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Siena College Poll:

82% of NYers: Recent Influx of Migrants Is Serious Problem (54% Very Serious); Say Migrants Resettling in NY Over Last 20 Years Has Been ‘Burden,’ 46%, Not ‘Benefit,’ 32%, to NYS; By 58-36%, Voters Say Slow Flow of Migrants to NY, Rather Than Accept & Work to Assimilate Them

**Biden Leads Trump 47-34% (50-28% in June); Dems Divided: Biden or Other Candidate in '24; Biden 46-50% Favorability, 1st Time Negative
Overwhelming Majority of Dems, Plurality of Inds & ¼ of Reps Say Trump Should Have Been Indicted in Both Mar-a-Lago & Fed 2020 Election Case; NYers Divided on Biden Impeachment Inquiry: Reps & Inds, ‘Yes,’ Dems, ‘No’
Hochul Unfavorable Rating Hits New ‘High’; Job Approval Rating Now Break Even; Lowest Ever; Has Dropped in Last 5 Polls; Down 20 Points Since January**

Loudonville, NY. Voters say 82-16% that the recent influx of migrants to the state is a serious problem, with 54% saying very serious. By a 46-32% margin, they say that migrants resettling in New York over the last 20 or so years has been a ‘burden,’ not a ‘benefit’ to the state. And by 58-36%, voters say New Yorkers have already done enough and should now work to slow the flow, rather than accepting new migrants and working to assimilate them into New York, according to a new Siena College poll of registered New York State voters released today.

President Joe Biden leads former President Donald Trump 47-34%, down from 50-28% in June. Biden has a 46-50% favorability rating, down from 47-47% in June. Among Democrats, 47% want Biden as the party’s presidential nominee in 2024 and 46% want someone else, down from 54-40% in June. By a 58-33% margin, voters say Trump should have been indicted in the Mar-a-Lago case and by 61-32%, he should have been indicted in the 2020 election case. Voters are evenly divided on whether Biden should face a House impeachment inquiry.

“New Yorkers – including huge majorities of Democrats, Republicans, independents, upstaters and downstaters – overwhelmingly say that the recent influx of migrants to New York is a serious problem for the state,” said Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg. “However, that’s where partisan agreement ends. A plurality of Democrats says that migrants resettling in New York over the last two decades has been a benefit. But, a majority of independents and two-thirds of Republicans say that migrant resettlement has been a burden to the state.

“More than three-quarters of Republicans and 60% of independents say New Yorkers have done enough and must now slow the flow of migrants to the state, rather than accept and help assimilate them into New York, while Democrats are evenly divided. Overall, New Yorkers say slow the flow of migrants, 58-36%,” Greenberg said.

“By a 50-40% margin, voters support relocating new migrants from temporary New York City housing to permanent housing in communities across the state. It is strongly supported by Democrats and New York City voters, while Republicans are strongly opposed, and independents and non-City voters are closely divided but leaning toward opposition,” Greenberg said.

“Voters disapprove of the job that Hochul is doing to address the influx 51-35%. They disapprove of the job Mayor Eric Adams is doing 47-31%. And they disapprove of the job the Biden Administration is doing 59-34%,” Greenberg said. “By a narrow 42-39% margin, they approve of the job that their local elected officials are doing.”

Biden’s Lead Over Trump Down to 13 Points; Favorability Rating Under Water for 1st Time

“Biden continues to lead Trump in New York but by only 13 points, 47-34%, down from a 22-point lead in June. Trump continues to have support from three-quarters of Republicans and Biden from three-quarters of Democrats, however, independents side with Trump by nine points,” Greenberg said. “For the first time in a Siena College poll, more New Yorkers now view Biden unfavorably, 50%, than view him favorably, 46%. His job approval rating, 47-50%, is little changed from June and remains under water.

“Currently, 70% of Democrats view Biden favorably, 71% approve of the job he’s doing, and 74% would vote for him over Trump. However, only 47% of Democrats want to see Biden as their party’s nominee next year, while 46% would prefer another Democrat,” Greenberg said.

Dems & Inds: Trump Should Have Been Indicted; Reps & Inds: Biden Should Face Impeachment Inquiry

“Well over three-quarters of Democrats think Trump should have been indicted on both federal cases – Mar-a-Lago documents and trying to overturn the 2020 election – as do a plurality of independents. However, about two-thirds of Republicans say he should not have been indicted in either case,” Greenberg said.

“If there are federal trials, New Yorkers of all stripes want to be able to watch,” Greenberg said. “Televising the trials – requiring the current prohibition to be waived – is favored by 70% of Democrats, 58% of Republicans, 54% of independents, and at least 60% of voters from every region of the state.”

Trump has a 37-56% favorability rating, up from 33-61% in June. Trump continues to dominate the primary field, with 64% of Republicans saying they would vote for him in the 2024 presidential primary, while 27% prefer ‘someone else.’ Trump’s lead among Republicans grew from June, when it was 61-34%.

“New Yorkers are divided on whether Biden should face a House impeachment inquiry for his involvement in alleged corrupt business dealings by his son and not surprisingly there is a wide partisan divide. Three-quarters of Republicans, joined by a majority of independents, say he should, while two-thirds of Democrats say he should not,” Greenberg said.

Hochul Favorability & Job Approval Ratings Hit New Lows; Continue Slow, Persistent Decline

Governor Kathy Hochul has a 40-46% favorability rating, down from 42-43% in June. Her job approval rating stands at 46-46%, down from 48-44% in June, and 56-36% in January.

“Hochul’s job approval rating has fallen in five consecutive Siena College polls since her highest ever approval in January, when she was 20 points positive, to now her lowest ever approval. In February, it was 16 points positive, 11 points in March, six in May, and four in June. It’s now break even, a loss of 20 points since the start of the year,” Greenberg said. “Voters approve of the job Hochul is doing to address climate change 46-39%, but they are break even on her managing of the state’s finances and increasing affordable housing. A majority of voters disapprove of how she’s addressing both crime and the recent influx of migrants.

“Hochul’s favorability rating also hit a new low,” Greenberg said. “She is viewed unfavorably by three-quarters of Republicans, 60% of independents and one-quarter of Democrats. It should be noted that come Thursday, she will have been Governor of New York – where half of the enrolled voters are Democrats – for two years, and never once in that time have at least 50% of voters viewed her favorably.”

Odds & Ends

- The United States Department of Justice has a 47-39% favorability rating. DOJ is viewed favorably by Democrats, 61-27%, but unfavorably by Republicans, 21-59%, and a plurality of independents, 41-46%.
- With voters under 35, Biden’s favorability rating is 16 points underwater and his job approval rating is 13 points underwater. Democrats under 35 would prefer a 2024 nominee other than Biden by nearly two-to-one. Yet, those young voters support Biden over Trump 49-35%, similar to voters 35 and older.
- Senator Kirsten Gillibrand’s favorability rating is 39-28%, little changed from 41-31% in June. Voters are closely divided on whether they would re-elect Gillibrand or they would prefer ‘someone else.’ Forty percent say they would re-elect her and 41% prefer someone else, nearly identical to 40-40% in June.
- New Yorkers continue to be bearish on the direction of the state and country. While 39% think the state is on the right track, 48% say it’s headed in the wrong direction, little changed from 38-50% in June. It has not been in positive territory since October 2021. By a two-to-one margin, 30-62%, voters say the U.S. is headed in the wrong direction, little changed from 32-61% in June.

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This Siena College Poll was conducted August 13-16, 2023, among 803 NYS Registered Voters. Of the 803 respondents, 503 were contacted through a dual frame (landline and cell phone) mode and 300 respondents were drawn from a proprietary online panel (Lucid). 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 and cell phone telephone numbers weighted to reflect known population patterns. The landline telephone sample was obtained from ASDE and the cell phone sample was obtained from Dynata. Data from collection modes was statistically adjusted by age, party by region, race/ethnicity, education, and gender to ensure representativeness. It has an overall margin of error of +/- 4.4 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 – August 2023

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
August 2023	39	48	12
June 2023	38	50	12
May 2023	42	48	11
March 2023	39	48	14
February 2023	41	49	10
January 2023	39	49	12
December 2022	38	50	11
October 2022*	39	52	9
September 2022*	41	47	12
August 2022*	36	50	14
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
August 2023	30	62	8
June 2023	32	61	8
May 2023	28	63	8
March 2023	33	57	10
February 2023	35	56	9
January 2023	28	63	9
December 2022	32	59	9
October 2022*	30	61	9
September 2022*	31	59	10
August 2022*	19	71	10
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. 3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Joe Biden?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2023	46	50	4
June 2023	47	47	6
May 2023	51	45	4
March 2023	48	45	6
February 2023	54	43	3
January 2023	49	47	4
December 2022	48	46	6
October 2022*	53	45	3
September 2022*	51	46	3
August 2022*	48	48	5
HIGHEST EVER	65 (2/21)	50 (8/23)	28 (9/08)
LOWEST EVER	45 (2/20)	26 (9/08)	3 (2/23, 9/22, 2/21)

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2023	37	56	7
June 2023	33	61	6
May 2023	30	64	5
March 2023	38	57	5
February 2023	37	60	2
January 2023	31	64	4
December 2022	37	58	6
October 2022*	36	61	3
September 2022*	32	63	5
August 2022*	32	63	5
HIGHEST EVER	41 (12/16)	72 (8/16)	10 (10/13)
LOWEST EVER	24 (8/16)	53 (12/16)	2 (2/23, 4/20, 9/15)

Q. 5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kathy Hochul?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2023	40	46	14
June 2023	42	43	16
May 2023	40	45	15
March 2023	43	43	13
February 2023	46	43	11
January 2023	48	42	10
December 2022	45	43	12
October 2022*	45	41	14
September 2022*	47	40	13
August 2022*	46	41	13
HIGHEST EVER	48 (1/23)	46 (8/23)	69 (4/21)
LOWEST EVER	18 (4/21)	13 (4/21)	10 (1/23)

Q. 6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kirsten Gillibrand?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2023	39	28	33
June 2023	41	31	28
May 2023	41	31	28
March 2023	46	25	29
February 2023	43	36	22
December 2022	42	27	31
HIGHEST EVER	61 (12/12)	36 (2/23, 9/19, 8/19, 6/19)	56 (1/09)
LOWEST EVER	26 (3/09)	14 (1/09)	14 (4/20, 10/31/10)

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2023	48	38	14
June 2023	46	38	16
May 2023	50	38	12
March 2023	54	36	11
February 2023	48	45	8
December 2022	49	40	11
October 2022*	53	40	7
September 2022*	50	40	9
August 2022*	49	43	8
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)

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Q. 9 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Eric Adams?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2023	29	37	34
June 2023	28	38	34
May 2023	31	36	33
December 2022	32	33	36
HIGHEST EVER	41 (1/22)	38 (6/23)	44 (2/22)
LOWEST EVER	28 (6/23)	19 (1/22)	33 (5/23)

Q. 10 REPS ONLY: If the 2024 Republican primary for President was held today, would you vote for Donald Trump or someone else?

DATE	TRUMP	DIFFERENT CANDIDATE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2023	64	27	8
June 2023	61	34	5
May 2023	60	32	8
HIGHEST EVER	64 (8/23)	34 (6/23)	8 (5/23)
LOWEST EVER	60 (5/23)	27 (8/23)	5 (6/23)

Q. 12 DEMS ONLY: Do you think the Democratic Party should renominate Joe Biden as the party's candidate for President in 2024, or do you think the party should nominate a different candidate for President in 2024?

DATE	RENOMINATE BIDEN	DIFFERENT CANDIDATE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2023	47	46	7
June 2023	54	40	6
May 2023	56	40	4
March 2023	43	51	7
HIGHEST EVER	56 (5/21)	51 (3/23)	7 (8/23, 3/23)
LOWEST EVER	43 (3/21)	40 (6/23, 5/23)	4 (5/23)

Q. 14 If Kirsten Gillibrand runs for re-election as US Senator in 2024, as things stand now, would you vote to re-elect her or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	RE-ELECT GILLIBRAND	SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2023	40	41	19
June 2023	40	40	20
May 2023	43	38	19
March 2023	43	38	19
HIGHEST EVER	43 (5/23, 3/23)	41 (8/23)	20 (6/23)
LOWEST EVER	40 (8/23, 6/23)	38 (5/23, 3/23)	19 (8/23, 5/23, 3/23)

Q. 15 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
August 2023	22	25	13	37	3
June 2023	24	23	17	34	3
May 2023	22	29	15	32	2
March 2023	24	26	15	33	2
February 2023	26	29	11	31	3
January 2023	21	30	14	33	2
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)	30 (1/23)	17 (6/23)	41 (8/22)	3 (8/23, 6/23, 2/23)
LOWEST EVER	18 (8/22)	23 (6/23)	6 (10/22)	31 (2/23)	1 (9/22)

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Q. 16 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
August 2023	18	28	17	29	8
June 2023	19	29	16	28	9
May 2023	17	33	17	27	7
March 2023	20	32	15	26	7
February 2023	20	36	12	28	4
January 2023	20	36	11	25	8
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)	36 (2/23, 1/23)	17 (8/23, 5/23)	38 (10/22)	9 (6/23)
LOWEST EVER	17 (5/23)	28 (8/23)	7 (10/22)	25 (1/23)	4 (2/23)

Q. 17 Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Governor Hochul is doing to address crime? FOLLOW UP: Is that strongly or somewhat?

DATE	STRONGLY APPROVE	SOMEWHAT APPROVE	SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE	STRONGLY DISAPPROVE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2023	15	25	19	33	9
February 2023	15	28	13	36	8
HIGHEST EVER	15 (8/23, 2/23)	28 (2/23)	19 (8/23)	36 (2/23)	9 (8/23)
LOWEST EVER	15 (8/23, 2/23)	25 (8/23)	13 (6/23)	33 (8/23)	8 (2/23)

Q. 20 Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Governor Hochul is doing to increase the availability of affordable housing in New York? FOLLOW UP: Is that strongly or somewhat?

DATE	STRONGLY APPROVE	SOMEWHAT APPROVE	SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE	STRONGLY DISAPPROVE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2023	16	28	18	26	11
February 2023	21	24	17	24	13
HIGHEST EVER	21 (2/23)	28 (8/23)	18 (8/23)	26 (8/23)	13 (2/23)
LOWEST EVER	16 (8/23)	24 (2/23)	17 (2/23)	24 (2/23)	11 (8/23)

Q. 29 If the 2024 election for President was held today and the candidates were Democrat Joe Biden and Republican Donald Trump, would you vote for Trump or Biden? (Order of candidates was rotated.)

DATE	BIDEN	TRUMP	OTHER/NO VOTE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2023	47	34	11	8
June 2023	50	28	17	4
HIGHEST EVER	50 (6/23)	34 (8/23)	17 (6/23)	8 (8/23)
LOWEST EVER	47 (8/23)	28 (6/23)	11 (8/23)	4 (2/23)

Q. 30 Which of the following four possible 2024 presidential election matchups would you most prefer?

DATE	TRUMP VS. BIDEN	TRUMP VS. DEM (NOT BIDEN)	BIDEN VS. REP (NOT TRUMP)	REP (NOT TRUMP) VS. DEM (NOT BIDEN)	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2023	21	12	25	35	7
June 2023	19	11	26	35	10
HIGHEST EVER	21 (8/23)	12 (8/23)	26 (6/23)	35 (8/23, 6/23)	10 (6/23)
LOWEST EVER	19 (6/23)	11 (6/23)	25 (8/23)	35 (8/23, 6/23)	7 (8/23)

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

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

^ Inconsequential wording change.