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# QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL

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## **VOTERS WANT LEADERS', SPOUSES', LIVE-INS' INCOME, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY NEW YORK POLL FINDS; NO BUDGET WITHOUT ETHICS FIX, VOTERS SAY**

By an overwhelming 84 – 13 percent, New York State voters say elected officials should be required to disclose the source and amount of income from outside jobs and investments, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

By a smaller, but still substantial 64 – 32 percent, voters say spouses and live-in partners of elected officials also should be required to disclose the source and size of income, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll finds.

Voters back 45 – 40 percent Gov. Andrew Cuomo's threat to delay passage of the state budget to force legislators to enact ethics reform.

A total of 89 percent of New York State voters say government corruption is a "very serious" or "somewhat serious" problem in the state today.

But voters oppose 54 – 37 percent public financing of campaigns for governor, other statewide offices and the State Legislature. There is a gender gap, with men opposed 50 – 45 percent and women opposed 58 – 30 percent.

"Follow the money, New Yorkers say. Overwhelmingly, they want legislators to tell how much they earn. Legislators say spouses and companions of government folks should have to tell all, too. Voters agree," said Maurice Carroll, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

"Voters say, almost unanimously, that corruption remains a serious Albany problem. They don't think Gov. Andrew Cuomo is doing a good job combating it. He's part of the problem, more voters say."

**-more-**

## **Quinnipiac University Poll/March 19, 2015 – page 2**

New York State voters disapprove 54 – 35 percent of the way Gov. Cuomo is handling ethics in government. A total of 41 percent of voters say the governor is doing an “excellent” or “good” job cleaning up ethics in government while 51 percent say “not so good” or “poor.”

In fact, 47 percent of voters say Cuomo is part of the problem with ethics in government while 41 percent say he is part of the solution.

By a strong 76 – 18 percent margin, voters say elected state officials who are convicted of a felony should lose their pension. Support is strong across party, gender, age and regional groups.

State legislators should serve full-time, with a higher salary and no outside employment, 57 percent of voters say, while 33 percent say legislators should serve part-time, collecting a lower salary but allowed to accept outside employment.

“New Yorkers think a full-time State Legislature would be a good idea,” Carroll said.

Voters disapprove 62 – 23 percent of the job the State Legislature is doing, compared to a 55 – 28 percent disapproval December 22.

State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman gets a 45 – 22 percent job approval rating, while State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli gets a 35 – 19 percent score.

From March 11 – 16, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,228 New York State 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, Iowa, Ohio, Virginia, Colorado and the nation as a public service and for research.

**For more information, visit <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#) @QuinnipiacPoll.**

27. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the state legislature is handling its job?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Approve	23%	23%	28%	19%	20%	25%	29%	21%	22%
Disapprove	62	65	55	66	67	58	62	63	63
DK/NA	15	12	17	15	13	17	10	16	16

AREA.....  
UpStat NYC Sub

Approve	25%	20%	24%
Disapprove	64	61	61
DK/NA	12	19	15

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way the state legislature is handling its job?

	Mar 19 2015	Dec 22 2014	Aug 20 2014	May 21 2014	Feb 13 2014	APPROVE.....	
						High	Low
						Dec 12 2012	Sep 01 2010
Approve	23	28	26	26	28	35	15
Disapprove	62	55	61	55	57	46	75
DK/NA	15	17	13	18	15	18	9

28. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Thomas DiNapoli is handling his job as State Comptroller?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Approve	35%	38%	36%	32%	39%	31%	29%	32%	40%
Disapprove	19	18	17	23	20	19	26	21	15
DK/NA	46	44	47	45	41	50	45	47	45

AREA.....  
UpStat NYC Sub

Approve	39%	29%	37%
Disapprove	21	20	15
DK/NA	40	51	48

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Thomas DiNapoli is handling his job as State Comptroller?

	Mar 19 2015	Dec 23 2014	Aug 20 2014	May 21 2014	Apr 06 2009	APPROVE.....	
						High	Low
						Aug 20 2014	Apr 04 2007
Approve	35	39	45	36	26	45	24
Disapprove	19	16	19	12	19	19	13
DK/NA	46	45	36	52	56	36	63

29. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Eric Schneiderman is handling his job as State Attorney General?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-34	35-54	55+	
Approve	45%	34%	54%	45%	47%	43%	34%	45%	50%	
Disapprove	22	32	14	21	26	19	32	21	17	
DK/NA	33	33	33	34	27	38	33	34	33	
AREA.....										
	UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Approve	46%	45%	43%							
Disapprove	22	23	21							
DK/NA	32	32	36							

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Eric Schneiderman is handling his job as State Attorney General?

	Mar 19 2015	Dec 23 2014	Aug 20 2014	May 21 2014
Approve	45	47	51	46
Disapprove	22	20	22	18
DK/NA	33	33	27	37

30. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Carl Heastie is handling his job as State Assembly Speaker?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-34	35-54	55+	
Approve	20%	23%	19%	20%	19%	20%	31%	17%	18%	
Disapprove	15	15	13	14	17	14	16	15	15	
DK/NA	65	62	67	66	63	66	53	68	68	
AREA.....										
	UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Approve	20%	23%	12%							
Disapprove	15	16	15							
DK/NA	65	61	73							

31. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dean Skelos is handling his job as State Senate Majority Leader?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-34	35-54	55+	
Approve	20%	27%	20%	18%	21%	20%	26%	20%	17%	
Disapprove	30	27	30	30	35	26	29	27	33	
DK/NA	50	47	50	51	45	54	45	53	51	
AREA.....										
	UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Approve	19%	18%	26%							
Disapprove	31	33	25							
DK/NA	50	50	49							

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dean Skelos is handling his job as State Senate Majority Leader? (\* State Senate Co-Leader)

	Mar 19 2015	Nov 27 2013*	Jun 05 2013*	Apr 17 2013*	Feb 15 2012	APPROVE.....	
						High Feb 15 2012	Low Mar 19 2015
Approve	20	24	22	22	26	26	20
Disapprove	30	26	32	28	34	34	30
DK/NA	50	50	47	50	41	41	50

36. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Andrew Cuomo is handling - ethics in government?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Approve	35%	24%	44%	33%	31%	38%	39%	35%	35%
Disapprove	54	67	42	57	60	48	48	56	52
DK/NA	11	9	15	10	8	14	13	8	13

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Approve	28%	38%	42%
Disapprove	62	49	47
DK/NA	10	13	11

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Andrew Cuomo is handling ethics in government?

	Mar 18 2015	Aug 20 2014	May 22 2014	Feb 13 2014
Approve	35	39	48	52
Disapprove	54	50	34	31
DK/NA	11	10	18	17

46. How important would you say it is that the state pass a budget on time; very important, somewhat important, not so important, or not important at all?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Very important	67%	70%	67%	66%	63%	70%	69%	65%	67%
Somewhat important	26	24	25	29	28	24	24	26	27
Not so important	4	5	4	3	5	4	1	6	5
Not important at all	1	-	2	1	2	1	3	1	1
DK/NA	2	1	2	-	2	1	3	2	1

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Very important	66%	67%	68%
Somewhat important	28	23	26
Not so important	3	6	3
Not important at all	1	1	2
DK/NA	2	2	1

59. Do you support or oppose public financing of campaigns for governor, other statewide offices and the state legislature?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Support	37%	32%	43%	32%	45%	30%	31%	36%	41%
Oppose	54	61	45	62	50	58	58	54	52
DK/NA	9	7	11	7	6	12	10	10	7

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Support	31%	41%	38%
Oppose	62	50	50
DK/NA	7	9	12

TREND: Do you support or oppose public financing of campaigns for governor, other statewide offices and the state legislature? (\* Low also 37% Jun 2013, Apr 2013)

	SUPPORT.....						
				High		Low	
	Mar 19 2015	Aug 20 2014	May 22 2014	Nov 27 2013	Jun 05 2013	May 22 2014	Mar 19 2015*
Support	37	41	46	38	37	46	37
Oppose	54	52	44	52	53	44	54
DK/NA	9	8	9	10	9	9	9

60. How much of a problem, if at all, is government corruption in New York State today; is it a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, a not too serious problem, or not a problem at all?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Very serious	51%	47%	46%	58%	56%	46%	50%	51%	51%
Smwht serious	38	45	41	33	33	43	33	41	39
Not too serious	7	4	9	8	8	7	12	6	6
Not a problem at all	1	1	2	1	1	1	3	1	-
DK/NA	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	-	3

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Very serious	49%	56%	47%
Smwht serious	43	31	43
Not too serious	6	10	5
Not a problem at all	-	1	2
DK/NA	2	2	3

TREND: How much of a problem, if at all, is government corruption in New York State today; is it a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, a not too serious problem, or not a problem at all?

	Mar 19 2015	Aug 20 2014	May 22 2014	Nov 27 2013	Jun 05 2013	VERY+SMWHT....	
						High Mar 19 2015	Low Nov 06 2003
Very serious	51	42	36	41	51	51	28
Smwht serious	38	41	45	41	35	38	44
Not too serious	7	14	14	13	8	7	19
Not a problem at all	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
DK/NA	2	2	5	4	5	2	5

61. How would you rate the job Governor Cuomo is doing cleaning up government corruption; excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Excellent	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	4%	4%	3%
Good	38	29	50	33	33	42	39	37	40
Not so good	27	30	25	30	28	26	24	25	30
Poor	24	32	14	26	31	18	20	28	21
DK/NA	8	7	8	8	5	10	13	6	6

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Excellent	3%	4%	3%
Good	32	40	44
Not so good	30	24	28
Poor	30	23	15
DK/NA	6	9	9

TREND: How would you rate the job Governor Cuomo is doing cleaning up government corruption; excellent, good, not so good, or poor? (\* cleaning up corruption)

	Mar 19 2015	Aug 20 2014*
Excellent	3	4
Good	38	39
Not so good	27	29
Poor	24	23
DK/NA	8	5

62. When thinking about the problem of ethics in government, do you think Andrew Cuomo is part of the problem or part of the solution?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Problem	47%	61%	35%	50%	53%	42%	49%	46%	45%
Solution	41	32	52	38	39	43	38	43	44
DK/NA	12	8	14	12	8	15	13	11	11

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Problem	57%	42%	38%
Solution	34	44	48
DK/NA	9	14	13

TREND: When thinking about the problem of ethics in government, do you think Andrew Cuomo is part of the problem or part of the solution?

	Mar 19	Aug 20
	2015	2014
Problem	47	48
Solution	41	41
DK/NA	12	11

63. Do you support or oppose delaying passage of the state budget to force legislators to enact ethics reform?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Support	45%	49%	46%	41%	51%	40%	54%	43%	43%
Oppose	40	42	35	49	40	41	33	44	41
DK/NA	15	9	19	10	9	20	14	13	16

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Support	39%	51%	46%
Oppose	50	32	37
DK/NA	12	16	17

64. Do you think elected state officials should be required to disclose the source and size of income from outside jobs and investments, or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Yes/Should disclose	84%	85%	79%	90%	87%	81%	74%	86%	87%
No	13	14	17	8	10	15	22	13	10
DK/NA	3	2	5	2	2	4	5	1	3

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Yes/Should disclose	84%	83%	84%
No	13	14	11
DK/NA	3	3	5

65. Do you think the spouses or live-in partners of elected state officials should be required to disclose the source and size of income from employment and investments, or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Yes/Should disclose	64%	66%	60%	68%	66%	61%	54%	64%	67%
No	32	32	33	29	29	34	39	33	29
DK/NA	5	2	7	3	4	5	7	4	4

AREA.....

	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Yes/Should disclose	64%	67%	58%
No	33	28	35
DK/NA	4	5	6

66. Do you think elected state officials who have been convicted of a felony should lose their pensions or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Yes/Lose pensions	76%	83%	70%	77%	76%	75%	68%	75%	79%
No	18	11	22	18	18	18	29	17	15
DK/NA	6	6	8	5	5	7	3	8	6

AREA.....

	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Yes/Lose pensions	78%	69%	83%
No	17	24	11
DK/NA	6	7	6

67. Do you think New York State legislators should serve full-time with a higher state salary and no outside jobs or should they serve part-time with a lower salary and be allowed to accept outside employment?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Full-time	57%	45%	59%	62%	62%	52%	56%	59%	56%
Part-time	33	47	30	27	30	36	36	29	34
DK/NA	10	9	11	11	8	12	8	12	9

AREA.....

	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Full-time	49%	64%	58%
Part-time	43	24	30
DK/NA	8	12	12

68. Do you believe U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara's public comments about state government corruption have been appropriate or inappropriate, or haven't you heard enough about it?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Appropriate	17%	13%	16%	21%	25%	11%	9%	15%	22%
Inappropriate	3	2	3	3	4	2	2	1	5
Hvn't hrd enough	79	84	79	75	70	86	89	83	72
REFUSED	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	2

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Appropriate	14%	21%	17%
Inappropriate	3	3	3
Hvn't hrd enough	82	75	78
REFUSED	-	1	2