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Siena College Poll:

Cuomo Nears Election Day with Big 25-Point Lead over Paladino
Wilson Closes Gap vs. DiNapoli; Race for Comptroller is Now Dead Even
Race for AG Between Schneiderman & Donovan Tightens & is Now Tied
Schumer & Gillibrand Cruise into Closing Days of Campaign with Large Leads

Loudonville, NY. Democratic gubernatorial candidate Andrew Cuomo continues to have a large lead over Republican Carl Paladino, 58-33 percent, according to a new Siena (College) Research Institute poll of likely voters released today. The races for Comptroller and Attorney General are now both dead heats. Republican Harry Wilson has closed a 17-point gap, and he and Democrat Tom DiNapoli both have the support of 44 percent of voters. In the Attorney General's race, Republican Dan Donovan and Democrat Eric Schneiderman, who previously led by seven points, are also tied at 44 percent each. Democratic Senators Charles Schumer (32 points over Jay Townsend) and Kirsten Gillibrand (20 points over Joe DioGuardi) both have wide leads.

Statewide Horse Races								
Race	**Democrat**			**Republican**			**DK/NO**	
		10/31	**10/20**		**10/31**	**10/20**	**10/31**	**10/20**
Governor	**Cuomo**	**58%**	63%	**Paladino**	**33%**	26%	**6%**	9%
Comptroller	**DiNapoli**	**44%**	49%	**Wilson**	**44%**	32%	**12%**	19%
Attorney General	**Schneiderman**	**44%**	44%	**Donovan**	**44%**	37%	**12%**	19%
Senator (Special)	**Gillibrand**	**57%**	60%	**DioGuardi**	**37%**	31%	**5%**	9%
Senator (Full term)	**Schumer**	**64%**	67%	**Townsend**	**32%**	28%	**3%**	5%
							Siena College Poll – October 31, 2010	

"Two days from Election Day and voters continue to overwhelmingly say that Andrew Cuomo is their choice for governor," said Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg. "No matter how you slice the numbers, Cuomo has a seemingly invincible lead. He leads Paladino 78-15 percent in New York City, 54-36 percent in the downstate suburbs and 47-41 percent among upstate voters."

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"Cuomo has a commanding 84-10 percent lead with Democrats. Paladino has improved with Republicans and now leads Cuomo 62-27 percent. Paladino has also made considerable inroads with independent voters, among whom Cuomo leads 48-40 percent, down significantly from 61-26 percent previously," Greenberg said. "Cuomo leads Paladino by 15 points with men and 35 points with women. "

Among Paladino voters, 70 percent (up from 62 percent) say they are absolutely certain to vote for him with no chance that they will change their minds. For Cuomo, his voters are even more locked in, with 82 percent saying they are absolutely certain to support him, up from 70 percent.

"Cuomo's favorability rating, 57-38 percent, remains strong, although it is down a little, and Paladino's negative favorability rating, 31-62 percent, although two-to-one negative is up from three-to-one negative in the last Siena Poll," Greenberg said. "Cuomo's rating fell most with independents, who now view him favorably by a slim 51-47 percent margin.

Favorable/Unfavorable Ratings						
	Favorable		**Unfavorable**		**DK/NO**	
	10/31	10/20	10/31	10/20	10/31	10/20
Andrew Cuomo	57%	62%	38%	34%	5%	3%
Carl Paladino	31%	23%	62%	69%	7%	8%
Tom DiNapoli	26%	30%	36%	26%	37%	44%
Harry Wilson	21%	13%	18%	17%	60%	70%
Eric Schneiderman	29%	25%	27%	23%	44%	52%
Dan Donovan	25%	16%	21%	15%	54%	69%
Kirsten Gillibrand	52%	51%	34%	31%	14%	18%
Joe DioGuardi	28%	24%	30%	27%	42%	49%
Charles Schumer	64%	66%	32%	29%	4%	5%
Jay Townsend	18%	14%	17%	16%	66%	71%
Barack Obama	51%	56%	46%	41%	3%	3%
David Paterson	30%	33%	60%	58%	10%	10%
Tea Party Movement	39%	34%	51%	52%	9%	15%
Siena College Poll – October 31, 2010						

While Paladino improved significantly with independents, by a nearly two-to-one margin, they still view him unfavorably. In fact, only Republicans, conservatives and those voters favorable to the Tea Party give Paladino a positive favorability rating.

"Six in ten voters think that Cuomo has a better chance of turning his campaign promises into reality as governor and 27 percent think that Paladino has a better chance. Nine percent of voters say neither has a chance," Greenberg said. "And irrespective of their voting choice, 90 percent of voters think Cuomo will win, including more than three-quarters of Paladino's voters."

Wilson, Eliminating Big Gap, Ties DiNapoli Heading into the Final Days of the Campaign

"Harry Wilson has narrowed, no, has eliminated Tom DiNapoli's 17-point lead. Both candidates have the support of 44 percent of the voters, with 12 percent still undecided," Greenberg said. "What sports analogy should I use? If this were a baseball game, it would be tied heading to the ninth inning. In football, it would be tied at the two-minute warning. Or perhaps a fifth set tie-breaker at the U.S. Open. But no matter what sports analogy you use, it is clear that momentum is on Wilson's side.

"DiNapoli's 14-point lead in the suburbs has become a nine-point Wilson lead. DiNapoli's slim four-point upstate lead is now a 16-point Wilson lead. And it looks like Wilson has been successful in bringing home Republicans, among whom he leads by 62 points, up from 36 points," Greenberg said. "Nearly one-quarter of Cuomo voters and nearly one-quarter of voters unfavorable to the Tea Party are supporting Wilson. He is doing better with those two categories of voters than any Republican on the statewide ballot.

Donovan Picks Up Seven Points to Tie Schneiderman in the Final Days of the Campaign

"The race for Attorney General was tight two weeks ago. And now it can't get any tighter. Dan Donovan has picked up seven points to tie the race at 44-44 percent, erasing a 44-37 percent lead previously held by Eric Schneiderman," Greenberg said. "While Schneiderman improved his support among Democrats, Donovan improved his support among Republicans and now has a majority of independents supporting him.

"Schneiderman continues to lead big in New York City. However, his previous narrow lead of 44-41 percent in the downstate suburbs has now become a 21-point lead for Donovan. And Schneiderman trimmed Donovan's upstate lead from 12 points to nine points," Greenberg said. "Voters have a clear choice between two candidates whose campaigns have certainly highlighted their philosophical differences and approaches to the Attorney General's office. Neither one has persuaded a majority of voters to support them, and with 12 percent undecided heading into the final days of the campaign, this race looks like the proverbial coin toss."

Gillibrand Caries a 20-Point Lead over DioGuardi in 'Special' Senate Election

"While the gap has narrowed a little, Kirsten Gillibrand still leads Joe DioGuardi by a 57-37 percent margin as the campaign nears the finish line. DioGuardi has improved his standing with Republicans and has cut Gillibrand's lead with independents from 17 to six points," Greenberg said. "Gillibrand leads, with majority support, in every region of the state."

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"While Gillibrand has a 52-34 percent favorability rating, DioGuardi's rating is practically evenly divided with 28 percent viewing him favorably and 30 percent viewing him unfavorably, and more than two in five voters still don't know enough about him to have an opinion," Greenberg said.

Schumer Has Largest Lead of Any Statewide Candidate vs. Townsend, Least Known Statewide Candidate

"Chuck Schumer continues to maintain a two-to-one lead, 64-32 percent, over Jay Townsend," Greenberg said. "Schumer gets 58 percent of the vote in the suburbs, 61 percent upstate and 76 percent in New York City. He's even getting the support of 39 percent of Republicans, holding Townsend to only 57 percent of his own party.

"Schumer's viewed favorably by 64 percent of voters, while Townsend is unknown to 66 percent of voters," Greenberg said. "With just days to go, it certainly looks like game, set, match."

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Siena College Poll Trends – October 31, 2010

If the 2010 election for governor were held today and the candidates were Andrew Cuomo on the Democratic line and Carl Paladino on the Republican line, who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED)

DATE	CUOMO	PALADINO	LAZIO	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	58	33	NA	6
October 20, 2010*	63	26	NA	9
October 5, 2010*	56	32	NA	11
September 2010	57	24	8	10
August 2010	56	14	16	14
August 2010	60	27	NA	13
July 2010	64	23	NA	13
June 2010	60	23	NA	17
May 2010	65	22	NA	13
April 2010	64	19	NA	16
HIGHEST EVER	**65 (5/10)**	**33 (10/31/10)**	**16 (8/10)**	**17 (6/10)**
LOWEST EVER	**56 (10/5/10, 8/10)**	**14 (8/10)**	**8 (9/10)**	**6 (10/31/10)**

* Likely voters

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	57	38	5
October 20, 2010*	62	34	3
October 5, 2010*	56	37	7
September 2010	60	31	9
August 2010	61	27	13
July 2010	62	25	13
June 2010	59	26	15
May 2010	67	21	12
April 2010	66	18	15
March 22, 2010	63	22	15
March 8, 2010	63	25	12
February 2010	66	21	13
January 2010	67	21	12
HIGHEST EVER	**71 (6/09)**	**42 (10/06)**	**24 (1/06, 2/06, 9/07)**
LOWEST EVER	**44 (8/06, 10/06)**	**14 (8/09)**	**3 (10/20/10)**

* Likely voters

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Carl Paladino?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	31	62	7
October 20, 2010*	23	69	8
October 5, 2010*	30	59	11
September 2010	32	36	32
August 2010	22	19	59
July 2010	16	16	69
June 2010	16	17	67
May 2010	15	10	76
April 2010	11	13	76
HIGHEST EVER	**32 (9/10)**	**69 (10/20/10)**	**76 (5/10, 4/10)**
LOWEST EVER	**11 (4/10)**	**10 (5/10)**	**7 (10/31/10)**

* Likely voters

Regardless of who you support, who do you think will win the election for governor – Carl Paladino or Andrew Cuomo? (ORDER OF CANDIDATES WAS ROTATED)

DATE	CUOMO	PALADINO	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	90	7	3
October 20, 2010*	86	8	7
October 5, 2010*	75	16	9
HIGHEST EVER	90 (10/31/10)	16 (10/5/10)	9 (10/5/10)
LOWEST EVER	75 (10/5/10)	7 (10/31/10)	3 (10/31/10)

* Likely voters

If the 2010 election for United States Senator were held today and the candidates were Kirsten Gillibrand on the Democratic line and Joe DioGuardi on the Republican line, who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED)

DATE	GILLIBRAND	DIOGUARDI	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	57	37	5
October 20, 2010*	60	31	9
September 2010	57	31	12
August 2010	54	29	17
July 2010	51	29	21
June 2010	47	29	24
May 2010	51	25	24
April 2010	46	27	27
HIGHEST EVER	60 (10/20/10)	37 (10/31/10)	27 (4/10)
LOWEST EVER	46 (4/10)	25 (5/10)	5 (10/31/10)

* Likely voters

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	52	34	14
October 20, 2010*	51	31	18
September 2010	43	26	30
August 2010	40	29	31
July 2010	34	29	37
June 2010	36	27	36
May 2010	42	24	34
April 2010	34	25	41
March 22, 2010	32	29	39
February 2010	34	28	38
January 2010	30	32	38
HIGHEST EVER	52 (10/31/10)	34 (10/31/10)	56 (1/09)
LOWEST EVER	26 (3/09)	14 (1/09)	14 (10/31/10)

* Likely voters

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Joe DioGuardi?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	28	30	42
October 20, 2010*	24	27	49
September 2010	18	17	65
August 2010	13	12	76
July 2010	11	10	79
June 2010	14	11	75
May 2010	10	8	82
April 2010	10	8	82
HIGHEST EVER	28 (10/31/10)	30 (10/31/10)	82 (5/10, 4/10)
LOWEST EVER	10 (5/10, 4/10)	8 (5/10, 4/10)	42 (10/31/10)

* Likely voters

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If the 2010 election for United States Senator were held today and the candidates were Charles Schumer on the Democratic line and Jay Townsend on the Republican line, who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED)

DATE	SCHUMER	TOWNSEND	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	64	32	3
October 20, 2010*	67	28	5
September 2010	63	30	6
July 2010	63	26	10
June 2010	60	26	14
May 2010	63	24	13
HIGHEST EVER	**67 (10/20/10)**	**32 (10/31/10)**	**14 (6/10)**
LOWEST EVER	**60 (6/10)**	**24 (5/10)**	**3 (10/31/10)**

* Likely voters

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Charles Schumer?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	64	32	4
October 20, 2010*	66	29	5
September 2010	58	32	10
July 2010	60	28	12
June 2010	54	32	14
May 2010	64	27	10
March 22, 2010	62	27	10
February 2010	61	29	10
HIGHEST EVER	**70 (7/05)**	**32 (10/31/10, 9/10, 6/10)**	**17 (2/05)**
LOWEST EVER	**54 (6/10)**	**20 (2/05, 11/06)**	**4 (10/31/10)**

* Likely voters

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Jay Townsend?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	18	17	66
October 20, 2010*	14	16	71
September 2010	12	11	76
July 2010	10	9	81
June 2010	14	12	75
May 2010	9	7	84
HIGHEST EVER	**18 (10/31/10)**	**17 (10/31/10)**	**84 (5/10)**
LOWEST EVER	**9 (5/10)**	**7 (5/10)**	**66 (10/31/10)**

* Likely voters

If the 2010 election for State Attorney General were held today and the candidates were Eric Schneiderman on the Democratic line and Dan Donovan on the Republican line, who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED)

DATE	SCHNEIDERMAN	DONOVAN	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	44	44	12
October 20, 2010*	44	37	19
September 2010	45	32	23
May 2010	33	28	39
HIGHEST EVER	**45 (9/10)**	**44 (10/31/10)**	**39 (5/10)**
LOWEST EVER	**33 (5/10)**	**28 (5/10)**	**12 (10/31/10)**

* Likely voters

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Eric Schneiderman?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	29	27	44
October 20, 2010*	25	23	52
September 2010	21	16	63
May 2010	10	6	84
HIGHEST EVER	**29 (10/31/10)**	**27 (10/31/10)**	**86 (11/09)**
LOWEST EVER	**8 (11/09)**	**6 (5/10, 11/09)**	**44 (10/31/10)**

* Likely voters

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Dan Donovan?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	25	21	54
October 20, 2010*	16	15	69
September 2010	10	13	77
May 2010	10	5	86
HIGHEST EVER	25 (10/31/10)	21 (10/31/10)	86 (5/10)
LOWEST EVER	8 (11/09)	5 (5/10)	54 (10/31/10)

* Likely voters

If the 2010 election for State Comptroller were held today and the candidates were Tom DiNapoli on the Democratic line and Harry Wilson on the Republican line, who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED)

DATE	DINAPOLI	WILSON	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	44	44	12
October 20, 2010*	49	32	19
September 2010	51	25	25
August 2010	46	28	26
July 2010	48	24	28
June 2010	42	23	36
May 2010	45	22	33
April 2010	42	19	39
HIGHEST EVER	51 (9/10)	44 (10/31/10)	39 (4/10)
LOWEST EVER	42 (6/10, 4/10)	19 (4/10)	12 (10/31/10)

* Likely voters

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Thomas DiNapoli?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	26	36	37
October 20, 2010*	30	26	44
September 2010	21	16	63
August 2010	22	17	61
July 2010	21	15	64
June 2010	19	16	64
May 2010	25	12	63
April 2010	20	12	69
March 22, 2010	19	15	66
HIGHEST EVER	30 (10/20/10)	36 (10/31/10)	80 (6/07)
LOWEST EVER	7 (6/07, 5/07)	10 (12/09, 11/08)	37 (10/31/10)

* Likely voters

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Harry Wilson?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	21	18	60
October 20, 2010*	13	17	70
September 2010	10	11	79
August 2010	8	11	81
July 2010	9	7	85
June 2010	9	11	79
May 2010	6	5	89
April 2010	7	5	88
HIGHEST EVER	21 (10/31/10)	18 (10/31/10)	89 (5/10)
LOWEST EVER	6 (5/10)	5 (5/10, 4/10)	60 (10/31/10)

* Likely voters

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about David Paterson?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	30	60	10
October 20, 2010*	33	58	10
September 2010	32	59	8
August 2010	32	60	9
July 2010	30	61	9
June 2010	31	56	14
May 2010	32	58	10
April 2010	25	65	10
March 8, 2010	21	67	12
February 2010	35	55	10
January 2010	38	52	10
HIGHEST EVER	**64 (11/08)**	**67 (3/8/10)**	**76 (1/07)**
LOWEST EVER	**17 (1/07)**	**8 (1/07)**	**8 (9/10)**

* Likely voters

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Barack Obama?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	51	46	3
October 20, 2010*	56	41	3
September 2010	60	36	4
July 2010	60	37	3
April 2010	59	35	6
February 2010	61	35	4
January 2010	64	32	4
HIGHEST EVER	**81 (1/09)**	**46 (10/31/10)**	**40 (11/06)**
LOWEST EVER	**48 (11/06)**	**10 (1/09)**	**3 (10/31/10, 10/2010, 7/10)**

* Likely voters

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the Tea Party Movement?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 31, 2010*	39	51	9
October 20, 2010*	34	52	15
October 5, 2010*	40	50	10
September 2010	34	49	18
HIGHEST EVER	**40 (10/5/10)**	**52 (10/20/10)**	**18 (9/10)**
LOWEST EVER	**34 (10/20/10, 9/10)**	**49 (9/10)**	**9 (10/31/10)**

* Likely voters

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
October 31, 2010*	14	76	10
October 20, 2010*	14	75	12
October 5, 2010*	16	72	11
September 2010	21	68	11
August 2010	21	67	12
July 2010	20	71	9
June 2010	18	65	17
May 2010	16	72	12
April 2010	20	68	11
March 22, 2010	18	70	12
February 2010	25	63	12
January 2010	27	61	12
HIGHEST EVER	**52 (11/06)**	**76 (10/31/10)**	**30 (1/07)**
LOWEST EVER	**14 (10/31 & 20/10)**	**26 (1/07)**	**9 (7/10)**

* Likely voters

Poll Trend Notes: 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 2010. "Highest Ever" and "Lowest Ever" is provided at the bottom of each question. All surveys are of registered voters except for the polls of October 2010, and September and October 2008 and September and October 2006, which are polls of likely voters.