

Final Polls Set Stage for Key U.S. Election Races



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Key election races in New Jersey, Virginia, and New York City remain highly competitive ahead of Tuesday's elections, with Democrats holding narrow leads and final polls showing tightening margins, media reports said.

In New Jersey's gubernatorial race, an AtlasIntel poll (Oct. 25–30) shows Democrat Mikie Sherrill

leading Republican Jack Ciattarelli by just 0.9 points, 50.2% to 49.3%, within the 2-point margin of error. Early voting data also suggests Democratic mail-in ballot returns are slightly outperforming 2024 benchmarks. Former President Barack Obama rallied for Sherrill on Nov. 1, underlining the race's importance.

In Virginia, Governor Abigail Spanberger appears poised for reelection, with a Hill/Emerson poll giving her a 56% to 44% lead over Republican Winsome Earle-Sears. However, the state's attorney general contest is close, with Democrat Jerra Jones at 51% versus incumbent Jason Miyares at 49%. Early voting trends indicate increased Democratic engagement, though analysts caution Election Day turnout could alter results.

In New York City, incumbent Zohran Mamdani leads former Governor Andrew Cuomo 41% to 34% in AtlasIntel polling, with Republican Curtis Sliwa at 24%. The margin has narrowed as Cuomo gains among older, moderate Democrats, while Mamdani's progressive base remains energized. Mamdani has received endorsements from Gov. Kathy Hochul and House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, and maintains support from progressive figures including Bernie Sanders and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

Former President Obama also personally called Mamdani, praising his campaign and offering guidance as a "sounding board," although he has not formally endorsed the candidate.

Meanwhile, President Donald Trump sharply criticized Mamdani in a CBS 60 Minutes interview, labeling him a “communist” and a “worse than a socialist,” drawing national attention to the NYC mayoral race.

While early voting indicates slight Democratic momentum across these battlegrounds, analysts emphasize that high Election Day turnout could reshape any of the contests. With races tight in New Jersey, Virginia, and New York City, voters and campaigns alike are bracing for a decisive Tuesday.