



# SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

[www.siena.edu/scri](http://www.siena.edu/scri)

For Immediate Release:

Monday, February 11, 2019

Contact:

Steven Greenberg, 518-469-9858

Website/Twitter:

[www.Siena.edu/SCRI/SNY](http://www.Siena.edu/SCRI/SNY)

[@SienaResearch](https://twitter.com/SienaResearch)

## Siena College Poll:

# Voters Give Cuomo & Schumer Their Lowest Ratings Ever

### Ratings for Cuomo & Legislature Drop Significantly, Even as Voters Say New Laws Passed in '19 Will Be Good for NY

### *Small Majority Says Congressional Dems Should Not Give Trump His Border Wall Funding to Avoid Shutdown; Overwhelming Majority Says Trump Should Not Declare a National Emergency to Fund Wall*

Loudonville, NY. Governor Andrew Cuomo’s favorability rating fell to negative 43-50 percent, down from 51-43 percent last month. His job performance rating fell to 35-64 percent, down from 43-56 percent. Senator Chuck Schumer saw his favorability rating drop to 47-46 percent, down from 53-39 percent in January, according to a new Siena College poll of New York State registered voters released today.

Voters say Democrats in Congress should not include President Trump’s border wall funding to avoid a second partial government shutdown 52-43 percent. The President should not declare a national emergency to fund the wall voters say 70-26 percent. Trump’s favorability rating is 35-59 percent, up from 32-64 percent last month.

By an overwhelming margin, New Yorkers say the Child Victims Act will be good for New York. By wide margins, they say GENDA, the Dream Act and recently passed election reform and gun control laws will be good for New York. They say the same about the Reproductive Health Act by a narrower 47-32 percent margin.

“Now, for the first time ever, half of New Yorkers view Andrew Cuomo unfavorably. It’s his lowest favorability rating ever and his lowest-ever job performance as governor,” said Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg. “And it is a dramatic drop in both ratings from last month.

Favorability Ratings				
	Fav	Unfav	DK/NO	Net
Chuck Schumer	47%	46%	7%	+1
Kirsten Gillibrand	44%	34%	21%	+10
NYS Assembly	43%	38%	18%	+5
NYS Senate	43%	41%	17%	+2
Andrew Cuomo	43%	50%	7%	-7
Donald Trump	35%	59%	6%	-24
Siena College Poll – February 11, 2019				

“Politically, Cuomo’s ratings drop is across the board, as he fell with Democrats, Republicans and independents. Geographically, his drop was much bigger downstate – New York City and the suburbs – than upstate, where his ratings were significantly lower previously,” Greenberg said. “The 43 percent of voters who view Cuomo favorably matches exactly the 43 percent of voters who view the State Assembly favorably, and the State Senate.”

“While Cuomo, the Assembly and the Senate are each viewed favorably by 43 percent of voters, both houses garner higher ‘don’t knows’ than Cuomo resulting in the Assembly having a five-point net positive favorability rating and the Senate having a two-point net positive favorability rating, while Cuomo’s favorability rating is a seven-point net negative,” Greenberg said. “Both the Assembly and Senate favorability ratings are down from last month, but they are down a little less than Cuomo’s.”

**Plurality of Voters says Democratic Control of State Government Will Move State in Right Direction**

“By a narrow 48-41 percent margin, voters say that the Democrats controlling the governorship and both houses of the Legislature will move New York on the right track over the next two years,” Greenberg said. “Not surprisingly, more than two-thirds of Democrats say their party will move the state on the right track, while more than three-quarters of Republicans say it will move the state in the wrong direction. Independents, by a ten-point margin, side with the Republicans.

“While black, Latino and New York City voters strongly say that Democratic control of Albany will move the state on the right track, pluralities of white, downstate suburban and upstate voters say Albany completely controlled by Democrats will move the state in the wrong direction,” Greenberg said.

**47% of Voters (2/3 of Dems) Give Albany ‘A’ or ‘B’ for January; 27% (2/3 of Reps) Say ‘D’ or ‘F’**

“While still too early to call them midterm grades, if January was its first test, voters give the new Democratic-controlled state government more than passing grades. Nearly half give Albany an ‘A’ or a ‘B,’ while only about one-quarter give it a ‘D’ or ‘F,’” Greenberg said. “Predictably, Democrats give high marks – a 2.74 ‘GPA’ – while nearly half of Republicans say they failed, with a 0.99 ‘GPA.’ Here, independents more closely resemble Democrats, with nearly twice as many ‘As’ and ‘Bs’ compared to ‘Ds’ and ‘Fs,’ and a ‘GPA’ of 2.20.”

**More Voters Say Each of the Significant New Laws Passed in January Will Be Good – Not Bad – For NY**

“Democrats, Republicans and independents overwhelmingly agree that the Child Victims Act will be good for New York,” Greenberg said. “On five other major policy actions Albany enacted last month, Democrats and independents think each will be good for New York. However, a majority or plurality of Republicans think they will be bad for New York.”

<b>Will New 2019 Laws Be Good or Bad for New York?</b>					
		<b>Total</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>
The Child Victims Act	Good for NY	<b>69%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>75%</b>
	Bad for NY	8%	6%	14%	8%
The Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act	Good for NY	<b>61%</b>	<b>73%</b>	37%	<b>63%</b>
	Bad for NY	24%	16%	<b>42%</b>	24%
The new gun control laws	Good for NY	<b>55%</b>	<b>68%</b>	30%	<b>52%</b>
	Bad for NY	30%	15%	<b>60%</b>	35%
The New York Dream Act	Good for NY	<b>50%</b>	<b>63%</b>	22%	<b>52%</b>
	Bad for NY	22%	11%	<b>54%</b>	19%
The new election reform measures	Good for NY	<b>48%</b>	<b>60%</b>	26%	<b>49%</b>
	Bad for NY	17%	8%	<b>37%</b>	18%
The Reproductive Health Act	Good for NY	<b>47%</b>	<b>59%</b>	17%	<b>52%</b>
	Bad for NY	32%	21%	<b>64%</b>	28%

**Siena College Poll – February 11, 2019**

**Congressional Dems Shouldn't Give Trump Border Wall \$; Trump Shouldn't Declare National Emergency**

“Nearly three-quarters of Democrats say their party in Congress should not give the President the border wall funding he’s called for to avoid another shutdown. More than three-quarters of Republicans think Democrats should provide the funding. Independents are closely divided but lean slightly toward the Republican position,” Greenberg said.

“Even if Congress fails to include the border wall funding, the President should not declare a national emergency to fund the wall, according to 83 percent of Democrats, 70 percent of independents and even 45 percent of Republicans,” Greenberg said. “New Yorkers say ‘no’ to funding a border wall and they scream ‘no’ to Trump declaring a national emergency to fund the wall.”

**Schumer’s Role as Senate Minority Leader is Taking a Toll on How New Yorkers View Him**

“Just before Schumer became U.S. Senate Minority Leader, he had a 67-23 percent favorability and was far and away the most popular New York pol. At that time, Republicans viewed him favorably 55-37 percent. Today, he has a breakeven favorability rating with all voters, and Republicans – New York Republicans – view him unfavorably 84-15 percent,” Greenberg said. “He remains popular with Democrats, 63-31 percent, and independents are evenly divided.

“Senator Kirsten Gillibrand also saw her favorability rating drop but not as much as Schumer or Cuomo. She has a 44-34 percent favorability rating, down from 48-31 percent in January,” Greenberg said. “Early on, her presidential run is not paying dividends with her home state voters. She only has a 55-24 percent favorability rating with Democrats, down from 61-19 percent last month and 62-12 percent in January 2018.”

**New York State Right Track Down, Now Breakeven; US Right Track Up, Still Significantly Under Water**

“Last month, voters said New York was headed on the right track by a 49-40 percent margin. Now, 44 percent say the state is on the right track and 45 percent say it’s headed in the wrong direction. New York City voters and Democrats are upbeat about the state’s direction; other regions and parties are pessimistic,” Greenberg said.

“A majority still thinks the country is headed in the wrong direction, 57-35 percent, that’s up from last month when voters said the country was headed in the wrong direction 62-32 percent,” Greenberg said. “Republicans continue to be the only demographic group that is optimistic about the direction of the country.”

###

This Siena College Poll was conducted February 4-7, 2019 by telephone calls conducted in English to 778 New York State registered voters. Respondent sampling was initiated by asking for the youngest male in the household. It has an overall margin of error of + 4.3 percentage points including the design effects resulting from weighting. Sampling was conducted via a stratified dual frame probability sample of landline and cell phone telephone numbers (both from ASDE Survey Sampler) from within New York State. Data was statistically adjusted by age, party by region, and gender to ensure representativeness. The Siena College Research Institute, directed by Donald Levy, Ph.D., conducts political, economic, social and cultural research primarily in NYS. SCRI, an independent, non-partisan research institute, subscribes to the American Association of Public Opinion Research Code of Professional Ethics and Practices. For more information, call Steve Greenberg at (518) 469-9858. For survey cross-tabs: [www.Siena.edu/SCRI/SNY](http://www.Siena.edu/SCRI/SNY).



# SIENA COLLEGE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

[www.siena.edu/scri](http://www.siena.edu/scri)

## Siena College Poll Trends – February 2019

**Q. 1** 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
February 2019	44	45	11
January 2019	49	40	11
November 2018*	40	47	13
October 2018*	42	44	14
June 2018*	45	41	14
April 2018	44	44	12
March 2018	46	42	12
February 2018	48	39	13
January 2018	50	35	15
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>57 (1/13)</b>	<b>76 (10/31/10)</b>	<b>30 (1/07)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>14 (10/10)</b>	<b>26 (1/07)</b>	<b>7 (2/17, 5/13)</b>

**Q. 2** 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
February 2019	35	57	8
January 2019	32	62	6
November 2018*	39	56	5
October 2018*	38	56	7
June 2018*	39	54	7
April 2018	30	63	6
March 2018	33	58	9
February 2018	34	59	7
January 2018	33	58	9
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>62 (5/09)</b>	<b>74 (10/13, 8/11)</b>	<b>17 (9/08)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>19 (10/13, 10/08)</b>	<b>24 (12/09)</b>	<b>5 (1/13)</b>

**Q. 3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Andrew Cuomo?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2019	43	50	7
January 2019	51	43	6
November 2018*	45	49	5
October 2018*	50	46	4
June 2018*	51	44	5
April 2018	49	44	6
March 2018	52	40	8
February 2018	53	40	7
January 2018	62	30	8
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>77 (2/11)</b>	<b>50 (2/19)</b>	<b>24 (1/06, 2/06, 9/07)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>43 (2/19)</b>	<b>14 (8/09)</b>	<b>3 (10/16, 10/20/10)</b>

**Q. 4** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the New York State Assembly?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2019	43	38	18
January 2019	48	32	20
June 2018*	40	43	17
April 2018	41	41	18
March 2018	41	38	20
February 2018	44	35	21
January 2018	42	36	22
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>48 (1/19)</b>	<b>61 (7/10)</b>	<b>21 (2/18, 5/17)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>25 (7/10)</b>	<b>32 (1/19)</b>	<b>10 (5/15)</b>

## Siena College Poll Trends – February 2019 – Page 2

**Q. 5** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the New York State Senate?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2019	43	41	17
January 2019	49	38	13
June 2018*	41	45	14
April 2018	41	45	15
March 2018	39	44	16
February 2018	44	40	16
January 2018	44	39	17
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>50 (2/17)</b>	<b>74 (7/09)</b>	<b>17 (2/19, 1/18, 5/17, 3/17)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>20 (7/09)</b>	<b>35 (5/17)</b>	<b>6 (7/09)</b>

**Q. 6** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Carl Heastie?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2019	13	14	73
January 2019	14	15	71
April 2018	10	12	77
January 2018	12	11	77
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>14 (1/19)</b>	<b>20 (10/15)</b>	<b>78 (1/17, 9/15)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>8 (9/15)</b>	<b>11 (1/18)</b>	<b>69 (4/15)</b>

**Q. 7** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Andrea Stewart-Cousins?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2019	17	11	72
January 2019	20	12	69
April 2018	12	9	79
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>20 (1/19)</b>	<b>12 (1/19)</b>	<b>79 (4/18)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>12 (4/18)</b>	<b>9 (4/18)</b>	<b>69 (1/19)</b>

**Q. 8** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Donald Trump?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2019	35	59	6
January 2019	32	64	4
November 2018*	39	58	3
October 2018*	37	59	4
June 2018*	38	59	3
April 2018	31	65	4
March 2018	33	63	4
February 2018	33	62	4
January 2018	32	63	4
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>41 (12/16)</b>	<b>72 (8/16)</b>	<b>10 (10/13)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>24 (8/16)</b>	<b>53 (12/16)</b>	<b>2 (9/15)</b>

**Q. 9** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Chuck Schumer?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2019	47	46	7
January 2019	53	39	8
June 2018*	56	37	6
April 2018	53	38	10
March 2018	54	36	11
February 2018	52	39	9
January 2018	59	32	9
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>70 (7/05)</b>	<b>46 (2/19)</b>	<b>17 (2/05)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>47 (2/19)</b>	<b>20 (2/05, 11/06)</b>	<b>4 (10/31/10)</b>

## Siena College Poll Trends – February 2019 – Page 3

**Q. 10** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kirsten Gillibrand?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2019	44	34	21
January 2019	48	31	21
November 2018*	46	34	20
October 2018*	49	33	19
June 2018*	53	28	19
April 2018	48	29	23
March 2018	49	25	25
February 2018	48	27	25
January 2018	51	23	26
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>61 (12/12)</b>	<b>34 (2/19, 11/18, 10/31/10)</b>	<b>56 (1/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>26 (3/09)</b>	<b>14 (1/09)</b>	<b>14 (10/31/10)</b>

**Q. 11** How would you rate the job that Andrew Cuomo is doing as Governor? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2019	8	27	33	31	2
January 2019	9	34	31	25	1
June 2018*	7	33	34	25	1
April 2018	7	34	33	24	1
March 2018	8	34	32	25	1
February 2018	7	38	32	21	2
January 2018	11	39	33	15	2
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>17 (1/12)</b>	<b>47 (4/12, etc.)</b>	<b>40 (6/16, 7/15, 12/14)</b>	<b>31 (2/19)</b>	<b>28 (1/11)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>5 (9/16)</b>	<b>27 (2/19)</b>	<b>24 (1/11)</b>	<b>4 (2/11, 1/11)</b>	<b>0 (2/16, 5/15, 10/14)</b>

**Q. 12** How would you rate the job that Donald Trump is doing as President? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2019	14	19	16	50	1
June 2018*	19	17	12	51	1
April 2018	14	13	17	54	1
March 2018	14	15	15	54	1
February 2018	12	17	14	56	1
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>19 (6/18)</b>	<b>19 (2/19, 7/17)</b>	<b>20 (2/17)</b>	<b>63 (10/17)</b>	<b>3 (4/17)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>8 (10/17, 9/17)</b>	<b>13 (4/18)</b>	<b>12 (6/18)</b>	<b>48 (2/17)</b>	<b>0 (10/17)</b>

**Q. 23** Do you support or oppose legalizing the recreational use of marijuana? <sup>^</sup>

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2019	52	42	7
January 2019	56	41	3
April 2018	52	44	4
February 2018	56	40	4
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>56 (1/19, 2/18)</b>	<b>44 (4/18)</b>	<b>7 (2/19)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>52 (2/19, 4/18)</b>	<b>40 (2/18)</b>	<b>3 (1/19)</b>

**Poll Trend Notes:** \* All surveys are of registered voters except for the following polls: June thru November 2018, November 2017, September thru November 2016, July thru October 2014, August/October 2012, October 2010, September/October 2008, and September/October 2006, which are polls of likely voters.

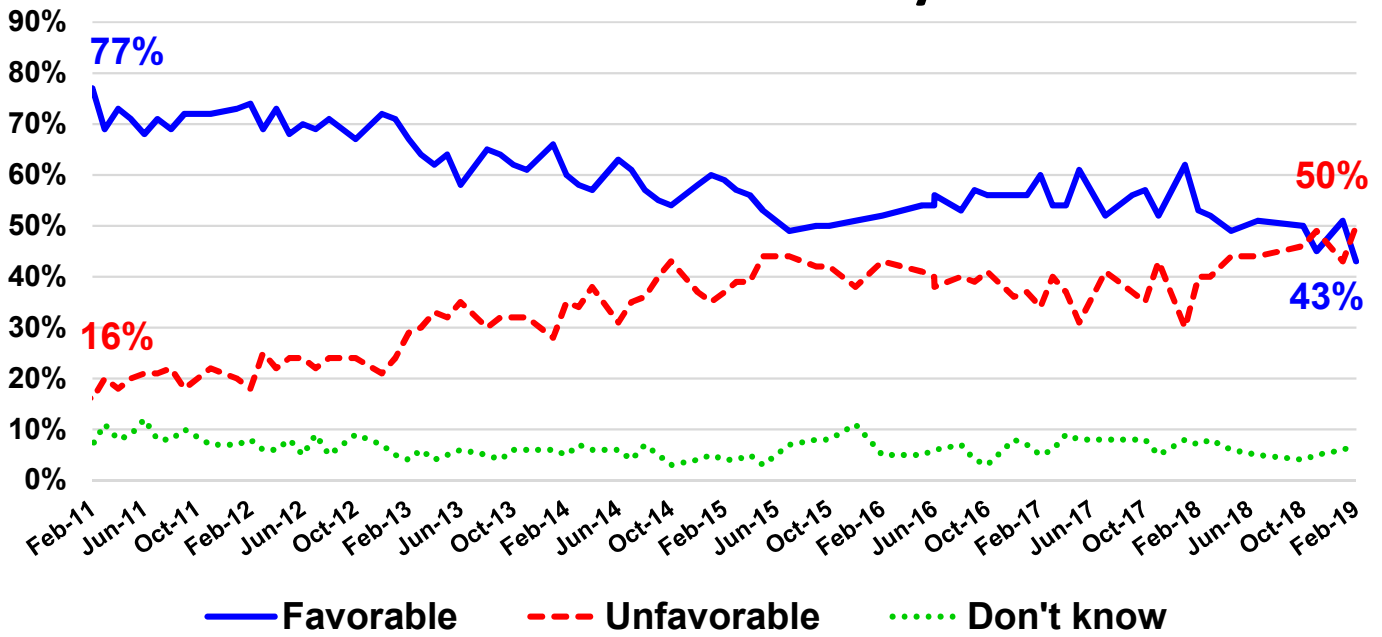
Trends reflect questions asked at least twice since the first Siena College Poll in February 2005.

Results listed here include all times questions have been asked since January 2018.

“Highest Ever” and “Lowest Ever” are provided at the bottom of each question.

<sup>^</sup> Inconsequential wording change.

# Andrew Cuomo Favorability 2011-2019



Siena College Polls 2011-2019