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For Immediate Release:

Friday, October 2, 2020

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Siena College Poll:

Biden Opens Wide 32-Point Lead Over Trump in NY

Biden Viewed Overwhelmingly Favorably; Trump Viewed Unfavorably by 2/3

**Voters Give Cuomo Three-to-One Pandemic Approval Rating;
His Favorability Rating, Still Strong, Slips a Little**

Loudonville, NY. Former Vice President Joe Biden leads President Donald Trump 61-29 percent in the Empire State. Biden has a 62-33 favorability rating and Trump has a *negative* 29-66 percent favorability rating, according to a new Siena College Poll of likely New York State voters released today.

Governor Andrew Cuomo has a 59-33 percent favorability rating, down a little from 65-31 percent in June among registered voters. His job performance rating is 61-38 percent, little changed from June. And by a 73-24 percent margin, voters approve of his job handling the coronavirus pandemic, down slightly from 76-21 percent in June.

“New Yorkers, who have not given their support to a Republican presidential candidate since Ronald Reagan won re-election in 1984, appear poised to provide Biden with New York’s 29 Electoral College votes in less than five weeks,” said Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg. “Biden holds a commanding 87-7 percent lead among Democrats and a 14-point lead with independents. Trump holds Republicans, 67-27 percent, but not nearly as well as Biden holds Democrats. Biden leads by 60 points in New York City, 20 points upstate and 14 points in the downstate suburbs.

“New York has 3.3 million more Democrats than Republicans. Trump’s favorability rating is way under water, and Biden’s is 30 points on the positive side. While only seven percent of Democrats view Trump favorably, 31 percent of Republicans have a favorable view of Biden,” Greenberg said. “Unlike in many of the battleground states that The New York Times/Siena College have been polling, where Republicans are in virtual lockstep with Trump, that is not the case in New York.

“Trump is viewed unfavorably by one-third of Republicans. He gets a negative job performance rating from one-third of Republicans. When it comes to his handling of the coronavirus pandemic, 38 percent of Republicans disapprove, as do 59 percent of independents and 89 percent of Democrats,” Greenberg said.

“Recently, the President said, ‘we’re putting New York in play. We’re going to play it very strong and very hard. And we are going to try to win New York.’

“Try as he may, it doesn’t seem likely that Trump can be competitive in his former home state, much less win it. Campaign resources might be better spent in battleground states like Pennsylvania, Florida and Wisconsin,” Greenberg said.

Cuomo Ratings Slide a Little; Still Remain Strong

“Nearly three-quarters of New Yorkers continue to approve of the job that Cuomo is doing to address the coronavirus pandemic. His job performance rating, basically unchanged from June, remains higher than at any time between 2013 and 2019. His favorability rating fell a few points but continues to be strong,” Greenberg said. While Cuomo continues to have extraordinarily high ratings with Democrats, his support among Republicans – which was positive in the early months of the pandemic – has fallen back, although it remains higher than it was immediately pre-pandemic.”

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This Siena College Poll was conducted September 27-29, 2020 among 504 likely New York State voters, with a margin of error of ± 4.4 percentage points.. Calls were made to a stratified weighted sample of voters from the L-2 Voter list via both land and cell phones. The data was weighted by party, age, race/ethnicity, education, region, gender and voter likelihood, a computed score that combines voter history, stated voter likelihood and modeled turnout by respondent. Polling support for this project provided by Institute for Policy and Opinion Research at Roanoke College, M. Davis and Co., and The Public Opinion Research Lab at the University of North Florida. 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.



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Siena College Poll Trends – October 2020

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
October 2020*	46	34	20
June 2020	52	38	10
May 2020	56	34	10
April 2020	65	28	7
March 2020	56	27	17
February 2020	41	46	13
January 2020	49	41	10
HIGHEST EVER	65 (4/20)	76 (10/31/10)	30 (1/07)
LOWEST EVER	14 (10/10)	26 (1/07)	7 (4/20, 2/17, 5/13)

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
October 2020*	24	62	14
June 2020	28	64	8
May 2020	35	56	9
April 2020	34	60	6
March 2020	42	47	11
February 2020	38	55	7
HIGHEST EVER	62 (5/09)	74 (10/13, 8/11)	17 (9/08)
LOWEST EVER	19 (10/13, 10/08)	24 (12/09)	5 (1/13)

Q. 4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Donald Trump?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2020*	29	66	5
June 2020	33	62	5
May 2020	32	63	5
April 2020	31	66	2
March 2020	35	59	5
February 2020	36	61	3
January 2020	31	64	5
HIGHEST EVER	41 (12/16)	72 (8/16)	10 (10/13)
LOWEST EVER	24 (8/16)	53 (12/16)	2 (4/20, 9/15)

Q. 5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Joe Biden?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2020*	62	33	6
June 2020	53	39	8
May 2020	51	40	9
April 2020	60	36	4
March 2020	51	40	9
February 2020	45	47	7
HIGHEST EVER	62 (10/20, 10/08)	47 (2/20)	28 (9/08)
LOWEST EVER	45 (2/20)	26 (9/08)	4 (4/20)

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Q. 6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Andrew Cuomo?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2020*	59	33	7
June 2020	65	31	4
May 2020	66	30	5
April 2020	77	21	2
March 2020	71	23	6
February 2020	44	50	6
January 2020	49	45	6
HIGHEST EVER	77 (4/20, 2/11)	50 (2/20, 8/19, 2/19)	24 (1/06, 2/06, 9/07)
LOWEST EVER	43 (8/19, 2/19)	14 (8/09)	2 (4/20)

Q. 7 If the election for President was being held today and the candidates were Joe Biden on the Democratic line and Donald Trump on the Republican line, Howie Hawkins from the Green Party, Jo Jorgensen from Libertarian Party or Brock Pierce from the Independence Party, who would you vote for? (Choices were rotated. Prior to October 2020, this question only included Trump and Biden.)

DATE	BIDEN	TRUMP	OTHER/WON'T VOTE/ DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2020*	61	29	10
June 2020	57	32	10
May 2020	57	32	11
April 2020	65	29	6
March 2020	58	33	10
February 2020	55	36	9
HIGHEST EVER	65 (4/20)	36 (2/20)	10 (10/20, 6/20, 3/20)
LOWEST EVER	55 (2/20)	29 (10/12, 4/20)	6 (4/20)

Q. 11 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
October 2020*	16	13	10	61	1
June 2020	14	17	12	56	2
May 2020	14	16	19	50	1
April 2020	14	16	15	54	1
March 2020	19	14	16	49	1
HIGHEST EVER	19 (3/20, 6/18)	19 (2/19, 7/17)	21 (9/19)	63 (10/17)	3 (4/17)
LOWEST EVER	8 (10/17, 9/17)	13 (10/20, 4/18)	10 (10/20)	48 (4/19, 2/17)	0 (4/19, 10/17)

Q. 12 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Donald Trump is doing to address the coronavirus, or COVID-19, pandemic? ^

DATE	APPROVE	DISAPPROVE	MIXED/DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2020*	27	68	5
June 2020	32	64	5
May 2020	35	61	5
April 2020	34	65	1
March 2020	41	56	3
HIGHEST EVER	41 (3/20)	68 (10/20)	5 (10/20, 6/20, 5/20)
LOWEST EVER	27 (10/20)	56 (3/20)	1 (4/20)

Q. 13 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
October 2020*	30	31	18	20	1
June 2020	27	35	17	20	1
May 2020	29	34	18	18	1
April 2020	37	34	18	10	1
March 2020	27	36	22	13	1
February 2020	8	28	32	31	1
January 2020	10	31	29	27	3
HIGHEST EVER	37 (4/20)	47 (4/12, etc.)	40 (6/16, 7/15, 12/14)	32 (8/19)	28 (1/11)
LOWEST EVER	5 (9/16)	27 (2/19)	17 (6/20)	4 (2/11, 1/11)	0 (2/16, 5/15, 10/14)

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Q. 14 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Andrew Cuomo is doing to address the coronavirus, or COVID-19, pandemic? [^]

DATE	APPROVE	DISAPPROVE	MIXED/DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2020*	73	24	3
June 2020	76	21	4
May 2020	76	21	3
April 2020	84	15	1
March 2020	87	11	2
HIGHEST EVER	87 (3/20)	24 (10/20)	4 (6/20)
LOWEST EVER	73 (10/20)	11 (3/20)	1 (4/20)

Poll Trend Notes: * All surveys are of registered voters except for the following polls: October 2020, 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 2020.

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

[^] Inconsequential wording change.

