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Siena College Poll:

**72% of NYers Support Peaceful Demonstrations in Support of Gaza;
61% Say Demonstrators Have Forgotten Hamas Started War & It Now
Feels Like Demonstrations Have Crossed Line Into anti-Semitism**

Voters Support Amending the State Constitution to Protect
Abortion Rights (64-22%) & Transgender Rights (48-32%);

Voters Would Vote Yes on ERA that Does Both, 59-26%, if on Ballot

***Strong Support (63-20%) for Banning Addictive Social Media Feeds to Minors Without
Parental Consent; Mixed Results Doubling Beverage Container Fee from 5¢ to 10¢ (43-46%)***

Biden Maintains Narrow Lead Over Trump (47-38%); 32% Say Biden Win Will
Irreparably Harm America, 41% Say Trump Victory Will Irreparably Harm America

Loudonville, NY. By a 72-22% margin, New Yorkers support students peacefully demonstrating in support of those suffering in Gaza. By a similar 70-22%, they say the protests went too far and they support the police being called in. A slightly smaller 64-27% majority say they understand the frustration demonstrators have with the continuing Gaza war and they also support an immediate ceasefire. Finally, they say 61-25% that demonstrators have forgotten Hamas started the war and it feels like the demonstrations have crossed the line into anti-Semitism, according to a Siena College poll of New York State registered voters released today.

By nearly three-to-one, 64-22%, voters support a state constitutional amendment to protect abortion rights, and by a narrower 48-32% margin, they support a constitutional amendment to protect transgender rights. If the state ERA amendment – which protects both abortion and transgender rights – is on the ballot, voters currently say they would vote yes, 59-26%. Voters strongly support, 63-20%, a proposal to ban social media platforms from providing addictive, algorithm-based feeds to minors without parental consent. A narrow plurality, 46-43%, opposes increasing the current 5-cent deposit to 10 cents on beverage containers.

“Voters overwhelmingly agree with each of four statements concerning the recent protests at college campuses across the state and nation – 72% support students peacefully demonstrating, 70% support police being called in when protests went too far, 64% support an immediate ceasefire, and 61% are concerned the demonstrations have crossed the line into anti-Semitism,” Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg said. “While they differ by degree, a majority of Democrats, Republicans and independents agree with each of the four statements. Interestingly, older voters are more likely to say the demonstrations crossed into anti-Semitism and it was OK to call in the police, while younger voters are more likely to support peacefully demonstrating and calling for a ceasefire.”

“Other than Republicans and self-identified conservatives, every demographic group – by region, gender, race, age, religion, or income – supports, by at least a two-to-one margin, amending the state constitution to protect abortion rights. A plurality of Republicans and conservatives oppose it,” Greenberg said. “An amendment to protect transgender rights has plurality support, with stronger support from Democrats, women, and Black, young and New York City voters.”

“When asked if they would vote ‘yes’ on a state ERA amendment that includes both abortion and transgender protections, voters say ‘yes’ better than two-to-one, including at least two-thirds of Democrats, women, and Black, young and New York City voters,” Greenberg said. “Republicans, however, by a 54-30% margin say they would vote ‘no’ on the state ERA if it in fact makes the ballot this year.”

Strong Support for Protecting Minors from Social Media Algorithm Feeds; Mixed on Increasing Beverage Container Deposit from 5¢ to 10¢; Thumbs Down for Consumers Paying More to Reduce Fossil Fuels

“One issue that seems to unite every demographic group in the state is support for a proposal to ban social media platforms from providing addictive, algorithm-based feeds to minors without parental consent. Republicans support the proposal nearly two-to-one, 52-27%, and they are the ‘least supportive’ of any group. In fact, no other demographic group has more than 24% in opposition,” Greenberg said.

“Doubling the beverage container deposit from a nickel to a dime is narrowly opposed by all voters. It has support from Democrats, New York City, Black, Latino, and younger voters. It is opposed by Republicans, independents, downstate suburbanites, upstaters (narrowly), white and older voters,” Greenberg said. “Interestingly, voters with income under \$50K support the increase 51-35%, while voters with incomes more than \$100K oppose it 49-38%.

“Voters oppose state actions aimed at reducing fossil fuel use if it will require consumers to pay more for energy, 45-36%. Democrats, New York City, Black and younger voters support those kinds of actions – although it is worth noting that none of those groups tops 50%, only Democrats hit 50%,” Greenberg said. “Republicans, independents, voters outside New York City, white and older voters oppose it.”

Biden Maintains Narrow 9-Point Lead; Only 18% Say US Will Survive & Thrive Regardless of Outcome

President Biden has a 45-50% favorability rating, little changed from 45-52% in April. His job approval rating improved slightly to 46-51%, from 45-55% last month. Former President Trump has a 39-56% favorability rating, up a little from 37-59% in April. Currently, Biden leads Trump 47-38%, little changed from 47-37% last month.

“In a state that hasn’t voted for the GOP candidate for president since Ronald Reagan 40 years ago, and where Democrats hold a 26-point enrollment advantage over Republicans, Biden only leads Trump – whose negative favorability rating is not much worse than Biden’s – by a ‘narrow’ nine points,” Greenberg said. “While 18% of Democrats support Trump, only 9% of Republicans support Biden, and independents are evenly divided, 37-37%. There is only a small gender gap as Biden leads with men by five points and with women by 12 points.”

“When asked to choose from three choices, 41% of voters – including 57% of Democrats – said a Trump victory will irreparably harm America, while 32% – including 66% of Republicans – said a Biden victory will irreparably harm America. Only 18% of voters – including between 16% and 19% of Democrats, Republicans and independents – say America will survive and thrive regardless of the outcome,” Greenberg said.

Voters Paying Attention to Trump Trial; Outcome – Either Way – Doesn’t Appear to Move Many Voters

Two-thirds of voters, 66%, say they are paying a great deal (29%) or some (37%) attention to Trump’s trial. Forty percent of voters think Trump will be found guilty, while 35% think he will not be found guilty. If he is found guilty, 14% say it will make them more likely to vote for Trump, 17% say less likely, and 65% say it will make no difference. If not found guilty, 15% say it makes them more likely to vote for Trump, 12% less likely and 71% say it will make no difference.

“Democrats think Trump will be convicted, Republicans don’t. Independents lean towards ‘not’ 34-31%,” Greenberg said. “But the outcome – before there is one – doesn’t matter much to voters, as large majorities of Democrats, Republicans and independents say guilty verdict or not, the outcome will have no effect on their vote. Interestingly, 30% of Republicans say they’re more likely to vote for Trump with either outcome.”

Odds & Ends

- Governor Kathy Hochul has a 38-46% favorability rating, little changed from 40-49% last month. Her job approval rating was also little changed at 45-46%, compared to 45-49% in April.
- Voters favor Democrats for Congress over Republicans, 49-33%, little changed from 49-36% last month. Interestingly, Democrats have registered 49% in every poll since October 2023, and hold a 16-point lead over Republicans, even as Biden’s lead over Trump has dropped into single digits.
- By 47-35%, voters say they support \$61B in aid to Ukraine. They support \$26B in aid to Israel, including \$9B for Gaza relief aid, 48-33%. And they support \$8B for allies in the Pacific, including Taiwan, 53-25%.
- 82% of voters say single-use plastic packaging is a major (47%) or minor (35%) problem, while only 14% say it is not a problem. By 67-22%, voters support the Packaging Reduction & Recycling Act, including support from more than three-quarters of Democrats, two-thirds of independents and a plurality of Republicans.

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This Siena College Poll was conducted May 13-15, 2024, among 1,191 NYS Registered Voters. Of the 1,191 respondents, 890 were contacted through a dual frame (landline and cell phone) mode (227 completed via text to web) and 301 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 +/- 3.9 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 – May 2024

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
May 2024	35	52	14
April 2024	35	53	12
February 2024	36	52	11
January 2024	34	55	10
November 2023	36	53	11
October 2023	34	52	14
September 2023	35	52	13
August 2023	39	48	12
June 2023	38	50	12
May 2023	42	48	11
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
May 2024	6	20	33	36	5
January 2024	5	20	36	34	5
September 2023	6	20	32	37	5
June 2023	8	20	33	34	5
HIGHEST EVER	9 (3/23)	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
May 2024	29	61	11
April 2024	27	64	10
February 2024	31	62	8
January 2024	31	60	9
November 2023	25	66	9
October 2023	25	65	10
September 2023	33	59	8
August 2023	30	62	8
June 2023	32	61	8
May 2023	28	63	8
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
May 2024	45	50	5
April 2024	45	52	3
February 2024	46	50	4
January 2024	43	53	3
November 2023	44	51	4
October 2023	45	52	3
September 2023	50	45	5
August 2023	46	50	4
June 2023	47	47	6
May 2023	51	45	4
HIGHEST EVER	65 (2/21)	53 (1/24)	28 (9/08)
LOWEST EVER	43 (1/24)	26 (9/08)	3 (1/24, 2/23, 9/22, 2/21)

Siena College Poll Trends – May 2024 – Page 2

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2024	39	56	6
April 2024	37	59	4
February 2024	37	58	4
January 2024	37	57	5
November 2023	34	60	6
October 2023	36	59	5
September 2023	33	61	5
August 2023	37	56	7
June 2023	33	61	6
May 2023	30	64	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. 6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kathy Hochul?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2024	38	46	15
April 2024	40	49	12
February 2024	41	46	13
January 2024	45	42	12
November 2023	40	43	17
October 2023	40	44	16
September 2023	40	41	19
August 2023	40	46	14
June 2023	42	43	16
May 2023	40	45	15
HIGHEST EVER	48 (1/23)	49 (4/24)	69 (4/21)
LOWEST EVER	18 (4/21)	13 (4/21)	10 (1/23)

Q. 7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kirsten Gillibrand?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2024	39	32	29
April 2024	39	31	30
February 2024	40	32	28
January 2024	42	28	31
November 2023	42	26	33
October 2023	39	30	31
September 2023	41	27	32
August 2023	39	28	33
June 2023	41	31	28
May 2023	41	31	28
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. 8 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Chuck Schumer?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2024	46	40	14
April 2024	44	42	14
February 2024	48	40	12
January 2024	49	38	13
November 2023	46	40	14
October 2023	44	41	15
September 2023	47	37	15
August 2023	48	38	14
June 2023	46	38	16
May 2023	50	38	12
HIGHEST EVER	70 (7/05)	46 (2/19)	17 (2/05)
LOWEST EVER	44 (4/24, 10/23)	20 (2/05, 11/06)	4 (10/31/10)

Siena College Poll Trends – April 2024 – Page 3

Q. 9 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Carl Heastie?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2024	12	17	71
May 2023	13	17	69
HIGHEST EVER	18 (12/22)	20 (10/15)	78 (1/17, 9/15)
LOWEST EVER	8 (9/15)	11 (1/18)	68 (3/23, 2/20)

Q. 10 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Andrea Stewart-Cousins?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2024	13	14	72
May 2023	14	18	68
HIGHEST EVER	20 (1/19)	18 (5/21, 2/20)	79 (4/18)
LOWEST EVER	12 (4/18)	9 (4/18)	66 (3/23)

Q. 11 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Letitia James?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2024	39	33	27
January 2024	45	30	24
June 2023	39	30	31
HIGHEST EVER	45 (1/24, 9/22)	33 (5/24, 10/22)	70 (6/18)
LOWEST EVER	20 (6/18)	10 (10/18, 6/18)	24 (1/24)

Q. 12 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Tom DiNapoli?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2024	22	17	61
January 2024	21	15	64
June 2023	22	20	58
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. 15 Kirsten Gillibrand is running for re-election as US Senator this year. 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
May 2024	39	41	20
April 2024	42	39	19
February 2024	39	37	23
January 2024	43	38	19
November 2023	40	35	25
October 2023	39	38	23
September 2023	41	37	22
August 2023	40	41	19
June 2023	40	40	20
May 2023	43	38	19
HIGHEST EVER	43 (1/24, 5/23, 3/23)	41 (5/24, 8/23)	25 (11/23)
LOWEST EVER	39 (5/24, 2/24, 10/23)	35 (11/23)	19 (4/24, 1/24, 8/23, 5/23, 3/23)

Q. 16 Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Joe Biden is doing as President? FOLLOW UP: Is that strong or somewhat?

DATE	STRONGLY APPROVE	SOMEWHAT APPROVE	SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE	STRONGLY DISAPPROVE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
	APPROVE	APPROVE	DISAPPROVE	DISAPPROVE	NO OPINION
May 2024	20	26	11	40	2
April 2024	21	24	17	38	1
February 2024	21	24	15	37	3
January 2024	20	24	16	40	1
November 2023	20	25	16	37	2
October 2023	22	24	12	39	3
September 2023	22	25	13	35	4
August 2023	22	25	13	37	3
June 2023	24	23	17	34	3
May 2023	22	29	15	32	2
HIGHEST EVER	29 (10/22)	30 (1/23)	17 (4/24, 6/23)	41 (8/22)	4 (9/23)
LOWEST EVER	18 (8/22)	23 (6/23)	6 (10/22)	31 (2/23)	1 (4/24, 1/24, 9/22)

Siena College Poll Trends – May 2024 – Page 4

Q. 17 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
May 2024	14	31	16	30	8
April 2024	14	31	16	33	6
February 2024	18	30	20	27	6
January 2024	17	35	13	30	6
November 2023	17	31	15	29	8
October 2023	16	29	14	31	9
September 2023	16	32	16	25	11
August 2023	18	28	17	29	8
June 2023	19	29	16	28	9
May 2023	17	33	17	27	7
HIGHEST EVER	24 (9/22)	36 (2/23, 1/23)	20 (2/24)	38 (10/22)	11 (9/23)
LOWEST EVER	14 (5/24, 4/24)	28 (8/23)	7 (10/22)	25 (9/23, 1/23)	4 (2/23)

Q. 19 Currently, how serious a problem do you think the recent influx of migrants coming to New York is for the state?

DATE	VERY SERIOUS	SOMEWHAT SERIOUS	NOT VERY SERIOUS	NOT AT ALL SERIOUS	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2024	50	29	14	6	2
April 2024	56	26	11	4	2
January 2024	61	24	8	5	1
November 2023	55	27	11	4	3
October 2023	57	27	8	4	3
August 2023	54	28	10	6	3
HIGHEST EVER	61 (1/24)	29 (5/24)	14 (5/24)	6 (5/24, 8/23)	3 (11/23, 10/23, 8/23)
LOWEST EVER	50 (5/24)	24 (1/24)	8 (1/24, 10/23)	4 (4/24, 11/23, 10/23)	1 (1/24)

Q. 20 Do you think over the last year or so that the problem of crime in New York State has gotten better, stayed about the same, or has gotten worse?

DATE	BETTER	SAME	WORSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2024	14	29	54	2
April 2024	12	31	55	2
February 2024	12	31	56	2
January 2024	16	34	48	1
November 2023	13	30	53	3
October 2023	9	28	59	4
HIGHEST EVER	16 (1/24)	34 (1/24)	59 (10/23)	4 (10/23)
LOWEST EVER	9 (10/23)	28 (10/23)	48 (1/24)	1 (1/24)

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
May 2024	47	38	7	7
April 2024	47	37	11	5
February 2024	48	36	10	6
January 2024	46	37	9	7
November 2023	46	36	11	8
October 2023	46	37	9	8
September 2023	52	31	7	10
August 2023	47	34	11	8
June 2023	50	28	17	4
HIGHEST EVER	52 (9/23)	38 (5/24)	17 (6/23)	10 (9/23)
LOWEST EVER	46 (1/24, 11/23, 10/23)	28 (6/23)	7 (5/24, 9/23)	4 (2/23)

Siena College Poll Trends – May 2024 – Page 5

Q. 31 If the election for your representative in Congress was held today, would you vote for the Democrat or the Republican? (Order was rotated.)

DATE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	NOT VOTE/OTHER/ DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2024	49	33	18
April 2024	49	36	15
February 2024	49	34	17
January 2024	49	32	19
November 2023	49	34	16
October 2023	49	37	14
HIGHEST EVER	49 (5/24, 4/24, 2/24, 1/24, 11/23, 10/23)	37 (10/23)	19 (1/24)
LOWEST EVER	49 (5/24, 4/24, 2/24, 1/24, 11/23, 10/23)	32 (1/24)	14 (10/23)

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 May 2023.

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

[^] Inconsequential wording change.