

Maurice Carroll, Assistant Director,
Quinnipiac University Poll
(212) 362-9217

Rubenstein Associates, Inc.
Public Relations
Contact: Pat Smith (212) 843-8026



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**NEW YORK VALUES – VOTERS WANT MORE HELP FOR HOMELESS;
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
MAKE HOMELESS GO TO SHELTER IN COLD, VOTERS SAY 3-1**

New York City voters overwhelmingly sympathize with the homeless – especially homeless children and veterans – and 73 percent say the city is doing too little to help homeless people, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today. Another 19 percent say the city is doing the right amount to help the homeless while 2 percent say the city is doing too much.

A total of 93 percent of city voters say homelessness is a “very serious” or “somewhat serious” problem, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll finds.

“Note to Sen. Ted Cruz: New York values, as measured by this poll, include a lot of sympathy for homeless adults, kids and veterans, and a strong desire to do more,” said Quinnipiac University Poll Assistant Director Maurice Carroll.

New York City voters disapprove 55 – 36 percent of the way Mayor Bill de Blasio is handling poverty and homelessness. Black voters approve 52 – 37 percent, the only party, gender, racial, borough or age group to approve.

The quality of life in the city is “very good” or “good,” 38 percent of voters say, while 42 percent say it is “fair” and 19 percent say it is “poor” or “very poor.”

The quality of life has gotten worse in the last few years, 46 percent of voters say, while 19 percent say it has gotten better and 33 percent say it is the same.

“New Yorkers are seeing more homeless people on the street and they don’t like it. They say the quality of life is not so good and that it’s getting worse. They say homelessness is a big problem and they don’t think Mayor Bill de Blasio is on top of it,” Carroll said.

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New York City voters support 73 – 23 percent requiring homeless people to go to a shelter when the temperature drops to 32 degrees or below. Support is strong in every listed group, ranging from 63 – 33 percent on Staten Island to 86 – 11 percent in The Bronx.

Homeless people should be required to work for the city in exchange for shelter, voters say 60 – 34 percent, with the lowest support, 48 – 44 percent, from Manhattan voters.

Homeless people should be required to undergo random drug tests in exchange for shelter, 46 percent of voters say, while 50 percent oppose drug tests. Support for drug tests is 51 – 43 percent among black voters and 57 – 40 percent among Hispanic voters, with white voters opposed 57 – 39 percent.

In the last few years, 58 percent of New York City voters say, they are seeing more homeless people in the streets, parks and subways. Another 11 percent say they are seeing fewer homeless people and 27 percent say they are seeing about the same number.

They are encountering more homeless people asking for money, 52 percent of voters say, with 15 percent reporting fewer panhandlers and 29 percent reporting about the same number.

Homeless people are generally to blame for their situation, 13 percent of New York City voters say, while 71 percent say homelessness is due to factors beyond their control.

New York City voters are very sympathetic to the homeless:

- 47 percent are very sympathetic to homeless adults, with 46 percent somewhat sympathetic. A total of 5 percent are somewhat unsympathetic or very unsympathetic;
- 92 percent are very sympathetic to homeless children, with 6 percent somewhat sympathetic. Only 2 percent are somewhat unsympathetic or very unsympathetic;
- 84 percent are very sympathetic to homeless veterans, with 12 percent somewhat sympathetic. Only 3 percent are somewhat unsympathetic and none are very unsympathetic.

Crime remains the most important problem in the city, 15 percent of voters say, with 13 percent for poverty and homelessness, another 13 percent for housing and 12 percent for the economy.

From January 11 – 17, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,143 New York City voters, with a margin of error of +/- 2.9 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, Iowa, Colorado and the nation 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 City today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Very satisfied	6%	7%	6%	4%	4%	7%	4%	7%	6%
Smwht satisfied	42	27	51	30	40	45	34	57	40
Smwht dissatisfied	33	29	30	40	34	32	35	26	37
Very dissatisfied	18	37	12	25	22	16	26	10	16
DK/NA	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	1

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Very satisfied	5%	5%	4%	7%	7%	8%	5%	6%	4%
Smwht satisfied	53	47	46	34	18	46	40	41	42
Smwht dissatisfied	26	34	34	33	39	35	32	33	32
Very dissatisfied	15	14	15	25	34	11	22	20	21
DK/NA	2	1	2	-	1	1	1	1	2

20. What do you think is the most important problem facing New York City today?

	Tot
Crime Total	15%
Crime/Violence general	13
Gangs/Youth crime	1
Crime other	1
Poverty/Homeless	13%
Housing Total	13%
Housing general	5
Housing Costs/Availability	5
Rent control/Stabilization	2
Housing other	1
Economy Total	12%
Economy general	1
Unemployment/Jobs	6
Cost of living	2
Minimum wage too low	1
Economy other	2
Police Total	9%
Police general	1
Police brutality/Racism	2
Police community tensions/relations	2
Police other	4
Education Total	5%
Education general	4
Education other	1
Terrorism Total	5%
Terrorism general	1
Security/Safety	4
Politicians Total	4%
de Blasio/City leadership	2
Politicians/Campaigns other	2
Gun control	4%
Class inequality	3%
Mass Transit Total	2%
Quality mass/public trans	1
Traffic/Congestion	1
Taxes Total	2%
Taxes general	1
Taxes other	1
Racism/Race relations	1%
Infrastructure	1%
Overcrowding/Overpopulation	1%
Middle/Working class	1%
Environment/Pollution	1%
Quality of life	1%
Women's issues	1%
Other	3%
DK/NA	3%

30. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Mayor de Blasio is handling - poverty and homelessness?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Approve	36%	20%	42%	32%	34%	38%	28%	52%	37%
Disapprove	55	74	47	64	59	52	64	37	57
DK/NA	9	6	11	4	7	10	8	11	6

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Approve	35%	41%	34%	37%	22%	37%	37%	37%	35%
Disapprove	56	47	60	55	73	53	55	57	57
DK/NA	9	12	6	8	5	10	8	6	8

31. How would you rate the quality of life in New York City; very good, good, fair, poor, or very poor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Very good	8%	10%	7%	8%	8%	8%	10%	5%	4%
Good	30	27	32	28	30	30	37	32	17
Fair	42	36	42	44	42	41	37	41	55
Poor	15	21	13	18	15	15	12	15	20
Very poor	4	4	5	2	4	4	3	6	4
DK/NA	1	2	1	-	1	1	2	1	-

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Very good	4%	8%	12%	6%	10%	8%	9%	8%	7%
Good	27	35	34	24	25	27	27	35	31
Fair	42	41	37	48	39	46	43	39	40
Poor	19	13	11	17	21	14	16	13	16
Very poor	5	2	5	5	3	3	5	3	6
DK/NA	2	1	1	-	1	2	-	1	1

32. Compared to a few years ago, do you think the quality of life in New York City has gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed about the same?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Better	19%	10%	25%	10%	17%	21%	9%	34%	19%
Worse	46	68	37	55	47	45	55	30	45
Stayed same	33	19	35	35	35	32	35	34	33
DK/NA	2	3	3	-	1	3	1	2	3

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Better	33%	21%	13%	16%	15%	24%	21%	19%	11%
Worse	29	44	49	50	63	43	46	44	48
Stayed same	32	33	37	34	22	32	32	34	38
DK/NA	6	2	1	1	-	2	1	3	3

33. In general, how serious a problem do you think homelessness is in New York City; a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not very serious, or not a problem at all?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Very serious	66%	54%	70%	64%	59%	73%	60%	73%	77%
Smwht serious	27	27	25	32	32	22	32	21	22
Not very serious	5	17	3	3	6	4	5	3	1
Not a problem at all	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DK/NA	2	3	1	1	2	1	2	3	-

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Very serious	73%	60%	72%	65%	68%	65%	64%	68%	72%
Smwht serious	21	31	24	30	20	28	30	28	19
Not very serious	6	5	3	4	10	5	4	4	6
Not a problem at all	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
DK/NA	-	4	1	1	1	2	2	-	2

34. Compared to a few years ago in New York City, have you seen more, less, or about the same number of homeless people on the streets, in parks and on the subway?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
More	58%	64%	56%	61%	58%	59%	65%	48%	60%
Less	11	11	11	10	11	11	5	16	14
About the same	27	20	30	26	29	26	26	32	26
DK/NA	3	4	3	4	3	4	4	4	1

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
More	56%	54%	65%	56%	71%	50%	60%	63%	61%
Less	13	10	7	14	9	16	9	11	6
About the same	26	32	26	28	16	33	29	24	22
DK/NA	5	5	1	3	4	1	2	2	11

35. Compared to a few years ago in New York City, have you encountered more, less or about the same number of homeless people asking for money?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
More	52%	55%	49%	57%	54%	50%	56%	45%	59%
Less	15	11	17	12	13	16	7	26	13
About the same	29	33	30	26	31	28	33	24	25
DK/NA	4	2	4	5	2	5	4	5	2

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
More	53%	47%	55%	50%	68%	53%	56%	53%	43%
Less	18	15	14	16	11	17	13	15	15
About the same	23	33	29	31	20	28	30	28	32
DK/NA	6	6	2	3	1	1	2	5	10

36. Do you think that homeless people are generally to blame for their situation or is it mostly due to factors beyond their control?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Blame	13%	17%	10%	18%	16%	10%	14%	14%	12%
Beyond control	71	63	76	67	66	76	72	72	69
DK/NA	15	20	14	15	18	13	13	14	20

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Blame	13%	17%	8%	15%	4%	19%	13%	10%	7%
Beyond control	69	70	79	65	79	68	66	78	78
DK/NA	18	13	13	19	16	14	21	12	14

37. Do you think New York City is doing too much, too little, or about the right amount to help homeless people?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Too much	2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	-	3%
Too little	73	58	76	73	68	77	73	76	71
About right	19	26	19	19	21	18	16	22	23
DK/NA	6	13	4	6	9	4	9	2	3

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Too much	1%	1%	1%	3%	3%	2%	-	1%	2%
Too little	72	70	82	68	74	68	75	75	72
About right	23	19	11	25	19	22	18	20	19
DK/NA	4	9	5	5	4	7	6	4	7

38. About how often do you usually give money or food to a homeless person; more than once a week, weekly, monthly, yearly, or never?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
More than once/week	13%	18%	12%	14%	13%	13%	12%	16%	13%
Weekly	19	10	20	21	21	17	17	22	24
Monthly	30	23	33	26	26	34	28	32	31
Yearly	14	18	14	12	13	15	12	12	15
Never	21	28	18	24	24	18	28	14	16
DK/NA	4	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	1

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
More than once/week	14%	12%	17%	11%	11%	9%	13%	17%	15%
Weekly	13	21	19	21	17	22	19	21	12
Monthly	33	35	23	31	28	38	33	26	24
Yearly	14	10	14	14	26	17	10	12	15
Never	21	19	23	21	17	13	23	18	28
DK/NA	5	3	4	3	1	-	2	5	7

40. Do you think homeless people should be required to - go to a New York City shelter when the temperature is at or below 32 degrees or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Yes/Required	73%	66%	76%	70%	70%	75%	63%	85%	83%
No	23	31	20	24	25	21	32	12	15
DK/NA	5	3	4	6	5	4	6	3	2

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Yes/Required	86%	75%	66%	71%	63%	80%	69%	73%	71%
No	11	22	28	23	33	18	29	22	18
DK/NA	3	4	7	6	4	2	2	6	11

41. Do you think homeless people should be required to - work for the city, such as cleaning streets or parks, in exchange for shelter or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Yes/Required	60%	66%	56%	63%	61%	60%	52%	67%	71%
No	34	32	38	32	34	35	41	27	27
DK/NA	5	2	6	5	5	5	6	5	2

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Yes/Required	71%	59%	48%	65%	71%	71%	52%	59%	63%
No	28	35	44	31	25	27	44	36	30
DK/NA	1	6	8	5	4	2	4	5	7

42. Do you think homeless people should be required to - undergo random drug tests in exchange for shelter or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Yes/Required	46%	53%	44%	46%	47%	44%	39%	51%	57%
No	50	43	50	51	50	50	57	43	40
DK/NA	5	4	5	3	3	6	4	6	3

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Yes/Required	43%	49%	34%	52%	54%	48%	43%	40%	53%
No	53	46	61	44	43	49	54	55	40
DK/NA	4	5	5	4	4	3	3	5	7

43. How much sympathy do you have for homeless - adults; would you say you feel very sympathetic toward them, somewhat sympathetic, somewhat unsympathetic, or very unsympathetic?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Very sympathetic	47%	34%	52%	41%	40%	53%	42%	56%	49%
Smwht sympathetic	46	52	42	52	52	40	49	40	46
Smwht unsympathetic	4	8	3	4	4	4	4	3	2
Very unsympathetic	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
DK/NA	2	6	1	3	3	2	3	-	3

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Very sympathetic	43%	48%	53%	43%	50%	50%	41%	47%	51%
Smwht sympathetic	49	44	42	49	44	41	50	48	43
Smwht unsympathetic	3	5	2	6	1	6	5	2	2
Very unsympathetic	1	1	2	1	2	-	1	1	2
DK/NA	4	3	1	1	3	3	2	2	2

44. How much sympathy do you have for homeless - children; would you say you feel very sympathetic toward them, somewhat sympathetic, somewhat unsympathetic, or very unsympathetic?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Very sympathetic	92%	89%	93%	91%	90%	93%	90%	93%	95%
Smwht sympathetic	6	6	5	8	8	4	8	4	3
Smwht unsympathetic	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	2	1
Very unsympathetic	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	1
DK/NA	1	4	-	1	2	-	1	-	-

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Very sympathetic	92%	89%	95%	92%	93%	91%	91%	93%	92%
Smwht sympathetic	5	7	3	7	7	6	6	5	6
Smwht unsympathetic	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	-
Very unsympathetic	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
DK/NA	-	2	1	1	-	1	2	-	1

45. How much sympathy do you have for homeless - veterans; would you say you feel very sympathetic toward them, somewhat sympathetic, somewhat unsympathetic, or very unsympathetic?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Very sympathetic	84%	82%	84%	83%	78%	89%	83%	89%	85%
Smwht sympathetic	12	8	12	14	17	8	14	7	13
Smwht unsympathetic	3	6	3	2	3	3	2	4	-
Very unsympathetic	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
DK/NA	1	4	-	1	2	-	2	1	-

	AREA.....					AGE IN YRS.....			
	Brnx	Kngs	Man	Qns	StIsl	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Very sympathetic	85%	85%	81%	82%	91%	84%	81%	83%	88%
Smwht sympathetic	10	12	17	12	8	11	13	12	11
Smwht unsympathetic	4	2	1	6	-	4	4	2	1
Very unsympathetic	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
DK/NA	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	-