



Marist College Institute for Public Opinion

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This Marist College Institute for Public Opinion poll reports:

New York State Democrats

- **Democratic Presidential Primary 2004:** 35% of New York State Democrats are undecided in their preference for their party's presidential nominee. Connecticut Senator Joseph Lieberman has the support of 21% of the state's registered Democrats, followed by 10% each for Massachusetts' Senator John Kerry and the Reverend Al Sharpton.

Question Wording: If the next Democratic presidential primary were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

Registered Democrats	April 2003	December 2002
Joseph Lieberman	21%	23%
John Kerry	10%	20%
Al Sharpton	10%	14%
Richard Gephardt	8%	11%
Gary Hart	5%	n.a.
Howard Dean	4%	1%
John Edwards	2%	3%
Carol Moseley Braun	2%	n.a.
Dennis Kucinich	2%	n.a.
Bob Graham	1%	n.a.
Other	n.a.	9%
Undecided	35%	19%

- **Senator Clinton for President?** 54% of New York State Democrats do not want Senator Hillary Clinton to run for president in 2004.

Question Wording: Do you want Hillary Clinton to run for president in 2004 or not?

Registered Democrats	Yes	No	Unsure
April 2003	43%	54%	3%
December 2002	37%	59%	4%

Senator Schumer's Re-election Prospects

- **2004 Toss-ups:** Senator Charles Schumer leads New York Congressman Peter King but trails former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani in hypothetical match-ups for the U.S. Senate contest in New York in 2004.

Question Wording: If the 2004 election for U.S. Senate in New York were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

Registered Voters	Charles Schumer	Rudy Giuliani	Unsure
April 2003	40%	52%	8%
December 2002	37%	58%	5%

Registered Voters	Charles Schumer	Peter King	Unsure
April 2003	62%	21%	17%

- **Approval Rating:** Senator Charles Schumer's approval rating is currently 52% among New York State's registered voters. 35% do not rate his job performance positively.

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

Registered Voters	Excellent/ Good	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure/ DK
April 2003	52%	10%	42%	27%	8%	13%
December 2002	53%	11%	42%	28%	8%	11%
April 2002	55%	11%	44%	26%	6%	13%
December 2001	54%	12%	42%	24%	7%	15%
April 2001	49%	12%	37%	26%	8%	17%
December 2000	51%	13%	38%	22%	9%	18%
March 2000	39%	9%	30%	27%	7%	27%
September 1999	44%	9%	35%	31%	8%	17%
March 1999	41%	7%	34%	23%	10%	26%

President Bush and New York State Voters

- **Re-election Prospects:** 32% of registered voters in New York State definitely plan to vote to re-elect President George Bush and 39% definitely plan to vote against him. New York voters divide along party lines.

Question Wording: Do you definitely plan to vote for George Bush for re-election as president or do you definitely plan to vote against him?

Registered Voters	Vote For	Vote Against	Unsure
April 2003	32%	39%	29%
Democrats	16%	57%	27%
Republicans	56%	14%	30%
Non-enrolled	25%	42%	33%
Upstate	39%	28%	33%
New York City	20%	53%	27%
Suburbs	34%	39%	27%

- **Approval Rating:** President George Bush’s approval rating is currently 58% among New York State’s registered voters. 41% do not rate his job performance positively.

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

Registered Voters	Excellent/ Good	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure/ DK
April 2003	58%	29%	29%	19%	22%	1%
December 2002	57%	24%	33%	23%	19%	1%
April 2002	72%	33%	39%	17%	10%	1%
December 2001	79%	43%	36%	15%	5%	1%
April 2001	40%	11%	29%	30%	23%	7%

- **Handling the War with Iraq:** 66% of registered voters approve of President Bush’s handling of the war in Iraq.

Question Wording: Do you approve or disapprove of how President George Bush is handling the war in Iraq?

Registered Voters	Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
April 2003	66%	30%	4%

- **Handling the Economy:** 42% of registered voters approve of President Bush's handling of the economy.

Question Wording: Do you approve or disapprove of how President George Bush is handling the economy?

Registered Voters	Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
April 2003	42%	53%	5%

Nature of the Sample: 686 New York State Registered Voters

This survey was conducted on April 2nd and 3rd, 2003. 686 registered voters were interviewed by telephone in proportion to the voter registration in each county in New York State and adjusted for turnout in statewide elections. There are 319 registered Democrats. Results are statistically significant at $\pm 4\%$ for registered voters and $\pm 5.5\%$ for Democrats. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.