



**Is the Third Term a Charm?  
Mayor Michael Bloomberg's Bid for Re-election**

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This Marist Poll reports:

**Term Limits:**

- **New Yorkers Favor Term Limits...But, Candidate Bloomberg Might Be a Game Changer:** Registered voters in New York City support term limits for their elected officials. 50% of New York City's electorate favors the current law while 35% oppose the restrictions on officials seeking re-election after a second term. However, when asked specifically if Mayor Michael Bloomberg should be allowed to seek a third term, more voters want to change the law. Yet, the issue remains controversial. In this case, 46% of New Yorkers report they would want the mayor to be permitted to run for another term. 44% of registered voters in the five boroughs say, "No way." 10% citywide haven't made up their minds.

**Question Wording:** Currently, there is an eight year term limit for all elected New York City officials which means they may not run for re-election after serving eight years. Overall, do you favor or oppose term limits for elected officials in New York City?

<b>Registered Voters</b>	Favor	Oppose	Unsure
Term limits NYC	50%	35%	15%

Do you think term limits in New York City should be changed to allow Mayor Michael Bloomberg to run for a third term next year?

<b>Registered Voters</b>	Yes	No	Unsure
Change for Mayor Bloomberg	46%	44%	10%

- Most NYC Voters Say, “Good job, Mayor Mike:”** 68% of registered voters in New York City think Bloomberg is doing either an excellent or good job as mayor. This is his highest approval rating since taking office in 2002. However, Mayor Bloomberg is not without his critics. 21% report he is doing a fair job while 11% believe his job performance is poor.

**Question Wording:** Would you rate the job Mayor Michael Bloomberg is doing in office as excellent, good, fair, or poor?

Registered Voters	Excellent/ Good	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure
<b>October 2008</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>&lt;1%</b>
February 2008	66%	22%	44%	25%	6%	3%
July 2007	66%	21%	45%	22%	8%	4%
March 2006	65%	20%	45%	24%	10%	1%
July 2005	58%	15%	43%	27%	12%	3%
April 2004	40%	7%	33%	38%	19%	3%
March 2002	50%	8%	42%	29%	6%	15%

- Bring Out the Brooms...Bloomberg Sweeps Potential Democratic Rivals:** If Bloomberg is a candidate for mayor in 2009, he beats his key competition handily. When placed up against City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, Congressman Anthony Weiner or City Comptroller Bill Thompson, Bloomberg bests Quinn 58% to 29%, outpaces Weiner 56% to 30%, and leads Thompson 55% to 30%.

**Question Wording:** If next year’s election for New York City mayor were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are Michael Bloomberg, an Independent or City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, the Democrat/Comptroller Bill Thompson, the Democrat/Congressman Anthony Weiner, the Democrat?

Registered Voters	Michael Bloomberg An Independent	Christine Quinn Democrat	Undecided
October 2008	58%	29%	13%

Registered Voters	Michael Bloomberg An Independent	Anthony Weiner Democrat	Undecided
October 2008	56%	30%	14%

Registered Voters	Michael Bloomberg An Independent	Bill Thompson Democrat	Undecided
October 2008	55%	30%	15%

**Nature of the Sample: 413 New York City Registered Voters**

This survey was conducted on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008. 413 registered voters within New York City area were interviewed by telephone using a blended method of interviewers and a standardized voice system. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a list of telephone exchanges from throughout New York City in proportion to the enrollment in each borough and adjusted for turnout in comparable elections. The results for the entire survey are statistically significant at  $\pm 5\%$ . The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.