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RMS End of Week Update 2/6/2026



Governor Hochul Wins Convention Vote To Be Democratic Nominee For Governor

Governor Kathy Hochul easily received the state Democratic Party's backing to be the nominee for governor at their convention in Syracuse today, shutting out her own lieutenant who has mounted his own campaign against her.

Governor Hochul received just over 85% of the weighted vote among the state Democratic Committee.

Lt. Gov. Antonio Delgado received 14%, failing to receive the 25% needed to automatically get a spot on the primary ballot in June. Delgado will now have to petition to get on the ballot if he wants to move forward with his campaign.

Governor Hochul received about the same percentage of the vote as she did in 2022 against New York City Public Advocate Jumaane Williams.

The governor, running for a second full term of her own, earlier this week selected former New York City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams as her running mate. The choice creates New York's first all-female ticket and if elected, Adams, a Democrat from Southeast Queens, would become the state's first Black female lieutenant governor.

"As Donald Trump attacks this state relentlessly and Bruce Blakeman bends the knee before him, I need a fighter in my corner who'll stand strong for New York families. Adrienne Adams is that fighter," Hochul said in a statement obtained by NY1.

Sporting ties to political powerbrokers like Rep. Gregory Meeks, Queens Democratic Party Chair, Adams lives in South Jamaica, Queens and grew up in neighboring Hollis.

Governor Hochul has been able to keep the state party's support largely around her, securing the endorsement of New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani earlier this week and resecuring the endorsement of the Brooklyn Democratic Party after briefly rescinding it after Adams' selection as her running mate.

As of the January filing period, Governor Hochul has raised nearly \$12 million for her reelection campaign and the state Democratic Party.

This week Lieutenant governor Antonio Delgado also announced his running mate former Buffalo mayoral candidate India Walton.

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

February 3rd Special Election Results

Following the four special elections on Tuesday there are now two new NYS Senators and two NYS Assemblymembers in the NYS legislature. There are now four new Democrats in the state Legislature. These are the new members:

Senate District 47



Erik Bottcher (D) won the Senate District 47 seat. The Manhattan seat was previously held by Brad Hoylman-Sigal, who's now the borough president and vacated the seat on January 1st. Senator Bottcher previously served as a member of the New York City Council.

Senate District 61



Jeremy Zellner (D) won the Senate District 61 seat. The seat includes Genesee County and parts of Erie and Monroe counties and was previously held by Sean Ryan, who vacated the seat on January 1st to serve as the mayor of Buffalo. Senator Zellner has chaired the Erie County Democratic Committee since 2012.

Assembly District 36



Diana Moreno (D) won the Assembly District 36 seat. The Queens seat was previously held by Zohran Mamdani, who vacated the seat on January 1st to serve as the mayor of New York City. Assemblymember Moreno is a Democratic Socialist similar to Mayor Mamdani and previously served as communications manager for the New York State Nurses Association.

Assembly District 74



Keith Powers (D) won the Assembly District 74 seat. The Manhattan seat was previously held by Harvey Epstein, who's now on the City Council and vacated the seat on January 1st. Assemblymember Powers previously served as a New York City Councilman.

NYS Joint Budget Hearing on Transportation

The state budget joint hearing on transportation took place this week during which a number of people testified including Miguel Velázquez, president of the New York Public Transit Association (NYPTA) testified that Governor Hochul's proposed 5.75% increase in state operating assistance for public transit upstate and 7.45% increase for downstate public transit, excluding the MTA, is not enough to sustain transit agencies upstate, all of which are facing a structural budget deficit.

NYPTA's testimony asked the state Legislature to increase STOA appropriations for non-MTA systems by at least 15%, provide \$349.5 million for Non-MTA capital funding, provide sustainable and dedicated revenues (ex. extending the MTA region \$25 annual

supplemental vehicle registration fee to upstate counties), and increase DOH funding to \$6 million to adjust for years of inflation.

Janno Lieber, chair of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, was the first to testify before the state Legislature with two requests for lawmakers. The first was for them to support Gov. Kathy Hochul's tort reform proposals to change how damages are calculated after automobile crashes. Governor Hochul wants to limit damages for people who are found to have engaged in unlawful behavior at the time of the crash. She also wants to limit damages for the party that's found to be "mostly" at fault for causing the collision.

The MTA has a stake in those claims because of its fleet of thousands of buses that, despite their best efforts, are regularly involved in accidents. Lieber said he also wants help from lawmakers to pressure New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani to improve stormwater management.

During Lieber's testimony a shouting match with Senator Mattera took place regarding over a \$35 million contract the agency holds with a Pennsylvania-based company leading to Assembly Ways and Means Chair J. Gary Pretlow turned his head toward Mattera and yelled, loudly, "Shut up!". After which Mattera demanded an apology: "You better apologize!" he said. "I think you better watch your words!" Assemblymember Pretlow obliged and then continued as if nothing had happened.

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

Joint Budget Hearings This Past Week

This week Joint Budget Hearings continued to take place. The hearings that took place were: Transportation on 2/3/26 (click [here](#) to watch the hearing and see testimony), Mental Hygiene on 2/4/26 (click [here](#) to watch the hearing and see testimony), and Human Services on 2/5/26 (click [here](#) to watch the hearing and see testimony).

To view the hearings and listen to the testimony please click [here](#).

Joint Budget Hearings And Testimony Deadlines

Please find below the deadlines to request to testify in the joint budget hearings as well as the deadlines to submit written testimony. While you can submit testimony to multiple hearings you can only request to testify at one.

To request to Testify please click [here](#) or below and click the link for the hearing you wish to testify at.

Testimony Deadlines & Remaining Hearing Dates

Week 3			
February 10 Health/Medicaid	January 28 at 5pm	February 6 at 12pm	February 10 at 5pm
February 11 Local Government/General Government	January 28 at 5pm	February 6 at 12pm	February 11 at 5pm
February 12 Public Protection	January 28 at 5pm	February 6 at 12pm	February 12 at 5pm
Break			
Week 4			
February 24 Higher Education	January 28 at 5pm	February 13 at 12pm	February 24 at 5pm
February 25 1.Labor/Workforce Development 2.Housing	January 28 at 5pm	February 13 at 12pm	February 25 at 5pm
February 26 1.Economic Development/ Arts 2.Taxes	January 28 at 5pm	February 13 at 12pm	February 26 at 5pm

OMIG Releases 2026 Work Plan

The New York State Office of the Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) has posted its 2026 Work Plan. The plan provides a roadmap detailing OMIG's planned program-integrity initiatives for stakeholders to follow as a guide.

Please note: the Work Plan should not be viewed as an exclusive list of all activities OMIG will conduct over the course of the year. The agency reserves the right to conduct all activities necessary to meet its responsibilities and will update the plan as new priorities and projects arise.

The 2026 Work Plan is available here: [Work Plans | Office of the Medicaid Inspector General](#)

Registration For The New York State Association Of Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic & Asian Legislators 55th Annual Legislative Conference

The New York State Association of Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic & Asian Legislators, 55th Annual Legislative Caucus Weekend will take place **February 13–15, 2026 in Albany, New York.**

The conference topics include budget, appropriations and taxation; business and economic development; energy, environment and technology infrastructure; civil rights, judiciary and history; community outreach and civic engagement; criminal justice; education and labor; emerging leaders; foreign affairs and national security; women's rights and activism; and culture, music and the arts.

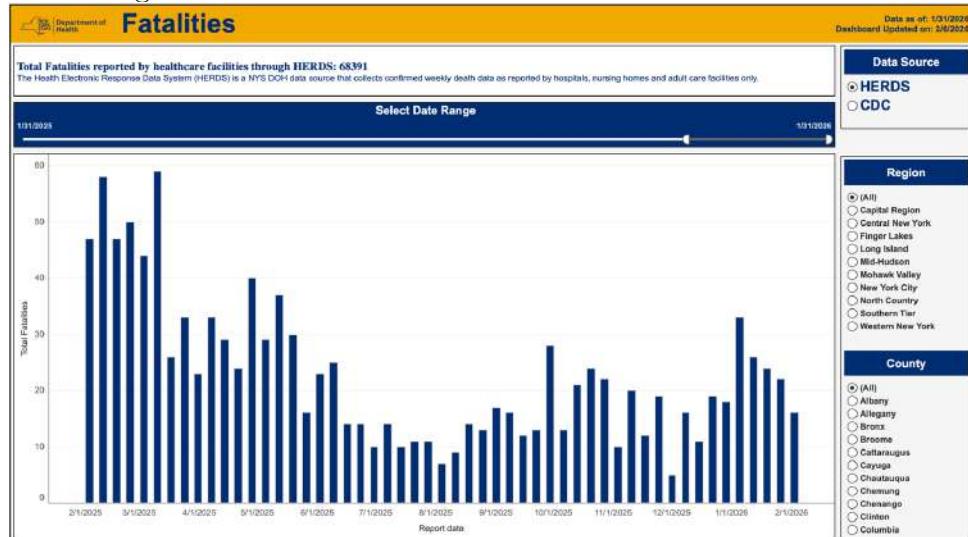
For more information or to register and buy tickets to the conference please click [here](#).

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

[Rms Tax And Business Exec Budget Update SFY 2027](#)

[SFY 2026-27 Executive Budget Health/Mental Hygiene Budget Summary](#)

[Senate Blue Book](#)

[Assembly Yellow Book](#)

[Empire State Development Tariff Resource Guide](#)

[Eliminating Distractions In Schools Resource](#)

[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.nysesd.gov/COVID-19.html>

NYS Department of Labor

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