



# GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE



In my State of the State, I presented our commonsense vision for the future of New York, to focus on the mental health crisis, help New Yorkers manage the rising cost of living, and make our state safer.

Through the policies I have laid out in my State of the State and this Budget, my administration will accomplish a solid, balanced budget without cuts or placing an added burden on taxpayers, all while delivering the programs and services New Yorkers care about most.

We will do this by taking on categories of crime that remain far too high: like retail theft, domestic violence and hate crimes. We'll continue to rebuild our mental health system and keep our young people safe in school and online. We're investing in the future leaders of New York by going back to basics with reading, teaching kids to swim, and focusing on maternal and infant health. We're also taking steps to make New York more affordable. This includes decisive action to increase our housing stock, which will help keep New York families in their homes and reverse the decades long trend of outmigration.

On the heels of two years of incredible growth, this Budget includes transformational investments while remaining committed to our fiscally responsible approach. While this budget is the largest in state history, we are also taking bold steps to control Medicaid spending and ensure our public healthcare programs are sustainable for the next generation, while also providing assistance for the most vulnerable New Yorkers. We will invest record resources in our schools and provide aid to New York City as it continues to shelter tens of thousands of migrants who have arrived in our country over the last two years. We'll do all of this without raising income taxes because it isn't fair to ask New Yorkers to pay any more than they already do. We must continue to be smart and reasonable during these uncertain times.

We are focused on the areas that will have the highest impact to improve people's lives, and we will use the entirety of this responsible yet ambitious budget to address the needs of every New Yorker.

My continued commitment is to fight the right fights for New Yorkers, and pursue the common good, with common sense, by finding common ground. Together, we'll make our New York and our future even stronger.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy Hochul".

**KATHY HOCHUL**  
GOVERNOR