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Siena College New York State Poll:

Hochul's Favorability, Approval & Re-Elect Ratings Remain Underwater; Many of Her Budget / State of State Proposals Enjoy Widespread Support

**Strongest Support: Free Meals for School Kids, Cops on Nighttime Subways,
Increasing Child Tax Credit & Restricting Students' Smartphone Use in Schools**

***Trump Favorability – Still Negative – Matches His All Time Best in NY;
Voters Divided on Whether Trump Will Usher in a New American Golden Age***

***Voters Overwhelming Support (79-11%) Deporting Migrants with Criminal Record;
Lean Against (39-42%) Deporting Migrants with No Criminal Record***

Loudonville, NY. Governor Kathy Hochul has a negative 39-47% favorability rating and her job approval rating is 44-48%, both little changed from December, according to a Siena College poll of New York State registered voters released today. While 31% of voters say they would re-elect Hochul, 57% want 'someone else,' also little changed. By a 52-22% margin voters say Hochul has not improved the fiscal condition of the state in the last year.

Siena asked about 10 of Hochul's State of the State and budget proposals. All are supported by voters, eight by large majorities. Voters say Hochul's proposals would improve the lives of New Yorkers if enacted, 42-26%.

President Donald Trump has a negative 41-56% favorability rating, up from 37-59% in December, with the 41% matching his highest ever favorable rating. His early job approval rating is 46-51%. Voters are split on whether Trump will usher in a 'new golden age of America,' with 48% saying it's likely and 46% saying unlikely.

"Governor Hochul's favorability and job approval ratings continue to languish in negative territory. Currently, 57% of voters – including 41% of Democrats – would prefer 'someone else' as their next governor. Only 22% think her administration has improved the state's fiscal condition over the last year, compared to 52% – including a small plurality of Democrats – who say she hasn't," Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg said.

"Hochul hasn't had a positive favorability rating since January 2024. Her favorability rating has never once hit 50% in a state where 49% of voters are Democrats," Greenberg said. "Never once have a majority of voters viewed Hochul favorably, and at present, only 55% of Democrats view her favorably.

"The good news for the Governor is that 10 of her recent proposals are supported by voters, eight very strongly," Greenberg said. "Four proposals have strong majority support from Democrats, Republicans and independents, and another four have majority support from all voters, and at least plurality support from Ds, Rs and Is."

“Providing free breakfast and lunch for all public school students and ensuring a police officer on all overnight subway trains for the next six months are both strongly supported across every demographic breakdown,” Greenberg said. “Also strongly supported – with majority support from every party – are increasing the child tax credit and requiring school districts to restrict smartphone usage by students during the school day.

“Interestingly on cell phones, Democrats and Republicans support restrictions more than independents, white voters support them more than Black or Latino voters, and while three-quarters of voters over 55 support, among voters under 35, support is only a narrow 41-37%,” Greenberg said.

Hochul State of the State & Budget Proposals					
		Total	Dems	Reps	Ind
Providing free breakfast and lunch to every public school student in New York	Support	77%	86%	62%	75%
	Oppose	13%	7%	24%	14%
Ensuring the presence of a uniformed police officer on every NYC subway train between 9pm and 5am for the next 6 months	Support	71%	70%	74%	70%
	Oppose	12%	15%	10%	9%
Increasing the average child tax credit from \$472 to \$943, budgeted at \$825 million	Support	63%	71%	53%	56%
	Oppose	19%	13%	28%	23%
Requiring all school districts to restrict smartphone use by students in K-12 schools throughout the entire school day	Support	62%	63%	65%	56%
	Oppose	21%	22%	18%	23%
Sending checks of \$300 for individuals and \$500 for couples to every New York taxpaying household, budgeted at \$3 billion	Support	56%	66%	45%	46%
	Oppose	26%	22%	31%	28%
Budgeting \$1 billion for an income tax cut for three-quarters of taxpayers	Support	54%	58%	49%	51%
	Oppose	14%	16%	16%	9%
Providing \$760M in funding to support construction of housing in the nearly 300 NY communities certified as "pro-housing communities"	Support	52%	69%	30%	39%
	Oppose	22%	11%	41%	25%
Expanding list of people subject to involuntary commitment in a mental health facility to include individuals at substantial risk of harm due to their inability to meet basic needs like food, shelter or medical care	Support	51%	54%	46%	49%
	Oppose	21%	21%	22%	20%
Making a \$1 billion investment to address climate change, the largest ever by the state	Support	48%	70%	19%	33%
	Oppose	34%	16%	67%	39%
Prohibiting hedge funds or institutional investors from bidding on homes in the first 75 days they are on the market	Support	48%	57%	39%	38%
	Oppose	26%	22%	32%	29%
Siena College Poll: February 3, 2025					

“A potentially hopeful sign for Hochul is that if she successfully gets her proposals adopted – a big ‘if’ over the coming months – voters say, 42-26%, that it would improve the lives of everyday New Yorkers,” Greenberg said.

“To be clear, Democrats strongly think it would improve New Yorkers’ lives, while a large plurality of Republicans and a small plurality of independents do not think passing her proposals would improve lives.”

Voters Overwhelmingly Favor Deporting Criminal Immigrants; Divided on Non-Criminal Immigrants

Voters *support* deporting immigrants illegally in the U.S. convicted of a crime 79-11% and *oppose* deporting immigrants illegally in the U.S. with no criminal record, 42-39%. Voters oppose paying for health care for undocumented immigrants through Medicaid, 59-26%. And they continue to say that New York should support federal government efforts to deport illegal migrants, 48-31%, down slightly from 54-35% support in December.

“While there is overwhelming support for deporting illegal immigrants with a criminal record – 91% of Republicans, 86% of independents and 69% of Democrats – voters are closely divided on deporting illegal immigrants without a criminal record,” Greenberg said. “Nearly two-thirds of Republicans and a plurality of independents support deporting non-criminal immigrants, but Democrats oppose such deportations, 59-24%.

“New Yorkers continue to say – at least Republicans and independents do – that the state should support federal efforts to deport illegal migrants,” Greenberg said. “Republicans and independents also overwhelmingly oppose New York paying for health care through Medicaid for undocumented immigrants. Democrats are evenly divided. It is strongly opposed by white voters and is also opposed by a plurality of Black and Latino voters.”

Trump – Loved by Republicans but Definitely Not by Democrats – Matches His Best Ever Favorable Rating

“President Trump has not been popular in his former home state for more than a decade. And while that is still true, Trump now has his best favorability rating, 41-56%, since the month before he took office the first time, December 2016, when his favorability rating was 41-53%,” Greenberg said.

“Currently, Republicans view him *favorably*, 83-13%, while Democrats view him *unfavorably*, 17-81%,” Greenberg said. “Independents are in the middle, 48-46%.”

“Will Trump usher in what he calls a new golden age of America? Overall, voters say it’s likely by a very narrow 48-46% margin,” Greenberg said. “While 84% of Republicans and 56% of independents say it’s very or somewhat likely that he will, 69% of Democrats disagree, saying it’s not very or not at all likely.”

Voters Oppose Renaming Gulf of Mexico, Imposing Mexican/Canadian Tariffs & Retaking Panama Canal

Voters oppose renaming the Gulf of Mexico as the Gulf of America, 60-20%, imposing tariffs on Mexico and Canada, 49-32%, and retaking the Panama Canal, 41-34%. Voters support Trump’s proposal mandating only two genders in the U.S., male and female, rescinding policies recognizing transgender Americans, 47-40%.

Trump Proposals					
		Total	Dems	Reps	Ind
Deporting immigrants illegally living in the United States who have been convicted of a crime	Support	79%	69%	91%	86%
	Oppose	11%	16%	4%	8%
Mandating there are only 2 genders in the U.S. – male & female, rescinding federal policies recognizing transgender Americans	Support	47%	28%	83%	53%
	Oppose	40%	62%	8%	27%
Deporting immigrants illegally living in the United States with no criminal record	Support	39%	24%	64%	43%
	Oppose	42%	59%	15%	32%
Taking back control of the Panama Canal	Support	34%	15%	65%	41%
	Oppose	41%	64%	11%	25%
Imposing tariffs on goods from neighboring countries like Mexico and Canada	Support	32%	16%	61%	36%
	Oppose	49%	71%	15%	38%
Renaming the Gulf of Mexico as the Gulf of America	Support	20%	9%	46%	19%
	Oppose	60%	81%	21%	55%

“While Republicans support the six Trump proposals, independents support four and Democrats only support one, deporting immigrants convicted of a crime. Renaming the Gulf of Mexico has plurality support from Republicans but is opposed by 55% of independents and 81% of Democrats,” Greenberg said. “When it comes to mandating two and only two genders, that is supported by 83% of Republicans and 53% of independents, while it’s opposed by 62% of Democrats. A majority of men support this, while a plurality of women are opposed.”

How Will Trump Do Addressing...					
		Total	Dems	Reps	Inds
Securing the country’s borders	Excellent/Good	54%	33%	89%	62%
	Fair/Poor	42%	62%	9%	33%
Preserving, protecting and defending the Constitution of the United States	Excellent/Good	42%	21%	83%	51%
	Fair/Poor	56%	77%	16%	47%
Enhancing America’s reputation around the world	Excellent/Good	41%	19%	83%	48%
	Fair/Poor	56%	80%	15%	47%
Lowering the cost of living	Excellent/Good	40%	19%	79%	44%
	Fair/Poor	57%	77%	18%	49%
Siena College Poll: February 3, 2025					

“Following the predictable partisan divide a majority of voters think Trump will do no better than only fair or poor preserving the Constitution, lowering the cost of living and enhancing America’s reputation abroad,” Greenberg said. “On securing the borders, Trump gets support from one-third of Democrats, so a majority of all voters think Trump will do an excellent or good job.”

Odds & Ends

- Former President Joe Biden has a 45-50% favorability rating, up from 37-59% in December. Two-thirds of Democrats view him favorably while 86% of Republicans and 63% of independents view him unfavorably.
- By a 50-36% margin, voters say New York state is headed in the wrong direction, exactly the same as it was in December. There was a significant improvement in voters’ view of the country, although it remains decidedly negative. Voters say the country is headed in the wrong direction 55-37%, down from 60-30%.
- Vice President J.D. Vance has a negative 34-51% favorability rating, little changed from 34-53% in September. In his first time asked in a Siena College poll, Elon Musk has a negative 34-58% favorability rating. Both are overwhelmingly viewed favorably by Republicans and unfavorably by Democrats. Independents are split on Vance and lean positive, 45-38% on Musk.

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This Siena College Poll was conducted January 27 - 30, 2025, among 803 NYS Registered Voters. Of the 803 respondents, 506 were contacted through a dual frame (landline and cell phone) mode (198 completed via text to web) and 297 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 Marketing Systems Group. 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 +/- 4.2 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



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Siena College Poll Trends – February 2025

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
February 2025	36	50	14
December 2024	36	50	14
October 2024*	37	51	12
September 2024*	32	55	13
August 2024*	39	51	10
June 2024	37	52	11
May 2024	35	52	14
April 2024	35	53	12
February 2024	36	52	11
January 2024	34	55	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
February 2025	37	55	8
December 2024	30	60	9
October 2024*	28	61	11
September 2024*	31	59	11
August 2024*	30	61	9
June 2024	31	61	8
May 2024	29	61	11
April 2024	27	64	10
February 2024	31	62	8
January 2024	31	60	9
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
February 2025	45	50	5
December 2024	44	52	4
October 2024*	48	48	4
September 2024*	45	51	3
August 2024*	46	51	3
June 2024	42	53	5
May 2024	45	50	5
April 2024	45	52	3
February 2024	46	50	4
January 2024	43	53	3
HIGHEST EVER	65 (2/21)	53 (6/24, 1/24)	28 (9/08)
LOWEST EVER	42 (6/24)	26 (9/08)	3 (many)

Siena College Poll Trends – February 2025 – Page 2

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2025	41	56	4
December 2024	37	59	4
October 2024*	38	60	2
September 2024*	39	57	4
August 2024*	39	59	2
June 2024	37	59	4
May 2024	39	56	6
April 2024	37	59	4
February 2024	37	58	4
January 2024	37	57	5
HIGHEST EVER	41 (2/25, 12/16)	72 (8/16)	10 (10/13)
LOWEST EVER	24 (8/16)	53 (12/16)	2 (8/24, 2/23, 4/20, 9/15)

Q. 5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about J. D. Vance?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2025	34	51	14
September 2024*	33	53	13
August 2024*	31	52	17
HIGHEST EVER	34 (2/25)	53 (9/24)	17 (8/24)
LOWEST EVER	31 (8/24)	51 (2/25)	13 (9/24)

Q. 6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kathy Hochul?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2025	39	47	14
December 2024	39	49	12
October 2024*	36	51	14
September 2024*	34	54	12
August 2024*	39	50	11
June 2024	38	49	13
May 2024	38	46	15
April 2024	40	49	12
February 2024	41	46	13
January 2024	45	42	12
HIGHEST EVER	48 (1/23)	54 (9/24)	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 Chuck Schumer?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2025	45	41	14
December 2024	47	40	12
October 2024*	49	42	8
August 2024*	49	43	9
June 2024	43	44	13
May 2024	46	40	14
April 2024	44	42	14
February 2024	48	40	12
January 2024	49	38	13
HIGHEST EVER	70 (7/05)	46 (2/19)	17 (2/05)
LOWEST EVER	43 (6/24)	20 (2/05, 11/06)	4 (10/31/10)

Q. 8 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Hakeem Jeffries?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2025	38	27	36
December 2024	39	27	33
October 2024*	34	24	42
June 2024	34	27	39
April 2024	32	25	43
HIGHEST EVER	39 (12/24)	27 (2/25, 12/24, 6/24)	51 (12/22)
LOWEST EVER	32 (9/23)	17 (12/22)	33 (12/24)

Siena College Poll Trends – February 2025 – Page 3

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2025	40	33	27
May 2024	39	33	27
January 2024	45	30	24
HIGHEST EVER	45 (1/24, 9/22)	33 (2/25, 5/24, 10/22)	70 (6/18)
LOWEST EVER	20 (6/18)	10 (10/18, 6/18)	24 (1/24)

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2025	19	17	63
May 2024	22	17	61
January 2024	21	15	64
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 the New York State Assembly?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2025	37	36	27
June 2024	36	37	26
April 2024	35	38	27
HIGHEST EVER	57 (4/20)	61 (7/10)	28 (4/21)
LOWEST EVER	25 (7/10)	25 (3/21)	10 (5/15)

Q. 12 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the New York State Senate?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2025	41	37	22
June 2024	38	39	23
April 2024	37	42	21
HIGHEST EVER	58 (4/20)	74 (7/09)	23 (6/24)
LOWEST EVER	20 (7/09)	28 (3/21)	6 (7/09)

Q. 15 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
January 2025	14	30	16	32	8
December 2024	13	33	20	29	4
October 2024*	14	27	17	34	7
September 2024*	12	27	16	40	5
August 2024*	15	31	13	36	5
June 2024	13	31	15	35	5
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
HIGHEST EVER	24 (9/22)	36 (2/23, 1/23)	20 (12/24, 2/24)	40 (9/24)	11 (9/23)
LOWEST EVER	12 (9/24)	27 (10/24, 9/24)	7 (10/22)	25 (9/23, 1/23)	4 (12/24, 2/23)

Q. 17 I know it's a long way off, but if Kathy Hochul runs for re-election as Governor in 2026, as things stand now, would you vote to re-elect Hochul, or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	RE-ELECT	SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2025	31	57	12
December 2024	33	57	11
HIGHEST EVER	33 (12/24)	57 (2/25, 12/24)	12 (2/25)
LOWEST EVER	31 (2/25)	57 (2/25, 12/24)	11 (12/24)

Siena College Poll Trends – December 2024 – Page 4

Q. 30 When it comes to any efforts the Trump Administration will take to deport migrants living illegally in New York, do you think New York State should support or oppose the federal government’s efforts to deport migrants?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	IN THE MIDDLE/ DON’T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2025	48	31	20
December 2024	54	35	11
HIGHEST EVER	54 (12/24)	35 (12/24)	20 (2/25)
LOWEST EVER	48 (2/25)	31 (2/25)	11 (12/24)

Q. 42 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
February 2025	32	31	16	7	14
December 2024	33	33	13	7	12
February 2024	34	37	15	4	10
September 2023	36	35	13	5	11
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 (2/25, 12/24, 12/22)	14 (2/25)
LOWEST EVER	29 (1/22)	30 (12/22)	13 (12/24, 9/23)	4 (2/24)	7 (12/22)

Poll Trend Notes: * All surveys are of registered voters except for the following polls: August thru October 2024, 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 January 2024.

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

^ Inconsequential wording change.