

# **COUNTY OF ALBANY**



## **CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION**

**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT &  
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING A  
REDUCTION IN THE SIZE OF THE  
ALBANY COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

**JANUARY 2014**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	Executive Summary .....	1
II.	Background and History.....	2
III.	The Albany County Legislature Should Be Reduced by 14-Members.....	4
	A. Reduce the Cost of Government.....	4
	B. Bring Albany County in Line With Its Peers .....	4
	C. Enhance Efficiency .....	5
	D. Increase Bi-Partisanship .....	5
	E. Promote Competition in Elections.....	5
	F. Enhance Accountability.....	6
IV.	Bi-Partisan and Inclusive Redistricting is Necessary to Implement Reduction.....	6

## I. Executive Summary

Pursuant to the provisions of the County Charter, the Albany County Legislature (“the County Legislature”) is composed of 39 elected members.<sup>1</sup> At its current size, the County Legislature is, by far, the largest county legislative body in New York State. Counties with vastly larger populations than Albany<sup>2</sup> all have significantly smaller legislatures, such as Suffolk (18),<sup>3</sup> Nassau (19),<sup>4</sup> Westchester (17),<sup>5</sup> Erie (11)<sup>6</sup> and Monroe (29)<sup>7</sup> counties. This feature of Albany County government has long been a subject of public interest and debate.<sup>8</sup>

The Albany County Charter Review Commission (“the Commission”) has carefully deliberated over whether the residents of Albany County would be better served by reducing the size of their County Legislature. The Commission has been mindful that for nearly a century the County has been governed by a legislative body of 39 members. The Commission also recognizes that an excessive reduction in the size of the County Legislature could produce unintended consequences, arising from the fact that a smaller County Legislature would mean larger legislative districts in which members represent more residents. If, for example, the County Legislature was reduced to the size of the smallest

---

<sup>1</sup> Section 206 of the Albany County Charter provides that, “[f]or purposes of electing County Legislators, the County shall be divided into thirty-nine districts.”

<sup>2</sup> As of the 2010 Census, the population of Albany County was 304,204.

<sup>3</sup> As of the 2010 Census, the population of Suffolk County was 1,493,350.

<sup>4</sup> As of the 2010 Census, the population of Nassau County was 1,349,532.

<sup>5</sup> As of the 2010 Census, the population of Westchester County was 949,113.

<sup>6</sup> As of the 2010 Census, the population of Erie County was 919,040.

<sup>7</sup> As of the 2010 Census, the population of Erie County was 744,344.

<sup>8</sup> See, e.g., Lauren Stanforth, *Can you afford this legislature?*, Times Union, Jan. 12, 2014, accessible at <http://www.timesunion.com/local/article/Can-taxpayers-afford-the-Albany-County-5134884.php> (last visited on Jan. 13, 2014); *Cut size, cost of county legislature*, Times Union, Nov. 20, 2012, accessible at <http://www.timesunion.com/opinion/article/Cut-size-cost-of-county-legislature-823099.php>; *Albany County can do just fine without so many legislators*, Times Union, Oct. 29, 2007, accessible at <http://www.bizjournals.com/albany/stories/2007/10/29/editorial1.html?page=all> (last visited on Jan. 13, 2014).

county legislature in the State, a 7-member body,<sup>9</sup> individual Legislators would represent approximately 43,458 residents, rather than the current figure of approximately 7,800. As a consequence, Legislators would be less accessible to their constituents than they are now. The cost of elections would increase, which, in turn, could reduce the number of people able to afford to run for election and make candidates more dependent on special interests to help pay for their elections. It may also be difficult, if not impossible, to draw the lines of legislative districts to ensure adequate representation of minorities, the urban poor, and rural parts of the County.

Nevertheless, the Commission believes that a 14-member reduction in the size of the County Legislature, from 39 to 25 members, is appropriate and necessary. The Commission has no doubt that the County Legislature could function at least as effectively as it now does if it was composed of 25 members. Such a reduction would produce several benefits, too, including an overall savings in the cost of governance. Additionally, a reduction would be in keeping with the current trend in New York State to reduce the size of county legislative bodies, as a means of achieving improved efficiency, performance and accountability.

What follows is a brief history of the size of the Albany County Legislature, a discussion of the factors that led the Commission to recommend a 14-member reduction, and additional recommendations for the next round of legislative redistricting.

## **II. Background and History**

The county-form of government in New York State is derived from the “Duke’s Laws” of 1665, which created “ridings” or judicial districts. In 1683, an act of the first Assembly of the Province of New York established the first 12 counties in the Province of New York. County legislative bodies began at the same time, when “freeholders,” later known as “supervisors,” were elected to represent each town in the establishment of tax rates to defray the costs of county government, including the operation of a court house and a jail. Albany County was one of the original counties of the Province, and its boundaries theoretically included all of New York north of Dutchess and Ulster Counties, Bennington County Vermont, and extended westward.

In 1788, the Legislature of the then-fledgling State of New York divided the State into counties, and Albany County included the areas of present day Rensselaer, Washington, Saratoga, Schenectady, Greene and Schoharie Counties. The final partition of Albany County occurred in 1809, establishing its present geographic boundaries.

A board of supervisors is a legislative body consisting of the supervisor of each town in the county, and one supervisor elected in each ward in each city in the county. Prior to 1870, Albany County was governed by a Board of Supervisors with 19 members, nine of

---

<sup>9</sup> The Orleans and Franklin County Legislatures are 7-member bodies. As of the 2010 Census, the population of Orleans County was 42,833 and Franklin County 51,999.

whom came from each of nine towns, and one from each of 10 wards in the City of Albany. The 1870 Board of Supervisors had 29 members with the addition of four supervisors from the newly incorporated City of Cohoes, and 16 members from the City of Albany which had added additional wards. In 1896, the Town of Watervliet was split into the towns of Colonie and Green Island, and the City of Watervliet. The 1898 Board of Supervisors had 38 members, including the supervisors of the 10 towns, and supervisors from the 19 wards of Albany, six wards of Cohoes and three districts of Watervliet. The Board of Supervisors grew to 39 members in 1920 when Watervliet was divided into four wards.

From 1920 until it was replaced by the Albany County Legislature in 1968, the Albany County Board of Supervisors consisted of 39 supervisors, one from each of the 10 towns in the county, 19 supervisors from the City of Albany, six supervisors from Cohoes, and four supervisors from Watervliet. The change from a Board of Supervisors to a County Legislature brought Albany County into compliance with rulings of the U.S. Supreme Court that legislative districts must contain relatively equal populations.

On January 1, 1968, the Albany County Legislature came into being.<sup>10</sup> Then, as now, the County Legislature consisted of 39 members elected from individual districts, making it the largest county legislative body in New York State. Of municipal legislative bodies, only the New York City Council has more members (51). Today, the mean population of a legislative district in Albany County is approximately 7,800 — which is 2,000 less than the medial population of county legislative districts in the State.<sup>11</sup> However, 37 counties have a smaller mean legislative district population.<sup>12</sup> Every census since 1810 has shown population growth for Albany County, except for 1980, which showed a slight drop in population. The mean population of a legislative district was 4,772 in 1920 and is, as noted, currently 7,800.

Albany County is the 9th largest county in population in New York, and has the 6th largest legislative budget (\$2,957,000), with salaries of members of the County Legislature totaling \$873,067.<sup>13</sup> Legislators receive a base salary of \$21,752, but the legislative leaders are paid higher compensation. The Legislature's Chairperson receives a salary of \$36,257; the Majority Leader \$28,148; and the Minority Leader \$25,590.

---

<sup>10</sup> On January 1, 1976, Albany County government was revised once more when a new County Charter went into effect with provisions for a County Executive along with a 39-seat County Legislature. See Harold Faber, *3 MORE COUNTIES ADOPT CHARTERS*, N.Y. Times, Nov. 25, 1973, p. 59.

<sup>11</sup> See Appendix A (attached hereto).

<sup>12</sup> *Id.*

<sup>13</sup> See Appendix B (attached hereto).

When Erie County downsized its Legislature from 15 to 11 members, the appropriation for salaries went from \$658,821 to \$488,468; however, the total appropriation for the Legislature went from \$3,334,631 in 2011 to \$2,962,717 in 2012 and up to \$3,207,035 in 2013. When Ulster County downsized from 33 to 23 members, the appropriation for Legislator salaries went from \$371,223 in 2011 to \$260,000 in 2013 (Legislator salary = \$10,000). The total appropriation for the Legislature went from \$1,038,800 to \$887,622 during the same time period, a 14.5% reduction in the total appropriation for the Legislature.

### **III. The Albany County Legislature Should Be Reduced by 14-Members**

It is fair to say there is no objectively right size for a county legislature. Underlying whatever number a county ultimately settles on are fundamental policy questions and value judgments. Amongst these are the kind of representation county residents wish to have in their legislative branch of county government and how much they are willing to pay for it.

After careful reflection, the Commission is persuaded that a 14-member reduction in the size of the Albany County Legislature, from 39 to 25 members, holds the promise of several benefits, including those set forth below.

#### **A. Reduce the Cost of Government**

The size of the County Legislature directly impacts the amount of money spent to run government. For Albany County, fewer legislators would mean less money spent on government. Reducing the County Legislature by 14 members would result in a savings of \$304,528 in salaries. Assuming Legislators receive fringe benefits the same as other county employees (30%), there would be an additional savings of \$91,358, for a total savings of \$395,886. Assuming no other changes, the result would be a 13.4% reduction in the total appropriation for the County Legislature.<sup>14</sup> The net effect on the real property tax levy (\$75,399,691 in 2013) would be a reduction of approximately 0.45%.

#### **B. Bring Albany County in Line With Its Peers**

A reduction in the size of the County Legislature to 25 members would bring Albany County in line with its peers. In fact, Dutchess County,<sup>15</sup> closest in size to Albany County, has a 25-member legislature. Other peer counties have legislatures of comparable size.<sup>16</sup>

---

<sup>14</sup> A reduction in the size of the County Legislature should not be viewed as an opportunity to increase expenditures for staff support and operating expenses. To the contrary, such a reduction would provide the potential for decreasing such expenditures.

<sup>15</sup> As of the 2010 Census, the population of Dutchess County was 297,488.

Moreover, cutting the size of the County Legislature comports with the current downsizing trend around the State. For example:

- Broome County reduced its Legislature from 19 to 15 members in 2013;
- Erie County (which has population more than three times the size of Albany County) reduced its Legislature from 15 to 11 members in 2004;
- Niagara County reduced its Legislature from 19 to 15 members in 2012;
- Oneida County reduced its Legislature from 29 to 23 members in 2014;
- Onondaga County reduced its Legislature from 19 to 17 members in 2012; and
- Ulster County reduced its Legislature from 33 to 23 members in 2012.

Debates are also ongoing in other counties regarding the size of their respective legislatures, including Monroe<sup>17</sup> and Rockland counties.<sup>18</sup>

### C. **Enhance Efficiency**

A smaller County Legislature could make the body more efficient in its ability to debate and deliberate legislation by allowing members to have a better understanding of how issues are viewed differently in different areas.

### D. **Increase Bi-Partisanship**

Reducing the size of the County Legislature could lead to more bi-partisanship amongst members and a better understanding of each other and their respective constituents needs and interests.

### E. **Promote Competition in Elections**

A reduction in the number of members would make elections, especially primaries, more competitive. With fewer seats, more candidates would likely vie to hold them.

---

<sup>16</sup> Ulster County has a 23-member Legislature; its population, as of the 2010 Census, was 182,493. Orange County has a 21-member Legislature; its population, as of the 2010 Census, was 372,813.

<sup>17</sup> See, e.g., *Reduce Monroe County Legislature size? Good or bad idea?*, Rochester Turning, Feb. 26, 2010, accessible at <http://rochesterturning.com/2010/02/26/reduce-monroe-county-legislature-size-good-or-bad-idea/> (last visited on Jan. 13, 2014).

<sup>18</sup> See, e.g., *ON THE TABLE: Reduction of Size of County Legislature*, Rockland County Times, March 5, 2013, accessible at <http://www.rocklandtimes.com/2013/03/05/on-the-table-reduction-of-size-of-county-legislature/> (last visited on Jan. 13, 2014).

#### **F. Enhance Accountability**

Downsizing the County Legislature would increase the number of constituents in a legislative district from 7,800 to 12,168, an increase of approximately 56% (or 4,368 additional constituents). This will increase each member's proportionate influence and accountability.

To be sure, a case could be made for an even greater reduction in the size of the County Legislature than the modest 14-member reduction proposed by the Commission. However, the Commission believes that the level of its proposed reduction prudently balances the competing interests and considerations. Cutting against a greater reduction is the County's tradition, spanning more than a century, of having its legislators deeply rooted in the communities they serve. That tradition — reflected in smaller legislative districts — ensures that the voices of the County's diverse communities are heard in the County Legislature. Too great a reduction in the size of the County Legislature could also produce legislative districts so large that it would become difficult, if not impossible, to draw their lines in a manner that would allow for adequate representation of minorities and rural parts of the County, as well as other demographic, economic, racial and political groups.

#### **IV. Non-Partisan, Independent and Inclusive Redistricting is Necessary to Implement Reduction**

The reapportionment or restructuring of the Legislature, by law, can only be done once every 10 years, co-incident with the release of the Census.<sup>19</sup> Albany County reapportioned its Legislature in 2011 following the 2010 U.S. Census. Thus, Albany County appears to be barred from reducing the size of its Legislature until after 2020.<sup>20</sup>

In any event, reducing the size of the County Legislature is a profoundly important and complicated exercise, necessitating a complicated redistricting process. It is beyond the scope of the Commission's charge to be able to make recommendations regarding the specifics of redistricting or realignment of legislators that would be necessary. Nevertheless, the Commission recommends that such a review should be undertaken by a Redistricting or

---

<sup>19</sup> See N.Y. Municipal Home Rule Law §10(1)(ii)(a)(13)(f) ("Notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions of any general or special law, or any local law, ordinance, resolution or city or county charter heretofore or hereafter adopted, no local government may restructure its local legislative body (pursuant to provision of this chapter or any other provision of law) more than once in each decade commencing with the year nineteen hundred seventy . . . ."); see also *Matter of Rock v. Murphy*, 111 A.D.2d 593, 594, 494 N.Y.S.2d 429, 430 (3d Dept. 1985) ("By its clear language, the statute permits only one restructuring in each 10 years.").

<sup>20</sup> See *Wright v. County of Cattaraugus*, 41 A.D.3d 1303, 1303-04, 838 N.Y.S.2d 301, 302 (4th Dept. 2007) (striking down law to reduce the size of the county legislature on the ground that it would have affected a second legislative restricting within the same decade).

Reapportionment Commission that would draw the redistricting lines after the 2020 Census. The work of such a body will be crucial to the success of any final proposal regarding the precise number of legislators which should make-up the County Legislature. In the Commission's view, any proposal that imperils the voting rights of minorities, inappropriately favors some municipalities and communities over others, or threatens the viability of a robust two-party system in County government, would be a bad proposal and would call into question the validity of a reduction in the size of the County Legislature.

Accordingly, the Commission makes the following recommendations for the next round of redistricting in Albany County:

1. Appoint a non-partisan, independent and inclusive Reapportionment Commission to undertake the difficult responsibility of legislative redistricting.
2. Develop a collaborative approach including all municipalities, key demographic groups and community stakeholders.
3. Adopt a detailed charge to the Reapportionment Commission which sets forth the principal constitutional, statutory and policy considerations for its deliberations, along with a deadline for the submission of its report.
4. Make available to the Reapportionment Commission the important perspectives of the County Attorney and the Board of Elections.
5. Provide the Reapportionment Commission with adequate professional, administrative and budgetary support to carry out its responsibilities.
6. Encourage the use of public hearings, interactive web sites and media releases to underscore the importance of transparency in all of the Reapportionment Commission's proceedings.

In closing, the Commission reiterates its view the County Legislature could function as effectively as it now does if it was reduced in size from 39 to 25 members. Most importantly, any proposed reduction in the size of the County Legislature would be required to go to a public referendum, meaning that the voters would ultimately decide the fate of the proposal. The Commission strongly believes that they should be given that opportunity.

# Appendix A

COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODIES  
POPULATION PER DISTRICT

	COUNTY	POPULATION	TYPE OF LEGISLATIVE BODY	MEMBERS	DISTRICT POP'N
1	Hamilton	4,836	Board of Supervisors	9	537
2	Yates	25,348	Legislature	14	1,811
3	Schoharie	32,749	Board of Supervisors	16	2,047
4	Essex	39,370	Board of Supervisors	18	2,187
5	Chenango	50,477	Board of Supervisors	23	2,195
6	Schuyler	18,343	Legislature	8	2,293
7	Seneca	35,321	Board of Supervisors	14	2,523
8	Delaware	47,980	Board of Supervisors	19	2,525
9	Cortland	49,336	Legislature	19	2,597
10	Lewis	27,087	Legislature	10	2,709
11	Fulton	55,531	Board of Supervisors	20	2,777
12	Columbia	63,096	Board of Supervisors	22	2,868
13	Wyoming	52,155	Board of Supervisors	16	3,260
14	Allegany	48,946	Legislature	15	3,263
15	Warren	65,707	Board of Supervisors	20	3,285
16	Montgomery*	50,219	Board of Supervisors	15	3,348
17	Greene	49,221	Legislature	14	3,516
18	Washington	63,216	Board of Supervisors	17	3,719
19	Herkimer*	64,519	Legislature	17	3,795
20	Cattaraugus	80,317	Legislature	21	3,825
21	Livingston	65,393	Board of Supervisors	17	3,847
22	Madison	73,442	Board of Supervisors	19	3,865
23	Otsego	62,259	Legislature	14	4,447
24	Oswego	122,109	Legislature	25	4,884
25	Ontario	107,931	Board of Supervisors	21	5,140
26	Cayuga	80,026	Legislature	15	5,335
27	Chautauqua*	134,905	Legislature	25	5,396
28	Tioga	51,125	Legislature	9	5,681
29	Steuben	98,990	Legislature	17	5,823
30	Chemung*	88,830	Legislature	15	5,922
31	Orleans	42,883	Legislature	7	6,126
32	Wayne	93,772	Board of Supervisors	15	6,251
33	Genesee	60,079	Legislature	9	6,675
34	Tompkins*	101,564	Legislature	15	6,771
35	Franklin	51,599	Legislature	7	7,371
36	St. Lawrence	111,944	Legislature	15	7,463
37	Jefferson	116,229	Legislature	15	7,749
38	<b>Albany*</b>	<b>304,204</b>	<b>Legislature</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>7,800</b>
39	Ulster*	182,493	Legislature	23	7,934
40	Oneida*	234,878	Legislature	29	8,099
41	Clinton	82,128	Legislature	10	8,213
42	Rensselaer*	159,429	Legislature	19	8,391
43	Sullivan	77,547	Legislature	9	8,616
44	Saratoga	219,607	Board of Supervisors	23	9,548
45	Schenectady*	154,727	Legislature	15	10,315
46	Putnam*	99,710	Legislature	9	11,079

COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODIES  
POPULATION PER DISTRICT

47	Dutchess*	297,488	Legislature	25	11,900
48	Broome*	200,600	Legislature	15	13,373
49	Niagara	216,469	Legislature	15	14,431
50	Orange*	372,813	Legislature	21	17,753
51	Rockland*	311,687	Legislature	17	18,335
52	Monroe*	744,344	Legislature	29	25,667
53	Onondaga*	467,026	Legislature	17	27,472
54	Westchester*	949,113	Legislature	17	55,830
55	Nassau*	1,339,532	Legislature	19	70,502
56	Suffolk*	1,493,350	Legislature	18	82,964
57	Erie*	919,040	Legislature	11	83,549
	New York City	8,175,133	Council	51	160,297
	*Charter County				
*Boards of Supervisors typically use weighted voting rather than equal population districts					

COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODIES  
RANKED BY POPULATION

	COUNTY	POPULATION	LEGISLATIVE BODY	MEMBERS	DISTRICT POP'N*	FMR SIZE
1	Suffolk*	1,493,350	Legislature	18	82,964	
2	Nassau*	1,339,532	Legislature	19	70,502	
3	Westchester*	949,113	Legislature	17	55,830	
4	Erie*	919,040	Legislature	11	83,549	17
5	Monroe*	744,344	Legislature	29	25,667	
6	Onondaga*	467,026	Legislature	17	27,472	19
7	Orange*	372,813	Legislature	21	17,753	
8	Rockland*	311,687	Legislature	17	18,335	
9	Albany*	304,204	Legislature	39	7,800	
10	Dutchess*	297,488	Legislature	25	11,900	
11	Oneida*	234,878	Legislature	29	8,099	
12	Saratoga	219,607	Board of Supervisors	23	9,548	
13	Niagara	216,469	Legislature	15	14,431	19
14	Broome*	200,600	Legislature	15	13,373	19
15	Ulster*	182,493	Legislature	23	7,934	33
16	Rensselaer*	159,429	Legislature	19	8,391	
17	Schenectady*	154,727	Legislature	15	10,315	
18	Chautauqua*	134,905	Legislature	25	5,396	
19	Oswego	122,109	Legislature	25	4,884	
20	Jefferson	116,229	Legislature	15	7,749	
21	St. Lawrence	111,944	Legislature	15	7,463	
22	Ontario	107,931	Board of Supervisors	21	5,140	
23	Tompkins*	101,564	Legislature	15	6,771	
24	Putnam*	99,710	Legislature	9	11,079	
25	Steuben	98,990	Legislature	17	5,823	
26	Wayne	93,772	Board of Supervisors	15	6,251	
27	Chemung*	88,830	Legislature	15	5,922	
28	Clinton	82,128	Legislature	10	8,213	
29	Cattaraugus	80,317	Legislature	21	3,825	
30	Cayuga	80,026	Legislature	15	5,335	
31	Sullivan	77,547	Legislature	9	8,616	
32	Madison	73,442	Board of Supervisors	19	3,865	
33	Warren	65,707	Board of Supervisors	20	3,285	
34	Livingston	65,393	Board of Supervisors	17	3,847	
35	Herkimer*	64,519	Legislature	17	3,795	
36	Washington	63,216	Board of Supervisors	17	3,719	
37	Columbia	63,096	Board of Supervisors	22	2,868	
38	Otsego	62,259	Legislature	14	4,447	
39	Genesee	60,079	Legislature	9	6,675	
40	Fulton	55,531	Board of Supervisors	20	2,777	
41	Wyoming	52,155	Board of Supervisors	16	3,260	
42	Franklin	51,599	Legislature	7	7,371	
43	Tioga	51,125	Legislature	9	5,681	
44	Chenango	50,477	Board of Supervisors	23	2,195	
45	Montgomery*	50,219	Board of Supervisors	15	3,348	

COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODIES  
RANKED BY POPULATION

46	Cortland	49,336	Legislature	19	2,597
47	Greene	49,221	Legislature	14	3,516
48	Allegany	48,946	Legislature	15	3,263
49	Delaware	47,980	Board of Supervisors	19	2,525
50	Orleans	42,883	Legislature	7	6,126
51	Essex	39,370	Board of Supervisors	18	2,187
52	Seneca	35,321	Board of Supervisors	14	2,523
53	Schoharie	32,749	Board of Supervisors	16	2,047
54	Lewis	27,087	Legislature	10	2,709
55	Yates	25,348	Legislature	14	1,811
56	Schuyler	18,343	Legislature	8	2,293
57	Hamilton	4,836	Board of Supervisors	9	537
	New York City	8,175,133	Council	51	160,297
	*Charter County				
	*Boards of Supervisors typically use weighted voting rather than equal population districts				

# Appendix B

COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODIES  
BUDGETS

	COUNTY	POPULATION	LEGISLATIVE BODY	MEMBERS	BUDGET (x\$1,000)
1	Nassau*	1,339,532	Legislature	19	9,115
2	Suffolk*	1,493,350	Legislature	18	7,693
3	Westchester*	949,113	Legislature	17	7,134
4	Rockland*	311,687	Legislature	17	5,504
5	Erie*	919,040	Legislature	11	3,207
6	Albany*	304,204	Legislature	39	2,957
7	Orange*	372,813	Legislature	21	2,345
8	Onondaga*	467,026	Legislature	17	2,237
9	Monroe*	744,344	Legislature	29	2,055
10	Dutchess*	297,488	Legislature	25	1,371
11	Rensselaer*	159,429	Legislature	19	1,325
12	Putnam*	99,710	Legislature	9	1,045
13	Jefferson	116,229	Legislature	15	1,006
14	Cayuga	80,026	Legislature	15	963
15	Ulster*	182,493	Legislature	23	888
16	Herkimer*	64,519	Legislature	17	875
17	Oneida*	234,878	Legislature	29	818
18	Tompkins*	101,564	Legislature	15	799
19	Clinton	82,128	Legislature	10	775
20	Schenectady*	154,727	Legislature	15	732
21	Broome*	200,600	Legislature	15	707
22	Chemung*	88,830	Legislature	15	664
23	Steuben	98,990	Legislature	17	638
24	Chautauqua*	134,905	Legislature	25	616
25	Oswego	122,109	Legislature	25	615
26	Cattaraugus	80,317	Legislature	21	608
27	Sullivan	77,547	Legislature	9	561
28	St. Lawrence	111,944	Legislature	15	544
29	Niagara	216,469	Legislature	15	542
30	Greene	49,221	Legislature	14	410
31	Allegany	48,946	Legislature	15	386
32	Tioga	51,125	Legislature	9	330
33	Cortland	49,336	Legislature	19	325
34	Franklin	51,599	Legislature	7	321
35	Orleans	42,883	Legislature	7	277
36	Genesee	60,079	Legislature	9	251
37	Yates	25,348	Legislature	14	195
38	Schuyler	18,343	Legislature	8	166
	Chenango	50,477	Board of Supervisors	23	
	Columbia	63,096	Board of Supervisors	22	
	Delaware	47,980	Board of Supervisors	19	
	Essex	39,370	Board of Supervisors	18	
	Fulton	55,531	Board of Supervisors	20	
	Hamilton	4,836	Board of Supervisors	9	

COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODIES  
BUDGETS

Lewis	27,087	Legislature	10
Livingston	65,393	Board of Supervisors	17
Madison	73,442	Board of Supervisors	19
Montgomery*	50,219	Board of Supervisors	15
Ontario	107,931	Board of Supervisors	21
Otsego	62,259	Legislature	14
Saratoga	219,607	Board of Supervisors	23
Schoharie	32,749	Board of Supervisors	16
Seneca	35,321	Board of Supervisors	14
Warren	65,707	Board of Supervisors	20
Washington	63,216	Board of Supervisors	17
Wayne	93,772	Board of Supervisors	15
Wyoming	52,155	Board of Supervisors	16
New York City	8,175,133	Council	51
*Charter County			