

From Washington to Albany: 2020 Preliminary Election Results & Analysis

Prepared by:
Karin Carreau, Carreau Consulting
Richard Gallo, Gallo Associates
Jamie Papapetros, Gallo Associates



President

While the Vice President, Joe Biden and Senator Kamala Harris were declared by the media on November 7, to have been the victors in the Presidential race, States across the nation are now working to certify their final tallies. They must do so by December 8th to lock in their Electors. Such Electors, which are proportionally representative to the number of congressional and senate seats in a state, will then cast their votes, in most cases, for the candidate who won the most votes in the state by December 14th.

Preliminary Congressional Results

While many races have yet to be officially certified, it appears one congressional seat has flipped (11TH) and one still hangs in the balance in the 22nd. While we await the final counts and certifications, this is where we stand today...

1st Congressional District (Suffolk County) – Incumbent U.S. Representative Lee Zeldin ® has held onto his seat by a comfortable margin over Democratic challenger Nancy Goroff.

2nd Congressional District (open seat; Nassau/Suffolk) – Republican Andrew Garbarino has been declared the victor over his Democratic challenger Jackie Gordon.

3rd Congressional District (Nassau/Suffolk/Queens) – Democrat U.S. Representative Tom Suozzi has overcome a 4,000 vote Election Day deficit to secure a third term in Washington against Republican challenger George Santos.

11th Congressional District (Staten Island & South Brooklyn) – Incumbent U.S. Representative Max Rose conceded his seat to Republican challenger Nicole Malliotakis.

18th Congressional District (Hudson Valley) – Incumbent U.S. Representative Sean Patrick Maloney (D) leads his Republican challenger Chele Farely with 51.4 percent of the vote. Absentee ballots were accepted until November 10th and still being counted.

19th Congressional District (Upper Hudson Valley/Catskills) – Incumbent U.S. Representative Antonio Delgado appears to have held his seat for a second term as he leads his Republican challenger, Kyle Van Water, by over 16,000 votes.

22nd Congressional District (Oneida, Herkimer, Cortlandt & Madison) – Incumbent U.S. Representative Anthony Brindisi (D) is closing in on his Election Day deficit in a rematch against Republican challenger, Claudia Tenney. While he is still trailing Tenney, votes are still being counted - the final results of this race remain too close to call.

24th Congressional District (Cayuga, Onondaga, Oswego, Wayne) – Incumbent U.S. Representative John Katko (R) has fended off his 2018 Democratic challenger, Dana Balter.

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 toward picking up two more seats to obtain a veto proof majority (still in play). Given the record number of votes cast by mail, calling many races based on Election Day tallies proved impossible. As the counting continues in several races, the November 18th landscape appears to give the Democrats 41 seats, with another victory likely.

- **3rd Senate District (Suffolk)** – *Republicans likely flip* -- 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. As of 11/18/20 – no press reports on the how many absentee ballots have been counted but it appears to be a tall order for Martinez to come back from election night deficit.
- **5th Senate District (Nassau/Suffolk)** – *Democrats Maintain* -- Freshman incumbent Senator James Gaughran (D) trailed his Republican challenger, Ed Smyth, on election night by 13,844 votes. Press reports indicate there were 43,903 absentee ballots to be counted of which 21,322 were from Democrats, 9,417 from Republicans and 11,185 from voters not enrolled in either party. After the county of ballots from Nassau County, the Republican challenger’s lead shrank to just over 4,000 votes. As of yesterday (Tuesday, November 17), there are 15,000 ballots from Suffolk County left to be counted. A spokesperson for Senator Gaughran said, “While the ballots are overwhelmingly trending Democratic, our democracy demands every ballot be counted. I’m confident that this full count will favor Senator Gaughran.” **Breaking News:** New York Democratic Chairman Jay Jacobs along with Senate Deputy Majority Leader Michael Gianaris holding noon press conference today to declare victory for Senator Gaughran.
- **6th Senate District (Nassau)** -- *Democrats Maintain* – Although Freshman incumbent Senator Kevin Thomas (D) trailed his Republican challenger Dennis Dunne on election night, the counting of absentee ballots has Senator Thomas over the top. Senator Thomas has declared victory.
- **22nd Senate District (Kings)** – *Democrats Maintain*-- While Freshman incumbent Senator Andrew Gounardes (D) trailed his Republican challenger, Vito Bruno, on election night by more than 5,000 votes he was declared the victor last evening as he pulled ahead by 2,500 votes.

- **38th Senate District (open seat; Rockland/Westchester)** – *Democrats Maintain* -- Although the Republican challenger William Weber led in the vote count on Election night, Democrat Elijah Reichlin-Melnick is on track to prevail as he leads by 1,766 votes with 19,000 ballots left to count, which come from overwhelmingly Democratic voters/districts. The expectation is Reichlin-Melnick will increase his lead.
- **40th Senate District (Westchester/Duchess)** – *No declared winner* -- Freshman incumbent Senator Pete Harekham (D) is trailing Republican Rob Astorino, former Westchester County Executive and 2014 Republican nominee for Governor, by about 7,400 votes. Press reports indicate there are 37,000 absentee ballots left to be counted in Westchester County.
- **42nd Senate District (Delaware, Orange, Sullivan, Ulster)** – *No declared winner*, however, it is unlikely freshman incumbent Senator Jen Metzger (D) can overcome her deficit of 8,000 votes against Republican Mike Martucci. 20,000 absentee ballots left to be counted.
- **46th Senate District (open seat; Albany, Greene, Montgomery, Schenectady, Ulster)** – *No declared winner* -- Democrat Michelle Hinchey (D) trails Republican Richard Amedure by 5,800 votes, however, with 17,000 absentee ballots left to be counted from Democratic leaning Albany and Ulster counties she is expected to perform well.
- **50th Senate District (open seat; Cayuga, Onondaga)** – *No declared winner* – Democrat John Mannion squared off against Republican Angi Renna for this vacant seat, which has been in Republican control for decades. Republican Renna finished election night ahead by 7,000 votes, but that lead has been cut in half with the counting of absentee ballots. There are still approximately 27,000 absentee ballots left to be counted which will not be counted until after Thanksgiving due to an Onondaga County Board of Elections worker testing positive for COVID-19.
- **51st Senate District (open seat; Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Herkimer, Otsego, Schoharie, Tompkins, Ulster)** – *Republicans Maintain* – Republican Peter Oberacker, a business owner and Otsego County Legislator, prevailed over Democrat Jim Barber for the seat held by longtime Senator James Seward who is retiring at the end of the year.
- **53rd Senate District (Madison, Oneida, Onondaga)** – *Democrats Maintain* – Although Freshman incumbent Senator Rachel May (D) ended election night with only 136 vote lead over her Republican challenger Sam Rogers, the counting of absentee ballots put her ahead by 11,000 votes with 5,000 ballots left to be counted as of November 12. Senator May has declared victory.
- **55th Senate District (open seat; Monroe/Ontario)** - *Republican to Democrat Flip* – Democrat Samra Brouk prevailed over her Republican challenger Christopher Missick by more than 22,000 votes. Senator-election Brouk has declared victory. This seat had been held by Senator Funke.
- **56th Senate District (open seat; Monroe)** - *Republican to Democrat Flip* – On Election Democrat Jeremy Cooney lead his Republican challenger Michael Barry by 882 votes, however the counting of the absentee ballots put Cooney over the top. The final vote tally: Democrat Jeremy Cooney finished with 65,786 votes while Republican Michael Barry received 47,869. This seat had been held by Joe Robach since 2003.
- **60th Senate District (open seat; Erie)** – *Republican to Democrat Flip* -- Democrats have flipped this seat as Democrat Sean Ryan defeated Republican challenger Republican Joshua Mertzluft. This seat had been held by Senator Chris Jacobs.

- **61st Senate District (open seat; Erie, Genesee, Monroe)** -- *Republicans Maintain* - Republican Ed Rath defeated Democrat Jacqui Berger for the seat held by longtime Senator Michael Ranzenhofer (R) who is retiring.

Assembly Results (As of 11/18/20)

- **4th Assembly District (Suffolk)** – *No declared winner* -- Assembly member Steve Englebright (D) is trailing Republican Michael Ross. Unofficial results have Ross leading with 52% of the vote to Englebright's 47%.
- **10th Assembly District (Suffolk)** - *No declared winner* -- Assembly member Steve Stern (D) is trailing Republican Jamie Silvestri. Unofficial results have Silvestri leading with 50.1% to Stern's 49.9%.
- **16th Assembly District (open seat; Nassau)** – *Democrats Maintain* – While Republican Ragini Srivastava leading Democrat Gina Sillitti on election night by over 4,000 votes, Democrat Gina Sillitti pulled ahead after the counting of the absentee ballots. As of today, Gina Sillitti has 53.6% of the vote to Ragini Srivastava 45.9%.
- **21st Assembly District (Nassau)** - *Democrats Maintain* -- Although assembly member Judy Griffin (D) trailed Republican Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick on election night, the counting of absentee ballots has put the incumbent over the top. Republican Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick has conceded the race.
- **26th Assembly District (Queens)** - *Democrats Maintain* - Assemblymember Ed Braunstein declared victory over Republican John-Alexander Sakelos after winning over 75% of absentee ballots. He is leading by about 5,000 votes, a swing of about 7,000 votes from Election Day.
- **46th Assembly District (Kings)** – *Democrats Maintain* - Assemblymember Mathylde Frontus (D) trailed Republican Mark Szuszkiewicz but after counting of the absentee ballots secured a second term by edging out her challenger by 398 votes.
- **63rd Assembly District (Richmond)** – *Democrats Maintain* - Although Assemblymember Mike Cusick (D) trailed Republican Anthony DeGuerre on election night the counting of absentee ballot put the incumbent over the top.
- **97th Assembly District (Rockland)** – *Democrat to Republican flip* -- Republican Michael Lawler defeated Assemblymember Ellen Jaffee (D).
- **127th Assembly District (Onondaga)** – *No declared winner* -- Assemblymember Al Stirpe (D) is trailing Republican Mark Venesky. Unofficial results have Venesky leading with 51% of the vote to Stirpe's 49%. Final results will not be in until after Thanksgiving due to an Onondaga County Board of Elections worker testing positive for COVID-19.
- **135th Assembly District (Monroe)** – *Republican to Democrat flip* – Longtime Assemblymember Mark Johns (R) was defeated by Democratic challenger Jen Lunsford who garnered 50.4% of the vote.
- **143rd Assembly District (Erie)** – *Democrats Maintain* -- Assemblymember Monica Piga Wallace (D) overcame an election night deficit to defeat Republican Frank Smierciak.
- **146th Assembly District (Erie/Niagara)** -- *Democrats Maintain* -- Assemblymember Karen McMahan (D) overcame an election night deficit to defeat Republican Robin Wolfgang.