



Report Card Time
NY Voters Rate Obama, Schumer, and Gillibrand

*** Complete Tables for Poll Appended ***

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, July 1, 2009

Contact: Lee M. Miringoff
Barbara L. Carvalho
Mary E. Azzoli
Marist College
845.575.5050

This Marist Poll Reports:

Getting to Know Senator Gillibrand

Six months after Governor David Paterson appointed Senator Kirsten Gillibrand to the U.S. Senate, more registered New York State voters have an opinion about Gillibrand's job performance. But, is it a good one? 24% currently view Gillibrand as doing either an excellent or good job in office. This compares with 19% who gave her a similar rating in Marist's May survey. The proportion of those who say that Gillibrand is performing poorly is little changed from the one she received in May. Currently, 13% view her as doing a subpar job compared with 10% at that time. Although Gillibrand has become better-known among voters, she has a long way to go. 33% of the electorate still does not know how to rate her. This compares with 43% who reported the same in May.

Gillibrand Gains Ground in 2010 U.S. Senate Race

When it comes to the 2010 U.S. Senate Race, are the political tides turning in Senator Gillibrand's direction? Looking at a couple of hypothetical contests, they just might be. When Gillibrand is placed up against former New York Governor George Pataki, the two are locked in a tight race. If the election were held today, Gillibrand garners 46% of the state's electorate compared with 42% for Pataki. When The Marist Poll last asked this question in May, Gillibrand trailed the former governor, 38% to Pataki's 46%. When pitted against U.S. Representative Peter King, Gillibrand has widened her lead. 48% of voters say they would vote for Gillibrand while 32% report they would back King. Two months ago, Gillibrand received 42% of the vote to King's 31%.

Gillibrand Faces Competition for Nomination in 2010...Pataki Frontrunner for GOP

Before Gillibrand can dig her political heels into a senatorial campaign, she first has to win her party's nomination. And, as of now, she has her work cut out for her. In a hypothetical pairing, Gillibrand is locked in a statistical dead heat with U.S. Representative Carolyn

Maloney. 37% of Democrats say they would vote for Gillibrand compared with 38% who report they would support Maloney. One-quarter are unsure. Two months ago, Gillibrand edged Maloney 36% to 31% with a larger proportion of the electorate – 33% -- saying they were unsure.

Is there a potential frontrunner on the Republican side? Former New York Governor George Pataki claims that title. He garners a slim majority – 51% -- of New York State Republicans when matched up against U.S. Representative Peter King. King receives 36% of his party's vote. In May, Pataki had a 12 percentage point lead over King, 48% to 36%.

Tried and True? Schumer's Job Approval Stands Firm

Senator Chuck Schumer is nothing if not consistent. 54% of registered New York State voters report that Schumer is doing either an excellent or good job in office while just 15% think he is performing poorly. The senator received similar job approval ratings in both Marist's May and March surveys.

Obama Maintains High Marks Among New York State Voters

President Barack Obama enjoys a favorable job approval rating among the New York State electorate. 63% report that President Obama is doing either an excellent or good job in the nation's highest office. Fewer than one-fifth of voters – 16% -- say he is performing poorly. Obama's approval rating is consistent. In Marist's May survey, 64% of New York registered voters gave the president an above average rating.

Nature of the Sample: 1,003 New York State Registered Voters

This survey of 1,003 registered voters in New York State was conducted on June 23rd through June 25th 2009. 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. Results are statistically significant at $\pm 3\%$. There are 441 Democrats and 281 Republicans. Results for these subsamples are statistically significant at $\pm 5\%$ and $\pm 6\%$, respectively. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.

Marist Poll July 2009
NYS Registered Voter Tables

		Registered Voters				
		Would you rate the job Senator Charles Schumer is doing in office as excellent, good, fair, or poor?				
		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
	Registered Voters	15%	39%	27%	15%	4%
Party Registration	Democrat	22%	46%	21%	8%	3%
	Republican	7%	29%	36%	25%	3%
	Non-enrolled	11%	36%	27%	20%	6%
Political Ideology	Liberal	21%	48%	23%	4%	4%
	Moderate	17%	41%	28%	13%	2%
	Conservative	6%	27%	31%	29%	6%
Region	New York City	17%	38%	26%	13%	6%
	Suburbs	16%	39%	27%	15%	3%
	Upstate	13%	38%	28%	17%	4%
Income	less \$50,000	15%	40%	27%	13%	6%
	\$50,000-\$99,999	17%	39%	25%	16%	3%
	\$100,000 or more	12%	34%	33%	19%	2%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	15%	40%	27%	13%	6%
	\$50,000 or more	15%	37%	28%	17%	3%
Education	Not college graduate	12%	40%	27%	15%	5%
	College graduate	17%	36%	28%	16%	3%
Race	White	14%	38%	28%	16%	4%
	Non White	17%	40%	26%	12%	4%
Religion	Protestant	15%	37%	27%	16%	5%
	Catholic	12%	38%	30%	18%	2%
	Jewish	22%	47%	18%	3%	9%
Age	18 to 29	9%	40%	35%	9%	7%
	30 to 44	9%	35%	32%	17%	7%
	45 to 59	15%	39%	24%	19%	4%
	60 or older	21%	38%	24%	14%	3%
Age	Under 45	9%	37%	33%	14%	7%
	45 or older	18%	39%	24%	16%	3%
Gender	Men	14%	37%	25%	20%	4%
	Women	15%	40%	29%	11%	5%

Marist Poll New York Registered Voters "N=1,003 MOE +/- 3%". Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters				
		Would you rate the job Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is doing in office as excellent, good, fair, or poor?				
		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
	Registered Voters	3%	21%	30%	13%	33%
Party Registration	Democrat	3%	23%	29%	12%	34%
	Republican	2%	20%	32%	16%	29%
	Non-enrolled	2%	23%	33%	10%	32%
Political Ideology	Liberal	4%	27%	32%	7%	31%
	Moderate	2%	23%	29%	16%	29%
	Conservative	1%	15%	30%	16%	37%
Region	New York City	1%	13%	30%	12%	45%
	Suburbs	2%	22%	30%	15%	32%
	Upstate	4%	26%	32%	13%	26%
Income	less \$50,000	5%	21%	28%	12%	35%
	\$50,000-\$99,999	3%	25%	34%	12%	27%
	\$100,000 or more	2%	21%	32%	17%	28%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	5%	21%	28%	12%	35%
	\$50,000 or more	2%	23%	33%	14%	27%
Education	Not college graduate	3%	22%	31%	14%	30%
	College graduate	3%	20%	30%	13%	35%
Race	White	3%	22%	32%	14%	30%
	Non White	2%	22%	26%	10%	41%
Religion	Protestant	3%	25%	26%	15%	31%
	Catholic	2%	23%	33%	14%	29%
	Jewish	3%	18%	25%	6%	48%
Age	18 to 29	0%	24%	19%	17%	40%
	30 to 44	1%	18%	34%	15%	31%
	45 to 59	3%	25%	33%	13%	26%
	60 or older	3%	20%	29%	11%	37%
Age	Under 45	1%	20%	29%	16%	34%
	45 or older	3%	23%	31%	12%	31%
Gender	Men	3%	22%	29%	18%	28%
	Women	2%	20%	32%	8%	37%

Marist Poll New York Registered Voters "N=1,003 MOE +/- 3%". Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters				
		Would you rate the job President Barack Obama is doing in office as excellent, good, fair, or poor?				
		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
	Registered Voters	31%	32%	20%	16%	1%
Party Registration	Democrat	48%	35%	11%	6%	0%
	Republican	13%	24%	31%	30%	1%
	Non-enrolled	23%	37%	23%	17%	1%
Political Ideology	Liberal	50%	37%	10%	3%	0%
	Moderate	31%	37%	23%	8%	0%
	Conservative	13%	21%	25%	39%	1%
Region	New York City	38%	30%	17%	14%	0%
	Suburbs	34%	26%	24%	15%	2%
	Upstate	26%	36%	19%	19%	0%
Income	less \$50,000	35%	35%	14%	15%	1%
	\$50,000-\$99,999	32%	29%	21%	18%	0%
	\$100,000 or more	31%	35%	21%	12%	0%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	35%	35%	14%	15%	1%
	\$50,000 or more	32%	32%	21%	16%	0%
Education	Not college graduate	30%	32%	19%	19%	1%
	College graduate	33%	30%	21%	15%	0%
Race	White	26%	34%	22%	18%	0%
	Non White	53%	25%	12%	9%	1%
Religion	Protestant	33%	31%	22%	14%	0%
	Catholic	24%	33%	22%	21%	0%
	Jewish	41%	29%	15%	15%	0%
Age	18 to 29	38%	25%	22%	16%	0%
	30 to 44	26%	31%	20%	22%	0%
	45 to 59	32%	35%	18%	13%	1%
	60 or older	32%	31%	20%	17%	1%
Age	Under 45	30%	29%	21%	20%	0%
	45 or older	32%	33%	19%	15%	1%
Gender	Men	32%	27%	20%	21%	0%
	Women	30%	37%	20%	12%	1%

Marist Poll New York Registered Voters "N=1,003 MOE +/- 3%". Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters		
		If the 2010 election for U.S. Senate in New York State were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:		
		Kirsten Gillibrand, the Democratic candidate	Peter King, the Republican candidate	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
	Registered Voters	48%	32%	20%
Party Registration	Democrat	64%	18%	18%
	Republican	27%	56%	17%
	Non-enrolled	50%	28%	21%
Political Ideology	Liberal	67%	15%	18%
	Moderate	53%	28%	19%
	Conservative	27%	52%	21%
Region	New York City	52%	25%	23%
	Suburbs	40%	49%	10%
	Upstate	51%	27%	23%
Income	less \$50,000	51%	29%	19%
	\$50,000-\$99,999	50%	32%	19%
	\$100,000 or more	51%	36%	13%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	51%	29%	19%
	\$50,000 or more	50%	34%	16%
Education	Not college graduate	44%	35%	21%
	College graduate	53%	29%	18%
Race	White	47%	34%	19%
	Non White	58%	22%	19%
Religion	Protestant	47%	33%	21%
	Catholic	46%	40%	15%
	Jewish	47%	24%	29%
Age	18 to 29	49%	33%	17%
	30 to 44	42%	33%	25%
	45 to 59	55%	30%	15%
	60 or older	49%	31%	20%
Age	Under 45	45%	33%	22%
	45 or older	52%	31%	18%
Gender	Men	45%	39%	16%
	Women	52%	24%	24%

Marist Poll New York Registered Voters "N=1,003 MOE +/- 3%". Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters		
		If the 2010 election for U.S. Senate in New York State were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:		
		Kirsten Gillibrand, the Democratic candidate	George Pataki, the Republican candidate	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
	Registered Voters	46%	42%	12%
Party Registration	Democrat	61%	29%	10%
	Republican	27%	63%	10%
	Non-enrolled	45%	42%	13%
Political Ideology	Liberal	66%	21%	13%
	Moderate	48%	42%	10%
	Conservative	26%	63%	11%
Region	New York City	49%	40%	11%
	Suburbs	37%	53%	11%
	Upstate	48%	38%	13%
Income	less \$50,000	47%	43%	10%
	\$50,000-\$99,999	50%	39%	11%
	\$100,000 or more	47%	43%	10%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	47%	43%	10%
	\$50,000 or more	49%	41%	11%
Education	Not college graduate	42%	45%	13%
	College graduate	50%	39%	11%
Race	White	43%	47%	10%
	Non White	59%	28%	12%
Religion	Protestant	43%	46%	10%
	Catholic	42%	49%	10%
	Jewish	42%	41%	17%
Age	18 to 29	42%	48%	10%
	30 to 44	40%	48%	11%
	45 to 59	48%	41%	10%
	60 or older	49%	37%	13%
Age	Under 45	41%	48%	11%
	45 or older	49%	39%	12%
Gender	Men	44%	45%	11%
	Women	47%	40%	13%

Marist Poll New York Registered Voters "N=1,003 MOE +/- 3%". Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

	Democrats		
	If next year's Democratic primary for U.S. Senate in New York State were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:		
	Kirsten Gillibrand	Carolyn Maloney	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %
Democrats	37%	38%	25%

Marist Poll New York Registered Democrats "N=441 MOE +/- 5%". Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Republicans			
If next year's Republican primary for U.S. Senate in New York State were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:			
	Peter King	George Pataki	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %
Republicans	36%	51%	13%

Marist Poll New York Registered Republicans "N=281 MOE +/- 6%". Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.