

**Penta** Policy Insiders

# New York Insights Review

Top Issues

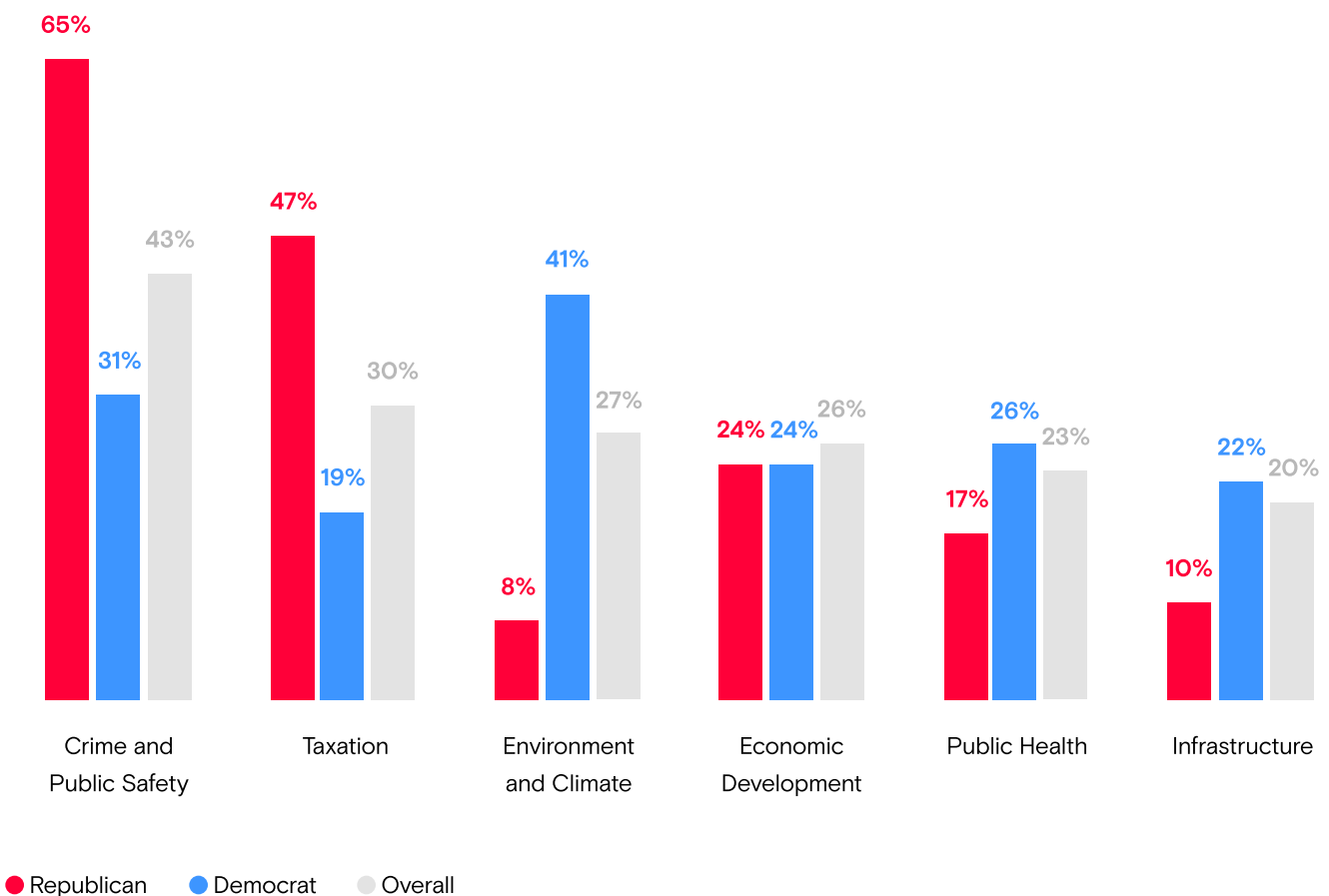
# Executive summary

We are delighted to share our findings from this year's New York Insights Review. From September to December 2022, we surveyed and spoke with over 230 state and local policymakers in New York to understand their main policy priorities and key concerns.

Public safety rose to the top of New York policy leader priorities, with nearly half ranking it as a top issue. In 2022, crime in the state was up by 22 percent. While trends show a decline in percentage of major crimes this year, policy staff say public safety is nevertheless a top issue for the communities they serve.<sup>1</sup> Policymakers also cite environmental and climate issues as key priorities for the state, with more than a quarter selecting it as at top challenge. Our research also finds that economic development is a primary concern for policymakers, with policy staff citing taxation and inflation as hurdles to growth for the state.

**This report is the first in a series that examines three of New York policymakers' top policy priorities, which include (i) Crime and Public Safety (ii) Environment and Climate (iii) and (iv) Economic Development.**

## Top policy priorities in New York





---

# Top New York issues in 2022

## Crime and public safety

Crime and public safety are top bipartisan priorities for policymakers in New York. News reports show that crime was higher in 2022. Policy leaders are particularly concerned about gun violence and violent crime.

---



In New York, people are feeling uneasy about public safety and are concerned about increases in crime and dealing with that issue.

**Assembly Member, New York State Legislature, D**



Clearly public safety [is a top policy priority]... the most concerning thing that my constituents talk to me about is public safety.

**Legislator, New York Municipality, R**

---

## Environment and climate

Environment is identified as a top policy priority by 27 percent of policymakers in the state of New York. Policy leaders report the leading challenges as waste disposal and climate shifts, but also indicate concerns about air and water pollution.

---



We just passed a constitutional amendment this past fall that puts in our state constitution the right to clean air, clean water, those kinds of issues... **there will continue to be a huge focus on environmental issues at our state capital.**

**Legislative Director, New York State Legislature, D**



[With manufacturing] there's always an impact on our waterways and impact on our air. You have concerns when businesses take over old buildings. **There's always environmental concerns and concerns about the impact of the industry on surrounding residential areas.**

**Senior Staff, New York Executive Branch, R**

---

---

## Economic development and taxation

Policymakers identify economic development and taxation as leading priorities, specifically citing challenges with inflation, manufacturing, and the tax structure in New York.

---



New York City is the slowest city to be recovering from the COVID situation, and people who have left are not coming back. And so that's going to impact their tax structure because they have a separate income tax on people who work in New York City. Well, if they aren't in New York City, then they can't pay that tax.

**Legislative Director, New York State Legislature, D**

---



Inflation is top of mind for everybody. In particular, groceries and heating bills and things like that.

**Senior Staff, New York Executive Branch, R**

---



---

## About Penta Policy Insiders

Penta Policy Insiders provides direct feedback from policymakers to government relations professionals, improving advocates' ability to understand, validate, and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of their engagement.

---

### Credits

**Content Associate**  
Maddie Markenson

**Senior Content Associate**  
Kinda Ahmed

**Associate Director, Government  
Insights & Research Products**  
Natalie Bahmanyar

**Director, Research**  
Sehare Hemani

**Associate Director,  
Quantitative Research**  
Mackai Tapleshay

**Chief Research Officer**  
Michael Griffin

**President**  
Michael Gottlieb

---

Qualitative n: 20 | Quantitative n: 231

---

### A Note on Use of These Materials

This document has been prepared by, and comprises valuable proprietary information belonging to Penta. It is intended for educational purposes only.

Except as permitted under the United States Copyright Act of 1976, no part of this publication may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means, or stored in a database retrieval system without the prior written permission of Penta. The use of copyrighted materials and/or images belonging to unrelated parties and reproduced herein is permitted pursuant to license and/or 17 USC § 107.

### Citations

1. <https://www.ny1.com/nyc/all-boroughs/news/2023/03/03/nypd-february-2023-crime-statistics>

### Legal Caveat

Penta has worked to ensure the accuracy of the information it provides in this report. This report relies upon data obtained from many sources, however, and Penta is not able to guarantee the accuracy of the information or analysis contained in these materials. Furthermore, Penta is not engaged in rendering legal, accounting, or any other professional services. Penta specifically disclaims liability for any damages, claims or losses that may arise from a) any errors or omissions in these materials, whether caused by Penta or its sources, or b) reliance upon any recommendation made by Penta.

Confidentiality: All participation in our research is confidential and not for attribution.

---