Siena College Poll:

Voters Say <u>Not</u> Resign, 50-35%; They Say He Can Effectively Do Job as Governor Despite Investigations, 48-34%

35% Say Cuomo Has Committed Sexual Harassment, 24% Say He Has Not; Voters Satisfied with Way Cuomo Has Addressed the Allegations, 57-32%

NYers Positive About Cuomo's Pandemic Performance with One Exception; Strong Majority Gives Cuomo Negative Grade on Nursing Home Death Data; Cuomo Favorability Falls to 43-45%; Only 1/3 Say They Would Re-Elect Him

74% of Voters, Including Half of Republicans, Support New COVID Relief Law

Loudonville, NY. Voters say 50-35 percent that Governor Andrew Cuomo should not immediately resign. By 48-34 percent, they say he can continue to effectively do his job as governor. One-third of voters say that Cuomo has committed sexual harassment, one-quarter say he has not, and a plurality are unsure. Voters are satisfied with the way Cuomo has addressed the allegations, 57-32 percent, according to a new Siena College Poll of New York State voters, conducted March 8-12, released today.

Voters approve of Cuomo's handling of the pandemic, 60-33 percent, virtually unchanged from 61-34 percent last month. Voters give Cuomo positive grades on four specifics related to the pandemic – communicating, providing accurate information, reopening plans, and managing the vaccine rollout – however, when it comes to making COVID-related nursing home death data public, voters give Cuomo a negative grade, 27-66 percent.

"While many elected officials – Democrats and Republicans alike – have called for Cuomo's resignation, by a 50-35 percent margin, the voters of New York say Cuomo should <u>not</u> immediately resign. Nearly two-thirds of Republicans say Cuomo should resign, however, 61 percent of Democrats and 46 percent of independents, a plurality, say he should not," said Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg. "A majority of New York City voters and a plurality of voters from both upstate and the downstate suburbs say he should not resign.

"Similarly, voters say despite the ongoing investigations, Cuomo can continue to effectively do his job as governor, 48-34 percent," Greenberg said. "A strong majority of Democrats and a plurality of independents say he can govern effectively, while two-thirds of Republicans disagree. Voters outside of New York City are closely divided, however, a strong majority of New York City voters say he can effectively do his job."

"While more voters, 35 percent, say Cuomo has committed sexual harassment than those who say he has not committed sexual harassment, 24 percent, the plurality of voters, 41 percent, are undecided," Greenberg said.

"Cuomo has offered an apology and said his office will cooperate with the independent investigation. By a 57-32 percent margin, voters say they are satisfied with the way Cuomo has addressed the allegations against him," Greenberg said. "Two-thirds of Democrats are satisfied, as are 56 percent of independents; 57 percent of Republicans are not satisfied with the way Cuomo has addressed the allegations. Fifty-four percent of men and 59 percent of women say they are satisfied."

Cuomo has a 43-45 percent favorability rating, down significantly from 56-39 percent in February. His job performance rating is 46-52 percent, down from 51-47 percent last month. Currently, 34 percent of voters say they are prepared to re-elect Cuomo if he runs for re-election in 2022 and 52 percent say they would 'prefer someone else,' down significantly from 46-45 percent in February.

"Cuomo's standing with voters has clearly fallen in the last month. His favorability rating and his re-elect number are both down net 19 points, while his job performance rating is down net 10 points," Greenberg said. "Cuomo's drop in all three ratings is largely the result of Democrats. Among Democrats alone, his favorability rating dropped net 31 points and his re-elect dropped net 33 points. In fact, only 46 percent of Democrats now want to re-elect Cuomo, compared to 40 percent who want someone else, down from 65-26 percent last month.

Rating Governor Cuomo´s Handling of the Pandemic				
		March 2021	**Feb. 2021**	**June 2020**
Do you approve or disapprove of the job Andrew Cuomo is doing to address the COVID-19 pandemic?	Approve	**60%**	**61%**	**76%**
	Disapprove	33%	34%	21%
Specific Issues Related to Gov's Handling of Pandemic				
Communicating with the people of New York	Ex/Good	**62%**	**67%**	**81%**
	Fair/Poor	36%	33%	19%
Managing ongoing vaccine rollout, recognizing the Gov. does not control the number of vaccines NY receives	Ex/Good	**54%**	48%	NA
	Fair/Poor	39%	**49%**	
Providing accurate information during the course of the pandemic	Ex/Good	**53%**	**61%**	NA
	Fair/Poor	44%	36%	
Implementing the right plans for reopening New York	Ex/Good	**52%**	48%	**70%**
	Fair/Poor	45%	**50%**	29%
Making public all data about COVID-related deaths of nursing home patients	Ex/Good	27%	39%	NA
	Fair/Poor	**66%**	**55%**	
Siena College Poll – March 15, 2021				

"Voters appear to be able to compartmentalize how they feel about Cuomo. While their views on him generally – favorability, job performance, re-elect – took a significant hit this month, voters' views on Cuomo's handling of the pandemic remain largely positive, except for his handling of nursing home death data," Greenberg said.

"Two-thirds of New Yorkers, including 56 percent of Democrats, give him a negative grade for making public all data about COVID-related deaths of nursing home patients."

New Yorkers Overwhelming Support Biden's $1.9T COVID Relief Plan

"The massive $1.9 trillion COVID relief plan passed by Congress and signed by President Biden enjoys overwhelming support from New Yorkers. Overall, 74 percent support the COVID relief plan, compared to only 21 percent who oppose it. It has support from 91 percent of Democrats and 67 percent of independents, while Republicans are evenly divided, 48-48 percent," Greenberg said. "The 'weakest' support geographically comes from upstate voters, who support it two-to-one, 62-31 percent."

Biden has a 64-30 percent favorability rating, little changed from 65-29 percent in February. He is viewed favorably by 89 percent of Democrats and 57 percent of independents, while 72 percent of Republicans view him unfavorably. His job performance rating is 54-41 percent, down slightly from 55-38 percent last month.

"Less than two months on the job, Biden – like his first major legislative victory, the COVID relief plan – enjoys strong support from New Yorkers – well, at least from Democrats and independents," Greenberg said. "At this point in his presidency, Donald Trump had a 33-63 percent favorability rating, not very different from his current 31-66 percent favorability rating."

Odds & Ends

➢ Attorney General Letitia James has a 40-14 percent favorability rating, up from 36-17 percent last month, her highest-ever favorability rating.

➢ Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul has a 23-14 percent favorability rating (64 percent have never heard of her or don't know enough to have an opinion), the first time Siena has polled her in a statewide poll.

➢ New Yorkers are much more optimistic about the pandemic. Currently, 65 percent think the worst of the pandemic is over, compared to 23 percent who say the worst is still to come. Last month it was 46-36 percent.

➢ Thirty-six percent of voters say they have gotten vaccinated, another 40 percent say they plan to, and 21 percent who do not plan to get the vaccine, down from 25 percent in January and 22 percent last month.

➢ Support remains strong for legalizing the recreational use of marijuana in New York. Support is currently 59-33 percent, down a little from 63-29 percent last month. It has more than 60 percent support from Democrats and independents, and is supported by Republicans, barely, 51-48 percent.

➢ Voters continue to say New York State (48-38 percent) and the United states (50-41 percent) are headed in the right direction and not on the wrong track. Both are little changed from last month.

# # #

Siena College Poll Trends – March 2021

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
March 2021	48	38	14
February 2021	48	41	11
January 2021	50	40	10
November 2020	50	37	13
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
March 2021	50	41	10
February 2021	49	42	9
January 2021	31	59	10
November 2020	38	48	14
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. 3   Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Donald Trump?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	31	66	3
February 2021	26	67	6
January 2021	30	66	5
November 2020	33	64	4
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. 4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Joe Biden?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	64	30	5
February 2021	65	29	5
January 2021	62	32	6
November 2020	63	31	6
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	**65 (2/21)**	**47 (2/20)**	**28 (9/08)**
LOWEST EVER	**45 (2/20)**	**26 (9/08)**	**4 (4/20)**

Q. 5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Andrew Cuomo?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	43	45	12
February 2021	56	39	5
January 2021	57	39	4
November 2020	56	39	5
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 (3/21, 8/19, 2/19)**	**14 (8/09)**	**2 (4/20)**

Q. 6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the New York State Assembly?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	49	25	26
February 2021	45	31	24
January 2021	48	28	24
November 2020	47	28	25
June 2020	45	30	25
April 2020	57	29	14
February 2020	46	36	18
January 2020	40	35	25
HIGHEST EVER	**57 (4/20)**	**61 (7/10)**	**26 (3/21)**
LOWEST EVER	**25 (7/10)**	**25 (3/21)**	**10 (5/15)**

Q. 7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the New York State Senate?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	50	28	22
February 2021	47	33	20
January 2021	51	30	19
November 2020	50	31	18
June 2020	45	34	21
April 2020	58	31	11
February 2020	46	39	14
January 2020	43	38	19
HIGHEST EVER	**58 (4/20)**	**74 (7/09)**	**22 (3/21)**
LOWEST EVER	**20 (7/09)**	**28 (3/21)**	**6 (7/09)**

Q. 8   Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Chuck Schumer?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	49	35	16
February 2021	49	39	12
January 2021	45	39	16
November 2020	45	39	16
April 2020	55	39	6
March 2020	52	38	9
February 2020	54	38	9
January 2020	54	36	11
HIGHEST EVER	**70 (7/05)**	**46 (2/19)**	**17 (2/05)**
LOWEST EVER	**45 (1/21, 11/20)**	**20 (2/05, 11/06)**	**4 (10/31/10)**

Q. 9   Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Letitia James?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	40	14	46
February 2021	36	17	47
January 2021	35	17	48
November 2020	33	17	49
January 2020	36	15	49
HIGHEST EVER	**40 (3/21)**	**18 (8/19, 4/19, 1/19)**	**70 (6/18)**
LOWEST EVER	**20 (6/18)**	**10 (10/18, 6/18)**	**43 (1/19)**

Q. 11   Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Carl Heastie?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	16	14	71
January 2021	13	13	75
February 2020	14	18	68
HIGHEST EVER	**16 (3/21)**	**20 (10/15)**	**78 (1/17, 9/15)**
LOWEST EVER	**8 (9/15)**	**11 (1/18)**	**68 (2/20)**

Q. 12   Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Andrea Stewart-Cousins?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	19	13	68
January 2021	18	12	71
February 2020	16	16	68
HIGHEST EVER	**20 (1/19)**	**16 (2/20)**	**79 (4/18)**
LOWEST EVER	**12 (4/18)**	**9 (4/18)**	**68 (3/21, 2/20)**

Q. 13   Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kirsten Gillibrand?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	43	27	30
January 2021	43	29	29
November 2020	39	29	32
April 2020	55	31	14
January 2020	45	29	26
HIGHEST EVER	**61 (12/12)**	**36 (9/19, 8/19, 6/19)**	**56 (1/09)**
LOWEST EVER	**26 (3/09)**	**14 (1/09)**	**14 (4/20, 10/31/10)**

Q.14   How would you rate the job that Joe Biden is doing as President? Would you rate it as excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	28	26	18	23	4
February 2021	24	31	17	21	6
HIGHEST EVER	**28 (3/21)**	**31 (2/21)**	**18 (3/21)**	**23 (3/21)**	**6 (2/21)**
LOWEST EVER	**24 (2/21)**	**26 (3/21)**	**17 (2/21)**	**21 (2/21)**	**4 (3/21)**

Q. 16 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
March 2021	17	29	22	30	3
February 2021	18	33	20	27	2
January 2021	24	32	15	27	2
November 2020	23	31	18	27	1
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)**	**15 (1/21)**	**4 (2/11, 1/11)**	**0 (2/16, 5/15, 10/14)**

Q. 17 If Andrew Cuomo runs for re-election as governor in 2022, as things stand now, would you vote to re-elect Cuomo or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	RE-ELECT CUOMO	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	34	52	14
February 2021	46	45	10
January 2021	48	42	10
November 2020	51	42	7
HIGHEST EVER	**51 (11/20)**	**52 (3/21)**	**14 (3/21)**
LOWEST EVER	**34 (3/21)**	**42 (1/21, 11/20)**	**7 (11/20)**

Q. 18 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
March 2021	60	33	6
February 2021	61	34	5
January 2021	63	32	6
November 2020	63	30	7
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)**	**34 (2/21)**	**7 (11/20)**
LOWEST EVER	**60 (3/21)**	**11 (3/20)**	**1 (4/20)**

Q. 19 How would you rate the job that Andrew Cuomo is doing handling the pandemic: Communicating with the people of New York? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	29	33	19	17	2
February 2021	37	30	14	19	1
June 2020	54	27	12	7	0
May 2020	56	25	11	7	1
HIGHEST EVER	**56 (5/20)**	**33 (3/21)**	**19 (3/21)**	**19 (2/21)**	**2 (3/21)**
LOWEST EVER	**29 (3/21)**	**25 (5/20)**	**11 (5/20)**	**7 (6/20, 5/20)**	**0 (6/20)**

Q. 20 How would you rate the job that Andrew Cuomo is doing handling the pandemic: Providing accurate information during the course of the pandemic? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	24	29	18	26	3
February 2021	28	33	14	22	3
HIGHEST EVER	**28 (2/21)**	**33 (2/21)**	**18 (3/21)**	**26 (3/21)**	**3 (3/21, 2/21)**
LOWEST EVER	**24 (3/21)**	**29 (3/21)**	**14 (2/21)**	**22 (2/21)**	**3 (3/21, 2/21)**

Q. 21   How would you rate the job that Andrew Cuomo is doing handling the pandemic: Making public all data about COVID-related deaths of nursing home patients? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	11	16	20	46	6
February 2021	15	24	21	34	7
HIGHEST EVER	15 (2/21)	24 (2/21)	21 (2/21)	46 (3/21)	7 (2/21)
LOWEST EVER	11 (3/21)	16 (3/21)	20 (3/21)	34 (2/21)	6 (3/21)

Q. 22   How would you rate the job that Andrew Cuomo is doing handling the pandemic: Implementing the right plans for reopening New York? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	19	33	20	25	3
February 2021	17	31	20	30	3
June 2020	32	38	19	10	2
May 2020	30	34	19	15	2
HIGHEST EVER	32 (6/20)	38 (6/20)	20 (3/21, 2/21)	30 (2/21)	3 (3/21, 2/21)
LOWEST EVER	17 (2/21)	31 (2/21)	19 (6/20, 5/20)	10 (6/20)	2 (6/20, 5/20)

Q. 23   How would you rate the job that Andrew Cuomo is doing handling the pandemic: Managing the ongoing vaccine rollout, recognizing the Governor does not control the number of vaccines New York receives? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	19	35	22	17	7
February 2021	18	30	25	24	4
HIGHEST EVER	19 (3/21)	35 (3/21)	25 (2/21)	24 (2/21)	7 (3/21)
LOWEST EVER	18 (2/21)	30 (2/21)	22 (3/21)	17 (3/21)	4 (2/21)

Q. 29   How significant a problem do you think sexual harassment in the workplace is in New York?

DATE	VERY SIGNIFICANT	SOMEWHAT SIGNIFICANT	NOT VERY SIGNIFICANT	NOT AT ALL SIGNIFICANT	DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION
March 2021	42	39	10	3	6
January 2020	23	49	17	5	6
January 2019	25	45	18	7	5
January 2018	29	45	14	6	5
HIGHEST EVER	42 (3/21)	49 (1/20)	18 (1/19)	7 (1/19)	6 (3/21, 1/20)
LOWEST EVER	23 (1/20)	39 (3/21)	10 (3/21)	3 (3/21)	5 (1/19, 1/18)

Q. 30   Do you think that the worst of the coronavirus pandemic is over, or do you think the worst of the coronavirus pandemic is still to come?

DATE	WORST OVER	WORST TO COME	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	65	23	13
February 2021	46	36	18
January 2021	31	55	14
HIGHEST EVER	65 (3/21)	55 (1/21)	18 (2/21)
LOWEST EVER	31 (1/21)	23 (3/21)	13 (3/21)

Q. 31/32   Have you gotten vaccinated for COVID-19? Do you plan to get vaccinated for COVID-19, or not? *(Asked among only those who have not been vaccinated.)*

DATE	VACCINATED	PLAN TO GET VACCINATED	NOT PLANNING TO GET VACCINATED	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	36	40	21	2
February 2021	16	59	22	3
January 2021	7	64	25	4
HIGHEST EVER	36 (3/21)	64 (1/21)	25 (1/21)	4 (1/21)
LOWEST EVER	7 (1/21)	40 (3/21)	21 (3/21)	2 (3/21)

Q. 33 Do you support or oppose legalizing the recreational use of marijuana?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	59	33	8
February 2021	63	29	9
January 2021	56	33	11
November 2020	60	32	7
February 2020	55	40	5
January 2020	58	38	4
HIGHEST EVER	**63 (2/21)**	**44 (4/18)**	**11 (1/21)**
LOWEST EVER	**52 (9/19, 4/19, 2/19, 4/18)**	**29 (2/21)**	**3 (1/19)**

Q. 34 The state allows sports betting at commercial casinos. Do you support or oppose broadening the sports betting law to allow for online sports betting?
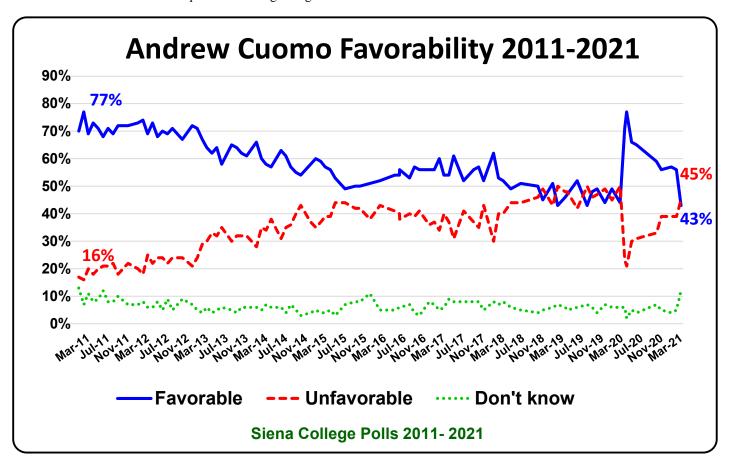
DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 2021	51	30	18
February 2021	50	33	17
January 2021	48	35	17
November 2020	50	32	18
HIGHEST EVER	**51 (3/21)**	**44 (2/19)**	**18 (3/21, 11/20)**
LOWEST EVER	**44 (2/19)**	**30 (3/21)**	**12 (2/19)**

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.

Andrew Cuomo Favorability 2011-2021

Siena College Polls 2011- 2021