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Siena Poll of Likely New York State Voters:

Governor: Hochul 54% Blakeman 40% (September: Hochul 50-41%)
NYS Attorney General: James 54% Komatireddy 39% (Sept.: 52-39%)
State Comptroller: DiNapoli 59% Hernandez 32% (Sept.: 56-33%)
Congressional Ballot: Democrat 54% Republican 39% (Sept.: 51-40%)

A Majority of Voters – For the First Time Ever – Views Hochul Favorably, 51-45%
More than 2/3 of Voters – Including 40% of Republicans – Think Hochul Will Win

Loudonville, NY. Governor Kathy Hochul (D) has widened her lead over Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman (R) to 54-40%, up from 50-41% in September, according to a new Siena Poll of likely New York State voters released today. For the first time, a majority of voters, 51-45%, views Hochul favorably. By a 68-23% margin, voters think Hochul will win the election, including 40% of Republicans.

In the two other statewide races, Democratic incumbents have double-digit leads. Attorney General Letitia James leads Republican Saritha Komatireddy, 54-39%, up slightly from 52-39% in September, and Comptroller Tom DiNapoli leads the GOP's Joseph Hernandez 59-32%, up a little from 56-33% last month. Democrats also extended their lead in the generic congressional ballot and now lead 54-39%, from 51-40% in September.

Hochul vs. Blakeman (Likely Voters)								
		Total	Dems	Reps	Ind	NYC	Burbs	Upstate
October 28, 2026	Hochul	54%	85%	10%	51%	67%	49%	49%
	Blakeman	40%	11%	86%	40%	23%	47%	48%
September 22, 2026	Hochul	50%	81%	8%	39%	61%	48%	44%
	Blakeman	41%	11%	88%	44%	27%	46%	47%
August 12, 2026	Hochul	49%	80%	9%	40%	64%	41%	45%
	Blakeman	39%	8%	84%	45%	19%	49%	46%
Siena Polls: 10/28/26, 9/22/26, 8/12/26								

“Heading into the final stretch, Hochul has a 14-point lead, with Blakeman quickly running out of time to close a gap that is growing rather than narrowing,” Siena pollster Steven Greenberg said. “And here’s the bottom line: for Republicans to win statewide, they must win convincingly upstate and in the downstate suburbs to offset the Democratic tsunami that is New York City, and they must win independents by a significant margin to offset Democrats’ two-to-one enrollment advantage. But with only a week to go, Blakeman and Hochul are running virtually evenly upstate and in the downstate suburbs, while Hochul has an 11-point lead with independents.

“Hochul leads among women by 23 points and also among men by six points,” Greenberg said. “White voters are closely divided, however, Hochul leads among Latinos better than two-to-one, and with Black voters, 81-16%.”

Hochul’s favorability rating is 51-45%, up a little from 48-46% in September. Her job approval rating also ticked up this month, to 51-46%, from 48-47%. Blakeman’s favorability rating, 39-40%, compares to 35-34% last month.

“We’ve often noted that never once in her five years as governor has Hochul’s favorable rating hit 50% in a state where 48% of voters are her fellow Democrats. We will note that no longer as 51% of likely voters now view Hochul favorably, and 51% approve of the job she’s doing as governor,” Greenberg said. “While Blakeman has become more well known to more voters over the course of the campaign, voters are closely divided, with 39% viewing him favorably and 40% viewing him unfavorably.

“Three in 10 voters, including 51% of Democrats, think Hochul, if elected, will make life more affordable for average New Yorkers, while 27%, including 60% of Republicans, say Blakeman will make life more affordable if he’s elected,” Greenberg said. “A plurality of voters, 35%, including 45% of independents, say neither candidate would make life more affordable for average New Yorkers,” Greenberg said.

“When does prediction become reality? While Hochul leads Blakeman by 14 points, voters overwhelmingly think Hochul will win, 68-23%,” Greenberg said. “Even Republicans are not strongly convinced their candidate will win, as 49% think Blakeman will win but 40% of GOP voters say that Hochul will win re-election.”

New York Statewide Races								
		Total	Dems	Reps	Ind	NYC	Burbs	Upstate
Governor	Hochul	54%	85%	10%	51%	67%	49%	49%
	Blakeman	40%	11%	86%	40%	23%	47%	48%
Attorney General	James	54%	87%	7%	50%	70%	50%	46%
	Komatireddy	39%	10%	85%	40%	22%	44%	48%
Comptroller	DiNapoli	59%	85%	19%	59%	68%	55%	55%
	Hernandez	32%	8%	71%	31%	20%	35%	38%
Generic Congressional	Democrats	54%	88%	6%	50%	71%	48%	47%
	Republicans	39%	10%	90%	36%	24%	45%	46%
Siena Poll: October 28, 2026 / Likely Voters								

DiNapoli Has Commanding 27-Point Lead over Hernandez; James Leads Komatireddy by 15 Points

DiNapoli has a 47-16% favorability rating, up from 41-18% last month. Hernandez’s favorability rating is 21-13-66%, compared to 16-9-74% in September. James’ favorability rating is 51-39%, little changed from 51-40% last month. Komatireddy has a 26-15-59% favorability rating, up from 17-12-71% in September.

“DiNapoli, the least known statewide official, got more votes than any other candidate in New York in 2014, 2018 and 2022. Unless something dramatic happens in the final week – virtually unheard of in a down-ballot race – he appears to be headed toward an easy victory over Hernandez, and leading the ballot again,” Greenberg said. “While James does not have a DiNapoli-sized lead, she appears poised to be comfortably re-elected, with the support of 87% of Democrats and leading among independents 50-40%. Komatireddy must overcome a 70-22% deficit in New York City, made more difficult as she also trails in the downstate suburbs, 50-44%.”

Democrats Extend Lead to 15 Points in Congressional Generic Ballot

“Democrats have a 54-39% lead over Republicans in the generic congressional ballot, up from 51-40% last month,” Greenberg said. “While this is not a harbinger of what’s to come in any particular congressional district, it does signal that overall, New York voters, including independents by a 50-36% margin, prefer an unnamed Democrat over an unnamed Republican for election to the House,” Greenberg said.

Odds & Ends

- ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) continues to be viewed unfavorably, 37-60%. That is an improvement for ICE compared to January’s 28-67% favorability rating. By a 60-37% margin, voters oppose the way ICE is working, little changed from 36-60% in August. A majority, 62%, say ICE’s tactics have gone too far, 11% say they haven’t gone far enough and 24% say ICE’s tactics are about right, little changed from 63-12-24% in August.
- Voters say the state is headed in the wrong direction (not the right track) 49-41%, slightly improved from 49-38% last month. By a 66-27% margin, voters say the country is headed in the wrong direction, virtually unchanged from 66-28% in September.
- President Donald Trump has a 36-61% favorability rating, up a little from 34-63% in September. His job approval rating stands at 37-62%, also up a little from 35-62% last month.
- Zohran Mamdani’s favorability rating is 47-43%. It was 46-44% last month. He is popular with Democrats, 75-16%, and is better than two-to-one favorable in New York City, 69-28%, up from 60-31% last month.
- By 48-28%, voters say Trump’s endorsement of Blakeman has been a negative for that campaign (51-30% last month), and Mamdani’s endorsement of Hochul has been a positive for her campaign, 45-30% (50-30% in September).

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Methodology

This Siena Poll was conducted October 19-22, 2026, among 807 New York Likely Voters. Of the 807 respondents, 494 were contacted through a dual frame (landline and cell phone) mode (313 completed via text to web). Telephone calls were conducted in English and respondent sampling was initiated by asking for the voter listed on the voter file by name. 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 and the cell phone sample was obtained from L2 Voter Database. Duplicate responses are identified by their response ID and removed from the sample. Coding of open-ended responses was done by a single human coder. Data from collection modes were weighted to balance sample demographics to match estimates for New York’s population using data from the state voter file, on age, region, race/ethnicity, education, party identification, a combined measure of stated and derived vote likelihood, and gender to ensure representativeness. **It has an overall margin of error of +/- 4.1 percentage points including the design effects resulting from weighting.** Sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error and there may be other unmeasured error in this or any other public opinion poll. The Siena Research Institute (SRI) powered by ReconMR is directed by Donald Levy, Ph.D.. SRI conducts political, economic, social, and cultural research primarily in NYS. 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 crosstabs: www.Siena.edu/SRI/SNY.



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Siena Poll Trends – October 2026

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 2026*	41	49	10
September 2026*	38	49	13
August 2026*	43	47	10
June 2026	44	41	15
April 2026	38	48	14
March 2026	37	48	15
February 2026	42	46	12
January 2026	43	45	12
December 2025	44	41	14
November 2025	39	45	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
October 2026*	27	66	7
September 2026*	28	66	6
August 2026*	31	62	7
June 2026	28	63	8
April 2026	29	65	7
March 2026	30	62	8
February 2026	31	62	7
January 2026	30	63	7
December 2025	31	63	6
November 2025	30	62	8
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 If the election for Governor was held today, who would you vote for if the candidates were Democrat Kathy Hochul and Republican Bruce Blakeman? (Names of candidates were rotated.)

DATE	HOCHUL	BLAKEMAN	OTHER/ NO VOTE	DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION
October 2026*	54	40	0	6
September 2026*	50	41	0	9
August 2026*	49	39	1	11
June 2026	52	32	1	15
April 2026	49	33	3	16
March 2026	47	34	3	16
February 2026	51	31	3	15
January 2026	54	28	1	17
December 2025	50	25	4	21
HIGHEST EVER	54 (10/26, 1/26)	41 (9/26)	4 (12/25)	21 (12/25)
LOWEST EVER	47 (3/26)	25 (12/25)	0 (10/26, 9/26)	6 (10/26)

Q. 4 If the election for New York State Attorney General was held today, who would you vote for if the candidates were Democrat Letitia James and Republican Saritha Komatireddy? (Names of candidates were rotated.)

DATE	JAMES	KOMATIREDDY	OTHER/ NO VOTE	DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION
October 2026*	54	39	0	6
September 2026*	52	39	0	10
August 2026*	54	36	0	10
HIGHEST EVER	54 (10/26, 8/26)	39 (10/26, 9/26)	0 (10/26, 9/26, 8/26)	10 (9/26, 8/26)
LOWEST EVER	52 (9/26)	36 (8/26)	0 (10/26, 9/26, 8/26)	6 (10/26)

Siena Poll Trends – October 2026 – Page 2

Q. 5 If the election for New York State Comptroller was held today, who would you vote for if the candidates were Democrat Tom DiNapoli and Republican Joseph Hernandez? (Names of candidates were rotated.)

DATE	DI NAPOLI	HERNANDEZ	OTHER/ NO VOTE	DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION
October 2026*	59	32	0	10
September 2026*	56	33	0	12
August 2026*	55	32	1	12
HIGHEST EVER	59 (10/26)	33 (9/26)	1 (8/26)	12 (9/26, 8/26)
LOWEST EVER	55 (8/26)	32 (10/26, 8/26)	0 (10/26, 9/26)	10 (10/26)

Q. 6 If the election for your representative in Congress was held today, would you vote for the Democrat or the Republican? (Names of parties were rotated.)

DATE	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN	OTHER/ NOT VOTE	DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION
October 2026*	54	39	0	6
September 2026*	51	40	1	7
August 2026*	54	38	0	8
June 2026	52	32	5	10
April 2026	52	33	6	9
March 2026	52	35	4	9
February 2026	53	32	5	9
January 2026	56	29	4	10
December 2025	55	31	5	9
November 2025	55	32	1	12
HIGHEST EVER	56 (1/26)	40 (9/26)	6 (4/26)	12 (11/25)
LOWEST EVER	51 (9/26)	29 (1/26)	0 (10/26, 8/26)	6 (10/26)

Q. 7 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 2026*	20	31	9	37	3
September 2026*	18	30	9	38	4
August 2026*	18	30	13	36	4
June 2026	19	34	17	25	6
April 2026	15	33	15	29	9
March 2026	17	35	14	26	8
February 2026	19	34	13	28	7
January 2026	17	37	15	26	5
December 2025	16	36	15	24	8
November 2025	15	37	16	27	5
September 2025	16	38	16	24	7
HIGHEST EVER	24 (9/22)	38 (9/25, 8/25)	20 (12/24, 2/24)	40 (9/24)	11 (9/23)
LOWEST EVER	12 (9/24)	27 (10/24, 9/24)	7 (10/22)	24 (12/25, 9/25)	3 (10/26, 5/25)

Q. 8 Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Donald Trump 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
October 2026*	19	18	6	56	1
September 2026*	18	17	6	56	2
August 2026*	23	14	5	55	3
June 2026	19	15	10	55	1
April 2026	19	15	9	55	2
March 2026	23	14	8	53	2
February 2026	21	15	8	53	3
January 2026	22	12	9	54	3
December 2025	19	15	10	52	3
November 2025	21	16	10	51	2
September 2025	22	15	10	52	1
HIGHEST EVER	31 (2/25)	18 (10/26, 8/25)	11 (6/25)	56 (10/26, 9/26)	3 (Many)
LOWEST EVER	18 (9/26)	12 (1/26)	5 (8/26)	44 (2/25)	1 (10/26, 6/26, 9/25)

Siena Poll Trends – October 2026 – Page 3

Q. 9 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Kathy Hochul?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2026*	51	45	5
September 2026*	48	46	6
August 2026*	46	49	5
June 2026	43	44	13
April 2026	41	46	13
March 2026	45	42	12
February 2026	46	42	12
January 2026	49	40	11
December 2025	43	41	16
November 2025	43	45	12
HIGHEST EVER	51 (10/26)	54 (9/24)	69 (4/21)
LOWEST EVER	18 (4/21)	13 (4/21)	5 (10/26, 8/26)

Q. 10 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Bruce Blakeman?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2026*	39	40	21
September 2026*	35	34	31
August 2026*	33	26	40
June 2026	25	21	54
April 2026	17	19	64
March 2026	18	18	64
February 2026	21	18	61
January 2026	18	20	62
December 2025	13	17	70
HIGHEST EVER	39 (10/26)	40 (10/26)	90 (12/09)
LOWEST EVER	4 (12/09)	6 (5/10, 4/10, 2/09)	21 (10/26)

Q. 11 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Donald Trump?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2026*	36	61	3
September 2026*	34	63	4
August 2026*	38	60	2
June 2026	32	63	5
April 2026	33	64	3
March 2026	35	62	3
February 2026	35	60	5
January 2026	33	63	4
December 2025	32	62	6
November 2025	35	61	3
HIGHEST EVER	41 (2/25, 12/16)	72 (8/16)	10 (10/13)
LOWEST EVER	24 (8/16)	53 (12/16)	2 (8/26, 8/24, 2/23, 4/20, 9/15)

Q. 12 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Zohran Mamdani?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2026*	47	43	10
September 2026*	46	44	10
August 2026*	47	44	9
June 2026	45	34	21
April 2026	43	40	17
March 2026	44	37	19
February 2026	47	35	18
January 2026	48	32	20
December 2025	46	31	23
November 2025	40	40	20
HIGHEST EVER	48 (1/26)	44 (9/26, 8/26)	34 (8/25)
LOWEST EVER	28 (8/25)	31 (12/25)	9 (8/26)

Siena Poll Trends – October 2026 – Page 4

Q. 13 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Letitia James?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2026*	51	39	9
September 2026*	51	40	10
August 2026*	52	38	11
April 2026	40	32	28
March 2026	41	30	29
February 2026	44	29	27
January 2026	44	30	26
December 2025	45	31	24
November 2025	43	32	25
HIGHEST EVER	52 (8/26)	40 (9/26)	70 (6/18)
LOWEST EVER	20 (6/18)	10 (10/18, 6/18)	9 (10/26)

Q. 14 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Saritha Komatireddy?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2026*	26	15	59
September 2026*	17	12	71
August 2026*	17	12	71
HIGHEST EVER	26 (10/26)	15 (10/26)	71 (9/26, 8/26)
LOWEST EVER	17 (9/26, 8/26)	12 (9/26, 8/26)	59 (10/26)

Q. 15 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Tom DiNapoli?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2026*	47	16	37
September 2026*	41	18	40
August 2026*	42	18	40
April 2026	19	16	66
March 2026	20	15	65
February 2026	22	14	64
January 2026	21	13	66
November 2025	19	15	65
HIGHEST EVER	47 (10/26)	36 (10/31/10)	80 (6/07)
LOWEST EVER	7 (6/07, 5/07)	9 (10/18)	37 (10/26, 10/31/10)

Q. 16 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Joseph Hernandez?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2026*	21	13	66
September 2026*	16	9	74
August 2026*	20	11	70
HIGHEST EVER	21 (10/26)	13 (10/26)	74 (9/26)
LOWEST EVER	16 (9/26)	9 (9/26)	66 (10/26)

Q. 17 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about ICE or Immigration and Customs Enforcement?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2026*	37	60	3
January 2026	28	67	4
HIGHEST EVER	37 (10/26)	67 (1/26)	4 (1/26)
LOWEST EVER	28 (1/26)	60 (10/26)	3 (10/26)

Q. 18 Do you think President Trump's endorsement of Blakeman has been a positive or a negative for Blakeman's campaign? ^

DATE	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE	IN BETWEEN/ NEITHER/BOTH	DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION
October 2026*	28	48	11	13
September 2026*	30	51	10	8
HIGHEST EVER	30 (9/26)	51 (9/26)	11 (10/26)	13 (10/26)
LOWEST EVER	28 (10/26)	48 (10/26)	10 (9/26)	8 (9/26)

Q. 19 Do you think Mayor Mamdani's endorsement of Hochul has been a positive or a negative for Hochul's campaign? ^

DATE	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE	IN BETWEEN/ NEITHER/BOTH	DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION
October 2026*	45	30	12	12
September 2026*	50	30	10	9
HIGHEST EVER	50 (9/26)	30 (10/26, 9/26)	12 (10/26)	12 (10/26)
LOWEST EVER	45 (10/26)	30 (10/26, 9/26)	10 (9/26)	9 (9/26)

Siena Poll Trends – October 2026 – Page 5

Q. 20 Regardless of who you are voting for, who do you think is going to win the election for governor: Hochul or Blakeman? (Names of candidates were rotated.)

DATE	HOCHUL	BLAKEMAN	OTHER/ NO VOTE	DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION
October 2026*	68	23	0	9
September 2026*	66	25	0	8
HIGHEST EVER	68 (10/26)	25 (9/26)	0 (10/26, 9/26)	9 (10/26)
LOWEST EVER	66 (9/26)	23 (10/26)	0 (10/26, 9/26)	8 (9/26)

Q. 22 Do you support or oppose the way in which Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents, commonly called ICE agents, are working to arrest people they suspect of being immigrants living illegally in the United States?

DATE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	MIDDLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2026*	37	60	1	2
August 2026*	36	60	3	1
March 2026	27	62	9	2
February 2026	30	57	10	3
January 2026	29	61	8	2
HIGHEST EVER	37 (10/26)	62 (3/26)	10 (2/26)	3 (2/26)
LOWEST EVER	27 (3/26)	57 (2/26)	3 (8/26)	1 (8/26)

Q. 23 Thinking about the tactics used by ICE, do you think they have gone too far, not gone far enough, or that they have been about right?

DATE	GONE TOO FAR	NOT FAR ENOUGH	ABOUT RIGHT	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
October 2026*	62	11	24	2
August 2026*	63	12	24	1
February 2026	63	9	21	6
January 2026	67	10	20	3
HIGHEST EVER	67 (1/26)	12 (8/26)	24 (10/26, 8/26)	6 (2/26)
LOWEST EVER	62 (10/26)	9 (2/26)	20 (1/26)	1 (8/26)

Poll Trend Notes: * All surveys are of registered voters except for the following polls: August thru October 2026, August thru October 2024, 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 Poll in February 2005.

Results listed here include every time questions have been asked since November 2025.

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

^ Inconsequential wording change.