Cornell University
Survey Research Institute

Cornell University
Empire State Poll 2006

01/05/06

Empire Poll Sections

Section 1: Eligibility (all respondents)

1. Are you currently a resident of New York State?

1. Yes   **0. No (ineligible)**

Section 2: Current Employment Status (employed only)

1. Last week, did you do ANY work for either pay or profit? Include any job from which you were temporarily "absent" or "on layoff".

1. **Yes**
2. **No (Go to Section ?)**
3. **Retired (Go to Section ?)**
4. **Disabled (Go to Section ?)**
5. **Unable to work**

2. Which of the following best describes your main job? (By main job we mean the one at which you usually work the most hours.)

1. **Full-time, all year round**
2. **Part-Time, all year round**
3. **Temporary**
4. **Seasonal or Part Year**
5. **Contract or On Call**

3. How many hours did you work last week, at all jobs?

_____ Hrs/Wk

4. Are you self-employed (i.e. consultant, freelancer w/out employees) on your main job?

1. Yes (Skip to Section 3 question 2)   0. No

Section 3: Employment/Working Conditions (employed only)

1. Counting just the location where you work at your main job, what is the total number of persons who work for this employer? (please choose one answer)

- **1. Less than 10**
- **2. 10 – 24**
- **3. 25 – 99**
- **4. 100 or more**   **[reduced number of response options]**

2. The next questions are about benefits, policies, and informal arrangements on your job. Does your employer provide…?	Available, use it	Available, do not use it	Not available
a. Health Insurance?	**1**	**2**	**3**
b. Flex time? *(i.e. the ability to choose or arrange a regular work week schedule to meet personal or family needs)*	**1**	**2**	**3**
c. Child care subsidies or a child care center at or near your location?	**1**	**2**	**3**
d. A 401K or pension program?	1	2	3
e. Paid Time Off (vacation, holiday, sick leave)?	**1**	**2**	**3**
f. Paid or Unpaid Time off for volunteering?	**1**	**2**	**3**

Section 4: Workplace Associations (employed only)

Question dropped

Section 5: Employment Expectations/Satisfaction (employed only)

1. Think of a scale of 0 to 100, where 0 means you are certain you will lose your present job and 100 means you are certain you will be able to keep it. On this scale, how certain is it that during the next 12 months you will be able to keep it? (Assuming you want to keep it)

(0-100) _____

2. In the last four weeks have you looked for new work or a new job?

1. Yes   **0. No**

Section 6: Not employed (unemployed only)

1. In the last four weeks have you looked for work or a new job?

1. Yes

0. No

Section 7: Social Security (all respondents)

Questions dropped

Section 8: Community (all respondents)

1a. Do you expect to be living in your community (approximately your county) five years from now?

1. Yes

0. No (why not?) _____ (goto S8Q2a)

1b. When you leave your community, where do you plan to go?

0. Stay within New York State, but go to another community/county

1. Leave New York State

2. Do Not Know

Dropped question 2

3. Would you say over the past year it has gotten harder for people within your community to find jobs, stayed about the same, or gotten easier for people to find jobs?

1. Harder

2. About the same

3. Easier

Question 4, 5 dropped

Section 9: Government/Attitudes/Politics (all respondents)

1. The following statements deal with your perceptions of safety and security. Would you tell me how much you agree with each of the following statements?	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree
a. A terrorist attack somewhere in the United States is likely in the next 12 months.	1	2	3	4
b. I am personally in danger of being a victim of a terrorist attack.	1	2	3	4

Dropped question 2

3. In your opinion, what do you think is the SINGLE most important problem facing people in New York state is today? (do not read – just code response)

> 1. **State Economy**
> 2. **Employment**
> 3. **Education**
> 4. **Health care (costs/accessibility)**
> 5. **State Taxes**
> 6. **Other – please specify [reduced list of possible choices based on responses from 2005 -**

4. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is untrustworthy and 10 is trustworthy, how would you rate the trustworthiness of the following:	Untrustworthy								Trustworthy	
a. Large Corporations	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
b. Local Businesses	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
c. NYS Local Government	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
d. NYS State Government	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
e. Labor Unions	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
f. News Media	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
g. Other People in general	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Section 10: Economics (all respondents)

5. Please rate New York State on each of the following areas, on a scale of excellent, good, fair, or poor.	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
a. The Environment	1	2	3	4
b. Economic Growth	1	2	3	4
c. State Taxes	1	2	3	4
d. Employment (overall availability and quality of jobs)	1	2	3	4
e. Mass transit infrastructure (buses, trains, subways, etc.)	1	2	3	4
f. Quality of Public Education	1	2	3	4
g. State Budget	1	2	3	4

h. Performance of NYS Government	1	2	3	4
i. Human and Social Services (health, welfare)	1	2	3	4

1. We are interested in how people are getting along financially these days. Would you say that you (and your household) are better off, worse off, or just about the same financially as you were a year ago?

      3. Better   **2. About the same**   **1. Worse**

2. Now looking ahead, do you think that a year from now you (and your family living here) will be better off financially, worse off, or just about the same as now?

      3. Better   **2. About the same**   **1. Worse**

3. Now thinking about the economy in the New York state as a whole, would you say that OVER THE PAST YEAR the state's economy has gotten better, stayed about the same, or gotten worse?

      3. Better   **2. About the same**   **1. Worse**

4. What about THE NEXT 12 MONTHS? Do you expect the economy, in New York state as a whole, to get better, stay about the same, or get worse?

      3. Better   **2. About the same**   **1. Worse**

Section 11: Media Use (all respondents)

1. On average, how many days a week do you read a local newspaper that is focused on news or content about your local community or area?

      0.   never read

      1.   one

      2.   two

      3.   three

      4.   four

      5.   five

      6.   six

      7.   seven or everyday

2. When you come across stories in the newspaper about politics, the economy, and social issues in your local community, how much attention do you pay to them? Here, one means VERY LITTLE ATTENTION, and ten means VERY CLOSE ATTENTION, and zero means NO ATTENTION AT ALL.

     0.   No attention at all

     1.   Very little attention

     2-9

     10. Very close attention

3. On the average weekday evening, about how many hours of television do you watch after 5 pm?

     1. _____ Hours   2. _____ Minutes

4. On average, how often do you watch the local evening news at 5pm, 6pm, or 11pm? Let's use a ten-point scale where one means RARELY, ten means ALL THE TIME, and zero means NEVER.

     0. Never

     1. Rarely

     2-9

     10. All the time

5. When you come across politics, economy, and social issues in your local community on TV, how much attention do you pay to them? Here, one means VERY LITTLE ATTENTION, and ten means VERY CLOSE ATTENTION, and zero means NO ATTENTION AT ALL.

     0.   No attention at all

     1.   Very little attention

     2-9

     10. Very close attention

Section 12: Special Topics (all respondents)

Dropped questions

Section 13: Demographics (all respondents)

1. How long have you lived at your current residence?

0. Less than 1 year   or   _____ years

2. How long have you lived in New York State?

0. Less than 1 year   or   _____ years

3. What year were you born?

19____   (year)

4. Are you a :

1. US Citizen

2. Resident Alien

3. Other

5. Gender?

1. Male

2. Female

6. Do you personally, or a member of your immediate household, belong to a labor union?

0.   No

1.   Yes, I do

2.   Yes, another member of household belongs to a labor union

3.   Yes, both self and another member belong to a labor union

5. What is your marital status?

1. **Single**
2. **Married**
3. **Divorced/Separated**
4. **Widowed**
5. **Partnered/Cohabiting (unmarried)**
6. **Other, please specify**

6. When it comes to social issues, do you usually think of yourself as extremely liberal, liberal, slightly liberal; moderate or middle of the road, slightly conservative, conservative, or extremely conservative?

1. **Extremely Liberal**
2. **Liberal**
3. **Slightly Liberal**
4. **Moderate; Middle of the road**
5. **Slightly Conservative**
6. **Conservative**
7. **Extremely Conservative**

7. Generally speaking, when it comes to political parties in the United States, how would you best describe yourself?

1. **Strongly Republican**
2. **Leaning toward Republican**
3. **Political Independent**
4. **Leaning toward Democrat**
5. **Strongly Democrat**
6. **Other party affiliation (please specify)**

8. What is your highest completed level of education?

1. **Less than high school**
2. **High school degree or equivalent**
3. **Some college but no degree**
4. **Associate's Degree**
5. **Bachelor's Degree (e.g., BA, BS, AB)**
6. **Master's Degree (e.g., MA, MS, MBA, MSW, MEng, MED)**

       7.   Doctorate Degree (e.g., PhD, EdD, M.D.)

9. What best describes your race?

       1.   White or Caucasian

       2.   White/Caucasian Latino or Hispanic

       3.   Black or African American

       4.   Black Hispanic or Latino

       5.   American Indian, Aleut, Eskimo

       6.   American Indian Hispanic or Latino

       7.   Asian or Pacific Islander

       8.   Asian or Pacific Islander Hispanic or Latino

       9.   Other (please specify)

10. Regarding religious affiliation, do you consider yourself Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Muslim, or something else?

       1.   Protestant

       2.   Catholic

       3.   Jewish

       4.   Muslim

       5.   No Affiliation

       6.   Other (please specify)

11. How many total people (including yourself) in your household are... ?

       Adults 65 and older   _____

       Adults 18 to 64   _____

       Children (12-17)   _____

       Children (under 12)   _____

12. I'm going to read you the list of income categories. Please tell me which of them best describes your total household income in 2004 before taxes from all sources.

       1.   Less than $10,000

       2. $10,001 to $22,000

3. **$22,001 to $35,000**

4. **$35,001 to $50,000**

5. **$50,001 to $75,000**

6. **$75,001 to $100,000**

7. **$100,001 to $150,000**

8. **$150,001 to $200,000**

9. **$200,001 and up**