



**SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE**  
SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

[www.siena.edu/sri](http://www.siena.edu/sri)

For Immediate Release:

Monday, April 23, 2007

Contact:

Steven Greenberg at 518-469-9858

PDF version; crosstabs; website:

[http://www.siena.edu/sri/results/2007/07\\_Apr\\_NYPoll.htm](http://www.siena.edu/sri/results/2007/07_Apr_NYPoll.htm)

**Siena New York Poll:**

## **Spitzer's Ratings Head Back Up**

### ***Clinton's Favorability, Primary & General Leads Fall***

*New Yorkers Split on Good or Bad Budget; Two-thirds Believe Budget Shows that Albany Stays the Same*

**Loudonville, NY** Governor Eliot Spitzer's favorability and job performance ratings have begun to rebound since the enactment of the state budget, while Senator Hillary Clinton's favorability rating and presidential electoral support continue to erode, according to a new Siena (College) Research Institute poll of registered New York voters released today. The new Siena poll also shows that New Yorkers are divided over whether the enacted budget was good or bad for the people of the state, while they overwhelmingly believe that the budget demonstrates that things in Albany have pretty much stayed the same, despite the Governor's vow that 'everything changes on Day 1.'

"While his numbers are not back in record territory, Spitzer is viewed favorably by two-thirds of New York voters, including 60 percent of Republicans," said Steven Greenberg, Siena New York Poll spokesman. "His favorability rating is at least 65 percent in every region of the state. And his job performance rating has jumped in the last month to 55 percent excellent or good, and 38 percent fair or poor, up from 47-39 percent last month.

"Predictions of an early end to Eliot Spitzer's honeymoon with voters are premature," Greenberg said. "Over the last two years, only Chuck Schumer and Spitzer himself have had a higher favorability rating than the Governor currently has among the nearly 30 politicians Siena has asked voters about."

Clinton was viewed favorably by 50 percent of voters and unfavorably by 42 percent. Last month her favorability rating was 56-37 percent. Senator Barack Obama's favorability rating is 55-23 percent. And Senator John Edwards has a 52-29 percent favorability rating.

**Siena New York Poll**  
**April 23, 2007 – Page 2**

“Hillary’s favorability rating is the lowest it’s been in more than two years of the Siena New York poll,” Greenberg said. “The fall in her rating has been dramatic since January, when she had a 60-33 favorability rating. Just as dramatic is the tightening of both the primary and general election matchups. Hillary led Obama by 47 points in January and 32 points last month, now her lead is 22 points.

“In a race against Rudy Giuliani, Hillary’s 12 point lead from last month has tightened to a five point lead. And while Rudy was beating Obama by three points last month, today Obama has a four point lead over Giuliani, virtually the same as Hillary’s,” Greenberg said.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Clinton</b>	<b>Giuliani</b>		<b>Obama</b>	<b>Giuliani</b>
April 2007	48%	43%		47%	43%
March 2007	51%	39%		42%	45%
November 2006	53%	39%		41%	47%
August 2006	42%	48%			
October 2005	43%	48%			

In the Democratic primary Clinton gets 39 percent to 17 percent for Obama, 12 percent for Al Gore, 11 percent for Edwards, and single digits for the other candidates. In the Republican primary, Giuliani gets 47 percent to 16 percent for Sen. John McCain and single digits for the other candidates.

Three in ten voters said that the recently passed state budget was good for the people and 27 percent said it was bad, while 14 percent volunteered it was mixed. When asked who the biggest winner was in the budget battle, 26 percent said special interest groups, 23 percent said the Governor, eight percent said the Senate and six percent said the Assembly. While only 23 percent said that the budget demonstrates that things in Albany ‘have dramatically changed,’ 62 percent said that it demonstrates that things in Albany have ‘pretty much stayed the same.’

“While New Yorkers are divided over whether the budget was good or bad, and who the big winner was, voters told Siena that the budget shows very clearly that everything did not change on Day 1,” Greenberg said. “The Governor has a long way to go in convincing New Yorkers that he has changed state government for the better.”

###

This SRI survey was conducted April 16-20, 2007 by telephone calls to 980 registered New York State voters. It has a margin of error of  $\pm 3.1$  percentage points. The margin of error for Democrats is  $\pm 4.8$  percentage points. The margin of error for Republicans is  $\pm 5.5$  percentage points. For more information, please call Steven Greenberg at 518-469-9858. Survey cross-tabulations and frequencies can be found at: [http://www.siena.edu/sri/results/2007/07\\_Apr\\_NYPoll.htm](http://www.siena.edu/sri/results/2007/07_Apr_NYPoll.htm)



**SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE**  
 SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY  
[www.siena.edu/sri](http://www.siena.edu/sri)

**Siena New York Poll Trends – April 2007**

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Eliot Spitzer?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2007	67	20	13
March 2007	62	20	18
February 2007	74	12	14
January 2007	75	10	16
November 15, 2006	75	14	12
November 3, 2006	74	17	10
October 2006	69	20	12
September 2006	74	16	10
August 2006	71	15	15
June 2006	68	16	16
May 2006	63	19	19
March 2006	62	18	20
January 2006	59	19	23
November 2005	65	15	20
October 2005	61	19	20
August 2005	60	14	26
July 2005	62	15	22
June 2005	59	15	25
May 2005	58	17	25
April 2005	53	18	29
March 2005	50	18	32
February 2005	48	17	34

How would you rate the job that Eliot Spitzer is doing as Governor – excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2007	10	45	31	7	7
March 2007	8	39	31	8	13
February 2007	15	43	21	3	20
January 2007	11	37	15	4	33

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Thomas DiNapoli?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2007	11	14	76
March 2007	9	14	78
February 2007	9	15	76

# Siena New York Poll Trends – April 2007

Page 2

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Andrew Cuomo?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2007	52	31	18
March 2007	50	32	19
February 2007	45	35	20
January 2007	48	29	23
November 15, 2006	50	36	15
November 3, 2006	49	36	15
October 2006	44	42	15
September 2006	50	35	15
August 2006	44	35	21
June 2006	47	29	24
January 2006	45	31	24

How would you rate the job that Andrew Cuomo is doing as Attorney General – excellent, good, fair, or poor?

DATE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2007	8	39	29	9	15
March 2007	5	35	29	8	23
January 2007	4	28	22	7	38

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Hillary Clinton?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2007	50	42	7
March 2007	56	37	8
February 2007	56	40	5
January 2007	60	33	7
November 15, 2006	65	29	6
November 3, 2006	61	33	6
October 2006	56	38	6
September 2006	60	37	4
August 2006	54	38	7
June 2006	54	38	8
May 2006	58	36	6
March 2006	55	39	6
January 2006	60	37	3
November 2005	60	34	6
October 2005	59	35	6
August 2005	59	37	4
July 2005	60	34	6
June 2005	60	33	7
May 2005	58	35	7
April 2005	60	33	6
March 2005	58	34	8
February 2005	61	33	6

– more –

# Siena New York Poll Trends – April 2007

Page 3

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Barack Obama?

<b>DATE</b>	<b>FAVORABLE</b>	<b>UNFAVORABLE</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION</b>
April 2007	55	23	22
March 2007	52	20	28
February 2007	52	21	28
January 2007	50	17	34
November 15, 2006	48	12	40

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about John Edwards?

<b>DATE</b>	<b>FAVORABLE</b>	<b>UNFAVORABLE</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION</b>
April 2007	52	29	20
February 2007	44	31	25
January 2007	49	25	25
November 15, 2006	42	23	35

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about John McCain?

<b>DATE</b>	<b>FAVORABLE</b>	<b>UNFAVORABLE</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION</b>
April 2007	45	39	15
March 2007	45	34	21
February 2007	47	33	19
January 2007	51	29	21
November 15, 2006	56	24	20

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Rudy Giuliani?

<b>DATE</b>	<b>FAVORABLE</b>	<b>UNFAVORABLE</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION</b>
April 2007	56	38	6
March 2007	60	33	8
February 2007	59	34	7
January 2007	63	29	9
November 15, 2006	63	32	5
April 2005	63	26	10
February 2005	61	28	11

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about George Bush?

<b>DATE</b>	<b>FAVORABLE</b>	<b>UNFAVORABLE</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION</b>
April 2007	29	65	6
January 2007	26	67	8
November 15, 2006	28	65	7
September 2006	36	61	3

# Siena New York Poll Trends – April 2007

Page 4

If the Democratic Primary were held today and the candidates for the presidential nomination were (rotate choices) Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton, John Edwards, Bill Richardson, Chris Dodd, Dennis Kucinich, Joe Biden, or Al Gore who would you vote for? *(Note: Democrats only; choices rotated. Not all candidates were included in each poll; NA indicates where a candidate was not included.)*

DATE	OBAMA	CLINTON	EDWARDS	RICHARDSON	DODD
April 2007	17	39	11	4	0
March 2007	11	43	7	4	0
February 2007	13	44	8	2	1
January 2007	11	58	9	4	0

  

	KUCINICH	BIDEN	GORE	DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION
April 2007	1	2	12	13
March 2007	3	1	14	17
February 2007	2	4	11	15
January 2007	1	4	NA	13

If the Republican Primary were held today and the candidates for the presidential nomination were (rotate choices) Rudy Giuliani, John McCain, Sam Brownback, Mitt Romney, George Pataki, and Newt Gingrich, who would you vote for? *(Note: Republicans only; choices rotated)*

DATE	GIULIANI	MCCAIN	BROWNBACK	ROMNEY
April 2007	47	16	0	8
March 2007	48	16	1	6
February 2007	45	17	1	5
January 2007	47	20	1	5

  

	PATAKI	GINGRICH	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2007	6	7	16
March 2007	7	8	14
February 2007	3	11	19
January 2007	5	9	13

If the 2008 presidential election were held today and the candidates were Hillary Clinton on the Democratic line and Rudy Giuliani on the Republican line, who would you vote for (ROTATE CHOICES)?

DATE	CLINTON	GIULIANI	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2007	48	43	8
March 2007	51	39	9
November 15, 2006	53	39	8
August 2006	42	48	9
October 2005	43	48	9

– more –

# Siena New York Poll Trends – April 2007

Page 5

If the 2008 presidential election were held today and the candidates were Hillary Clinton on the Democratic line and John McCain on the Republican line, who would you vote for (ROTATE CHOICES)?

DATE	CLINTON	MCCAIN	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2007	51	39	10
March 2007	54	35	11
November 15, 2006	55	36	9
August 2006	42	46	12

If the 2008 presidential election were held today and the candidates were Barack Obama on the Democratic line and Rudy Giuliani on the Republican line, who would you vote for (ROTATE CHOICES)?

DATE	OBAMA	GIULIANI	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2007	47	43	10
March 2007	42	45	13
November 15, 2006	41	47	12

If the 2008 presidential election were held today and the candidates were Barack Obama on the Democratic line and John McCain on the Republican line, who would you vote for (ROTATE CHOICES)?

DATE	OBAMA	MCCAIN	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2007	50	37	13
March 2007	47	39	14
November 15, 2006	39	40	21

Is New York State on the right track, or is it headed in the wrong direction?

DATE	RIGHT TRACK	WRONG DIRECTION	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
April 2007	47	29	24
March 2007	37	37	26
February 2007	49	26	25
January 2007	45	26	30
November 15, 2006	52	30	18
November 3, 2006	36	43	21
October 2006	29	47	23
September 2006:	33	39	28
August 2006	29	47	25
June 2006	29	45	26
May 2006	27	52	21
March 2006	35	39	26
January 2006	34	43	24
November 2005	38	41	22
October 2005	34	42	24
August 2005	36	44	20
July 2005	33	41	26
June 2005	30	44	26
May 2005	29	46	25
April 2005	29	44	27
March 2005	26	47	27
February 2005	32	44	24