

**Constitutional Convention Poll
 October 2-13, 2017
 N=801 Registered NY State Voters (MoE +/- 3.5)
 out of 1121 NY State Adult Residents**

S1. Which county in New York State do you live in?

Base: Registered Voters Only

N=801 R.V.

NYC:

1. Bronx	5%
2. Brooklyn	9%
3. Manhattan	8%
4. Queens	10%
5. Staten Island	3%

SUBURBS:

6. Nassau	9%
7. Suffolk	9%
8. Westchester	5%
9. Rockland	2%

UPSTATE

10. ALL other NY counties	39%
77. Not in NY State	-
88. Not sure	-
99. Refused	-

Q2. Are you currently registered with the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, some other party, or are you not registered with any party? IF RESPONDENT SAYS "INDEPENDENT", ASK IF THEY MEAN THEY ARE NOT REGISTERED WITH ANY PARTY. If "no party", code as "4" NOT REGISTERED WITH ANY PARTY. Do NOT write in "independent."

Base: Registered Voters

N=801

1. The Democratic Party	45%
2. The Republican Party	23%
3. Other Party (Specify NAME OF PARTY)	7%
4. Not registered w any party/unaffiliated	15%
8. Not sure	2%
9. Refuse	8%

Q3. Have you heard or read anything about the proposed referendum calling for a NY State Constitutional Convention which will be on the ballot in November 2017?

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. Yes	42%
2. No	56%
8. Not Sure	2%
9. Refuse	*

Q4. The constitution requires that every 20 years voters be asked whether there should be a constitutional convention to propose constitutional amendments to the voters. Based on what you know now, if the referendum were held today, would you vote for or against holding a constitutional convention, or not vote on the referendum at all?

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For	32%
2. Against	27%
3. Not vote	18%
8. Not Sure	21%
9. Refuse	2%

Q5. Voting in New York State is currently allowed only on Election Day. A constitutional convention could provide for early voting. Would this be a reason for you to vote ...

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For a Constitutional Convention	42%
2. Against a Constitutional Convention,	22%
3. Or not a reason to vote either way?	34%
8. Not Sure	3%
9. Refuse	*

Q6. In order to vote in an election in New York State, citizens who are residents of the state must register to vote at least 30 days before Election. A Constitutional Convention could recommend registration on Election Day. Would this be a reason for you to vote ...

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For a Constitutional Convention	39%
2. Against a Constitutional Convention,	27%
3. Or not a reason to vote either way?	30%
8. Not Sure	3%
9. Refuse	*

Q7. 2.4 percent of the delegates to the last four Constitutional Conventions have been women. A Constitutional Convention held now would have a more diverse delegate body. Would this be a reason for you to vote ...

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For a Constitutional Convention	45%
2. Against a Constitutional Convention,	8%
3. Or not a reason to vote either way?	44%
8. Not Sure	3%
9. Refuse	*

Q8. The NY State Constitution does not guarantee the same right to an abortion that is currently provided in the US Constitution by the Roe v Wade decision. A Constitutional Convention could recommend such a constitutional right. Would this be a reason for you to vote ...

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For a Constitutional Convention	44%
2. Against a Constitutional Convention,	23%
3. Or not a reason to vote either way?	27%
8. Not Sure	5%
9. Refuse	1%

Q9. New York State Senate and Assembly district lines are currently drawn by the legislature. A Constitutional Convention could recommend that new district lines following the 2020 census be drawn by a non-partisan independent commission? Would this be a reason for you to vote ...

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For a Constitutional Convention	43%
2. Against a Constitutional Convention,	13%
3. Or not a reason to vote either way?	37%
8. Not Sure	6%
9. Refuse	*

Q10 Ethical questions about the conduct of members of the legislature are currently decided by the legislature itself which some say has led to inadequate enforcement. A Constitutional Convention could recommend that all ethical questions be decided by an independent non-partisan body.

Would this be a reason for you to vote ...

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For a Constitutional Convention	54%
2. Against a Constitutional Convention,	12%
3. Or not a reason to vote either way?	28%
8. Not Sure	5%
9. Refuse	1%

Q11. Currently, there is no public financing of NY State legislative or statewide offices. A Constitutional Convention could recommend that these state elections be publicly financed by NY State taxes, which some say will empower small dollar donors over big moneyed interests. Would this be a reason for you to vote ...

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For a Constitutional Convention	31%
2. Against a Constitutional Convention,	28%
3. Or not a reason to vote either way?	34%
8. Not Sure	6%
9. Refuse	1%

Q12. Currently, an environmental impact review is not required by the state constitution for any state legislation affecting air and water quality. A Constitutional Convention could recommend a constitutional mandate for air and water quality. Would this be a reason for you to vote ...

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For a Constitutional Convention	64%
2. Against a Constitutional Convention,	12%
3. Or not a reason to vote either way?	22%
8. Not Sure	2%
9. Refuse	-

Q13. A Constitutional Convention could recommend eliminating existing environmental protections from the state constitution. Would this be a reason for you to vote ...

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For a Constitutional Convention	23%
2. Against a Constitutional Convention,	43%
3. Or not a reason to vote either way?	30%
8. Not Sure	4%
9. Refuse	1%

Q14. The right to collective bargaining is currently in the NY State Constitution. A Constitutional Convention could recommend eliminating the right to collective bargaining from the state constitution. Would this be a reason for you to vote ...

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For a Constitutional Convention	20%
2. Against a Constitutional Convention,	41%
3. Or not a reason to vote either way?	32%
8. Not Sure	6%
9. Refuse	*

Q15. The NY State Constitution currently guarantees the right to a lawyer in criminal cases. A Constitutional Convention could also recommend guaranteeing the right to a lawyer in civil cases which could pose serious harm -- such as the threat of eviction or deportation or the need for an order of protection? Would this be a reason for you to vote ...

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For a Constitutional Convention	47%
2. Against a Constitutional Convention,	23%
3. Or not a reason to vote either way?	26%
8. Not Sure	3%
9. Refuse	*

Q16. Statewide offices, including Governor, currently do not have any term limits. A Constitutional Convention could recommend term limits for these offices. Would this be a reason for you to vote ...
Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For a Constitutional Convention	61%
2. Against a Constitutional Convention,	11%
3. Or not a reason to vote either way?	25%
8. Not Sure	3%
9. Refuse	*

Q17. Members of the state legislature currently do not have any term limits. A Constitutional Convention could recommend term limits for state legislators. Would this be a reason for you to vote ...
Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For a Constitutional Convention	61%
2. Against a Constitutional Convention,	11%
3. Or not a reason to vote either way?	25%
8. Not Sure	3%
9. Refuse	*

Q18. If there is a Constitutional Convention, which of the issues just mentioned in this survey would be most important to address? OPEN ENDED: DO NOT READ LIST; FOR CODING PURPOSES ONLY.

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. Early voting	4%
2. Same day registration	2%
3. Diverse participation in constitutional framing	2%
4. Abortion	12%
5. Ethics/corruption	4%
6. Environment	17%
7. Term limits	19%
8. Guaranteed civil lawyer when great harm threatened	5%
9. Public financing	3%
10. Collective bargaining	4%
11. Nonpartisan redistricting	1%
12. Other (Specify)	12%
88. Not Sure	15%
99. Refuse	1%

Q19. Now that you have heard some of the issues which might be considered by a Constitutional Convention, if the referendum were held today, would you vote for or against the proposal to hold a constitutional convention, or would you not vote on the proposal at all?

Base: Registered Voters

	N=801
1. For	55%
2. Against	21%
3. Not vote	14%
8. Not Sure	10%
9. Refuse	*

WEIGHTED DEMOGRAPHICS FOR FULL SAMPLE AND FOR REGISTERED VOTERS

Q20. Is anyone in your household a member of a labor union?

	N=1121 Adults	N=801 R.V.
1. Yes	23%	29%
2. No	73%	69%
8. Not Sure	4%	1%
9. Refuse	*	*

Q21. What is the highest level of school you completed: (READ 1-6)

	N=1121 Adults	N=801 R.V.
1. Grade school	5%	1%
2. Some high school	8%	3%
3. High school graduate	26%	23%
4. Some college	26%	29%
5. College graduate	19%	24%
6. More than college	14%	19%
8. Not sure	1%	*
9. Refuse	1%	1%

Q22. How old are you?

	N=1121 Adults	N=801 R.V.
1. 18-29?	21%	15%
2. 30-49?	34%	31%
3. 50-64?	25%	29%
4. 65 or over?	19%	24%
9. Refuse	1%	1%

Q23. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin or descent?

	N=1121 Adults	N=801 RV
1. Yes	16%	9%
2. No	82%	89%
8. Not Sure	1%	*
9. Refuse	1%	2%

Q24. Which of the following best describes your race:

	N=1121 Adults	N=801 R.V.
1. White?	60%	72%
2. Black or African American?	15%	13%
3. Asian?	5%	3%
4. Native American?	2%	1%
5. Or some other race? (Specify)	12%	7%
8. Not Sure	2%	1%
9. Refuse	4%	3%

24A Combined Race/Ethnicity (Not Asked--Based on Q23 &24)

	N=1121 Adults	N=801 R.V.
<i>Hispanic</i>	16%	9%
<i>White Non-Hispanic</i>	55%	68%
<i>Black Non-Hispanic</i>	13%	11%
<i>Asian Non-Hispanic</i>	5%	2%
<i>Other</i>	5%	4%
<i>DK/RF</i>	6%	6%

Q25. Was the total amount of income for the members of your household, living at home last year:

	N=1121 Adults	N=801 R.V.
1. Less than \$30k,	16%	12%
2. \$30-50k,	12%	12%
3. \$50-100k,	23%	28%
4. More than \$100k	27%	33%
8. Not Sure	10%	5%
9. Refuse	12%	10%

Gender

	N=1121 Adults	N=801 RV
1. Male	48%	44%
2. Female	52%	56%

METHODOLOGY

This telephone poll of 801 registered voters, based on an RDD sample of 1121 adults in New York State, was conducted at OAC by Baruch College Survey Research, Marxe School of Public and International Affairs, Baruch College, CUNY from October 2-13, 2017. The survey was commissioned by Evan A. Davis * to explore voter opinion on issues which might be addressed at a Constitutional Convention. 575 landline telephone interviews and 546 cell phone interviews were conducted with separate samples of New York State residents.

The landline sample was based on a random digit dial (RDD) design which draws numbers from all existing landline telephone exchanges in all 62 counties in New York State, giving all phone numbers, listed and unlisted, a proportionate chance of being included. Respondents in the landline sample were selected randomly within the household. This sample was supplemented by an RDD cell phone sample, based on numbers identified as active cell phones throughout the state. Respondents were screened for residence in New York State, were offered the option of being interviewed in Spanish, and were then screened for registration. Non-registered adults were kept in the sample for demographic questions and weighting. The full sample was weighted for region, age, race, gender, education, and income to US Census data for New York State.

The margin of sampling error (MoE) for data from the poll is +/- 2.9 points for the full sample of 1121 adults at the 95% confidence level. That is, the chances are about 19 out of 20 that if all households with telephones were surveyed with the same questionnaire, the results of the complete census would not be found to deviate from the poll findings by more than **2.9** percentage points. Error for subgroups is higher. **The margin of sampling error (MoE) for the 801 registered voters is +/- 3.5 percentage points.** Sampling is only one source of error. Other sources of error may include question wording, question order and interviewer effects.

* While Evan Davis is Manager of the Committee for a Constitutional Convention, this survey was not commissioned by the Committee, and the survey was conducted with an explicit commitment to its publication regardless of the outcome.