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**P O L L**

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## **NEW YORK STATE VOTERS OPPOSE GAS DRILLING, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; VOTERS WANT CASINO, BUT NOT IN THEIR BACK YARD**

For the first time ever, New York State voters oppose by a clear margin, 46 – 39 percent, drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale, as concerns for the environment win out over the promise of economic benefits, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Support for drilling peaked at 47 – 42 percent when the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University poll first asked the question August 11, 2011. For the last year, voters have been virtually tied on the question of whether they support drilling because of economic benefits or oppose drilling because of environmental concerns.

Today, upstate voters remain divided, with 44 percent in favor of drilling and 42 percent opposed, while suburban voters are split 42 – 42 percent. New York City voters oppose drilling 53 – 32 percent. Republicans support drilling 62 – 21 percent while Democrats are opposed 60 – 24 percent. Independent voters are divided with 46 percent in favor and 42 percent opposed.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo is “carefully evaluating the issue of hydro-fracking,” 21 percent of New York State voters say, but 30 percent say his is “dragging his feet...to avoid making a decision,” with 46 percent offering no opinion.

“New Yorkers might be getting impatient with the long delay over natural gas drilling. They’re turning negative on the basic idea and more of them see foot-dragging by Gov. Andrew Cuomo rather than a careful evaluation,” said Maurice Carroll, director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

“The governor’s strong leadership on gun-control cost him Republican support. A decision on drilling, or hydro-fracking, could win back some of that support, but what would it do to his Democratic support?”

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“One surefire winner is the minimum wage, which continues to get overwhelming support, including strong Republican support,” Carroll added.

New York State voters support 80 – 18 percent raising the \$7.25 per-hour minimum wage in the state, continuing 78 to 80 percent support on this issue in five Quinnipiac University polls over the last 12 months. Republicans support a minimum wage hike 62 – 36 percent, also continuing a year-long trend. Support is 85 percent among women, 88 percent among New York City voters and 96 percent among black voters.

Offered several choices on where to set the new minimum wage:

- 49 percent of voters want it higher than \$8.50 per hour;
- 26 percent want to set the wage at \$8.50 per hour;
- 4 percent want an increase, but less than \$8.50 per hour;
- 18 percent want no increase.

“We’re still a liberal state. Support for raising the minimum wage is huge, especially among women, New York City voters and black voters,” Carroll said.

New York State voters support 52 – 38 percent the creation of Las Vegas-type casinos in the state, with support among all groups.

Voters, however, are divided 46 – 46 percent on whether changing the State Constitution to allow for these casinos is a good idea or a bad idea.

And voters oppose 54 – 41 percent having a casino in their town or city. Upstate voters are divided with 45 percent willing to have a casino nearby and 49 percent opposed. Opposition is 55 – 41 percent among New York City voters and 63 – 34 percent among suburban voters.

“Casinos? Okay, New Yorkers say, but not in my town,” Carroll said. “And voters balk at amending the State Constitution, although that’s the only way to get casinos.”

From March 11 – 17, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,165 New York State 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 and the nation as a public service and for research.

**For more information or RSS feed, visit <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, or call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#).**

14. Some people say there should be drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale because of the economic benefits. Others say there should not be drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale because of the environmental impact. Which comes closer to your point of view?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Drilling	39%	62%	24%	46%	47%	33%	43%	28%
No drilling	46	21	60	42	43	49	44	52
DK/NA	14	18	16	12	10	18	13	20

	AREA.....			Union
	UpStat	NYC	Sub	HsHld
Drilling	44%	32%	42%	36%
No drilling	42	53	42	52
DK/NA	13	15	16	12

	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL HSHOLD INC			AGE IN YRS.....		
	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-34	35-54	55+
Drilling	35%	42%	37%	41%	44%	36%	42%	41%
No drilling	54	41	48	47	44	54	45	43
DK/NA	11	17	15	11	12	10	13	16

TREND: Some people say there should be drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale because of the economic benefits. Others say there should not be drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale because of the environmental impact. Which comes closer to your point of view?

	DRILLING.....						
	High		Low				
	Mar 20	Jan 31	Dec 13	Sep 12	Jul 26	Aug 11	Mar 20
	2013	2013	2012	2012	2012	2011	2013
Drilling	39	43	44	45	43	47	39
No drilling	46	42	42	41	44	42	46
DK/NA	14	15	15	13	13	12	14

15. Which comes closer to your point of view; Governor Cuomo is carefully evaluating the issue of hydro-fracking, or Governor Cuomo is dragging his feet and trying to avoid making a decision on the issue of hydro-fracking, or don't you have an opinion on that?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Carefully evaluating	21%	10%	26%	21%	21%	22%	23%	21%
Dragging his feet	30	40	20	35	35	25	33	14
No opinion	46	47	51	42	42	50	41	64
DK/NA	3	3	3	2	2	4	3	1

	AREA.....			Union
	UpStat	NYC	Sub	HsHld
Carefully evaluating	23%	21%	18%	23%
Dragging his feet	36	22	31	31
No opinion	39	53	48	43
DK/NA	2	4	3	3

	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL HSHOLD INC			AGE IN YRS.....		
	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-34	35-54	55+
Carefully evaluating	27%	17%	20%	25%	23%	12%	22%	24%
Dragging his feet	33	28	24	38	31	30	31	30
No opinion	37	52	53	36	44	53	47	43
DK/NA	3	3	3	1	3	5	1	3

TREND: Which comes closer to your point of view; Governor Cuomo is carefully evaluating the issue of hydro-fracking, or Governor Cuomo is dragging his feet and trying to avoid making a decision on the issue of hydro-fracking, or don't you have an opinion on that?

	Mar 20 2013	Dec 13 2012
Carefully evaluating	21	26
Dragging his feet	30	25
No opinion	46	44
DK/NA	3	4

16. Would you support or oppose raising the minimum wage in New York State, which is now \$7.25 an hour?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Support	80%	62%	95%	73%	75%	85%	76%	96%
Oppose	18	36	5	23	23	14	21	4
DK/NA	2	1	1	3	2	1	2	-

	AREA..... UpStat	NYC	Sub	Union HsHld
Support	73%	88%	82%	82%
Oppose	25	11	16	17
DK/NA	2	1	3	1

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	ANNUAL HSHOLD INC <50K	50-100	>100K	AGE IN YRS..... 18-34	35-54	55+
Support	81%	80%	82%	80%	78%	83%	80%
Oppose	17	19	16	19	20	17	19
DK/NA	2	2	2	1	2	-	1

TREND: Would you support or oppose raising the minimum wage in New York State, which is now \$7.25 an hour?

	Mar 20 2013	Jan 31 2013	Dec 13 2012	May 30 2012	Apr 04 2012
Support	80	80	80	79	78
Oppose	18	17	18	18	20
DK/NA	2	2	1	2	3

17. (If support q16) Do you think that the minimum wage should be \$8.50 an hour, should be less than \$8.50 an hour, or should be more than \$8.50 an hour?

	SUPPORT INCREASE Q16		
	Tot	Men	Wom
Exactly \$8.50	32%	30%	34%
Less than \$8.50	5	3	6
More than \$8.50	61	65	59
DK/NA	2	2	2

TREND: (If support) Do you think that the minimum wage should be \$8.50 an hour, should be less than \$8.50 an hour, or should be more than \$8.50 an hour?

	SUPPORT INCREASE.....			
	Mar 20 2013	Dec 13 2012	May 30 2012	Apr 04 2012
Exactly \$8.50	32	35	40	37
Less than \$8.50	5	7	7	8
More than \$8.50	61	54	50	52
DK/NA	2	3	2	3

17a. (COMBINED Q16 & Q17) Would you support or oppose raising the minimum wage in New York State, which is now \$7.25 an hour? IF SUPPORT: Do you think that the minimum wage should be \$8.50 an hour, should be less than \$8.50 an hour, or should be more than \$8.50 an hour?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Increase to \$8.50	26%	28%	25%	28%	23%	29%	28%	21%
Increase < \$8.50	4	5	2	5	3	5	4	2
Increase > \$8.50	49	28	66	39	49	50	42	74
Oppose increase	18	36	5	23	23	14	21	4
DK/NA	3	3	2	4	3	3	4	-

	AREA.....			Union
	UpStat	NYC	Sub	HsHld
Increase to \$8.50	26%	24%	28%	23%
Increase < \$8.50	5	3	3	4
Increase > \$8.50	40	59	49	54
Oppose increase	25	11	16	17
DK/NA	3	3	4	2

	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL HSHOLD INC			AGE IN YRS.....		
	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-34	35-54	55+
Increase to \$8.50	29%	24%	25%	25%	28%	34%	25%	23%
Increase < \$8.50	5	3	3	3	7	5	4	3
Increase > \$8.50	46	51	53	49	43	43	49	52
Oppose increase	17	19	16	19	20	17	19	18
DK/NA	4	3	3	4	3	1	3	4

TREND: (COMBINED) Would you support or oppose raising the minimum wage in New York State, which is now \$7.25 an hour? IF SUPPORT: Do you think that the minimum wage should be \$8.50 an hour, should be less than \$8.50 an hour, or should be more than \$8.50 an hour?

	Mar 20	Dec 13	May 30	Apr 04
	2013	2012	2012	2012
Increase to \$8.50	26	28	32	29
Increase < \$8.50	4	6	6	6
Increase > \$8.50	49	43	40	41
Oppose increase	18	18	18	20
DK/NA	3	4	4	5

18. Do you support or oppose the creation of non-indian casinos in New York State, similar to those in Atlantic City and Las Vegas?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Support	52%	55%	49%	57%	56%	48%	54%	53%
Oppose	38	34	40	36	36	39	36	36
DK/NA	11	11	11	8	8	13	10	11

	AREA.....			
	UpStat	NYC	Sub	Union HsHld
Support	54%	50%	50%	56%
Oppose	34	41	40	35
DK/NA	12	10	10	9

	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL	HS HOLD	INC	AGE IN YRS.....		
	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-34	35-54	55+
Support	49%	54%	52%	58%	52%	57%	54%	48%
Oppose	41	36	39	34	40	32	37	41
DK/NA	10	11	10	8	8	11	9	11

TREND: Do you support or oppose the creation of non-indian casinos in New York State, similar to those in Atlantic City and Las Vegas?

	Mar 20	May 30	Feb 15	Dec 21	Sep 21
	2013	2012	2012	2011	2011
Support	52	56	54	64	56
Oppose	38	33	38	31	37
DK/NA	11	11	8	5	7

19. There is a proposal to change the state constitution to allow for the creation of non-indian casinos in New York State, similar to those in Atlantic City and Las Vegas. Do you think this is a good idea or a bad idea?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Good idea	46%	49%	42%	50%	51%	41%	48%	44%
Bad idea	46	43	47	44	43	48	45	47
DK/NA	9	8	10	6	6	11	7	10

	AREA.....			
	UpStat	NYC	Sub	Union HsHld
Good idea	48%	44%	44%	50%
Bad idea	43	47	49	42
DK/NA	8	10	7	8

	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL	HS HOLD	INC	AGE IN YRS.....		
	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-34	35-54	55+
Good idea	43%	47%	44%	51%	47%	50%	47%	45%
Bad idea	48	45	47	41	48	38	46	48
DK/NA	9	8	9	8	5	11	8	8

TREND: There is a proposal to change the state constitution to allow for the creation of non-indian casinos in New York State, similar to those in Atlantic City and Las Vegas. Do you think this is a good idea or a bad idea?

	Mar 20 2013	May 30 2012	Feb 15 2012
Good idea	46	49	50
Bad idea	46	42	42
DK/NA	9	9	8

20. Do you favor or oppose having casino gambling in the town or city you live in?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Favor	41%	39%	40%	44%	44%	39%	41%	47%
Oppose	54	56	55	53	50	57	54	50
DK/NA	5	5	4	3	6	4	4	3

	AREA.....			Union
	UpStat	NYC	Sub	HsHld
Favor	45%	41%	34%	47%
Oppose	49	55	63	49
DK/NA	6	5	4	5

	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL	SHHOLD	INC	AGE IN YRS.....		
	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-34	35-54	55+
Favor	38%	43%	45%	48%	36%	50%	41%	38%
Oppose	56	53	49	50	61	47	55	56
DK/NA	6	4	6	2	3	4	4	6

TREND: Do you favor or oppose having casino gambling in the town or city you live in?

	Mar 20 2013	Nov 15 2001
Favor	41	30
Oppose	54	66
DK/NA	5	4