
FOR RELEASE: JULY 13, 2017

**NEW YORK VOTERS SUPPORT CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
WOMEN’S RIGHT TO CHOOSE GETS STRONGEST SUPPORT**

New York State voters support 55 – 30 percent a Constitutional Convention to consider changes to the State Constitution, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Every party, gender, education, age and racial group supports holding a convention, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll finds.

Support for possible constitutional amendments which could be considered if there is a Constitutional Convention is:

- 65 – 24 percent for an amendment to create an independent non-partisan commission to create election districts for members of Congress, State Senators and State Assembly members;
- 54 – 34 percent opposed to an amendment to create public financing for candidates for state office;
- 49 – 41 percent support for an amendment to prevent reductions in public employee pension benefits;
- 68 – 27 percent support for an amendment to guarantee a woman’s right to an abortion.

“Should there be a constitutional convention – let’s stick with the politicians and call it con-con? Voters have to decide on this every 20 years and this time around they’re in favor,” said Maurice Carroll, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

“The last time, the State Legislature hijacked the vote by essentially taking over the convention. Some politicians fret that a special-interest group might mobilize and turn the con-con to their ends. Others see the opportunity to simplify the state’s grossly over-specific sprawl of a Constitution.”

A total of 53 percent of New York State voters are “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” with the way things are going in the state today, while 46 percent are “somewhat dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied.”

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“So here are some specific things,” Carroll added, “that have been talked about by people who pay attention:

- Should there be a nonpartisan group to draw political district lines? This draws a lot of support.
- Should elections be publicly financed? Not according to voters today.
- Should the Constitution ban cutting public employee pensions? A close call.
- Should there be a state-level *Roe v. Wade*? A big plus.

“Plus, of course, all sorts of stuff could be included. Our list is just a sample.”

State Police, Health Care

New York State voters support 54 – 34 percent assigning State Police to work in New York City. Support is 54 – 34 percent among New York City voters, 55 – 32 percent among suburban voters and 52 – 34 percent among upstate voters.

Voters disapprove 67 – 18 percent of the Republican health care plan to replace Obamacare. Support is 51 – 29 percent among Republicans with every other listed group opposed by wide margins.

If a U.S. Senator or member of Congress votes to replace Obamacare with the Republican health care plan, 51 percent of New York State voters are less likely to vote for their reelection, with only 16 percent more likely to support the candidate and 27 percent who say this issue won't matter in their vote.

From July 5 – 10, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,137 New York voters with a margin of error of +/- 3.9 percentage points, including design effect. Live interviewers call landlines and cell phones.

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

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19. In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in New York State today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Very satisfied	7%	4%	10%	4%	9%	5%	9%	5%
Smwht satisfied	46	26	61	38	42	49	49	41
Smwht dissatisfied	25	32	20	30	26	25	21	28
Very dissatisfied	21	38	9	27	22	21	20	25
DK/NA	1	-	-	2	2	-	1	2

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Very satisfied	7%	6%	8%	6%	8%	6%	7%	7%
Smwht satisfied	46	49	43	50	41	48	45	49
Smwht dissatisfied	28	27	22	24	24	24	24	27
Very dissatisfied	17	17	26	19	25	21	23	17
DK/NA	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	-

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Very satisfied	6%	7%	7%
Smwht satisfied	39	50	50
Smwht dissatisfied	26	24	25
Very dissatisfied	29	18	15
DK/NA	-	1	3

20. There is a Republican health care plan to replace Obamacare. Do you approve or disapprove of this Republican health care plan?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	18%	51%	3%	18%	19%	18%	18%	30%
Disapprove	67	29	93	62	64	70	70	51
DK/NA	14	20	4	20	17	12	12	20

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Approve	13%	15%	24%	21%	24%	22%	23%	8%
Disapprove	73	72	66	61	58	63	61	81
DK/NA	14	13	11	18	17	15	16	11

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Approve	21%	16%	18%
Disapprove	60	76	64
DK/NA	18	8	18

21. If your U.S. Senator or Congressperson votes to replace Obamacare with the Republican health care plan, will that make you more likely to vote for their reelection, less likely to vote for their reelection, or won't it matter much either way?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
More likely	16%	40%	6%	15%	18%	14%	16%	20%
Less likely	51	12	77	46	48	54	56	36
Won't matter	27	44	14	33	28	27	24	38
DK/NA	6	4	3	6	7	4	4	6

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
More likely	12%	17%	15%	20%	21%	16%	18%	12%
Less likely	58	59	46	46	44	48	46	61
Won't matter	26	19	34	29	30	31	31	20
DK/NA	4	5	5	4	5	4	5	6

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
More likely	16%	15%	16%
Less likely	44	58	51
Won't matter	34	21	27
DK/NA	6	5	6

23. Do you support or oppose New York State Police being assigned to work in New York City?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Support	54%	59%	52%	52%	53%	54%	48%	55%
Oppose	34	31	34	36	36	32	34	35
DK/NA	13	10	14	12	11	15	18	10

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Support	66%	52%	49%	54%	49%	53%	51%	58%
Oppose	26	34	37	32	40	30	34	32
DK/NA	8	14	14	14	12	17	15	10

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Support	52%	54%	55%
Oppose	34	34	32
DK/NA	14	11	13

24. Do you support or oppose having a New York State Constitutional Convention, which is a convention designed to consider or make changes to the state constitution?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							Yes	No
Support	55%	50%	61%	49%	55%	55%	54%	49%
Oppose	30	37	24	35	32	29	32	34
DK/NA	15	13	14	16	13	16	13	17
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Support	68%	55%	50%	48%	52%	52%	52%	62%
Oppose	17	34	38	32	35	32	33	24
DK/NA	15	11	12	20	13	17	15	15
	AREA.....							
	UpStat	NYC	Sub					
Support	54%	60%	47%					
Oppose	34	25	35					
DK/NA	12	16	17					

25. Would you support or oppose amending the state constitution to create an independent non-partisan commission to create the election districts for members of Congress, State Senators and State Assembly Members?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							Yes	No
Support	65%	53%	70%	66%	68%	62%	70%	54%
Oppose	24	39	17	25	23	24	21	32
DK/NA	12	8	14	9	9	14	10	14
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Support	75%	69%	62%	54%	66%	60%	62%	70%
Oppose	14	23	29	29	26	26	26	19
DK/NA	11	8	9	17	9	14	12	10
	AREA.....							
	UpStat	NYC	Sub					
Support	65%	67%	59%					
Oppose	25	21	27					
DK/NA	10	12	14					

26. Would you support or oppose amending the state constitution to create public financing for candidates running for state office?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Support	34%	12%	45%	34%	39%	30%	37%	22%
Oppose	54	83	42	52	51	57	53	64
DK/NA	12	6	13	13	11	13	10	14
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			Non-
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Support	42%	32%	35%	31%	33%	27%	30%	44%
Oppose	43	59	56	57	56	60	58	45
DK/NA	15	9	9	12	11	13	12	11
	AREA.....							
	UpStat	NYC	Sub					
Support	29%	43%	26%					
Oppose	61	45	59					
DK/NA	10	12	15					

27. Would you support or oppose amending the state constitution to prevent any future reductions in public pension benefits?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Support	49%	40%	55%	47%	45%	51%	47%	45%
Oppose	41	49	35	42	45	37	42	40
DK/NA	11	11	9	11	10	12	10	15
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			Non-
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Support	59%	53%	45%	41%	43%	49%	46%	56%
Oppose	27	41	46	45	45	38	41	38
DK/NA	15	6	8	14	12	14	13	7
	AREA.....							
	UpStat	NYC	Sub					
Support	47%	54%	41%					
Oppose	41	37	45					
DK/NA	12	8	13					

28. Would you support or oppose amending the state constitution to guarantee a woman's right to an abortion?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							COLLEGE DEG	Yes
Support	68%	48%	83%	64%	66%	70%	71%	59%
Oppose	27	48	13	29	28	25	23	34
DK/NA	5	4	4	7	6	5	5	7

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Support	69%	73%	72%	62%	64%	66%	65%	75%
Oppose	26	24	22	31	29	28	29	21
DK/NA	5	3	6	7	6	6	6	4

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Support	65%	71%	69%
Oppose	31	24	24
DK/NA	5	5	7