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Siena College Poll:

By Wide Margins, Voters Say Hochul Did Not Make Progress on Several 2022 Goals: Making Communities Safer; Enhancing Trust in State Govt.; Transforming SUNY to Envy of Nation; Making NY Place to Live, Not Leave

Hochul Favorability, 45-43%, Drops Slightly from October (45-41%),

While Zeldin Favorability, 46-32%, Soared from 37-41% Pre-Election Day

Voters Want Crime & Cost of Living to Be Albany's Top 2023 Priorities

Loudonville, NY. Voters say, by wide margins, Governor Kathy Hochul did not make progress on six of the goals she laid out for 2022, including making communities safer, enhancing trust in state government, transforming SUNY into the envy of the nation, and making the state a place people want to live, not leave. Crime and cost of living top voters' priority list for Albany to address in 2023, according to a new Siena College poll of registered New York State voters released today.

Hochul's favorability rating (45-43%) and job approval rating (49-44%) both dipped slightly since October but remain in positive territory, while 2022 Republican gubernatorial candidate Rep. Lee Zeldin now has a 46-32% favorability rating, up net 18 points, from 37-41% prior to the election.

"Back in January, Siena asked voters if they thought Hochul would make progress on six of the goals she outlined in her State of the State address. On two, increasing the availability of quality medical care and creating conditions for businesses to succeed, voters were somewhat optimistic she would make progress. On the other four, voters were closely divided," said Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg.

"Today, when asked whether the Hochul Administration did or did not make progress on these goals, voters give a resounding 'no.' A majority or strong plurality say she did not make progress on any of them. Fewer than one-third of voters say her Administration made progress on any of the goals," Greenberg said.

"Democrats were very optimistic she would make progress on all the goals in January, and today on four goals, a plurality of Democrats think she made progress. Republicans were not optimistic she would make progress and overwhelmingly, they say she did not make progress on any of the goals. Independents also strongly say no progress was made on any of the goals Hochul set for herself," Greenberg said.

“Hochul’s job approval and favorability ratings are above water, barely, although they edged down slightly since before Election Day, and her 43% unfavorable rating is a new high. Having just won her first full term – in the closest gubernatorial election in decades – Hochul has a chance to hit the ‘reset’ button and try and reintroduce herself to voters outside of a messy midterm transition and a fiercely fought election,” Greenberg said.

“Certainly, political friends and foes alike will be watching to see if Hochul tries to reset in her upcoming inaugural address and State of the State and budget messages. They’ll also be watching her actions and words in the weeks and months ahead, and whether it impacts her standing with voters,” Greenberg said. “Hochul has her work cut out for her, having barely expanded her base in her first year as governor. In Hochul’s first month in office, September 2021, 42% of voters viewed her favorably. Today it’s 45%. It’s never been higher than 47%.

“Interestingly, Zeldin emerged after Election Day with by far his best ever favorability rating, 46-32%, including a two-to-one favorable rating with independents, 51-25%, up from 41-37% in October,” Greenberg said.

“Hochul’s favorability with independents is 32-53%, down from 40-45% in October.”

Plurality of Voters Give Hochul Positive Reviews on 5 Characteristics; All Are Down from Last Year

		December 2022				December 2021			
		Total	Dems	Reps	Inds	Total	Dems	Reps	Inds
Work hard for the people of New York	Does	47%	66%	21%	35%	55%	68%	36%	47%
	Does not	34%	15%	61%	45%	23%	12%	41%	29%
Provide New Yorkers with her vision for New York's future	Does	46%	58%	26%	43%	47%	60%	31%	37%
	Does not	32%	17%	58%	35%	29%	19%	46%	36%
Care about the people like you	Does	45%	63%	17%	37%	49%	61%	26%	45%
	Does not	37%	16%	73%	48%	31%	19%	51%	37%
Demonstrate both honesty and integrity	Does	44%	61%	17%	39%	56%	67%	38%	49%
	Does not	36%	16%	67%	47%	22%	13%	41%	25%
Effectively collaborate with other government leaders	Does	40%	56%	22%	30%	44%	57%	27%	35%
	Does not	28%	13%	50%	36%	22%	12%	39%	26%

Siena College Poll: December 13, 2022

“While voters think Hochul demonstrates honesty and integrity, 44-36%, a year ago the margin was 56-22%. A strong majority of Democrats, 61%, still says she demonstrates honesty. However, two-thirds of Republicans say she doesn’t – up from 41% – and a plurality of independents also say she doesn’t, after saying two-to-one last year she does,” Greenberg said. “Last year, 68% of Democrats, 47% of independents and 36% of Republicans said Hochul worked hard for New Yorkers. Today those numbers are 66%, 35%, 21%.”

Cost of Living and Crime Are Voters’ Top Two Priorities for Gov & Leg Heading into 2023

“Nearly two-thirds of voters, 63%, say the cost of living should be one of the top two priorities for Hochul and legislators in 2023, followed by crime at 58%. Worth noting that 36% say that crime is the top priority, followed by the cost of living, 31%. Affordable housing is a top priority of 12% and a top-two priority for 29% of voters,” Greenberg said. “The environment, public health and racial justice were each identified by five or six percent as a top priority and between 13-16% said each was a top-two priority.”

“Crime and cost of living were top-two priorities for Republicans, Democrats, independents, upstaters and downstaters, Black, Latino and white voters,” Greenberg said. “Affordable housing doesn’t come within 20 points of crime and cost of living with any of those demographic groups, other than Black voters who rank housing nearly as high a top-two priority as crime.”

Voters: Crime Continues as Serious Problem – Across NYS, 90%; In Their Community, 63%

“Voters say crime is a top priority because 90% say crime is a serious problem – 59% very serious – across New York State, compared to 92% in June. And because 63% say it’s a serious problem in their community – 28% very serious – compared to 65% in June. And because 61% say they’re concerned that they could be the victim of a crime –26% very concerned – compared to 60% in June,” Greenberg said.

“Voters can’t say it clearly enough. They’ve said crime is a serious problem for a year; they see it as a serious problem now; they don’t think Hochul has made progress on making communities safer; and, they want their elected officials to address it as a top priority in 2023.”

Odds & Ends

- 70% of voters say it’s likely that the United States will be a democratic republic in 2030, 40% very likely. That’s up from 67% / 29% in January. Democrats and Republicans are more optimistic now than they were in January, while independents are less optimistic, with 37% saying they don’t think it’s likely.
- In July 2012, 63% of voters viewed the US Supreme Court favorably (71% of Dems, 52% of Reps, 58% of inds). In October 2021, the Court had 51-38% favorability rating. Today, a small plurality views the Court favorably, 45-41%, including 61% of Republicans, and 46% of independents who continue to view the Court favorably. In 2012, 71% of Democrats viewed the court favorably, compared to just 38% today.
- President Joe Biden’s favorability rating fell to 48-46% from 53-45% in October. His job approval rating is 51-47%, down from 53-45% in October.
- Mayor Eric Adams has a 32-33% favorability rating, down from 36-20% in February. New York City voters give him a 50-35% favorability rating, down from 58-22% in February.
- US House Minority Leader-elect Hakeem Jeffries makes his first entry into a Siena College poll with a 33-17% favorability rating, with half of voters not knowing him or enough about him to have an opinion.

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This Siena College Poll was conducted December 4-7, 2022, among 816 New York State registered voters with 503 voters contacted through a dual frame (landline and cell phone) mode and 313 responses drawn from a proprietary online panel (Lucid) of New Yorkers. Telephone calls were conducted in English and respondent sampling was initiated by asking for the youngest person in the household. Telephone sampling was conducted via a stratified dual frame probability sample of landline (ASDE) and cell phone (Dynata) telephone numbers within New York State weighted to reflect known population patterns. Data from both collection modes (phone and web) was merged and statistically adjusted by age, party, race/ethnicity, education, 2020 vote by region, 2022 vote by region, and gender to ensure representativeness. It has an overall margin of error of ± 4.1 percentage points including the design effects resulting from weighting. 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 – December 2022

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
December 2022	38	50	11
October 2022*	39	52	9
September 2022*	41	47	12
August 2022*	36	50	14
June 2022	37	51	12
April 2022	36	52	12
March 2022	40	49	11
February 2022	41	45	14
January 2022	41	43	16
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 How would you describe the fiscal condition of New York State right now? Would you describe it as excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	7	21	31	35	6
June 2022	5	19	34	37	5
March 2022	5	21	32	36	5
February 2022	7	19	35	35	5
HIGHEST EVER	7 (several)	29 (7/14)	49 (8/12)	67 (3/22/10)	7 (1/19)
LOWEST EVER	0 (many)	6 (3/22/10, etc.)	25 (3/22/10)	21 (12/16)	0 (4/11, etc.)

Q. 3 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
December 2022	32	59	9
October 2022*	30	61	9
September 2022*	31	59	10
August 2022*	19	71	10
June 2022	25	68	8
April 2022	34	57	10
March 2022	36	57	8
February 2022	34	57	9
January 2022	31	57	12
HIGHEST EVER	62 (5/09)	74 (10/13, 8/11)	17 (9/08)
LOWEST EVER	19 (8/22, 10/13, 10/08)	24 (12/09)	5 (1/13)

Q. 4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Joe Biden?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	48	46	6
October 2022*	53	45	3
September 2022*	51	46	3
August 2022*	48	48	5
June 2022	49	46	5
April 2022	51	45	4
March 2022	50	46	4
February 2022	48	48	4
January 2022	52	42	6
HIGHEST EVER	65 (2/21)	48 (8/22, 2/22)	28 (9/08)
LOWEST EVER	45 (2/20)	26 (9/08)	3 (9/22, 2/21)

Siena College Poll Trends – December 2022 – Page 2

Q. 5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Donald Trump?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	37	58	6
October 2022*	36	61	3
September 2022*	32	63	5
August 2022*	32	63	5
June 2022	33	63	4
April 2022	34	61	6
March 2022	34	61	5
February 2022	35	59	6
January 2022	33	61	6
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. 6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kathy Hochul?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	45	43	12
October 2022*	45	41	14
September 2022*	47	40	13
August 2022*	46	41	13
June 2022	46	37	17
April 2022	44	34	22
March 2022	45	35	20
February 2022	46	32	22
January 2022	45	29	25
HIGHEST EVER	47 (9/22)	43 (12/22)	69 (4/21)
LOWEST EVER	18 (4/21)	13 (4/21)	12 (12/22)

Q. 7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Chuck Schumer?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	49	40	11
October 2022*	53	40	7
September 2022*	50	40	9
August 2022*	49	43	8
June 2022	50	40	10
March 2022	50	40	9
February 2022	47	39	14
January 2022	51	38	12
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. 8 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kirsten Gillibrand?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	42	27	31
January 2022	44	28	28
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. 9 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Letitia James?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	44	29	27
October 2022*	42	33	26
September 2022*	45	30	25
August 2022*	43	29	28
June 2022	40	28	32
March 2022	42	27	32
February 2022	39	23	38
January 2022	40	25	35
HIGHEST EVER	45 (9/22)	33 (10/22)	70 (6/18)
LOWEST EVER	20 (6/18)	10 (10/18, 6/18)	25 (9/22)

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Q. 10 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Tom DiNapoli?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	27	12	61
October 2022*	21	13	66
September 2022*	20	12	68
August 2022*	22	11	67
June 2022	21	14	65
January 2022	24	16	60
HIGHEST EVER	35 (10/14)	36 (10/31/10)	80 (6/07)
LOWEST EVER	7 (6/07, 5/07)	9 (10/18)	37 (10/31/10)

Q. 11 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Antonio Delgado?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	27	15	58
June 2022	29	16	55
HIGHEST EVER	29 (6/22)	16 (6/22)	58 (12/22)
LOWEST EVER	27 (12/22)	15 (12/22)	55 (6/22)

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	18	13	69
June 2021	16	16	68
HIGHEST EVER	20 (1/19)	16 (7/21, 2/20)	79 (4/18)
LOWEST EVER	12 (4/18)	9 (4/18)	68 (7/21, 3/21, 2/20)

Q. 13 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Carl Heastie?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	18	13	69
June 2021	13	15	72
HIGHEST EVER	18 (12/22)	20 (10/15)	78 (1/17, 9/15)
LOWEST EVER	8 (9/15)	11 (1/18)	68 (2/20)

Q. 15 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Eric Adams?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	32	33	36
February 2022	36	20	44
January 2022	41	19	40
HIGHEST EVER	41 (1/22)	33 (12/22)	44 (2/22)
LOWEST EVER	32 (12/22)	19 (1/22)	36 (12/22)

Q. 16 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Lee Zeldin?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	46	32	22
October 2022*	37	41	21
September 2022*	31	33	36
August 2022*	31	28	41
June 2022	21	22	57
April 2022	22	19	59
March 2022	20	20	60
February 2022	18	20	62
January 2022	19	18	63
HIGHEST EVER	46 (12/22)	41 (10/22)	67 (9/21)
LOWEST EVER	17 (10/21)	15 (9/21)	21 (10/22)

Q. 17 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the United States Supreme Court?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	45	41	14
October 2021	51	32	17
July 2012	63	30	8
HIGHEST EVER	63 (7/12)	41 (12/22)	17 (10/21)
LOWEST EVER	45 (12/22)	30 (7/12)	8 (7/12)

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Q. 18 Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Joe Biden is doing as President? FOLLOW UP: Is that strongly or somewhat?

DATE	STRONGLY APPROVE	SOMEWHAT APPROVE	SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE	STRONGLY DISAPPROVE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	23	28	13	34	2
October 2022*	29	24	6	39	2
September 2022*	25	28	8	38	1
August 2022*	18	29	10	41	2
HIGHEST EVER	29 (10/22)	29 (8/22)	13 (12/22)	41 (8/22)	2 (12/22, 10/22, 8/22)
LOWEST EVER	18 (8/22)	24 (10/22)	6 (10/22)	34 (12/22)	1 (9/22)

Q. 19 Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Kathy Hochul is doing as governor? FOLLOW UP: Is that strongly or somewhat?

DATE	STRONGLY APPROVE	SOMEWHAT APPROVE	SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE	STRONGLY DISAPPROVE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	19	30	14	30	7
October 2022*	21	31	7	38	4
September 2022*	24	29	11	31	5
August 2022*	22	30	10	31	6
HIGHEST EVER	24 (9/22)	31 (10/22)	14 (12/22)	38 (10/22)	7 (12/22)
LOWEST EVER	29 (12/22)	29 (9/22)	7 (10/22)	31 (9/22, 8/22)	4 (10/22)

Q. 20 How serious a problem do you think crime is across the State of New York?

DATE	VERY SERIOUS	SOMEWHAT SERIOUS	NOT VERY SERIOUS	NOT SERIOUS AT ALL	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	59	31	7	1	2
June 2022	63	29	6	1	1
February 2022	60	31	7	1	2
HIGHEST EVER	63 (6/22)	31 (12/22, 2/22)	7 (12/22, 2/22)	1 (12/22, 6/22, 2/22)	2 (12/22, 2/22)
LOWEST EVER	59 (12/22)	29 (6/22)	6 (6/22)	1 (12/22, 6/22, 2/22)	1 (6/22)

Q. 21 And how about closer to home – how serious a problem do you think crime is in your community?

DATE	VERY SERIOUS	SOMEWHAT SERIOUS	NOT VERY SERIOUS	NOT SERIOUS AT ALL	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	28	35	24	11	1
June 2022	27	38	27	7	1
February 2022	27	36	26	9	1
HIGHEST EVER	28 (12/22)	38 (6/22)	27 (6/22)	11 (12/22)	1 (12/22, 6/22, 2/22)
LOWEST EVER	27 (6/22, 2/22)	35 (12/22)	24 (12/22)	7 (6/22)	1 (12/22, 6/22, 2/22)

Q. 22 And what about in your everyday life, how concerned are you that you might be a victim of a crime?

DATE	VERY CONCERNED	SOMEWHAT CONCERNED	NOT VERY CONCERNED	NOT CONCERNED AT ALL	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	26	35	23	14	2
June 2022	26	34	27	12	1
February 2022	22	35	28	14	1
HIGHEST EVER	26 (12/22, 6/22)	35 (12/22, 2/22)	28 (2/22)	14 (12/22, 2/22)	2 (12/22)
LOWEST EVER	22 (2/22)	34 (6/22)	23 (12/22)	12 (6/22)	1 (6/22, 2/22)

Q. 23 Governor Hochul does or does not care about people like you?

DATE	DOES	DOES NOT	MIXED/ DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	45	37	17
December 2021	49	31	21
HIGHEST EVER	49 (12/21)	37 (12/22)	21 (12/21)
LOWEST EVER	45 (12/22)	31 (12/21)	17 (12/22)

Q. 24 Governor Hochul does or does not work hard for the people of New York?

DATE	DOES	DOES NOT	MIXED/ DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	47	34	19
December 2021	55	23	22
HIGHEST EVER	55 (12/21)	34 (12/22)	22 (12/21)
LOWEST EVER	47 (12/22)	23 (12/21)	19 (12/22)

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Q. 25 Governor Hochul does or does not provide New Yorkers with her vision for New York’s future?

DATE	DOES	DOES NOT	MIXED/ DON’T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	46	32	22
December 2021	47	29	25
HIGHEST EVER	47 (12/21)	32 (12/22)	25 (12/21)
LOWEST EVER	46 (12/22)	29 (12/21)	22 (12/22)

Q. 26 Governor Hochul does or does not effectively collaborate with other government leaders?

DATE	DOES	DOES NOT	MIXED/ DON’T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	40	28	32
December 2021	44	22	35
HIGHEST EVER	44 (12/21)	28 (12/22)	35 (12/21)
LOWEST EVER	40 (12/22)	22 (12/21)	32 (12/22)

Q. 27 Governor Hochul does or does not demonstrate both honesty and integrity?

DATE	DOES	DOES NOT	MIXED/ DON’T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	44	36	20
December 2021	56	22	23
HIGHEST EVER	56 (12/21)	36 (12/22)	23 (12/21)
LOWEST EVER	44 (12/22)	22 (12/21)	20 (12/22)

Q. 36 Despite the current partisan divisions, how likely do you think it is that the United States will continue to be a democratic republic in 2030 – is it very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

DATE	VERY LIKELY	SOMEWHAT LIKELY	NOT VERY LIKELY	NOT AT ALL LIKELY	DON’T KNOW/NO OPINION
December 2022	40	30	16	7	7
January 2022	29	38	17	5	10
HIGHEST EVER	40 (12/22)	38 (1/22)	17 (1/22)	7 (12/22)	10 (1/22)
LOWEST EVER	29 (1/22)	30 (12/22)	16 (12/22)	5 (1/22)	7 (12/22)

Poll Trend Notes: * All surveys are of registered voters except for the following polls: August \thru September 2022, 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 2022.

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

^ Inconsequential wording change.