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Pataki Not Seen As Presidential Candidate But Is One of NY's Best Governors

*** Complete Tables for Poll Appended ***

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This Marist Poll Reports:

Most registered voters in New York State do not want former Governor George Pataki to make a presidential bid in 2012. 71% have this opinion while 23% would like to see Pataki battle it out for the presidency. 6% are unsure.

Most Democratic voters -- 80% -- do not want Pataki to run. Even 60% of Republicans and nearly seven in ten non-enrolled voters -- 69% -- also believe a 2012 Pataki presidential run is not a good idea.

But, voters do bestow a distinct honor upon Pataki. He is viewed by 33% of the New York electorate as the governor who has been the best for the state in recent decades. Pataki narrowly edges out Mario Cuomo who received high praise from 31% of registered voters. Nelson Rockefeller comes in a distant third with 12%. Eliot Spitzer garners kudos from 9% of the electorate and beats out Hugh Carey's 4% and David Paterson's 3%. No one chose Malcolm Wilson. 8% of voters are unsure.

Partisan politics are alive and well on this question. Among Republicans, Pataki takes the top spot with 49%. Among Democrats, however, Cuomo is number one with 40%. Non-enrolled voters divide between Pataki and Cuomo who each receive 34%.

Nature of the Sample: 686 New York State Registered Voters

This survey of 686 New York State registered voters was conducted on May 3rd through May 5th, 2010. Registered voters were interviewed by telephone in proportion to the voter registration in each county in New York and adjusted for turnout in statewide elections. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a list of telephone exchanges from throughout the state. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region was represented in proportion to its population. In an effort to increase coverage, this land-line sample was supplemented by respondents reached through random dialing of cell phone numbers. The land-line and cell phone samples were then combined. Results are statistically significant at $\pm 4.0\%$. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.

**Marist Poll May 2010
NYS Tables**

		Registered Voters		
		Do you want George Pataki to run for president in 2012, or not?		
		Yes	No	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		23%	71%	6%
Party Registration	Democrat	17%	80%	3%
	Republican	32%	60%	8%
	Non-enrolled	24%	69%	7%
Political Ideology	Liberal	12%	84%	4%
	Moderate	27%	68%	4%
	Conservative	25%	67%	7%
Region	New York City	25%	71%	4%
	Suburbs	28%	68%	4%
	Upstate	20%	72%	7%
Income	Less \$50,000	25%	69%	6%
	\$50,000-\$99,999	20%	76%	4%
	\$100,000 or more	29%	65%	6%
Income	Less than \$50,000	25%	69%	6%
	\$50,000 or more	24%	71%	5%
Race	White	23%	71%	6%
	Non White	24%	73%	2%
Age	18 to 29	41%	59%	1%
	30 to 44	24%	70%	5%
	45 to 59	21%	73%	6%
	60 or older	18%	74%	7%
Age	Under 45	29%	67%	4%
	45 or older	20%	74%	7%
Gender	Men	21%	74%	5%
	Women	26%	68%	6%

May 2010 Marist Poll New York Registered Voters "N=686 MOE +/- 4%". Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters						
		Which one of the following do you think has been the best governor for New York State: *						
		Nelson Rockefeller	Hugh Carey	Mario Cuomo	George Pataki	Eliot Spitzer	David Paterson	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		12%	4%	31%	33%	9%	3%	8%
Party Registration	Democrat	11%	3%	40%	24%	11%	3%	7%
	Republican	18%	6%	13%	49%	8%	1%	5%
	Non-enrolled	10%	3%	34%	34%	9%	1%	10%
Political Ideology	Liberal	12%	2%	47%	24%	10%	1%	6%
	Moderate	11%	6%	31%	33%	12%	3%	5%
	Conservative	15%	4%	19%	41%	7%	4%	10%
Region	New York City	9%	3%	31%	33%	11%	6%	7%
	Suburbs	5%	6%	39%	34%	8%	1%	6%
	Upstate	17%	3%	27%	33%	9%	1%	9%
Income	Less \$50,000	13%	3%	31%	31%	14%	2%	7%
	\$50,000-\$99,999	13%	3%	34%	32%	10%	2%	7%
	\$100,000 or more	11%	7%	29%	39%	5%	3%	6%
Income	Less than \$50,000	13%	3%	31%	31%	14%	2%	7%
	\$50,000 or more	12%	5%	32%	35%	8%	2%	6%
Race	White	14%	4%	31%	33%	8%	1%	8%
	Non White	5%	3%	31%	36%	12%	8%	6%
Age	18 to 29	5%	1%	23%	44%	10%	9%	8%
	30 to 44	8%	4%	30%	37%	11%	2%	8%
	45 to 59	10%	4%	32%	37%	8%	1%	8%
	60 or older	20%	6%	32%	24%	9%	2%	8%
Age	Under 45	7%	3%	27%	39%	11%	5%	8%
	45 or older	15%	5%	32%	30%	8%	1%	8%
Gender	Men	15%	5%	30%	33%	12%	1%	4%
	Women	10%	3%	31%	34%	6%	4%	12%

May 2010 Marist Poll New York Registered Voters "N=686 MOE +/- 4%". Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

*Governor Malcolm Wilson was also listed, but there were no responses for this choice.