

In the Empire State, special districts function as vital, autonomous entities that fill critical gaps in local governance. Special purpose units of local government provide an array of services to New Yorkers that other units of local government do not otherwise provide. These entities, which include various authorities, commissions, and boards, operate with varying degrees of autonomy to meet the specific needs of their communities. Special districts providing fire protection services are the most predominant independent special districts in the State of New York.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2022 Census of Governments, there are 1,189 independent special district governments in New York.



Scan to learn more about special districts in New York.



1,180
Special District Governments



8.4%
All Local Government Revenue

MOST COMMON SPECIAL DISTRICTS

Fire Protection	890
Libraries	231
Health	38