



**Marist College Institute for Public Opinion**  
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NY1/YNN-Marist Poll  
**Obama Leads Potential GOP Challengers  
By Wide Margins in NY**  
\*\*\* Complete Tables for Poll Appended \*\*\*

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**This NY1/YNN-Marist Poll Reports:**

President Barack Obama will deliver his State of the Union address this evening. And, the good news for the president is the state of his electoral chances in New York is strong.

The president leads his closest competitor, Mitt Romney, by 23 percentage points among registered voters statewide. Nearly six in ten -- 58% -- are for Obama while 35% support Romney, and 7% are undecided.

"New York ranks with the bluest of the blue states," says Dr. Lee M. Miringoff, Director of The Marist College Institute for Public Opinion. "There's nothing in the numbers to suggest it will be any different this election cycle."

In a hypothetical contest between the president and Newt Gingrich, 63% favor Obama compared with 31% for Gingrich. Six percent are undecided.

When pitted against Rick Santorum, 61% of registered voters support Obama while 33% are for Santorum, and 6% are undecided. Against Ron Paul, the president has the support of 62% compared with 28% for Paul. Nine percent are undecided.

**Obama Approval Rating at 46% in NYS**

How do voters in New York State think the president is doing in office? 46% believe President Obama is doing either an excellent or good job. This includes 13% who say he is doing an excellent job and 33% who report he is doing a good one. 26% rate Obama's performance as fair while 28% think he is doing poorly. Less than one percent is unsure.



In November, 44% gave the president high marks, 27% gave him a fair rating, and 29% said the president was performing poorly. Less than one percent, at the time, was unsure.

### **Concrete Approval Rating for Schumer**

A majority of registered voters in New York -- 56% -- thinks Senator Chuck Schumer is doing either an excellent or good job in office. Included here are 18% who report Schumer is doing an excellent job and 38% who think he is doing a good one. More than one in four -- 27% -- rate the senator's performance as average while 12% think he is falling short. Five percent are unsure.

Schumer's approval rating is unchanged since NY1/YNN-Marist's November survey. At that time, 56% also gave Schumer a thumbs-up, 26% gave him fair grades, and 15% believed his performance was subpar. Three percent, then, were unsure.

### **38% Definitely Plan to Vote for Gillibrand**

When it comes to the re-election chances of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, fewer than four in ten registered voters in New York -- 38% -- say they definitely plan to cast their ballot for her. Nearly one in five -- 18% -- report they plan to vote against her. A notable 44% are unsure.

Similar proportions of voters had these views in November when 39% believed they would definitely support Gillibrand in her re-election bid, 22% said they would not, and 39% were unsure.

Gillibrand struggles to convince voters that she is doing well in office. 40% rate her performance as above average. This includes 6% who say she is excelling in her post and 34% who believe she is doing a good job. About three in ten -- 29% -- think Gillibrand's job performance is fair while 12% say she is falling short, and 18% are unsure.

In November, 41% gave Gillibrand above average marks, 32% said she was doing a fair job while 11% reported she was doing poorly. 16%, at the time, were unsure.



## How the Survey was Conducted

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### **Nature of the Sample: New York State Poll of 681 Adults**

This survey of 681 New York State adults was conducted on January 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Adults 18 years of age and older residing in New York State were interviewed by telephone. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a list of telephone exchanges from throughout the state. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each county was represented in proportion to its population. 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 within  $\pm 4.0$  percentage points. There are 554 registered voters. The sample of registered voters was adjusted for turnout in statewide elections. The results for this subset are statistically significant within  $\pm 4.5$  percentage points. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.



## Nature of the Sample: New York State

Nature of the Sample - New York State		
		NYS Adults
		NYS Registered Voters
		Col %
		Col %
Adults		100%
Registered Voters		81%
Party Registration	Democrat	n/a
	Republican	51%
	Non-enrolled	23%
	Other	25%
Support Tea Party	Yes	n/a
	No	19%
	Unsure	73%
Political Ideology	Liberal	n/a
	Moderate	8%
	Conservative	24%
Region	New York City	n/a
	Suburbs	46%
	Upstate	30%
Income	Less than \$50,000	42%
	\$50,000 or more	21%
Race	White	37%
	African American	46%
	Latino	43%
	Other	57%
Race	White	64%
	Non White	13%
Age	Under 45	16%
	45 or older	6%
Gender	Men	5%
	Women	71%
Interview Type	Landline	36%
	Cell Phone	29%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Adults: Interviews conducted January 18th and 19th, 2012, N=681 MOE +/- 4.0 percentage points. NYS Registered Voters: N=554 MOE +/- 4.5 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.



## 2012 Hypothetical Presidential Tossup: Obama/Romney

*Asked of NYS Registered Voters Split Sample:*

**Question Wording:** If the 2012 presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

		NYS Registered Voters		
		If the 2012 presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:		
		Barack Obama, the Democrat	Mitt Romney, the Republican	Undecided
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		58%	35%	7%
Party Registration	Democrat	81%	15%	4%
	Republican	29%	67%	4%
	Non-enrolled	38%	44%	18%
Political Ideology	Liberal	78%	14%	8%
	Moderate	60%	34%	6%
	Conservative	38%	56%	5%
Income	Less than \$50,000	57%	39%	4%
	\$50,000 or more	62%	32%	7%
Education	Not college graduate	60%	36%	5%
	College graduate	59%	34%	7%
Age	Under 45	64%	30%	6%
	45 or older	54%	38%	8%
Race	White	49%	44%	7%
	Non White	75%	17%	7%
Gender	Men	53%	38%	9%
	Women	62%	32%	6%
Interview Type	Landline	55%	39%	7%
	Cell Phone	72%	19%	9%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters Split Sample: Interviews conducted January 18th and 19th, 2012, N=296 MOE +/- 6.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.



## 2012 Hypothetical Presidential Tossup: Obama/Gingrich

*Asked of NYS Registered Voters Split Sample:*

**Question Wording:** If the 2012 presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

		NYS Registered Voters		
		If the 2012 presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:		
		Barack Obama, the Democrat	Newt Gingrich, the Republican	Undecided
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		63%	31%	6%
Party Registration	Democrat	84%	12%	4%
	Republican	25%	66%	9%
	Non-enrolled	71%	22%	6%
Political Ideology	Liberal	98%	1%	1%
	Moderate	71%	20%	9%
	Conservative	24%	73%	3%
Income	Less \$50,000	66%	30%	5%
	\$50,000 to just under \$100,000	60%	33%	7%
	\$100,000 or more	64%	29%	7%
Income	Less than \$50,000	66%	30%	5%
	\$50,000 or more	62%	31%	7%
Education	Not college graduate	57%	35%	9%
	College graduate	70%	27%	3%
Age	Under 45	67%	31%	3%
	45 or older	61%	31%	8%
Race	White	55%	38%	6%
	Non White	89%	6%	5%
Gender	Men	56%	37%	8%
	Women	70%	26%	4%
Interview Type	Landline	60%	34%	7%
	Cell Phone	78%	19%	3%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters Split Sample: Interviews conducted January 18th and 19th, 2012, N=258 MOE +/- 6.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.



## 2012 Hypothetical Presidential Tossup: Obama/Santorum

*Asked of NYS Registered Voters Split Sample:*

**Question Wording:** If the 2012 presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

		NYS Registered Voters		
		If the 2012 presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:		
		Barack Obama, the Democrat	Rick Santorum, the Republican	Undecided
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		61%	33%	6%
Party Registration	Democrat	81%	15%	4%
	Republican	23%	68%	9%
	Non-enrolled	68%	26%	5%
Political Ideology	Liberal	97%	3%	<1%
	Moderate	68%	23%	9%
	Conservative	21%	77%	2%
Income	Less \$50,000	66%	29%	5%
	\$50,000 to just under \$100,000	55%	40%	5%
	\$100,000 or more	64%	29%	7%
Income	Less than \$50,000	66%	29%	5%
	\$50,000 or more	60%	35%	6%
Education	Not college graduate	56%	36%	8%
	College graduate	67%	30%	3%
Age	Under 45	63%	32%	5%
	45 or older	59%	35%	6%
Race	White	53%	41%	7%
	Non White	87%	9%	4%
Gender	Men	53%	41%	6%
	Women	67%	27%	6%
Interview Type	Landline	57%	37%	7%
	Cell Phone	77%	20%	3%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters Split Sample: Interviews conducted January 18th and 19th, 2012, N=258 MOE +/- 6.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.



## 2012 Hypothetical Presidential Tossup: Obama/Paul

*Asked of NYS Registered Voters Split Sample:*

**Question Wording:** If the 2012 presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

		NYS Registered Voters		
		If the 2012 presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:		
		Barack Obama, the Democrat	Ron Paul, the Republican	Undecided
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		62%	28%	9%
Party Registration	Democrat	82%	13%	5%
	Republican	32%	59%	9%
	Non-enrolled	49%	32%	19%
Political Ideology	Liberal	76%	17%	8%
	Moderate	70%	21%	9%
	Conservative	42%	48%	10%
Income	Less \$50,000	57%	34%	9%
	\$50,000 to just under \$100,000	63%	21%	16%
	\$100,000 or more	73%	26%	1%
Income	Less than \$50,000	57%	34%	9%
	\$50,000 or more	68%	23%	9%
Education	Not college graduate	62%	30%	8%
	College graduate	64%	27%	9%
Age	Under 45	69%	21%	10%
	45 or older	57%	34%	9%
Race	White	55%	35%	10%
	Non White	78%	14%	8%
Gender	Men	61%	25%	14%
	Women	64%	30%	6%
Interview Type	Landline	61%	30%	9%
	Cell Phone	70%	19%	11%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters Split Sample: Interviews conducted January 18th and 19th, 2012, N=296 MOE +/- 6.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.



## Obama Approval Rating

*Asked of NYS Registered Voters:*

**Question Wording:** Would you rate the job President Barack Obama is doing in office as excellent, good, fair, or poor?

		NYS Registered Voters				
		Would you rate the job President Barack Obama is doing in office as excellent, good, fair, or poor?				
		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure-Never Heard
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		13%	33%	26%	28%	<1%
Party Registration	Democrat	21%	42%	27%	11%	<1%
	Republican	5%	17%	22%	56%	<1%
	Non-enrolled	6%	35%	26%	33%	<1%
Political Ideology	Liberal	25%	50%	20%	5%	<1%
	Moderate	9%	37%	32%	22%	<1%
	Conservative	7%	15%	23%	54%	1%
Region	New York City	18%	38%	26%	18%	<1%
	Suburbs	11%	30%	26%	33%	<1%
	Upstate	11%	32%	26%	31%	<1%
Income	Less \$50,000	12%	32%	24%	31%	<1%
	\$50,000 to just under \$100,000	14%	27%	31%	27%	<1%
	\$100,000 or more	11%	41%	26%	22%	<1%
Income	Less than \$50,000	12%	32%	24%	31%	<1%
	\$50,000 or more	13%	34%	29%	24%	<1%
Education	Not college graduate	15%	29%	26%	29%	<1%
	College graduate	10%	38%	25%	25%	<1%
Age	Under 45	9%	39%	30%	22%	<1%
	45 or older	16%	29%	23%	32%	<1%
Age	18 to 29	12%	34%	34%	20%	<1%
	30 to 44	7%	42%	28%	23%	<1%
	45 to 59	15%	27%	25%	33%	<1%
	60 or older	17%	32%	21%	30%	<1%
Race	White	9%	32%	26%	33%	<1%
	Non White	22%	38%	28%	12%	<1%
Gender	Men	11%	26%	28%	34%	<1%
	Women	14%	39%	24%	22%	<1%
Interview Type	Landline	12%	32%	26%	30%	<1%
	Cell Phone	17%	38%	27%	18%	<1%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters: Interviews conducted January 18th and 19th, 2012, N=554 MOE +/- 4.5 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.



*Asked of NYS Registered Voters:*

[illegible]



## Schumer Approval Rating

*Asked of NYS Registered Voters:*

**Question Wording:** Would you rate the job Senator Charles Schumer is doing in office as excellent, good, fair, or poor?

		NYS 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 %
NYS Registered Voters		18%	38%	27%	12%	5%
Party Registration	Democrat	23%	37%	28%	6%	5%
	Republican	15%	37%	27%	17%	4%
	Non-enrolled	11%	41%	26%	18%	4%
Political Ideology	Liberal	25%	42%	25%	5%	4%
	Moderate	19%	42%	27%	8%	3%
	Conservative	12%	29%	31%	22%	7%
Region	New York City	19%	39%	27%	9%	7%
	Suburbs	17%	36%	28%	14%	4%
	Upstate	18%	38%	26%	14%	4%
Income	Less \$50,000	19%	34%	30%	13%	5%
	\$50,000 to just under \$100,000	15%	38%	31%	13%	3%
	\$100,000 or more	18%	48%	21%	10%	2%
Income	Less than \$50,000	19%	34%	30%	13%	5%
	\$50,000 or more	17%	43%	26%	12%	3%
Education	Not college graduate	16%	37%	30%	11%	6%
	College graduate	21%	39%	24%	13%	4%
Age	Under 45	13%	34%	34%	14%	6%
	45 or older	22%	39%	23%	11%	4%
Age	18 to 29	12%	33%	36%	12%	8%
	30 to 44	13%	35%	32%	15%	5%
	45 to 59	13%	43%	28%	12%	5%
	60 or older	31%	36%	19%	11%	4%
Race	White	19%	39%	24%	13%	4%
	Non White	15%	36%	34%	9%	6%
Gender	Men	16%	33%	29%	18%	4%
	Women	20%	41%	25%	8%	6%
Interview Type	Landline	19%	39%	23%	14%	5%
	Cell Phone	15%	31%	43%	6%	5%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters: Interviews conducted January 18th and 19th, 2012, N=554 MOE +/- 4.5 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.



*Asked of NYS Registered Voters:*

	New York State Registered Voters						
	Would you rate the job Senator Charles Schumer is doing in office as excellent, good, fair, or poor?						
	Excellent/Good	Fair/Poor	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure-Never Heard
January 2012	56%	39%	18%	38%	27%	12%	5%
November 2011	56%	41%	18%	38%	26%	15%	3%
May 2011	56%	40%	17%	39%	26%	14%	4%
January 2011	59%	37%	22%	37%	28%	9%	5%
October 30, 2010	55%	40%	20%	35%	25%	15%	5%
October 22, 2010	53%	43%	19%	34%	26%	17%	4%
September 28, 2010	47%	50%	15%	32%	31%	19%	3%
March 11, 2010	50%	47%	14%	36%	31%	16%	3%
March 29, 2010	51%	45%	13%	38%	28%	17%	4%
March 2, 2010	53%	43%	12%	41%	28%	15%	4%
February 1, 2010	47%	48%	11%	36%	31%	17%	5%
January 15, 2010	51%	42%	13%	38%	24%	18%	7%
November 23, 2009	54%	42%	17%	37%	29%	13%	4%
September 17, 2009	58%	39%	17%	41%	26%	13%	3%
July 1, 2009	54%	42%	15%	39%	27%	15%	4%
May 4, 2009	55%	39%	18%	37%	25%	14%	6%
March 3, 2009	57%	38%	17%	40%	25%	13%	5%
October 28, 2008	55%	33%	20%	35%	20%	13%	12%
April 9, 2008	57%	37%	15%	42%	27%	10%	6%
March 27, 2007	57%	32%	20%	37%	23%	9%	11%
October 20, 2006	55%	40%	19%	36%	32%	8%	5%
July 19, 2006	58%	35%	13%	45%	27%	8%	7%
May 10, 2006	56%	35%	15%	41%	27%	8%	9%
January 2006 (Release: February 1 <sup>st</sup> )	57%	35%	15%	42%	23%	12%	8%
September 30, 2005	55%	36%	17%	38%	25%	11%	9%
April 12, 2005	58%	32%	15%	43%	24%	8%	10%
October 28, 2004	61%	29%	19%	42%	21%	8%	10%
September 17, 2004	50%	40%	13%	37%	29%	11%	10%
April 19, 2004	54%	35%	13%	41%	27%	8%	11%
January 14, 2004	58%	30%	14%	44%	23%	7%	12%
September 22, 2003	52%	40%	12%	40%	30%	10%	8%
April 10, 2003	52%	35%	10%	42%	27%	8%	13%
December 15, 2002	53%	36%	11%	42%	28%	8%	11%
September 16, 2002	52%	35%	9%	43%	27%	8%	13%
April 20, 2002	55%	32%	11%	44%	26%	6%	13%
December 12, 2001	54%	31%	12%	42%	24%	7%	15%
April 9, 2001	49%	34%	12%	37%	26%	8%	17%
December 1, 2000	51%	31%	13%	38%	22%	9%	18%
March 31, 2000	39%	34%	9%	30%	27%	7%	27%
September 24, 1999	44%	39%	9%	35%	31%	8%	17%
March 10, 1999	41%	33%	7%	34%	23%	10%	26%
Marist Poll New York Registered Voters							



## Definitely Plan to Vote For or Against Senator Kirsten Gillibrand in 2012

*Asked of NYS Registered Voters:*

**Question Wording:** Thinking about the elections in November, do you definitely plan to vote for Kirsten Gillibrand for re-election to the U.S. Senate or do you definitely plan to vote against her?

		NYS Registered Voters		
		Thinking about the elections in November, do you definitely plan to vote for Kirsten Gillibrand for re-election to the U.S. Senate or do you definitely plan to vote against her?		
		Vote for her	Vote against her	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		38%	18%	44%
Party Registration	Democrat	50%	9%	41%
	Republican	24%	30%	47%
	Non-enrolled	33%	19%	48%
Political Ideology	Liberal	56%	6%	38%
	Moderate	42%	16%	42%
	Conservative	22%	33%	46%
Region	New York City	43%	10%	46%
	Suburbs	34%	22%	44%
	Upstate	38%	20%	42%
Income	Less \$50,000	41%	18%	41%
	\$50,000 to just under \$100,000	35%	20%	45%
	\$100,000 or more	45%	16%	40%
Income	Less than \$50,000	41%	18%	41%
	\$50,000 or more	40%	18%	42%
Education	Not college graduate	37%	17%	46%
	College graduate	41%	18%	41%
Age	Under 45	37%	16%	48%
	45 or older	40%	19%	41%
Age	18 to 29	37%	11%	52%
	30 to 44	36%	20%	44%
	45 to 59	37%	20%	42%
	60 or older	43%	17%	40%
Race	White	37%	20%	44%
	Non White	42%	11%	46%
Gender	Men	38%	23%	39%
	Women	39%	13%	47%
Interview Type	Landline	36%	20%	44%
	Cell Phone	48%	9%	43%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters: Interviews conducted January 18th and 19th, 2012, N=554 MOE +/- 4.5 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.



## Gillibrand Approval Rating

*Asked of NYS Registered Voters:*

**Question Wording:** Would you rate the job Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is doing in office as excellent, good, fair, or poor?

		NYS Registered Voters				
		Would you rate the job Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is doing in office as excellent, good, fair, or poor?				
		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure-Never Heard
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		6%	34%	29%	12%	18%
Party Registration	Democrat	8%	40%	24%	10%	17%
	Republican	5%	21%	32%	16%	26%
	Non-enrolled	4%	33%	37%	12%	15%
Political Ideology	Liberal	13%	47%	19%	4%	15%
	Moderate	5%	38%	32%	10%	16%
	Conservative	3%	17%	37%	21%	22%
Region	New York City	4%	36%	28%	9%	22%
	Suburbs	6%	32%	24%	16%	21%
	Upstate	7%	33%	33%	11%	15%
Income	Less \$50,000	5%	36%	31%	11%	17%
	\$50,000 to just under \$100,000	5%	28%	29%	14%	23%
	\$100,000 or more	9%	41%	27%	12%	10%
Income	Less than \$50,000	5%	36%	31%	11%	17%
	\$50,000 or more	7%	34%	28%	13%	17%
Education	Not college graduate	3%	31%	31%	12%	22%
	College graduate	9%	37%	27%	12%	14%
Age	Under 45	2%	34%	25%	16%	22%
	45 or older	9%	34%	33%	9%	15%
Age	18 to 29	4%	28%	31%	11%	26%
	30 to 44	1%	39%	21%	19%	20%
	45 to 59	7%	32%	38%	10%	13%
	60 or older	11%	35%	28%	9%	18%
Race	White	8%	35%	28%	13%	17%
	Non White	2%	34%	32%	10%	23%
Gender	Men	6%	30%	30%	17%	18%
	Women	6%	37%	29%	8%	19%
Interview Type	Landline	6%	34%	28%	12%	20%
	Cell Phone	6%	36%	34%	11%	14%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters: Interviews conducted January 18th and 19th, 2012, N=554 MOE +/- 4.5 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.



*Asked of NYS Registered Voters:*

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Marist Poll New York Registered Voters