



A PUBLICATION OF
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THIS WEEK IN NEW YORK

COVERING NEW YORK & CITY GOVERNMENT

OCTOBER 24, 2025 EDITION



NOVEMBER 4, 2025

GENERAL ELECTION

Early Voting in New York State

2025 General Election Early Voting: October 25th through November 2nd

Early Voting Days and Times

Early Voting hours of operation are provided by local County Boards of Elections.

Early Voting Locations

Voters may visit any of their assigned Early Voting Centers in their county, except in New York City, where voters are assigned to one early voting site.

FIND YOUR EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACE

FIND YOUR COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

October 25, 2025 is the deadline to register to vote in advance of the 2025 General Election. [Check your registration status](#) and learn about [voter registration options](#).

October 25, 2025 is also the deadline to request an Early Mail or Absentee ballot for the voter to receive the ballot by mail for the 2025 General Election. View the [Request a Ballot page](#) to apply to receive a ballot by mail.

NYC General Election

Early Voting | General Election

Sat, October 25, 2025 - Sun, November 2, 2025

[Find your early voting site and hours.](#)

Election Day - Tue, November 4, 2025

Polls are open 6am-9pm. [Find your poll site.](#)

"Obstacles don't define us. Rather, it is the unparalleled courage and character of us that defines us as a people. So my confidence in the future is steeped in our glorious past - in the face of adversity, we always persist. We persevere, we prevail." Governor Kathy Hochul

In The News-New York State



**Board of
Elections**

2025 Statewide Ballot Proposal

Amendment to Allow Olympic Sports Complex in Essex County on State Forest Preserve Land

Allows skiing and related trail facilities on state forest preserve land. The site is 1,039 acres. Requires State to add 2,500 acres of new forest land in Adirondack Park.

A yes vote authorizes new ski trails and related facilities in the Adirondack forest preserve.

A no vote does not authorize this use.

For more information on this proposal please visit [NYS Board of Elections](https://www.elections.ny.gov).



Comptroller DiNapoli: Wall Street Profits Surge Again, Giving New York a Fiscal Boost

Despite Uncertainties, Industry on Track for One of Its Best Years

Wall Street's profits could top \$60 billion in 2025 if current trends continue, according to a [report](#) released this week by New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli.

The securities industry earned \$30.4 billion in the first half of 2025, a faster pace than last year, when full year profits totaled \$49.9 billion. Comptroller DiNapoli anticipates profits and bonuses could help generate higher-than-expected city and state tax collections if this pace continues.

The Comptroller's report looks at the pretax profits of the broker/dealer operations of New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) member firms. There are 130 NYSE member firms.

Profits

First half 2025 profits increased 30.7% year-over-year driven by increased trading activity. Trading revenues grew 73.4% over the same period last year, while commission income, AI-related dealmaking, and supervisory fees also contributed to higher profits. Revenue strength occurred despite substantial market volatility this year "from shifting tariff policies and broader global economic uncertainty." If current trends continue, the Comptroller's Office estimates total 2025 profits could exceed \$60 billion.

Employment, Bonuses and Salaries

Employment in the city's securities industry rose to a record 201,500 jobs in 2024, surpassing the previous peak in 2000. Preliminary 2025 data shows a potential decline of about 3,000 jobs, although this trend has been seen in recent years before reversing once numbers were finalized, according to the report. New York City has more securities jobs than any other city or state in the nation, but has seen its share of national industry jobs decline as other labor markets have seen faster growth.

From 2019 through 2024, employment in the industry in New York state grew 9.3%, an increase of 18,400 jobs and the most of any state. The state closest to New York's 217,800 industry jobs in 2024 was California with 102,600.

The average annual salary, including bonuses, in New York City's securities industry rose 7.3% to \$505,630 in 2024, and the bonus pool grew 34% to a record \$47.5 billion, equal to an average bonus of \$244,700 per employee.

The average salary in the securities industry was nearly five times the average salary of the rest of the private sector (\$101,760) in the city, and 59% higher than the next highest industry (\$318,360 in web search portals and other information services). The industry's statewide average salary was \$484,300, more than double the average in the rest of the nation (\$238,200).

NYSE member firms spent nearly 10% more on all forms of employee compensation, including salaries, bonuses and equity awards in the first half of 2025 compared to the same period in 2024. Combined with higher profits and relatively stable employment, the Comptroller indicated this signals a likely rise in bonuses over last year. While the city's latest budget projection expects a 14% decrease in the industry's bonus pool, Comptroller DiNapoli's office anticipates it will grow based on first half indicators. The Comptroller will release the office's average bonus estimate in March 2026 based on tax withholding data.

State and City Tax Revenue

The securities industry generated an estimated \$6.7 billion in revenue for New York City in fiscal year (FY) 2025, up 35.1% from the prior year, and represented 8.4% of the city's total tax collections that year. Most (68%) came from personal income taxes (PIT), with securities industry receipts accounting for 24.3% of the city's total PIT collections.

The state collected an estimated \$22 billion in fiscal year 2024-25, up 12% from the previous year, and represented 19.4% of all state tax collections that year. PIT accounted for 85.7% of the securities industry receipts total.

Economic Contributions

Comptroller DiNapoli's office estimates the securities industry accounted for 17.7% of New York City's gross product in 2023, the most recent year with available data. The industry's share is expected to increase when 2024 data is released, reflecting the rise in profitability. Comptroller DiNapoli estimates that 1-in-13 jobs (8%) in New York City were associated with the securities industry in 2023.

In The News-New York City



2025 Ballot Proposals

#1. Amendment to Allow Olympic Sports Complex In Essex County on State Forest Preserve Land

This proposal would allow the expansion of new ski trails in the Olympic Sports Complex in Essex County, New York. The Olympic Sport Complex is in state forest preserve land. This proposal would also require New York State to add 2,500 acres of protected forest land to Adirondack Park.

#2. Fast Track Affordable Housing to Build More Affordable Housing Across the City

This proposal would make two new processes to fast-track certain affordable housing projects. The first process is for publicly financed affordable housing projects. The second process is for affordable housing projects in the 12 community districts with the lowest rates of affordable housing development.

#3. Simplify Review of Modest Housing and Infrastructure Projects

This proposal would create a faster review process for certain land use projects, such as smaller projects to change how land is used and to prepare the city for extreme weather or other future challenges. For most of these projects, the proposed process would remove final review by the City Council.

#4. Establish an Affordable Housing Appeals Board with Council, Borough, and Citywide Representation

This proposal would change the current land use review process when the City Council rejects or changes an affordable housing project. The proposal would create an Affordable Housing Appeals Board, made up of the local Borough President, Speaker of the City Council, and Mayor. The proposal would allow the Appeals Board to reverse the City Council's decision with a two-to-one vote.

#5. Create a Digital City Map to Modernize City Operations

This proposal would make the Department of City Planning (DCP) responsible for creating, maintaining, and digitizing a single City Map.

#6. Move Local Elections to Presidential Election Years to Increase Voter Participation

This proposal would move election dates for city offices to the same year as federal presidential elections.

For more information on these proposal please visit [NYCVotes](https://www.nycvotes.org).



Attorney General James Delivers \$1.4 Million to NYC Construction Workers Whose Rights Were Violated

New York Attorney General Letitia James this week announced a \$1.5 million settlement with Alba Services, Inc., its owner Andrew Horan, and a network of related New York City construction and demolition companies (collectively, Alba) for repeatedly violating state workers' compensation laws, retaliating against injured workers, and failing to address sexual harassment in the workplace.

Under the terms of the settlement, Alba must pay \$1.4 million in restitution to 700 current and former Alba employees and adopt reforms to comply with New York's labor and human rights laws. In addition, Alba must pay \$100,000 for a settlement administrator. The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) launched an investigation in 2022 after a referral from Construction & General Building Laborers' Local 79.

"This settlement makes one thing clear: no employer is above the law. Exploiting and retaliating against workers will never be tolerated in New York," said Brendan Griffith, President of the NYC Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO. "We commend Attorney General Letitia James for her fearless commitment to justice and thank our brothers and sisters at Local 79 for bringing these abuses to light. Nearly a thousand workers were silenced and mistreated, and today they are seen, heard, and vindicated. Accountability like this reminds every employer that when you harm workers, you answer to all of us."

OAG found that between 2016 and 2024, Alba failed to report hundreds of workplace injuries to the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) as required by law and explicitly instructed employees not to file eligible claims. Alba retaliated against employees who sought to file claims through harassment, threats, and financial incentives to stay silent.

The investigation further revealed that Alba would sometimes interfere with medical treatment by sending company representatives to accompany injured workers to urgent care centers or hospitals and misrepresent how and where the injury occurred. By suppressing claims and discouraging employees from seeking benefits, Alba both cheated its workers and manipulated insurance premiums to cut costs.

In addition, OAG found that Alba failed to prevent sexual harassment and retaliated against employees who reported misconduct.

Under the agreement, the company is required to accurately report all workplace injuries, stop retaliating against injured workers, and end interference with medical treatment or claims. It must establish and enforce sexual harassment prevention policies, conduct mandatory biannual trainings in English, Spanish, and Russian, and submit to three years of oversight by OAG, with the option to extend monitoring to six years if violations persist. Alba must also file biannual reports to OAG documenting compliance with workers' compensation and human rights laws.

Briefs

Attorney General James Announces Election Protection Hotline Ahead of November General Election

Voters Experiencing Problems Can Consult Frequently Asked Questions, Call (866) 390-2992, or Request Assistance [Online](#)

New York Attorney General Letitia James today announced that the Office of the New York State Attorney General (OAG) will make its Election Protection Hotline available for the November 4, 2025 general election and during New York's early voting period, which runs from Saturday, October 25 through Sunday, November 2.

The hotline will be available to troubleshoot and resolve a range of issues encountered by voters, including issues voting by absentee ballot, early mail ballot, or in-person at their polling place. A guide addressing [frequently asked questions](#) is also currently available to assist voters with, among other things, the absentee and early mail ballot process and voter registration issues.

Attorney General James urges voters experiencing election-related problems while voting to call the OAG hotline at (866) 390-2992, or [submit a complaint online](#) to request assistance. The telephone hotline will be open between 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM during early voting (Saturday, October 25 through Sunday, November 2), and between 6:00 AM and 9:00 PM on Election Day, Tuesday, November 4. The hotline will also be available on the day before and after Election Day, Monday, November 3 and Wednesday, November 5, between 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM. Written requests for assistance may be submitted at any time through the [online complaint form](#). Hotline calls and written requests for assistance are processed by OAG attorneys and staff.

Governor Announces Improvements to Rail Service Between Albany and New York City

Governor Kathy Hochul, Metro-North Railroad President Justin Vonashek, and Amtrak President Roger Harris this week announced that New York State has secured a series of improvements to rail service on the Empire Service Corridor between Albany and New York City. Both Amtrak and Metro-North will be adding Albany service in the upcoming months.

Amtrak has committed to restoring one daily round-trip previously suspended between New York City and Albany on December 1st. Train 235 which departs Penn Station at 3:15 pm, and Train 238 which departs Albany-Rensselaer at 12:10 pm, will both be resumed. Amtrak has also committed to a price cap on trips between Albany and New York City, with coach seats capped at \$99.

Meanwhile, the MTA is now advancing a plan with partners to run Metro-North service between Albany and Grand Central, starting with one daily round-trip in the Spring of 2026. According to the Governor, the MTA will be running its own lines to Albany for around \$40, according to published reports. Currently, Metro-North terminates at Poughkeepsie.

New York State Department of Health Announces Youth Tobacco Use in New York State Falls to Record Low

The New York State Department of Health this week released a new report showing a continued decline in tobacco use among high school students across the state. The report, *Tobacco Control Program StatShot, High School Youth Tobacco Use Continues to Decline, One in Six Youth Still Use Tobacco*, is based on data from the New York Youth Tobacco Survey.

Key Findings of the report include:

- Any tobacco use among high school students has dropped to 17%, the lowest since tracking began in 2000. Any tobacco use includes cigarettes, e-cigarettes, nicotine pouches, blunts, cigars, smokeless tobacco, pipe tobacco, heated tobacco products and hookah.
- Cigarette smoking remains low, with just over 2% of students reporting current use.
- E-cigarette use has declined sharply, from nearly 19% in 2022 to about 13% in 2024, though vaping remains the most common form of tobacco use among youth.
- Use of other tobacco products, such as cigars, blunts, smokeless tobacco, heated tobacco products and hookah, also declined, with fewer than 1 in 10 students reporting use.
- Nicotine pouch use is rising, doubling from 1.5% to 3.0% since 2022, raising concern due to their youth-appealing flavors, easy concealment, and high potential for nicotine addiction.

Adams Administration Launches Child Care Pilot for Children of DCAS Employees

New York City Mayor Eric Adams and New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) Commissioner Louis A. Molina this week announced the launch the city's first-ever Municipal Child Care Pilot Program. The program will provide on-site child care to DCAS employees with children as young as six weeks old beginning in September 2026.

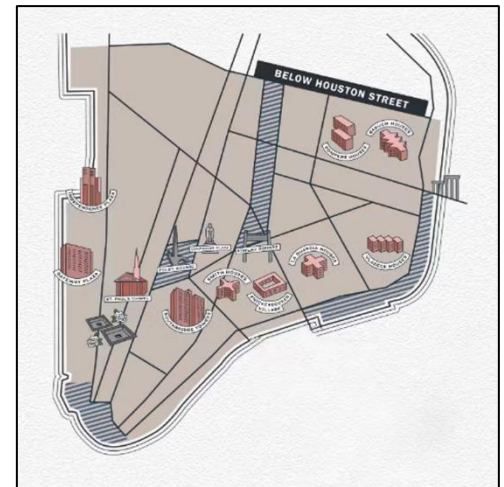
The child care pilot will be located on the ground floor of the David N. Dinkins Municipal Building, North Tower in Lower Manhattan — DCAS's headquarters. The estimated \$10 million renovation will cover approximately 4,000 square feet and is being designed to accommodate up to 40 children.

DCAS will be issuing a Demonstration Project solicitation for proposals from qualified vendors. Eligibility criteria for the pilot is being developed in conjunction with the Office of Labor Relations and city unions. The Municipal Child Care Pilot Program will be closely evaluated to determine if expanding the program to additional locations is feasible, according to the Administration.

9/11 Solidarity Network Helps Claimants Obtain Vital Documentation for 9/11 Compensation Fund Claims

It is becoming increasingly difficult for some claimants to find documents to prove their presence at an eligible location so many years after the attacks. In fact, earlier this year, the New York City Police Department (NYPD) went to the State Legislature for assistance in verifying its members' 9/11 service. On September 10th, Governor Kathy Hochul signed chapter 390 of the Laws of 2025 which establishes a presumption that a New York City Police Pension Fund member participated in the rescue, recovery, and clean-up operations at the World Trade Center, unless their employer proves the contrary by competent evidence.

The 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund (VCF) understands this challenge and encourages individuals who were present in the exposure zone to gather and save their proof of presence documents now, even if they aren't currently ill or planning to file a claim.



9/11 Exposure Zone

To help members of the general public verify their 9/11 service, Pitta Bishop & Del Giorno LLC's affiliate [Pitta & Baione LLP](#) is developing the 9/11 Solidarity Network, a system where members can act as witnesses for one another in verifying 9/11 service. The network utilizes sworn **Witness Presence Statements** from people who can attest to a claimant's presence which are accepted as secondary evidence by the VCF when primary documentation is unavailable.

By participating, individuals can provide the crucial testimony a fellow member might need while also securing potential support for their own future claims. This initiative formalizes the collective memory of its members to help ensure no one is left to prove their presence alone.

For more information regarding the 9/11 Solidarity Network, please contact Pitta & Baione at 844-901-1262.

Coming Up

New York State

Tuesday, October 28th

Assembly Public Hearing: Emerging Farmers, Roosevelt Hearing Room C, Legislative Office Building, 2nd Floor, Albany, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, October 29th

Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board Meeting, MTA Board Room, 2 Broadway, New York, 20th Floor, 9 a.m.

Assembly Public Hearing: Combatting Problem Gambling on Mobile Wagering Platforms, Roosevelt Hearing Room C, Legislative Office Building, 2nd Floor, Albany, 10 a.m.

New York City

Monday, October 27th

Committee on Public Housing, 250 Broadway – 8th Floor – Hearing Room 2, 10 a.m.

Committee on Governmental Operations, State & Federal Legislation, 250 Broadway – 8th Floor – Hearing Room 1, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, October 28th

Committee on Immigration, 250 Broadway – 8th Floor – Hearing Room 1, 10 a.m.

Committee on Higher Education, 250 Broadway – 8th Floor – Hearing Room 3, 1 p.m.

Committee on Economic Development, 250 Broadway – 8th Floor – Hearing Room 2, 1 p.m.

Committee on Fire and Emergency Management, Council Chambers – City Hall, 1 p.m.

Wednesday, October 29th

Committee on Finance, Committee Room – City Hall, 11 a.m.

City Council Stated Meeting, Council Chambers – City Hall, 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 30th

Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection, Council Chambers – City Hall, 10 a.m.

Committee on Oversight and Investigations, 250 Broadway – 8th Floor – Hearing Room 3, 10 a.m.

Committee on Children and Youth, 250 Broadway – 8th Floor – Hearing Room 2, 10 a.m.

Committee on Education, 250 Broadway – 8th Floor – Hearing Room 3, 1 p.m.

Committee on Technology, 250 Broadway – 8th Floor – Hearing Room 2, 1 p.m.

Committee on Contracts, 250 Broadway – 8th Floor – Hearing Room 2, 1 p.m.

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**120 Broadway, 28th Floor
New York, New York 10271**
Telephone (212) 652-3890

**111 Washington Avenue, St. 401
Albany, New York 12210**
Telephone (518) 449-3320

**1220 19th Street NW, St. 600
Washington, D.C. 20036**
Telephone (202) 964-4753