



## **About Foodscapes**

Access to affordable and nutritious food is one of the cornerstones of good health. Without this, individuals—and communities—are at a higher risk of serious chronic diseases, including obesity, diabetes and heart disease. To improve the health of New Yorkers, we must recognize that each neighborhood has a distinct food environment.

## **Purpose**

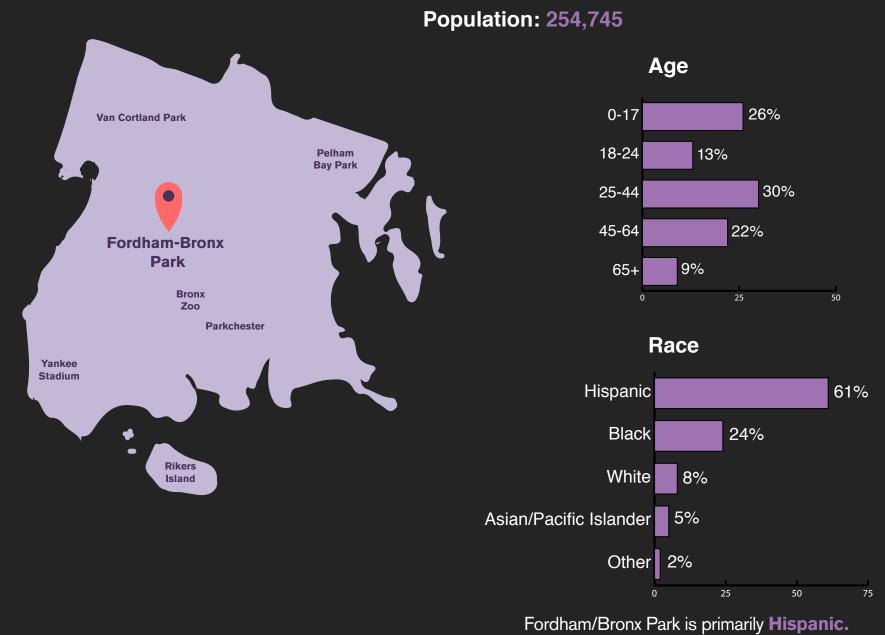
This Foodscape provides a community-level snapshot of that environment, including data on healthy and unhealthy food consumption, food access, and nutrition-related diseases. Additionally, the report details a sampling of the many resources available to residents within their neighborhoods to support them in eating healthier.

#### The Data

The data are presented by United Hospital Fund (UHF) neighborhoods, which are defined by the United Hospital Fund and consist of multiple adjacent zip codes. UHF neighborhoods are commonly used in research, including the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Community Health Survey.

The reports also specify the City Council Districts that are part of each UHF, and districts often span several UHF neighborhoods. Council members and residents can then view the distinct neighborhoods within their districts, to compare and contrast both the needs and assets within each area. Recognizing that UHF neighborhoods are an imperfect way to capture council districts holistically, the hope is that future updates to the reports will use data more specific to each district.

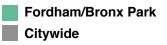
# About Fordham/Bronx Park

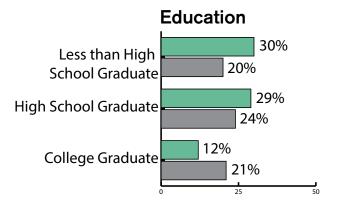




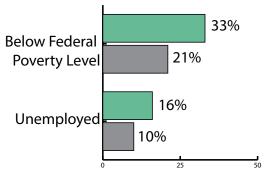
Levels of educational attainment in Fordham/Bronx Park are gernally lower than New York City as a whole. Only 12% of residents have graduated from college, compared with 21% citywide.

In this neighborhood one in three residents live in poverty (vs. one in five in NYC) and 16% are unemployed, higher than the citywide rate of 10%.





## **Poverty and Unemployment**



# Food and Beverage Consumption in Fordham/Bronx Park

According to the 2015 U.S. Dietary Guidelines,<sup>1</sup> Americans should eat five or more servings of fruits and vegetables each day.

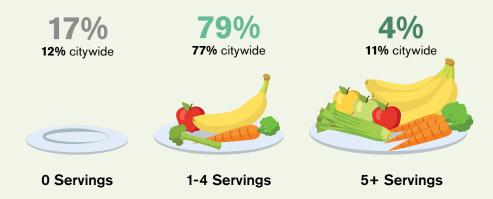
# Only 4% of Fordham/Bronx Park residents are meeting this standard (vs. 11% in NYC),

and 17% consume no fruits or vegetables in a day (vs. 12% in NYC). The vast majority of residents both in this neighborhood and citywide consume between 1 and 4 servings of fruits or vegetables per day.

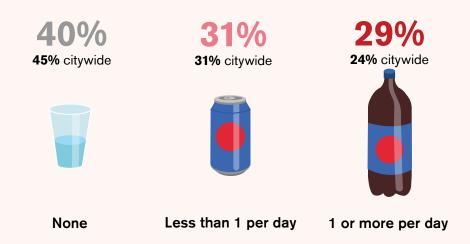
Federal dietary guidelines also recommend limiting daily sugar intake to no more than 10% of calories—that is, no more than 12 teaspoons of sugar for a 2000-calorie-a-day diet. One 12-ounce can of soda has about 10 teaspoons of sugar, and drinking one soda each day increases a person's risk of developing diabetes by 18%.<sup>2</sup>

Nearly 30% of Fordham/Bronx Park residents drink one or more sugary drinks each day, higher than New York City overall (24%). In this neighborhood, 40% of residents drink no sugary beverages (vs. 45% citywide).

# **Daily Consumption of Fruits and Vegetables**



# **Daily Consumption of Sugar-Sweetened Drinks**



# Walking Distance to Fresh Fruits and Vegetables



47% live 5 minutes or less
49% citywide



18% live between 5-10 minutes
18% citywide





31% live 10 minutes or more 32% citywide



Walking distance to fruits and vegetables is an indicator of access to healthy foods. Although access alone may not be sufficient to improve health, studies have found an association between better access and improved diet quality and other health indicators.<sup>3</sup>

In Fordham/Bronx Park, walking distance to fruits and vegetables is comparable to the averages citywide. Almost half of residents live within a five-minute walk of fresh produce.

Food security means having consistent access to safe, nutritious, and affordable food. The use of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, or food stamps, is an indicator of food insecurity; the majority of households that receive SNAP are food insecure.<sup>4</sup>



Households Receiving SNAP Benefits

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that 12.8% of all households in the United States received SNAP benefits at some point in 2015.

In Fordham/Bronx Park, 41% of households receive SNAP benefits, nearly twice the citywide percentage (21%).



In Fordham/Bronx Park, the prevalence of childhood obesity is slightly higher than New York City (24% vs. 21%). Children who are obese are more likely to remain obese as adults.5 When children remain obese into adulthood their risk for heart disease and other comorbidities becomes more severe.6

Adult obesity in this neighborhood is also slightly higher than citywide (29% vs. 24%). Obesity can lead

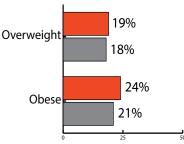
to serious health conditions, including diabetes and heart disease.

In Fordham/Bronx Park, 18% of adults are diabetic compared with 12% in New York City overall. Uncontrolled diabetes can cause blindness, renal disease, and amputations.

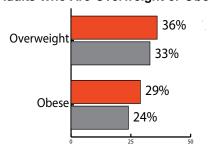
Additionally, a slightly higher percentage of neighborhood residents have high blood pressure (33% vs. 29% in NYC), a leading risk factor for heart disease.

## Fordham/Bronx Park Citvwide

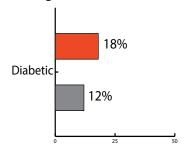
### Children (5-14) Who Are Overweight or Obese



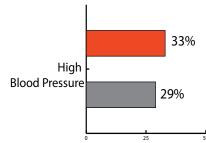
#### **Adults Who Are Overweight or Obese**



#### **Adults Diagnosed With Diabetes**



### Adults Diagnosed With High Blood Pressure





### **GreenThumb Gardens**

There are over 600 GreenThumb community gardens across the city, and any resident can join a garden. In Fordham/Bronx Park, there are **seven GreenThumb Gardens** (which total more than 44,000 square feet), three of which grow food. Find the most up-to-date list of gardens using GreenThumb's searchable Garden Map.

### **Grow to Learn Gardens**

Grow to Learn NYC is a school gardens initiative that includes more than 600 registered network schools throughout the city. In Fordham/Bronx Park, there are 11 Grow to Learn-registered network schools. Find the most up-to-date list of school gardens using Grow to Learn's searchable Garden Maps.

#### **Farmers' Markets**

All locations, unless otherwise noted, accept SNAP/EBT.\*
For an updated list of farmers' markets near you (including days/hours of operation) visit nyc.gov/health and search "farmers markets" or text "SoGood" to 877-877.

**Poe Park Greenmarket** -- 192nd St bet Grand Concourse & Valentine Ave

New York Botanical Gardens Greenmarket -- Southern Blvd bet Mosholu Pkwy & Bedford Park Blvd

Norwood Youthmarket -- E Gun Hill Rd & Dekalb Ave

Harvest Home North Central Bronx Farmers' Market -- Mosholu Pkwy & Jerome Ave

## **SNAP Enrollment Sites**

There are no SNAP enrollment sites in Fordham/Bronx Park.
The closest sites are in the South Bronx.

**Concourse** -- 1375 Jerome Ave, 2nd Fl, Bronx, NY 10452

**Crotona** -- 1910 Monterey Ave, 5th Fl, Bronx, NY 10457

**Hunts Point** -- 845 Barretto St, B-Level Fl, Bronx, NY 10474

<sup>\*</sup>SNAP is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly food stamps); EBT, electronic benefit transfer.

## **Free Summer Meals**

The New York City Department of Education offers free breakfast and lunch to children ages 18 and under at more than 1,100 sites across the city throughout the summer. Food served at summer meal sites meets federal nutrition requirements and the program is fully funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Find the most up-to-date list of summer meal sites at schoolfoodnyc.org or download the free smartphone app SchoolFood: Feed Your Mind.

#### Meal Sites in Fordham/Bronx Park:

P.S. 085 Great Expectations -- 2400 Marion Ave, Bronx, 10458

**I.S. 254** -- 2452 Washington Ave, Bronx, 10458

**Slattery Playground** -- East 183rd Street between Valentine and Ryer Ave, Bronx, 10458

**P.S. 008 Issac Varian** -- 3010 Briggs Ave, Bronx, 10458

**Zimmerman Playground** -- Olinville Ave and Britton St, Bronx, 10467

**P.S. 086 Kingsbridge Heights** -- 2756 Resevoir Ave, Bronx, 10468

**St. James Playground** -- 192nd St & Jerome Ave, Bronx, 10468

P.S. 246 Poe Center -- 2641 Grand Concourse, Bronx, 10468



## **FRESH: Zoning and Discretionary Tax Incentives**

The Food Retail Expansion to Support Health (FRESH) program offers zoning and financial incentives to promote the creation and maintenance of grocery stores in underserved neighborhoods.

FRESH benefits are available to stores within designated areas; tax incentives are discretionary and available on a case-by-case basis. To receive FRESH benefits, stores must provide at least:

- 6,000 square feet of retail space for grocery products;
- 50% of a general line of food products intended for home usage;
- 30% of retail space for perishable goods; and
- 500 square feet of retail space for fresh produce.

Find out more on the nyc.gov website.



# About the New York City Food Policy Center at **Hunter College**

The New York City Food Policy Center at Hunter College develops intersectoral, innovative and evidence-based solutions to preventing dietrelated diseases and promoting food security in New York City and beyond. The Center works with policy makers, community organizations, advocates, and the public to create healthier, more sustainable food environments and to use food to promote community and economic development. Through interdisciplinary research, policy analysis, evaluation, and education, we leverage the expertise and passion of the students, faculty and staff of Hunter College. The center aims to make New York a model for smart, fair food policy.

#### **Data Sources**

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