



1. Are you at least 18 years of age or older and registered to vote in New York?

REGISTERED-Democrat	49%
REGISTERED-Republican	33
REGISTERED-Independent/Unaffiliated	16
REGISTERED-Other (specify)	2
No.....	-
Don't know/Refused	-

2. To begin, would you say things in New York State are heading in the right direction or would you say things are pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

		Total
	Right direction	28%
	Wrong track	57
VOL	(Neither)	9
VOL	(Don't know/refused).....	6

I would now like to talk to you about some issues that have been in the news a lot lately.

3. Do you support or oppose allowing same-sex couples to marry, giving them the same legal rights as other married couples?

		Total
	Strongly support.....	33%
	Somewhat support	18
	Somewhat oppose.....	10
	Strongly oppose.....	31
VOL	(Undecided/don't know)	7
VOL	(Refused).....	*
	SUPPORT (NET)	51
	OPPOSE (NET)	42

4. Regardless of whether you support or oppose same-sex marriage, as far as you know, is it currently legal for same-sex couples to get married in New York?

		Total
	Yes.....	7%
	No	83
VOL	(Don't know).....	11

5. Do you support or oppose allowing same-sex couples to form civil unions or domestic partnerships that are not marriages but would give similar legal protections in such areas as inheritance, taxes, health insurance and hospital visits?

		Total
	Strongly support.....	45%
	Somewhat support	27
	Somewhat oppose.....	5
	Strongly oppose.....	20
VOL	(Undecided/don't know)	3
VOL	(Refused).....	-
	SUPPORT (NET)	72
	OPPOSE (NET)	25

6. And of the following statements, which comes closest to your position on this issue? Do you...

		Total
	Support the right of same-sex couples to be legally married and enjoy all the rights granted to married couples.....	37%
	Oppose same-sex marriage but support the right of same-sex couples to form civil unions or domestic partnerships that are not marriages but would give similar legal protections in such areas as inheritance, taxes, health insurance and hospital visits.	38
	Oppose both same-sex marriage and civil unions.	22
VOL	(Undecided/Don't know)	3
VOL	(Refused).....	1

As it stands today, heterosexuals who are married enjoy certain spousal rights and benefits. Same-sex marriage is not currently legal in New York, so supporters of same-sex marriage and civil unions want those same spousal rights and benefits extended to same-sex couples. I'm now going to read you a list of those rights and benefits, and for each one I read please tell me whether you think it is extremely important to extend that right to same-sex couples, very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all to extend that right to same-sex couples. Here's the first one...

	IMPORTANT			NOT IMPORTANT		(DK/Ref.)	NET	
	Extreme	Very	Some	Not too	Not at all		IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
• Legal authority to make decisions about a deceased partner's burial.....	35%	32	16	4	10	3	83	20
• Medical decision-making.....	37%	32	13	6	10	2	82	19
• Health insurance.....	36%	32	12	5	13	2	80	17
• Inheritance rights.....	31%	31	16	7	13	2	78	23
• Pension benefits.....	30%	30	16	7	15	3	75	22
• Tax benefits.....	30%	29	16	8	14	3	75	24
• Child custody rights.....	30%	29	14	5	17	6	72	19

And thinking about laws on this issue...

14. Do you support or oppose an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would allow marriage ONLY between a man and a woman, thus barring marriage between same-sex couples?

	Total
Strongly support.....	32%
Somewhat support.....	8
Somewhat oppose.....	12
Strongly oppose.....	42
(Undecided/don't know).....	6
(Refused).....	*
VOL	
VOL	
SUPPORT (NET).....	40
OPPOSE (NET).....	54

15. Do you support or oppose the New York legislature passing a Defense of Marriage Act to define marriage as only between a man and a woman, thus barring marriage between same-sex couples?

	Total
Strongly support.....	34%
Somewhat support.....	12
Somewhat oppose.....	9
Strongly oppose.....	40
(Undecided/don't know).....	5
(Refused).....	*
VOL	
VOL	
SUPPORT (NET).....	46
OPPOSE (NET).....	49

16. Typically, marriages performed outside New York are fully recognized in New York. Do you support or oppose New York State recognizing same-sex marriages that have been legally conducted in other states?

	Total
Strongly support.....	40%
Somewhat support.....	15
Somewhat oppose.....	6
Strongly oppose.....	34
(Undecided/don't know).....	4
(Refused).....	*
VOL	
VOL	
SUPPORT (NET).....	55
OPPOSE (NET).....	41

17. And in general, do you think questions about same-sex marriage are best decided by the courts or by the legislature?

	Total
Courts	32%
Lean courts	3
Legislature	34
Lean legislature	5
VOL (Both)	3
VOL (Neither)	13
VOL (Undecided/Don't know)	10
VOL (Refused).....	1
COURTS (NET)	35
LEGISLATURE (NET).....	38

18. How much attention would you say you have paid to New York City Judge Doris Ling-Cohan's court ruling to legalize gay marriage? Would you say you have paid a lot of attention, some attention, not much attention, or no attention at all?

A lot	8%
Some	25
Not much	28
None	37
VOL (Don't know/Refused)	1
SOME ATTENTION (NET)	33
LITTLE ATTENTION (NET)	66

19. Now I'd like to read you two different statements. After I read both statements, please tell me which one you agree with most.

Statement A: Judges should not have the authority to make same-sex marriage legal. Marriage laws are too important and should be decided by the elected legislature. Any activist judge who legalizes same-sex marriage is stepping over the line.

OR

Statement B: Allowing same-sex couples to marry and enjoy the same rights as other couples is a civil rights issue. Judges have not only a right but an obligation to interpret the Constitution and assert the rights of every citizen whether it is popular or not.

	Total
Statement A - Strongly	30%
Statement A - Somewhat.....	11
Statement B - Somewhat.....	16
Statement B - Strongly	32
VOL (Neither)	6
VOL (Don't know)	5
VOL (Refused).....	1
STATEMENT A (NET)	41
STATEMENT B (NET)	48

20. If a candidate for public office was in favor of allowing same-sex couples to marry in New York, would that make you more likely to support that candidate or less likely to support that candidate?

	Total
Much more likely	20%
Somewhat more likely	16
Somewhat less likely	9
Much less likely	28
VOL (No difference).....	23
VOL (Undecided/don't know)	4
VOL (Refused).....	-
MORE LIKELY OR NO DIFFERENCE (NET)	59
LESS LIKELY (NET).....	37

21. And if a candidate for public office was in favor of allowing same-sex couples to form civil unions or domestic partnerships that are not marriages but would give similar legal protections in such areas as inheritance, taxes, health insurance and hospital visits, would that make you more likely to support that candidate or less likely to support that candidate?

	Total
Much more likely	24%
Somewhat more likely	25
Somewhat less likely	6
Much less likely	21
VOL (No difference).....	21
VOL (Undecided/don't know)	3
VOL (Refused).....	*
MORE LIKELY OR NO DIFFERERECE (NET)	70
LESS LIKELY (NET).....	27

I only have a few more questions for statistical purposes only....

What is your age please?

18-24	3%
25-34	11
35-44	20
45-54	23
55-64	20
65+	20
VOL (Refused)	4

What is the last grade of formal education you have completed?	Less than high school	3%
	High school graduate	25
	Some college/vocational school	23
	College graduate	29
	Post graduate	17
	VOL (Refused)	2
As far as you know, are any of your friends or family members gay, lesbian, or bisexual?	Yes	54%
	No.....	41
	VOL (Don't know/Refused)	5
What is your religious affiliation?	Catholic	31%
	Protestant.....	34
	Jewish	10
	None	12
	VOL (Other)	5
	VOL (Don't know)	2
VOL (Refused)	6	
And how often would you say you attend religious services, say in a church, synagogue, or mosque, for example? Would you say daily, once a week, two or three times a month, once a month, a few times a year, or never?	Daily.....	6%
	Once a week.....	30
	Two or three times a month	10
	Once a month	6
	Few times a year	24
	Never	18
VOL (Don't know/Refused)	4	
For statistical purposes only, could you please tell me your ethnic background?	White/Caucasian	75%
	Black/African American	11
	Hispanic/Latino	9
	Asian American	2
	VOL (Other/specify)	-
VOL (Refused)	4	
Do you consider yourself a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking American?	Yes	2%
	No.....	98
	VOL (Refused)	*
Gender	Male	48%
	Female	52
Region	New York City	37%
	Suburbs	24
	Upstate Cities	5
	Upstate Other	34