

83.5% of School Budgets Passed

On May 17th, school districts across the state submitted their budgets for a public vote. Overall, the vast majority of those budgets were approved — 567 of the 679 districts reported to the State Education Department that their budget was approved and 112 districts reported their budget was defeated — an 83.5% approval rate. This 83.5% passage rate is below last year's passage rate of 84.9%, but just above the 36-year average passage rate of 82.4%.

School districts in four downstate counties — Nassau, Orange, Suffolk and Westchester — had a more difficult time winning voter approval of their budget proposals. Of the 112 budget defeats, 58 came from these four counties.

Districts with a defeated budget may resubmit the same budget to the voters, resubmit a revised budget to the voters, or adopt a contingency budget. If a second budget proposal is defeated, the district must adopt a contingency budget. Spending increases under a contingency budget are capped at 3.24 percent over last year's level.

The following page provides a listing of those districts that had their budget defeated.

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2005 Budget Defeats

(by county)

COUNTY	DISTRICT	COUNTY	DISTRICT	COUNTY	DISTRICT
ALBANY	Berne Knox	NASSAU	Bellmore	SUFFOLK	Amityville
ALLEGANY	Andover		East Rockaway		Brentwood
BROOME	Susquehanna Valley		Farmingdale		Center Moriches
CAYUGA	Southern Cayuga		Franklin Square		Central Islip
			Freeport		Connetquot
			Glen Cove		Copiague
			Hempstead		East Islip
			Hewlett Woodmere		Hampton Bays
CHAUTAUQUA	Clymer		Lawrence		Harborfields
	Ripley		Locust Valley		Hauppauge
			Mineola		Huntington
CHENANGO	Bainbridge Guilford		New Hyde Park		Islip
			Oyster Bay		Lindenhurst
CLINTON	Beekmantown		Plainedge		Mattituck-Cutchogue
			Port Washington		Middle Country
COLUMBIA	Hudson		Roosevelt		North Babylon
	Kinderhook		Seaford		Northport
			Valley Stream 13		Oysterponds
DELAWARE	Charlotte Valley	NIAGARA	Royalton Hartland		Patchogue-Medford
	Roxbury				Sachem
					Shoreham-Wading River
DUTCHESS	Hyde Park	ONEIDA	Rome		Smithtown
			Sauquoit Valley		South Country
					South Huntington
ERIE	Frontier	ONONDAGA	Fabius-Pompey		Three Village
	Grand Island				West Babylon
	Lancaster	ONTARIO	East Bloomfield		William Floyd
			Manchester-Shortsville		
FULTON	Broadalbin-Perth			SULLIVAN	Eldred
	Northville				Monticello
					Sullivan West
GENESEEE	Elba	ORANGE	Chester		
			Cornwall		
			Minisink Valley	TIOGA	Owego-Apalachin
GREENE	Cairo-Durham		Monroe Woodbury		Spencer Van Etten
			Port Jervis		Waverly
HAMILTON	Indian Lake		Tuxedo		
			Warwick Valley		
MADISON	Stockbridge Valley	OSWEGO	Hannibal	TOMPKINS	Trumansburg
			Pulaski		
MONROE	Honeoye Falls			ULSTER	Onteora
					Rondout Valley
MONTGOMERY	Amsterdam	PUTNAM	Brewster		Saugerties
			Mahopac		
				WARREN	Warrensburg
		ROCKLAND	East Ramapo		
				WASHINGTON	Salem
		ST. LAWRENCE	Brasher Falls		
				WAYNE	Gananda
		SCHOHARIE	Sharon Springs		Marion
		SENECA	Romulus	WESTCHESTER	Edgemont
					Elmsford
		STEUBEN	Jasper-Troupsburg		Greenburgh
					Port Chester
					Tarrytown
					Yorktown
				WYOMING	Perry