NYSAR 2026 Primary Election Summary

On June 23, voters across the state cast ballots in New York's primary election to decide candidates advancing to the general election in November for Congress, State Senate and State Assembly. Progressives and Democratic Socialist candidates managed to defeat long-term incumbents and capture open seats in both Congress and the State Legislature.

Biggest takeaways from Tuesday's primary election:

- **RPAC**-supported candidate Grace Lee (current Assemblymember) defeated Yuh-Line Niou in the Democratic primary for an open Senate seat replacing outgoing Sen. Brian Kavanagh in Manhattan.
- Democratic Socialists (DSA) candidates sweep elections with 9 primary wins statewide, including two Congressional seats and ousting 5-term incumbent Rep. Adriano Espaillat.
- NYC Mayor Mamdani increases political influence with victories by all endorsed candidates running for Congress and State Legislature, including Brad Lander's victory over incumbent Rep. Dan Goldman.
- The number of DSA members in the State Legislature could increase from 9 to as many as 16 in 2027.
- Cait Conley won the Democratic Primary in the 17th Congressional District and will face Rep. Mike Lawler in the general election.
- Anthony Constantino defeated Assemblymember Robert Smullen in the Republican Primary for the 21st Congressional District to replace Rep. Elise Stefanik. Constantino will face Blake Gendebien in the general election.
- What was predicted to be a close race in the Democratic primary in Buffalo to replace former Senator Sean Ryan, short-term incumbent Jeremy Zellner was defeated by Assemblymember Jon Rivera.
- Several incumbent state lawmakers were defeated including: Sens. Jessica Ramos and Jeremy Zellner, and Assemblymembers Jenifer Rajkumar, Erik Dilan, Edward Gibbs and Stefani Zinerman.
- **RPAC**-supported incumbent Assemblymember Bill Magnarelli currently trails Democratic Socialist candidate Maurice Brown by 82 votes with up to 500 absentee ballots yet to be counted.

An in-depth overview of all election results compiled by *The Parkside Group* can be found below. *Winners/leaders of each race will be featured in **bold** with incumbents <u>underlined</u>.

State Comptroller: Receiving 65% in the 3-way race, longtime Comptroller **<u>Tom DiNapoli</u>**, in his first competitive Democratic primary, easily defeated former Spitzer administration aide Drew Warshaw, and Raj Goyle, a former Kansas state lawmaker.

CONGRESS

District 3: In the Nassau/Queens County seat, Democratic incumbent **<u>Tom Suozzi</u>**, won with more than 70% of votes defeating Danielle Welch, public defender. Suozzi will face off against **Michael LiPetri**, attorney, in the general election in November, who defeated Greg Hach, an attorney and U.S. Air Force

veteran in the Republican primary.

District 6: In this Queens Democratic Primary, **Grace Meng** defeated Chuck Park, 57%-43%.

District 7: In the Brooklyn/Queens District of longtime Democratic Congress Member Nydia Velazquez, a spirited primary took place with Queens Assemblymember **Claire Valdez**, supported by Mayor Mamdani and the DSA, winning with 55% of the vote, defeating Brooklyn BP Antonio Reynoso (36%)—who was endorsed by Velazquez and the Working Families Party (WFP). Queens Council Member Julie Won, and Vichal Kumar, a public defender, also ran.

District 10: Democratic incumbent Dan Goldman was defeated by former City Comptroller and Mayoral candidate **Brad Lander**, who was endorsed by both the Mayor and the WFP. Lander won with over 65% of the vote.

District 12: With the retirement of Congress Member Jerry Nadler, and his traditionally west side seat turning into a cross Manhattan District in the last redistricting there was a very spirited primary, for the reliably blue district, with west side Assemblymember **Micah Lasher** winning with 39%, defeating east side Assemblymember Alex Bores, who was closely behind at 35%, and Jack Kennedy Schlossberg, George T. Conway III, Nina Schwalbe, and three others on the ballot.

District 13: Darializa Avila Chevalier, organizer, DSA and WFP endorsed is leading five term Rep. Adriano Espaillat by more than 2,000 votes with all early votes and 94.16% of primary day scanners reporting. Other candidates included Theo Bruce Chino-Tavarez and Oscar J. Romero Jr.

District 15: **Ritchie Torres** easily won with 70% of the vote against former New York State Assemblymember Michael Blake in this Bronx district.

District 17: In the Congressional district covering Westchester, Rockland, and Putman counties, the primary to face Republican incumbent Mike Lawler was won by **Cait Conley**, an Army veteran, who defeated Rockland County Legislator Beth Davidson, Tarrytown Village Trustee Effie Phillips-Staley, and two other candidates.

District 21: In the Republican Primary to succeed retiring Rep. Elise Stefanik in the North Country, Assemblymember Robert Smullen, who was endorsed by most of the state's political establishment, was defeated by business owner **Anthony Constantino**, who was endorsed by President Trump.

Other Primaries: The incumbents listed below easily won their Democratic primaries and will be favored to win reelection this November in these heavily Democratic seats:

Yvette Clarke *(Brooklyn, NY-9),* ***Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez*** *(Queens/Bronx, NY-14) and* ***Joe Morelle*** *(Rochester area, NY-25).*

STATE SENATE

District 12: For the Western Queens seat vacated by the Senate's Deputy Majority Leader Mike Gianaris, **Aber Kawas**, a community organizer endorsed by the DSA, won with over 60% of the vote against Assemblymember Steven Raga.

District 13: In this Queens Senate seat, with 96% reporting, Jackson Heights Assemblymember **Jessica Gonzalez-Rojas**, who was endorsed by the WFP, leads incumbent Sen. Jessica Ramos by nearly 1,500 votes, with disgraced former Senator Hiram Monserrate a distant third.

District 15: Incumbent Senator **Joe Addabbo** overwhelmingly won with 73.6% in his south Queens seat against Albert Baldeo, a convicted felon and perennial candidate.

District 23: In the Staten Island/Brooklyn district, Democratic incumbent Senator **Jessica Scarcella-Spanton** easily won with 72.5% against Omar Mohamad, a former EMT.

District 25: Brooklyn's incumbent Senator **Jabari Brisport**, endorsed by the WFP and DSA, clearly won over 78% against Marlon Rice, an event director at the Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corp, in this Democratic primary.

District 27: In the race for the lower Manhattan Senate seat, vacated by Democratic Senator Brian Kavanagh, Assemblymember **Grace Lee** won with 62% against former Assemblymember Yuh-Line Niou, with 94% reporting.

District 61: In the Buffalo seat, recently represented by now Buffalo Mayor Sean Ryan, Assemblymember **Jonathan Rivera**, who was backed by WFP, won with 55% of the vote against incumbent Jeremy Zellner, who won the special election for the seat earlier this year.

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*Senator **Jose Marco Serrano** (District 29: Bronx/Manhattan) and **Robert Jackson** (District 31: Bronx/Manhattan)*

ASSEMBLY

District 23: With Democratic incumbent Stacey Pheffer-Amato retiring from her Queens district, **Pesach Osina**, a longtime government staffer, defeated Mike Scala, an attorney and Army veteran with over 60% of the vote. This will be a district with a competitive election in November.

District 30: To replace Assemblymember Steve Raga, who is running for Senate, Patrick Martinez, a Democratic District Leader narrowly leads retired Police Officer Shamsul Haque by 13 votes in a 3-way race. Obviously, this race is too close to call.

District 32: With longtime Assemblymember Vivian Cook retiring from her Southeast Queens seat, **Nathaniel Hezekiah III**, Deputy Chief of Staff to Rep. Greg Meeks, won the 5-way race with over 50% of the vote, defeating Latoya LeGrand (District Manager for Senator Sanders), Tunisia Morrison (former Chief of Staff to AM Hyndman), educator Queen Johnson, local business owner Mohammed Molla.

District 34: **Brian Romero**, the Chief of Staff for Sen. Kristen Gonzalez and a former chief of staff to Assemblymember Jessica Gonzalez Rojas, will be going to Albany to replace JGR, beating Rosa Sanchez, an educator, with over 65% of the vote in the Jackson Heights based district.

District 37: To replace Claire Valdez in Western Queens, **Samantha Kattan**, a tenant organizer endorsed

by the DSA and WFP beat Pia Rahman, a healthcare worker and Melissa Orlando, the founder of Access Queens with almost 67% of the primary vote.

District 38: Incumbent Jenifer Rajkumar was defeated this evening in her Queens district by **David Orkin**, an attorney backed by the DSA and WFP. With 95% reporting, Orkin received 59% of the vote.

District 54: Longtime incumbent Assemblymember Erik Martin Dilan was defeated in the overwhelmingly Democratic district by **Christian Celeste Tate**, a community organizer, and the DSA endorsed candidate, in a Brooklyn district that voted heavily for Mayor Mamdani last year.

District 56: Stefani Zinerman, the incumbent Assemblymember was defeated by **Eon Huntley**, a retail worker and community organizer, with both the DSA and WFP endorsement. Huntley received 57.5%, with 82% reporting in the 3-way race in Brooklyn.

District 59: **Jaime Williams**, the southern Brooklyn incumbent, with 67% of the vote, easily defeated Jibreel Jalloh, a nurse endorsed by the WFP.

District 65: In Downtown Manhattan, to replace Assemblymember Grace Lee, **Illapa Sairitupac**, a social worker and DSA endorsed, defeated Jasmin Sanchez, a non-profit leader; Mariama James, Manhattan Democratic Party Vice Chair; Wei-Li Tjong, attorney; Lilah Mejia, community activist; and Jay Jacky Wong, journalist. Sairitupac received 36% of the vote in the 6-way race to win.

District 66: Due to the retirement of 35-year Assemblymember Deborah Glick, there was a 6-way primary to replace her. As of this writing, Jeannine Kiely, former chair of Community Board 2, leads with 27.6% of the vote. The race remains too close to call, with civil rights lawyer David Siffert leading non-profit leader Ryder Kessler by just 56 votes in a 6-way race. Other candidates included Benjamin Yee, a digital director for state political organizations, Furhan Ahmad, a former police officer, EMT and firefighter and Corinne Arnold, small business owner in the Greenwich Village/Tribeca district are in the race.

District 68: In Spanish Harlem, incumbent Eddie Gibbs was defeated by **Diana Ayala**, former Council Member from the neighborhood. Alyala won with over 50% of the vote in the 4-way race.

District 69: To replace Micah Lasher in the Morningside Heights district **Eli Northrup**, a public defender endorsed by the Mayor, AOC, and the WFP defeated Rabbi Stephanie Ruskay, who was endorsed by much of the political establishment. With 94% reporting, Northrup got 60% of the vote in the head-to-head matchup.

District 70: In the Central Harlem district, incumbent **Jordan Wright** won the primary against Conrad Blackburn, an attorney endorsed by the DSA and WFP. With 93% reporting, Wright won with 54% of the vote.

District 81: Longtime Assemblymember **Jeff Dinowitz** easily defeated Morgan Evers, a local educator endorsed by the WFP for the Northwest Bronx seat. Dinowitz won with 65% of the vote.

District 90: To replace Nader Sayegh in Yonkers, Frank Jereis, Chief of Staff to Assemblymember Sayegh is leading Jeanette Garcia, a labor organizer endorsed by the WFP and a number of unions.

District 96: In this Democratic Primary, first-term Rockland County Assemblymember **Pat Carroll** received nearly 80% of the vote and easily defeated P.T. Thomas, an accountant.

District 106: Incumbent Democrat **Didi Barrett**, first elected in 2012, to the Columbia/Dutchess County seat, defeated Sam Hodge, attorney and former Columbia County Democratic Party Chair.

District 119: In the Utica area seat, currently represented by Marianne Buttenschon, who decided not to run for reelection, Democrat **Jon Lipe**, public servant, received approximately 53% of the vote and defeated Joseph Betar. Lipe will take on the winner of the Republican primary, **Michael Gentile** who defeated Daniel Fisco, in what will be a competitive race in November.

District 123: Democrat **Dan Norton**, a former Binghamton City Council member, received approximately 60%, with 90% counted, defeating Dan Livingston, an attorney to be the Democratic nominee to replace longtime Binghamton area Assemblymember Donna Lupardo.

District 129: As noted above, incumbent Assemblymember Bill Magnarelli of Syracuse is in a tight race against Onondaga County Legislator Maurice Brown. Assemblymember Magnarelli trails by 82 votes with up to 500 absentee ballots yet to be counted.

District 149: Adam Bojak, an attorney who was endorsed by the WFP won the Democratic Primary to replace Assemblymember John Rivera, beating Erie County Deputy Commissioner of Highways Karen Hoak and M&T Bank employee Kevin Deese.

Other Primaries: The incumbents listed below easily won their Democratic primaries and will be favored to win reelection this coming November in these heavily Democratic seats:

Andrew Hevesi *(District 28-Queens),* ***Clyde Vanel*** *(District 33-Queens),* ***Diana Moreno*** *(District 36-Queens),* ***Catalina Cruz*** *(District 39-Queens),* ***Brian Cunningham*** *(District 43-Brooklyn),* ***Emily Gallagher*** *(District 50-Brooklyn),* ***Jo Anne Simon*** *(District 52-Brooklyn),* ***Phara Souffrant Forrest*** *(District 57-Brooklyn),* ***Al Taylor*** *(District 71-Manhattan),* ***Manny De los Santos*** *(District 72-Manhattan),* ***Tony Simone*** *(District 75-Manhattan),* ***Mike Benedetto*** *(District 82-Bronx),* ***Amanda Septimo*** *(District 84-Bronx),* ***Karines Reyes*** *(District 87-Bronx),* ***Demond Meeks*** *(District 137-Rochester).*