



**Gillibrand's Road to Election:
A Rough Ride?
Approval Rating Roundup**

*** Complete Tables for Poll Appended ***

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This Marist Poll Reports:

Gillibrand Approval Rating Stagnates

Ten months after Kirsten Gillibrand was appointed to the U.S. Senate by Governor David Paterson, the junior senator from New York has failed to become a household name among registered voters in New York State. 25% of the electorate thinks Gillibrand is doing either an excellent or good job in office, and 12% believes she is performing poorly. Perhaps, though, Gillibrand's bigger concern is that 24% of the electorate is unsure how to rate her. Voters' perceptions of Gillibrand's job performance have changed little since Marist last asked this question in mid-September.

Rough Road to Election

There has been a great deal of talk over the last few days about whether former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani will oppose Gillibrand in the 2010 race for U.S. Senate. If that's the case, it could spell trouble for Gillibrand. In a hypothetical matchup against Gillibrand, Giuliani leads 54% to 40%. But, how would she do against another well-known name, former Governor George Pataki? Here, voters divide. Pataki receives 47% of the vote and Gillibrand garners 45%. 8% are unsure. When Marist last asked this question in late September, Pataki led Gillibrand 45% to 41%. 14% were undecided at that time.

Schumer Approval Rating in Mid-50's

Senator Chuck Schumer receives above average grades from a majority of New York voters. 54% of registered voters statewide think he is doing either an excellent or good job in office while 29% rate him as fair, and 13% say he is performing poorly.

Schumer's approval rating has come down a notch since Marist last asked New York State voters about his job performance in mid-September. At that time, 58% gave him high marks. It has returned to what it was in July when 54% of New Yorkers shared that view.

DiNapoli Approval Rating...Stuck in Sea of Uncertainty

New York State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli needs to become better known among voters. While 30% of registered voters in New York State report DiNapoli is doing an excellent or good job in office, more than one-quarter of the electorate -- 27% -- are unsure how to rate him.

This has been an ongoing problem for DiNapoli. When Marist asked about the comptroller's approval rating in September, 35% approved of the job he was doing with 26% reporting they did not know how to rate him. In June, DiNapoli received similar ratings.

President Obama with 55% Approval Rating in NYS

A majority of registered voters in New York State -- 55% -- think President Barack Obama is doing either an excellent or good job in office. One-fifth give the president poor marks. When Marist last asked the New York State electorate about Mr. Obama's job approval rating at the end of September, 52% thought he was performing well.

Nature of the Sample: 805 New York State Registered Voters

This survey of 805 New York State registered voters was conducted on November 12th, November 16th, and November 17th 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. 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 two samples were then combined. Results are statistically significant at +/- 3.5%. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.

**Marist Poll November 2009
NYS Registered Voter Tables**

| | | 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% | 22% | 39% | 12% | 24% |
| Party Registration | Democrat | 4% | 24% | 34% | 8% | 30% |
| | Republican | 1% | 20% | 39% | 21% | 18% |
| | Non-enrolled | 2% | 23% | 46% | 11% | 18% |
| Political Ideology | Liberal | 5% | 26% | 35% | 5% | 28% |
| | Moderate | 2% | 25% | 45% | 8% | 21% |
| | Conservative | 2% | 17% | 34% | 24% | 23% |
| Region | New York City | 1% | 18% | 33% | 14% | 35% |
| | Suburbs | 0% | 17% | 45% | 16% | 22% |
| | Upstate | 6% | 28% | 39% | 10% | 18% |
| Income | less \$50,000 | 4% | 27% | 34% | 11% | 24% |
| | \$50,000-\$99,999 | 3% | 21% | 40% | 10% | 26% |
| | \$100,000 or more | 2% | 21% | 42% | 15% | 20% |
| Household Income | Less than \$50,000 | 4% | 27% | 34% | 11% | 24% |
| | \$50,000 or more | 3% | 21% | 41% | 12% | 23% |
| Education | Not college graduate | 3% | 25% | 36% | 11% | 26% |
| | College graduate | 3% | 20% | 40% | 14% | 22% |
| Race | White | 3% | 23% | 37% | 13% | 24% |
| | Non White | 2% | 22% | 46% | 8% | 21% |
| Religion | Protestant | 3% | 23% | 39% | 11% | 25% |
| | Catholic | 3% | 22% | 37% | 14% | 24% |
| | Jewish | 2% | 16% | 40% | 17% | 25% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 0% | 34% | 36% | 10% | 20% |
| | 30 to 44 | 4% | 19% | 46% | 9% | 22% |
| | 45 to 59 | 4% | 19% | 41% | 14% | 22% |
| | 60 or older | 2% | 25% | 31% | 15% | 27% |
| Age | Under 45 | 3% | 24% | 43% | 9% | 22% |
| | 45 or older | 3% | 22% | 36% | 15% | 25% |
| Gender | Men | 3% | 21% | 39% | 16% | 21% |
| | Women | 3% | 24% | 38% | 9% | 26% |

Marist Poll New York Registered Voters "N=805 MOE +/- 3.5%". 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 | | 45% | 47% | 8% |
| Party Registration | Democrat | 64% | 28% | 8% |
| | Republican | 21% | 72% | 7% |
| | Non-enrolled | 39% | 52% | 9% |
| Political Ideology | Liberal | 61% | 32% | 7% |
| | Moderate | 52% | 41% | 7% |
| | Conservative | 24% | 65% | 11% |
| Region | New York City | 51% | 40% | 9% |
| | Suburbs | 40% | 51% | 9% |
| | Upstate | 44% | 48% | 8% |
| Income | less \$50,000 | 46% | 43% | 11% |
| | \$50,000-\$99,999 | 44% | 49% | 7% |
| | \$100,000 or more | 48% | 48% | 5% |
| Household Income | Less than \$50,000 | 46% | 43% | 11% |
| | \$50,000 or more | 46% | 49% | 6% |
| Education | Not college graduate | 39% | 51% | 11% |
| | College graduate | 51% | 43% | 6% |
| Race | White | 43% | 50% | 8% |
| | Non White | 56% | 35% | 9% |
| Religion | Protestant | 43% | 51% | 6% |
| | Catholic | 40% | 52% | 8% |
| | Jewish | 45% | 46% | 8% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 29% | 69% | 2% |
| | 30 to 44 | 43% | 47% | 10% |
| | 45 to 59 | 50% | 43% | 7% |
| | 60 or older | 48% | 42% | 10% |
| Age | Under 45 | 39% | 54% | 7% |
| | 45 or older | 49% | 42% | 8% |
| Gender | Men | 42% | 52% | 6% |
| | Women | 49% | 41% | 11% |

Marist Poll New York Registered Voters "N=805 MOE +/- 3.5%". Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

| | | 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 | | 17% | 37% | 29% | 13% | 4% |
| Party Registration | Democrat | 27% | 42% | 19% | 6% | 6% |
| | Republican | 5% | 32% | 32% | 29% | 2% |
| | Non-enrolled | 12% | 35% | 39% | 9% | 4% |
| Political Ideology | Liberal | 25% | 46% | 19% | 3% | 6% |
| | Moderate | 17% | 42% | 31% | 7% | 2% |
| | Conservative | 9% | 24% | 33% | 30% | 4% |
| Region | New York City | 22% | 42% | 22% | 8% | 5% |
| | Suburbs | 15% | 42% | 22% | 17% | 4% |
| | Upstate | 14% | 31% | 36% | 14% | 4% |
| Income | less \$50,000 | 17% | 34% | 30% | 12% | 8% |
| | \$50,000-\$99,999 | 13% | 39% | 31% | 12% | 5% |
| | \$100,000 or more | 17% | 38% | 29% | 15% | 1% |
| Household Income | Less than \$50,000 | 17% | 34% | 30% | 12% | 8% |
| | \$50,000 or more | 15% | 39% | 30% | 14% | 3% |
| Education | Not college graduate | 12% | 37% | 30% | 13% | 7% |
| | College graduate | 20% | 37% | 27% | 14% | 2% |
| Race | White | 16% | 35% | 29% | 15% | 5% |
| | Non White | 16% | 48% | 28% | 5% | 4% |
| Religion | Protestant | 16% | 40% | 25% | 14% | 4% |
| | Catholic | 11% | 35% | 32% | 16% | 5% |
| | Jewish | 36% | 36% | 18% | 9% | 1% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 7% | 36% | 35% | 15% | 8% |
| | 30 to 44 | 11% | 31% | 39% | 12% | 8% |
| | 45 to 59 | 16% | 43% | 27% | 12% | 3% |
| | 60 or older | 25% | 38% | 19% | 16% | 2% |
| Age | Under 45 | 9% | 32% | 38% | 13% | 8% |
| | 45 or older | 20% | 40% | 23% | 14% | 3% |
| Gender | Men | 17% | 31% | 29% | 19% | 3% |
| | Women | 16% | 43% | 28% | 8% | 6% |

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| | | Registered Voters | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| | | Would you rate the job New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli is doing in office as excellent, good, fair, or poor? | | | | |
| | | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Unsure |
| | | Row % | Row % | Row % | Row % | Row % |
| Registered Voters | | 2% | 28% | 36% | 7% | 27% |
| Party Registration | Democrat | 2% | 30% | 30% | 5% | 32% |
| | Republican | 1% | 29% | 44% | 8% | 18% |
| | Non-enrolled | 4% | 22% | 41% | 9% | 24% |
| Political Ideology | Liberal | 4% | 32% | 28% | 3% | 33% |
| | Moderate | 2% | 25% | 43% | 7% | 24% |
| | Conservative | 3% | 26% | 38% | 9% | 23% |
| Region | New York City | 1% | 23% | 34% | 8% | 34% |
| | Suburbs | 3% | 26% | 37% | 6% | 28% |
| | Upstate | 3% | 31% | 38% | 6% | 21% |
| Income | less \$50,000 | 1% | 36% | 33% | 4% | 26% |
| | \$50,000-\$99,999 | 4% | 27% | 34% | 8% | 26% |
| | \$100,000 or more | 3% | 20% | 44% | 7% | 26% |
| Household Income | Less than \$50,000 | 1% | 36% | 33% | 4% | 26% |
| | \$50,000 or more | 4% | 24% | 39% | 7% | 26% |
| Education | Not college graduate | 3% | 31% | 34% | 5% | 27% |
| | College graduate | 2% | 25% | 39% | 8% | 27% |
| Race | White | 3% | 27% | 37% | 5% | 28% |
| | Non White | 3% | 32% | 37% | 9% | 18% |
| Religion | Protestant | 4% | 31% | 36% | 4% | 25% |
| | Catholic | 3% | 26% | 40% | 6% | 26% |
| | Jewish | 0% | 25% | 35% | 6% | 33% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 5% | 26% | 35% | 7% | 27% |
| | 30 to 44 | 1% | 23% | 45% | 5% | 26% |
| | 45 to 59 | 2% | 29% | 39% | 9% | 21% |
| | 60 or older | 4% | 33% | 27% | 5% | 32% |
| Age | Under 45 | 2% | 24% | 42% | 5% | 26% |
| | 45 or older | 3% | 31% | 33% | 7% | 26% |
| Gender | Men | 3% | 30% | 36% | 9% | 23% |
| | Women | 2% | 26% | 38% | 4% | 30% |

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| | | 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 | | 18% | 37% | 24% | 20% | 1% |
| Party Registration | Democrat | 28% | 47% | 16% | 8% | 1% |
| | Republican | 3% | 21% | 33% | 43% | 0% |
| | Non-enrolled | 15% | 39% | 30% | 15% | 2% |
| Political Ideology | Liberal | 31% | 49% | 13% | 6% | 1% |
| | Moderate | 16% | 39% | 34% | 11% | 0% |
| | Conservative | 9% | 21% | 23% | 45% | 2% |
| Region | New York City | 29% | 37% | 21% | 12% | 0% |
| | Suburbs | 15% | 36% | 19% | 28% | 3% |
| | Upstate | 12% | 38% | 29% | 21% | 0% |
| Income | less \$50,000 | 15% | 43% | 24% | 17% | 1% |
| | \$50,000-\$99,999 | 18% | 38% | 22% | 22% | 1% |
| | \$100,000 or more | 20% | 31% | 27% | 22% | 0% |
| Household Income | Less than \$50,000 | 15% | 43% | 24% | 17% | 1% |
| | \$50,000 or more | 19% | 35% | 25% | 22% | 0% |
| Education | Not college graduate | 14% | 39% | 26% | 20% | 1% |
| | College graduate | 20% | 35% | 23% | 21% | 1% |
| Race | White | 15% | 35% | 26% | 24% | 1% |
| | Non White | 28% | 48% | 18% | 5% | 0% |
| Religion | Protestant | 21% | 33% | 27% | 19% | 1% |
| | Catholic | 11% | 35% | 27% | 25% | 1% |
| | Jewish | 19% | 36% | 20% | 23% | 1% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 14% | 43% | 25% | 17% | 0% |
| | 30 to 44 | 15% | 34% | 28% | 22% | 2% |
| | 45 to 59 | 17% | 42% | 23% | 18% | 0% |
| | 60 or older | 22% | 33% | 21% | 23% | 1% |
| Age | Under 45 | 15% | 37% | 27% | 20% | 1% |
| | 45 or older | 19% | 37% | 22% | 21% | 1% |
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