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RMS End of Week Update 1/31/2025



Joint Budget Hearings This Past Week

This week Joint Budget Hearings began to take place this week. The hearings that took place were: Agriculture & Markets/ Parks & Recreation on 1/27/25 (click [here](#) to watch the hearing and see testimony), Environmental Conservation/Energy on 1/28/25 (click [here](#) to watch the hearing and see testimony), and Elementary Education/ Secondary Education on 1/29/25 (click [here](#) to watch the hearing and see testimony).

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

Joint Budget Hearing Schedule and Registration

Please find the full press release on the Joint Budget Hearings linked [here](#). Please find below a list of the dates and times scheduled for the Joint Budget Hearings and the deadlines to request to testify and to submit testimony.

Remaining Joint Budget Hearing Dates and Registration Deadlines:

Joint Legislative Hearing & Date & Time	Request To Testify	Submission of Written Testimony For Those Giving Oral Testimony	Submission Of Written Testimony ONLY
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<u>February 4-9:30am</u> Local/ General Government	January 29 at 5pm	January 31 at 12pm	February 4 at 5pm
<u>February 5-9:30am</u> Mental Hygiene	January 29 at 5pm	January 31 at 12pm	February 5 at 5pm
<u>February 6- 9:30am</u> Transportation	January 29 at 5pm	January 31 at 12pm	February 6 at 5pm
<u>February 11- 9:30am</u> Health/ Medicaid	January 29 at 5pm	February 7 at 12pm	February 11 at 5pm
<u>February 12-9:30am</u> Human Services	January 29 at 5pm	February 7 at 12pm	February 12 at 5pm
<u>February 13-9:30am</u> Public Protection	January 29 at 5pm	February 7 at 12pm	February 13 at 5pm
<u>February 25-9:30am</u> Higher Education	January 29 at 5pm	February 14 at 12 pm	February 25 at 5 pm
<u>February 26-9:30am</u> Labor/Workforce Development	January 29 at 5pm	February 14 at 12 pm	February 26 at 5 pm
<u>February 26-2pm</u> Economic Development/Arts	January 29 at 5pm	February 14 at 12 pm	February 26 at 5 pm
<u>February 27-9:30am</u> Housing	January 29 at 5pm	February 14 at 12 pm	February 27 at 5 pm
<u>February 27-2pm</u> Taxes	January 29 at 5pm	February 14 at 12 pm	February 27 at 5 pm

Senate Blue Book And Assembly Yellow Book Released

The Senate and Assembly released their preliminary analysis of the Executive Budget this week in the [Senate Blue Book](#) and the [Assembly Yellow Book](#).

On Tuesday, January 21, Governor Kathy Hochul presented the Executive Budget for the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025-26. The proposed budget encompasses All Funds expenditures totaling \$252 billion, State Operating Funds expenditures of \$143.8 billion, and General Fund expenditures of \$116.3 billion. The Executive now projects that receipts for SFY 2024-25 will surpass previous estimates by \$3 billion. The Executive Budget plan is to use this additional revenue to provide inflation tax refund payments to qualified tax filers. The Executive Budget proposal anticipates a baseline budget surplus of \$1.8 billion. It includes \$443 million in spending reductions relative to earlier projections, acknowledges \$490 million in savings on debt service, and allocates \$3.1 billion to reserves. The SFY 2026-27 budget gap is reduced by \$2.2 billion to \$4 billion. The budget gaps for SFY 2027-28 grows by \$300 million to \$7.4 billion, and SFY 2028-29 grows by \$1.9 billion to \$11.8 billion.

Additionally, the Executive Budget includes several significant policy proposals that require thorough evaluation. These include changes to the Foundation Aid formula, altering the state involuntary commitment laws, prohibiting students from having cell phones in schools, reducing middle-class tax rates, and temporarily enhancing the Empire State Child Credit.

[Senate Blue Book](#)

[Assembly Yellow Book](#)

New York State Office of the Medicaid Inspector General Releases 2025 Work Plan

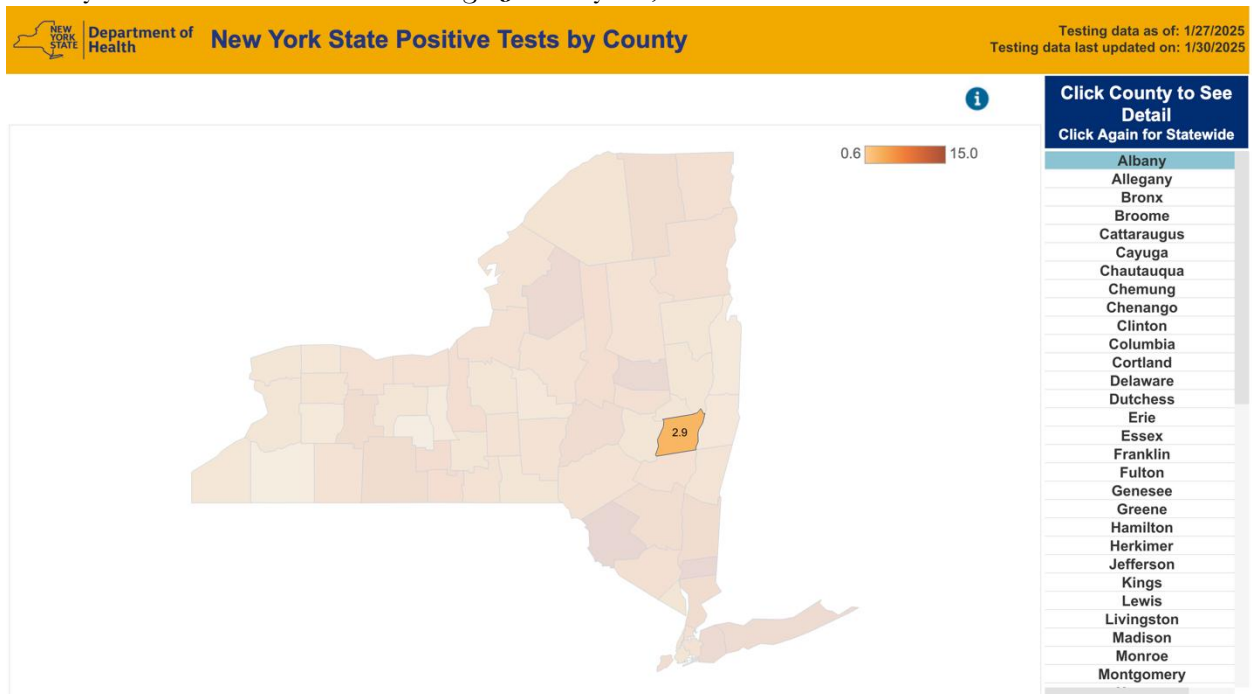
This week the New York State Office of the Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) released its 2025 Work Plan, which outlines key Agency program-integrity initiatives planned for 2025.

According to OMIG the 2025 Work Plan provides a comprehensive roadmap for citizens, policymakers, providers and managed care organizations and other stakeholders to follow as a guide for the year's activities.

[View the New York State Office of the Medicaid Inspector General 2025 Work Plan](#)

NYS COVID-19 Monitoring Dashboard

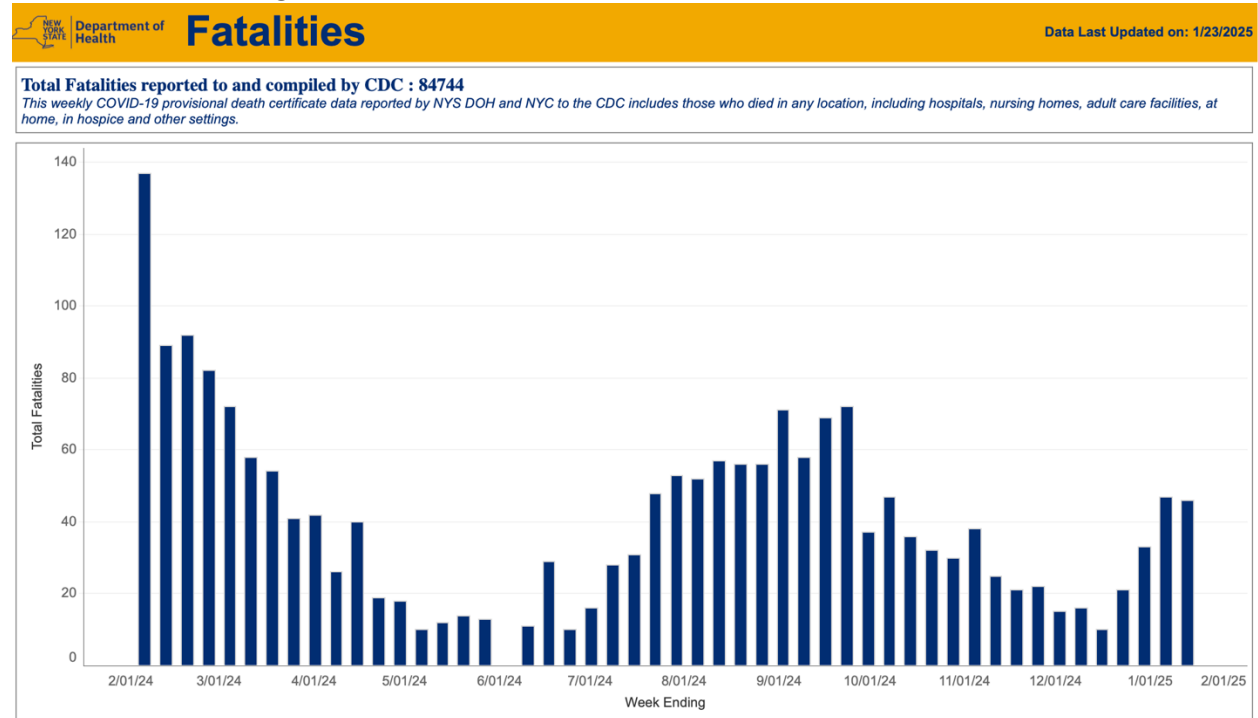
Below we have included the link to the State's Testing Tracker which includes the State's overall testing status--by clicking on the link above you can view the testing results by county. This data is current through January 30, 2025.



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

[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/>