

# GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

In my State of the State two weeks ago, I proposed a whole new era for New York – one in which my administration, my fellow statewide elected officials, and the legislature will finally work together to deliver for New Yorkers.

Together, we must pass a bold agenda that will do more than just help us recover from this pandemic. We need to embrace this moment of possibility, and use it to change New York's destiny.

We will do this by rebuilding our healthcare and teacher workforces; providing tax relief to those who need it most; speeding up economic growth and creating good-paying middle-class jobs; strengthening our infrastructure and confronting climate change; securing public safety and protecting our communities; making housing more affordable to ensure every New Yorker has a roof over their head; and enacting bold reforms to restore trust in our State government.

This is an extraordinary time, and it must be met with extraordinary solutions. The policies I laid out in the State of the State are ambitious, but just as important, they are realistic and achievable.

We are in a position to fully fund these historic policies by making historic investments, including record aid for our children's education, a transformative infrastructure capital plan, and a groundbreaking program to rebuild the healthcare industry.

But we are also being smart and responsible, and recognizing that we must fund our reserves to historic levels as well as part of a balanced Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2023.

Our state is in a strong financial position due to a combination of factors, including increased tax receipts, a thriving stock market, and an influx of federal aid through the American Rescue Plan and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. This is a major change from where we were this time last year, when it was projected that the State may experience billion-dollar deficits in the years to come.

We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to make investments in our State and in our people that will pay dividends for decades. And we're going to take it.

We will use these resources on the types of things that will make a real, significant, and positive impact on people's day-to-day lives today, and for years to come. We will use the entirety of this bold, ambitious \$216 billion budget to directly address the immediate needs of New Yorkers.



*Kathy Hochul*

**Kathy Hochul**  
Governor  
State of New York