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Siena College Poll:

Cuomo Maintains Large 29-Point Lead Over Astorino; His Favorability & Performance Ratings Hit Lows as Gov.

**Schneiderman Still Leads Cahill By 16 Points, Down from 27
*DiNapoli Leads Antonacci by 29 Points, Down Slightly from 34***

Loudonville, NY. Although his favorability and job performance ratings only fell a few points from last month and are now at the lowest levels they have been since he's been Governor, Andrew Cuomo maintains a large 56-27 percent lead over Rob Astorino, with Howie Hawkins getting seven percent and 10 percent undecided, according to a new Siena College Poll of likely New York gubernatorial voters. It was 58-26-6 percent in August. Cuomo's favorability rating is 55-40 percent, down from 57-36 percent last month, and he has a negative 42-56 percent job performance rating, down from 44-55 percent last month.

Attorney General Eric Schneiderman continues to lead his Republican opponent, John Cahill, but the lead has dropped from 54-27 percent last month to 50-34 percent today. State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli continues to hold a large 56-27 percent lead over Onondaga County Comptroller Bob Antonacci, down slightly from 58-24 percent in August.

“The campaign season of both the primary and general election is certainly inflicting some bruises and scrapes on Cuomo, however, with less than six weeks until Election Day, voters continue to seem content to offer him another four years as governor,” said Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg. “His favorability rating is now the lowest it's been since 54 percent viewed him favorably in September 2008. This is the first time 40 percent of voters have viewed Cuomo unfavorably since 42 percent viewed him unfavorably in October 2006, the month before he was elected Attorney General.

“And his job performance rating dropped again this month, albeit slightly. For the first time ever, three times as many voters say he's doing a poor job as governor compared to those who say he's doing an excellent job,” Greenberg said. “That said, Cuomo's favorability rating is still positive while Astorino remains largely unknown to 40 percent of voters, and among those who have an opinion about him, they are evenly divided. Additionally, on six prominent issues, voters said Cuomo would do a better job than Astorino by between 17 and 29 points.”

Schneiderman Still Has Double Digit Lead, Although Cahill Narrows the Gap

Schneiderman has a 27-23-50 percent favorability rating (down from 25-16-59 percent last month). He has a 39-35 percent re-elect rating (down from 39-25 percent last month). Cahill has a 19-15-66 percent favorability rating (up slightly from 10-9-80 percent in August).

“As the old political cliché goes, you need 50 percent plus one to win the election. Schneiderman is currently standing at 50 percent. Cahill has cut what was a large 27-point Schneiderman lead in August to a 16-point lead with still more than five weeks until Election Day,” Greenberg said. “Cahill has increased his lead among Republicans from 34 points to 49 points, significantly outpacing either Astorino or Antonacci with Republicans.

“Schneiderman continues to have a huge 73-18 percent lead among Democrats and is maintaining a double-digit lead with independent voters,” Greenberg said. “Schneiderman continues to crush Cahill in New York City and hold a double digit lead in the downstate suburbs. Cahill has taken a narrow five-point lead upstate, after trailing by 17 points among upstate voters last month. Schneiderman leads by 71 points with black voters and 42 points with Latino voters, however, Cahill is running dead even, 42-42 percent, with white voters, after trailing with white voters by 12 points last month.

DiNapoli Continues Huge Lead Over Antonacci

DiNapoli has 30-17-52 percent favorability rating (from 26-13-61 percent last month). Currently, 40 percent say they are prepared to re-elect him, with 33 percent preferring “someone else” (down from 41-25 percent last month). Antonacci, has a 11-14-75 percent favorability rating (from 9-9-82 percent in August).

“DiNapoli continues to appear to be coasting to re-election. He has the support of three-quarters of Democrats, leads nearly two-to-one with independents and nearly one-third of Republicans say they’re supporting DiNapoli, providing Antonacci with only a 20-point lead among Republicans. DiNapoli leads by 41 points in New York City, 22 points in the suburbs and 23 points upstate,” Greenberg said.

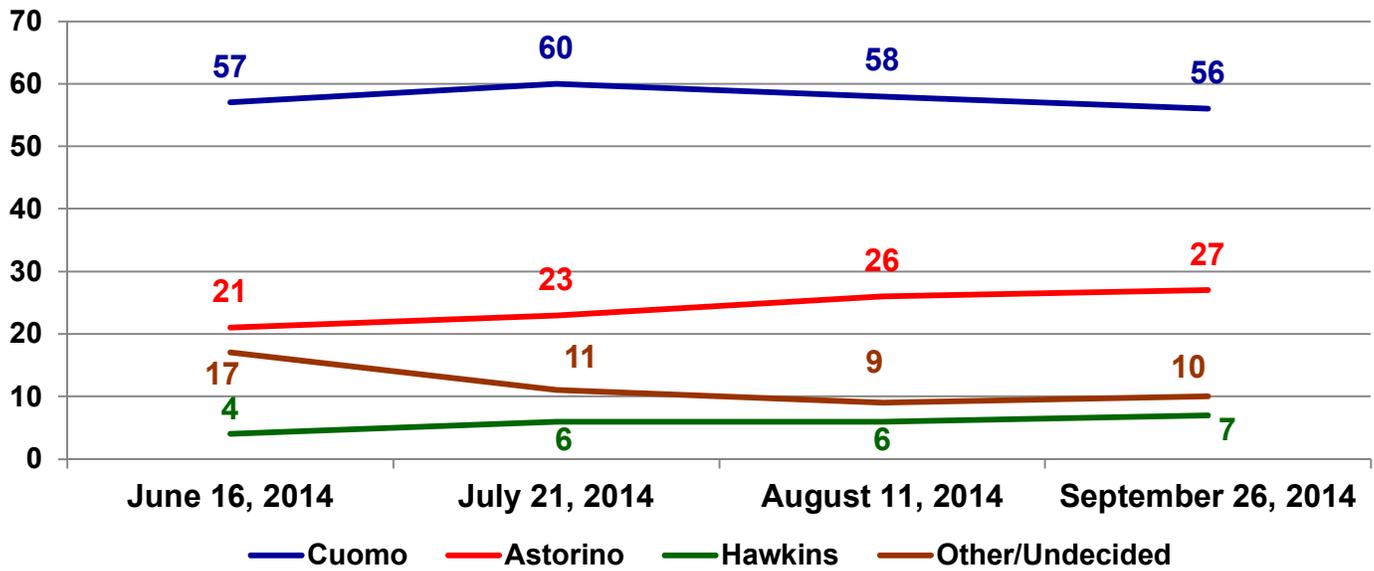
State Legislature Viewed More Favorably than the House of Representatives

“Heading into the election, voters have close to break-even views of both houses of the State Legislature with the Assembly having a 40-44 percent favorability rating and the State Senate 40-46 percent,” Greenberg said. “When it comes to the U.S. House of Representatives, 57 percent view the House unfavorably, compared to only 33 percent who have a favorable view. And on this issue, Republicans and Democrats are in complete agreement.”

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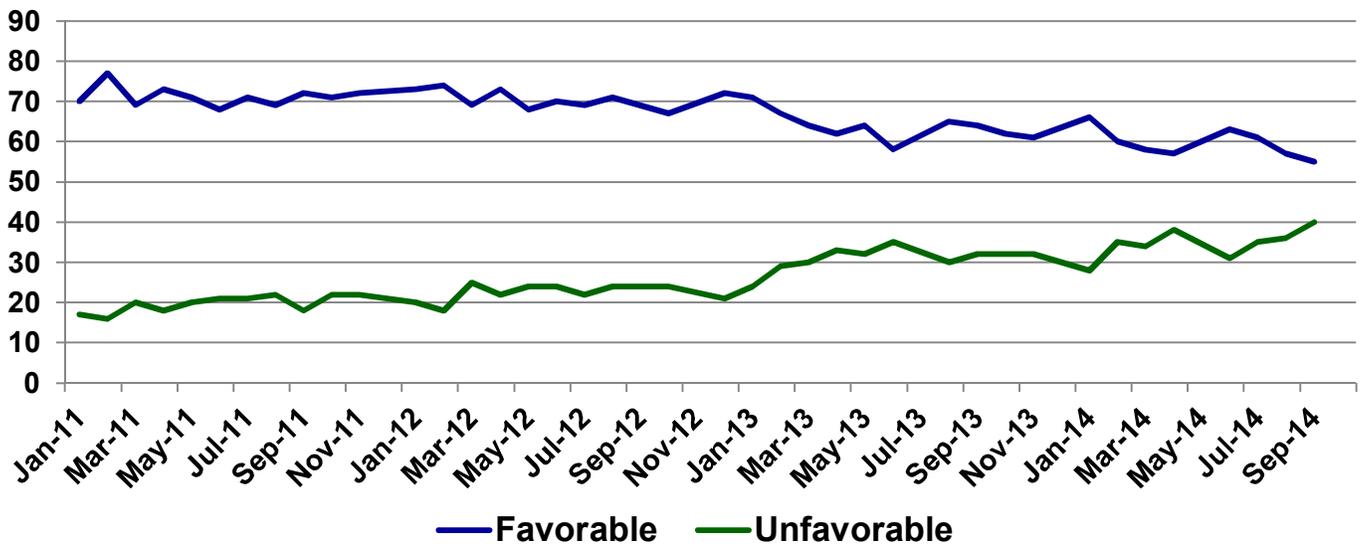
This Siena College Poll was conducted September 18-23, 2014 by telephone calls to 809 likely New York State registered voters. It has an overall margin of error of ± 3.4 percentage points. Data was statistically adjusted by age, party, region, race/ethnicity, and gender to ensure representativeness. Sampling was conducted via random digit dialing to landline and cell phones weighted to reflect known population patterns and historic New York State gubernatorial turnout. 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: www.Siena.edu/SRI/SNY.

2014 Gubernatorial Horse Race



Source: Siena College Polls -- September 25, 2014

Cuomo: Favorable/Unfavorable as Governor



Source: Siena College Polls -- September 25, 2014



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Siena College Poll Trends – September 2014

Q. 6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Andrew Cuomo?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	55	40	5
August 2014*	57	36	7
July 2014*	61	35	4
June 2014	63	31	6
April 2014	57	38	6
March 2014	58	34	7
February 2014	60	35	5
January 2014	66	28	6
HIGHEST EVER	77 (2/11)	42 (10/06)	24 (1/06, 2/06, 9/07)
LOWEST EVER	44 (8/06, 10/06)	14 (8/09)	3 (10/20/10)

Q. 20 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
September 2014*	7	35	35	21	1
August 2014*	9	35	38	17	1
July 2014*	9	41	31	18	1
June 2014	8	41	34	16	1
April 2014	9	36	36	18	1
March 2014	7	39	35	19	1
February 2014	7	41	38	13	1
January 2014	10	44	35	11	1
HIGHEST EVER	17 (1/12)	47 (4/12, etc.)	39 (11/13)	21 (9/14)	28 (1/11)
LOWEST EVER	7 (Several)	34 (1/11)	24 (1/11)	4 (2/11, 1/11)	1 (many)

Q. 17 Andrew Cuomo is running for re-election as Governor this year. As things stand now, would you vote to re-elect him or would you prefer someone else?^

DATE	RE-ELECT CUOMO	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	52	42	6
August 2014*	51	38	12
July 2014*	54	38	8
June 2014	57	35	8
April 2014	50	41	9
March 2014	49	41	10
February 2014	54	37	9
January 2014	57	33	10
HIGHEST EVER	62 (12/12)	42 (9/14)	12 (8/14)
LOWEST EVER	49 (3/14)	29 (12/12)	6 (9/14)

Q. 7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Rob Astorino?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	29	30	40
August 2014*	24	20	57
July 2014*	20	19	61
June 2014	18	12	69
April 2014	18	16	66
March 2014	17	19	65
February 2014	11	15	73
January 2014	14	10	76
HIGHEST EVER	29 (9/14)	30 (9/14)	76 (1/14)
LOWEST EVER	11 (2/14)	10 (1/14)	40 (9/14)

Siena College Poll Trends – September 2014

Q. 8 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Howie Hawkins?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	10	12	77
August 2014*	7	7	86
July 2014*	9	11	81
June 2014	9	9	82
HIGHEST EVER	10 (9/14)	12 (9/14)	86 (8/14)
LOWEST EVER	7 (8/14)	7 (8/14)	77 (9/14)

Q. 21 Over the last four years, would you say Andrew Cuomo has or has not made New York a better place to live?

DATE	HAS	HAS NOT	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	54	41	5
August 2014*	55	39	6
July 2014*	59	37	3
HIGHEST EVER	59 (7/14)	41 (9/14)	6 (8/14)
LOWEST EVER	54 (9/14)	37 (7/14)	3 (7/14)

Q. 22 (IF "HAS NOT"): Then would you say Andrew Cuomo has made New York a worse place to live or would you say that living in New York is about the same as it was four years ago?

DATE	WORSE	SAME	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	52	47	1
August 2014*	40	59	1
July 2014*	41	58	1
HIGHEST EVER	52 (9/14)	59 (8/14)	1 (9/14, 8/14, 7/14)
LOWEST EVER	40 (8/14)	47 (9/14)	1 (9/14, 8/14, 7/14)

Q. 24 If the 2014 election for governor was held today and the candidates were Andrew Cuomo on the Democratic, Working Families and Independence Party lines; Rob Astorino on the Republican and Conservative Party lines; Howie Hawkins on the Green Party Line, who would you vote for? Would you vote for Astorino, Cuomo, Hawkins, or someone else? (Choices were rotated)

DATE	CUOMO	ASTORINO	HAWKINS	OTHER/WON'T VOTE/ DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	56	27	7	10
August 2014*	58	26	6	9
July 2014*	60	23	6	11
June 2014	57	21	4	17
HIGHEST EVER	60 (7/14)	27 (9/14)	7 (9/14)	17 (6/14)
LOWEST EVER	56 (9/14)	21 (6/14)	4 (6/14)	9 (8/14)

Q. 23 As you think about the upcoming election for Governor, which of the following is the single most important issue that will determine which candidate you support (Choices were rotated; other answers were accepted.)

DATE	JOBS	TAXES	GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION	EDUCATION	OTHER/DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION
September 2014*	29	25	18	18	9
August 2014*	28	21	17	20	13
HIGHEST EVER	29 (9/14)	25 (9/14)	18 (9/14)	20 (8/14)	13 (8/14)
LOWEST EVER	28 (8/14)	21 (8/14)	17 (8/14)	18 (9/14)	9 (9/14)

Q. 9 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Eric Schneiderman?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	27	23	50
August 2014*	25	16	59
July 2014*	26	18	56
June 2014	23	16	61
April 2014	27	20	53
February 2014	27	19	55
January 2014	27	15	58
HIGHEST EVER	29 (10/31/10)	27 (10/31/10)	86 (11/09)

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Q. 18 Eric Schneiderman is running for re-election as Attorney General this year. As things stand now, would you vote to re-elect him or would you prefer someone else? ^

DATE	RE-ELECT SCHNEIDERMAN	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	39	35	26
August 2014*	39	25	37
July 2014*	39	33	29
June 2014	41	27	33
April 2014	35	32	33
January 2014	29	33	38
HIGHEST EVER	41 (6/14)	35 (9/14)	38 (1/14)
LOWEST EVER	29 (1/14)	25 (8/14)	26 (9/14)

Q. 10 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about John Cahill?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	19	15	66
August 2014*	10	9	80
July 2014*	14	12	74
June 2014	12	10	78
HIGHEST EVER	19 (9/14)	15 (9/14)	80 (8/14)
LOWEST EVER	10 (8/14)	9 (8/14)	66 (9/14)

Q. 25 If the 2014 election for Attorney General was held today and the candidates were Eric Schneiderman on the Democratic, Working Families and Independence Party lines and John Cahill on the Republican and Conservative Party lines, who would you vote for? (Choices were rotated)

DATE	SCHNEIDERMAN	CAHILL	OTHER/WON'T VOTE/ DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	50	34	15
August 2014*	54	27	19
July 2014*	53	31	16
June 2014	52	27	22
HIGHEST EVER	54 (8/14)	34 (9/14)	22 (6/14)
LOWEST EVER	50 (9/14)	27 (8/14, 6/14)	16 (7/14)

Q. 11 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Thomas DiNapoli?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	30	17	52
August 2014*	26	13	61
July 2014*	28	16	56
June 2014	26	12	62
April 2014	29	17	54
February 2014	26	21	54
January 2014	28	17	55
HIGHEST EVER	30 (9/14, 11/10, 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)

Q. 19 Tom DiNapoli is running for re-election as State Comptroller this year. As things stand now, would you vote to re-elect him or would you prefer someone else? ^

DATE	RE-ELECT DiNAPOLI	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	40	33	27
August 2014*	41	25	34
July 2014*	36	34	30
June 2014	38	28	35
April 2014	32	35	33
January 2014	35	30	35
HIGHEST EVER	41 (8/14)	35 (4/14)	35 (6/14, 1/14)
LOWEST EVER	32 (4/14)	25 (8/14)	30 (7/14)

Siena College Poll Trends – September 2014

Q. 12 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Bob Antonacci?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	11	14	75
August 2014*	9	9	82
July 2014*	9	12	79
June 2014	9	9	82
HIGHEST EVER	11 (9/14)	14 (9/14)	82 (8/14, 6/14)
LOWEST EVER	9 (8/14, 7/14, 6/14)	9 (8/14, 6/14)	75 (9/14)

Q. 26 If the 2014 election for State Comptroller was held today and the candidates were Tom DiNapoli on the Democratic, Working Families and Independence Party lines and Bob Antonacci on the Republican and Conservative Party lines, who would you vote for? (Choices were rotated)

DATE	DiNAPOLI	ANTONACCI	OTHER/WON'T VOTE/ DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	56	27	18
August 2014*	58	24	18
July 2014*	57	26	16
June 2014	56	22	22
HIGHEST EVER	58 (8/14)	27 (9/14)	22 (6/14)
LOWEST EVER	56 (9/14, 6/14)	22 (6/14)	16 (7/14)

Q. 13 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the New York State Assembly?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	40	44	16
July 2014*	39	43	17
April 2014	36	47	17
March 2014	39	46	16
February 2014	37	49	14
January 2014	41	43	16
HIGHEST EVER	45 (1/13)	61 (7/10)	19 (11/13, 12/12)
LOWEST EVER	25 (7/10)	40 (12/12)	12 (4/13, 1/10)

Q. 14 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about the New York State Senate?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	40	46	14
July 2014*	41	45	14
April 2014	40	48	12
March 2014	39	49	13
February 2014	37	51	12
January 2014	46	42	12
HIGHEST EVER	46 (1/14, 5/12)	74 (7/09)	14 (7/14, 12/12, 6/11)
LOWEST EVER	20 (7/09)	41 (12/12)	6 (7/09)

Q. 15 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Barack Obama?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	50	46	4
July 2014*	53	45	1
February 2014	52	45	3
HIGHEST EVER	81 (1/09)	46 (9/14, 10/31/10)	40 (11/06)
LOWEST EVER	48 (11/06)	10 (1/09)	1 (7/14, 1/13, 8/12)

Siena College Poll Trends – September 2014

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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
September 2014*	36	55	9
July 2014*	38	56	7
March 2014	36	57	8
February 2014	39	55	6
January 2014	37	55	8
HIGHEST EVER	62 (5/09)	74 (10/13, 8/11)	17 (9/08)
LOWEST EVER	19 (10/13, 10/08)	24 (12/09)	5 (1/13)

Q. 4 In general, would you say the State of New York is better off now than it was four years ago, worse off now than it was four years ago, or about the same as it was four years ago?

DATE	BETTER	WORSE	ABOUT THE SAME	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	35	24	39	2
July 2014*	32	22	45	1
June 2014	32	26	40	2
HIGHEST EVER	35 (9/14)	26 (6/14)	45 (7/14)	2 (9/14, 6/14)
LOWEST EVER	32 (7/14, 6/14)	22 (7/14)	39 (9/14)	1 (7/14)

Q. 5 And how about you and your family. Would you say that you are better off now than you were four years ago, worse off now than you were four years ago, or about the same as you were four years ago?

DATE	BETTER	WORSE	ABOUT THE SAME	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2014*	24	25	51	1
July 2014*	26	22	52	1
June 2014	28	23	49	0
HIGHEST EVER	28 (6/14)	25 (9/14)	52 (7/14)	1 (9/14, 7/14)
LOWEST EVER	24 (9/14)	22 (7/14)	49 (6/14)	0 (6/14)

Q. 3 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
September 2014*	2	28	41	25	4
July 2014*	2	29	41	25	2
April 2014	2	20	46	30	3
March 2014	2	19	45	30	4
February 2014	2	22	43	31	2
January 2014	2	27	42	27	2
HIGHEST EVER	3 (8/13)	29 (7/14)	49 (8/12)	67 (3/22/10)	4 (9/14, etc.)
LOWEST EVER	0 (many)	6 (3/22/10, etc.)	25 (3/22/10)	25 (9/14, 7/14)	0 (4/11, etc.)

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
September 2014*	48	43	10
August 2014*	47	40	13
July 2014*	49	40	10
June 2014	50	39	11
April 2014	46	44	10
March 2014	46	43	12
February 2014	48	40	12
January 2014	52	36	12
HIGHEST EVER	57 (1/13)	76 (10/31/10)	30 (1/07)
LOWEST EVER	14 (10/10)	26 (1/07)	7 (5/13)

Poll Trend Notes: * All surveys are of registered voters except for the polls of July/August/September 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 January 2014.

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

^ Inconsequential wording change.