

Unclaimed Funds

New York State Comptroller
THOMAS P. DINAPOLI

Office of
Unclaimed Funds

osc.ny.gov/ouf

It is money that's been forgotten or left behind—like old bank accounts, uncashed checks or unused gift cards. After a period of inactivity, this money is turned over to the State Comptroller's Office, where there's no time limit for the owner to claim it.

Overview

The New York State Comptroller's Office of Unclaimed Funds (OUF) implements the State's Abandoned Property Law (APL) by:

- Reuniting owners with their unclaimed funds;
- Increasing public awareness of unclaimed funds;
- Ensuring holders of unclaimed funds comply with due diligence requirements to identify owners and return their funds;
- Ensuring banks, corporations, insurance companies and other entities send abandoned funds to the state (usually after three years pass with no owner activity);



AVERAGE
CLAIM IS
BETWEEN

\$50-100

- Conducting audits to recover additional unclaimed funds; and
- Protecting the assets and ensuring they are returned to the rightful owners.

Many unclaimed funds are voluntarily reported to OUF, as required by law. Another significant portion is collected through audits of organizations that have failed to comply with reporting requirements. In State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024-25, OUF collected \$1.5 billion from the sources identified in the chart below.



Source of Lost Money

(4/24 to 3/25)

INSURANCE COMPANIES

17%

Life Insurance
and Refunds

OTHER

12%

Refunds

BROKERS/ DEALERS

2%

Stocks and
Mutual Funds

BANKS

37%

Savings/
Checking Accounts
and CDs

CORPORATIONS

29%

Uncashed Checks,
Wages and
Gift Cards

COURT FUNDS

2%

Estate Proceeds
and Trust Funds

UTILITIES

1%

Security Deposits

Fast Facts

- Filing a claim is **free and easy**
- Certain newly acquired unclaimed funds of \$250 or less may be returned without having to file a claim – **a check is sent in the mail**
- **Over 55 million accounts**, some dating back to the 1940s
- Largest claim paid was **\$12 million in 2023** to heirs of an estate
- Some accounts accrue **5% interest** annually for up to five years, such as savings accounts

Reuniting More New Yorkers with their Lost Money: 2025 Achievements

Returned \$633 Million to Claimants

OUF processed nearly 700,000 claims and returned \$633 million to rightful owners, a 25% increase from the previous year. New York continues to be a national leader in returning unclaimed funds.

Expedited Payments for Verified Owners

73,000+ checks totaling \$5.5 million were sent to New Yorkers under the new Expedited Payment Program. This legislation, championed by Comptroller DiNapoli, returns certain payments of \$250 or less to verified owners without the need to file a claim.

Transferred \$896 Million to State General Fund

\$896 million was turned over to the State General Fund per state law, which requires transfer of Abandoned Property Fund amounts over \$750,000 if not needed to pay claims. Comptroller DiNapoli continues serving as custodian to these funds and rightful owners can claim their funds any time.

Launched New Unclaimed Funds Processing System

In August 2025, OUF launched a new online processing system, replacing a 25-year-old-system, improving efficiency for claims management today and for the future.

Expanded Outreach Efforts

OUF mailed 88,134 letters to newly reported owners and returned more than \$22 million. Since 2018, outreach efforts have returned a total of \$252 million. OUF also participated in 54 in-person events statewide, raising awareness about how the office reunites New Yorkers with their lost money.

Ensured Compliance to Protect Rightful Owners

OUF audits identified \$219 million in unclaimed funds and \$92 million was returned to rightful owners by requiring holders to perform due diligence.

Expanded Voluntary Compliance Program

184 holding companies worked directly with our office to review records and determine reporting requirements, resulting in \$36 million in unclaimed funds reported.

Collected \$1.5 Billion

Collections included \$1.5 billion in cash receipts and \$41 million from sales of abandoned securities.



\$633M RECENT ANNUAL RETURN

Getting Money Back to New Yorkers

2,000 Claims

On average, OUF receives 2,000 claims and processes more than \$2 million in refunds each business day.

79%

79 percent of claims are generated online.

\$92M

Last year, \$92 million was identified and returned to the rightful owners as a result of OUF's audits and holder due diligence. OUF audits identified another \$127 million owed to New Yorkers that would not otherwise been reported.

\$633M

In SFY 2024-25, \$633 million was returned to rightful owners - an increase of 25% from the prior year.

\$252M

In SFY 2024-25, \$252 million was returned to New Yorkers through mailing letters, conducting outreach events, and partnering with community groups across the state.



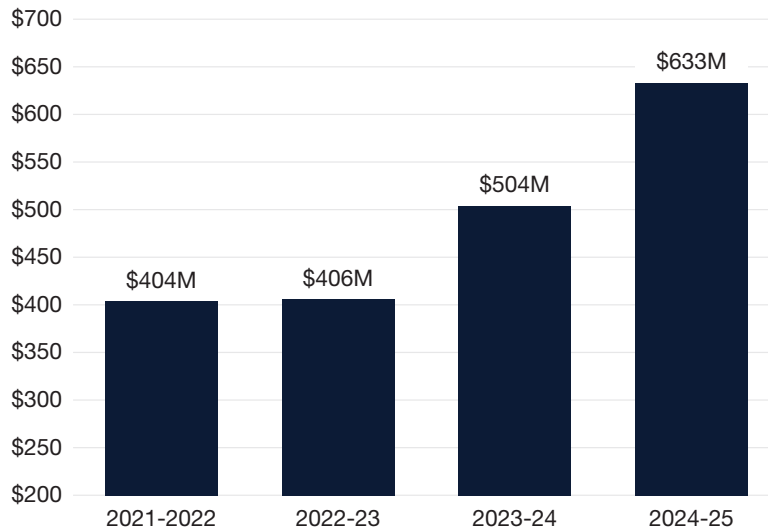
\$2M RETURNED
DAILY

Amounts returned to New Yorkers in SFY 2024-25

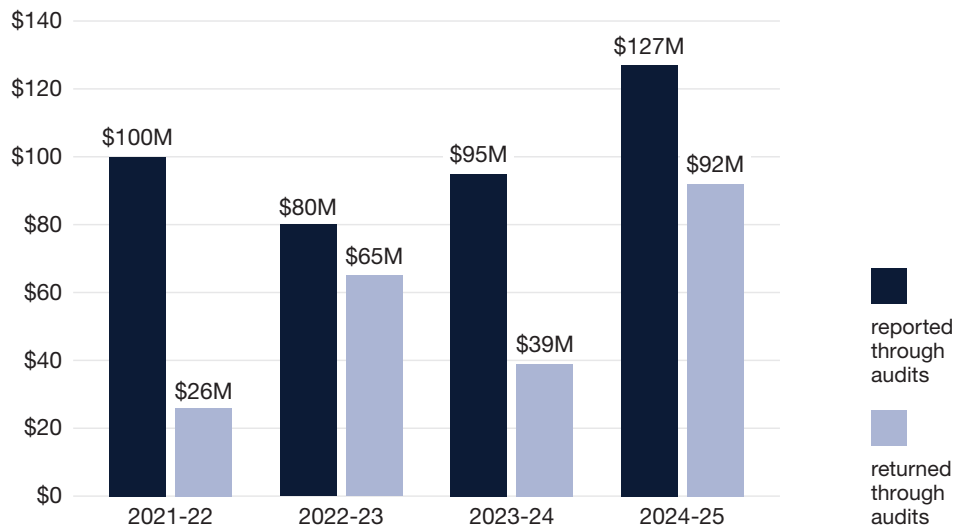
Region	County	Number of Accounts	Total Value
Adirondacks	Clinton	1,273	\$508,328
	Essex	451	\$148,602
	Franklin	608	\$193,948
	Fulton	772	\$304,192
	Hamilton	70	\$30,075
	Herkimer	758	\$290,872
	Lewis	324	\$86,879
	Warren	1,119	\$931,640
	Washington	799	\$288,225
	Total	6,174	\$2,782,761
Capital-Saratoga	Albany	7,923	\$23,251,944
	Rensselaer	3,631	\$4,293,484
	Saratoga	4,526	\$2,647,315
	Schenectady	4,402	\$2,483,521
	Total	20,482	\$32,676,264
Catskills	Delaware	459	\$260,708
	Greene	900	\$243,247
	Sullivan	1,370	\$638,902
	Ulster	3,527	\$3,628,211
	Total	6,256	\$4,771,068
Central	Broome	3,520	\$1,819,099
	Chenango	644	\$319,581
	Madison	911	\$556,294
	Montgomery	977	\$602,587
	Oneida	3,164	\$1,740,832
	Otsego	723	\$485,607
	Schoharie	461	\$124,728
	Total	10,400	\$5,648,728
Chautauqua – Allegheny	Allegany	468	\$366,036
	Cattaraugus	925	\$307,463
	Chautauqua	1,509	\$658,274
	Total	2,902	\$1,331,773

Region	County	Number of Accounts	Total Value
Finger Lakes	Cayuga	1,080	\$551,873
	Chemung	1,190	\$607,773
	Cortland	541	\$139,780
	Livingston	840	\$685,484
	Monroe	12,224	\$8,106,733
	Onondaga	9,713	\$5,318,153
	Ontario	1,578	\$722,563
	Schuyler	247	\$49,369
	Seneca	351	\$91,948
	Steuben	1,199	\$1,552,133
	Tioga	668	\$189,405
	Tompkins	1,210	\$2,997,842
	Wayne	1,324	\$477,321
	Yates	287	\$229,726
	Total	32,452	\$21,720,103
Hudson Valley	Columbia	1,145	\$836,614
	Dutchess	6,014	\$5,031,944
	Orange	7,719	\$11,195,172
	Putnam	2,171	\$1,726,062
	Rockland	6,093	\$4,460,134
	Westchester	28,513	\$28,953,268
	Total	51,655	\$52,203,194
Long Island	Nassau	35,468	\$52,733,009
	Suffolk	30,404	\$25,769,875
	Total	65,872	\$78,502,884
Niagara Frontier	Erie	16,162	\$11,696,903
	Genesee	847	\$328,522
	Niagara	3,638	\$1,684,693
	Orleans	598	\$302,540
	Wyoming	472	\$268,024
	Total	21,717	\$14,280,682
New York City	Bronx	22,282	\$13,890,523
	Kings	42,641	\$45,898,856
	New York	38,970	\$96,217,281
	Queens	39,414	\$38,873,767
	Richmond	8,780	\$6,662,245
	Total	152,087	\$201,542,672
Thousand Islands – Seaway	Jefferson	1,198	\$294,392
	Oswego	1,803	\$600,773
	Saint Lawrence	1,138	\$1,151,484
	Total	4,139	\$2,046,649

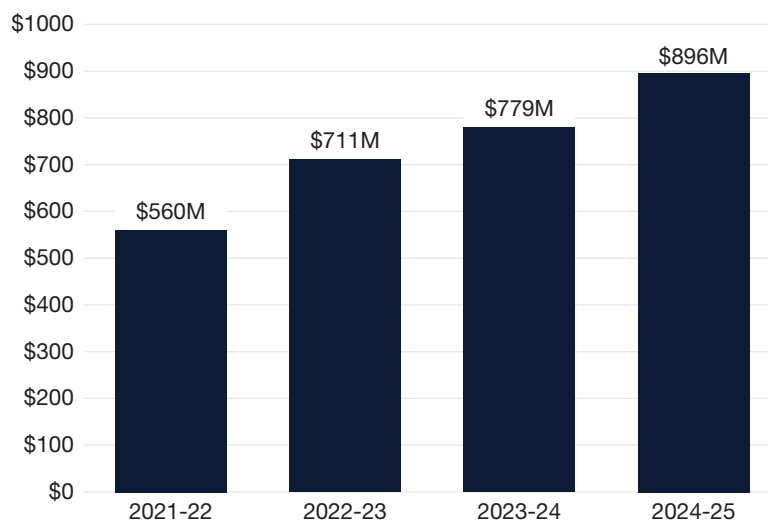
Claims Paid — SFYs 2021-22 to 2024-25

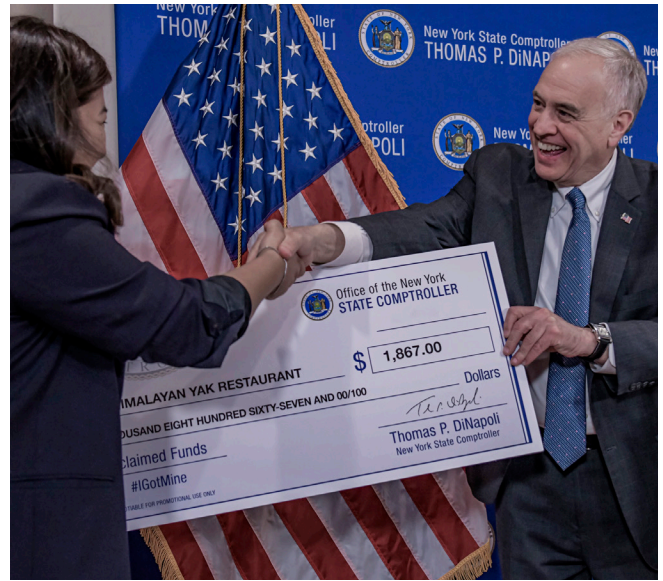
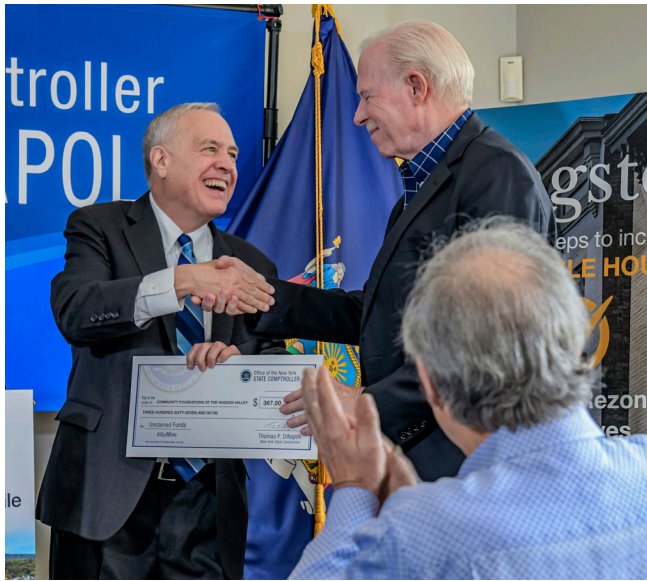


Returned to Owners Through Audits — SFYs 2021-22 to 2024-25



Transfers to the General Fund — SFYs 2021-22 to 2024-25





CHECK FOR YOUR CHECK

It's your money and we're sending it back! You may receive a check for your lost money by mail. Legislation championed by Comptroller DiNapoli has made it so certain properties of \$250 or less that've been newly-acquired are directly returned to verified owners – no claim required.

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IT'S YOUR MONEY GET IT BACK

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