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QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY

POLL

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NEW YORKERS, EVEN GOP, LIKE EVERYTHING ABOUT CUOMO, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; VOTERS APPROVE OF OBAMA AND SAY 2-1 FOUR MORE YEARS

New York State voters approve 61 – 18 percent of the job Gov. Andrew Cuomo is doing and by almost identical margins they like him personally and like most of his policies, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today. Even Republicans approve 59 – 22 percent.

No matter what they think of his policies, voters say 61 – 13 percent, including 59 – 19 percent among Republicans, that they like Gov. Cuomo as a person, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University poll finds. And no matter what they think of him as a person, voters say 61 – 23 percent, including 61 – 29 percent among Republicans, that they like most of his policies. Looking at other measures of Cuomo’s success:

- Voters approve 57 – 30 percent of the way he is handling the state budget;
- Voters say 61 – 21 percent that Cuomo has been successful getting his policies passed by the State Legislature;
- Cuomo has been accessible enough to the news media, voters say 52 – 38 percent.

Cuomo is doing the right thing traveling the state to build public support for his proposals, 64 percent of voters say, while 28 percent say he should stay in Albany and work with legislators.

“Talk about a clean sweep! There’s not a single negative number for New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo. He even gets a positive score, almost 2-1, on that bugaboo that haunts most elected officials, the budget,” said Maurice Carroll, director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

“New Yorkers like him personally and they like his policies. Voters even say 40 – 32 percent that Gov. Cuomo has broken with Albany’s time-honored decision making by ‘three men in a room’ and opened up the process to other legislators.”

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“Did he win in the Legislature? Big. Are his travels with power-point messages a good thing? You bet. Only on accessibility is there a smidgin of negativity,” Carroll added.

New York State voters approve 42 – 39 percent of the job their local State Assembly member is doing and approve 51 – 34 percent of the job their state senator is doing.

Voters still disapprove 62 – 25 percent of the job the State Legislature is doing.

“The good feeling about Cuomo may be spilling over to other Albany players,” Carroll said. “Overall the Legislature’s job-approval marks are lousy, as usual. But New Yorkers like their own Assembly member and state senator.”

Obama, Gillibrand Approval

New York State voters approve 60 – 35 percent of the job President Barack Obama is doing, his highest score since February 19, 2009, one month after inauguration. Independent voters split 47 – 47 percent, while Democrats approve 89 – 7 percent and Republicans disapprove 76 – 19 percent.

Looking ahead to the 2012 presidential election, voters say 57 – 36 percent that President Obama deserves reelection and pick him 55 – 27 percent over an unnamed Republican opponent.

“This deep-blue state always has given President Barack Obama positive marks. Now he’s back in that 60-percent range. New Yorkers also say that he deserves reelection and that they’d vote for him in 2012.”

U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand gets a 53 – 22 percent approval rating, near her 54 – 20 percent all-time high in a February 23 survey.

Voters approve 60 – 28 percent of the job Sen. Charles Schumer is doing.

From May 24 – 30, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,257 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.8 percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio and the nation as a public service and for research.

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