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DOC Notes

**Local government**

* Local governments are established by state governments.
* State constitutions set the powers of the local government
* County = largest form of local government
  + Makes decisions concerning budgets, taxes, zoning.
* Other examples of local governments: towns, villages, municipalities, boroughs, cities

**Problems faced by local governments**

* Crime
* Infrastructure
* Economic development
* Social services
* Reducing budget deficits
* Fire and police protection
* Sanitation and water systems

**Structure of Local Government**

* Executive Branch
  + County Executive – Adam Bello
  + Town Advisor
  + Mayor – Malik Evans
* Legislative Branch
  + County Legislature
  + Town Board
  + City Council
* Judicial Branch
  + County Court and Family Court
  + Town Court
  + City Court

**State Government**

* Each state has a state constitution.
* Outline of state government with duties and branches defined
* Outline of state elections – rules for conducting elections
* State affairs – education, law and order, transportation, finance

**Structure of NY State Government**

* Executive Branch
  + Governor – Kathy Hochul
* Legislative Branch
  + NY Legislature (bicameral)
  + Two houses = NY Senate + NY Assembly
* Judicial Branch
  + NY Court of Appeals

**Current Issues in NY State**

* Response to COVID
* Funding for upstate vs. downstate
* Funding for roads, bridges, infrastructure
* Job creation
* Common Core
* Free community college proposal
* Government corruption
* Gun violence
* Taxes