



WNBC/Marist Poll

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NYS 2006 Race for U.S. Senate

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All references must be sourced WNBC/Marist Poll

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This WNBC/Marist Poll reports:

- Voters favor Senator Hillary Clinton at opening bell, but many voters waiting for round two:** In a poll conducted last night on the 2006 race for U.S. Senate in New York, incumbent Senator Hillary Clinton receives the support of 50% of registered voters compared with 28% for Westchester County District Attorney Jeanine Pirro. More than one in five voters are not taking sides, a significant increase from a similar poll conducted in April.

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

Registered Voters	Jeanine Pirro, the Republican	Hillary Clinton, the Democrat	Undecided
August 2005	28%	50%	22%
April 2005	28%	64%	8%
Party			
Democrat	13%	69%	18%
Republican	50%	26%	24%
Non-enrolled	28%	46%	26%
Region			
Upstate	32%	45%	23%
New York City	14%	62%	24%
Suburbs	39%	41%	20%
Gender			
Men	27%	49%	24%
Women	28%	51%	21%

- **Senator Clinton's approval rating remains strong:** 54% of New York State's registered voters rate the job Hillary Clinton is doing as senator as either excellent or good. In a similar poll conducted in April, her approval rating was 56%.

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

Registered Voters	Excellent/ Good	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure/ DK
August 2005	54%	19%	35%	23%	16%	7%
April 2005	56%	16%	40%	24%	16%	4%
October 2004	57%	18%	39%	21%	18%	4%
September 2004	53%	18%	35%	25%	20%	2%
April 2004	51%	13%	38%	27%	18%	4%
January 2004	55%	18%	37%	23%	17%	5%
September 2003	49%	17%	32%	26%	21%	4%
April 2003	47%	13%	34%	27%	22%	4%
December 2002	44%	10%	34%	28%	20%	8%
April 2002	47%	11%	36%	27%	20%	6%
December 2001	45%	11%	34%	23%	23%	9%
April 2001	35%	9%	26%	26%	22%	17%
February 2001	30%	10%	20%	22%	20%	28%

August 2005	Excellent/ Good	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure/ DK
Party						
Democrat	73%	25%	48%	15%	7%	5%
Republican	32%	8%	24%	32%	30%	6%
Non-enrolled	45%	19%	26%	24%	19%	12%
Region						
Upstate	45%	15%	30%	27%	19%	9%
New York City	68%	24%	44%	17%	8%	7%
Suburbs	47%	17%	30%	23%	24%	6%
Gender						
Men	50%	14%	36%	24%	22%	4%
Women	56%	22%	34%	21%	12%	11%

- **New Yorkers' best guess:** 55% of New York State's registered voters think Senator Hillary Clinton will run for president in 2008.

Question Wording: Do you think Hillary Clinton will run for president in 2008 or not?

Registered Voters	Will run	Will Not run	Unsure
August 2005	55%	27%	18%

Registered Voters	Will run	Will Not run	Unsure
Party			
Democrat	49%	28%	23%
Republican	57%	31%	12%
Non-enrolled	60%	27%	13%
Region			
Upstate	56%	27%	17%
New York City	52%	23%	25%
Suburbs	55%	33%	12%
Gender			
Men	56%	30%	14%
Women	53%	25%	22%

- **Another President Clinton?** Only 35% of New York State’s registered voters want Senator Hillary Clinton to run for president in 2008.

Question Wording: Do you want Hillary Clinton to run for president in 2008 or not?

Registered Voters	Yes, run	No, don’t run	Unsure
August 2005	35%	49%	16%
April 2005	44%	51%	5%
Party			
Democrat	43%	36%	21%
Republican	18%	69%	13%
Non-enrolled	39%	49%	12%
Region			
Upstate	32%	52%	16%
New York City	44%	39%	17%
Suburbs	26%	57%	17%
Gender			
Men	30%	53%	17%
Women	39%	45%	16%

- **Take the pledge?** 39% of New York State’s registered voters think Senator Hillary Clinton should pledge to serve her full six year term should she decide to run for re-election. 44% think she should not commit to complete a second term.

Question Wording: If Hillary Clinton decides to run for re-election to the U.S. Senate, do you think she should pledge to fulfill her full six year term and not run for president in 2008, or should she not make such a pledge?

Registered Voters	Should Pledge	Should Not Pledge	Unsure
August 2005	39%	44%	17%

Registered Voters	Should Pledge	Should Not Pledge	Unsure
Party			
Democrat	40%	41%	19%
Republican	44%	41%	15%
Non-enrolled	31%	52%	17%
Region			
Upstate	42%	41%	17%
New York City	32%	45%	23%
Suburbs	43%	46%	11%
Gender			
Men	39%	44%	17%
Women	40%	43%	17%

- **The challenger...needing an introduction:** A majority of New York State's registered voters, 56%, are unfamiliar with Jeanine Pirro. 26% view her favorably. 18% have an unfavorable impression of her.

Question Wording: In general, do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of Jeanine Pirro?

Registered Voters	Favorable	Unfavorable	Unsure/Never Heard
Jeanine Pirro			
August 2005	26%	18%	56%
Party			
Democrat	18%	25%	57%
Republican	35%	9%	56%
Non-enrolled	31%	16%	53%
Region			
Upstate	23%	14%	63%
New York City	19%	22%	59%
Suburbs	43%	19%	38%
Gender			
Men	27%	20%	53%
Women	25%	16%	59%

- **The incumbent...well liked, but not by all:** A majority of New York State's registered voters, 55%, view Hillary Clinton positively, including 73% of Democrats. 34% view her unfavorably, including 61% of Republicans.

Question Wording: In general, do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of Hillary Clinton?

Registered Voters	Favorable	Unfavorable	Unsure/Never Heard
Hillary Clinton			
August 2005	55%	34%	11%
Party			
Democrat	73%	16%	11%
Republican	33%	61%	6%
Non-enrolled	50%	35%	15%
Region			
Upstate	48%	41%	11%
New York City	72%	17%	11%
Suburbs	46%	44%	10%
Gender			
Men	51%	39%	10%
Women	59%	30%	11%

Nature of the Sample: 400 NYS Registered Voters

The survey of 400 registered voters was conducted on August 9th, 2005. 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 $\pm 5\%$. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.