



## Marist College Institute for Public Opinion

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This Marist College Institute for Public Opinion poll reports:

### *New York State Voters Rate Governor Pataki*

- **Approval Rating:** 40% of New York State's registered voters rate the job Governor Pataki is doing in office as excellent or good. 58% rate the job the governor is doing as fair or poor. His approval in a similar poll conducted last May was 37%.

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

<b>Registered Voters</b>	<b>Excellent/ Good</b>	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure/ DK
September 2003	<b>40%</b>	6%	34%	41%	17%	2%
<b>Region</b>						
Upstate	<b>42%</b>	5%	37%	42%	15%	1%
New York City	<b>28%</b>	4%	24%	43%	25%	4%
Suburbs	<b>51%</b>	7%	44%	37%	11%	1%
<b>Party</b>						
Democrats	<b>30%</b>	3%	27%	47%	22%	1%
Republicans	<b>52%</b>	9%	43%	35%	10%	3%
Non-enrolled	<b>41%</b>	7%	34%	40%	17%	2%
<b>Previous Polls</b>						
May 2003	<b>37%</b>	4%	33%	34%	25%	4%
April 2003	<b>49%</b>	7%	42%	31%	18%	2%
December 2002	<b>57%</b>	12%	45%	31%	10%	2%
October 30, 2002	<b>57%</b>	14%	43%	33%	9%	1%
October 1, 2002	<b>61%</b>	14%	47%	30%	8%	1%
September 2002	<b>60%</b>	12%	48%	31%	7%	2%
May 2002	<b>72%</b>	14%	58%	23%	5%	0%
April 2002	<b>64%</b>	15%	49%	28%	6%	2%
December 2001	<b>65%</b>	15%	50%	27%	4%	4%

<b>Registered Voters</b>	<b>Excellent/ Good</b>	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure/ DK
April 2001	<b>53%</b>	10%	43%	34%	8%	5%
December 2000	<b>55%</b>	11%	44%	30%	10%	5%
March 2000	<b>51%</b>	9%	42%	35%	11%	3%
September 1999	<b>51%</b>	10%	41%	38%	9%	2%
July 1999	<b>55%</b>	15%	40%	31%	11%	3%
March 1999	<b>61%</b>	12%	49%	28%	10%	1%
October 1998	<b>60%</b>	14%	46%	31%	8%	1%
September 1998	<b>62%</b>	16%	46%	31%	6%	1%
April 1998	<b>59%</b>	11%	48%	33%	7%	1%
February 1998	<b>60%</b>	11%	49%	32%	6%	2%
October 1997	<b>49%</b>	7%	42%	39%	10%	2%
March 1997	<b>47%</b>	6%	41%	38%	12%	3%
November 1996	<b>47%</b>	8%	39%	36%	14%	3%
March 1996	<b>39%</b>	6%	33%	40%	17%	4%
September 1995	<b>39%</b>	5%	34%	38%	17%	6%
March 1995	<b>36%</b>	8%	28%	28%	16%	20%

- Governor Pataki's Re-election Prospects:** Governor George Pataki has a 24% lead over Andrew Cuomo and a 9% lead over Eliot Spitzer in hypothetical pairings for the 2006 election for New York State governor. Pataki trails Charles Schumer in a match-up by 7%.

**Question Wording:** If the 2006 election for governor of New York State were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

<b>Registered Voters</b>	George Pataki Republican	Andrew Cuomo Democrat	Unsure
September 2003	58%	34%	8%

<b>Registered Voters</b>	George Pataki Republican	Eliot Spitzer Democrat	Unsure
September 2003	50%	41%	9%

<b>Registered Voters</b>	George Pataki Republican	Charles Schumer Democrat	Unsure
September 2003	43%	50%	7%

***Voters Rate New York State***

- **Direction of the State:** 39% of registered voters express a positive outlook about the direction of New York State. 54% think things are headed in the wrong direction. These findings are statistically unchanged since last April.

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

<b>Registered Voters</b>	<b>Right Direction</b>	<b>Wrong Direction</b>	<b>Unsure</b>
September 2003	39%	54%	7%
April 2003	40%	53%	7%
December 2002	39%	52%	9%
October 30, 2002	51%	40%	9%
October 1, 2002	55%	37%	8%
September 2002	56%	38%	6%
May 2002	65%	28%	7%
April 2002	66%	28%	6%
December 2001	65%	25%	10%
December 2000	64%	30%	6%
September 1999	65%	25%	10%
October 1998	68%	23%	9%
October 1997	58%	33%	9%
November 1996	51%	37%	12%
September 1995	35%	48%	17%
November 1994	25%	62%	13%
November 1993	26%	59%	15%
September 1990	28%	56%	16%

- **Economic Recession:** 64% of registered voters think New York State is currently in a recession, a decline since last April.

**Question Wording:** Do you think that New York State is currently in a recession, or not?

<b>Registered Voters</b>	Yes	No	Unsure
September 2003	64%	31%	5%
April 2003	74%	22%	4%
December 2002	71%	26%	3%
October 1, 2002	71%	26%	3%
September 2002	71%	25%	4%
May 2002	62%	33%	5%
April 2002	68%	28%	4%
December 2001	76%	19%	5%
September 1998	23%	71%	6%
October 1997	36%	58%	6%
November 1996	48%	45%	7%
September 1995	56%	34%	10%
October 1994	67%	27%	6%
March 1991	84%	13%	3%

***New York State Voters Rate Senator Clinton***

- **Approval Rating:** Senator Hillary Clinton’s approval rating is 49% among New York State’s registered voters. 47% do not rate her job performance positively.

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

<b>Registered Voters</b>	<b>Excellent/ Good</b>	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure/ DK
September 2003	<b>49%</b>	17%	32%	26%	21%	4%
April 2003	<b>47%</b>	13%	34%	27%	22%	4%
December 2002	<b>44%</b>	10%	34%	28%	20%	8%
April 2002	<b>47%</b>	11%	36%	27%	20%	6%
December 2001	<b>45%</b>	11%	34%	23%	23%	9%
April 2001	<b>35%</b>	9%	26%	26%	22%	17%
February 2001	<b>30%</b>	10%	20%	22%	20%	28%

- **Senator Clinton’s Re-election Prospects:** Senator Hillary Clinton leads George Pataki by 8%, but trails former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani by 17% in hypothetical match-ups for her re-election to the U.S. Senate in New York.

**Question Wording:** If the 2006 election for U.S. Senate in New York were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

<b>Registered Voters</b>	Hillary Clinton Democrat	George Pataki Republican	Unsure
September 2003	52%	44%	4%

<b>Registered Voters</b>	Hillary Clinton Democrat	Rudy Giuliani Republican	Unsure
September 2003	40%	57%	3%

- **Senator Clinton’s Future:** A growing number of New York State voters think Hillary Clinton will serve out her full six-year term and not run for president in 2004.

**Question Wording:** Hillary Clinton has stated that she will serve her full six-year term in the U.S. Senate and not run for president in 2004. Do you think Hillary Clinton will run for president in 2004 or serve out her six-year term?

<b>Registered Voters</b>	Run in 2004	Serve Out Term	Unsure
September 2003	24%	67%	9%
April 2001	37%	54%	9%
December 2000	40%	51%	9%

***New York State Voters Rate Senator Schumer***

- **Approval Rating:** Senator Charles Schumer’s approval rating is currently 52% among New York State's registered voters. 40% 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
September 2003	<b>52%</b>	12%	40%	30%	10%	8%
April 2003	<b>52%</b>	10%	42%	27%	8%	13%
December 2002	<b>53%</b>	11%	42%	28%	8%	11%
April 2002	<b>55%</b>	11%	44%	26%	6%	13%
December 2001	<b>54%</b>	12%	42%	24%	7%	15%
April 2001	<b>49%</b>	12%	37%	26%	8%	17%
December 2000	<b>51%</b>	13%	38%	22%	9%	18%
March 2000	<b>39%</b>	9%	30%	27%	7%	27%
September 1999	<b>44%</b>	9%	35%	31%	8%	17%
March 1999	<b>41%</b>	7%	34%	23%	10%	26%

- **Senator Schumer's Re-election Prospects:** Senator Charles Schumer leads New York Secretary of State Randy Daniels by 47% and George Pataki by 16%, but trails former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani by 6% in hypothetical matchups 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 Democrat	Randy Daniels Republican	Unsure
September 2003	65%	18%	17%

Registered Voters	Charles Schumer Democrat	George Pataki Republican	Unsure
September 2003	55%	39%	6%

Registered Voters	Charles Schumer Democrat	Rudy Giuliani Republican	Unsure
September 2003	45%	51%	4%
April 2003	40%	52%	8%
December 2002	37%	58%	5%

***New York State Voters Weigh in on Rudy Giuliani***

- **Rudy Giuliani's Future:** By nearly two to one New York State voters would like to see former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani return to public service.

**Question Wording:** Thinking about former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, do you think he should return to public service or stay in the private sector?

<b>Registered Voters</b>	Public	Private	Unsure
September 2003	62%	32%	6%

- Rudy Giuliani’s Next Move:** Governor of New York State tops the list of positions voters think Rudy Giuliani should pursue if he returns to public service. This is followed by being appointed to a government national security position, running for U. S. Senate, or running for mayor of New York City. Fewer voters think he should seek the presidency after George Bush leaves office or replace Vice President Dick Cheney in 2004.

**Question Wording:** If Rudy Giuliani were to return to public service, what do you think he should do:

<b>Registered Voters</b>	September 2003
Run for Governor of New York State	31%
Be appointed to a national security position	16%
Run for U.S. Senate	15%
Run for Mayor of New York City	13%
Run for president after George Bush leaves office	8%
Replace Vice President Dick Cheney in 2004	7%
Unsure	10%

***Nature of the Sample: 912 New York State Registered Voters***

This survey was conducted on September 15 through 18, 2003. 912 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. Results are statistically significant at  $\pm 3.5\%$ . The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.