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Siena College Poll:

Cuomo Ratings All Up; Favorability Best in Three Years

**Overall Job Performance Rating for Cuomo Is Now Positive;
On 6 of 8 Specific Issues, He Gets Negative Job Performance Rating
*Voters Haven't Heard About ConCon – But They Support It***

Loudonville, NY. Governor Andrew Cuomo saw a dramatic rise in his ratings this month, as his favorability rating hits its highest level since June 2014, according to a new Siena College poll of New York State registered voters released today. Cuomo has a 61-31 percent favorability rating, up from 54-37 percent last month. Currently, 53 percent of voters say they are prepared to re-elect him, compared to 36 percent who prefer someone else, up from 51-39 percent last month; his best re-elect number in the 2018 gubernatorial cycle.

Overall, Cuomo has a positive 51-46 percent job performance rating, up from a *negative* 47-51 percent job performance rating last month. However, on eight specific issues, voters only give him a positive job performance rating on two ó higher education and human rights ó while they give him negative ratings on six issues, including five ó taxes, infrastructure, K-12 education, criminal justice, and the economy ó where a majority say he's doing only a fair or poor job.

õVoters now view Andrew Cuomo more favorably, 61-31 percent, than they have in three years, since June 2014, when he had a 63-31 percent favorability rating,õ said Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg. õHe is viewed favorably by nearly three-quarters of Democrats, 58 percent of independents, nearly two-thirds of downstaters and more than half of upstaters. The dramatic net 13-point increase in his favorability rating was largely provided by independent and upstate voters.

õBy a 17-point margin, up from 12 points last month, voters say they are prepared to re-elect Cuomo if he runs again in 2018, the largest margin it's been in the 2018 gubernatorial cycle. Independent, downstate and white voters provided the jump in Cuomo's re-elect margin,õ Greenberg said.

õCuomo's overall job performance rating is now positive for only the second time in nearly three years, since July 2014. His job performance rating is up net nine points since last month, with the largest increases coming from independent, downstate suburban and younger voters,õ Greenberg said.

Governor Andrew Cuomo's Job Performance Ratings								
	All Voters		Democrats		Republicans		Independents/Other	
	Ex/Good	Fair/Poor	Ex/Good	Fair/Poor	Ex/Good	Fair/Poor	Ex/Good	Fair/Poor
Overall rating	51%	46%	63%	34%	31%	67%	48%	51%
Higher education	54%	41%	61%	33%	40%	54%	51%	45%
Human Rights	51%	42%	59%	35%	37%	56%	49%	45%
New York's economy	44%	52%	53%	42%	23%	74%	46%	51%
Criminal Justice	40%	52%	43%	48%	32%	59%	40%	56%
K-12 education	39%	53%	42%	48%	33%	63%	37%	56%
Medicaid	39%	43%	47%	37%	25%	61%	38%	40%
Infrastructure	37%	56%	40%	52%	33%	61%	35%	60%
Taxes	27%	67%	36%	56%	14%	82%	23%	74%
Siena College Poll – May 24, 2017								

While voters view Cuomo's job performance positively overall, they give him under water ratings on six issues and only think he's doing an excellent or good job on higher education and human rights issues, the only two issues on which independent voters give him a positive rating," Greenberg said. "Even Democrats give him a negative job performance rating on four of the issues: K-12 education, taxes, infrastructure, and criminal justice issues. Voters who view Cuomo unfavorably rate him negatively on every issue, while those who view him favorably, give Cuomo a positive job performance rating on every issue other than taxes."

By Nearly Three-to-One, Voters Support ConCon, Although Two-Thirds Have Heard Nothing About It

Two-thirds of New Yorkers have heard nothing at all about the November vote on a State Constitutional Convention, and only 13 percent have heard a great deal or some about it. More than 70 percent of downstaters have heard nothing at all, while the same is true of 58 percent of upstaters," Greenberg said.

Yet, by a 62-22 percent margin, voters support ConCon, including two-thirds of Democrats, 55 percent of Republicans and 59 percent of independents. At least 60 percent of voters from every region support ConCon," Greenberg said. "Support for ConCon has remained consistently strong over the last couple of years. But the question remains, will that support stay strong as voters hear more about ConCon, particularly as we move into the fall and various interest groups start spending money to educate voters – both in support and opposition – about ConCon? Only time will tell."

New Yorkers Continue to View Direction of the State Positively

By 52-33 percent – exactly the same as last month – voters say New York is headed on the right track, including a majority of downstaters and Democrats, and a plurality of upstaters and independents," Greenberg said.

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This Siena College Poll was conducted May 15-21, 2017 by telephone calls conducted in English to 770 New York State registered voters. Respondent sampling was initiated by asking for the youngest male in the household. It has an overall margin of error of ± 4.0 percentage points including the design effects resulting from weighting. Sampling was conducted via a stratified dual frame probability sample of landline and cell phone telephone numbers (both from Survey Sampling International) from within New York State weighted to reflect known population patterns. Data was statistically adjusted by age, party, region and gender to ensure representativeness. 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 Steve Greenberg at (518) 469-9858. For survey cross-tabs: www.Siena.edu/SCRI/SNY.



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Siena College Poll Trends – May 2017

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

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2017	61	31	8
April 2017	54	37	9
March 2017	54	40	6
February 2017	60	34	5
January 2017	56	37	7
December 2016	56	36	8
October 2016*	56	41	3
September 2016*	57	39	4
HIGHEST EVER	77 (2/11)	44 (7/15, 5/15)	24 (1/06, 2/06, 9/07)
LOWEST EVER	44 (8/06, 10/06)	14 (8/09)	3 (10/16, 10/20/10)

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
May 2017	10	41	31	15	2
April 2017	10	37	33	18	3
March 2017	9	38	35	17	2
February 2017	9	41	33	15	2
January 2017	9	36	36	17	2
December 2016	7	37	37	17	2
September 2016*	5	36	36	21	2
HIGHEST EVER	17 (1/12)	47 (4/12, etc.)	40 (6/16, 7/15, 12/14)	25 (10/14)	28 (1/11)
LOWEST EVER	5 (9/16)	32 (12/15, etc.)	24 (1/11)	4 (2/11, 1/11)	0 (2/16, 5/15, 10/14)

Q. 12 If Andrew Cuomo runs for re-election as Governor next year, as things stand now, would you vote to re-elect him or would you prefer someone else? ^

DATE	RE-ELECT	SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2017	53	36	10
April 2017	51	39	11
March 2017	48	41	11
February 2017	50	41	9
January 2017	47	44	9
December 2016	47	44	10
September 2016*	45	49	6
HIGHEST EVER	53 (5/17)	49 (9/16, 5/31/16)	11 (4/17, 3/17)
LOWEST EVER	42 (5/31/16)	36 (5/17)	6 (9/16, 6/16)

Q. 4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the New York State Assembly?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2017	45	34	21
April 2017	45	36	19
March 2017	46	36	18
February 2017	46	38	16
January 2017	45	35	20
December 2016	43	40	17
September 2016*	44	40	16
HIGHEST EVER	46 (3/17, 2/17)	61 (7/10)	21 (5/17)
LOWEST EVER	25 (7/10)	35 (1/17)	10 (5/15)

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Q. 5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the New York State Senate?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2017	48	35	17
April 2017	46	38	16
March 2017	45	39	17
February 2017	50	40	10
January 2017	49	36	16
December 2016	48	39	14
September 2016*	48	41	11
HIGHEST EVER	50 (2/17)	74 (7/09)	17 (5/17, 3/17)
LOWEST EVER	20 (7/09)	35 (5/17)	6 (7/09)

Q. 22 The last New York State Constitutional Convention was held in 1967. Since then, New Yorkers have twice voted against having a constitutional convention in both 1977 and 1997. In 2017, New Yorkers will again have an opportunity to vote on whether or not there should be a State Constitutional Convention. How much have you heard about that vote in 2017 on whether or not to have a constitutional convention. Would you say you have heard a great deal, some, not very much, or nothing at all?

DATE	GREAT DEAL	SOME	NOT VERY MUCH	NOTHING	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2017	4	9	19	67	1
April 2017	5	8	24	61	2
February 2017	4	7	18	71	0
June 2016	2	8	22	66	1
HIGHEST EVER	5 (4/17)	9 (5/17)	24 (4/17)	75 (7/15)	2 (4/17)
LOWEST EVER	2 (several)	4 (7/15)	18 (2/17)	61 (4/17)	0 (2/17, 7/15)

Q. 23 Do you support or oppose having a New York State Constitutional Convention in which delegates propose changes to the State Constitution for voters to approve or reject?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
May 2017	62	22	17
April 2017	59	22	18
February 2017	63	24	13
June 2016	68	19	13
May 3, 2016	69	19	12
HIGHEST EVER	69 (5/3/16, 7/15)	26 (6/10)	18 (4/17)
LOWEST EVER	58 (6/10)	15 (7/15)	12 (5/3/16, 8/09)

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
May 2017	52	33	16
April 2017	52	33	16
March 2017	49	39	13
February 2017	55	38	7
January 2017	54	34	12
December 2016	48	38	14
October 2016*	51	41	8
September 2016*	53	38	9
HIGHEST EVER	57 (1/13)	76 (10/31/10)	30 (1/07)
LOWEST EVER	14 (10/10)	26 (1/07)	7 (2/17, 5/13)

Poll Trend Notes: * All surveys are of registered voters except for the following polls: 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 September 2016.

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

^ Inconsequential wording change.