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**GAS DRILLING DIVIDES NEW YORK BY REGION,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
VOTERS SAY 3-1 FRACKING WILL HURT ENVIRONMENT**

New York State voters remain divided on drilling for natural gas, as 42 percent support drilling because of the economic benefits, while 46 percent oppose it because of environmental concerns, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

This slight opposition compares to the results of a March 20 survey by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University, in which voters opposed natural gas drilling 46 – 39 percent.

In today's survey, upstate voters are divided 45 – 46 percent on the issue of drilling, while New York City voters oppose it 47 – 37 percent and suburban voters are split with 47 percent in favor and 44 percent opposed. Republicans support drilling 68 – 25 percent, with Democrats opposed 58 – 29 percent and independent voters divided 43 – 45 percent.

There is also a large gender gap as men back drilling by a narrow 47 – 42 percent, while women are opposed 49 – 38 percent.

By a larger 50 – 38 percent margin, New York State voters support a new tax on companies drilling for natural gas. Support for a drilling tax is 59 – 30 percent among Democrats and 51 – 36 percent among independent voters. Republicans opposed the tax 53 – 37 percent.

“Fracking continues to divide the state by party, region and gender. The thumbs-down we found last time is moving back into a grey area. Voters still think it will bring new jobs – and some environmental damage,” said Maurice Carroll, director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

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New York State voters say 72 – 20 percent that drilling for natural gas will create jobs. There is almost no difference among upstate, New York City and suburban voters.

Voters also believe 54 – 16 percent that using hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, to extract natural gas will damage the environment. Republicans are divided 32 – 33 percent on whether fracking will hurt the environment, while most voters in all other groups believe it will.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo is “dragging his feet” and trying to avoid making a decision on fracking, 32 percent of voters say, while 24 percent say he is “carefully evaluating the issues,” with 41 percent undecided.

“There's a sense of impatience among voters,” Carroll said. “Is Gov. Andrew Cuomo doing a careful evaluation or dragging his feet? Slightly more voters see the scuff marks.”

From April 9 – 14, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,404 New York State voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.6 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, Virginia 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](#).

13. Some people say there should be drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale because of the economic benefits. Others say there should not be drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale because of the environmental impact. Which comes closer to your point of view?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Drilling	42%	68%	29%	43%	47%	38%	47%	27%	38%
No drilling	46	25	58	45	42	49	45	49	45
DK/NA	12	7	13	12	10	13	8	24	17

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	DEG No	ANNUAL <50K	HSHOLD 50-100	INC >100K	AGE IN 18-34	YRS..... 35-54	55+
Drilling	39%	44%	38%	42%	49%	41%	41%	44%
No drilling	54	41	47	46	45	47	50	43
DK/NA	7	15	14	11	5	13	8	12

	AREA.....			UPSTATE NY.....			HEARD OF FRACKING Q16	
	UpStat	NYC	Sub	Rep	Dem	Ind	Yes	No
Drilling	45%	37%	47%	66%	30%	40%	42%	44%
No drilling	46	47	44	29	63	48	50	36
DK/NA	9	16	9	5	7	12	8	20

TREND: Some people say there should be drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale because of the economic benefits. Others say there should not be drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale because of the environmental impact. Which comes closer to your point of view?

	DRILLING.....						
	Apr 18 2013	Mar 20 2013	Jan 31 2013	Dec 13 2012	Sep 12 2012	High Aug 11 2011	Low Mar 20 2013
Drilling	42	39	43	44	45	47	39
No drilling	46	46	42	42	41	42	46
DK/NA	12	14	15	15	13	12	14

14. Do you support or oppose a new tax on companies drilling for natural gas in the state's Marcellus Shale?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Support	50%	37%	59%	51%	54%	47%	52%	39%	50%
Oppose	38	53	30	36	37	38	37	43	35
DK/NA	12	10	11	13	9	15	11	18	15

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	DEG No	ANNUAL <50K	HSHOLD 50-100	INC >100K	AGE IN 18-34	YRS..... 35-54	55+
Support	60%	44%	44%	54%	63%	51%	53%	49%
Oppose	32	41	41	34	31	43	36	36
DK/NA	8	15	15	12	6	7	11	15

	AREA.....			UPSTATE NY.....			HEARD OF FRACKING Q16	
	UpStat	NYC	Sub	Rep	Dem	Ind	Yes	No
Support	50%	51%	50%	37%	59%	52%	55%	39%
Oppose	38	34	42	54	31	32	35	45
DK/NA	12	15	8	10	10	16	10	16

TREND: Do you support or oppose a new tax on companies drilling for natural gas in the state's Marcellus Shale?

	Apr 18 2013	Dec 13 2012	Sep 12 2012	Jul 26 2012	Dec 21 2011	SUPPORT.....	
						High Aug 11 2011	Low Jul 26 2012
Support	50	54	51	47	57	59	47
Oppose	38	32	34	39	31	29	39
DK/NA	12	14	15	14	12	12	14

15. Do you think that drilling for natural gas in the state's Marcellus Shale will create jobs or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Yes	72%	85%	66%	73%	77%	68%	75%	67%	67%
No	20	11	26	18	19	21	17	23	26
DK/NA	8	4	8	8	4	11	7	10	7

	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL	HS HOLD	INC	AGE IN YRS.....		
	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-34	35-54	55+
Yes	76%	69%	66%	77%	76%	70%	73%	72%
No	18	21	25	18	19	23	22	18
DK/NA	5	9	10	5	5	7	4	10

	AREA.....			UPSTATE NY.....			HEARD OF FRACKING Q16	
	UpStat	NYC	Sub	Rep	Dem	Ind	Yes	No
Yes	73%	70%	74%	83%	67%	72%	73%	70%
No	20	22	19	14	26	17	20	20
DK/NA	7	9	7	3	7	11	7	10

TREND: Do you think that drilling for natural gas in the state's Marcellus Shale will create jobs or not?

	Apr 18 2013	Dec 13 2012	Sep 12 2012	Jul 26 2012	Dec 21 2011	YES.....	
						High Sep 12 2012	Low Apr 18 2013
Yes	72	78	81	75	75	81	72
No	20	15	12	17	18	12	20
DK/NA	8	8	7	8	7	7	8

16. Have you heard or read anything about hydro-fracking?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Yes	69%	73%	61%	75%	77%	62%	79%	41%	43%
No	30	26	39	24	22	38	20	59	57
DK/NA	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-

	COLLEGE DEG	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC	AGE IN YRS.....
	Yes No	<50K 50-100 >100K	18-34 35-54 55+
Yes	82%	61%	58%
No	17	39	41
DK/NA	-	1	1

	AREA.....	UPSTATE NY.....
	UpStat NYC Sub	Rep Dem Ind
Yes	85%	53%
No	14	47
DK/NA	1	-

TREND: Have you heard or read anything about hydro-fracking?

	Apr 18 2013	Dec 13 2012	Sep 12 2012	Jul 26 2012	Dec 21 2011	YES..... High Apr 18 2013	Low Sep 21 2011
Yes	69	66	65	62	59	69	53
No	30	33	34	37	39	30	46
DK/NA	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

17. Natural gas drilling companies want to practice hydro-fracking in New York State. Hydro-fracking is the process of pumping water and chemicals into the ground under high pressure to fracture rocks. This releases natural gas trapped in the rocks which is then collected. Do you think hydro-fracking will cause environmental damage or not, or don't you know?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Yes/Will damage	54%	32%	66%	52%	49%	58%	50%	60%	58%
No/Won't Damage	16	33	6	18	23	10	19	10	10
Don't Know	29	34	27	29	28	31	30	30	32
REFUSED	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-

	COLLEGE DEG	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC	AGE IN YRS.....
	Yes No	<50K 50-100 >100K	18-34 35-54 55+
Yes/Will damage	61%	49%	55%
No/Won't Damage	15	17	14
Don't Know	24	33	31
REFUSED	1	1	1

	AREA.....	UPSTATE NY.....	HEARD OF FRACKING Q16
	UpStat NYC Sub	Rep Dem Ind	Yes No
Yes/Will damage	52%	58%	50%
No/Won't Damage	20	11	17
Don't Know	27	30	33
REFUSED	1	1	-

TREND: Natural gas drilling companies want to practice hydro-fracking in New York State. Hydro-fracking is the process of pumping water and chemicals into the ground under high pressure to fracture rocks. This releases natural gas trapped in the rocks which is then collected. Do you think hydro-fracking will cause environmental damage or not, or don't you know?

	Apr 18 2013	Dec 13 2012	Sep 12 2012	Jul 26 2012	Dec 21 2011	YES.....	
						High Dec 21 2011	Low Sep 12 2012
Yes/Will damage	54	50	48	53	55	55	48
No/Won't damage	16	17	14	12	13	13	14
Don't Know	29	33	37	34	31	31	37
REFUSED	1	-	1	1	1	1	1

18. Which comes closer to your point of view; Governor Cuomo is carefully evaluating the issue of hydro-fracking, or Governor Cuomo is dragging his feet and trying to avoid making a decision on the issue of hydro-fracking, or don't you have an opinion on that?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Carefully evaluating	24%	19%	28%	24%	26%	23%	25%	28%	21%
Dragging his feet	32	41	24	33	40	26	34	14	30
No opinion	41	38	44	40	33	48	37	56	47
DK/NA	3	2	3	3	1	4	3	1	2

	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL <50K	HSHOLD 50-100	INC >100K	AGE IN YRS.....		
	Yes	No				18-34	35-54	55+
Carefully evaluating	27%	23%	21%	28%	26%	20%	22%	28%
Dragging his feet	37	29	27	37	34	32	34	31
No opinion	32	46	49	33	38	46	42	37
DK/NA	4	2	2	3	2	2	1	4

	AREA.....			UPSTATE NY.....			HEARD OF FRACKING Q16	
	UpStat	NYC	Sub	Rep	Dem	Ind	Yes	No
Carefully evaluating	23%	25%	25%	17%	32%	24%	28%	16%
Dragging his feet	37	27	32	46	25	40	40	17
No opinion	37	45	39	35	40	37	30	65
DK/NA	2	2	4	2	3	-	2	3

TREND: Which comes closer to your point of view; Governor Cuomo is carefully evaluating the issue of hydro-fracking, or Governor Cuomo is dragging his feet and trying to avoid making a decision on the issue of hydro-fracking, or don't you have an opinion on that?

	Apr 18 2013	Mar 20 2013	Dec 13 2012
Carefully evaluating	24	21	26
Dragging his feet	32	30	25
No opinion	41	46	44
DK/NA	3	3	4