



**Schumer Approval Rating At Lowest Level Since 2001**

\*\*\* Complete Tables for Poll Appended \*\*\*

**For Immediate Release: Monday, February 1, 2010**

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**This Marist Poll Reports:**

Senator Chuck Schumer's once rock solid approval rating has taken a slide. For the first time in nearly nine years, Schumer's approval rating has fallen below 50%. According to the latest Marist Poll in New York, 47% of registered voters statewide report Schumer is doing either an excellent or good job in office. 31% rate the job he is doing as fair, and 17% view him as performing poorly. This is Schumer's lowest job approval rating since April 2001 when 49% of voters approved of the job he was doing.

The approval rating of New York's senior senator has declined over the past couple of months. In Marist's last survey on January 15th, 51% said Schumer was doing an above average job. In November, he received a thumbs-up from 54% of registered voters in New York, and just last September, his approval rating was 58%.

Schumer's decline is most pronounced in New York City. 51% of New York City voters currently give Schumer high marks while 57% did the same two weeks ago, 64% in November, and 66% in September.

"Senator Schumer is not immune from the anti-incumbent sentiment among voters, but it would take a major effort to unseat him," says Dr. Lee M. Miringoff, Director of The Marist Institute for Public Opinion.

However, this is not Schumer's lowest approval rating. That occurred in March 2000 when The Marist Poll found 39% of registered voters statewide gave Schumer good grades.

**But, Schumer Still Fares Well in Hypothetical Contest**

The silver lining for Senator Schumer is that his approval rating does not translate into a competitive re-election contest against potential Republican challenger, CNBC anchor Larry Kudlow. If November's general election for U.S. Senate in New York were held today, 67% of registered voters statewide would support Schumer while 25% would cast their ballot for the Republican challenger, Kudlow. 8% are unsure.

There is a significant partisan divide in this matchup. 89% of registered Democrats would throw their support behind Schumer while 56% of Republicans would back Kudlow. More than six-in-ten non-enrolled voters would cast their ballot for Schumer.

### **Nature of the Sample: 838 New York State Registered Voters**

This survey of 838 New York State registered voters was conducted on January 25<sup>th</sup> through January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Registered voters were interviewed by telephone in proportion to the voter registration in each county in New York and adjusted for turnout in statewide elections. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a list of telephone exchanges from throughout the state. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region was represented in proportion to its population. In an effort to increase coverage, this land-line sample was supplemented by respondents reached through random dialing of cell phone numbers. The two samples were then combined. Results are statistically significant at  $\pm 3.5\%$ . The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.

# Marist Poll February 2010 NYS Tables

|                           |                    | Registered Voters  |       |       |       |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--|-------|-------|-------|--------------------|
|                           |                    | Would you rate the job Senator Charles Schumer is doing in office as excellent, good, fair, or poor? |       |       |       |                    |
|                           |                    | Excellent  | Good  | Fair  | Poor  | Unsure-Never Heard |
|                           |                    | Row %  | Row % | Row % | Row % | Row %              |
| <b>Registered Voters</b>  |                    | 11%  | 36%   | 31%   | 17%   | 5%                 |
| <b>Party Registration</b> | Democrat           | 16%  | 42%   | 29%   | 8%    | 5%                 |
|                           | Republican         | 5%   | 27%   | 33%   | 28%   | 7%                 |
|                           | Non-enrolled       | 9%   | 38%   | 29%   | 20%   | 4%                 |
| <b>Political Ideology</b> | Liberal            | 19%  | 42%   | 26%   | 7%    | 5%                 |
|                           | Moderate           | 11%  | 41%   | 32%   | 12%   | 4%                 |
|                           | Conservative       | 4%   | 24%   | 34%   | 32%   | 6%                 |
| <b>Region</b>             | New York City      | 11%  | 40%   | 31%   | 14%   | 4%                 |
|                           | Suburbs            | 16%  | 35%   | 28%   | 16%   | 5%                 |
|                           | Upstate            | 9%   | 35%   | 32%   | 19%   | 5%                 |
| <b>Income</b>             | Less \$50,000      | 13%  | 34%   | 32%   | 15%   | 6%                 |
|                           | \$50,000-\$99,999  | 10%  | 38%   | 32%   | 16%   | 4%                 |
|                           | \$100,000 or more  | 11%  | 36%   | 29%   | 20%   | 4%                 |
| <b>Income</b>             | Less than \$50,000 | 13%  | 34%   | 32%   | 15%   | 6%                 |
|                           | \$50,000 or more   | 10%  | 37%   | 31%   | 18%   | 4%                 |
| <b>Race</b>               | White              | 12%  | 36%   | 30%   | 18%   | 4%                 |
|                           | Non White          | 7%   | 39%   | 32%   | 15%   | 7%                 |
| <b>Age</b>                | 18 to 29           | 3%   | 45%   | 37%   | 4%    | 10%                |
|                           | 30 to 44           | 7%   | 30%   | 39%   | 19%   | 5%                 |
|                           | 45 to 59           | 13%  | 36%   | 29%   | 17%   | 4%                 |
|                           | 60 or older        | 16%  | 37%   | 23%   | 20%   | 3%                 |
| <b>Age</b>                | Under 45           | 6%   | 35%   | 38%   | 14%   | 7%                 |
|                           | 45 or older        | 14%  | 37%   | 26%   | 19%   | 4%                 |
| <b>Gender</b>             | Men                | 12%  | 33%   | 29%   | 23%   | 4%                 |
|                           | Women              | 10%  | 40%   | 32%   | 11%   | 6%                 |

February 2010 Marist Poll New York Registered Voters "N=838 MOE +/- 3.5%". Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

|                           |                           | Registered Voters   |  |            |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|--|------------|
|                           |                           | If the 2010 election for U.S. Senate in New York State were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are: |  |            |
|                           |                           | Charles Schumer, the Democratic candidate   | Larry Kudlow, the Republican candidate | Unsure     |
|                           |                           | Row %   | Row %                                  | Row %      |
| <b>Registered Voters</b>  |                           | <b>67%</b>  | <b>25%</b>                             | <b>8%</b>  |
| <b>Party Registration</b> | <b>Democrat</b>           | <b>89%</b>  | <b>7%</b>                              | <b>5%</b>  |
|                           | <b>Republican</b>         | <b>33%</b>  | <b>56%</b>                             | <b>11%</b> |
|                           | <b>Non-enrolled</b>       | <b>63%</b>  | <b>29%</b>                             | <b>8%</b>  |
| <b>Political Ideology</b> | <b>Liberal</b>            | <b>87%</b>  | <b>10%</b>                             | <b>3%</b>  |
|                           | <b>Moderate</b>           | <b>73%</b>  | <b>20%</b>                             | <b>6%</b>  |
|                           | <b>Conservative</b>       | <b>43%</b>  | <b>47%</b>                             | <b>11%</b> |
| <b>Region</b>             | <b>New York City</b>      | <b>75%</b>  | <b>22%</b>                             | <b>3%</b>  |
|                           | <b>Suburbs</b>            | <b>67%</b>  | <b>25%</b>                             | <b>8%</b>  |
|                           | <b>Upstate</b>            | <b>62%</b>  | <b>28%</b>                             | <b>10%</b> |
| <b>Income</b>             | <b>Less \$50,000</b>      | <b>68%</b>  | <b>26%</b>                             | <b>7%</b>  |
|                           | <b>\$50,000-\$99,999</b>  | <b>70%</b>  | <b>22%</b>                             | <b>8%</b>  |
|                           | <b>\$100,000 or more</b>  | <b>66%</b>  | <b>29%</b>                             | <b>5%</b>  |
| <b>Income</b>             | <b>Less than \$50,000</b> | <b>68%</b>  | <b>26%</b>                             | <b>7%</b>  |
|                           | <b>\$50,000 or more</b>   | <b>68%</b>  | <b>25%</b>                             | <b>7%</b>  |
| <b>Race</b>               | <b>White</b>              | <b>64%</b>  | <b>27%</b>                             | <b>8%</b>  |
|                           | <b>Non White</b>          | <b>80%</b>  | <b>16%</b>                             | <b>5%</b>  |
| <b>Age</b>                | <b>18 to 29</b>           | <b>66%</b>  | <b>25%</b>                             | <b>9%</b>  |
|                           | <b>30 to 44</b>           | <b>70%</b>  | <b>23%</b>                             | <b>7%</b>  |
|                           | <b>45 to 59</b>           | <b>68%</b>  | <b>25%</b>                             | <b>7%</b>  |
|                           | <b>60 or older</b>        | <b>64%</b>  | <b>28%</b>                             | <b>8%</b>  |
| <b>Age</b>                | <b>Under 45</b>           | <b>69%</b>  | <b>24%</b>                             | <b>8%</b>  |
|                           | <b>45 or older</b>        | <b>66%</b>  | <b>26%</b>                             | <b>8%</b>  |
| <b>Gender</b>             | <b>Men</b>                | <b>63%</b>  | <b>28%</b>                             | <b>9%</b>  |
|                           | <b>Women</b>              | <b>72%</b>  | <b>22%</b>                             | <b>6%</b>  |

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