

New records

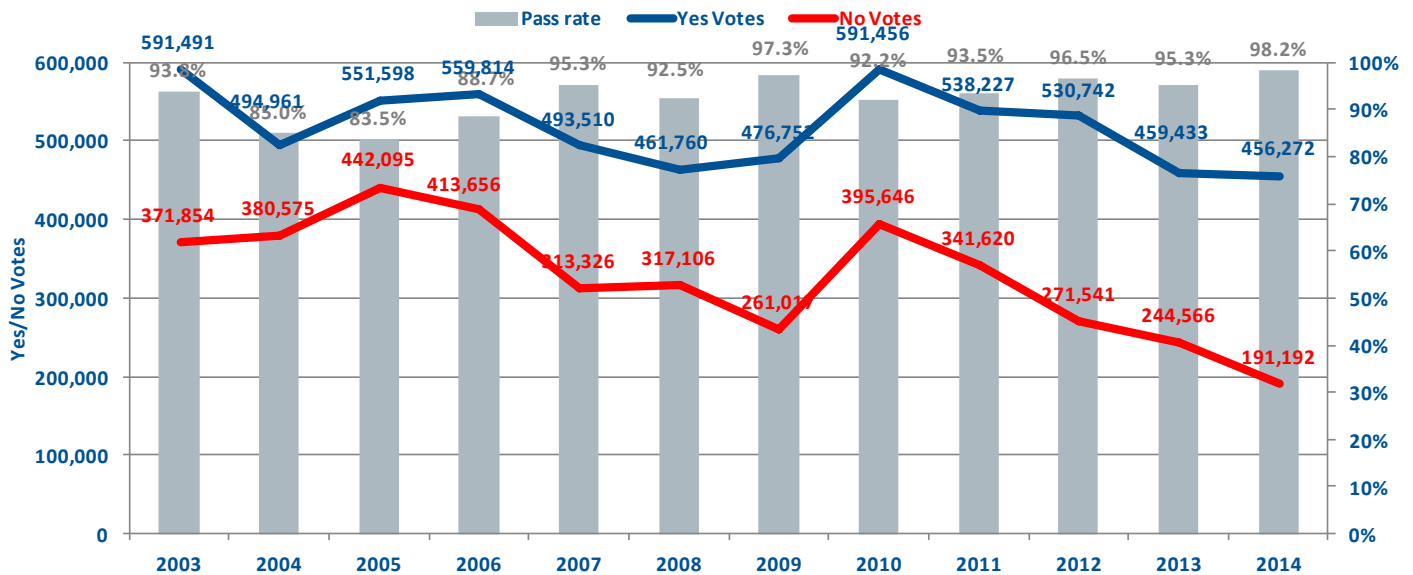
- Highest statewide passage rate: 98.2%. Previous record: 97.3% in 2009
- Highest yes vote percentage: 70.5%. Previous record: 66.2% in 2009.
- Lowest yes vote turnout (456,272). Previous record set a year ago. Yes votes down 0.7% from 2013, and 11.8% below average for 2003-2013.
- Lowest no vote turnout (191,192). Previous record set a year ago. No votes down 21.8% from 2013, and 43.5% below average for 2003-13.

Other highlights

- Three regions had a 100% pass rate: Lower Hudson Valley, Capital Region, Western New York. *Regions are explained below.*
- There was little variation in pass rates across regions. The lowest pass rates were in the Mohawk Valley (95.2%) and Mid-Hudson Valley (95.7%). The Mid-Hudson Valley has the lowest average pass rate of any region since 2003, 88.6% (all other regions have pass rates over 90%).
- 15 of 24 districts (62.5%) attempting to over-ride the tax cap were successful in obtaining the 60% super-majority vote necessary. A year ago, only 7 of 28 districts (25%) attempting over-rides succeeded.
- 99.7% of districts proposing budgets with tax levy increases within their limit gained approval by the simple majority of votes required. Budgets within the levy limit were approved by 99.2% of voters in 2012 and 98.3 percent of voters in 2013.
- Total turnout in over-ride districts was up 41%; total turnout in other districts was down 10%. In districts failing in an over-ride attempt, no votes were up 144% over last year.
- There was little variation in pass rates across Need/Resource Capacity Categories. However, as has been the case for every year since 2003, High Need Small Cities and Suburbs had the lowest pass rate (97.8%). *Need/Resource Capacity Categories were developed by the State Education Department and group districts based on local ability to fund education, student poverty, and district character (urban, suburban, rural).*
- High Need Small Cities and Suburbs also had the lowest yes vote percentage (64.9%) and have had the lowest yes percentage every year since 2003. Yes percentage for this group has averaged 57.8% since 2003. *This trend is one reason why the Council and other speculated before the tax cap was enacted that High Need Small Cities and Suburbs might have the greatest difficulty gaining the 60% super-majority needed to over-ride the tax cap.*
- High Need Rural Districts have the highest average pass rate (94.5) and yes vote percentage (65.0%) of all the groups for the years 2003 through 2014.
- With few districts having attempted tax cap over-rides, it is probably not valid to draw conclusions about patterns of success in over-riding the tax cap. However, it is clear that *High Need districts are less likely to attempt tax cap over-rides.* Each year both High Need Small Cities and Suburbs and High Need Rural Districts have been less likely to attempt over-rides than either Average or Low Need Districts. Excluding Kiryas Joel (a unique district), no High Need Small City or Suburb has succeeded in an over-ride attempt.

Tables and charts follow...

Statewide School Budget Outcomes Pass Rates and Yes and No Votes



STATEWIDE SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE RESULTS AND MAJOR FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

	'03-04	'04-05	'05-06	'06-07	'07-08	'08-09	'09-10	'10-11	'11-12	'12-13	'13-14	14-15
% Change in proposed tax levy	8.2%	8.7%	7.5%	6.1%	4.3%	3.7%	2.1%	3.2%	3.4%	2.2%	3.1%	1.9%
% Change in School Aid (Federal stimulus aid included, Big 5 Cities excluded)	-1.3%	4.7%	5.4%	7.0%	8.7%	9.4%	1.9%	-5.1%	-3.9%	3.8%	5.0%	5.6%
% Change in proposed school spending	4.8%	6.9%	6.6%	6.3%	6.1%	5.3%	2.3%	1.4%	1.3%	1.7%	3.1%	2.5%
School district budget passage rate	93.8%	85.0%	83.5%	88.7%	95.3%	92.5%	97.3%	92.2%	93.5%	96.5%	95.3%	98.2%
Yes votes	591,491	494,961	551,598	559,814	493,510	461,760	476,752	591,456	538,227	530,742	459,433	456,272
No votes	371,854	380,575	442,095	413,656	313,326	317,106	261,017	395,646	341,620	271,541	244,566	191,192
Yes change	NA	-16.3%	11.4%	1.5%	-11.8%	-6.4%	3.2%	24.1%	-9.0%	-1.4%	-13.4%	-0.7%
No vote change	NA	2.3%	16.2%	-6.4%	-24.3%	1.2%	-17.7%	51.6%	-13.7%	-20.5%	-9.9%	-21.8%
Change in proposed percentage tax increase	NA	6%	-14%	-19%	-30%	-14%	-43%	52%	6%	-35%	41%	-39%

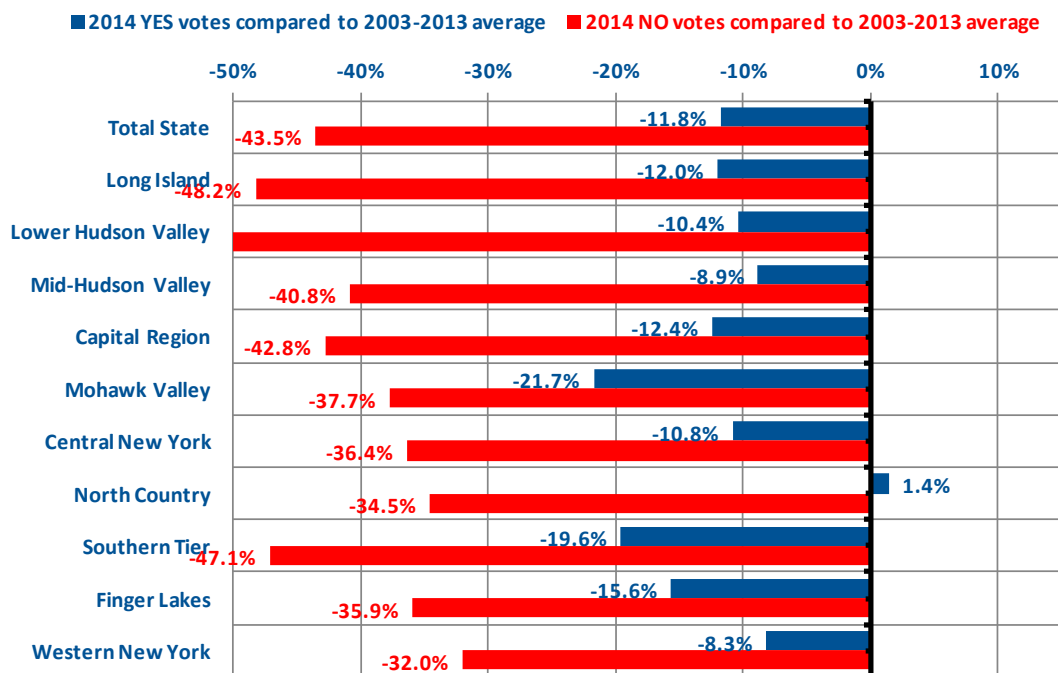
SOURCES: Council analysis of New York State Education Department budget vote results, Property Tax Report Card, and School Aid data.

May 23, 2014

SUMMARY FOR DISTRICTS GROUPED BY REGION

Region	Passing Percentage		Yes Vote %		Yes Vote Turnout		No Vote Turnout	
	2014	Average,	2014	Average,	Change from 2013	vs.	Change from 2013	vs.
		2003-14		2003-14		2003-13 Average		2003-13 Average
Total State	98.2%	92.6%	70.5%	61.6%	-0.7%	-11.8%	-21.8%	-43.5%
Long Island	97.6%	88.6%	70.0%	59.6%	-3.6%	-12.0%	-26.4%	-48.2%
Lower Hudson Valley	100.0%	92.1%	72.0%	60.2%	-3.7%	-10.4%	-32.5%	-50.8%
Mid-Hudson Valley	95.7%	85.8%	67.1%	58.1%	-3.1%	-8.9%	-16.8%	-40.6%
Capital Region	100.0%	93.3%	70.4%	61.8%	-5.3%	-12.4%	-21.8%	-42.8%
Mohawk Valley	95.2%	91.3%	67.1%	62.7%	2.0%	-21.7%	6.3%	-37.7%
Central New York	98.1%	95.0%	71.8%	65.5%	10.2%	-10.8%	2.5%	-36.4%
North Country	97.0%	95.4%	74.6%	66.2%	6.3%	1.4%	-19.9%	-34.5%
Southern Tier	98.5%	94.5%	73.3%	65.0%	-2.5%	-19.3%	-17.3%	-46.7%
Finger Lakes	98.6%	95.4%	70.7%	65.1%	12.3%	-15.6%	3.3%	-35.9%
Western New York	100.0%	95.6%	70.9%	64.6%	0.7%	-8.3%	-34.7%	-32.0%

School Budget Vote Turnout Compared to Historical Averages



SUMMARY FOR DISTRICTS GROUPED BY NEED/RESOURCE CAPACITY CATEGORY

Need/Resource Capacity Category	Passing Percentage		Yes Vote %		Yes Vote Turnout		No Vote Turnout	
	Average,		Average,		Change	vs.	Change	vs.
	2014	2003-14	2014	2003-14	from 2013	2003-13 Average	from 2013	2003-13 Average
Total State	98.2%	92.6%	70.5%	61.6%	-0.7%	-12.5%	-21.8%	-43.9%
High Need Small City/Suburb	97.8%	87.0%	64.9%	57.8%	-8.8%	-19.5%	-20.5%	-42.6%
High Need Rural	98.1%	94.5%	72.3%	65.0%	6.9%	-13.3%	-5.0%	-41.1%
Average Need	98.2%	92.4%	70.2%	61.7%	-0.8%	-12.8%	-20.1%	-42.9%
Low need	98.5%	92.5%	71.9%	61.5%	-0.3%	-10.0%	-28.6%	-46.6%

Note: Figures may not match statewide or regional figures -- results have been excluded for districts which do not qualify for regular state aid and for previously separate districts now part of a consolidated district.

OVER-RIDE HISTORY FOR DISTRICTS GROUPED BY NEED/RESOURCE CAPACITY CATEGORY

Need/Resource Capacity Category	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		AVERAGE	
	%		%		%		%	
	Attempting	% Passing	Attempting	% Passing	Attempting	% Passing	Attempting	% Passing
Total State	7.8%	65.4%	4.2%	25.0%	3.6%	62.5%	5.2%	51.0%
High Need Small City/Suburb	6.5%	33.3%	4.3%	50.0%	2.2%	100.0%	4.3%	61.1%
<i>-- excluding Kiryas Joel</i>	4.4%	0.0%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%	NA	2.2%	0.0%
High Need Rural	5.2%	87.5%	2.6%	25.0%	1.9%	33.3%	3.2%	48.6%
Average Need	8.9%	56.7%	5.1%	23.5%	4.5%	60.0%	6.2%	46.7%
Low need	8.3%	81.8%	3.8%	20.0%	3.8%	80.0%	5.3%	60.6%

Note: Figures may not match statewide or regional figures -- results have been excluded for districts which do not qualify for regular state aid and for previously separate districts now part of a consolidated district.

Regions are defined as follows:

- **Long Island:** Nassau and Suffolk Counties
- **New York City** (New York City is not covered by school budget voting)
- **Lower Hudson Valley:** Putnam, Rockland, Westchester
- **Mid-Hudson Valley:** Dutchess, Orange, Sullivan, Ulster
- **Capital Region:** Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren, Washington
- **Mohawk Valley:** Fulton, Herkimer, Montgomery, Oneida, Schoharie
- **Central New York:** Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, Oswego, Tompkins
- **North Country:** Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lewis, St. Lawrence
- **Southern Tier:** Broome, Chemung, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga
- **Finger Lakes:** Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming, Yates
- **Western New York:** Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara