

# From Washington to Albany:

## 2020 Preliminary Election Results & Analysis

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### President

In his quest for the presidency, Vice President Joe Biden won New York with 58 percent of the vote.

### Preliminary Congressional Results

It appears two congressional seats have flipped in the 2020 election cycle in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> congressional district.

1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District (Suffolk County) – Incumbent U.S. Representative Lee Zeldin (R) leads his Democratic challenger Nancy Gorooff with 59% of the vote (unofficially).

2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District (open seat; Nassau/Suffolk) – Republican Andrew Garbarino leads his Democratic challenger Jackie Gordon with 52% of the vote.

3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District (Nassau/Suffolk/Queens) – Democrat U.S. Representative Tom Suozzi is locked in a tight race against Republican challenger George Santos.

11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (Staten Island & South Brooklyn) – Incumbent U.S. Representative Max Rose trails his Republican challenger Nicole Malliotakis who garnered 57% of the vote (unofficially). Ms. Malliotakis declared victory while U.S. Representative Rose maintained he would wait until the absentee ballots are counted.

18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (Hudson Valley) – Incumbent U.S. Representative Sean Patrick Maloney (D) leads his Republican challenger Chele Farely with 47% of the vote (unofficially).

19<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (Upper Hudson Valley/Catskills) – Incumbent U.S. Representative Antonio Delgado leads his Republican challenger, Kyle Van Water, with 47% of the vote (unofficially).

22<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District (Oneida, Herkimer, Cortlandt & Madison) – Incumbent U.S. Representative Anthony Brindisi (D) is trailing his Republican challenger, Claudia Tenney. Ms. Tenney leads with 54 percent of the vote (unofficially) with press reports indicating there are thousands of absentee ballots to be counted.

24<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (Cayuga, Onondaga, Oswego, Wayne) – Incumbent U.S. Representative John Katko (R) appears to have fended off his 2018 Democratic challenger, Dana Balter, once again with 58% of the vote (unofficially).

### **Preliminary Election Analysis – Senate & Assembly Democrats Retain Majorities**

While everyone anxiously awaits the results of the Presidential Election, the results of the elections in the State Senate and Assembly are trickling in as well. The balance of power in either house will not shift as Senate Democrats and Assembly Democrats appear to have maintained their majorities by comfortable margins.

### **Preliminary Senate Results**

Senate Democrats headed into the 2020 election cycle with control of 40 of the 63 seats in the chamber with an eye of picking up two more seats to obtain a veto proof majority. As we prepare this report, however, current projections suggest that Senate Democrats will hold onto 36 of the seats while Senate Republicans are confident they are on track to gain control of 27 to 29 seats. Among the battle lines Democrats vied to protect their freshman members who won in the 2018 Democratic wave on Long Island, which appears to have been hampered as President Trump carried not only Suffolk County but Nassau County as well.

The following is a key breakdown of the races still too close to call that will come down to the count of absentee ballots:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Senate District (Suffolk) - Freshman incumbent Senator Monica Martinez (D) is trailing Republican challenger Alexis Weik. Unofficial results have Weik leading Senator Martinez with 57% of the vote. Press reports indicate there are more than 20,000 absentee ballots to be counted.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Senate District (Nassau/Suffolk) - Freshman incumbent Senator James Gaughran (D) is trailing Republican challenger Ed Smyth, who currently has 55% of the vote (unofficially). Press reports indicate there are 35,000 absentee ballots to be counted, of which 17,000 are from Democrats and 7,000 from Republicans.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Senate District – Freshman incumbent Senator Kevin Thomas (D) is trailing Republican Dennis Dunne. Unofficial results have Dunne in the lead with 53 % of the vote. Press reports indicate there are 28,000 absentee ballots, of which 14,000 are from Democrats and 7,000 from Republicans.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Senate District (Kings) – Freshman incumbent Senator Andrew Gounardes (D) is trailing Republican challenger, Vito Bruno. Unofficial results have Bruno leading with 54% of the vote (unofficially). Press reports indicate there are more than 13,000 absentee ballots to be counted.
- 38<sup>th</sup> Senate District (open seat; Rockland/Westchester) – Republicans appeared to have flipped this seat as Republican William Weber leads Democrat Elijah Reichlin-Melnick. Unofficial results have Weber leading with 52% of the vote (unofficially).
- 40<sup>th</sup> Senate District (Westchester/Dutchess) – Freshman incumbent Senator Pete Harckham (D) is trailing Republican Rob Astorino, former Westchester County Executive and 2014 Republican nominee for Governor. Astorino is currently leading with 53% of the vote (unofficially).
- 42<sup>nd</sup> Senate District (Delaware, Orange, Sullivan, Ulster) – Freshman incumbent Senator Jen Metzger (D) is trailing Republican Mike Martucci who currently has 55% of the vote (unofficially). Press reports indicate there are more than 25,000 absentee ballots to be counted.
- 46th Senate District (open seat; Albany, Greene, Montgomery, Schenectady, Ulster) – The race remains tight between newcomers Michelle Hinchey (D) and Richard Amedure (R). Amedure maintains a slight lead with 51 % of the vote (unofficially).
- 53<sup>rd</sup> Senate District (Madison, Oneida, Onondaga) – Freshman incumbent Senator Rachel May (D) ended election night with a 136 vote lead over her Republican challenger Sam Rogers (unofficially).
- 55<sup>th</sup> Senate District (open seat Monroe/Ontario) – Democrats appeared to have flipped this seat as Democrat Samra Brouk leads her Republican challenger Christopher Missick with 51 % of the vote (unofficially).
- 56th Senate District (open seat; Monroe) - Democrats appeared to have flipped this seat as Democrat Jeremy Cooney leads his Republican challenger Michael Barry by a slim margin of 51 % of the vote (unofficially).

- 60<sup>th</sup> Senate District (open seat; Erie) – Democrats appeared to have flipped this seat as Democrat Sean Ryan leads Republican challenger Republican Joshua Mertzluft with 62% of the vote (unofficially).

Overall, 16 Senators (or 25% of the Senate) are running unopposed, according to Ballotpedia. State of Races for Senate Leadership & Key Committee Chairs:

- Senate Temporary President and Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins (D) ran unopposed.
- Senate Deputy Majority Leader Michael Gianaris (D) ran unopposed.
- Senator Toby Stavisky, Chair of Senate Higher Education Committee, ran unopposed.
- Senator Gustavo Rivera, Chair of Senate Health Committee, defeated Republican Dustin Martinez with 87% of the vote.
- Senator Neil Breslin (D), Chair of Senate Insurance Committee, defeated Republican David Yule with 70% of the vote.

### **Preliminary Assembly Results**

Heading into the 2020 election cycle, the Assembly consisted of 103 Democrats, 42 Republicans and 1 independent. In the last three election cycle, Democrats were able to grow their majority to 106 or 107 seats. While the number of seats they control dipped below 100 based on the confirmed outcomes of Tuesday's elections, they expect after all the votes are counted in the outstanding races to have around 105 members, according to press reports. In 47 of the 150 Assembly Districts (approximately 31%), Assembly incumbents ran unopposed, according to election analysis from *The New York Times*.

Without all of the votes counted, there are ten Assembly Democratic incumbents trailing per the NYT's election analysis. Here is breakdown of 12 races being closely monitored:

- 4<sup>th</sup> Assembly District (Suffolk) - Assemblymember Steve Englebright (D) is trailing Republican Michael Ross. Unofficial results have Ross leading with 52% of the vote to Englebright's 47%.
- 10<sup>th</sup> Assembly District (Suffolk) - Assemblymember Steve Stern (D) is trailing Republican Jamie Silvestri. Unofficial results have Silvestri leading with 50.1% to Stern's 49.9%.
- 16<sup>th</sup> Assembly District (open seat; Nassau) – Republicans appear to be on track to flip this seat that has been held by the likes of NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli and the retiring Assemblymember Anthony D'Urso. Republican Ragini Srivastava is leading Democrat Gina Sillitti with 54% of the vote (unofficially).
- 21<sup>st</sup> Assembly District (Nassau) - Assemblymember Judy Griffin (D) is trailing Republican Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick. Unofficial results have Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick leading with 50.1% to Griffin's 49.3%.
- 26<sup>th</sup> Assembly District (Queens) - Assemblymember Ed Braunstein (D) is trailing Republican John-Alexander Sakelos. Unofficial results have Sakelos leading with 52% of the vote to Braunstein's 48%.
- 46<sup>th</sup> Assembly District (Kings) - Assemblymember Mathilde Frontus (D) is trailing Republican Mark Szuszkiewicz. Unofficial results have Szuszkiewicz leading with 54% of the vote to Frontus' 46%.
- 63<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District (Richmond) - Assemblymember Mike Cusick (D) is trailing Republican Anthony DeGuerre. Unofficial results have DeGuerre leading with 51% of the vote to Cusick's 49%.
- 97<sup>th</sup> Assembly District (Rockland) - Assemblymember Ellen Jaffee (D) is trailing Republican Michael Lawler. Unofficial results have Lawler leading with 59% of the vote to Jaffee's 42%.
- 127<sup>th</sup> Assembly District (Onondaga) -- Assemblymember Al Stirpe (D) is trailing Republican Mark Venesky. Unofficial results have Venesky leading with 51% of the vote to Stirpe's 49%.
- 135<sup>th</sup> Assembly District (Monroe) – Assemblymember Mark Johns (R) is leading his Democratic challenger Jen Lunsford with 55% of the vote (unofficially). Lunsford remains hopeful as there are more than 22,000 absentee ballots to be counted.
- 143<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District (Erie) – Assemblymember Monica Piga Wallace (D) is trailing Republican Frank Smierciak. Unofficial results have Smierciak leading with 52% of the vote to Wallace's 48%.
- 146<sup>th</sup> Assembly District (Erie/Niagara) -- Assemblymember Karen McMahon (D) is trailing Republican Robin Wolfgang. Unofficial results have Wolfgang leading with 49.6% to McMahon's 49.4%.

The spokesperson for the Assembly Majority remains confident the above Democratic incumbents will prevail once the absentee ballots have been counted.

State of Races for Assembly Leadership & Key Committee Chairs:

- Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie (D) defeated his Republican challenger Brenton Ritchie with 93% of the vote.
- Assembly Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes (D) defeated Republican challenger with Sean Miles 89% of the vote.
- Assemblymember Richard Gottfried (D), Chair of Assembly Health Committee, ran unopposed.
- Assemblymember Debra Glick (D), Chair of Assembly Higher Education Committee, defeated challenger Republican Tamara Lashchyk, with 84% of the vote.
- Assemblymember Kevin Cahill (D), Chair of Assembly Insurance Committee, defeated Republican challenger Rex Bridges with 66% of the vote.
- Assemblymember Aileen Gunther (D), Chair of Assembly Mental Health Committee, ran unopposed.