

**MEMORANDUM**

**FROM:** Cozen O'Connor Public Strategies  
**DATE:** June 15, 2026  
**RE:** New York State 2026 Primary Election

**Primary Election Overview:**

- The New York State primary elections will be held on June 23, 2026. Early voting has already begun.
- All 26 U.S. House seats and all 213 seats in the New York State Legislature are up for election.
- The 2026 cycle includes a mix of open seats, incumbent challenges, and several competitive primaries.

The analysis below is based on currently available information and is subject to change.

**Congressional Races to Watch:**

New York continues to play a major role in federal elections. Most districts remain heavily Democratic, but open seats and intraparty primaries, especially in New York City, are drawing the most attention, along with a small number of competitive general election districts.

District	Summary & Candidates
NY-6	<p>NY-6 covers neighborhoods including Flushing, Elmhurst, and Forest Hills, and is represented by Grace Meng, who has held the seat since 2013. Meng faces a primary challenge from Chuck Park, a Queens native and former Obama administration diplomat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grace Meng (D - Incumbent)</li> <li>• Chuck Park (D)</li> </ul>
NY-7	<p>NY-7 spans parts of Brooklyn and Queens and has been represented since 1992 by Rep. Nydia Velázquez, who is retiring and leaving the seat open. Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso, endorsed by Rep. Velázquez, Assembly Member Claire Valdez, backed by NYC-DSA, and City Council Member Julie Won are the three leading candidates competing in the Democratic primary for this open seat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Antonio Reynoso (D)</li> <li>• Claire Valdez (D)</li> <li>• Julie Won (D)</li> </ul>
NY-10	<p>NY-10 covers lower Manhattan and parts of Brooklyn, including Park Slope and Red Hook, and is represented by Daniel Goldman, who won the seat in 2022 after a crowded open primary. Goldman faces a primary challenge from former New York City Comptroller Brad Lander. Goldman is backed by Gov. Hochul and points to his</p>

District	Summary & Candidates
	<p>legislative record, while Lander has secured endorsements from Mayor Mamdani and several progressive organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daniel Goldman (D) - Incumbent</li> <li>• Brad Lander (D)</li> </ul>
NY-12	<p>NY-12 covers the Upper West Side, Upper East Side, and Midtown Manhattan, and has been held for decades by Rep. Jerry Nadler. State Assembly Members Micah Lasher and Alex Bores, writer and political commentator Jack Schlossberg, and attorney George Conway are among the leading candidates in this nine-person Democratic primary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Micah Lasher (D)</li> <li>• Alex Bores (D)</li> <li>• Jack Schlossberg (D)</li> <li>• George Conway (D)</li> </ul>
NY-13	<p>NY-13 spans Upper Manhattan neighborhoods, as well as parts of the Bronx, and is represented by Adriano Espaillat, who has held the seat since 2017. Espaillat is facing a primary challenge in a district that voted heavily for Mayor Mamdani in last year's mayoral race. His most prominent challenger is 32-year-old union organizer Darializa Avila Chevalier, backed by NYC-DSA, who has focused her campaign on affordability and immigration. Espaillat retains broad institutional support from labor and elected officials.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adriano Espaillat (D - Incumbent)</li> <li>• Darializa Avila Chevalier (D)</li> <li>• Theo Bruce Chino-Tavarez (D)</li> <li>• Oscar Romero Jr. (D)</li> </ul>
NY-15	<p>NY-15 covers the North, South, and West Bronx and is represented by Ritchie Torres, who has held the seat since 2021. Torres faces a six-person primary field that includes former Assembly Member and mayoral candidate Michael Blake, and Jose Vega. U.S. policy on Israel, affordability, and immigration have been the central policy divides in the race.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ritchie Torres (D - Incumbent)</li> <li>• Michael Blake (D)</li> <li>• Jose Vega (D)</li> </ul>
NY-17	<p>NY-17 covers Rockland County and parts of the Hudson Valley and is represented by Republican Mike Lawler, who flipped the seat in 2022 and won re-election in 2024 in a district rated as a toss-up by major election forecasters. Lawler will face the winner of a Democratic primary featuring five candidates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mike Lawler (R - Incumbent)</li> <li>• John Cappello (D)</li> <li>• Cait Conley (D)</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Beth Davidson (D)</li> <li>•Effie Phillips-Staley (D)</li> <li>•Mike Sacks (D)</li> </ul>
NY-19	<p>NY-19 is a large district covering the Southern Tier and parts of the Hudson Valley, and is represented by Josh Riley, a Democrat who flipped the seat in 2024 by a narrow margin of fewer than 4,000 votes. Riley will face the winner of a Republican primary between state Sen. Peter Oberacker and challenger Alexander Portelli in the November general election.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Josh Riley (D - Incumbent)</li> <li>• Peter Oberacker (R)</li> <li>•Alexander Portelli (R)</li> </ul>
NY-21	<p>NY-21 is a district covering the North Country, and has been represented by Rep. Elise Stefanik since 2015, who is departing and not seeking reelection. The race features a Republican primary between Trump-endorsed businessman Anthony Constantino and state Assemblyman Robert Smullen, along with a Democratic primary between farmer Blake Gendebien and businessman Stuart Amoriell.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anthony Constantino (R)</li> <li>• Robert Smullen (R)</li> <li>• Blake Gendebien (D)</li> <li>• Stuart Amoriell (D)</li> </ul>

### NYS Statewide Elections

Comptroller	<p>Thomas DiNapoli has served as NYS Comptroller since 2007. DiNapoli faces Democratic primary challengers Raj Goyle, a former Kansas lawmaker, and Drew Warshaw, a former nonprofit housing executive. Both Goyle and Warshaw have focused on issues such as pension fund investments and affordability. Joseph Hernandez is the Republican nominee for the general election.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thomas DiNapoli (D – Incumbent)</li> <li>• Raj Goyle (D)</li> <li>• Drew Warshaw (D)</li> <li>• Joseph Hernandez (R)</li> </ul>
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### NYS Senate

District	Summary & Candidates
SD-12	<p>SD-12 covers western Queens, and the seat is open after Deputy Majority Leader Michael Gianaris announced his retirement. Community organizer Aber Kawas and</p>

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	<p>Assembly Member Steven Raga are competing in the Democratic primary for the open seat. Kawas has the endorsement of NYC-DSA, while Raga is running on his two-term legislative record and community ties in the district.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aber Kawas (D)</li> <li>• Steven Raga (D)</li> </ul>
SD-13	<p>SD-13 covers Jackson Heights, Corona, East Elmhurst, and Woodside, and is represented by Jessica Ramos, who has held the seat since 2018. Ramos is defending her seat against Assemblywoman Jessica González-Rojas, who has the endorsements of Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and the Working Families Party, and former Sen. Hiram Monserrate, who is running on public safety and quality-of-life issues. González-Rojas has outraised Ramos and leads in institutional progressive support. Monserrate, who was expelled from the legislature and later convicted on corruption charges, is making another attempt to return to elected office.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jessica Ramos (D - Incumbent)</li> <li>• Jessica González-Rojas (D)</li> <li>• Hiram Monserrate (D)</li> </ul>
SD-25	<p>SD-25 includes Bed-Stuy and Crown Heights, and is represented by Jabari Brisport, a DSA member and three-term incumbent. Brisport faces a primary challenge from Marlon Rice, a community figure who is active as event director at the Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation. Brisport holds the endorsement of Mayor Mamdani, who won the district by 38 points in last year's mayoral primary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jabari Brisport (D - Incumbent)</li> <li>• Marlon Rice (D)</li> </ul>
SD-27	<p>SD-27 covers Chinatown, the Lower East Side, the West Village, and SoHo, and the seat is open after incumbent Brian Kavanaugh announced his retirement. Assembly Member Grace Lee and former Assembly Member Yuh-Line Niou are competing for the open seat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grace Lee (D)</li> <li>• Yuh-Line Niou (D)</li> </ul>
SD-51	<p>SD-51 is a Republican-leaning district covering parts of the Catskills and Schoharie Valley in upstate New York, and the seat is open after incumbent Peter Oberacker departed to run for Congress in NY-19. Democrat Michele Frazier, Republican Assemblyman Chris Tague, and Republican Sullivan County Leader Terry Bernardo are all in the race.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michele Frazier (D)</li> <li>• Terry Bernardo (R)</li> <li>• Chris Tague (R)</li> </ul>

District	Summary & Candidates
SD-61	<p>SD-61 covers parts of Erie County including Tonawanda and portions of Buffalo, and is represented by Jeremy Zellner, who won the seat in a February 2026 special election after then-Sen. Sean Ryan resigned to become Mayor of Buffalo. Zellner faces a Democratic primary challenge from state Assembly Member Jonathan Rivera. Zellner has the backing of Erie County Democratic leadership, while Rivera has the support of the Working Families Party in the primary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeremy Zellner (D - Incumbent)</li> <li>• Jonathan Rivera (D)</li> </ul>

### NYS Assembly

District	Summary & Candidates
AD-32	<p>AD-32 is a southeast Queens district that has been represented by Vivian Cook since 1990, who is retiring and leaving the seat open after more than three decades in office. A multi-candidate Democratic primary field is competing for the open seat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patrick Martinez (D)</li> <li>• Nathaniel Hezekiah III (D)</li> <li>• Shamshul Haque</li> <li>• Tunisia Morrison (D)</li> <li>• Latoya LeGrand (D)</li> <li>• Queen Johnson (D)</li> <li>• Mohammed Molla (D)</li> <li>• Somnath Ghimire (D)</li> </ul>
AD-38	<p>AD-38 covers neighborhoods including Ridgewood, Woodhaven, Richmond Hill, and Ozone Park, and has been represented by Jenifer Rajkumar since 2021. Rajkumar faces a challenge from David Orkin, a staff attorney at Make the Road New York, who is backed by NYC-DSA. Rajkumar holds endorsements from major labor unions including 32BJ SEIU, while Orkin is running on tenant protections, immigrant rights, and a progressive economic platform.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jenifer Rajkumar (D - Incumbent)</li> <li>• David Orkin (D)</li> </ul>
AD-54	<p>AD-54 covers Bushwick and parts of Ridgewood in Brooklyn, and is represented by Erik Dilan, who has held the seat since 2014 and won his 2024 primary by fewer than 200 votes. Dilan faces a 2026 primary challenge from Christian Celeste Tate, who has the backing of both NYC-DSA and the Working Families Party.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Erik Dilan (D - Incumbent)</li> <li>• Christian Celeste Tate (Working Families)</li> </ul>

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AD-56	<p>AD-56 covers Bedford-Stuyvesant and parts of Crown Heights in Brooklyn, and is represented by Stefani Zinerman, who currently serves as Deputy Majority Whip. Eon Huntley, who ran in 2024 and lost by under 6 points, is backed by NYC-DSA. Michael Bailey is a housing attorney also challenging from the left.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stefani Zinerman (D - Incumbent)</li> <li>• Eon Huntley (D)</li> <li>• Michael Bailey (D)</li> </ul>
AD-59	<p>AD-59 covers southeast Brooklyn neighborhoods, and is represented by Jaime Williams, who has held the seat since 2016. Williams faces a primary challenge from community organizer Jibreel Jalloh. Williams is also running on the Conservative Party line this cycle, while Jalloh has the endorsement of the Working Families Party and is focused on affordability, public safety, and housing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jaime Williams (D - Incumbent)</li> <li>• Jibreel Jalloh (D)</li> </ul>
AD-65	<p>AD-65 covers Chinatown and the Lower East Side in Manhattan, and has been represented by Grace Lee since 2023, who is vacating the seat to run for State Senate. The candidates include socialist organizer Ilapa Sairitupac, district leader Jacky Wong, vice chair of the Manhattan Democratic Party Mariama James, and outreach manager with New York Disaster Interfaith Services Lilah Mejia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Illapa Sairitupac (D)</li> <li>• Jay Jacky Wong (D)</li> <li>• Mariama James (D)</li> <li>• Jasmin Sanchez (D)</li> <li>• Wei-Li Tjong (D)</li> <li>• Lilah Mejia (D)</li> </ul>
AD-66	<p>AD-66 includes Greenwich Village, the West Village, and parts of lower Manhattan, and has been represented by Deborah Glick, who is retiring after more than three decades in office. Glick's retirement has opened a six-candidate Democratic primary. The candidates include pro-housing advocate Ryder Kessler, President of Elizabeth Street Garden Jeannine Kiely, and civil rights lawyer David Siffert.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ryder Kessler (D)</li> <li>• David Siffert (D)</li> <li>• Benjamin Yee (D)</li> <li>• Furhan Ahmad (D)</li> <li>• Jeannine Kiely (D)</li> <li>• Corinne Arnold (D)</li> </ul>
AD-68	<p>AD-68 covers East Harlem and parts of the South Bronx, and is represented by Eddie Gibbs, who has held the seat since 2022. Former NYC Council Deputy Speaker Diana Ayala is challenging Gibbs, with Tamika Mapp and others also in the race.</p>

District	Summary & Candidates
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eddie Gibbs (D - Incumbent)</li> <li>• Diana Ayala (D)</li> <li>• Tamika Mapp (D)</li> <li>• William Smith (D)</li> </ul>
AD-69	<p>AD-69 covers the northern part of the Upper West Side and Morningside Heights in Manhattan, and the seat is open after incumbent Micah Lasher departed to run for Congress. Public defender Eli Northrup and rabbi and community organizer Stephanie Ruskay are the two candidates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eli Northrup (D)</li> <li>• Stephanie Ruskay (D)</li> </ul>
AD-70	<p>AD-70 covers central Harlem in Manhattan, and is represented by Jordan Wright, a first-term incumbent. Wright is seeking re-election against DSA-backed challenger Conrad Blackburn.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jordan Wright (D - Incumbent)</li> <li>• Conrad Blackburn (D)</li> </ul>
AD-129	<p>AD-129 covers parts of the city of Syracuse and is represented by Bill Magnarelli, who has held the seat since 1999. Magnarelli faces a primary challenge from Onondaga County Legislator Maurice "Mo" Brown, who is running on affordability, public transit, and housing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• William Magnarelli (D - Incumbent)</li> <li>• Maurice Brown (D)</li> </ul>
AD-149	<p>AD-149 covers Buffalo's West Side and Riverside neighborhoods, and the seat is open after incumbent Jonathan Rivera departed to run for State Senate District 61. Attorney Adam Bojak, Erie County Deputy Highway Commissioner Karen Hoak, and Naval Reserve officer Kevin Deese are the three candidates competing in the Democratic primary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adam Bojak (D)</li> <li>• Karen Hoak (D)</li> <li>• Kevin Deese (D)</li> </ul>