



# SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

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## Siena College Poll:

### **Gov's Ratings Slip; Trails Lazio by 7 Points & Cuomo by 42 Points**

**Voters Think State Senate was Right to Remove Monserrate from Office**

*Gillibrand Keeps Big Lead Over Ford; Trails Pataki; Beats Blakeman, Zuckerman*

*Voters Support Wine in Grocery Stores; Oppose Soda Tax; A Majority of Voters Oppose Budget Cuts to Health Care or Education, Even if it Means Higher Taxes*

Loudonville, NY. Governor David Paterson's favorability, job performance and electability ratings all slipped over the last month, as he now trails Attorney General Andrew Cuomo by 42 points in a potential Democratic gubernatorial primary and trails former Republican Representative Rick Lazio by seven points, according to a new Siena (College) Research Institute poll of registered voters. By a nearly three-to-two margin, voters think the State Senate was right to remove Democrat Hiram Monserrate from the Senate.

United States Senator Kirsten Gillibrand maintains a better than two-to-one lead over former Representative Harold Ford in a potential Democratic primary, and looking at potential general election Senate match-ups, she continues to trail former Governor George Pataki, but she has large leads over former Nassau County Legislator Bruce Blakeman and Daily News publisher Mort Zuckerman.

"After three months of seeing modest gains his favorability and job performance ratings, Governor Paterson has lost ground with voters over the last month," said Siena pollster Steven Greenberg. "The only good news for Paterson is that voters did not believe the rumors that had been swirling around Albany for weeks that a story would break forcing his resignation. Two-thirds of voters said they didn't believe the rumors, while only 22 percent of voter believed that the Governor may very well have acted inappropriately in office."

Currently, 35 percent of voters have a favorable view of Paterson, compared to 55 percent who have an unfavorable view (38-52 percent in January). Only 22 percent of voters think Paterson is doing an excellent or good job as Governor, compared to 76 percent who say only fair or poor (24-75 percent in January).

"David Paterson has done nothing to cut into the huge lead Andrew Cuomo enjoys in a potential Democratic primary. In fact, the lead has now expanded to 64 percent to 22 percent, including a nearly 20-point lead for Cuomo with African American voters," Greenberg said.

“Looking at the general election doesn’t provide much better news for Paterson. While Cuomo maintains a 37-point lead over Lazio, Paterson now trails Lazio by 46 percent to 39 percent, down from a dead even race last month. Among Democrats alone, Paterson only beats Lazio 56 percent to 31 percent, while Cuomo’s lead

2010 Gubernatorial Horse Race Questions				
Date	Paterson v. Lazio		Cuomo v. Lazio	
	Paterson	Lazio	Cuomo	Lazio
Feb. 22, 2010	39%	46%	63%	26%
Jan. 18, 2010	42%	42%	66%	24%
Dec. 14, 2009	42%	40%	68%	22%
Aug. 24, 2009	38%	37%	66%	16%

over Lazio among Democrats is 80 percent to 11 percent. While Paterson trails Lazio by more than 60 points among Republicans, Lazio’s lead over Cuomo among Republicans is only 54-36 percent,” Greenberg said.

“While a majority of voters – including Democrats by a two-to-one margin – continue to want Cuomo to run for governor rather than re-election as attorney general, voters are moving in the direction of saying that Cuomo has to declare now what he’s running for,” Greenberg said. “By a margin of 43-41 percent, voters say Cuomo has time to wait before declaring but that is down from 49-37 percent last month and 52-33 percent in November.

“And for all the talk by some pundits about the need for an outsider to take on Albany, voters don’t agree. More than half of voters – 53 percent – would prefer the governor elected this year be someone with a lot of experience in Albany, compared to 36 percent who would prefer an Albany outsider,” Greenberg said. “A majority of Democrats and downstaters prefer a candidate with Albany experience, as do a plurality of independent voters and upstaters. A plurality of Republicans, however, would prefer an Albany outsider.”

**Voters Say State Senate was Right to Remove Monserrate from Office**

“Fifty-eight percent of voters think the Senate was right to remove Monserrate from office, compared to 40 percent who said senators should have left it up to the voters of his district,” Greenberg said. “Monserrate’s ouster was supported by a majority of Democrats and independents and an overwhelming majority of Republicans, as well as by a nearly equal number of self described liberals and conservatives.

“Only African American voters – who have as an unfavorable view of Monserrate as do other voters – believe that voters and not Senators should have decided the issue. Only five percent of voters have a favorable view of Monserrate, compared to 47 percent who have an unfavorable view,” Greenberg said.

**Gillibrand: Small Gain in Favorability; Leads Ford Big; Trails Pataki; Beats Blakeman, Zuckerman**

“Gillibrand is now viewed favorably by 34 percent of voters and unfavorably by 28 percent, up from a 30-32 percent unfavorable rating last month,” Greenberg said. “Ford, who remains unknown to more than half of voters, continues to significantly trail Gillibrand in a potential Democratic primary, with Gillibrand having the support of 42 percent of Democrats, compared to 16 percent for Ford, and four percent for Jonathan Tasini. Last month, Gillibrand’s lead over Ford was 41 percent to 17 percent.”

“In potential November match-ups, Gillibrand sliced her deficit against Pataki from thirteen points to six points,” Greenberg said. “Ford

2010 Senate Horse Race Questions						
Date	Gillibrand v. Pataki		Gillibrand v. Blakeman		Gillibrand v. Zuckerman	
	Gillibrand	Pataki	Gillibrand	Blakeman	Gillibrand	Zuckerman
Feb. 22, 2010	41%	47%	51%	24%	49%	29%
Jan. 18, 2010	38%	51%				
Dec. 15, 2009	46%	43%	52%	22%		
Date	Ford v. Pataki		Ford v. Blakeman		Ford v. Zuckerman	
	Ford	Pataki	Ford	Blakeman	Ford	Zuckerman
Feb. 22, 2010	34%	48%	41%	23%	40%	26%
Jan. 18, 2010	32%	54%				

closed his deficit against Pataki to 14 points, down from 22 points. Gillibrand maintains a two-to-one lead over Blakeman and Ford beats Blakeman by 18 points. If publisher and political novice Mort Zuckerman enters the race as a Republican, similar to the way another wealthy, longtime Democrat became Mayor of New York City, he starts with low name recognition, a 20-point deficit against Gillibrand and a 14-point deficit against Ford.”

**Voters Support Selling Wine in Grocery Stores and Oppose the Proposed Soda Tax**

“By a 58-39 percent majority, voters support allowing New York grocery stores to sell wine. It is supported by Democrats, Republicans and independents, liberals, conservatives and moderates, and by voters upstate and downstate. Selling wine in grocery stores is supported by virtually every demographic group, with the exception of African Americans, Latinos and older voters, who are all evenly divided,” Greenberg said.

“Voters are opposed to the Governor’s proposed tax on soda and other sugared beverages by a margin of 59 percent to 38 percent,” Greenberg said. “While Democrats and New York City voters are closely divided on this issue, it is overwhelmingly opposed by Republican, independents, downstate suburbanites and upstaters.”

**Voters to Legislature: Oppose Education and Health Care Spending Cuts, Even if it Means Higher Taxes**

“Nearly three-in-five voters, including a plurality of Republicans and conservatives, say the Legislature should not cut spending to either health care or education, *even if it means raising taxes*. Voters were told that the Governor was attempting to close an \$8 billion deficit and that health care and education are the two largest parts of the state budget,” Greenberg said. “Still, only 20 percent of voters say both should be cut and another 16 percent said one but not the other should be cut.”

**Voter Priorities: Reducing State Spending; Lowering State Taxes; Increasing Funding for Schools**

“When asked to choose the top two priorities – from a list of six – they want to see state government focus on for the rest of this year, voters ranked reducing state spending, lowering state taxes and increasing funding for schools as the top three, outpacing reforming state government ethics, fixing roads and bridges, and passing same sex marriage legislation,” Greenberg said. “Democrats put education on the top of their agenda, followed by spending. Republicans have a tie for the top spot between taxes and spending, and independents put spending on top, followed closely by taxes.”

Top Two Priorities for State Government to Focus on for the Rest of 2010								
Issue	NYS Voters		Democrats		Republicans		Independents	
	Top Priority	Top Two Priorities	Top Priority	Top Two Priorities	Top Priority	Top Two Priorities	Top Priority	Top Two Priorities
Reducing state spending	24%	47%	17%	39%	24%	51%	30%	49%
Lowering state taxes	19%	41%	16%	31%	25%	51%	19%	48%
Increasing funding for schools	24%	38%	33%	53%	16%	25%	15%	24%
Reforming state government ethics	16%	32%	14%	29%	16%	33%	20%	39%
Fixing roads and bridges	9%	25%	9%	26%	9%	23%	10%	24%
Passing same sex marriage legislation	4%	9%	6%	12%	1%	4%	1%	7%

“Hey, nobody said voters are always consistent. On one hand voters tell Siena that they don’t want budget cuts in education or health care, even if it means an increase in taxes. At the same time, the same voters rank reducing state spending and lowering state taxes as their top two priorities for 2010,” Greenberg said. “Just another example that it’s far easier to report on what voters are thinking than it is to make policy based on what the voters are thinking.”

**Still Favorable In Blue New York, Obama Hits Highest Ever Unfavorable Rating**

“With a 61-35 percent favorability rating, President Obama has hit the highest unfavorable rating New York voters have ever given him,” Greenberg said. “While 80 percent of Democrats still view Obama favorably, 69 percent of Republicans now view him unfavorably. Independents are still favorable, 57-40 percent.”

**Schumer Favorability Remains Strong; “Re-elect” Number Dips, Remains Above 50 Percent**

“New York’s senior United States Senator, Chuck Schumer, remains strong with New York voters, as 61 percent view him favorably and 29 percent unfavorably, virtually unchanged from 60-28 percent in December,” Greenberg said. “Currently, 55 percent are prepared to re-elect him, while 36 percent prefer ‘someone else,’ down from 60-32 percent in November.”

**Voters View on Direction of State Approaches Record Low**

“Only 25 percent of voters think New York is headed on the right track, compared to 63 percent who say the state is headed in the wrong direction,” Greenberg said. “This is down from 27-61 percent last month, and approaches the all-time record worst reading of 23-64 percent in July 2009.”

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This SRI survey was conducted February 14-19, 2010 by telephone calls to 805 New York State registered voters. It has a margin of error of ± 3.5 percentage points. Data was statistically adjusted by age, party and gender to ensure representativeness. Sampling was conducted via random digit dialing weighted to reflect known population patterns. SRI is an independent, non-partisan research institute. SRI subscribes to the American Association of Public Opinion Research Code of Professional Ethics and Practices. For more information, please call Steven Greenberg at 518-469-9858. Survey cross-tabulations and frequencies can be found at: [www.Siena.edu/SRI/SNY](http://www.Siena.edu/SRI/SNY).



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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	35	55	10
January 2010	38	52	10
December 2009	36	53	12
November 2009	33	56	12
October 2009	27	61	12
September 2009	29	59	13
August 2009	32	55	12
July 2009	36	56	8
June 2009	31	57	11
May 2009	27	60	13
April 2009	27	63	10
March 2009	29	58	13
February 2009	40	47	13
January 29, 2009	54	30	17
January 26, 2009	60	23	16
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>64 (11/08)</b>	<b>63 (4/09)</b>	<b>76 (1/07)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>17 (1/07)</b>	<b>8 (1/07)</b>	<b>8 (7/09)</b>

How would you rate the job that David Paterson is doing as Governor – excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	2	20	39	37	1
January 2010	3	21	44	31	1
December 2009	3	20	42	34	2
November 2009	2	19	40	39	2
October 2009	1	18	43	36	1
September 2009	2	16	41	39	2
August 2009	3	20	38	38	2
July 2009	2	20	41	36	1
June 2009	2	18	39	39	2
May 2009	2	16	43	38	1
April 2009	1	17	41	40	2
March 2009	1	18	46	32	2
February 2009	2	26	46	23	3
January 26, 2009	8	43	35	10	4
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>9 (12/08)</b>	<b>48 (10/08)</b>	<b>46 (3/09, 2/09)</b>	<b>40 (4/09)</b>	<b>32 (4/08)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>1 (10/09, etc.)</b>	<b>16 (9/09, etc.)</b>	<b>28 (5/08)</b>	<b>4 (9/08, etc.)</b>	<b>1 (1/10, etc.)</b>

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If David Paterson runs for Governor in 2010, would you vote to elect him or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	ELECT	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	19	64	17
January 2010	21	60	19
December 2009	19	65	16
November 2009	17	69	15
October 2009	15	72	13
September 2009	14	71	16
August 2009	15	68	16
July 2009	17	69	13
June 2009	15	70	15
May 2009	15	71	15
April 2009	12	71	17
March 2009	14	67	19
February 2009	19	57	24
January 26, 2009	32	36	32
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>42 (11/08)</b>	<b>72 (10/09)</b>	<b>47 (5/08)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>12 (4/09)</b>	<b>25 (9/08, 5/08)</b>	<b>13 (10/09, 7/09)</b>

(DEMS ONLY): Looking ahead to the election for Governor. If the Democratic primary for governor were held today and the candidates were David Paterson or Andrew Cuomo, who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED)

DATE	PATERSON	CUOMO	S. LEVY	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	22	64	NA	14
January 2010	21	59	6	14
December 2009	23	67	NA	10
November 2009	16	75	NA	8
October 2009	20	70	NA	10
September 2009	20	66	NA	14
August 2009	23	65	NA	12
July 2009	23	65	NA	13
June 2009	16	69	NA	15
May 2009	19	70	NA	11
April 2009	11	64	NA	17
March 2009	17	67	NA	17
February 2009	27	53	NA	20
January 26, 2009	35	33	NA	33
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>53 (11/08)</b>	<b>75 (11/09)</b>	<b>6 (1/10)</b>	<b>33 (1/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>11 (4/09)</b>	<b>21 (7/08)</b>	<b>6 (1/10)</b>	<b>8 (11/09)</b>

If the 2010 election for governor were held today and the candidates were David Paterson on the Democratic line and Rick Lazio on the Republican line, who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED)

DATE	PATERSON	LAZIO	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	39	46	15
January 2010	42	42	16
December 2009	42	40	18
November 2009	39	42	19
October 2009	39	37	23
September 2009	39	35	26
August 2009	38	37	25
July 2009	41	39	20
February 2009	46	28	26
January 26, 2009	52	22	26
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>52 (1/09)</b>	<b>46 (2/10)</b>	<b>26 (9/09, 2/09, 1/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>38 (8/09)</b>	<b>22 (1/09)</b>	<b>15 (2/10)</b>

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

DATE	CUOMO	LAZIO	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	63	26	11
January 2010	66	24	10
December 2009	68	22	10
November 2009	67	22	11
October 2009	66	21	14
September 2009	64	18	18
August 2009	66	16	18
July 2009	65	20	15
February 2009	66	16	18
January 26, 2009	61	17	22
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>68 (12/09)</b>	<b>26 (2/10)</b>	<b>22 (1/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>61 (1/09)</b>	<b>16 (8/09, 2/09)</b>	<b>10 (1/10, 12/09)</b>

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	66	21	13
January 2010	67	21	12
December 2009	67	19	14
November 2009	70	20	11
October 2009	67	20	14
September 2009	66	21	13
August 2009	70	14	16
July 2009	63	21	16
June 2009	71	17	12
May 2009	66	20	14
April 2009	66	18	16
March 2009	68	17	15
February 2009	69	18	13
January 26, 2009	64	17	19
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>71 (6/09)</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>11 (11/09)</b>

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Rick Lazio?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	31	26	43
January 2010	27	30	43
December 2009	25	25	51
November 2009	29	22	50
October 2009	23	27	50
September 2009	22	25	53
August 2009	21	22	57
July 2009	25	22	53
February 2009	23	23	54
January 26, 2009	19	18	64
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>31 (2/10)</b>	<b>30 (1/10)</b>	<b>64 (1/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>19 (1/09)</b>	<b>18 (1/09)</b>	<b>43 (2/10, 1/10)</b>

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Would you prefer to see Attorney General Andrew Cuomo run for re-election as Attorney General this year or would you prefer to see him run for Governor instead?

DATE	ATTORNEY GENERAL	GOVERNOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	33	51	17
January 2010	30	53	17
December 2009	31	50	19
November 2009	28	52	19
October 2009	36	49	15
September 2009	34	47	18
August 2009	31	52	17
July 2009	31	45	24
June 2009	35	46	19
May 2009	33	47	20
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>36 (10/09)</b>	<b>53 (1/10)</b>	<b>24 (7/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>28 (11/09)</b>	<b>45 (7/09)</b>	<b>15 (10/09)</b>

Should Andrew Cuomo publicly declare now whether he's running for Attorney General or Governor this year, or does he have time to wait several months before publicly announcing?

DATE	DECLARE NOW	TIME TO WAIT	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	41	43	16
January 2010	37	49	14
December 2009	35	51	14
November 2009	33	52	14
October 2009	34	53	12
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>41 (2/10)</b>	<b>53 (10/09)</b>	<b>16 (2/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>33 (11/09)</b>	<b>43 (2/10)</b>	<b>12 (10/09)</b>

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	34	28	38
January 2010	30	32	38
December 2009	31	22	47
November 2009	34	24	43
October 2009	28	26	46
September 2009	29	24	47
August 2009	29	20	52
May 2009	33	21	46
April 2009	33	23	44
March 2009	26	20	54
February 2009	34	20	46
January 29, 2009	30	14	56
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>34 (2/10, 11/09, 2/09)</b>	<b>32 (1/10)</b>	<b>56 (1/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>28 (10/09)</b>	<b>14 (1/09)</b>	<b>38 (2/10, 1/10)</b>

If Kirsten Gillibrand runs for United States Senator in 2010, would you vote to elect her or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	ELECT	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	30	40	30
January 2010	29	45	26
December 2009	30	34	35
November 2009	33	38	29
May 2009	27	39	34
April 2009	20	47	33
March 2009	23	37	39
January 29, 2009	21	29	50
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>33 (11/09)</b>	<b>47 (4/09)</b>	<b>50 (1/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>20 (4/09)</b>	<b>29 (1/09)</b>	<b>26 (1/10)</b>



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Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Harold Ford?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	25	19	56
January 2010	21	16	63
December 2009	19	7	74
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>25 (2/10)</b>	<b>19 (2/10)</b>	<b>74 (12/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>19 (12/09)</b>	<b>7 (12/09)</b>	<b>56 (2/10)</b>

(DEMS ONLY): Looking ahead to the election for United State Senator. If the Democratic primary for United States Senator were held today and the candidates were Kirsten Gillibrand, Bill Thompson, Harold Ford, and Jonathan Tasini who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED)

DATE	GILLIBRAND	THOMPSON	FORD	TASINI	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	42	NA	16	4	38
January 2010	41	NA	17	5	37
December 2009	32	23	7	3	35
November 2009	43	NA	NA	13	39
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>43 (11/09)</b>	<b>23 (12/09)</b>	<b>17 (1/10)</b>	<b>13 (11/09)</b>	<b>39 (11/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>32 (12/09)</b>	<b>23 (12/09)</b>	<b>7 (12/09)</b>	<b>3 (12/09)</b>	<b>35 (12/09)</b>

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about George Pataki?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	56	34	9
January 2010	55	34	11
December 2009	53	35	12
November 2009	55	36	9
October 2009	53	34	12
August 2009	53	35	13
May 2009	53	36	11
April 2009	49	43	8
March 2009	49	41	10
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>56 (2/10)</b>	<b>57 (2/07)</b>	<b>16 (2/05)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>36 (2/07)</b>	<b>34 (2/10, 1/10, 10/09)</b>	<b>7 (many; most recently 2/07)</b>

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Bruce Blakeman?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	5	11	84
December 2009	4	6	90
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>5 (2/10)</b>	<b>11 (2/10)</b>	<b>90 (12/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>4 (12/09)</b>	<b>6 (12/09)</b>	<b>84 (2/10)</b>

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

DATE	GILLIBRAND	PATAKI	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	41	47	13
January 2010	38	51	11
December 2009	46	43	12
November 2009	45	44	12
October 2009	41	46	13
August 2009	39	42	18
May 2009	43	43	14
March 2009	41	41	18
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>46 (12/09)</b>	<b>51 (1/10)</b>	<b>18 (8/09, 3/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>38 (1/10)</b>	<b>41 (3/09)</b>	<b>11 (1/10)</b>

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

DATE	GILLIBRAND	BLAKEMAN	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	51	24	25
December 2009	52	22	26
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>52 (12/09)</b>	<b>24 (2/10)</b>	<b>26 (12/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>51 (2/10)</b>	<b>22 (12/09)</b>	<b>25 (2/10)</b>

If the 2010 election for United States Senator were held today and the candidates were Harold Ford on the Democratic line and George Pataki on the Republican line, who would you vote for? (CANDIDATE CHOICES WERE ROTATED)

DATE	FORD	PATAKI	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	34	48	17
January 2010	32	54	14
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>34 (2/10)</b>	<b>54 (1/10)</b>	<b>17 (2/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>32 (1/10)</b>	<b>48 (2/10)</b>	<b>14 (1/10)</b>

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	61	29	10
December 2009	60	28	13
November 2009	60	30	10
May 2009	63	25	12
January 29, 2009	66	23	11
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>70 (7/05)</b>	<b>30 (11/09)</b>	<b>17 (2/05)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>60 (12/09, etc.)</b>	<b>20 (2/05, 11/06)</b>	<b>9 (7/05)</b>

If Chuck Schumer runs for United States Senator in 2010, would you vote to elect him or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	ELECT	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	55	36	9
November 2009	60	32	8
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>60 (11/09)</b>	<b>36(2/10)</b>	<b>9 (2/10)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>55 (2/10)</b>	<b>32 (11/09)</b>	<b>8 (11/09)</b>

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
February 2010	41	43	16
January 2010	34	49	17
December 2009	42	42	16
October 2009	40	46	15
September 2009	38	45	17
August 2009	37	43	20
July 2009	31	40	28
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>42 (12/09)</b>	<b>49 (1/10)</b>	<b>28 (7/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>31 (7/09)</b>	<b>40 (7/09)</b>	<b>15 (10/09)</b>

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Hiram Monserrate?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	5	47	47
June 2009	7	36	58
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>7 (6/09)</b>	<b>47 (2/10)</b>	<b>58 (6/09)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>5 (2/10)</b>	<b>36 (6/09)</b>	<b>47 (2/10)</b>

# Siena College Poll Trends – February 2010

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
February 2010	61	35	4
January 2010	64	32	4
December 2009	63	32	5
October 2009	65	31	4
September 2009	65	31	4
August 2009	70	23	6
May 2009	72	23	5
April 2009	75	19	6
March 2009	70	23	7
February 2009	74	18	8
January 26, 2009	81	10	9
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>81 (1/09)</b>	<b>35 (2/10)</b>	<b>40 (11/06)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>48 (11/06)</b>	<b>10 (1/09)</b>	<b>4 (2/10, 1/10, 10/09, 9/09)</b>

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 2010	25	63	12
January 2010	27	61	12
December 2009	24	61	15
November 2009	24	60	16
October 2009	24	61	15
September 2009	28	57	15
August 2009	28	57	15
July 2009	23	64	13
June 2009	24	63	13
May 2009	33	52	14
April 2009	27	57	15
March 2009	30	52	19
February 2009	31	53	16
January 26, 2009	39	42	19
<b>HIGHEST EVER</b>	<b>52 (11/06)</b>	<b>64 (7/09)</b>	<b>30 (1/07)</b>
<b>LOWEST EVER</b>	<b>23 (7/09)</b>	<b>26 (1/07)</b>	<b>12 (2/10, 1/10)</b>

**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 2009.

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

All surveys are of registered voters except for the polls of September and October 2008 and September and October 2006, which are polls of likely voters.