



New Yorkers React to the GOP Convention And Rate Their Mayor

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This Marist College Institute for Public Opinion poll reports:

- **Second thoughts...New Yorkers shift on hosting the GOP convention:** 53% of residents do not think it was a good idea for New York City to host the national Republican convention last week. 41% believe it was a positive thing for the city to do. In April, 59% of New York City residents were looking forward to welcoming the Republicans to New York this summer.

Question Wording: Do you think hosting the national Republican convention this summer was a good thing or a bad thing for New York City?

| NYC Residents | Good Thing | Bad Thing | Unsure |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------|
| September 2004 | 41% | 53% | 6% |
| April 2004 | 59% | 31% | 10% |
| Party | | | |
| Democrats | 37% | 58% | 5% |
| Republicans | 70% | 29% | 1% |
| Non-enrolled | 34% | 62% | 4% |
| Region | | | |
| Bronx | 41% | 51% | 8% |
| Brooklyn | 39% | 53% | 8% |
| Manhattan | 28% | 69% | 3% |
| Queens | 47% | 47% | 6% |
| Staten Island | 61% | 33% | 6% |

- **Running up the tab?** Most New York City residents believe the cost of hosting the convention outweighed the benefits to the city.

Question Wording: Overall, do you think hosting the Republican convention in New York City was more of a benefit or a cost to New York City?

| NYC Residents | Benefit | Cost | Unsure |
|-----------------------|---------|------|--------|
| September 2004 | 29% | 65% | 6% |
| Democrats | 27% | 68% | 5% |
| Republicans | 57% | 39% | 4% |
| Non-enrolled | 22% | 74% | 4% |

- **Thumbs up for NYPD:** 68% of city residents approve of the job the New York City Police Department did in maintaining law and order during the week of the convention. 31% of residents rate the job the police did as excellent, 37% as good, 23% as fair, and 7% as poor. 2% are unsure.

Question Wording: Do you think the New York City Police Department did an excellent, good, fair, or poor job in maintaining law and order in New York City during the Republican convention?

| NYC Residents | Excellent/ Good | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Unsure |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------|------|------|------|--------|
| September 2004 | 68% | 31% | 37% | 23% | 7% | 2% |

- **Treatment of the protestors...some say fair, some say unfair:** Residents divide over whether or not the protestors were treated fairly. 48% of New York City residents believe they were and 43% believe they were not.

Question Wording: Do you think that protestors were treated fairly or unfairly during the Republican convention in New York City?

| NYC Residents | Fairly | Unfairly | Unsure |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|--------|
| September 2004 | 48% | 43% | 9% |

- **Personal inconvenience?** Most city residents, 67%, do not feel they were personally inconvenienced by having the Republican convention in New York City. 33% feel they did, in fact, have their daily activities disrupted by the event.

Question Wording: How much did the Republican convention disrupt your own personal daily activities in New York City: a great deal, some, not very much, or not at all?

| NYC Residents | A Great Deal | Some | Not Very Much | Not at All |
|-----------------------|--------------|------|---------------|------------|
| September 2004 | 14% | 19% | 21% | 46% |

- **Most New Yorkers still game for 2012:** Undeterred, most city residents would like to see the 2012 summer Olympics come to New York City. 68% of city residents think it would be a good thing for the city to be selected as host for the games.

Question Wording: Do you think hosting the 2012 summer Olympics is a good thing or a bad thing for New York City?

| NYC Residents | Good Thing | Bad Thing | Unsure |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|--------|
| September 2004 | 68% | 26% | 6% |
| April 2004 | 77% | 20% | 3% |

- **Mayor Bloomberg’s job performance rating:** Mayor Michael Bloomberg’s approval rating is 42% among New York City’s registered voters, statistically unchanged from the 40% he received in April. Mayor Bloomberg’s support is higher in Staten Island, Queens, and Manhattan, than it is in Brooklyn and the Bronx. There is a racial divide in voters’ assessments of the mayor.

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 |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------|------|------|------|--------|
| September 2004 | 42% | 7% | 35% | 35% | 21% | 2% |
| April 2004 | 40% | 7% | 33% | 38% | 19% | 3% |
| Borough | | | | | | |
| Bronx | 29% | 3% | 26% | 32% | 35% | 4% |
| Brooklyn | 38% | 3% | 35% | 39% | 22% | 1% |
| Manhattan | 45% | 12% | 33% | 39% | 13% | 3% |
| Queens | 49% | 8% | 41% | 31% | 20% | <1% |
| Staten Island | 52% | 18% | 34% | 35% | 13% | <1% |

| Registered Voters | Excellent/ Good | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Unsure |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------|------|------|------|--------|
| Party | | | | | | |
| Democrat | 40% | 7% | 33% | 36% | 23% | 1% |
| Republican | 62% | 16% | 46% | 25% | 12% | 1% |
| Non-enrolled | 39% | 5% | 34% | 36% | 20% | 5% |
| Race | | | | | | |
| White | 51% | 9% | 42% | 34% | 14% | 1% |
| African American | 30% | 5% | 25% | 39% | 29% | 2% |
| Latino | 32% | 7% | 25% | 32% | 34% | 2% |

- Voters' perceptions of the mayor:** Many New York City voters think Mayor Bloomberg is working hard at his job and understands the problems of the city. But voters divide over whether he is a good leader for New York. A majority does not think he can unify the city or cares about people like themselves.

Question Wording: Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about Mayor Michael Bloomberg:

| Registered Voters | Agree | Disagree | Unsure |
|--|-------|----------|--------|
| Is working hard as mayor | 69% | 29% | 2% |
| Understands the problems facing New York City | 59% | 39% | 2% |
| Is a good leader for New York | 50% | 47% | 3% |
| Can unify the city and get it working together | 45% | 51% | 4% |
| Cares about people like you | 42% | 53% | 5% |

The quality of city life: A majority of city residents do not think the overall quality of life in New York City has improved in the past year. These results are statistically unchanged from a similar survey conducted in April.

Question Wording: Thinking about the past year or so, do you feel that the overall quality of life in New York City has gotten better, gotten worse, or remained about the same? (If “remained the same,” is it a good thing or a bad thing that things have remained the same?)

| NYC Residents | Gotten Better | Same Good | Remained the Same | Same Bad | Gotten Worse |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------------|----------|--------------|
| September 2004 | 15% | 19% | 7% | 28% | 31% |
| April 2004 | 17% | 20% | 7% | 27% | 29% |

- **Residents divide over the direction of New York City:** 48% of New York City residents feel the city is moving in the right direction and 45% believe it is heading in the wrong direction. A majority of white residents think the city is going in the right direction, and a majority of African American and Latino residents believe the city is moving in the wrong direction.

Question Wording: In general, thinking about the way things are going in New York City, do you feel things are going in the right direction or that things are going in the wrong direction?

| NYC Residents | Right Direction | Wrong Direction | Unsure |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|
| September 2004 | 48% | 45% | 7% |
| April 2004 | 47% | 46% | 7% |
| White | 57% | 35% | 8% |
| African American | 33% | 60% | 7% |
| Latino | 42% | 55% | 3% |

- **The race for mayor:** Fernando Ferrer edges Michael Bloomberg among New York City’s registered voters in a hypothetical contest for the 2005 race for mayor. Neither candidate has the support of a majority of the city’s voters.

Question Wording: If the 2005 election for mayor in New York City were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

| Registered Voters | Michael Bloomberg, the Republican | Fernando Ferrer, the Democrat | Undecided |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| September 2004 | 43% | 47% | 10% |
| April 2004 | 41% | 48% | 11% |

How the Survey Was Conducted

This survey was conducted on September 8th and 9th, 2004. 777 residents of New York City were interviewed in proportion to the population in each borough. All interviews were conducted by telephone. The results for residents are statistically significant at $\pm 3.5\%$. 607 registered voters in New York City were interviewed in proportion to the enrollment in each borough. The results for registered voters are statistically significant at $\pm 4\%$. The margin of error increases for cross-tabulations.