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**NEW YORKERS, EVEN DIET DRINKERS, OPPOSE FAT TAX,  
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;  
VOTERS BACK MILLIONAIRES TAX 6 - 1**

New York State voters oppose the so-called 'Fat Tax' on non-diet soft drinks 60 – 37 percent, as even those who prefer diet soft drinks oppose the measure 58 – 39 percent, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

People who prefer non-diet or regular soft drinks oppose the 'Fat Tax' 64 – 31 percent, as do Democrats 54 – 43 percent, Republicans 72 – 27 percent and independent voters 59 – 39 percent. Results among men and women are similar, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University poll finds.

Independent voters are the most weight conscious on the political spectrum as 37 percent prefer diet soft drinks, compared to 27 percent of Republicans and 30 percent of Democrats.

New York State voters approve 53 – 29 percent of the job Gov. David Paterson is doing, but disapprove 46 – 40 percent of the way he is handling the state budget. Still voters say 54 – 33 percent Paterson has the leadership ability to solve the state's budget problems.

Voters agree with Paterson 88 – 8 percent that the state has a budget crisis. In another question, 96 percent of voters say the state's budget problems are "somewhat serious" or "very serious, with 3 percent saying the problems are "not too serious."

By a 53 – 36 percent margin, voters would rather cut services than raise taxes.

But voters support 84 – 13 percent raising the state income tax on people who make more than \$1 million per year. Even Republicans back this millionaires tax 72 – 27 percent.

"Voters aren't swallowing the proposal to tax non-diet soft drinks, the so-called Fat Tax," said Maurice Carroll, director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

"But Gov. David Paterson has won the bigger argument: Almost everyone agrees the state is in lousy shape. Overwhelmingly, they buy the governor's characterization: We're in a 'crisis,'"

**-more-**

## Quinnipiac University Poll/December 23, 2008 – page 2

“Now comes the hard part – deciding what to do. Most New Yorkers would sooner cut services than raise taxes,” Carroll added. “With one easy exception – we’d hit the rich. Remember that verse: Don’t tax you; don’t tax me; tax the guy behind the tree? Particularly if the guy behind the tree has a lot of money, we say: Go for it.”

Looking at what services to cut to balance the state budget:

- 65 percent say cut economic development aid;
- 10 percent say cut education funding;
- 10 percent say cut health care funding.

Looking at what taxes to raise, if taxes must be raised:

- 44 percent say increase auto registration fees;
- 31 percent say raise sales taxes;
- 14 percent say raise the income tax.

New York State voters oppose 79 – 19 percent raising taxes on gasoline, with strong opposition across the political spectrum.

But voters support 73 – 26 percent increasing taxes on cigarettes and 67 – 32 percent increasing taxes on alcoholic beverages.

“Voters would rather tax booze than soft drinks. Is this blue state also a blue nose state?” Carroll asked.

A total of 70 percent of New York State voters are “somewhat dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with the way things are going in the state today, while 30 percent are “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied.” This is the lowest satisfaction rate ever measured for the state.

Looking at their own finances, 51 percent of New Yorkers describe them as “not so good” or “poor,” while 5 percent say “excellent” and 43 percent say “good.”

Things got worse for them in the last year, 60 percent say, as 18 percent say things got better and 21 percent say things stayed the same. Only 24 percent expect things to get better in the next year, as 22 percent say things will get worse and 50 percent say things will stay the same.

From December 17 – 21, Quinnipiac University surveyed 834 New York State registered voters, with a margin of error of +/- 3.4 percentage points.

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

**For more data or RSS feed – <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling.xml>, or call (203) 582-5201.**

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way David Paterson is handling his job as Governor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	53%	41%	61%	50%	57%	50%
Disapprove	29	38	23	32	28	29
DK/NA	18	21	17	18	16	21

  

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Approve	53%	43%	45%	62%	55%
Disapprove	36	35	36	25	22
DK/NA	11	22	20	14	23

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way David Paterson is handling his job as Governor?

	Dec 24	Aug 6	Jun 12	Apr 17
	2008	2008	2008	2008
Approve	53	64	56	50
Disapprove	29	14	17	10
DK/NA	18	22	27	39

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	30%	29%	32%	29%	29%	31%
Disapprove	55	57	50	59	58	52
DK/NA	15	14	18	13	13	17

  

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Approve	14%	27%	24%	35%	33%
Disapprove	70	62	64	48	49
DK/NA	15	11	12	17	18

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way the state legislature is handling its job? \* also 26% 8/11/2004

	Dec 24	Aug 6	Jun 12	Apr 17	Oct 2	Highest	Lowest
	2008	2008	2008	2008	2007	Approve	Approve
						Apr 4	Aug 6
						2007	2008 *
Approve	30	26	29	32	30	34	26
Disapprove	55	55	55	51	52	43	55
DK/NA	15	18	16	17	18	23	18

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	33%	33%	34%	34%	38%	30%
Disapprove	20	18	22	17	20	20
DK/NA	47	49	44	49	42	50

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Approve	33%	36%	35%	31%	33%
Disapprove	18	19	18	24	16
DK/NA	49	46	46	45	51

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

	Dec 24	Aug 6	Jun 12	Apr 17	Oct 2	Highest	Lowest
	2008	2008	2008	2008	2007	Approve	Approve
						Jul 31	Apr 4
						2007	2007
Approve	33	25	30	27	30	34	24
Disapprove	20	16	13	16	12	15	13
DK/NA	47	59	57	57	58	51	63

8. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Sheldon Silver is handling his job as State Assembly Speaker?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	38%	38%	43%	30%	39%	37%
Disapprove	34	36	30	39	39	30
DK/NA	28	26	27	32	23	33

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Approve	24%	30%	29%	49%	37%
Disapprove	48	38	40	30	28
DK/NA	28	32	31	21	35

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Sheldon Silver is handling his job as State Assembly Speaker?

	Dec 24	Aug 6	Jun 12	Apr 17	Oct 2	Highest	Lowest
	2008	2008	2008	2008	2007	Approve	Approve
						Dec 24	Aug 11
						2008	2004
Approve	38	31	32	34	29	38	26
Disapprove	34	31	31	31	35	34	33
DK/NA	28	38	37	35	36	28	41

9. Is your opinion of Barack Obama favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Favorable	74%	45%	92%	71%	74%	74%
Unfavorable	12	31	3	11	13	12
Hvn't hrd enough	11	22	3	15	11	12
REFUSED	2	2	1	3	2	2

	UpState.....		UpState		Sub
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	
Favorable	73%	63%	65%	84%	75%
Unfavorable	12	17	16	8	13
Hvn't hrd enough	14	16	16	6	11
REFUSED	1	3	3	2	1

TREND: Is your opinion of -- Barack Obama favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	FAVORABLE.....						
			Highest		Lowest		
	Dec 24	Jun 11	Apr 18	Mar 21	Oct 3	Dec 24	Feb 14
	2008	2008	2008	2008	2007	2008	2007
Favorable	74	55	50	56	54	74	44
Unfavorable	12	28	31	25	20	12	9
Hvn't hrd enough	11	14	18	17	24	11	46
REFUSED	2	3	1	2	3	2	1

16. 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
Very satisfied	3%	2%	4%	2%	3%	3%
Smwht satisfied	27	22	30	28	24	29
Smwht dissatisfied	34	39	35	28	36	32
Very dissatisfied	36	37	31	40	37	35
DK/NA	1	-	-	1	-	1

	UpState.....		UpState		Sub
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	
Very satisfied	1%	2%	1%	4%	4%
Smwht satisfied	19	18	18	34	32
Smwht dissatisfied	31	32	32	34	38
Very dissatisfied	48	48	48	28	24
DK/NA	1	1	1	-	1

TREND: 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?

	Dec 24	Aug 6	Jun 12	Apr 17	Mar 24	Dec 12	May 17
	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2007	2006
Very satisfied	3	3	3	3	3	5	3
Smwht satisfied	27	34	37	38	34	44	36
Smwht dissatisfied	34	38	34	33	37	33	35
Very dissatisfied	36	25	25	24	23	18	26
DK/NA	1	1	1	2	2	1	-

17. What do you think is the most important problem facing New York State today?

	Tot
Economy Total	43%
Economy general	15
Unemployment/jobs	23
Stock market	1
Cost of living	2
Business leaving/Outsourcing	1
Economy other	1
Taxes Total	19%
Taxes general	13
Property tax	5
Cigarette tax	1
Budget Total	17%
Budget general	6
Budget cuts/Cuts in services	2
Budget deficits	6
Gov too big/Gov spending	2
Budget priorities	1
Education Total	4%
Education general	2
Funding education	2
Politicians Total	3%
Politicians/Campaigns general	1
Political corruption	1
Governor/State leadership	1
Healthcare/Costs/Ins/HMO's	2
Crime/Violence general	1
Housing general	1
Poverty/Homeless	1
Immigration	1
Other	4
DK/NA	2

TREND: What do you think is the most important problem facing New York State today? (To save space sub category rows showing 1% or less in current study may have been removed. Total rows are accurate for date specified.)

	Dec24 2008	May 17 2006	Mar 29 2006	Jan 19 2006	Feb 10 2005
Budget/Spending Total	17%	4%	6%	5%	7%
Budget general	6	2	3	2	3
Budget cuts/Cuts in services	2	-	-	-	1
Budget deficits	6	1	1	-	1
Government too big/Gov spending	2	-	1	1	1
Budget priorities	1	1	1	1	-
Crime Total	1%	3%	2%	2%	3%
Crime/Violence general	1	2	2	2	2
Economy Total	43%	16%	17%	19%	23%
Economy general	15	6	4	5	4
Unemployment/jobs	23	6	10	9	15
Stock market	1	-	-	-	-
Cost of living	2	3	2	3	2
Businesses leaving/Outsourcing	1	1	1	1	1
Economy other	1	-	-	-	-
Education Total	4%	11%	14%	11%	11%
Education general	2	8	9	7	7
Funding education	2	3	5	3	4
Healthcare Total	2%	5%	6%	6%	9%
Healthcare/Costs/Insurance/HMO's	2	5	5	5	6
Housing Total	1%	2%	3%	3%	2%
Housing general	1	-	1	1	1
Immigration	1%	3	1	2	1
Politicians/Campaigns Total	3%	3%	5%	5%	3%
Politicians/Campaigns general	1	1	1	-	1
Political corruption	1	1	1	2	1
Governor/State leadership	1	1	3	2	1
Poverty/Homeless	1%	1	-	1	2
Taxes Total	19%	28%	24%	25%	18%
Taxes general	13	19	18	19	13
Property tax	5	7	5	5	4
Cigarette tax	1	-	-	-	-
Other	4%	4	5	3	4
DK/NA	2%	4	6	6	5

18. Would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Excellent	-	-	-	-	-	-
Good	3	6	2	2	4	2
Not so good	27	37	19	31	31	24
Poor	70	56	79	67	65	73
DK/NA	-	-	1	-	-	1

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Excellent	-	-	-	-	-
Good	4	3	3	1	6
Not so good	31	29	29	25	27
Poor	65	69	68	73	67
DK/NA	-	-	-	-	1

TREND: Would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Dec 24	Nov 15	Apr 26
	2008	2001	2001
Excellent	-	1	2
Good	3	29	46
Not so good	27	54	41
Poor	70	14	9
DK/NA	-	1	2

19. Would you describe the state of New York's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Excellent	-	-	-	-	-	-
Good	6	7	4	10	8	5
Not so good	43	42	46	39	44	42
Poor	51	50	49	50	49	52
DK/NA	1	-	-	1	-	1

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Excellent	-	-	-	-	-
Good	7	5	6	4	12
Not so good	37	35	35	48	48
Poor	57	59	58	48	39
DK/NA	-	1	1	-	1



TREND: Would you describe the state of New York State's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Dec 24 2008	Aug 6 2008	Jun 12 2008	Apr 17 2008	Mar 29 2006	COMBINED EXCLNT&GOOD	
						High Mar 29 2006	Low Dec 24 2008
Excellent	-	-	-	1	2	2	-
Good	6	12	21	20	35	35	6
Not so good	43	48	48	53	40	40	43
Poor	51	38	28	25	22	22	51
DK/NA	1	1	3	1	2	2	1

20. Would you describe the state of your own personal finances these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Excellent	5%	8%	4%	4%	4%	6%
Good	43	49	40	42	48	38
Not so good	35	32	37	39	33	38
Poor	16	12	18	15	15	17
DK/NA	1	-	1	1	1	1

	UpState.....		UpState		Sub
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	
Excellent	5%	6%	5%	5%	5%
Good	55	43	45	41	42
Not so good	25	36	34	37	36
Poor	15	15	15	17	16
DK/NA	-	1	1	-	2

TREND: Would you describe the state of your own personal finances these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Dec 24 2008	Jan 23 2002	Nov 15 2001
Excellent	5	9	8
Good	43	53	59
Not so good	35	28	25
Poor	16	8	6
DK/NA	1	1	2

21. Would you say that you are better off or worse off financially than you were a year ago?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Better off	18%	19%	18%	20%	19%	18%
Worse off	60	61	60	59	60	60
SAME (VOL)	21	20	21	20	20	21
DK/NA	1	1	1	2	1	2

cont'd

21. (cont'd) Would you say that you are better off or worse off financially than you were a year ago?

	UpState.....		UpState		Sub
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	
Better off	21%	19%	19%	20%	14%
Worse off	54	60	59	59	64
SAME(VOL)	25	20	21	20	21
DK/NA	-	1	1	2	1

TREND: Would you say that you are better off or worse off financially than you were a year ago?

	Dec 24	Mar 29
	2008	2006
Better off	18	39%
Worse off	60	37
SAME(VOL)	21	22
DK/NA	1	1

22. During the next 12 months, do you think your own personal finances will get better, get worse, or stay about the same?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Get better	24%	23%	27%	20%	30%	20%
Get worse	22	21	19	29	19	25
Stay the same	50	49	52	49	45	53
DK/NA	4	7	2	3	5	2

	UpState.....		UpState		Sub
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	
Get better	24%	18%	19%	31%	24%
Get worse	22	27	26	18	23
Stay the same	53	51	51	50	46
DK/NA	1	4	4	2	7

TREND: During the next 12 months, do you think your own personal finances will get better, get worse, or stay about the same?

	Dec 24	Jan 23	Nov 15
	2008	2002	2001
Get better	24	41%	35
Get worse	22	6	7
Stay the same	50	51	55
DK/NA	4	2	3

23. By the end of Barack Obama's term in office, do you expect the economy to be better than it is today, worse than it is today, or about the same?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Better	70%	49%	85%	68%	72%	69%
Worse	6	11	3	8	7	6
Same	17	30	10	19	14	20
DK/NA	6	10	3	6	7	5

cont'd

23. (cont'd) By the end of Barack Obama's term in office, do you expect the economy to be better than it is today, worse than it is today, or about the same?

	UpState.....		UpState		Sub
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	
Better	70%	67%	68%	76%	67%
Worse	4	9	8	5	5
Same	24	17	18	15	19
DK/NA	2	7	6	5	9

24. Do you approve or disapprove of the way David Paterson is handling the state budget?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	40%	35%	42%	40%	46%	35%
Disapprove	46	50	42	49	44	48
DK/NA	14	15	16	11	11	17

	UpState.....		UpState		Sub
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	
Approve	41%	37%	37%	40%	43%
Disapprove	50	51	51	47	35
DK/NA	9	12	12	13	21

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way David Paterson is handling the state budget? (\*handled the state budget)

	Dec 14 2008	Apr 17 2008*
Approve	40	52%
Disapprove	46	18
DK/NA	14	29

25. How serious do you think New York State's budget problems are - very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not at all serious?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Very serious	71%	71%	70%	71%	68%	73%
Smwht serious	25	28	26	24	28	23
Not too serious	3	1	2	5	3	3
Not at all serious	-	-	-	-	-	-
DK/NA	1	-	1	1	1	1

	UpState.....		UpState		Sub
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	
Very serious	82%	74%	76%	69%	65%
Smwht serious	17	22	21	27	32
Not too serious	1	3	2	3	4
Not at all serious	-	-	-	-	-
DK/NA	-	1	1	1	-

TREND: How serious do you think New York State's budget problems are - very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not at all serious?

	Dec 24 2008	Aug 6 2008	Nov 6 2003	Feb 12 2003	Dec 18 2002
Very serious	71	63	62	57	48
Smwht serious	25	32	30	37	44
Not too serious	3	2	5	3	5
Not at all serious	-	1	1	1	1
DK/NA	1	2	1	1	3

26. Do you believe that New York State's budget problems are serious enough that it is necessary to have a tax increase?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Yes	40%	28%	47%	41%	40%	40%
No	53	65	44	55	55	51
DK/NA	7	7	9	4	5	9

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Yes	40%	35%	36%	45%	41%
No	54	58	57	50	48
DK/NA	6	7	7	5	11

27. Do you believe that New York State's budget problems are serious enough that it is necessary to cut some state services?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Yes	73%	74%	72%	73%	79%	67%
No	23	23	24	22	20	26
DK/NA	4	3	4	4	1	7

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Yes	79%	79%	79%	66%	71%
No	11	19	18	29	23
DK/NA	10	2	3	4	6

28. To balance the state budget, if you had to choose, would you prefer - raising taxes or cutting government programs and services?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Raising taxes	36%	19%	48%	33%	31%	40%
Cutting services	53	73	39	59	61	47
DK/NA	11	8	13	8	9	12

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Raising taxes	21%	25%	24%	49%	39%
Cutting services	70	64	65	40	52
DK/NA	10	11	11	11	10

TREND: To balance the state budget, if you had to choose, would you prefer - raising taxes or cutting government programs and services?

	Dec 24 2008	Aug 6 2008
Raising taxes	36	32
Cutting services	53	56
DK/NA	11	12

29. If a tax increase is needed, which would you prefer - raising the state sales tax, raising the state income tax or increasing the fee for auto registration?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Raise sales tax	31%	36%	26%	35%	31%	31%
Raise income tax	14	13	15	12	17	11
Increase autoreg.fee	44	36	51	42	39	49
DK/NA	11	15	8	10	13	9

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Raise sales tax	25%	34%	33%	29%	31%
Raise income tax	19	17	18	12	9
Increase autoreg.fee	39	35	36	52	49
DK/NA	17	13	14	8	11

30. There is a proposal to raise the state income tax paid by people who earn more than a million dollars a year. Do you support or oppose this proposal?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Support	84%	72%	93%	81%	82%	87%
Oppose	13	27	5	15	17	11
DK/NA	2	1	2	4	1	3

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Support	81%	83%	83%	88%	81%
Oppose	18	14	15	11	14
DK/NA	1	2	2	1	5

TREND: There is a proposal to raise the state income tax paid by people who earn more than a million dollars a year. Do you support or oppose this proposal?

	Dec 24 2008	Aug 6 2008
Support	84	78
Oppose	13	18
DK/NA	2	4

31. There is a proposal for an "obesity tax" or a "fat tax" on non-diet sugary soft drinks. Do you support or oppose such a measure?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom		
Support	37%	27%	43%	39%	36%	38%		
Oppose	60	72	54	59	60	59		
DK/NA	3	1	3	2	3	3		
	UpState.....		UpState				SOFT DRINK OF CHOICE Q32	
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub	Diet	Regular	
Support	35%	32%	32%	39%	44%	39%	31%	
Oppose	60	65	64	57	55	58	64	
DK/NA	6	3	4	4	2	3	4	

32. Which would you say that you drink more often - diet soft drinks or regular, non-diet soft drinks?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom		
Diet	31%	27%	30%	37%	31%	31%		
Regular	38	42	39	34	39	36		
DK/NA	31	31	31	29	30	33		
	UpState.....		UpState					
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub			
Diet	25%	34%	32%	27%	35%			
Regular	38	35	36	41	37			
DK/NA	37	31	32	33	28			

33. Do you support or oppose increasing taxes on gasoline?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom		
Support	19%	10%	25%	18%	22%	17%		
Oppose	79	89	72	79	77	80		
DK/NA	2	-	3	3	1	3		
	UpState.....		UpState					
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub			
Support	19%	11%	13%	29%	15%			
Oppose	81	87	85	68	83			
DK/NA	-	2	2	3	2			

34. Do you support or oppose increasing taxes on alcoholic beverages?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom		
Support	67%	53%	76%	64%	56%	76%		
Oppose	32	44	23	35	43	23		
DK/NA	1	2	1	1	1	1		
	UpState.....		UpState					
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub			
Support	61%	63%	62%	72%	67%			
Oppose	37	36	36	27	33			
DK/NA	3	2	2	1	-			

35. Do you support or oppose increasing taxes on cigarettes?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Support	73%	69%	79%	67%	73%	73%
Oppose	26	30	19	33	27	25
DK/NA	1	1	1	-	1	2

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Support	70%	66%	66%	78%	76%
Oppose	28	33	32	21	22
DK/NA	2	2	2	-	2

36. Governor Paterson says New York State has a budget crisis. Do you agree or disagree?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Agree	88%	84%	89%	88%	89%	87%
Disagree	8	8	7	10	9	7
DK/NA	4	8	4	2	3	6

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Agree	90%	89%	89%	88%	87%
Disagree	8	9	9	9	4
DK/NA	2	3	3	3	10

TREND: Governor Paterson says New York State has a budget crisis. Do you agree or disagree?

	Dec 24 2008	Aug 6 2008
Agree	88	86
Disagree	8	8
DK/NA	4	6

37. Do you think Governor Paterson has the leadership ability to solve the state's budget problems?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Yes	54%	43%	63%	50%	55%	53%
No	33	40	25	41	34	33
DK/NA	13	17	12	9	11	14

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Yes	56%	50%	51%	55%	58%
No	31	38	37	32	28
DK/NA	13	12	12	13	14

TREND: Do you think Governor Paterson has the leadership ability to solve the state's budget problems?

	Dec 24 2008	Aug 6 2008
Yes	54	54
No	33	22
DK/NA	13	24

38. Do you think Governor Paterson and the state legislature will be able to work together to solve the state's budget problems?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Yes	60%	52%	65%	58%	62%	59%
No	30	36	24	33	29	30
DK/NA	10	12	11	9	9	12

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Yes	54%	49%	50%	70%	64%
No	38	41	40	20	24
DK/NA	8	10	10	10	12

TREND: Do you think Governor Paterson and the state legislature will be able to work together to solve the state's budget problems?

	Dec 24 2008	Aug 6 2008
Yes	60	57
No	30	26
DK/NA	10	16

39. To balance the state budget, if you had to choose, where do you think state spending should be decreased - health care, education or economic development?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Health care	10%	10%	10%	10%	16%	4%
Education	10	12	8	12	11	9
Economic development	65	67	66	63	60	70
DK/NA	15	11	16	15	13	17

	UpState.....		UpState		
	Urban	Othr	Total	NYC	Sub
Health care	14%	9%	9%	13%	5%
Education	11	14	13	7	8
Economic development	65	60	61	67	72
DK/NA	11	18	17	13	15