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Contact:

Steven Greenberg, 518-469-9858

Website/Twitter:

www.Siena.edu/SCRI/SNY

@SienaResearch

Siena College Poll:

Biden – with Worst Ever Favorability & Job Approval Ratings – Leads Trump 46-37%; Only Leads By 7 Points if RFK & West Are on Ballot; 52% of Dems Want Party to Nominate Someone other than Biden in ‘24

Recent Influx of Migrants is Serious Problem: 84% (57% Very Serious);

64% Say NY Has Done Enough & Must Slow Flow of Immigrants;

Adams Says Issue Will ‘Destroy NYC’ & 58% of NYers Agree

In Last Year, Crime Has Worsened in NYS: 59% & In their Community: 42% NYers Support Military & Economic Aid for Israel, 57-32%, & for Ukraine, 51-38%

Loudonville, NY. President Biden has a 45-52% favorability rating, down from 50-45% in September, and a 46-51% job approval rating, slightly down from 47-48% last month. For 2024, Democrats say they want a different presidential nominee than Biden, 52-41%; in September, they wanted Biden as their nominee, 54-40%. Biden leads former President Trump 46-37% in a head-to-head matchup, down from 52-31% last month. In a 4-way matchup, with independents Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. and Cornell West, Biden leads Trump 38-31%; Kennedy has 13% and West has 5%, according to a Siena College poll of registered New York State voters released today.

More than eight in ten voters continue to say that the recent influx of migrants to New York is a serious problem for the state, 57% very serious, up slightly from 54% in August. Nearly two-thirds, 64%, say New Yorkers have done enough for new migrants and must now work to slow the flow of migrants, compared to 29% who say the state should accept and work to assimilate them; it was 58-36% in August. And 58% agree with Mayor Eric Adams that the migrant issue ‘will destroy New York City.’

“Is New York still ‘true blue?’ True, 49% of voters are enrolled as Democrats and only 23% as Republicans. True, the last Republican presidential candidate to win here was Ronald Reagan in 1984. But also true is that just last year, a Republican came within seven points of being elected governor. And also true is that right now, Biden has his worst-ever New York favorability and job approval ratings,” said Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg. “The good news for Biden is the election is more than a year away. The bad news is there’s more bad news.”

“While 70% of Democrats view Biden favorably, and 70% of Democrats approve of the job he’s doing, 52% of Democrats say they want a different presidential nominee in 2024,” Greenberg said. “And in the general, Biden only leads Trump 46-37%, a far cry from the 61-38% margin Biden won by in 2020. Biden’s lead slips to just seven points if RFK and West – who, combined, win the support of nearly one in five voters – are on the ballot.”

Majority of NYers Says Migrant Influx is Very Serious Problem & Majority Agree it ‘Will Destroy NYC’

“While other issues in Washington and abroad have largely driven the news cycle over the last few weeks, the influx of migrants to New York remains top of mind for voters, with 84% saying it’s a serious – 57% very serious – problem for the state,” Greenberg said. “Seldom do we see an issue where at least 79% of Democrats, Republicans, independents, men, women, upstaters, downstaters, Blacks, whites, Latinos, Catholics, Jews, and Protestants all agree – that the migrant influx is a serious problem.

“The strong majority of voters last month who said by 22 points that New Yorkers must work to slow the flow of migrants rather than accept and assimilate them, has grown to an overwhelming 35-point majority today,” Greenberg said. “That view is shared by 82% of Republicans, 68% of independents and 52% of Democrats, as well as two-thirds of downstaters and 59% of upstaters.

“While a plurality of New Yorkers do not approve of the job Adams is doing to address the influx of migrants, a 58-32% majority of New Yorkers – including a narrow plurality of Democrats – agree with Adams’ statement that ‘this issue will destroy New York City.’ A majority of white (60%), Black (57%) and Latino (51%) voters all agree,” Greenberg said.

“Voters disapprove of the job Governor Kathy Hochul is doing to address the migrant influx by 15 points, but

Do You Approve or Disapprove of Job Each Is Doing to Address the Recent Influx of Migrants to New York?									
	Approve Disapprove	OCTOBER 2023				AUGUST 2023			
		Total	Dem	Rep	I / O	Total	Dem	Rep	I / O
Kathy Hochul	Approve	37%	51%	16%	27%	35%	56%	11%	19%
	Disapprove	52%	36%	76%	58%	51%	31%	82%	64%
Eric Adams	Approve	30%	42%	15%	20%	31%	43%	16%	18%
	Disapprove	46%	39%	58%	49%	47%	37%	62%	54%
Biden Administration	Approve	29%	45%	6%	21%	34%	54%	11%	15%
	Disapprove	64%	48%	91%	72%	59%	40%	87%	73%
Siena College Poll: October 24, 2023									

they disapprove of the job Adams is doing on the migrant issue by 16 points and they disapprove of the Biden Administration on this issue by a whopping 35 points, including a slight plurality of Democrats,” Greenberg said.

59% of Voters Say Crime in New York State Has Gotten Worse Over Last Year

Only 9% of voters think the problem of crime in New York State has gotten better, while 28% say it’s stayed about the same, and a majority, 59%, say it has gotten worse. More than three-quarters of Republicans, nearly two-thirds of independent and a plurality of Democrats say it has gotten worse. In their communities, 10% say better, a plurality, 46%, say about the same and 42% say the crime problem has worsened over the last year.

“In May, 93% of voters said crime in the state was a serious problem – 59% very serious – and 65% said crime in their community was a serious problem, 26% very serious. Today, a strong majority of voters say the problem of crime in the state has only gotten worse over the last year, and more than four in ten say crime in their community has gotten worse over the last year,” Greenberg said.

Voters Support Military/Economic Aid for Ukraine; Bigger Majority Supports Aid for Israel

Voters support providing more military and economic aid to Ukraine 51-38%, and they support more aid to Israel 57-32%. When asked which view is closer to theirs, 50% said Israel must do everything it can to get back the hostages taken by Hamas but Israeli attacks in Gaza will largely hurt innocent Palestinian civilians more than anyone else, while 32% said that after the surprise attacks Hamas carried out on Israeli civilians, Israel must do everything it can in Gaza to make sure it never happens again, regardless of casualties.

“Democrats support more aid for Ukraine two-to-one, as do a plurality of independents, but a majority of Republicans oppose it,” Greenberg said. “Aid to Israel, however, is supported by 52% of independents, 57% of Democrats and 61% of Republicans. Jewish voters support aid to Ukraine 71-19% and aid to Israel 81-8%.

“Half of New Yorkers – including majorities of Democrats and independents – say they’re more concerned that Israeli attacks in Gaza will hurt innocent Palestinian civilians, while about one-third – including a plurality of Republicans and a majority of Jewish voters – say that Israel has to make sure it never happens again, regardless of casualties,” Greenberg said. “Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has a 27-32% favorability rating with New Yorkers. He’s viewed favorably by Republicans and unfavorably by Democrats and Jewish voters.”

Odds & Ends

- Hochul has a 40-44% favorability rating, down a little from 40-41% in September. Her job approval rating stands at 45-45%, down from 48-41% last month.
- Trump has a 36-59% favorability rating, up a little from 33-61% last month. He remains very popular with Republicans, who view him favorably, 70-24%, and want to see him be their party’s nominee for president next year, 61-32%, little changed from 63-32% in September.
- By a 49-37% margin, voters say they would vote for a Democrat, rather than a Republican, for their representative in Congress. Similarly, voters say they want Democrats to control the House after the 2024 election, 51-37%. In both cases, not surprisingly, Democrats overwhelmingly say Democrats, Republicans overwhelmingly say Republicans and independents are closely divided on both questions.
- Senator Kirsten Gillibrand has a 39-30% favorability rating, down from 41-27% in September. Voters remain divided on whether they would re-elect Gillibrand or would prefer ‘someone else,’ 39-38%, down a little, from 41-37% last month.

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This Siena College Poll was conducted October 15-19, 2023, among 1,225 NYS registered voters. Of the 1,225 respondents, 928 were contacted through a dual frame (landline and cell phone) mode and 297 respondents were drawn from a proprietary online panel (Lucid). Telephone calls were conducted in English and respondent sampling was initiated by asking for the youngest person in the household. Telephone sampling was conducted via a stratified dual frame probability sample of landline and cell phone telephone numbers weighted to reflect known population patterns. The landline telephone sample was obtained from ASDE and the cell phone sample was obtained from Dynata. Data from collection modes was statistically adjusted by age, party by region, race/ethnicity, education, and gender to ensure representativeness. It has an overall margin of error of +/- 3.4 percentage points including the design effects resulting from weighting. The Siena College Research Institute, directed by Donald Levy, Ph.D., conducts political, economic, social, and cultural research primarily in NYS. SCRI, an independent, nonpartisan 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 crosstabs: www.Siena.edu/SCRI/SNY.



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Siena College Poll Trends – October 2023

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
October 2023	34	52	14
September 2023	35	52	13
August 2023	39	48	12
June 2023	38	50	12
May 2023	42	48	11
March 2023	39	48	14
February 2023	41	49	10
January 2023	39	49	12
December 2022	38	50	11
October 2022*	39	52	9
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
October 2023	25	65	10
September 2023	33	59	8
August 2023	30	62	8
June 2023	32	61	8
May 2023	28	63	8
March 2023	33	57	10
February 2023	35	56	9
January 2023	28	63	9
December 2022	32	59	9
October 2022*	30	61	9
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. 3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Joe Biden?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	45	52	3
September 2023	50	45	5
August 2023	46	50	4
June 2023	47	47	6
May 2023	51	45	4
March 2023	48	45	6
February 2023	54	43	3
January 2023	49	47	4
December 2022	48	46	6
October 2022*	53	45	3
HIGHEST EVER	65 (2/21)	52 (10/23)	28 (9/08)
LOWEST EVER	45 (10/23, 2/20)	26 (9/08)	3 (2/23, 9/22, 2/21)

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Q. 4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Donald Trump?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	36	59	5
September 2023	33	61	5
August 2023	37	56	7
June 2023	33	61	6
May 2023	30	64	5
March 2023	38	57	5
February 2023	37	60	2
January 2023	31	64	4
December 2022	37	58	6
October 2022*	36	61	3
HIGHEST EVER	41 (12/16)	72 (8/16)	10 (10/13)
LOWEST EVER	24 (8/16)	53 (12/16)	2 (2/23, 4/20, 9/15)

Q. 5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kathy Hochul?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	40	44	16
September 2023	40	41	19
August 2023	40	46	14
June 2023	42	43	16
May 2023	40	45	15
March 2023	43	43	13
February 2023	46	43	11
January 2023	48	42	10
December 2022	45	43	12
October 2022*	45	41	14
HIGHEST EVER	48 (1/23)	46 (8/23)	69 (4/21)
LOWEST EVER	18 (4/21)	13 (4/21)	10 (1/23)

Q. 6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kirsten Gillibrand?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	39	30	31
September 2023	41	27	32
August 2023	39	28	33
June 2023	41	31	28
May 2023	41	31	28
March 2023	46	25	29
February 2023	43	36	22
December 2022	42	27	31
HIGHEST EVER	61 (12/12)	36 (2/23, 9/19, 8/19, 6/19)	56 (1/09)
LOWEST EVER	26 (3/09)	14 (1/09)	14 (4/20, 10/31/10)

Q. 7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Chuck Schumer?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	44	41	15
September 2023	47	37	15
August 2023	48	38	14
June 2023	46	38	16
May 2023	50	38	12
March 2023	54	36	11
February 2023	48	45	8
December 2022	49	40	11
October 2022*	53	40	7
HIGHEST EVER	70 (7/05)	46 (2/19)	17 (2/05)
LOWEST EVER	44 (10/23)	20 (2/05, 11/06)	4 (10/31/10)

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Q. 8 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Hakeem Jeffries?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	33	23	44
September 2023	32	22	47
January 2023	33	20	47
December 2022	33	17	51
HIGHEST EVER	33 (10/23, 1/23, 12/22)	23 (10/23)	51 (12/22)
LOWEST EVER	32 (9/23)	17 (12/22)	44 (10/23)

Q. 9 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Democrats in Congress?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	44	46	10
January 2023	50	43	8
September 2011	40	54	6
HIGHEST EVER	50 (1/23)	54 (9/11)	10 (10/23)
LOWEST EVER	40 (9/11)	43 (1/23)	6 (9/11)

Q. 10 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Republicans in Congress?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	30	58	11
January 2023	36	57	7
September 2011	26	68	6
HIGHEST EVER	36 (1/23)	68 (9/11)	11 (10/23)
LOWEST EVER	26 (9/11)	57 (1/23)	6 (9/11)

Q. 13 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kamala Harris?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	42	47	11
September 2023	46	44	10
January 2021	56	34	10
HIGHEST EVER	56 (1/21)	47 (10/23)	12 (11/20)
LOWEST EVER	42 (10/23)	33 (11/20)	10 (9/23, 1/21)

Q. 14 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Elise Stefanik?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	19	24	57
May 2021	24	26	51
HIGHEST EVER	24 (5/21)	26 (5/21)	57 (10/23)
LOWEST EVER	19 (10/23)	24 (10/23)	51 (5/21)

Q. 17 REPS ONLY: If the 2024 Republican primary for President was held today, would you vote for Donald Trump or someone else?

DATE	TRUMP	DIFFERENT CANDIDATE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	61	32	7
September 2023	63	32	5
August 2023	64	27	8
June 2023	61	34	5
May 2023	60	32	8
HIGHEST EVER	64 (8/23)	34 (6/23)	8 (5/23)
LOWEST EVER	60 (5/23)	27 (8/23)	5 (9/23, 6/23)

Q. 19 DEMS ONLY: Do you think the Democratic Party should renominate Joe Biden as the party's candidate for President in 2024, or do you think the party should nominate a different candidate for President in 2024?

DATE	RENOMINATE BIDEN	DIFFERENT CANDIDATE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	41	52	6
September 2023	54	40	6
August 2023	47	46	7
June 2023	54	40	6
May 2023	56	40	4
March 2023	43	51	7
HIGHEST EVER	56 (5/21)	52 (10/23)	7 (8/23, 3/23)
LOWEST EVER	41 (10/23)	40 (9/23, 6/23, 5/23)	4 (5/23)

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Q. 21 If Kirsten Gillibrand runs for re-election as US Senator in 2024, as things stand now, would you vote to re-elect her or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	RE-ELECT GILLIBRAND	SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	39	38	23
September 2023	41	37	22
August 2023	40	41	19
June 2023	40	40	20
May 2023	43	38	19
March 2023	43	38	19
HIGHEST EVER	43 (5/23, 3/23)	41 (8/23)	23 (10/23)
LOWEST EVER	39 (10/23)	37 (9/23)	19 (8/23, 5/23, 3/23)

Q. 22 Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Joe Biden is doing as President? FOLLOW UP: Is that strong or somewhat?

DATE	STRONGLY APPROVE	SOMEWHAT APPROVE	SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE	STRONGLY DISAPPROVE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	22	24	12	39	3
September 2023	22	25	13	35	4
August 2023	22	25	13	37	3
June 2023	24	23	17	34	3
May 2023	22	29	15	32	2
March 2023	24	26	15	33	2
February 2023	26	29	11	31	3
January 2023	21	30	14	33	2
December 2022	23	28	13	34	2
October 2022*	29	24	6	39	2
HIGHEST EVER	29 (10/22)	30 (1/23)	17 (6/23)	41 (8/22)	4 (9/23)
LOWEST EVER	18 (8/22)	23 (6/23)	6 (10/22)	31 (2/23)	1 (9/22)

Q. 23 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
October 2023	16	29	14	31	9
September 2023	16	32	16	25	11
August 2023	18	28	17	29	8
June 2023	19	29	16	28	9
May 2023	17	33	17	27	7
March 2023	20	32	15	26	7
February 2023	20	36	12	28	4
January 2023	20	36	11	25	8
December 2022	19	30	14	30	7
October 2022*	21	31	7	38	4
HIGHEST EVER	24 (9/22)	36 (2/23, 1/23)	17 (8/23, 5/23)	38 (10/22)	11 (9/23)
LOWEST EVER	16 (10/23, 9/23)	28 (8/23)	7 (10/22)	25 (9/23, 1/23)	4 (2/23)

Q. 24 Turning to the issue of migrants coming to New York. Looking back over the past 20 years or so, do you think that migrants resettling in New York has been more of a benefit, or more of a burden to the state?

DATE	BENEFIT	BURDEN	MIXED	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	32	54	5	9
August 2023	32	46	19	4
HIGHEST EVER	32 (10/23, 8/23)	54 (10/23)	19 (8/23)	9 (10/23)
LOWEST EVER	32 (10/23, 8/23)	46 (8/23)	5 (10/23)	4 (8/23)

Q. 25 Currently, how serious a problem do you think the recent influx of migrants coming to New York is for the state?

DATE	VERY SERIOUS	SOMEWHAT SERIOUS	NOT VERY SERIOUS	NOT AT ALL SERIOUS	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	57	27	8	4	3
August 2023	54	28	10	6	3
HIGHEST EVER	57 (10/23)	28 (8/23)	10 (8/23)	6 (8/23)	3 (10/23, 8/23)
LOWEST EVER	54 (8/23)	27 (10/23)	8 (10/23)	4 (10/23)	3 (10/23, 8/23)

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- Q. 26** Do you think New Yorkers should accept new migrants and work to assimilate them into New York, or New Yorkers have already done enough for new migrants and should now work to slow the flow of migrants to New York? (Order of choices was rotated.)

DATE	ACCEPT/ASSIMILATE	SLOW THE FLOW	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	29	64	8
August 2023	36	58	6
HIGHEST EVER	36 (8/23)	64 (10/23)	8 (10/23)
LOWEST EVER	29 (10/23)	58 (8/23)	6 (8/23)

- Q. 27** Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Eric Adams is doing to address the recent influx of migrants to New York?
FOLLOW UP: Is that strongly or somewhat?

DATE	STRONGLY APPROVE	SOMEWHAT APPROVE	SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE	STRONGLY DISAPPROVE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	9	21	16	30	25
August 2023	10	21	17	30	23
HIGHEST EVER	10 (8/23)	21 (10/23, 8/23)	17 (8/23)	30 (10/23, 8/23)	25 (10/23)
LOWEST EVER	9 (10/23)	21 (1-/23, 8/23)	16 (10/23)	30 (10/23, 8/23)	23 (8/23)

- Q. 28** Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Kathy Hochul is doing to address the recent influx of migrants to New York?
FOLLOW UP: Is that strongly or somewhat?

DATE	STRONGLY APPROVE	SOMEWHAT APPROVE	SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE	STRONGLY DISAPPROVE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	11	26	16	36	12
August 2023	11	24	16	35	13
HIGHEST EVER	11 (10/23, 8/23)	26 (10/23)	16 (10/23, 8/23)	36 (10/23)	13 (8/23)
LOWEST EVER	11 (10/23, 8/23)	24 (8/23)	16 (10/23, 8/23)	35 (8/23)	12 (10/23)

- Q. 29** Do you approve or disapprove of the job that the Biden Administration is doing to address the recent influx of migrants to New York? FOLLOW UP: Is that strongly or somewhat?

DATE	STRONGLY APPROVE	SOMEWHAT APPROVE	SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE	STRONGLY DISAPPROVE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	10	19	18	46	7
August 2023	12	22	18	41	7
HIGHEST EVER	12 (8/23)	22 (8/23)	18 (10/23, 8/23)	46 (10/23)	7 (10/23, 8/23)
LOWEST EVER	10 (10/23)	19 (10/23)	18 (10/23, 8/23)	41 (8/23)	7 (10/23, 8/23)

- Q. 33** If the 2024 election for President was held today and the candidates were Democrat Joe Biden and Republican Donald Trump, would you vote for Trump or Biden? (Order of candidates was rotated.)

DATE	BIDEN	TRUMP	OTHER/NO VOTE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2023	46	37	9	8
September 2023	52	31	7	10
August 2023	47	34	11	8
June 2023	50	28	17	4
HIGHEST EVER	52 (9/23)	37 (10/23)	17 (6/23)	10 (9/23)
LOWEST EVER	46 (10/23)	28 (6/23)	7 (9/23)	4 (2/23)

Poll Trend Notes: * All surveys are of registered voters except for the following polls: August thru October 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 October 2022.

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

^ Inconsequential wording change.