The unemployment rate in Parkchester/Soundview has declined steadily since 2000, but the poverty rate of 26% remains high relative to the city-wide rate. Rates of severe crowding have declined since 2000, as has the percentage of rental units that are vacant. The neighborhood has seen increases in certificates of occupancy and units authorized by new building permits since 2000, although a large percentage of the area remains vacant land. The demographic profile of the CD has changed since 1990 due to an increase in the percentage of immigrants, who made up nearly one third of the current residents in 2006.