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Siena College Poll:

Governor: **Hochul – 54%**   **Zeldin – 37%**
US Senate: **Schumer – 55%**   **Pinion – 36%**
Attorney General: **James – 53%**   **Henry – 37%**
State Comptroller: **DiNapoli – 52%**   **Rodriguez – 29%**
Control of US House: **Dems – 54%**   **Reps – 39%**
Environmental Bond Act: **Yes – 55%**   **No – 26%**

Economic Issues: Voters' Top Issue by Far; Threats to Democracy & Crime are Next Most Important; Gun Policy, Abortion & Healthcare Follow Far Behind

Loudonville, NY. Democratic Governor Kathy Hochul holds a 17-point lead over Republican Rep. Lee Zeldin, 54-37%, up slightly from 53-39% in August. Democratic US Senator Chuck Schumer leads Republican Joe Pinion by 19 points, 55-36%, down slightly from 56-35% last month. Attorney General Letitia James, the Democrat, leads Republican Michael Henry 53-37%, 16 points, up slightly from 50-36%. And State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli, also a Democrat, leads Republican Paul Rodriguez 52-29%, a 23-point lead, also up slightly from 51-30% in August, according to a new Siena College Poll of likely New York State voters released today.

"Hochul continues to hold a strong double-digit lead over Zeldin, holding her base with support from 81% of Democrats, same as in August. Zeldin has support from 77% of Republicans, down from 84%, and continues to lead narrowly with independent voters, 45-42%," Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg said. "Zeldin's narrow lead among independents is both good – it's a lead – and bad – it's narrow. To close or even narrow a 17-point gap, he would need to win a far greater share of independents, solidify Republican support, as well as pick off some more Democrats.

"Not surprisingly, Hochul dominates in New York City, leads by five points in the downstate suburbs, after trailing there by three points in August, while upstaters break virtually even," Greenberg said. "Hochul has a commanding two-to-one lead, 61-29% with women, and has a narrow 48-44% lead with men. White voters side with Hochul by 10 points, Latinos by 25 points and Blacks by 68 points."

Hochul has a 47-40% favorability rating, little changed from 46-41% in August. Hochul has a 53-42% job approval rating, little changed from 52-41%. Zeldin has a *negative* 31-33% favorability rating, down a little from 31-28%, however 36% of likely voters have no opinion about him.

"Nearly twice as many Republicans, 23%, up from 16% last month, have a favorable view of Hochul, compared to 12% of Democrats, down from 14%, who view Zeldin favorably. In addition to the fact that fewer than one-third of voters view Zeldin favorably, compared to almost half who view Hochul favorably, more than one-third continue to have no opinion – good or bad – about Zeldin," Greenberg said.

"In the eight weeks since the last Siena poll, little has changed in the overall dynamic of the gubernatorial or any of the statewide races. The four Democratic incumbents had leads between 14 and 21 points over their Republican challengers in August, and now have leads of between 16 and 23 points," Greenberg said. "Now, with fewer than six weeks until Election Day, those Republican challengers – underfunded compared to the Democrats – have their work cut out for them in a state with more than twice as many registered Democrats as Republicans, more independents than registered Republicans, and where the GOP hasn't won a statewide election in 20 years."

Schumer Up 19 Points; DiNapoli Lead by 23 Points; James Up by 16 Points

Schumer has a 50-40% favorability rating, up a little from 49-43% in August. Pinion has a 5-6% favorability rating, with 88% having no opinion or having never heard of Pinion. DiNapoli's 20-12% favorability rating is little changed from 22-11%. Still, 68% have no opinion of DiNapoli, who's won three statewide races and got more votes than any candidate in 2018 and 2014. Rodriguez has a 7-6-87% favorability rating, from 7-7-85%. James has a 45-30% favorability rating, little changed from 43-29%. The 45% is James' highest favorable rating. Henry's 4-5-92% favorability rating compares to 5-5-90% in August.

 "As Pinion, Rodriguez and Henry struggle to become known to voters – none of them are succeeding as they each remain unknown to roughly 90% – Schumer, DiNapoli and James continue to have significant double-digit leads over their opponents, each first-time statewide candidates," Greenberg said. "While six weeks can be a long time in politics, it's also a very short period of time to become known to 12 million voters and earn their support. With classic 'rose garden' strategies, the three incumbents are trying to run the clock out for six more weeks."

Voters Say Economic Issues Dominate as they Determine their Vote; Threats to Democracy & Crime Next

"Economic issues are one of the top two most important for 50% of voters as they determine who to support in November. Threats to democracy and crime are the next most important issues for voters – for Republicans, crime comes second, while democracy is second for Democrats and independents. National gun

Most Important Issues in Determining November Vote			
Total of first and second choices (first choice in parentheses)			
	All Voters	**Democrats**	**Republicans**	**Ind/Other**
Economic issues	50% (30%)	39% (18%)	69% (50%)	59% (36%)
Threats to democracy	34% (22%)	35% (26%)	34% (13%)	32% (24%)
Crime	29% (12%)	21% (10%)	43% (17%)	27% (9%)
National gun policies	19% (8%)	20% (10%)	19% (6%)	16% (5%)
Abortion	15% (6%)	20% (7%)	6% (4%)	18% (7%)
Healthcare	15% (5%)	19% (7%)	10% (3%)	12% (2%)
Education	12% (5%)	16% (8%)	8% (1%)	12% (5%)
Racial justice	10% (4%)	15% (6%)	1% (1%)	12% (4%)
Siena College Poll, September 2022			

policy, abortion and healthcare are important but second tier issues for most voters," Greenberg said.

Odds & Ends

- By a 55-26% margin, voters say they intend to vote yes on the $4.2 billion environmental bond act on November's ballot. It has support from three-quarters of Democrats and a plurality of independents, while Republicans oppose it 50-24%. It is overwhelmingly supported downstate, and it is supported 46-34% upstate.

- Overall, New York voters want to see the Democrats retain control of the US House, 54-39%. Not surprisingly, 84% of Democrats and 85% of Republicans want to see their party control the House, while independents are closely divided, leaning Democrat, 46-42%. In August, Democrats were favored 55-40%.

- While more than three-quarters of Democrats support President Biden's decision to cancel up to $20,000 in student debt for some borrowers, more than three-quarters of Republicans and a majority of independents oppose it, resulting in modest overall statewide support of 53-44%.

- Although New Yorkers continue to think the state is headed in the wrong direction, 47-41%, that's a net seven-point improvement from August when voters said the state was headed in the wrong direction, 50-36%. When it comes to the country, voters say it's headed in the wrong direction 59-31%. However, in August that view was held by a 71-19% margin, an improvement of net 24 points.

- Overall, voters are pessimistic, 52-43%, about the state of our democracy and the future of the country. While partisan differences exist, they are not extreme, as they are on many issues and candidates. Democrats lean optimistic, 50-47%, compared to the pessimism of Republicans, 59-35%, and independents, 53-40%. At the same time, three-quarters of Democrats, two-thirds of independents and 61% of Republicans are optimistic about their own and their family's future. New Yorkers say they're optimistic about their futures 69-25%.

- Biden's favorability and job approval ratings both bounced up this month and both are now in positive territory. He has a 51-46% favorability rating, up from 48-48% in August. His job approval rating is 53-46%, up from *negative* 47-51% in August.

- Former President Donald Trump has a 32-63% favorability rating, identical to August. He's viewed unfavorably by 89% of Democrats and 61% of independents, while Republicans view him favorably 73-23%. By a 54-39% margin, voters say that search of Trump's home was a legitimate effort to protect national security rather than a politically motivated attack. More than three-quarters of Democrats and 50% of independents say it was legitimate, while 77% of Republicans say it was a politically motivated attack.

- New Yorkers continue to oppose the SCOTUS Dobbs decision overturning Roe, 67-27%, little changed from 68-25% in August. Similarly, 72% say abortion should be always or mostly legal, compared to 21% who say it should be mostly or always illegal. In August it was 74-21%.

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Siena College Poll Trends – September 2022

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 2022*	41	47	12
August 2022*	36	50	14
June 2022	37	51	12
April 2022	36	52	12
March 2022	40	49	11
February 2022	41	45	14
January 2022	41	43	16
HIGHEST EVER	**65 (4/20)**	**76 (10/31/10)**	**30 (1/07)**
LOWEST EVER	**14 (10/10)**	**26 (1/07)**	**7 (4/20, 2/17, 5/13)**

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 2022*	31	59	10
August 2022*	19	71	10
June 2022	25	68	8
April 2022	34	57	10
March 2022	36	57	8
February 2022	34	57	9
January 2022	31	57	12
HIGHEST EVER	**62 (5/09)**	**74 (10/13, 8/11)**	**17 (9/08)**
LOWEST EVER	**19 (8/22, 10/13, 10/08)**	**24 (12/09)**	**5 (1/13)**

Q. 5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Joe Biden?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2022*	51	46	3
August 2022*	48	48	5
June 2022	49	46	5
April 2022	51	45	4
March 2022	50	46	4
February 2022	48	48	4
January 2022	52	42	6
HIGHEST EVER	**65 (2/21)**	**48 (2/22)**	**28 (9/08)**
LOWEST EVER	**45 (2/20)**	**26 (9/08)**	**3 (9/22, 2/21)**

Q. 6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Donald Trump?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2022*	32	63	5
August 2022*	32	63	5
June 2022	33	63	4
April 2022	34	61	6
March 2022	34	61	5
February 2022	35	59	6
January 2022	33	61	6
HIGHEST EVER	**41 (12/16)**	**72 (8/16)**	**10 (10/13)**
LOWEST EVER	**24 (8/16)**	**53 (12/16)**	**2 (4/20, 9/15)**

Q. 7   Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kathy Hochul?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2022*	47	40	13
August 2022*	46	41	13
June 2022	46	37	17
April 2022	44	34	22
March 2022	45	35	20
February 2022	46	32	22
January 2022	45	29	25
HIGHEST EVER	**47 (9/22)**	**41 (8/22)**	**69 (4/21)**
LOWEST EVER	**18 (4/21)**	**13 (4/21)**	**13 (9/22, 8/22)**

Q. 8   Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Lee Zeldin?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2022*	31	33	36
August 2022*	31	28	41
June 2022	21	22	57
April 2022	22	19	59
March 2022	20	20	60
February 2022	18	20	62
January 2022	19	18	63
HIGHEST EVER	**31 (9/22, 8/22)**	**33 (9/22)**	**67 (9/21)**
LOWEST EVER	**17 (10/21)**	**15 (9/21)**	**36 (9/22)**

Q. 9   Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Tom DiNapoli?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2022*	20	12	68
August 2022*	22	11	67
June 2022	21	14	65
January 2022	24	16	60
HIGHEST EVER	**35 (10/14)**	**36 (10/31/10)**	**80 (6/07)**
LOWEST EVER	**7 (6/07, 5/07)**	**9 (10/18)**	**37 (10/31/10)**

Q. 10   Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Paul Rodriguez?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2022*	7	6	87
August 2022*	7	7	85
HIGHEST EVER	**7 (9/22, 8/22)**	**7 (8/22)**	**87 (9/22)**
LOWEST EVER	**7 (9/22, 8/22)**	**6 (9/22)**	**85 (8/22)**

Q. 11   Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Letitia James?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2022*	45	30	25
August 2022*	43	29	28
June 2022	40	28	32
March 2022	42	27	32
February 2022	39	23	38
January 2022	40	25	35
HIGHEST EVER	**45 (9/22)**	**30 (9/22)**	**70 (6/18)**
LOWEST EVER	**20 (6/18)**	**10 (10/18, 6/18)**	**25 (9/22)**

Q. 12   Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Michael Henry?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2022*	4	5	92
August 2022*	5	5	90
HIGHEST EVER	**5 (8/22)**	**5 (9/22, 8/22)**	**92 (9/22)**
LOWEST EVER	**4 (9/22)**	**5 (9/22, 8/22)**	**90 (8/22)**

Q. 13 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Chuck Schumer?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2022*	50	40	9
August 2022*	49	43	8
June 2022	50	40	10
March 2022	50	40	9
February 2022	47	39	14
January 2022	51	38	12
HIGHEST EVER	**70 (7/05)**	**46 (2/19)**	**17 (2/05)**
LOWEST EVER	**45 (1/21, 11/20)**	**20 (2/05, 11/06)**	**4 (10/31/10)**

Q. 14 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Joe Pinion?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2022*	5	6	88
August 2022*	3	7	90
HIGHEST EVER	**5 (9/22)**	**7 (8/22)**	**90 (8/22)**
LOWEST EVER	**3 (8/22)**	**6 (9/22)**	**88 (9/22)**

Q. 15 Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Joe Biden is doing as President? FOLLOW UP: Is that strongly or somewhat?

DATE	STRONGLY APPROVE	SOMEWHAT APPROVE	SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE	STRONGLY DISAPPROVE	DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION
September 2022*	25	28	8	38	1
August 2022*	18	29	10	41	2
HIGHEST EVER	**25 (9/22)**	**29 (8/22)**	**10 (8/22)**	**41 (8/22)**	**2 (8/22)**
LOWEST EVER	**18 (8/22)**	**28 (9/22)**	**8 (9/22)**	**38 (9/22)**	**1 (9/22)**

Q. 16 Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Kathy Hochul is doing as governor? FOLLOW UP: Is that strongly or somewhat?

DATE	STRONGLY APPROVE	SOMEWHAT APPROVE	SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE	STRONGLY DISAPPROVE	DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION
September 2022*	24	29	11	31	5
August 2022*	22	30	10	31	6
HIGHEST EVER	**24 (9/22)**	**30 (8/22)**	**11 (9/22)**	**31 (9/22, 8/22)**	**6 (8/22)**
LOWEST EVER	**22 (8/22)**	**29 (9/22)**	**10 (8/22)**	**31 (9/22, 8/22)**	**5 (9/22)**

Q. 17 If the election for governor was held today and the candidates were (choices were rotated) Kathy Hochul, the Democrat, and Lee Zeldin, the Republican, would you vote for Zeldin or Hochul?

DATE	HOCHUL	ZELDIN	OTHER/NO VOTE/UNDECIDED
September 2022*	54	37	9
August 2022*	53	39	9
HIGHEST EVER	**54 (9/22)**	**39 (8/22)**	**9 (9/22, 8/22)**
LOWEST EVER	**53 (8/22)**	**37 (9/22)**	**9 (9/22, 8/22)**

Q. 18 If the election for United States Senate was held today and the candidates were (choices were rotated) Chuck Schumer, the Democrat, and Joseph Pinion, the Republican, would you vote for Pinion or Schumer?

DATE	SCHUMER	PINION	OTHER/NO VOTE/UNDECIDED
September 2022*	55	36	9
August 2022*	56	35	9
HIGHEST EVER	**56 (8/22)**	**36 (9/22)**	**9 (9/22, 8/22)**
LOWEST EVER	**55 (9/22)**	**35 (8/22)**	**9 (9/22, 8/22)**

Q. 19 If the election for New York State Attorney General was held today and the candidates were (choices were rotated) Letitia James, the Democrat, and Michael Henry, the Republican, would you vote for Henry or James?

DATE	JAMES	HENRY	OTHER/NO VOTE/UNDECIDED
September 2022*	53	37	10
August 2022*	50	36	14
HIGHEST EVER	**53 (9/22)**	**37 (9/22)**	**14 (8/22)**
LOWEST EVER	**50 (8/22)**	**36 (8/22)**	**10 (9/22)**

Q. 20 If the election for New York State Comptroller was held today and the candidates were (choices were rotated) Tom DiNapoli, the Democrat, and Paul Rodriguez, the Republican, would you vote for Rodriguez or DiNapoli?

DATE	DINAPOLI	RODRIGUEZ	OTHER/NO VOTE/UNDECIDED
September 2022*	52	29	19
August 2022*	51	30	19
HIGHEST EVER	**52 (9/22)**	30 (8/22)	**19 (9/22, 8/22)**
LOWEST EVER	51 (8/22)	**29 (9/22)**	**19 (9/22, 8/22)**

Q. 22 Currently, the Democrats have a majority in the United States House of Representatives. Every seat is up for election in November. After the election, who would you like to see control the House of Representatives (choices were rotated) the Democrats or the Republicans?

DATE	DEMOCRATS	REPUBLICANS	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2022*	54	39	7
August 2022*	55	40	6
HIGHEST EVER	**55 (8/22)**	**40 (8/22)**	**7 (9/22)**
LOWEST EVER	**54 (9/22)**	**39 (9/22)**	6 (8/22)

Q. 23 Do you support or oppose the recent Supreme Court decision that overturned Roe v Wade and eliminated the constitutional right to abortion?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	MIXED/DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
September 2022*	27	67	6
August 2022*	25	68	7
HIGHEST EVER	**27 (9/22)**	68 (8/22)	7 (8/22)
LOWEST EVER	25 (8/22)	**67 (9/22)**	**6 (9/22)**

Q. 24 Do you think abortion should be always legal, mostly legal, mostly illegal, or always illegal

DATE	ALWAYS LEGAL	MOSTLY LEGAL	MOSTLY ILLEGAL	ALWAYS ILLEGAL	DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION
September 2022*	40	32	15	6	7
August 2022*	44	30	16	5	6
HIGHEST EVER	44 (8/22)	**32 (9/22)**	16 (8/22)	**6 (9/22)**	**7 (9/22)**
LOWEST EVER	**40 (9/22)**	30 (8/22)	**15 (9/22)**	5 (8/22)	6 (8/22)

Poll Trend Notes: * All surveys are of registered voters except for the following polls: August \thru September 2022, October 2020; June thru November 2018; November 2017; 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 January 2022.

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

ᴧ Inconsequential wording change.