

Clinton and Trump Poised to Regain Momentum in the Empire State; NY Looks Safe For Dems In General

BOSTON, MA – Both Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump continue to hold comfortable leads in New York State just two days before the April 19th primary. The Democratic poll finds Hillary Clinton maintaining a comfortable lead over Bernie Sanders, 55% to 40%. Sanders was able to cut three points into Clinton's lead from last week's poll which had her up 56% to 38%, this poll was taken following the Democratic debate in Brooklyn.

In the Empire State's GOP race, Trump leads his closest rival, Ohio Governor John Kasich, by a 34-point margin (55% to 21%). Texas Senator Ted Cruz falls into third place with 18%, yet experienced some movement from Saturday to Sunday, bouncing up 14 points to 28%.

Clinton holds a strong lead among Democratic minority voters, with a massive advantage in key demographic groups such including African Americans (72% to 22%) and Hispanics (56% to 33%). The former Secretary of State also holds the female vote (59% to 48%) and only trails Sanders by 1 point among males (49% to 48%)

Sanders maintains his support among 18-34 year olds winning 61% to 31% but comes up short among the rest of the population losing 35-54 year olds 54%-39%, 55-74 year olds 65%-31% and those over 75, 71% to 29%.

Among likely Democratic voters, Clinton's favorable/unfavorable ratio is 73%/23% (+50) while Sanders is 68%/23% (+45). However, Clinton garners far more loyalty: 71% of those who view her favorably plan to vote for her in the primary, while only 56% who have a favorable view of Sanders intend to vote for him.

Both Trump and Kasich hold the highest favorability among GOP candidates, with Trump at 64%/32% (+32) and Kasich at 60%/28% (+32). Cruz is the only candidate underwater with a 37%/54% (-17) favorable rating. Consistent with other primaries, Trump supporters are the most loyal, with 81% of those who see him favorably planning to cast their ballot for him. In contrast, only 45% of Republicans who have a favorable opinion of Cruz say they will vote for him.

Looking ahead to the general election, the Democrats control each of the potential races. Clinton defeats Trump easily, 55-36 percent, while Sanders also holds a 51-37 percent advantage over the New York businessman. Ted Cruz fares even worse against the opposition, losing to Clinton 59-28 percent, and to Sanders 58-27 percent. John Kasich is positioned best in a hypothetical general election showdown with Clinton, down just ten points, 49 to 39 percent, with 12 percent undecided.

Dissatisfaction with government (40%) and defeating ISIS and terrorism (19%) are the top two issues for Republican voters in the Empire State. Among Democrats, the foremost concerns are jobs and unemployment (22%) and dissatisfaction with government (21%).

Caller ID

The Emerson College Polling Society poll was conducted from April 15 and 17, 2016. The GOP primary consisted of 361 likely primary voters, with a margin of error of +/-5.11%. The Democratic primary consisted of 438 likely primary voters, with a margin of error of +/- 4.63% and weighted by age and gender based on 2008 and 2004 exit polling. The General Election sample consisted of 1,047 likely

general election voters, and weighted by 2012 general election returns with a margin of error of +/- 2.95%. Data was collected using an Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system of landlines only. The full methodology and results can be found at www.theecps.com.