



NY1/YNN-Marist Poll

Brighter Financial Days Ahead, Says Majority in NY

*** Complete Tables for Poll Appended ***

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This NY1/YNN-Marist Poll Reports:

New York State voters see a light at the end of the financial tunnel. A majority of registered voters statewide -- 52% -- believe the worst of the state's economic woes are behind them. 44% think the worst is yet to come, and 5% are unsure.

This is in stark contrast with voters' views from November. In that NY1/YNN-Marist Poll, a majority -- 54% -- thought there were more tumultuous economic times on the horizon while 42% said the worst was over. Four percent, at the time, were unsure.

"More New York voters are beginning to see an improved economic picture," says Dr. Lee M. Miringoff, Director of The Marist College Institute for Public Opinion. "It's not exactly rosy but the gloom is lifting."

Key points:

- Perceptions of the economy's future have improved among both Democrats and Republicans. 59% of **Democrats** and 44% of **Republicans** now report the worst is over. This compares with 47% and 32%, respectively, in November. 46% of **non-enrolled voters** share this view compared with 42% in the previous poll.
- Regionally, the greatest change has occurred in **New York City**. A majority of voters in this region -- 55% -- see a clearer economic picture ahead while only 39% held this view in November. **Upstate** voters are also more positive. Half -- 50% -- of voters, compared with 38% two months ago, think better days are ahead. In the **suburbs of New York City**, 51% have this view, little changed from 52% in November.

Not only do voters think the worst of the state's economic problems are over, they believe the state's economy is on an upswing. More than one in four voters -- 26% -- report New

York's economy is getting better; double the proportion -- 13% -- who shared this opinion in November. One in four voters -- 25% -- still say the state's economy is getting worse, but 36% felt this way in the last poll. Almost half -- 49% -- report it is about the same, relatively unchanged from the 51% in NY1/YNN-Marist's previous survey.

Key points:

- Looking at party, about one in three **Democratic voters** -- 33% -- say the economy is improving, a 17 percentage point increase from 16% in November. Among **non-enrolled voters**, 21% see the economy as getting better compared with 11% previously. 19% of **Republicans** share this view while 10% did so in November.

While more than seven in ten voters in New York say the state is still in a recession, there has been a slight decrease in the proportion who thinks this to be so. 72% think New York is in a recession while 26% believe it is not, and 3% are unsure. In November, 78% thought the statewide economy to be in this condition, 20% reported it was not, and 2% were unsure.

Voters More Upbeat About Personal Finances

On the home front, there has been an increase in the proportion of voters who perceive their family finances to be improving. Three in ten -- 30% -- have this impression while 15% think their money matters are getting worse. A majority -- 55% -- see their finances as status quo.

When NY1/YNN-Marist last reported this question in November, 23% said their family finances were getting better, 22% thought they were getting worse, and 55% believed they were about the same.

Key points:

- While voters across the state are more positive about their financial picture, those in **New York City** are the most optimistic. 41% of these voters say their finances are improving compared with 28% in the city's **suburbs** and 24% of **upstate** voters. In November, those proportions stood at 28%, 23%, and 20%, respectively.

Up the Minimum Wage? Nearly Seven in Ten Adults Think So

69% of New York State adults believe raising the minimum wage is a good idea because it adds money to people's income during difficult times. 27%, however, say it is a bad idea because small businesses will hire fewer people who need jobs when times are tough. Four percent are unsure.

Key points:

- Across each region, more than six in ten adults support the idea of increasing the minimum wage in the state. However, more residents in **New York City** -- 75% -- say the idea is a good one compared with 68% of those in the city's **suburbs** and 64% of **upstate** residents.

How the Survey was Conducted

Nature of the Sample: New York State Poll of 681 Adults

This survey of 681 New York State adults was conducted on January 18th and 19th, 2012. Adults 18 years of age and older residing in New York State were interviewed by telephone. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a list of telephone exchanges from throughout the state. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each county was represented in proportion to its population. To increase coverage, this land-line sample was supplemented by respondents reached through random dialing of cell phone numbers. The two samples were then combined. Results are statistically significant within ± 4.0 percentage points. There are 554 registered voters. The sample of registered voters was adjusted for turnout in statewide elections. The results for this subset are statistically significant within ± 4.5 percentage points. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.

Nature of the Sample: New York State

Nature of the Sample - New York State			
		NYS Adults	NYS Registered Voters
		Col %	Col %
Adults		100%	
Registered Voters		81%	100%
Party Registration	Democrat	n/a	51%
	Republican	n/a	23%
	Non-enrolled	n/a	25%
	Other	n/a	1%
Support Tea Party	Yes	n/a	19%
	No	n/a	73%
	Unsure	n/a	8%
Political Ideology	Liberal	n/a	24%
	Moderate	n/a	46%
	Conservative	n/a	30%
Region	New York City	42%	30%
	Suburbs	21%	24%
	Upstate	37%	46%
Income	Less than \$50,000	46%	43%
	\$50,000 or more	54%	57%
Race	White	64%	71%
	African American	13%	11%
	Latino	16%	13%
	Other	6%	5%
Race	White	64%	71%
	Non White	36%	29%
Age	Under 45	48%	42%
	45 or older	52%	58%
Gender	Men	48%	45%
	Women	52%	55%
Interview Type	Landline	79%	81%
	Cell Phone	21%	19%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Adults: Interviews conducted January 18th and 19th, 2012, N=681 MOE +/- 4.0 percentage points. NYS Registered Voters: N=554 MOE +/- 4.5 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

New York State Economy: Will It Get Worse?

Asked of NYS Registered Voters:

Question Wording: When thinking about the New York State economy, which statement comes closer to your view:

		NYS Registered Voters		
		When thinking about the New York State economy, which statement comes closer to your view:		
		The worst is yet to come	The worst is behind us	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		44%	52%	5%
Party Registration	Democrat	36%	59%	5%
	Republican	53%	44%	3%
	Non-enrolled	50%	46%	5%
Political Ideology	Liberal	33%	61%	6%
	Moderate	45%	52%	3%
	Conservative	53%	43%	4%
Region	New York City	40%	55%	5%
	Suburbs	48%	51%	2%
	Upstate	45%	50%	6%
Income	Less than \$50,000	48%	48%	4%
	\$50,000 or more	44%	53%	3%
Education	Not college graduate	50%	46%	4%
	College graduate	38%	57%	6%
Age	Under 45	51%	45%	3%
	45 or older	40%	55%	5%
Age	18 to 29	45%	54%	1%
	30 to 44	56%	39%	5%
	45 to 59	43%	51%	6%
	60 or older	36%	59%	5%
Race	White	42%	53%	6%
	Non White	48%	51%	2%
Gender	Men	43%	53%	4%
	Women	45%	50%	5%
Interview Type	Landline	42%	53%	5%
	Cell Phone	51%	47%	2%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters: Interviews conducted January 18th and 19th, 2012, N=554 MOE +/- 4.5 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

New York State Economy: Will It Get Worse? (Over Time)

Asked of NYS Registered Voters:

Question Wording: When thinking about the New York State economy, which statement comes closer to your view:

	NYS Registered Voters		
	When thinking about the New York State economy, which statement comes closer to your view:		
	The worst is yet to come	The worst is behind us	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %
January 2012	44%	52%	5%
November 2011	54%	42%	4%
May 2011	53%	44%	4%
February 2011	47%	49%	4%
Marist Poll New York Registered Voters			

New York State Economy

Asked of NYS Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Right now, do you think the New York State economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

		NYS Registered Voters		
		Right now, do you think the New York State economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?		
		Getting better	Getting worse	Staying about the same
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		26%	25%	49%
Party Registration	Democrat	33%	22%	45%
	Republican	19%	32%	49%
	Non-enrolled	21%	23%	56%
Political Ideology	Liberal	30%	12%	58%
	Moderate	26%	27%	47%
	Conservative	19%	32%	49%
Region	New York City	29%	23%	48%
	Suburbs	25%	26%	50%
	Upstate	24%	26%	50%
Income	Less than \$50,000	26%	32%	43%
	\$50,000 or more	26%	21%	53%
Education	Not college graduate	22%	27%	52%
	College graduate	30%	24%	47%
Age	Under 45	20%	31%	49%
	45 or older	29%	21%	50%
Age	18 to 29	25%	26%	49%
	30 to 44	15%	36%	49%
	45 to 59	28%	26%	46%
	60 or older	30%	15%	55%
Race	White	17%	18%	36%
	Non White	8%	8%	13%
Gender	Men	30%	26%	44%
	Women	22%	24%	54%
Interview Type	Landline	24%	24%	51%
	Cell Phone	32%	27%	41%

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New York State Economy (Over Time)

Asked of NYS Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Right now, do you think the New York State economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

Registered Voters			
Right now, do you think the New York State economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?			
Date	Getting better	Getting worse	Staying about the same
January 2012	26%	25%	49%
November 2011	13%	36%	51%
May 2011	16%	37%	47%
February 2011	19%	31%	50%
September 28, 2010	12%	46%	42%
May 12, 2010	15%	48%	37%
April 8, 2010	12%	54%	34%
February 2, 2010	11%	49%	40%
November 24, 2009	15%	39%	46%
September 14, 2009	19%	29%	52%
July 9, 2009	8%	46%	46%
Marist Poll New York Registered Voters			

NYS in a Recession?

Asked of NYS Registered Voters:

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

		NYS Registered Voters		
		Do you think that New York State is currently in a recession, or not?		
		Yes	No	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		72%	26%	3%
Party Registration	Democrat	67%	30%	3%
	Republican	72%	26%	2%
	Non-enrolled	80%	17%	3%
Political Ideology	Liberal	70%	28%	2%
	Moderate	73%	25%	2%
	Conservative	74%	23%	4%
Region	New York City	61%	35%	4%
	Suburbs	76%	23%	2%
	Upstate	76%	21%	3%
Income	Less than \$50,000	68%	29%	2%
	\$50,000 or more	75%	23%	2%
Education	Not college graduate	76%	22%	2%
	College graduate	68%	29%	3%
Age	Under 45	68%	30%	2%
	45 or older	74%	23%	3%
Age	18 to 29	64%	35%	1%
	30 to 44	72%	26%	2%
	45 to 59	75%	22%	3%
	60 or older	73%	23%	4%
Race	White	73%	24%	3%
	Non White	68%	29%	3%
Gender	Men	67%	30%	3%
	Women	76%	22%	3%
Interview Type	Landline	74%	23%	3%
	Cell Phone	63%	36%	1%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters: Interviews conducted January 18th and 19th, 2012, N=554 MOE +/- 4.5 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Family Finances in the Coming Year

Asked of NYS Registered Voters:

Question Wording: In the coming year, do you expect your personal family finances to get better, get worse, or stay about the same?

		NYS Registered Voters		
		In the coming year, do you expect your personal family finances to get better, get worse, or stay about the same?		
		Get better	Get worse	Stay about the same
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		30%	15%	55%
Party Registration	Democrat	37%	14%	49%
	Republican	23%	14%	63%
	Non-enrolled	23%	14%	64%
Political Ideology	Liberal	37%	10%	53%
	Moderate	27%	10%	63%
	Conservative	25%	24%	51%
Region	New York City	41%	13%	46%
	Suburbs	28%	15%	57%
	Upstate	24%	16%	60%
Income	Less than \$50,000	32%	15%	53%
	\$50,000 or more	29%	15%	57%
Education	Not college graduate	28%	17%	55%
	College graduate	32%	13%	55%
Age	Under 45	40%	11%	49%
	45 or older	23%	18%	60%
Age	18 to 29	43%	8%	49%
	30 to 44	37%	14%	49%
	45 to 59	28%	16%	55%
	60 or older	17%	19%	64%
Race	White	25%	16%	59%
	Non White	43%	10%	47%
Gender	Men	32%	14%	53%
	Women	28%	15%	57%
Interview Type	Landline	28%	15%	56%
	Cell Phone	37%	13%	51%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters: Interviews conducted January 18th and 19th, 2012, N=554 MOE +/- 4.5 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Family Finances in the Coming Year (Over Time)

Asked of NYS Registered Voters:

Question Wording: In the coming year, do you expect your personal family finances to get better, get worse, or stay about the same?

Registered Voters			
In the coming year, do you expect your personal family finances to get better, get worse, or stay about the same?			
Date	Get better	Get worse	Stay about the same
January 2012	30%	15%	55%
November 2011	23%	22%	55%
May 2011	31%	22%	47%
February 2011	27%	19%	54%
September 28, 2010	26%	16%	58%
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April 8, 2010	22%	19%	59%
February 2, 2010	26%	18%	56%
November 24, 2010	24%	20%	56%
September 14, 2010	27%	18%	55%
July 9, 2009	20%	25%	55%
Marist Poll New York Registered Voters			

Minimum Wage

Asked of NYS Adults:

Question Wording: Is raising the minimum wage in New York State:

		NYS Adults		
		Is raising the minimum wage in New York State:		
		A good idea because it adds money to peoples income during difficult times	A bad idea because in difficult times small businesses will hire fewer people who need jobs	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Adults		69%	27%	4%
NYS Registered Voters		69%	28%	3%
Region	New York City	75%	22%	4%
	Suburbs	68%	27%	6%
	Upstate	64%	34%	2%
Income	Less \$50,000	74%	24%	2%
	\$50,000 to just under \$100,000	64%	33%	2%
	\$100,000 or more	73%	26%	1%
Income	Less than \$50,000	74%	24%	2%
	\$50,000 or more	68%	30%	2%
Education	Not college graduate	72%	25%	4%
	College graduate	67%	30%	3%
Age	Under 45	69%	28%	3%
	45 or older	70%	26%	4%
Age	18 to 29	66%	30%	4%
	30 to 44	72%	27%	1%
	45 to 59	70%	28%	2%
	60 or older	69%	24%	7%
Race	White	66%	30%	4%
	Non White	76%	22%	2%
Gender	Men	67%	30%	3%
	Women	71%	24%	5%
Interview Type	Landline	66%	29%	4%
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