



**MONROE COUNTY, NY VOTER POLL – SEPTEMBER 2009**

500 likely voters interviewed September 23-25, 2009 by Mason-Dixon Polling & Research, Inc. of Washington, D.C. The margin for error is plus or minus 4.5%.

**QUESTION: Now I'd like to read a brief list of public officials and institutions. After I read each, please tell me how you would rate their job performance: The first (next) is: \_\_\_\_\_.**  
**Would you rate their performance as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?**

	EXCEL	GOOD	TOTAL POSITIVE RATING			JUST FAIR	POOR	TOTAL NEG.	NOT SURE
			2009	2008	2007			2009	
[ORDER ROTATED]									
<b>Rochester Mayor Bob Duffy</b>	34%	45%	<b>79%</b>	85%	82%	12%	4%	<b>16%</b>	5%
<b>Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks</b>	10%	39%	<b>49%</b>	64%	71%	35%	15%	<b>50%</b>	1%
<b>New York Governor David Paterson</b>	1%	17%	<b>18%</b>	58%	NA	38%	42%	<b>80%</b>	2%
<b>Rchtr Schls Super. Jean Claude Brizard</b>	9%	34%	<b>43%</b>	NA	NA	22%	12%	<b>34%</b>	23%
<b>President Barack Obama</b>	26%	25%	<b>51%</b>	NA	NA	20%	29%	<b>49%</b>	-
[ORDER ROTATED]									
<b>New York State Assembly</b>	1%	14%	<b>15%</b>	25%	NA	22%	51%	<b>73%</b>	12%
<b>New York State Senate</b>	1%	13%	<b>14%</b>	28%	NA	24%	53%	<b>77%</b>	9%
<b>United States House of Representatives</b>	1%	20%	<b>21%</b>	21%	NA	33%	42%	<b>75%</b>	4%

**QUESTION:**

**Generally, do you think that the United States is heading in the right direction, or are things on the wrong track?**

	<b>2009</b>	2008	2007
RIGHT DIRECTION	44%	19%	22%
WRONG TRACK	44%	66%	63%
NOT SURE	12%	15%	15%

**Generally, do you think that New York State is heading in the right direction, or are things on the wrong track?**

	<b>2009</b>	2008	2007
RIGHT DIRECTION	<b>18%</b>	32%	30%
WRONG TRACK	<b>72%</b>	53%	53%
NOT SURE	<b>10%</b>	15%	17%

**Generally, do you think that Monroe County is heading in the right direction, or are things on the wrong track?**

	<b>2009</b>	2008	2007
RIGHT DIRECTION	<b>45%</b>	57%	51%
WRONG TRACK	<b>41%</b>	32%	31%
NOT SURE	<b>14%</b>	11%	18%

**And generally, do you think that the City of Rochester is heading in the right direction, or are things on the wrong track?**

	<b>2009</b>	2008	2007
RIGHT DIRECTION	<b>47%</b>	56%	53%
WRONG TRACK	<b>38%</b>	32%	33%
NOT SURE	<b>15%</b>	12%	14%

**QUESTION: What is the most important issue facing the country? [NOT READ]**

JOBS AND ECONOMY	38%
HEALTH CARE	22%
TAXES / SPENDING / BUDGET / DEFICIT	12%
WALL STREET, CREDIT, BANKING CRISIS	9%
THE WAR IN IRAQ	8%
TERRORISM AND NATIONAL SECURITY	5%
MORAL VALUES	1%
ENVIRONMENT – GLOBAL WARMING	1%
MEDICARE AND SOCIAL SECURITY	1%
ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION	1%
SUB-PRIME CREDIT ISSUE – BANKING SYSTEM – CREDIT RATES	-
ENERGY AND GAS PRICES	-
OTHER	2%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	-

**QUESTION: What is the most important issue facing New York State? [NOT READ]**

POOR ECONOMY- SUSTAINING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-JOBS	42%
HIGH TAXES AND GOVERNMENT SPENDING	39%
DYSFUNCTION IN ALBANY – ETHICS – TROOPERGATE- PARTISAN POLITICS- POOR LEADERSHIP	9%
EDUCATION ISSUES	5%
WALL STREET, CREDIT, BANKING CRISIS	1%
HEALTH CARE	1%
MORAL ISSUES/FAMILY VALUES/SOCIAL ISSUES	1%
CRIME / DRUGS	-
PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT- ANY MENTION	-
MANAGING GROWTH-SPRAWL- DEVELOPMENT	-
TRAFFIC-ROADS-TRANSPORTATION ISSUES	-
QUALITY OF LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITY	-
CIVIL RIGHTS / RACE RELATIONS	-
OTHER	1%
NOT SURE	2%

**QUESTION: What is the most important issue facing the Monroe County and the City of Rochester?**

POOR ECONOMY- SUSTAINING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-JOBS	41%
HIGH TAXES AND GOVERNMENT SPENDING	27%
CRIME / DRUGS	12%
EDUCATION ISSUES	11%
MORAL ISSUES/FAMILY VALUES/SOCIAL ISSUES	1%
DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION	1%
PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT- ANY MENTION	1%
TRAFFIC-ROADS-TRANSPORTATION ISSUES	-
QUALITY OF LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITY	-
MANAGING GROWTH-SPRAWL- DEVELOPMENT	-
HEALTH CARE	-
ETHICS – PARTISAN POLITICS- POOR LEADERSHIP	-
CIVIL RIGHTS / RACE RELATIONS	-
OTHER	1%
NOT SURE	3%

I'm going to read a list of proposed economic development projects being considered. Please tell me if you support or oppose each one.

Charlotte waterfront redevelopment?	67%
New downtown campus for Monroe Community College	60%
High-speed rail?	55%
New bus station?	48%
New theater for Broadway-style productions	46%
Medley Centre mall redevelopment	38%

- **High speed rail? (Is that strongly support/oppose or somewhat support/oppose?)**

STRONG SUPPORT	24%	<b>55%</b>	TOTAL
SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	31%		
SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	10%	<b>35%</b>	
STRONG OPPOSE	25%		
NOT SURE	10%		

- **Charlotte waterfront redevelopment?**

STRONG SUPPORT	35%	<b>67%</b>
SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	32%	
SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	9%	
STRONG OPPOSE	16%	<b>25%</b>
NOT SURE	8%	

- **Medley Centre mall redevelopment?**

STRONG SUPPORT	15%	<b>38%</b>
SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	23%	
SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	16%	
STRONG OPPOSE	33%	<b>49%</b>
NOT SURE	13%	

- **New theater for Broadway-style productions?**

STRONG SUPPORT	23%	<b>46%</b>
SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	23%	
SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	18%	
STRONG OPPOSE	29%	<b>47%</b>
NOT SURE	7%	

- **New bus station?**

STRONG SUPPORT	22%	
SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	26%	<b>48%</b>
SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	16%	
STRONG OPPOSE	28%	<b>44%</b>
NOT SURE	8%	

- **New downtown campus for Monroe Community College?**

STRONG SUPPORT	34%	
SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	26%	<b>60%</b>
SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	14%	
STRONG OPPOSE	22%	<b>36%</b>
NOT SURE	4%	

**Currently suburban school districts are primarily funded by property taxes. Would you support or oppose a plan to eliminate property taxes and fund suburban schools through an increase in state income taxes? (Is that strongly support/oppose or somewhat support/oppose?)**

STRONG SUPPORT	12%	2009	2008
SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	17%	<b>29%</b>	<b>27%</b>
SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	16%		
STRONG OPPOSE	39%	<b>55%</b>	<b>50%</b>
NOT SURE	16%		

**How concerned are you about the security and future of your own job, or the jobs of any close family members in the Rochester area?**

VERY CONCERNED	45%	2009	2008	2007
SOMEWHAT CONCERNED	27%	<b>72%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>66%</b>
NOT TOO CONCERNED	18%			
NOT AT ALL CONCERNED	9%	<b>27%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>32%</b>
NOT SURE	1%			

**- Four years from now, would you say that your personal financial situation will be better off, worse off, or about the same?**

	2009	2008	2007
BETTER OFF	30%	32%	37%
WORSE OFF	21%	22%	17%
ABOUT THE SAME	43%	36%	41%
NOT SURE	6%	10%	5%

**QUESTION: I'm going to read several things that families are doing in response to current economic conditions. Please tell me if each applies to your household.**

<b>Paying much more attention to budgeting expenses</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>Spending less and saving more</b>	<b>69%</b>
<b>Put off vacations, purchases of luxury items or other non-essentials</b>	<b>67%</b>
<b>Discussed household finances with children or other family members other than spouse</b>	<b>56%</b>
<b>Put off needed purchases</b>	<b>54%</b>
<b>Changed or delayed plans for college, marriage, children, retirement or other major life decisions</b>	<b>26%</b>

**QUESTION: I'm going to read a brief list of institutions, please tell me how much trust you have in each. That is, a great deal of trust, a fair amount, not too much or not at all.**

	Total Trust 'Great Deal/ Fair Amount'
LAW ENFORCEMENT	86%
EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM	73%
LOCAL MEDIA	66%
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	65%
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	54%
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS	43%
NATIONAL MEDIA	33%
STATE GOVERNMENT	29%

**- FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

A GREAT DEAL	8%
A FAIR AMOUNT	46%
NOT TOO MUCH	22%
NOT AT ALL	24%
NOT SURE	-

**- STATE GOVERNMENT**

A GREAT DEAL	2%
A FAIR AMOUNT	27%
NOT TOO MUCH	38%
NOT AT ALL	32%
NOT SURE	1%

**- LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

A GREAT DEAL	8%
A FAIR AMOUNT	57%
NOT TOO MUCH	19%
NOT AT ALL	15%
NOT SURE	1%

**- NATIONAL MEDIA**

A GREAT DEAL	4%
A FAIR AMOUNT	29%
NOT TOO MUCH	27%
NOT AT ALL	39%
NOT SURE	1%

**- LOCAL MEDIA**

A GREAT DEAL	12%
A FAIR AMOUNT	54%
NOT TOO MUCH	17%
NOT AT ALL	16%
NOT SURE	1%

**- FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

A GREAT DEAL	7%
A FAIR AMOUNT	36%
NOT TOO MUCH	31%
NOT AT ALL	23%
NOT SURE	2%

**- EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM**

A GREAT DEAL	20%
A FAIR AMOUNT	53%
NOT TOO MUCH	15%
NOT AT ALL	11%
NOT SURE	1%

**- LAW ENFORCEMENT**

A GREAT DEAL	34%
A FAIR AMOUNT	52%
NOT TOO MUCH	9%
NOT AT ALL	4%
NOT SURE	1%

**QUESTION: Generally, do you support or oppose the Obama administration's efforts to reform health care? (Is that strongly support/oppose or somewhat support/oppose?)**

STRONG SUPPORT	41%	
SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	9%	50%
SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	14%	
STRONG OPPOSE	35%	49%
NOT SURE	1%	

Finally, just a few last questions about you and your household:

- What is your current official party voter registration?

DEMOCRAT	192	38%
REPUBLICAN	175	35%
INDEPENDENT – NON-AFFILIATED	109	22%
CONSERVATIVE PARTY	15	3%
OTHER	9	2%

- Do you currently live within the City of Rochester, or in one of the surrounding suburbs?

CITY ROCHESTER	138	28%
SUBURBS	362	72%

- What is the highest level of education you have completed?

HIGH SCHOOL (OR LESS)	108	22%
SOME COLLEGE	147	29%
COLLEGE GRADUATE	173	35%
GRADUATE DEGREE	71	14%
DK/REFUSED	1	-

- What is your age?

18-34	52	10%
35-49	160	32%
50-64	198	40%
65+	90	18%

- Which of the following best describes your race or ethnicity?

WHITE or CAUCASIAN	422	84%
BLACK or AFRICAN-AMERICAN	60	12%
HISPANIC or LATINO	8	2%
ASIAN or OTHER	4	1%
REFUSED	6	1%

- NOTE SEX:

MALE	242	48%
FEMALE	258	52%