



# SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

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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 on End of Session Agenda: ‘Yes’ on Marijuana (55-40%); ‘No’ on Licenses for Undocumented (41-53%); Overwhelming Support for Vaccinations (84-13%) & NYS ERA (72-17%)**

Cuomo Favorability Up to 52-42%, His Best Since March 2018;  
By 58-37%, Voters Say Cuomo Should Not Seek Fourth Term

### ***Among NY Candidates: Gillibrand Crushes de Blasio with Democrats; Gillibrand Leads Trump by 24 Points; de Blasio Leads Trump by 12 Points***

Loudonville, NY. As the Legislature rushes to complete its 2019 legislative session, voters are supportive of legalizing the recreational use of marijuana, 55-40 percent (up a little from 52-42 percent in April), strongly supportive of eliminating the religious exemption for vaccinating children, 84-13 percent (up from 78-17 percent in April) and strongly supportive of adding an Equal Rights Amendment to the State Constitution, 72-17 percent. Voters continue to *oppose* allowing undocumented immigrants to get a driver’s license, 53-41 percent (little changed from 55-40 percent opposition in April).

Governor Andrew Cuomo has a 52-42 percent favorability rating (up from 47-48 percent in April), his best rating since March 2018. By a 58-37 percent margin, voters say Cuomo should *not* run for a fourth term. Among New York presidential candidates, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is on top. She beats New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio among Democrats 56-25 percent. She leads President Donald Trump 58-34 percent among all voters, while de Blasio bests Trump by a narrower 48-36 percent.

“New Yorkers overwhelmingly support legislation requiring parents to vaccinate their children regardless of religious beliefs. More than three-quarters of voters from every party and region support it,” said Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg. “There is also overwhelming support for amending the State Constitution to add an Equal Rights Amendment. Republicans support the state ERA 56-30 percent, while independents support it 70-17 percent and Democrats approve 82-11 percent. At least 70 percent of voters from every region support it.

“There continues to be support for legalizing the recreational use of marijuana. It has strong support from Democrats and independents, while Republicans oppose it, albeit narrowly, 53-40 percent,” Greenberg said.

“Voters under 35 support it 75-23 percent, while voters 55 and older *oppose* it 54-42 percent.”

Support or Oppose Proposed New Laws									
		June 2019				April 2019			
		Total	Dem	Rep	Ind	Total	Dem	Rep	Ind
Requiring parents to have their children vaccinated for certain diseases	Support	84%	85%	79%	86%	78%	83%	81%	74%
	Oppose	13%	12%	18%	11%	17%	15%	18%	20%
Amending the NYS Constitution to include an Equal Rights Amendment	Support	72%	82%	56%	70%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Oppose	17%	11%	30%	17%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Legalizing the recreational use of marijuana	Support	55%	61%	40%	57%	52%	62%	33%	53%
	Oppose	40%	34%	53%	41%	42%	33%	64%	42%
Implementing single-payer health care insurance in NYS	Support	51%	64%	22%	51%	48%	65%	21%	42%
	Oppose	40%	27%	68%	39%	44%	28%	70%	52%
Driver’s license for undocumented immigrants	Support	41%	53%	15%	41%	40%	55%	19%	36%
	Oppose	53%	39%	82%	55%	55%	42%	80%	60%

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“A majority of New Yorkers continues to oppose allowing undocumented immigrants to get New York State drivers’ licenses. Licenses for undocumented immigrants is supported by Democrats as well as black, Latino and younger voters, however, it is overwhelmingly opposed by Republicans. Upstate and downstate suburban voters, white voters and voters 55 and older oppose it, while New York City voters are evenly divided,” Greenberg said.

**Cuomo Favorability Bounces Up to Highest Level in More than a Year; Voters Say ‘No’ to 4<sup>th</sup> Term**

“Voters give Cuomo his best favorability rating in more than a year. He’s viewed favorably by two-thirds of Democrats and New York City voters. He is close to break-even with independents and downstate suburbanites, and he remains significantly underwater with upstate voters and deep underwater with Republicans,” Greenberg said. “Men are evenly divided, while 56 percent of women view him favorably.

“Cuomo recently said, ‘I plan to run for a fourth term.’ Less than a year into his third term, voters don’t think that’s the best idea. Democrats and New York City voters are closely divided on the subject of a fourth Cuomo run, however, two-thirds of independents, downstate suburbanites and upstaters think he should not run, as do 80 percent of Republicans,” Greenberg said.

Favorability Ratings				
	Fav	Unfav	DK/NO	Net
Chuck Schumer	54%	40%	6%	+14
NYS Assembly	47%	36%	17%	+11
Andrew Cuomo	52%	42%	6%	+10
Kirsten Gillibrand	44%	36%	20%	+8
NYS Senate	46%	39%	16%	+7
Andrea Stewart-Cousins	15%	13%	72%	+2
Carl Heastie	10%	17%	73%	-7
Bill de Blasio	29%	53%	17%	-24
Donald Trump	34%	63%	3%	-29

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**Among the Three NYers Running for President, Gillibrand Does Best – with Democrats and All Voters**

Gillibrand has a 44-36 percent favorability rating, up a tick from 41-35 percent in April. De Blasio has a negative 29-53 percent favorability rating, down from 33-50 percent in April and his worst favorability rating ever. Trump has a negative 34-63 percent favorability rating, down from 38-59 percent in April.

“New York Democrats strongly prefer the hometown senator over the hometown mayor. Gillibrand would easily best de Blasio in every region of the state, including New York City, where she beats him 56-29 percent. Liberals prefer Gillibrand 69-18 percent. De Blasio has a narrow three-point edge with black voters and only trails by eight points with younger voters, however, older voters favor Gillibrand by more than 40 points and white voters favor her by 50 points,” Greenberg said. “Among only Democrats, Gillibrand has a 55-22 percent favorability rating, while de Blasio has a negative 39-45 percent favorability rating. In New York City, Gillibrand’s favorability rating is 45-30 percent, while de Blasio’s is a negative 39-52 percent.

“Blue New York shows no interest in supporting the incumbent Republican President for re-election. Currently, only 29 percent of voters say they are prepared to re-elect Trump, while 68 percent say they prefer ‘someone else.’ In hypothetical matchups, Gillibrand leads Trump by 24 points and de Blasio leads Trump by 12 points, although he doesn’t hit 50 percent,” Greenberg said.

“Trump runs close to de Blasio upstate and in the downstate suburbs, although he trails Gillibrand by double digits in both regions. While Gillibrand leads Trump with voters 55 and older by 18 points, de Blasio only leads among those voters by five points. Men support Gillibrand by five points but favor Trump over de Blasio by six points,” Greenberg said.

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**This Siena College Poll was conducted June 2-6, 2019 by telephone calls conducted in English to 812 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 + 4.1 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) 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 crosstabs: [www.Siena.edu/SCRI/SNY](http://www.Siena.edu/SCRI/SNY).**



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## Siena College Poll Trends – June 10, 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
June 2019	44	43	12
April 2019	42	46	13
March 2019	43	46	11
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
<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. 3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Andrew Cuomo?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
June 2019	52	42	6
April 2019	47	48	5
March 2019	46	48	6
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
<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
June 2019	47	36	17
April 2019	48	33	19
March 2019	44	35	21
February 2019	43	38	18
January 2019	48	32	20
June 2018*	40	43	17
April 2018	41	41	18
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>48 (4/19, 1/19)</b>	<b>61 (7/10)</b>	<b>21 (3/19, 2/18, 5/17)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>25 (7/10)</b>	<b>32 (1/19)</b>	<b>10 (5/15)</b>

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
June 2019	46	39	16
April 2019	46	39	16
March 2019	46	38	16
February 2019	43	41	17
January 2019	49	38	13
June 2018*	41	45	14
April 2018	41	45	15
<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>

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
June 2019	10	17	73
March 2019	13	12	76
February 2019	13	14	73
January 2019	14	15	71
April 2018	10	12	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
June 2019	15	13	72
March 2019	14	13	73
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>13 (6/19, 3/19)</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
June 2019	34	63	3
April 2019	38	59	3
March 2019	36	60	5
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
<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
June 2019	54	40	6
April 2019	49	43	8
March 2019	51	41	8
February 2019	47	46	7
January 2019	53	39	8
June 2018*	56	37	6
April 2018	53	38	10
<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>

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
June 2019	44	36	20
April 2019	41	35	24
March 2019	43	33	23
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
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>61 (12/12)</b>	<b>36 (6/19)</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>

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**Q. 11** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Bill de Blasio?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
June 2019	29	53	17
April 2019	33	50	17
March 2019	34	50	16
January 2019	38	46	16
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>44 (1/18)</b>	<b>53 (6/19)</b>	<b>32 (11/13)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>29 (6/19)</b>	<b>27 (11/13)</b>	<b>15 (2/16)</b>

**Q. 15** 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
June 2019	7	31	34	27	1
April 2019	8	29	32	30	2
March 2019	7	31	32	29	1
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
<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. 17** 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
June 2019	13	16	18	52	1
April 2019	17	18	17	48	0
March 2019	14	17	19	49	2
February 2019	14	19	16	50	1
June 2018*	19	17	12	51	1
April 2018	14	13	17	54	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 (4/19, 2/17)</b>	<b>0 (4/19, 10/17)</b>

**Q. 21** Do you support or oppose legalizing the recreational use of marijuana?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
June 2019	55	40	5
April 2019	52	42	6
March 2019	53	43	4
February 2019	52	42	7
January 2019	56	41	3
April 2018	52	44	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 (4/19, 2/19, 4/18)</b>	<b>40 (6/19, 2/18)</b>	<b>3 (1/19)</b>

**Q. 22** Do you support or oppose allowing undocumented immigrants to get a New York driver's license?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
June 2019	41	53	7
April 2019	40	55	5
March 2019	34	61	5
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>41 (6/19)</b>	<b>61 (3/19)</b>	<b>7 (6/19)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>34 (3/19)</b>	<b>53 (6/19)</b>	<b>5 (4/19, 3/19)</b>

**Q. 23** Do you support or oppose requiring parents to have their children vaccinated for diseases such as measles before the children can attend school, regardless of the parents' religious beliefs?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
June 2019	84	13	3
April 2019	78	17	5
March 2019	79	18	3
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>84 (6/19)</b>	<b>18 (3/19)</b>	<b>5 (4/19)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>78 (4/19)</b>	<b>13 (6/19)</b>	<b>3 (6/19, 3/19)</b>

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**Q. 24** Do you support or oppose implementing a single-payer health insurance system in New York State, similar to the “Medicare for All” proposal in Washington. It would be state-run insurance and eliminate private insurance?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
June 2019	51	40	9
April 2019	48	44	9
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>51 (6/19)</b>	<b>44 (4/19)</b>	<b>9 (6/19, 4/19)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>48 (4/19)</b>	<b>40 (6/19)</b>	<b>9 (6/19, 4/19)</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 April 2018.

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

^ Inconsequential wording change.

