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Siena New York Poll:

Mayor Mike Runs Neck and Neck Against Spitzer in Race for Governor in 2010

*Hillary Maintains Primary and General Election Leads in NY
Plurality of Voters Want Clinton to Be Next President and Think
She Will Be; 61% Think Next President Will Be a Democrat*

Loudonville, NY, Despite leaving the Republican Party last week, New York City Mayor Mike Bloomberg is only two points behind incumbent Governor Eliot Spitzer in a hypothetical match up for the 2010 gubernatorial race, according to a new Siena (College) Research Institute poll of registered New York voters released today. The Siena New York poll also shows that Senator Hillary Clinton continues to maintain a commanding lead in the primary and in head-to-head match-ups against former Mayor Rudy Giuliani and Senator John McCain. A plurality of voters volunteered that they want Clinton to be the next president and that they think she will be.

“If Mayor Mike decides to run for governor as a Republican, he starts in a very strong position against Governor Spitzer. Despite the overwhelming Democratic enrollment edge, Spitzer’s lead over Bloomberg is only 43-41 percent,” said Steven Greenberg, Siena New York Poll spokesman.

Bloomberg leads in New York City voters (49-37 percent) and the downstate suburbs (53-37 percent), while Spitzer has a 55-24 percent lead upstate. Bloomberg leads among Republicans (57-29 percent). Spitzer leads among Democrats (53-31 percent). Independent voters are divided (39-38 percent Bloomberg). Spitzer’s favorable rating, 64-22 percent, is down slightly from last month, as his job performance rating (55-37 percent positive). Bloomberg has a 62-20 percent favorable rating.

“Mike and Eliot are both very well known and viewed very favorably by the majority of New York voters,” Greenberg said. “There would be no ‘Davids’ in this race. It will be Goliath vs. Goliath.”

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Among Democratic primary voter, Clinton continues to maintain a commanding lead. Former Vice President Al Gore, who has not declared his candidacy, is solidly in second, passing Senator Barack Obama, who has fallen from 17 to 11 percent since April.

Dem Primary	6/07	5/07	4/07	3/07	2/07
Clinton	43	42	39	43	44
Gore	19	13	12	14	11
Obama	11	13	17	11	13
Edwards	9	7	11	7	8
Biden	2	3	2	1	4
Richardson	1	3	4	4	2
Dodd	1	<1	0	0	1
Kucinich	1	4	1	3	2
DK/NO	13	15	13	17	15

Rep Primary	6/07	5/07
Giuliani	48	50
McCain	13	12
F. Thompson	11	8
Romney	6	7
Gingrich	4	7
DK/NO	19	15

Among Republican voter, Giuliani still has a nearly four-to-one edge over McCain. Former Senator Fred Thompson, still undeclared, now trails McCain by only two points.

“At least Republicans and Democrats can agree on one thing – they both want a New Yorker at the top of their ticket running for President,” Greenberg said.

In head-to-head general elections matchups, Clinton maintains a 13 point lead over Giuliani and an 18 point lead over McCain. While Obama has kept a double digit lead over McCain, his 10 point lead over Giuliani last month is down to two points.

Month	Hillary Clinton	Rudy Giuliani	Hillary Clinton	John McCain	Barack Obama	Rudy Giuliani	Barack Obama	John McCain
June 2007	53%	40%	55%	37%	45%	43%	49%	35%
May 2007	52%	39%	54%	36%	50%	40%	50%	33%
April 2007	48%	43%	51%	39%	47%	43%	50%	37%
March 2007	51%	39%	54%	35%	42%	45%	47%	39%
Nov. 2006	53%	39%	55%	36%	41%	47%	39%	40%
Aug. 2006	42%	48%	42%	46%				
Oct. 2005	43%	48%						

“One in four voters volunteered they *want* Hillary to be the next president, with Rudy getting 15 percent. However, 34 percent *think* Hillary will be elected, with Rudy at 10 percent. Nobody else gets double digits on either question,” Greenberg said. “While 41 percent *want* the next president to be a Democrat, 61 percent, and 50 percent of Republicans, *think* the next president will be a Democrat.”

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This SRI survey was conducted June 18-21, 2007 by telephone calls to 800 registered New York State voters. It has a margin of error of ± 3.5 percentage points. The margin of error for 378 Democrats is ± 5.0 percentage points. The margin of error for 218 Republicans is ± 6.6 percentage points. For more information, please call Steven Greenberg at 518-469-9858. Survey cross-tabulations and frequencies can be found at: www.siena.edu/sri/snyjune.