	42	7
March 2007	56	37	8
February 2007	56	40	5
January 2007	60	33	7
November 15, 2006	65	29	6
November 3, 2006	61	33	6
October 2006	56	38	6
September 2006	60	37	4
August 2006	54	38	7
June 2006	54	38	8
May 2006	58	36	6
March 2006	55	39	6
January 2006	60	37	3
November 2005	60	34	6
October 2005	59	35	6
August 2005	59	37	4
July 2005	60	34	6
June 2005	60	33	7
May 2005	58	35	7
April 2005	60	33	6
March 2005	58	34	8
February 2005	61	33	6

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# Siena New York Poll Trends – March 24, 2008

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Is New York State on the right track, or is it headed in the wrong direction?

<b>DATE</b>	<b>RIGHT TRACK</b>	<b>WRONG DIRECTION</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION</b>
March 24, 2008	34	41	26
February 2008	33	43	24
January 2008	39	38	23
December 2007	35	45	21
November 2007	32	45	23
October 2007	42	36	22
September 2007	44	30	26
July 2007	37	38	25
June 2007	45	28	27
May 2007	46	29	25
April 2007	47	29	24
March 2007	37	37	26
February 2007	49	26	25
January 2007	45	26	30
November 15, 2006	52	30	18
November 3, 2006	36	43	21
October 2006	29	47	23
September 2006	33	39	28
August 2006	29	47	25
June 2006	29	45	26
May 2006	27	52	21
March 2006	35	39	26
January 2006	34	43	24
November 2005	38	41	22
October 2005	34	42	24
August 2005	36	44	20
July 2005	33	41	26
June 2005	30	44	26
May 2005	29	46	25
April 2005	29	44	27
March 2005	26	47	27
February 2005	32	44	24

**Siena Research Institute - 03/17/08 - 03/21/08 620 completes +/- 3.9%**

1. Is New York State on the right track, or is it headed in the wrong direction?

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
right track	34%	39%	27%	33%	32%	35%	39%	31%	31%	31%	51%	47%	44%	31%	35%	35%	43%	28%	32%
wrong direction	41%	36%	49%	41%	43%	38%	33%	43%	46%	44%	34%	24%	28%	45%	39%	41%	25%	47%	41%
don't know/no opinion	26%	24%	25%	26%	25%	27%	28%	27%	23%	25%	15%	29%	27%	24%	26%	24%	32%	24%	27%

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

2. Eliot Spitzer

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	13%	16%	9%	14%	15%	12%	17%	14%	10%	11%	35%	24%	16%	14%	12%	9%	12%	14%	20%
unfavorable	79%	76%	87%	78%	79%	80%	75%	81%	82%	83%	54%	63%	74%	82%	78%	85%	79%	80%	71%
don't know/no opinion	7%	8%	4%	7%	6%	9%	9%	5%	8%	6%	11%	13%	10%	5%	10%	6%	9%	6%	9%

3. Hillary Clinton

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	52%	70%	22%	48%	43%	60%	57%	55%	45%	46%	69%	89%	59%	50%	53%	48%	54%	43%	62%
unfavorable	43%	25%	75%	46%	51%	35%	39%	40%	50%	49%	29%	11%	38%	46%	41%	49%	35%	53%	32%
don't know/no opinion	5%	4%	4%	6%	5%	4%	4%	6%	5%	5%	2%	0%	3%	4%	6%	3%	10%	4%	6%

4. Andrew Cuomo

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	53%	63%	37%	50%	50%	56%	55%	49%	53%	52%	51%	61%	34%	55%	60%	58%	43%	45%	53%
unfavorable	25%	18%	40%	26%	28%	23%	23%	28%	25%	26%	28%	13%	38%	24%	21%	24%	22%	30%	25%
don't know/no opinion	22%	19%	23%	24%	22%	22%	21%	23%	21%	21%	22%	26%	28%	21%	19%	17%	35%	24%	22%

5. Joe Bruno

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	32%	29%	40%	30%	34%	30%	31%	28%	36%	32%	34%	24%	24%	29%	41%	35%	22%	36%	29%
unfavorable	32%	37%	23%	30%	39%	25%	32%	32%	31%	31%	32%	34%	33%	33%	29%	28%	40%	27%	36%
don't know/no opinion	36%	34%	36%	41%	28%	45%	37%	40%	34%	37%	34%	42%	43%	38%	30%	36%	38%	36%	36%

6. Barack Obama

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	56%	66%	38%	55%	56%	55%	65%	46%	52%	50%	91%	68%	60%	56%	54%	52%	46%	55%	65%
unfavorable	32%	24%	48%	30%	33%	30%	26%	39%	32%	36%	8%	21%	33%	30%	33%	35%	41%	33%	23%
don't know/no opinion	13%	10%	14%	14%	11%	15%	9%	15%	15%	14%	2%	11%	7%	14%	13%	13%	13%	12%	13%



## 7. Mike Bloomberg

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	67%	69%	69%	62%	69%	66%	76%	84%	47%	68%	75%	58%	61%	66%	72%	67%	90%	61%	62%
unfavorable	18%	20%	17%	16%	18%	17%	19%	10%	22%	16%	22%	29%	18%	20%	13%	17%	7%	21%	22%
don't know/no opinion	15%	11%	14%	22%	13%	17%	5%	6%	31%	16%	3%	13%	20%	14%	14%	16%	3%	18%	16%

## 8. John McCain

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	54%	38%	81%	58%	57%	52%	48%	59%	57%	61%	26%	47%	44%	53%	60%	61%	59%	57%	42%
unfavorable	34%	49%	13%	28%	35%	33%	40%	30%	31%	28%	58%	42%	44%	35%	28%	31%	31%	29%	43%
don't know/no opinion	12%	13%	6%	14%	8%	16%	12%	10%	12%	11%	15%	11%	11%	12%	12%	9%	10%	14%	15%

## 9. Sheldon Silver

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	24%	30%	16%	24%	23%	26%	30%	23%	19%	23%	31%	37%	22%	23%	27%	24%	41%	22%	20%
unfavorable	31%	25%	43%	33%	42%	21%	32%	30%	31%	33%	26%	21%	32%	30%	33%	33%	29%	30%	30%
don't know/no opinion	44%	45%	41%	43%	35%	53%	38%	46%	49%	44%	43%	42%	47%	47%	40%	43%	29%	47%	50%

## 10. David Paterson

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	58%	67%	48%	55%	60%	57%	61%	59%	56%	59%	66%	45%	51%	59%	60%	61%	65%	58%	53%
unfavorable	10%	8%	16%	10%	11%	10%	10%	6%	13%	10%	11%	13%	11%	11%	9%	9%	3%	10%	15%
don't know/no opinion	31%	25%	36%	35%	29%	33%	29%	35%	31%	31%	23%	42%	38%	30%	30%	30%	32%	32%	32%

## 11. Looking back on his 15 months in office, how would you rate the job that Eliot Spitzer DID as Governor? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
excellent	4%	5%	1%	6%	3%	5%	3%	4%	5%	4%	5%	5%	2%	5%	4%	3%	1%	5%	6%
good	27%	34%	18%	22%	27%	26%	27%	26%	27%	25%	38%	39%	34%	27%	23%	25%	29%	22%	30%
fair	38%	38%	35%	42%	36%	40%	37%	43%	35%	37%	37%	37%	38%	38%	37%	37%	38%	37%	39%
poor	28%	21%	40%	27%	30%	25%	28%	24%	30%	31%	17%	16%	22%	27%	31%	33%	22%	28%	22%
don't know/no opinion	4%	3%	5%	2%	3%	4%	4%	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%	5%	3%	5%	2%	9%	7%	3%

12. How would you rate the job that the New York State Assembly is doing? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
excellent	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	8%	0%	2%	2%	2%	0%	2%	1%
good	26%	31%	19%	22%	18%	33%	28%	25%	24%	24%	38%	29%	27%	25%	26%	26%	19%	25%	27%
fair	43%	43%	46%	38%	43%	42%	43%	41%	44%	45%	40%	42%	45%	44%	40%	48%	40%	45%	35%
poor	22%	16%	27%	29%	31%	13%	20%	20%	25%	22%	11%	18%	18%	22%	23%	19%	25%	18%	27%
don't know/no opinion	8%	7%	8%	10%	6%	10%	7%	12%	6%	8%	9%	3%	9%	8%	9%	5%	16%	9%	9%

13. How would you rate the job that the New York State Senate is doing? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
excellent	3%	4%	1%	2%	2%	5%	5%	2%	3%	3%	3%	13%	5%	4%	2%	4%	1%	4%	3%
good	26%	30%	21%	22%	19%	32%	27%	28%	22%	24%	42%	24%	24%	25%	28%	26%	19%	25%	27%
fair	43%	44%	43%	42%	44%	42%	46%	38%	43%	43%	40%	50%	47%	45%	39%	46%	40%	44%	38%
poor	22%	15%	30%	29%	30%	15%	17%	23%	28%	24%	11%	11%	18%	22%	26%	21%	22%	20%	26%
don't know/no opinion	6%	6%	5%	6%	5%	6%	6%	8%	4%	7%	5%	3%	7%	5%	6%	3%	18%	6%	5%

14. With Governor Eliot Spitzer's resignation, Lieutenant Governor David Paterson becomes New York's new Governor. How familiar are you with David Paterson?

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
very familiar	5%	8%	1%	4%	6%	4%	10%	1%	3%	3%	22%	3%	5%	5%	5%	3%	7%	5%	7%
somewhat familiar	30%	34%	27%	23%	28%	31%	35%	27%	26%	26%	40%	47%	26%	32%	27%	29%	28%	25%	33%
not very familiar	35%	30%	40%	42%	36%	34%	31%	36%	38%	38%	26%	18%	39%	35%	34%	37%	37%	38%	30%
not at all familiar	30%	27%	33%	30%	29%	31%	24%	35%	33%	33%	12%	32%	31%	28%	33%	31%	28%	30%	29%
don't know/no opinion	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%

15. David Paterson is legally blind. Do you think his disability will impact his job performance a lot, somewhat, not very much, or not at all?

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
a lot	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	0%	3%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	3%
somewhat	9%	10%	8%	7%	9%	10%	11%	6%	10%	8%	11%	13%	14%	9%	8%	8%	1%	7%	15%
not very much	21%	20%	22%	22%	20%	22%	21%	22%	21%	22%	12%	16%	19%	20%	23%	20%	29%	23%	18%
not at all	67%	68%	69%	67%	69%	66%	65%	70%	68%	68%	75%	71%	64%	69%	66%	70%	68%	68%	63%
don't know/no opinion	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%

16. How significant do you think it is that David Paterson becomes the first African-American Governor of New York? Is it very significant, somewhat significant, not very significant, or not significant at all?

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
very significant	27%	36%	16%	17%	23%	30%	35%	20%	22%	21%	65%	32%	33%	24%	27%	23%	21%	29%	33%
somewhat significant	30%	31%	30%	30%	28%	32%	33%	21%	27%	31%	26%	32%	31%	33%	26%	32%	41%	23%	27%
not very significant	16%	11%	23%	18%	19%	13%	8%	18%	22%	18%	3%	5%	16%	16%	16%	15%	16%	24%	13%
not significant at all	25%	21%	28%	31%	29%	22%	22%	27%	27%	27%	5%	26%	19%	25%	28%	29%	19%	23%	22%
don't know/no opinion	2%	1%	3%	3%	2%	3%	2%	4%	2%	2%	2%	5%	1%	2%	3%	1%	3%	0%	5%

17. If you were called upon to provide advice to the new governor, which of following governing strategies would you suggest? (ROTATE CHOICES):

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
make every effort to build consensus across party lines even if you have to compromise	39%	38%	43%	43%	46%	33%	38%	43%	38%	44%	26%	29%	33%	39%	42%	44%	46%	43%	27%
take positions that you believe are right and try your hardest to make them happen	56%	59%	52%	52%	48%	63%	57%	53%	56%	51%	72%	68%	61%	57%	52%	52%	44%	53%	68%
don't know/no opinion	5%	3%	5%	5%	6%	4%	4%	4%	6%	5%	2%	3%	6%	4%	6%	4%	10%	4%	4%

18. Which ONE of the following issues do you believe should be the new governor's top priority? (ROTATE CHOICES):

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
jobs and the economy	36%	43%	27%	30%	32%	38%	34%	30%	41%	35%	35%	47%	39%	38%	30%	37%	26%	37%	35%
health care	11%	14%	6%	10%	7%	15%	15%	10%	8%	10%	22%	8%	9%	9%	15%	8%	15%	8%	15%
education	16%	16%	10%	22%	12%	19%	21%	14%	11%	12%	25%	32%	31%	13%	12%	14%	16%	12%	19%
government ethics and reform	5%	5%	4%	4%	6%	4%	5%	5%	4%	5%	3%	3%	2%	6%	4%	4%	4%	6%	4%
controlling state spending and taxes	31%	19%	51%	34%	40%	21%	22%	40%	33%	36%	11%	8%	17%	31%	36%	34%	32%	34%	23%
don't know/no opinion	2%	3%	2%	1%	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	5%	3%	2%	2%	3%	1%	6%	2%	3%

19. Given what know about the new governor and the state government in general, how confident are you in the ability of state officials to solve the problems faced by the citizens of New York. Are very confident, somewhat confident, not very confident or not at all confident?

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
very confident	8%	11%	5%	6%	8%	8%	10%	6%	7%	7%	18%	11%	5%	10%	8%	8%	12%	7%	8%
somewhat confident	52%	56%	45%	49%	45%	57%	55%	54%	46%	50%	60%	58%	58%	50%	50%	53%	50%	51%	51%
not very confident	28%	24%	36%	27%	32%	24%	24%	27%	33%	29%	18%	24%	27%	28%	29%	27%	24%	29%	30%
not at all confident	11%	7%	14%	17%	13%	9%	8%	12%	14%	12%	2%	8%	10%	10%	13%	11%	10%	12%	10%
don't know/no opinion	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	0%	2%	2%	0%	0%	2%	1%	1%	4%	1%	1%

20. Overall, do you believe the change from Governor Spitzer to Governor Paterson will be good for New York, bad for New York or have no effect?

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
good for NY	60%	64%	58%	60%	58%	62%	56%	64%	62%	61%	72%	45%	44%	61%	65%	62%	56%	67%	54%
bad for NY	4%	3%	6%	4%	6%	3%	2%	7%	4%	5%	2%	5%	2%	6%	2%	5%	4%	1%	5%
no effect	24%	23%	27%	24%	25%	23%	27%	20%	25%	24%	18%	32%	39%	21%	23%	23%	32%	21%	25%
don't know/no opinion	12%	11%	10%	12%	11%	12%	15%	9%	9%	10%	8%	18%	15%	11%	11%	10%	7%	11%	15%

21. Looking forward two years from today and to the next gubernatorial election, which of the following statements do you think you will be most LIKELY to make? (ROTATE CHOICES):

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
Paterson has become a great governor and should be re-elected	41%	52%	29%	37%	42%	40%	39%	39%	44%	40%	62%	32%	30%	42%	43%	44%	40%	36%	40%
Paterson has been an adequate caretaker but we need a new governor	21%	15%	30%	19%	23%	18%	21%	22%	20%	21%	8%	24%	33%	20%	15%	18%	28%	19%	23%
Paterson was simply not up to the job and his Administration moved New York backwards	3%	2%	5%	3%	4%	2%	3%	2%	4%	3%	5%	8%	6%	3%	2%	3%	0%	4%	4%
don't know/no opinion	35%	31%	36%	41%	31%	39%	37%	37%	32%	36%	26%	37%	32%	34%	39%	35%	32%	40%	34%

22. Currently, Democrats have an overwhelming majority in the State Assembly. Republicans have a small 32-30 majority in the State Senate. The Governor is a Democrat. Which statement comes closest to your opinion (ROTATE CHOICES): I agree with those who claim it is important for Republicans to keep control of the Senate, providing checks and balances so one party does not control all of state government, or I agree with those who claim that if Democrats gain control of the Senate, it would end the gridlock and make state government more effective.

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
Republican control	47%	24%	80%	56%	50%	43%	39%	52%	50%	53%	22%	24%	45%	47%	47%	54%	43%	52%	34%
Democratic control	45%	68%	15%	32%	41%	49%	51%	37%	44%	39%	71%	63%	49%	44%	44%	37%	49%	40%	57%
don't know/no opinion	9%	8%	5%	12%	9%	9%	10%	10%	6%	9%	8%	13%	6%	9%	9%	8%	9%	8%	10%

23. Some members of the State Assembly have proposed temporarily raising the personal income tax rate on taxpayers earning more than one million dollars a year from 6.85 percent to 7.7 percent. Do you support or oppose an income tax surcharge on those making more than one million dollars a year?

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
support	72%	81%	60%	73%	70%	75%	68%	75%	75%	74%	72%	61%	75%	72%	72%	74%	65%	71%	74%
oppose	23%	15%	35%	25%	26%	21%	27%	22%	21%	22%	26%	29%	15%	25%	24%	23%	26%	24%	21%
don't know/no opinion	4%	4%	5%	2%	4%	4%	5%	4%	4%	4%	2%	11%	10%	3%	4%	3%	9%	5%	5%

24. The events leading up to Spitzer's resignation were covered by the press nationally and even internationally. How much do you believe the attention surrounding the issue, including Spitzer's resignation, has damaged the reputation of New York State: a great deal, a little bit, not at all?

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
a great deal	23%	23%	27%	18%	22%	25%	26%	20%	23%	23%	25%	29%	20%	22%	28%	29%	9%	17%	24%
a little bit	36%	36%	40%	33%	34%	37%	31%	39%	38%	37%	29%	37%	44%	37%	29%	34%	41%	41%	34%
not a at all	39%	41%	31%	47%	42%	36%	42%	39%	36%	38%	45%	34%	34%	40%	41%	35%	50%	39%	41%
don't know/no opinion	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	0%	1%	1%	3%	2%	0%	2%	1%