



## A Foodscape of **Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay**

UHF Neighborhood #210 (zip codes 11223, 11224, 11229, 11235)  
Includes parts of City Council Districts 45, 46, 47, and 48



NEW YORK CITY  
FOOD POLICY CENTER  
AT HUNTER COLLEGE

**HUNTER**  
The City University of New York





## 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](#).

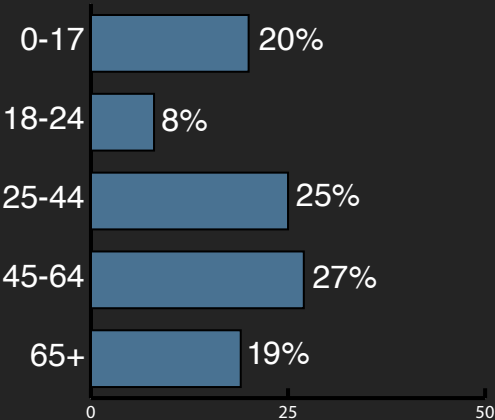
The reports also specify the City Council Districts that are part of each UHF, and districts often span several UHF neighborhoods. Council members and residents can then view the distinct neighborhoods within their districts, to compare and contrast both the needs and assets within each area. Recognizing 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 Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay

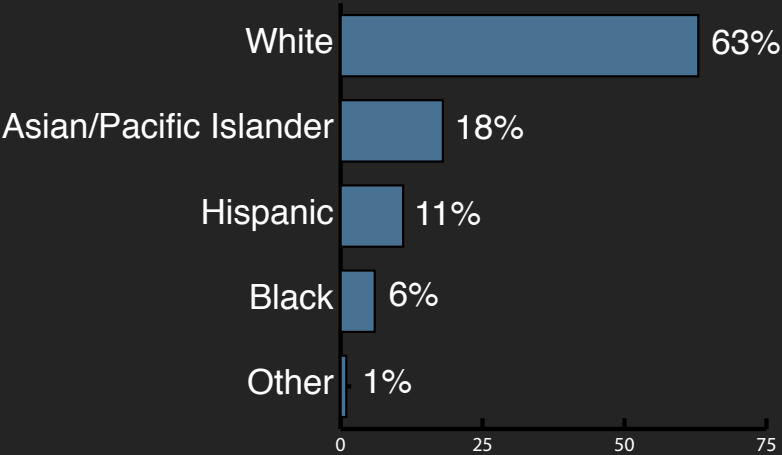
Population: 280,786



## Age



## Race



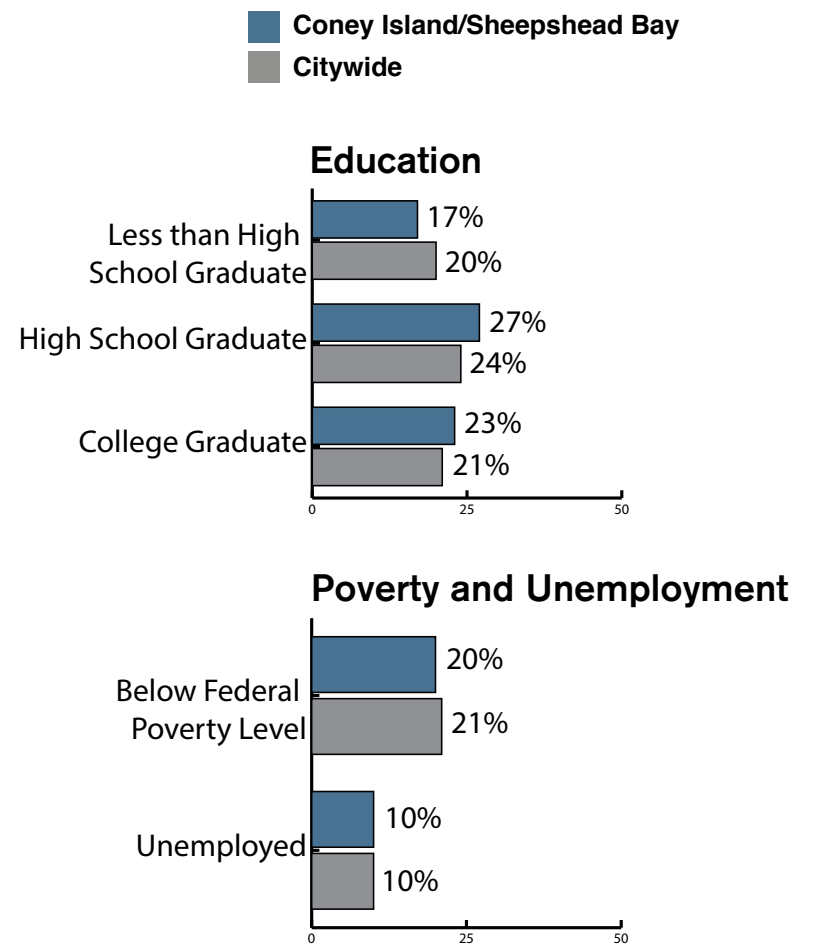
Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay is primarily **White**.





Levels of educational attainment in Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay are similar to New York City as a whole; more than one in five neighborhood residents is a college graduate.

In this neighborhood and citywide, about one in five residents lives in poverty, and the unemployment rate is 10%.



## Food and Beverage Consumption in Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay

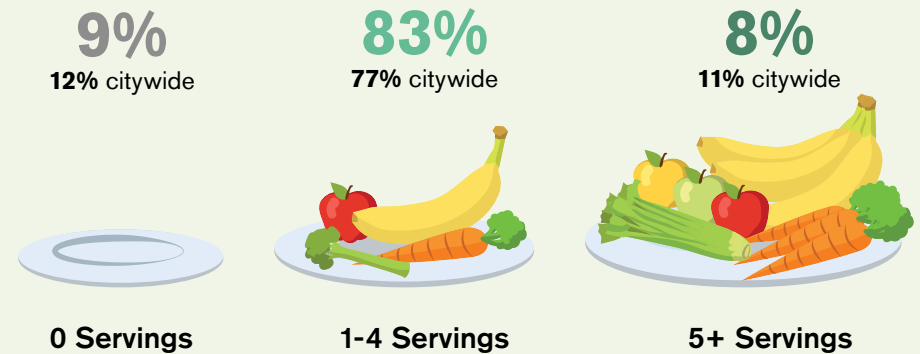
According to the 2015 U.S. Dietary Guidelines,<sup>1</sup> Americans should eat **five or more servings of fruits and vegetables each day**.

**A slightly lower percentage of Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay residents are meeting this standard (8% vs. 11% in NYC),** and 9% consume no fruits or vegetables in a day, (vs. 12% citywide). The vast majority of residents both in this neighborhood and citywide consume between one and four 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>**

**In Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay, the majority (54%) of residents consume no sugary drinks,** higher than citywide (45%). Nearly one in five residents drink one or more sugary beverages daily, lower than New York City as a whole (24%).

### 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



**16%** live **between 5-10 minutes**  
18% citywide



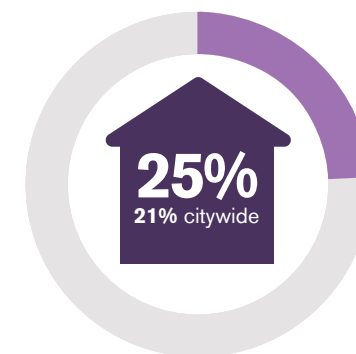
**34%** live **10 minutes or more**  
32% citywide

## Access to Healthy Food and Food Security in Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay

**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 Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay, 47% of residents live within a five-minute walk to fresh produce, similar to citywide (49%).**

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 Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay, one quarter of households receive SNAP benefits,** slightly higher than citywide (21%).

## Nutrition-Related Chronic Diseases in Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay



**In Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay, the prevalence of childhood obesity is slightly lower than New York City as a whole (18% vs. 21%).**

Children who are obese are more likely to remain obese as adults.<sup>5</sup> When children remain obese into adulthood their risk for heart disease and other comorbidities becomes more severe.<sup>6</sup>

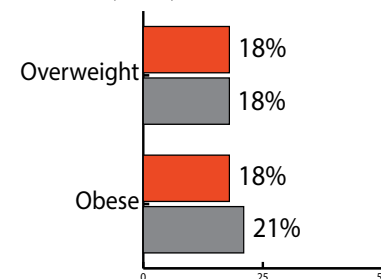
**However, adult obesity in this neighborhood is slightly higher than citywide (27% vs. 24%).** Obesity can lead to serious health conditions, including diabetes and heart disease.

**Diabetes prevalence is slightly higher in Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay than in New York City overall (14% vs. 12%).** Uncontrolled diabetes can cause blindness, renal disease, and amputations.

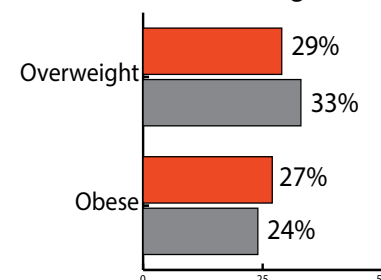
**Additionally, a slightly higher percentage of neighborhood residents have high blood pressure (31% vs. 29% in NYC),** a leading risk factor for heart disease.

**Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay**  
**Citywide**

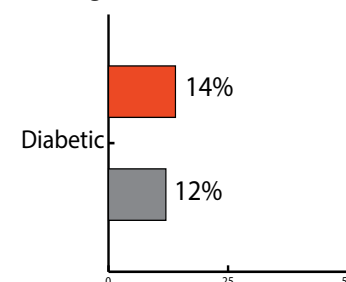
### Children (5-14) Who Are Overweight or Obese



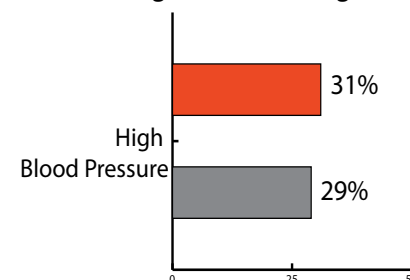
### Adults Who Are Overweight or Obese



### Adults Diagnosed With Diabetes



### Adults Diagnosed With High Blood Pressure







## Citywide Initiatives to Increase Access to Healthy Foods in **Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay**

### GreenThumb Gardens

There are over 600 [GreenThumb](#) community gardens across the city, and any resident can join a garden. In Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay, there are **five GreenThumb Gardens** (which total more than 146,000 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 Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay, there are **19 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](https://nyc.gov/health) and search "farmers markets" or text "SoGood" to 877-877.

**Edible Schoolyard NYC's Farm Stand at P.S. 216** -- Avenue X & East 1st St

**Harvest Home Coney Island Hospital Farmers' Market** -- Ocean Pkwy bet Ave Z & Shore Pkwy

### SNAP Enrollment Sites

**Coney Island** -- 2857-2865 West 8th St, 1st Fl, Brooklyn, 11224

\*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](http://schoolfoodnyc.org) or download the free smartphone app [SchoolFood: Feed Your Mind](#).

### Meal Sites in Coney Island/Sheepshead Bay:

**P.S. 97 The Highlawn** -- 1855 Stillwell Ave, Brooklyn, 11223

**NYCHA Marlboro Houses** -- 2304 West 8th St, Brooklyn, 11223

**P.S. 288 The Shirley Tanyhill School** -- 2950 West 25th St, Brooklyn, 11224

**NYCHA Gravesend Houses** -- 2973 West 33rd St, Brooklyn, 11224

**Summer Meals Program at Coney Island** -- 1901 Mermaid Ave, Brooklyn, 11224

**Brooklyn Public Library (Gerritsen Beach Branch)** -- 2808 Gerritsen Ave, Brooklyn, 11229

**P.S. 209 Margaret Mead** -- 2609 East 7th St, Brooklyn, 11235

**J.H.S. 014 Shell Bank** -- 2424 Batchelder St, Brooklyn, 11235

**Brooklyn Public Library (Sheepshead Bay Branch)** -- 2636 East 14th St, Brooklyn, 11235



## 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](http://nyc.gov) website.



The New York City Food Policy Center at Hunter College develops intersectoral, innovative and evidence-based solutions to preventing diet-related 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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<sup>2</sup> Imamura F, O'Connor L, Ye Z, et al. Consumption of sugar sweetened beverages, artificially sweetened beverages, and fruit juice and incidence of type 2 diabetes: systematic review, meta-analysis, and estimation of population attributable fraction. *BMJ*. 2015 Jul 21;351:h3576. doi: 10.1136/bmj.h3576.

<sup>3</sup> Rahkovsky I, Snyder S. Food Choices and Store Proximity. ERS Report No. 195. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, September 2015. [https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/publications/err195/53943\\_err195.pdf?v=42276](https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/publications/err195/53943_err195.pdf?v=42276). Accessed February 2016.

<sup>4</sup> Executive Office of the President of the United States. (2015) Long-Term Benefits of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. [https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/files/documents/SNAP\\_report\\_final\\_nonembargo.pdf](https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/files/documents/SNAP_report_final_nonembargo.pdf). Accessed December 2016.

<sup>5</sup> Freedman DS, Khan LK, Serdula MK, Dietz WH, Srinivasan SR, Berenson GS. The relation of childhood BMI to adult adiposity: the Bogalusa Heart Study. *Pediatrics* 2005;115:22-7.

<sup>6</sup> Freedman DS, Dietz WH, Srinivasan SR, Berenson GS. Risk factors and adult body mass index among overweight children: the Bogalusa Heart Study. *Pediatrics*. 2009;123:750-57.