



# SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

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## Siena College Poll:

### **Ryan Selection Offers No Help for Romney in New York**

Voters Support Implementing Obamacare; Eliminating Tax Cuts for Wealthy  
***DEC's Anticipated Fracking Decision Continues to Evenly Divide Voters***  
Support Rises for Public Campaign Financing & Casino Constitutional Amendment

Loudonville, NY. Mitt Romney's selection of Representative Paul Ryan to be his running mate does not help Romney's campaign in New York, where President Obama continues to have a nearly 30-point lead. Ryan and Romney both have negative favorability ratings, while Biden and Obama are both viewed favorably by a strong majority of New Yorkers, according to today's new Siena College Research Institute poll of likely voters.

By a 59-36 percent majority, voters prefer quickly implementing Obamacare rather than repealing it, and by a comparable 58-37 percent margin, voters support the President's proposal to eliminate Bush-era tax cuts on those earning more than \$250,000.

New Yorkers continue to be nearly evenly divided on whether or not the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) should allow hydrofracking to move forward in New York. Support remains extraordinarily high for increasing the minimum wage, and support has increased for public campaign financing and for a constitutional amendment to allow casinos in New York. Nineteen months in office and Governor Andrew Cuomo continues to get strong favorability and job performance ratings from voters.

"Romney did not help his case with New York likely voters by selecting Ryan. Only 16 percent of voters said the Ryan selection made them more likely to support Romney, while 21 percent said it made them less likely and a majority of 62 percent said it had no effect. That may explain why Obama slightly widened his lead over Romney in the last month and now leads 62-33 percent, very comparable to the 63-36 percent margin by which Obama beat John McCain in New York in 2008," said Siena pollster Steven Greenberg.

Obama has a 64-35 percent favorability rating (up from 59-38 percent in July) and Romney has a negative 34-61 percent favorability rating (35-59 percent last month). Fifty-nine percent of voters are prepared to re-elect Obama and 37 percent would prefer 'someone else' (up slightly from 57-39 percent last month). Obama's job performance rating increased a little to 53-47 percent from 51-49 percent last month.

“Democrats have significantly more favorable views of Obama and Biden than Republicans have of Romney and Ryan. And as unpopular as Obama is with Republicans, Romney remains even more unfavorable to Democrats. Independent voters have a favorable view of Obama and an unfavorable view of Romney, although Ryan does a little better with independents than does Biden,” Greenberg said.

“More than eight in ten Democrats want to see Obamacare implemented as quickly as possible, while more than two-thirds of Republicans want it repealed. A majority of independents are for implementation. Obamacare is much more strongly supported downstate than it is upstate, where support is only 50-45 percent,” Greenberg said. “The results are similar – although not as extreme on a partisan basis – when it comes to the President’s proposal to eliminate the Bush-era tax cuts for the wealthy. Eliminating those tax cuts is supported by 72 percent of Democrats and 53 percent of independents, while 57 percent of Republicans want those tax cuts maintained.”

### **Hydrofracking Continues to be an Issue that Divides New Yorkers Virtually Down the Middle**

Sixty-three percent of likely voters say they have heard or read at least some about DEC’s expected decision on hydrofracking, down slightly from 66 percent of voters in May. Currently, 39 percent of voters support DEC allowing hydrofracking to move forward in New York and 38 percent oppose it (it was 37-36 percent in May).

“Hydrofracking remains a divisive issue for New Yorkers and presents DEC and the Governor with a political ‘lose-lose.’ Whatever decision they make is going to upset as many people as it pleases,” Greenberg said. “A plurality of Democrats and upstaters oppose allowing hydrofracking, while a plurality of Republicans and New York City voters support it. Independent voters and downstate suburbanites are nearly evenly divided, although small pluralities of both groups favor it.”

### **Support Increases for Public Campaign Financing and Casino Amendment**

“By a 55-31 percent margin, likely voters support creating a system of public campaign financing in New York, up significantly from May when Siena asked a slightly different question and public campaign financing was supported by 40 percent and opposed by 36 percent. The proposal has majority support from every region and from Democrats and independents and plurality support from Republicans,” Greenberg said.

“A constitutional amendment to allow non-Indian casinos to be built in New York is supported by 52 percent of voters and opposed by 38 percent, up from 50-46 percent in April,” Greenberg said. “The casino amendment is currently supported by a plurality or majority of voters from every region and every party, with the largest support coming from Catholic voters. This amendment is at least 14 months and millions of dollars in advertising – both pro and con – away from being on the ballot for voters.

“Support for increasing the minimum wage remains sky high with 80 percent support,” Greenberg said.

### **Cuomo Ratings with Voters – Ho Hum – Remain High**

Cuomo has a 71-24 percent favorability rating (little change from 69-22 percent last month) and a 60-40 percent job performance rating (58-41 percent last month).

“For the 13<sup>th</sup> time in 19 months in office, Cuomo has a favorability rating of at least 70 percent. At least 70 percent of voters from every region view Cuomo favorably. A strong majority of Republicans continues to view Cuomo favorably,” Greenberg said. “What’s boring for pollsters and the media must continue to make Governor Cuomo and his staff smile. His honeymoon with voters has lasted longer than some recent celebrity marriages.”

### **With Only 11 Weeks to Go, Long Continues to Trail Gillibrand by a Huge Margin**

Kirsten Gillibrand has a 50-26 percent favorability rating (little changed from 49-24 percent in July) and by a margin of 56-28 percent, likely voters are prepared to re-elect her rather than support ‘someone else’ (little changed from 55-28 percent in July). Wendy Long’s favorability rating is 11-12 percent (13-11 percent in July).

“Time is running short for Long who trails Gillibrand by a three-to-one margin, 65-22 percent. Gillibrand’s margin is up a little from last month’s 62-25 percent lead,” Greenberg said. “While Gillibrand has the support of 84 percent of Democrats and 59 percent of independents, Long is only winning a bare majority, 52 percent, of Republicans. To call this an uphill fight for Long is a huge understatement.”

### **Schumer Remains Popular; Schneiderman and DiNapoli Remain Unknown**

Senator Charles Schumer has a 65-26 percent favorability rating (up from 62-29 percent in May). Attorney General Eric Schneiderman has a 21-14 percent favorability rating (21-23 percent in March). Comptroller Tom DiNapoli has a 24-17 percent favorability rating (25-23 percent in March).

“The bad news for Schneiderman and DiNapoli is that a majority of voters are not familiar enough with either of them to have an opinion about them. The good news for them is that over the last few months, both have seen their unfavorability number drop,” Greenberg said.

### **Record High Majority Says New York is Headed on Right Track**

“A record 56 percent of voters say the state is on the right track, compared to only 33 percent who say the state is headed in the wrong direction (up from 53-36 percent last month). A majority of voters from every demographic group says the state is on the right track with the exceptions of upstaters – where a plurality says so – and Republicans and conservatives, majorities of whom say we’re headed in the wrong direction.” Greenberg said.

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This Siena College Poll was conducted August 14-19, 2012 by telephone calls to 671 likely New York State registered voters. It has a margin of error of  $\pm 3.8$  percentage points. Data was statistically adjusted by age, party and gender to ensure representativeness. Sampling was conducted via random digit dialing to landline and cell phones weighted to reflect known population patterns. The Siena College Research Institute, directed by Donald Levy, Ph.D., conducts political, economic, social and cultural research primarily in New York State. SRI, 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 cross-tabs and frequencies: [www.Siena.edu/SRI/SNY](http://www.Siena.edu/SRI/SNY).



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## Siena College Poll Trends – August 2012

**Q. 3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Andrew Cuomo?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	71	24	5
July 2012	69	22	9
June 2012	70	24	5
May 2012	68	24	8
April 2012	73	22	6
March 2012	69	25	6
February 2012	74	18	8
January 2012	73	20	7
November 2011	72	22	6
October 2011	71	22	7
September 2011	72	18	10
August 2011	69	22	8
July 2011	71	21	8
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>77 (2/11)</b>	<b>42 (10/06)</b>	<b>24 (1/06, 2/06, 9/07)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>44 (8/06, 10/06)</b>	<b>14 (8/09)</b>	<b>3 (10/20/10)</b>

**Q. 13** How would you rate the job that Andrew Cuomo is doing as Governor? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	16	44	33	7	1
July 2012	13	45	33	8	1
June 2012	16	44	31	9	1
May 2012	14	42	33	10	1
April 2012	16	47	29	7	1
March 2012	14	43	33	9	1
February 2012	14	47	31	6	2
January 2012	17	45	29	8	2
November 2011	12	44	33	9	2
October 2011	11	47	32	9	2
September 2011	12	43	36	7	2
August 2011	12	46	31	9	2
July 2011	15	43	32	8	1
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>17 (1/12)</b>	<b>47 (4/12, etc.)</b>	<b>36 (9/11, 5/11)</b>	<b>10 (5/12)</b>	<b>28 (1/11)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>8 (3/11)</b>	<b>34 (1/11)</b>	<b>24 (1/11)</b>	<b>4 (2/11, 1/11)</b>	<b>1 (many)</b>

**Q. 11** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Eric Schneiderman?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	21	14	64
March 2012	21	23	55
February 2012	21	16	63
May 2011	17	18	65
January 2011	26	14	60
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>29 (10/31/10)</b>	<b>27 (10/31/10)</b>	<b>86 (11/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>8 (11/09)</b>	<b>6 (5/10, 11/09)</b>	<b>44 (10/31/10)</b>

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	24	17	59
March 2012	25	23	52
February 2012	24	18	58
May 2011	21	25	54
January 2011	28	21	51
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>30 (11/10, 10/20/10)</b>	<b>36 (10/31/10)</b>	<b>80 (6/07)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>7 (6/07, 5/07)</b>	<b>10 (12/09, 11/08)</b>	<b>37 (10/31/10)</b>

# Siena College Poll Trends – August 2012

**Q. 18** As things stand now, if the election for State Senate were held today would you vote to re-elect your incumbent Senator or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	RE-ELECT	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	50	30	19
July 2012	42	38	20
June 2012	43	40	17
May 2012	47	34	19
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>50 (8/12)</b>	<b>40 (6/12)</b>	<b>20 (7/12)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>42 (7/12)</b>	<b>30 (8/12)</b>	<b>17 (6/12)</b>

**Q. 19** Republicans currently control the State Senate by a 33-29 majority. Looking at this year's election, would you prefer to see the Republicans continue to control the State Senate, or would you prefer to see the Democrats win control of the Senate? (Choices were rotated)

DATE	REPUBLICAN	DEMOCRATIC	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	37	57	6
July 2012	38	54	8
June 2012	37	54	8
May 2012	38	56	7
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>38 (7/12, 5/12)</b>	<b>57 (8/12)</b>	<b>8 (7/12, 6/12)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>37 (8/12, 6/12)</b>	<b>54 (7/12, 6/12)</b>	<b>6 (8/12)</b>

**Q. 21** The State Department of Environmental Conservation is expected to soon issue a decision on whether or not to allow hydrofracking – that is the proposed method to recover natural gas from parts of upstate New York – to move forward. How much have you heard or read about it – a great deal, some, not very much, or nothing at all?

DATE	A GREAT DEAL	SOME	NOT VERY MUCH	NOTHING	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	28	35	22	15	1
May 2012	33	33	14	20	0
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>33 (5/12)</b>	<b>35 (8/12)</b>	<b>22 (8/12)</b>	<b>20 (5/12)</b>	<b>1 (8/12)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>28 (8/11)</b>	<b>33 (5/11)</b>	<b>14 (5/12)</b>	<b>15 (8/12)</b>	<b>0 (5/12)</b>

**Q. 22** Do you support or oppose the Department of Environmental Conservation allowing hydrofracking to move forward in parts of upstate New York?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	NOT ENOUGH INFORMATION/ DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	39	38	23
May 2012	37	36	27
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>39 (8/12)</b>	<b>38 (8/12)</b>	<b>27 (5/12)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>37 (5/12)</b>	<b>36 (5/12)</b>	<b>23 (8/12)</b>

**Q. 23** Do you support or oppose increasing the minimum wage in New York from the current \$7.25 per hour to \$8.50 per hour?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	NOT ENOUGH INFORMATION/ DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	80	17	2
June 2012	77	18	5
May 2012	78	17	5
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>80 (8/12)</b>	<b>18 (6/12)</b>	<b>5 (6/12, 5/12)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>77 (6/12)</b>	<b>17 (8/12, 5/12)</b>	<b>2 (8/12)</b>

**Q. 25** Do you support or oppose passing an amendment to the state constitution to allow non-Indian, Las Vegas style casinos to be built in New York?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	NOT ENOUGH INFORMATION/ DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	52	38	9
April 2012	50	46	4
March 2012	48	49	3
February 2012	52	44	4
January 2012	53	42	5
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>53 (1/12)</b>	<b>49 (3/12)</b>	<b>9 (8/12)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>48 (3/12)</b>	<b>38 (8/12)</b>	<b>3 (3/12)</b>

# Siena College Poll Trends – August 2012

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**Q. 4** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Barack Obama?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	64	35	1
July 2012	59	38	3
June 2012	59	38	2
May 2012	60	38	2
April 2012	58	39	3
March 2012	61	36	3
February 2012	64	34	2
January 2012	59	38	3
November 2011	57	40	3
October 2011	55	43	3
September 2011	52	45	2
August 2011	52	45	3
July 2011	57	39	4
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>81 (1/09)</b>	<b>46 (10/31/10)</b>	<b>40 (11/06)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>48 (11/06)</b>	<b>10 (1/09)</b>	<b>1 (8/12)</b>

**Q. 5** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Mitt Romney?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	34	61	5
July 2012	35	59	7
June 2012	35	56	9
May 2012	33	57	10
April 2012	35	57	8
March 2012	32	57	10
February 2012	35	55	10
November 2011	36	48	16
October 2011	34	45	21
September 2011	30	46	24
August 2011	32	46	21
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>36 (11/11)</b>	<b>61 (8/12)</b>	<b>35 (12/07)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>25 (12/07)</b>	<b>40 (12/07)</b>	<b>5 (8/12)</b>

**Q.6** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Joe Biden?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	56	38	6
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>62 (10/27/08)</b>	<b>38 (8/12)</b>	<b>28 (9/08)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>46 (9/08)</b>	<b>26 (9/08)</b>	<b>6 (8/12)</b>

**Q. 15** How would you rate the job that Barack Obama is doing as President? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	17	36	19	28	0
July 2012	16	35	21	28	0
June 2012	14	32	26	27	0
May 2012	15	32	25	27	0
April 2012	13	32	25	29	0
March 2012	16	34	23	26	0
February 2012	15	34	27	24	0
January 2012	12	34	26	27	0
November 2011	10	33	28	29	0
October 2011	9	29	32	30	0
September 2011	11	29	28	33	0
August 2011	10	26	30	33	0
July 2011	13	32	30	25	1
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>17 (8/12)</b>	<b>37 (5/11)</b>	<b>32 (10/11)</b>	<b>33 (9/11, 8/11)</b>	<b>1 (7/11)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>9 (10/11)</b>	<b>26 (8/11)</b>	<b>19 (8/12)</b>	<b>23 (5/11)</b>	<b>0 (many)</b>

# Siena College Poll Trends – August 2012

**Q. 16** Barack Obama is running for re-election as President this year. I know it's a ways off, but as things stand now, would you vote to re-elect him or would you prefer someone else?^

DATE	RE-ELECT	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	59	37	4
July 2012	57	39	4
June 2012	54	42	5
May 2012	54	42	3
April 2012	54	41	5
March 2012	56	38	6
February 2012	58	36	5
January 2012	55	40	5
November 2011	51	42	7
October 2011	48	45	7
September 2011	47	47	6
August 2011	47	45	8
July 2011	50	41	9
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>59 (8/12)</b>	<b>47 (9/11, 12/10)</b>	<b>10 (1/11, 12/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>43 (12/10)</b>	<b>36 (2/12)</b>	<b>3 (5/12)</b>

**Q. 26** If the election for President was held today and the candidates were Barack Obama on the Democratic line and Mitt Romney on the Republican line, who would you vote for? (Order of candidates was rotated.)

DATE	OBAMA	ROMNEY	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	62	33	5
July 2012	61	34	5
June 2012	59	35	6
May 2012	57	37	6
April 2012	60	35	5
March 2012	60	34	6
February 2012	63	31	6
November 2011	59	34	7
October 2011	55	37	8
September 2011	56	36	8
August 2011	55	37	8
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>63 (2/12)</b>	<b>37 (5/12, 10/11, 8/11)</b>	<b>8 (10/11, 9/11, 8/11)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>55 (10/11, 8/11)</b>	<b>31 (2/12)</b>	<b>5 (8/12, 7/12, 4/12)</b>

**Q. 8** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kirsten Gillibrand?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	50	26	25
July 2012	49	24	28
June 2012	50	24	26
May 2012	48	27	25
April 2012	51	25	24
March 2012	54	24	22
February 2012	52	20	29
January 2012	49	25	26
November 2011	49	25	26
October 2011	46	24	30
September 2011	46	25	29
August 2011	46	24	30
July 2011	49	21	30
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>57 (2/11)</b>	<b>34 (10/31/10)</b>	<b>56 (1/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>26 (3/09)</b>	<b>14 (1/09)</b>	<b>14 (10/31/10)</b>

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**Q. 9** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Wendy Long?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	11	12	77
July 2012	13	11	76
June 2012	9	11	80
May 2012	10	9	81
April 2012	8	10	82
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>13 (7/12)</b>	<b>12 (8/12)</b>	<b>82 (4/12)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>8 (4/12)</b>	<b>9 (5/12)</b>	<b>76 (7/12)</b>

**Q. 14** How would you rate the job that Kirsten Gillibrand is doing as United States Senator? Would you rate it excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	10	40	24	13	13
July 2012	12	31	29	11	16
March 2012	11	38	32	11	9
November 2011	9	37	29	12	13
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>12 (7/12)</b>	<b>40 (8/12)</b>	<b>32 (11/11)</b>	<b>13 (8/12)</b>	<b>16 (7/12)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>9 (11/11)</b>	<b>31 (7/12)</b>	<b>24 (8/12)</b>	<b>11 (7/12, 3/12)</b>	<b>9 (3/12)</b>

**Q. 17** Kirsten Gillibrand is running for re-election as United State Senator this year. As things stand now would you vote to re-elect her or would you prefer someone else? ^

DATE	RE-ELECT	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	56	28	16
July 2012	55	28	17
June 2012	54	29	17
May 2012	54	32	13
April 2012	54	28	18
March 2012	58	30	12
February 2012	53	27	20
January 2012	53	32	16
November 2011	53	30	17
October 2011	46	34	21
September 2011	45	34	22
August 2011	49	34	18
July 2011	50	29	21
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>58 (3/12)</b>	<b>34 (10/11, 9/11, 8/11)</b>	<b>22 (9/11)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>45 (9/11)</b>	<b>27 (2/12)</b>	<b>12 (3/12)</b>

**Q. 28** If the election for U.S. Senator was held today and the candidates were Kirsten Gillibrand on the Democratic line and Wendy Long on the Republican line, who would you vote for? (Order of candidates was rotated.)

DATE	GILLIBRAND	LONG	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	65	22	13
July 2012	62	25	13
June 2012	65	22	12
May 2012	60	26	14
April 2012	63	23	14
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>65 (8/12, 6/12)</b>	<b>26 (5/12)</b>	<b>14 (5/12, 4/12)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>60 (5/12)</b>	<b>22 (8/12, 6/12)</b>	<b>12 (6/12)</b>

**Q. 10** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Charles Schumer?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August 2012	65	26	10
May 2012	62	29	9
September 2011	59	30	11
May 2011	62	30	8
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>70 (7/05)</b>	<b>32 (10/31/10, 9/10, 6/10)</b>	<b>17 (2/05)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>54 (6/10)</b>	<b>20 (2/05, 11/06)</b>	<b>4 (10/31/10)</b>



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**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 2012	46	48	6
July 2012	44	52	5
June 2012	40	53	7
May 2012	42	51	7
April 2012	38	54	8
March 2012	40	52	8
February 2012	42	51	7
January 2012	37	56	7
November 2011	26	66	8
October 2011	22	71	7
September 2011	26	66	8
August 2011	20	74	6
July 2011	35	55	10
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>62 (5/09)</b>	<b>74 (8/11)</b>	<b>17 (9/08)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>19 (10/08)</b>	<b>24 (12/09)</b>	<b>6 (8/11)</b>

**Q. 20** 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
August 2012	1	19	49	31	1
July 2012	0	19	44	36	1
June 2012	1	18	46	32	2
May 2012	2	16	47	34	1
April 2012	1	17	48	33	1
March 2012	1	15	46	37	1
October 2011	0	11	38	50	1
September 2011	1	11	36	50	1
August 2011	1	11	39	48	1
July 2011	1	8	40	51	1
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>2 (5/12)</b>	<b>19 (8/12, 7/12)</b>	<b>49 (8/12)</b>	<b>67 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>4 (9/08)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>0 (many)</b>	<b>6 (3/22/10, etc.)</b>	<b>25 (3/22/10)</b>	<b>31 (8/12)</b>	<b>0 (4/11, etc.)</b>

**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 2012	56	33	10
July 2012	53	36	11
June 2012	53	37	10
May 2012	55	34	10
April 2012	55	34	11
March 2012	50	40	10
February 2012	52	36	12
January 2012	51	38	11
November 2011	42	46	12
October 2011	40	48	12
September 2011	45	44	10
August 2011	44	47	10
July 2011	48	40	12
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>56 (8/12)</b>	<b>76 (10/31/10)</b>	<b>30 (1/07)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>14 (10/10)</b>	<b>26 (1/07)</b>	<b>9 (7/10)</b>

**Poll Trend Notes:** All surveys are of registered voters except for the polls of August 2012, October 2010, September and October 2008, and September and 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 July 2011.

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

^ Inconsequential wording change.