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# QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY

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**P O L L**

**FOR RELEASE: JUNE 4, 2015**

## **NY STATE VOTERS BACK TAX HELP FOR PRIVATE SCHOOLS 2-1, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; STATE VOTERS OPPOSE MAYORAL CONTROL OF NYC SCHOOLS**

New York State voters support 66 – 30 percent providing \$500 state income tax credits for parents making up to \$60,000 per year and who pay tuition for children to attend private schools, including religious schools, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Support is 73 – 23 percent among New York City voters, 60 – 37 percent upstate and 67 – 30 in the suburbs, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll finds.

Voters also support 55 – 40 percent providing tax credits to individuals and companies which donate to private schools, including religious schools. Democrats are divided with 49 percent in favor and 46 percent opposed, but other party, gender, regional and income groups support the measure, including 60 – 36 percent in New York City.

New York State voters oppose 55 – 34 percent allowing the New York City mayor to continue control of the city’s public schools. New York City voters are divided on mayoral control, with 48 percent in favor and 44 percent opposed. Opposition is 59 – 23 percent upstate and 64 – 28 percent in the suburbs.

Mayor Bill de Blasio gets a negative 28 – 40 percent favorability rating, with a 46 – 41 percent positive in New York City and negative grades of 12 – 29 percent upstate and 27 – 57 percent in the suburbs.

“Supported by Gov. Andrew Cuomo and by religious leaders, there’s a late push for tax breaks for contributors to private and parochial schools and tax breaks for parents. Voters like the ideas, especially the tax break for parents,” said Maurice Carroll, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll. “New York City voters like the tax break for parents 3-1.

“What upstate and suburban voters don’t like is giving New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio continued control of public schools in his city.”

**-more-**

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New York State voters disapprove 59 – 30 percent of the way Gov. Andrew Cuomo is handling education. Voters trust the teachers’ unions more than the governor, 54 – 30 percent, to improve education in New York.

Voters have a dim view of standardized tests to measure student performance, saying:

- 64 – 30 percent that these tests are not an accurate way to measure how well students are learning;
- 51 – 45 percent that students should be allowed to refuse to take these tests;
- 69 – 26 percent that teacher pay should not be based on student test scores;
- 65 – 29 percent that teacher tenure should not be based on standardized test scores.

New York State voters support an expansion of charter schools 53 – 39 percent, with the strongest support, 62 – 33 percent, among New York City voters.

“Rating teachers on how their pupils do on standardized tests is a bad idea, New Yorkers think,” Carroll said. “As a matter of fact, voters don’t trust those tests to be an accurate measure of teachers’ performance. A bare majority say kids should be allowed to opt out of the tests.”

### Minimum Wage

Voter’s support 71 – 27 percent raising the \$8.75 per hour minimum wage to \$10.50 per hour in New York State. Support is 92 – 6 percent among Democrats and 71 – 27 percent among independent voters, with Republicans opposed 56 – 41 percent.

Offered several options, voter choices are:

- 21 percent to raise the minimum wage above \$8.75 but less than \$10.50 per hour;
- 32 percent to increase the minimum wage to \$10.50;
- 35 percent to increase the minimum wage above \$10.50;
- 11 percent for no increase.

New York State voters support 61 – 34 percent raising the minimum wage in New York City to \$11.50 per hour. Support is 72 – 25 percent among city voters, 48 – 42 percent upstate and 63 – 35 percent in the suburbs. Voters statewide oppose 53 – 42 percent raising the New York City minimum wage to \$13 per hour. City voters support the \$13 level 58 – 39 percent, with opposition at 64 – 27 percent upstate and 59 – 40 percent in the suburbs.

From May 28 – June 1, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,229 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.

13. Is your opinion of Andrew Cuomo favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Favorable	46%	31%	60%	45%	46%	47%	41%	48%	49%
Unfavorable	41	56	27	45	45	38	37	41	43
Hvn't hrd enough	10	10	12	7	8	13	21	9	5
REFUSED	2	3	1	3	1	2	1	2	3

AREA.....

	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Favorable	35%	54%	52%
Unfavorable	53	31	39
Hvn't hrd enough	10	13	6
REFUSED	2	2	2

TREND: Is your opinion of Andrew Cuomo favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him? (\*High also 63% Apr 2009 and Feb 2009)

	Jun 04 2015	Mar 23 2015	Dec 23 2014	Aug 20 2014	May 21 2014	FAVORABLE.....	
						High Jun 24 2009*	Low Jun 04 2015
Favorable	46	47	52	55	55	63	46
Unfavorable	41	43	33	36	30	15	41
Hvn't hrd enough	10	8	12	6	11	20	10
REFUSED	2	2	3	3	3	2	2

14. Is your opinion of Bill de Blasio favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Favorable	28%	6%	48%	24%	28%	29%	32%	31%	24%
Unfavorable	40	60	24	42	42	38	24	43	45
Hvn't hrd enough	29	30	27	30	28	30	43	23	28
REFUSED	3	3	2	4	2	3	2	3	3

AREA.....

	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Favorable	12%	46%	27%
Unfavorable	29	41	57
Hvn't hrd enough	56	11	12
REFUSED	3	1	4

TREND: Is your opinion of Bill de Blasio favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Jun 04 2015	Mar 23 2015	Dec 23 2014	Feb 12 2014
Favorable	28	31	33	31
Unfavorable	40	42	36	24
Hvn't hrd enough	29	25	29	44
REFUSED	3	2	3	2

15. Who do you think most closely represents your political views, Governor Andrew Cuomo, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, or neither?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Cuomo	23%	15%	29%	25%	22%	25%	17%	23%	28%
de Blasio	20	5	36	14	18	21	26	22	15
Neither	53	78	32	57	58	49	52	53	54
DK/NA	3	3	3	4	2	5	5	3	3

AREA.....  
UpStat NYC Sub

Cuomo	20%	22%	31%
de Blasio	9	35	13
Neither	67	38	54
DK/NA	3	4	2

TREND: Who do you think most closely represents your political views, Governor Andrew Cuomo, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, or neither?

	Jun 04 2015	Mar 18 2015	Dec 23 2014
Cuomo	23	26	31
de Blasio	20	22	20
Neither	53	50	44
DK/NA	3	3	5

21. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Andrew Cuomo is handling - education?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Approve	30%	25%	38%	30%	31%	30%	30%	30%	32%
Disapprove	59	64	52	61	57	61	58	60	58
DK/NA	11	11	11	10	12	10	11	10	10

AREA.....  
UpStat NYC Sub

Approve	21%	40%	29%
Disapprove	70	47	59
DK/NA	8	13	12

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Andrew Cuomo is handling education?

	Jun 04 2015	Mar 18 2015	May 30 2012	Feb 16 2012
Approve	30	28	47	45
Disapprove	59	63	31	42
DK/NA	11	9	22	13

24. The minimum wage is currently \$8.75 an hour in New York State, and is set to rise to \$9 an hour at the end of the year. Would you support or oppose an increase in the minimum wage to \$10.50 an hour in New York State?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Support	71%	41%	92%	71%	68%	74%	75%	71%	72%
Oppose	27	56	6	27	31	22	23	27	27
DK/NA	2	3	1	2	1	3	2	2	1

AREA.....  
UpStat NYC Sub

Support	60%	81%	74%
Oppose	39	16	24
DK/NA	1	3	2

TREND: The minimum wage is currently \$8.75 an hour in New York State, and is set to rise to \$9 an hour at the end of the year. Would you support or oppose an increase in the minimum wage to \$10.50 an hour in New York State?

Jun 04 Mar 18  
2015 2015

Support	71	73
Oppose	27	24
DK/NA	2	2

25. Which comes closest to your point of view: there should be no increase in the minimum wage, there should be an increase in the minimum wage but not as high as \$10.50 an hour, there should be an increase in the minimum wage to \$10.50 an hour, or there should be an increase in the minimum wage higher than \$10.50 an hour?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
No increase	11%	24%	1%	10%	16%	7%	14%	11%	9%
Increase < \$10.50	21	42	9	22	20	22	18	19	22
Increase to \$10.50	32	26	32	38	31	33	29	32	36
Increase > \$10.50	35	7	57	30	33	37	38	37	32
DK/NA	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1

AREA.....  
UpStat NYC Sub

No increase	18%	6%	8%
Increase < \$10.50	27	13	24
Increase to \$10.50	31	31	36
Increase > \$10.50	23	49	32
DK/NA	1	1	-

26. How about in New York City; would you support or oppose a minimum wage of \$11.50 an hour in New York City?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Support	61%	28%	83%	61%	59%	62%	67%	63%	57%
Oppose	34	67	13	33	37	32	30	34	35
DK/NA	5	5	4	6	4	6	3	3	8

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Support	48%	72%	63%
Oppose	42	25	35
DK/NA	10	3	2

TREND: How about in New York City; Would you support or oppose a minimum wage of \$11.50 an hour in New York City?

	Jun 04 2015	Mar 18 2015
Support	61	68
Oppose	34	27
DK/NA	5	5

27. Would you support or oppose a minimum wage of \$13.00 an hour in New York City?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Support	42%	10%	65%	38%	39%	44%	47%	45%	37%
Oppose	53	87	32	56	57	50	50	51	56
DK/NA	5	3	3	6	4	6	3	4	7

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Support	27%	58%	40%
Oppose	64	39	59
DK/NA	8	4	2

TREND: Would you support or oppose a minimum wage of \$13.00 an hour in New York City?

	Jun 04 2015	Mar 18 2015
Support	42	47
Oppose	53	47
DK/NA	5	6

28. Who do you trust more to improve education in New York State, Governor Cuomo or the teachers' unions?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Cuomo	30%	33%	31%	28%	33%	27%	24%	29%	33%
Teachers' unions	54	45	57	58	50	58	66	58	47
DK/NA	16	22	12	14	17	15	10	13	20

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Cuomo	24%	37%	29%
Teachers' unions	60	49	53
DK/NA	17	14	18

TREND: Who do you trust more to improve education in New York State, Governor Cuomo or the teachers unions?

	Jun 04 2015	Mar 18 2015
Cuomo	30	28
Teachers' unions	54	55
DK/NA	16	17

29. Do you think teacher - pay should or should not be based on how well their students perform on standardized tests?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Should	26%	30%	22%	27%	30%	22%	26%	23%	29%
Should not	69	66	72	69	65	74	70	74	66
DK/NA	4	4	6	3	5	4	4	4	5

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Should	28%	28%	20%
Should not	69	66	76
DK/NA	4	6	3

TREND: Do you think teacher pay should or should not be based on how well their students perform on standardized tests?

	Jun 04 2015	Mar 18 2015
Should	26	25
Should not	69	71
DK/NA	4	4

30. Do you think teacher - tenure should or should not be based on how well their students perform on standardized tests?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Should	29%	30%	26%	29%	31%	27%	30%	26%	30%
Should not	65	64	67	67	62	68	68	68	62
DK/NA	6	7	6	4	7	5	2	6	8

AREA.....  
UpStat NYC Sub

Should	27%	33%	26%
Should not	67	60	70
DK/NA	6	8	3

TREND: Do you think teacher tenure should or should not be based on how well their students perform on standardized tests?

Jun 04 Mar 18  
2015 2015

Should	29	30
Should not	65	65
DK/NA	6	5

31. How much should these tests count in a teacher evaluation: 100%, 75%, 50%, 25%, or not at all?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
100%	5%	4%	7%	4%	5%	5%	3%	4%	7%
75%	13	17	12	13	13	13	16	14	11
50%	31	36	27	31	33	29	39	26	34
25%	27	24	31	26	27	27	31	30	23
Not at all	21	18	20	24	20	23	11	26	22
DK/NA	2	1	2	2	1	3	1	2	3

AREA.....  
UpStat NYC Sub

100%	3%	8%	2%
75%	12	15	11
50%	31	31	32
25%	26	24	33
Not at all	25	19	20
DK/NA	2	3	1

32. Do you think standardized tests are or are not an accurate way to measure how well students are learning?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Yes/Accurate	30%	32%	30%	30%	33%	27%	33%	25%	32%
No/Not accurate	64	62	63	64	61	67	64	70	59
DK/NA	6	5	7	6	6	7	3	5	9

AREA.....  
UpStat NYC Sub

Yes/Accurate	27%	34%	28%
No/Not accurate	68	59	66
DK/NA	6	7	6



33. Do you think students should or should not be allowed to refuse to take standardized tests designed to measure how well they are learning?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Should	51%	46%	50%	54%	50%	52%	54%	58%	45%
Should not	45	52	47	42	47	43	44	38	50
DK/NA	4	2	3	4	3	4	2	4	5

AREA.....  
UpStat NYC Sub

Should	56%	45%	52%
Should not	40	50	46
DK/NA	4	5	2

34. As you may know, charter schools are operated by private or non-profit organizations. The schools are paid for with public funds. Do you think there should be an expansion of charter schools in New York State or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Yes	53%	61%	51%	53%	54%	53%	52%	55%	52%
No	39	31	41	41	38	40	39	40	39
DK/NA	8	8	8	6	8	7	9	5	9

AREA.....  
UpStat NYC Sub

Yes	47%	62%	50%
No	44	33	42
DK/NA	9	6	8

TREND: As you may know, charter schools are operated by private or non-profit organizations. The schools are paid for with public funds. Do you think there should be an expansion of charter schools in New York State or not?

	Jun 04 2015	Mar 18 2015	Feb 16 2012
Yes	53	50	48
No	39	41	42
DK/NA	8	9	11

35. As you may know, in New York City the mayor has control of the public schools. Mayoral control of the New York City public schools expires this year, unless the state legislature renews it. Do you think mayoral control of the New York City public schools should continue or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Continue	34%	18%	48%	31%	37%	31%	47%	30%	30%
Stop	55	71	41	57	52	57	46	60	57
DK/NA	12	10	12	11	11	12	7	10	13

AREA.....  
UpStat NYC Sub

Continue	23%	48%	28%
Stop	59	44	64
DK/NA	18	7	8

TREND: As you may know, in New York City the mayor has control of the public schools. Mayoral control of the New York City public schools expires this year, unless the state legislature renews it. Do you think mayoral control of the New York City public schools should continue or not?

	Jun 04 2015	Jun 23 2009
Continue	34	51
Stop	55	33
DK/NA	12	17

36. Do you support or oppose providing state income tax credits for individuals and companies which donate money to private schools, including religious schools?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Support	55%	74%	49%	53%	53%	57%	59%	51%	57%
Oppose	40	24	46	43	44	37	39	45	37
DK/NA	5	2	5	4	3	6	2	4	6

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Support	52%	60%	53%
Oppose	43	36	42
DK/NA	5	4	5

37. Do you support or oppose providing \$500 state income tax credits for parents with an annual income of \$60,000 or less who pay tuition for their children to attend private schools, including religious schools?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Support	66%	72%	68%	65%	66%	67%	72%	67%	64%
Oppose	30	25	28	34	32	29	27	30	32
DK/NA	3	3	4	1	3	4	1	2	5

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Support	60%	73%	67%
Oppose	37	23	30
DK/NA	3	3	3