

RMS End of Week Update 10/3/2025



Rally Against Government Shutdown In New York

Governor Hochul, NY state Senators and Assemblymembers, and New Yorkers rallied this week to call out President Trump and Washington Republicans for turning their backs on Americans and shutting down the federal government.

“After voting to gut food assistance and healthcare for millions of New Yorkers, Republicans in Congress – including seven members from New York – are once again recklessly siding with Donald Trump to shut down the federal government. Republicans were given another chance to stand up for their constituents, yet they chose to leave town rather than work in good faith to avoid a government shutdown,” Governor Hochul said. “The GOP shutdown will have devastating effects on workers, small businesses and families throughout our state. Washington Republicans need to do their damn jobs, actually stand up for the people they serve, and come to the table to end this shutdown.”

The press release noted Trump and Congressional Republicans have already inflicted pain on New York. Their agenda:

- Strips 1.5 million New Yorkers of their health coverage
- Puts 300,000 New Yorkers at risk of losing SNAP benefits
- Burdens hospitals with over \$3 billion annually in uncompensated care costs
- Slashes \$8 billion from the State health system per year

- Threatens an \$11 billion hit to overall economic activity, including agriculture and food industries, due to the loss of SNAP benefits

And this shutdown will cause even more destruction:

- With more than 115,000 federal employees in New York State, tens of thousands will be furloughed, while essential federal employees, including air traffic controllers and TSA employees, will be forced to work without pay
- Pauses or delays in the processing of applications for Social Security, veterans benefits, and other federal benefits
- Critical programs, such as SNAP and WIC, are at risk of running out of funds and pausing benefits in the event of an extended shutdown
- Threatens funding for Head Start programs across the state, jeopardizing childcare and early education for thousands of New York families
- Hospitals across the state will be left waiting for federal reimbursements
- Creates uncertainty for hundreds of thousands of families and seniors with housing vouchers or that reside in public housing who will be worried whether their rent will be paid
- Farmers left without emergency aid while facing detrimental trade policies

Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said, “Today’s government shutdown is the direct result of ongoing chaos in Washington and a lack of leadership. This shutdown will have a rippling effect, and it is the Republican Party who must be held responsible, including the seven GOP members of Congress from New York, and the party infrastructure here at home that enables them. This is not about smart governance, this is about their insensitivity to the cruelty and pain they are inflicting on their fellow Americans. This shutdown will force workers to go without paychecks, seniors to go without food, veterans to go without healthcare, and countless communities to suffer in numerous ways because of their political games. While here in New York, we will continue to do everything in our power to stand up for our people. The truth is that the effects of this shutdown will be devastating, and no state will have enough resources to undo every wrong that Washington Republicans are committing. I implore New York’s Republican Representatives to stop enabling this cruelty, to stand up for America, and to put people over party. The people of New York, and this country, deserve nothing less.”

To view the full press release please click [here](#).

Trump Restores \$187M In Anti-Terror Cuts To NY Following Outrage From New Yorkers On Both Sides Of The Aisle

President Trump today restored \$187M in antiterrorism funding cuts to New York law enforcement amid widespread outrage from both sides of the political aisle.

The Department of Homeland Security said it would restore the funding to the NYPD, FDNY, Port Authority and other New York state agencies that were earlier slashed.

“We are ... announcing full funding of (Homeland Security) grants to effectively counter and combat security threats within the Empire State,” the agency said in a statement that didn’t explain why the cuts were made in the first place.

The reversal occurred after Governor Hochul and lawmakers from both parties demanded the White House reverse the planned cuts, which came as Trump appears to be targeting Democratic states for political retaliation amid a partisan standoff and a government shutdown.

White House sources said Trump was unaware of the cuts, which would have been the largest federal defunding of New York police in decades and did not approve them before DHS officials notified state and city law enforcement about them, the New York Times reported. Trump first found out about the cuts when Hochul called him last Sunday.

In addition to the anti-terror cuts to New York and other Democratic states, the White House slashed infrastructure and other funding to blue states, including \$18 billion for the Second Avenue subway and the new Hudson River tunnel to New Jersey, as well as \$2 billion for a Chicago subway project.

Those cuts remain in effect.

Governor Hochul responded to the reversal by stating “From the moment these devastating cuts were announced, I made it clear that New York would not stand by while our law enforcement and counterterrorism operations were defunded. I’m glad President Trump heard our call and reversed course, ensuring our state has the resources necessary to support law enforcement and keep our families safe. Because of our efforts, \$187 million in critical funding will be restored — a victory for public safety and for every New Yorker who depends on our brave law enforcement and first responders to keep our state secure.”

For more information please click [here](#).

To view the Governors Statement please click [here](#).

USCIS Suspends E-Verify Amid Government Shutdown

The U.S. government has officially shut down, and with it, the federal E-Verify program has gone dark. For employers that rely on E-Verify to confirm work authorization, the shutdown leaves hiring teams in a holding pattern. Yet while the system is offline, employment eligibility obligations have not disappeared. Employers must still complete Form I-9s on time and prepare to reconcile E-Verify cases once funding is restored.

Effective October 1, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) suspended all E-Verify functions. Employers cannot create cases, enroll in the program, update accounts, or resolve tentative nonconfirmations (TNCs). Employees cannot use myE-Verify or Self

Check, and the agency's call centers and training webinars are closed. Even E-Verify+, which incorporates the electronic I-9 process through the myE-Verify portal, is stalled until further notice.

For employers, this means hiring processes that normally run in parallel with E-Verify are fractured. The government's policy suspends the usual "three-day rule" for creating cases, and USCIS has pledged to provide guidance once the system reopens. Until then, the responsibility for compliance shifts entirely to the I-9 process.

Shutdowns have no effect on Form I-9 deadlines. Employers must still ensure employees complete Section 1 on or before their first day of work, and that Section 2 is finished within three business days of the start date. A completed I-9 is not optional or delayed because E-Verify is unavailable.

USCIS has paused certain rules to ease the strain on employers and employees. Employers will have additional time to create cases once E-Verify resumes. Workers navigating TNCs will not be penalized for delays caused by the shutdown, and the countdown clock for resolving mismatches will restart when the system comes back online. Employers are prohibited from taking any adverse action against employees stuck in interim status.

Federal contractors face additional challenges. The Federal Acquisition Regulation requires contractors to use E-Verify as a condition of their agreements, yet deadlines may slip during a shutdown. USCIS has historically directed contractors to contact their contracting officers to discuss extensions, though approval ultimately rests with those officials.

Employers using DHS's new "alternative procedure" for remote inspection of I-9 documents can continue doing so during the shutdown. Those already enrolled in E-Verify remain eligible to conduct virtual inspections. However, employers that are not enrolled cannot retroactively apply the remote option later.

The shutdown creates a backlog that employers will need to address once the government restores funding. Pending cases are expected to queue and will need to be submitted once E-Verify is back online, subject to USCIS guidance. HR teams should also track all hires during the shutdown and maintain complete I-9 files, including supporting documents required for photo matching.

Experts note that employees with pending TNCs may grow anxious as their cases sit unresolved. Proactive communication can prevent misunderstandings and reassure workers that delays are government-driven, not performance-related. Documenting these communications, along with any hiring activity during the shutdown, will help demonstrate good-faith compliance if questions arise later.

For more information please click [here](#).

Governor Hochul Extends Executive Order 52.1

Governor Hochul has extended the declaration of a disaster in the state of New York due to federal actions related to vaccine access by issuing Executive Order 52. 1 to continue access to COVID-19 vaccine in NYS through November 2, 2025.

To view the Executive Order please click [here](#).

NYS Medicaid Inspector General Issues 2024 Annual Report

The New York State Office of the Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) has issued its 2024 Annual Report, which details New York's Medicaid program integrity efforts for calendar year 2024.

The Office of the Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) 2024 Annual Report, provides a comprehensive overview of our ongoing efforts to detect, prevent, and combat Medicaid fraud, waste, and abuse across New York State's Medicaid program. The report highlights key achievements, program initiatives, and strategic priorities aimed at safeguarding public funds and strengthening program integrity.

These include:

- Sustained education and engagement with stakeholders to de-mystify process and improve outcomes.
- Improved use of Medicaid data to identify trends and support activities.
- Reemphasized provider compliance, improving awareness and completing 83 reviews.
- Enhanced self-disclosure, facilitating provider reporting and finalizing 635 full self-disclosures, a 32% increase in cases from 2023.
- Identified and referred 705 cases for enforcement, including 454 to the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU).
- Completed over 2,500 audits and investigations and over \$4.5 billion in cost savings and recoveries for the Medicaid program. Overall, OMIG increased its cost savings and recoveries by \$468 million from 2023.
- Recognized program impacts, granting 33 providers with relief in instances when an OMIG audit could pose a financial hardship to the organization and to ensure beneficiaries' continued access to health care services.
- Strengthened due process protections during OMIG audits, investigations, and reviews, and resolved 21 hearings.
- Issued 162 Audit Summations, known as "Positive Audit Reports," indicating that a substantial number of providers are compliant with Medicaid program requirements.

View the Report here: <https://omig.ny.gov/information-resources/annual-reports>

OMIG To Host Health Care Provider Engagement Forum On Oct. 29

The New York State Office of the Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) will host a health care provider engagement forum on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, from 10:00 to 11:30 AM, in New York City at 90 Church Street, regarding OMIG's Medicaid program integrity efforts.

The session will include updates on the agency's initiatives and opportunities for participants to provide input and ask questions.

In-person attendance is available on a first-registered, first-served basis, as seating is limited. To ensure providers from across the state have an opportunity to participate, a virtual option is also available.

Providers interested in submitting input, questions or recommendations prior to the session are encouraged to complete OMIG's [Health Care Provider Engagement Session Feedback Form](#).

Please Note: OMIG cannot consider, in any capacity, specific matters pertaining to audits or investigations that are currently before the agency.

Questions about the event can be sent via email to: information@omig.ny.gov.

EVENT INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION:

When: October 29, 2025; 10:00AM - 11:30AM

Location: 90 Church St., 4th Floor Conference Room, New York, NY, 10007

In-person registration: <https://forms.office.com/g/FTE6Z5af0W>

Please note: If attending in person, please remember to bring a government-issued photo ID, as only those who registered for the event and who have a valid ID will be allowed access past building security.

Virtual Registration:

<https://totalwebcasting.com/view/?func=VOFF&id=nysomig&date=2025-10-29&seq=1>

Due To Increased Fire Risk, Governor Hochul Implements Temporary Statewide Burn Ban

Governor Hochul, with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, this week announced a statewide burn ban in effect starting, October 2 due to [increased fire risk](#) and continued dry conditions. The ban will be in effect for 14 days from Oct. 2 to Oct. 15 and will be reevaluated prior to expiration. New Yorkers can help prevent fires in communities and in the backcountry by complying with the prohibition on most outdoor fires and protect water supplies by continuing to conserve water whenever possible.

“The ongoing nice weather is great for watching fall foliage or gathering with friends, but it also presents a higher risk for fires that put homes, businesses and our brave first responders at risk,” Governor Hochul said. “Many regions are already in a drought watch or warning due to the dry conditions, and with the fire risk rising in some parts of the state, it is important to keep everyone safe by implementing this temporary burn ban.”

The statewide burn ban now in effect prohibits the starting of outdoor fires for purposes of brush and debris disposal, as well as all uncontained fires, including campfires, and open fires used for cooking. Backyard fire pits and contained campfires less than three feet in height and four feet in length, width or diameter are allowed, as are small, contained cooking fires. Burning garbage or leaves is already prohibited year-round in New York State and several municipalities have burn bans currently in effect.

For more information please click [here](#).

Governor Hochul Appoints Kathy Moser to Serve As Acting Commissioner of the New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

This week Governor Hochul announced her appointment of Kathy Moser to serve as Acting Commissioner of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Moser will lead the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in an acting role as she awaits confirmation by the New York State Senate next year.

“Kathy Moser has the needed background, experience and commitment to public lands to lead New York’s Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation,” Governor Hochul said. “I want New Yorkers to get offline and get outside because we know nature has the ability to improve one's mental health and overall wellbeing. I know Kathy understands this critical intersection of my policies to improve New Yorkers' quality of life and environmental stewardship. This makes her the ideal person to lead this critical agency into the future.”

With a mission to provide safe and enjoyable recreational opportunities for all New York State residents and visitors and to serve as responsible stewards of the state’s natural, historic and cultural resources, the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation oversees more than 250 parks, historic sites, recreational trails, golf courses, boat launches

and more. The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation sites drew a record 88 million visits in 2024.

Acting Commissioner of the Office Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Kathy Moser said, “I appreciate the trust Governor Hochul is showing in me to lead this vital agency. I look forward to working with our dedicated team in promoting and protecting our beautiful state parks, campsites, and historic landmarks. Our vast system not only provides affordable relief for New Yorkers looking to take advantage of the outdoors or explore our historic treasures but is an economic driver by attracting tourists from across the country and world.”

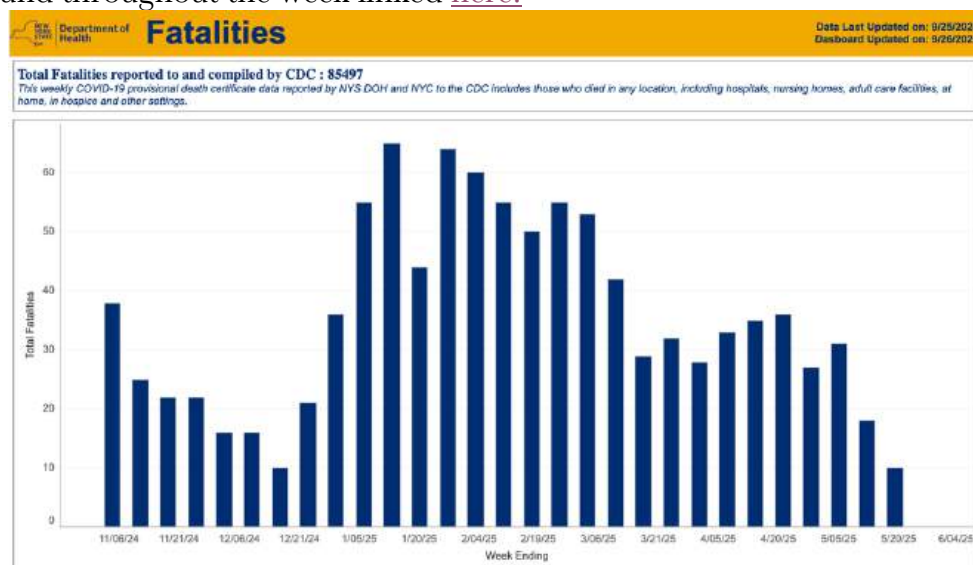
To view the full press release please click [here](#).

NYS COVID-19 Monitoring Dashboard

Use this link to view the State’s updated [COVID-19 Hub](#).

NYS COVID-19 Fatalities Tracker

Below we have included the Fatalities Tracker with the webpage where updated numbers can be found throughout the week linked [here](#).



Helpful Links and Resources

[Empire State Development Tariff Resource Guide](#)

[Eliminating Distractions In Schools Resource](#)

[RMS Final Budget Tax/Revenue Table](#)

[RMS SFY 2025-26 Final Budget H/MH Summary](#)

[Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

[Department of Financial Services information and resources](#)

[New York COVID-19 Vaccine Information Page](#)

Department of Health

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>

COVID-19 Guidance for Medicaid Providers

Office of Mental Health

<https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/covid-19-resources.html>

OPWDD

<https://opwdd.ny.gov/coronavirus-guidance>

State Education Department

<http://www.op.nysed.gov/COVID-19.html>

NYS Department of Labor

<https://dol.ny.gov/>