NYPIRG NEWS RELEASE

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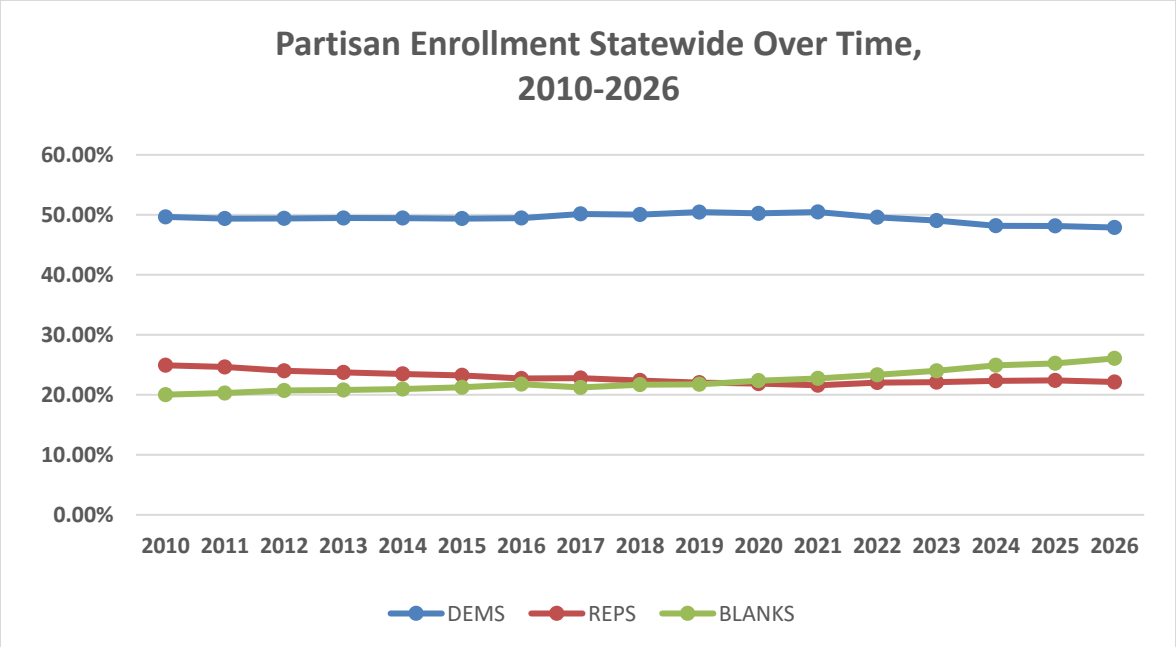
LATEST NY VOTER ENROLLMENT DATA SHOWS DEMS CONTINUE TO SLIP, REPUBLICANS STAGNATE

NUMBERS OF UNAFFI UNAFFILIATED LATED VOTERS, OR "BLANKS," CONTINUE TO INCREASE, EXPAND STATEWIDE ENROLLMENT LEAD OVER REPUBLICANS, OUTSTRIPPING REPUBLICAN ENROLLMENT IN NYC & NOW NECK-AND-NECK WITH REPUBLICANS IN DOWNSTATE SUBURBS, AND ON A PATH TO EXCEED REPUBLICAN ENROLLMENT UPSTATE

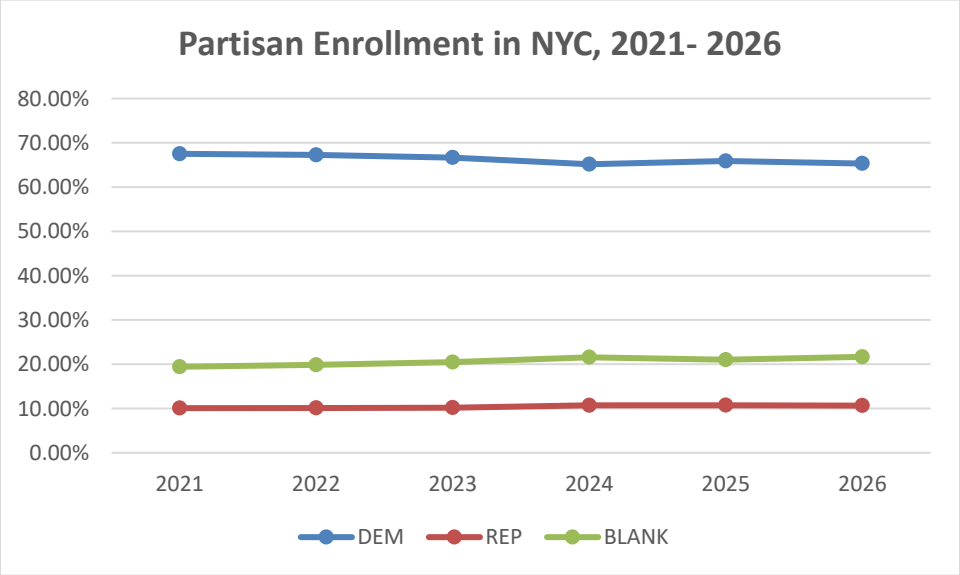
SINCE THE TWO MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES CONTROL ELECTION ADMINISTRATION IN NY, NYPIRG ASKS, "WHO REPRESENTS THE INTERESTS OF THE FASTEST GROWING VOTER BLOC?"

(Albany, N.Y.) The New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) today released a review of voter enrollment data using data released by the New York State Board of Elections on November 2, 2026. Comparing partisan enrollments over time, Democrats continue to dominate but have been slipping in recent years. Republicans have stopped their enrollment decline. However, both parties' enrollments have more or less stagnated while unaffiliated voters, "blanks," have seen their numbers swell and since 2020 have overtaken Republican enrollment and that advantage is growing. In 2010, Democrat enrollment totaled 49.66% of voters, Republicans 24.93%, and "blanks" 20.04%. In 2026, Democrats' percentage has slipped to 47.89%, Republicans to 22.14%, and "blanks" increased to 26.07%.

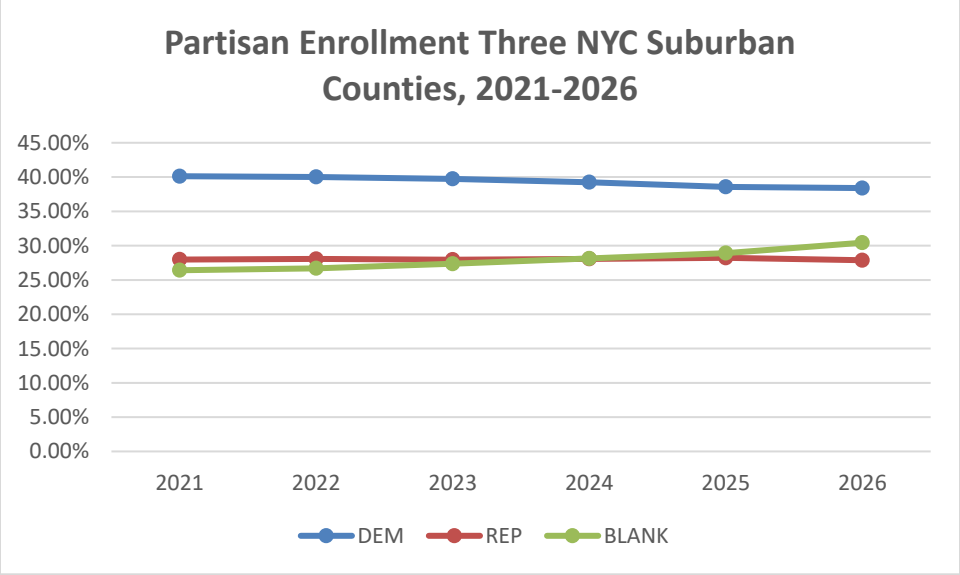


NYPIRG REVIEW OF VOTER ENROLLMENTS, PAGE 2

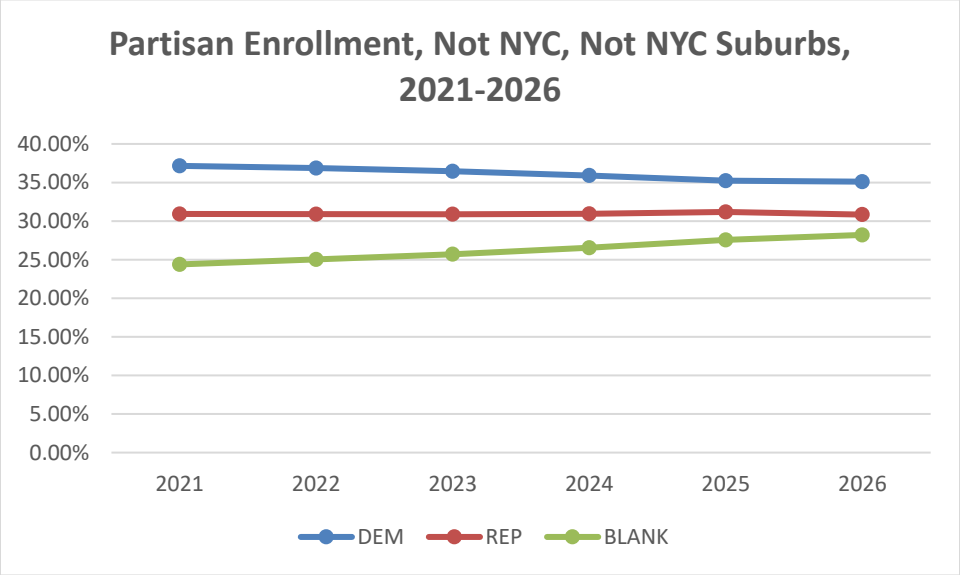
As seen below, "blanks" have exceeded Republicans in New York City for years and are now also enroll more than Republicans in the three downstate NYC suburbs. In 2021, Democratic NYC enrollment totaled 67.52% of voters, Republicans 10.08%, and "blanks" 19.43%. In 2026, Democrats' percentage slipped to 65.32%, Republicans inched upwards to 10.65%, and "blanks" increased to 21.67%.



In 2021, Democratic Suburban NYC (Nassau, Suffolk, and Westchester) enrollment totaled 40.13% of voters, Republicans 27.98%, and "blanks" 26.41%. In 2026, Democrats' percentage slipped to 38.4%, Republicans totaled 27.88%, and "blanks" increased to 30.43%. Unaffiliated voters have inched ahead due to a growing gap in favor of "blanks" in Westchester County.



As seen below, the enrollment advantage that Republicans have over "blanks" in the counties north of the Greater NYC region is eroding. It appears that "blanks" may even overtake Democratic enrollment in those areas. In 2021, Democratic non-Greater NYC voter enrollment totaled 37.16% of voters, Republicans 30.92%, and "blanks" 24.39%. In 2026, Democrats' percentage slipped to 35.11%, Republicans totaled 30.84%, and "blanks" increased to 28.21%.



"Voter enrollment trends continue to show erosion for Democrats, stagnation for Republicans, and growth for unaffiliated voters. Unaffiliated voters constitute the second largest – and fastest growing – group of voters: Who represents these millions of New Yorkers in running elections? Governor Hochul and state lawmakers must examine other forms of election administration to develop a new system based on political independence and professional competence," said **Blair Horner, NYPIRG Senior Policy Advisor.**

Methodology:

NYPIRG relied on enrollment data provided by the NYS Board of Elections https://elections.ny.gov/enrollment-county. We compared enrollments by county and used the data for "total" enrolled voters, which is the combination of "active" and "inactive" voters enrolled on November 1 of each year.

The percentages will *not* add up to 100% since the enrollment total for the minor political parties was excluded from this analysis. Aggregate enrollment in the minor parties constitutes roughly five percent of total enrollment.