State of New Yorkers

FINDING #1

Citywide, the share of households with children decreased from 34 percent in 2000 to just below 29 percent in 2017.

The share of households with children declined the most between 2000 and 2017 in Brooklyn (-8.0 percentage points), followed by Queens (-5.8 percentage points), the Bronx (-5.2 percentage points), and Staten Island (-2.9 percentage points). Manhattan—the borough with the lowest share of households with children—had the smallest decline of households with children over this period with only a 1.8 percentage point drop. New York City had a lower share of households with children in 2017 (28.8%) than the nation as a whole (30.8%), though the citywide decline in the share of households with children between 2000 and 2017 was almost identical to the nationwide decline (-5.2 percentage points and -5.3 percentage points, respectively).

Figure 1: Share of Households with Children by Borough

![Bar chart showing the share of households with children by borough in 2000, 2007, and 2017.](chart.png)

Sources: U.S. Census (2000), American Community Survey (2007, 2017), NYU Furman Center
Between 2007 and 2017, the share of households consisting of unrelated roommates increased in every borough. In 2017, households consisting of family members—defined as residents related by birth, marriage, or adoption—made up 59.8 percent of New York City households. Family households also made up the majority of households in every borough except Manhattan, though Manhattan had the largest increase in the share of family households from 2007 to 2017 (+3.9 percentage points to 44.0%). Nearly a third of New York City households consisted of individuals living alone. Between 2007 and 2017, the share of households made up of unrelated roommates increased from 6.1 percent to 8.0 percent citywide, with the largest gains in Brooklyn (+3.4 percentage points), Manhattan (+1.9 percentage points), and Queens (+1.4 percentage points) over that time period.

The share of the population aged 65 or older grew the most in Manhattan and Staten Island between 2007 and 2017. The share of the population aged 65 or older grew by 2.1 percentage points in New York City compared to 3.1 percentage points nationwide between 2007 and 2017. Staten Island and Manhattan had the largest increases in the senior share of the population with an increase of 3.9 percentage points and 3.4 percentage points, respectively. During the same time period, the senior share of the population increased in the Bronx and Queens by 1.9 percentage points each and by 1.3 percentage points in Brooklyn.

Sources: American Community Survey, NYU Furman Center

Note: Family households are defined as households comprised of individuals related by birth, marriage, or adoption living together. Non-family households are broken down into two subcategories: unrelated roommate households, which are households in which two or more people live together who are not related by marriage, birth or adoption; and households in which the householder was living alone.
Between 2007 and 2017, the foreign-born share of the population continued to increase in the Bronx and Staten Island, continued to decrease in Brooklyn and Manhattan, and began to decrease in Queens.

The share of the foreign-born population increased slightly nationwide (12.6% to 13.7%) and increased by an even smaller amount in New York City (36.8% to 37.1%) between 2007 and 2017. Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens each lost about one percentage point in their foreign-born share over that time period while the Bronx and Staten Island gained five and two percentage points, respectively.

**Figure 4: Share of Population that was Foreign-Born by Borough**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bronx</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manhattan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Queens</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Staten Island</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: U.S. Census (2000), American Community Survey (2007, 2017), NYU Furman Center

Between 2000 and 2017, the share of New Yorkers identifying as Hispanic or Asian increased, while the share identifying as white or Black decreased.

Between 2000 and 2017, the share of New Yorkers identifying as Asian grew by 4.7 percentage points and the share of New Yorkers identifying as Hispanic (of any race) grew by 2.2 percentage points. During that same period, the share of the population identifying as Black decreased by 2.7 percentage points while the share of the population identifying as white decreased by 3.3 percentage points despite a slight increase from 2000 to 2007.

**Figure 5: Share of Population by Race and Ethnicity, New York City**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>White</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: U.S. Census (2000), American Community Survey (2007, 2017), NYU Furman Center

Note: The Hispanic population may be of any race, while we define the Asian, Black, and white populations as being non-Hispanic.
STATE OF NEW YORKERS
FINDING #6

All five boroughs saw the college-educated share of their populations rise between 2007 and 2017, though the most dramatic increase occurred in North Brooklyn.

The share of New Yorkers with a college degree increased 4.5 percentage points between 2007 (32.9%) and 2017 (37.3%). The increase was not equally distributed, however, across New York City’s neighborhoods. For example, in Williamsburg/Greenpoint, the share of residents with a college degree increased by 21.9 percentage points between 2007 and 2017 while several sub-borough areas in Queens experienced a decline, including Jackson Heights (-1.1 percentage points), Rego Park/Forest Hills (-0.3 percentage points), and Hillcrest/Fresh Meadows (-2.3 percentage points). The North Brooklyn sub-borough areas of Williamsburg/Greenpoint, Bushwick, Bedford Stuyvesant, and North Crown Heights/Prospect Heights had an increase greater than 15 percentage points.

Figure 6: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Population Aged 25 or Older with a College Degree by Sub-Borough Area, 2007 to 2017

STATE OF NEW YORKERS
FINDING #7

In 2017, a greater share of the population was in the labor force and a smaller share of the population was unemployed compared to pre-recession levels.

A larger share of New Yorkers aged 16 or older were in the labor force in 2017 (63.7%) than in either 2007 or 2010. Overall, 59.6 percent of New Yorkers aged 16 or older were employed, which translates to 93.6 percent of the labor force. While the share of New Yorkers aged 16 or older who were employed increased by 1.9 percentage points from 2007 to 2017, the share that were unemployed decreased by only 0.3 percentage points. New York City’s labor force participation rate of 63.7 percent exceeds that of the nation (62.8%).

Figure 7: Population Aged 16 or Older by Labor Force Status, New York City

Source: American Community Survey, NYU Furman Center

Note: Unemployment statistics calculated using the American Community Survey tend to be higher than the statistics the Bureau of Labor Statistics calculates using the Current Population Survey. Here the unemployment rate is calculated as 6.4% while the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported between 4.6 and 4.7% unemployment for 2017. For more information see the Indicator Definition section in Part 3 of this report.
The overall poverty rate declined between 2010 and 2017 with a decrease in the childhood poverty rate and a slight increase in the poverty rate among seniors.

About 18 percent of New Yorkers lived below the poverty line in 2017, which is higher than the national poverty rate of 13.4 percent. Even as the city’s overall population grew, the number of people living below the poverty line decreased by about six percent between 2010 and 2017 (from about 1.6 million to about 1.5 million). While the number of children living below the poverty line decreased by about 15 percent (around 80,000 fewer children) during this time period, the number of seniors living below the poverty line increased by 30 percent (around 50,000 more seniors).

Though the year-over-year growth of New Yorkers living in homeless shelters has slowed since 2015, the number of New Yorkers living in homeless shelters nearly doubled between 2008 and 2018.

Citywide, the average number of New Yorkers staying in a homeless shelter in any given month continued to increase, but at the lowest annual rate since 2010 (+1.0%). Of the 62,670 individuals staying in homeless shelters on average each month in 2018, 72.9 percent were individuals in families and 36.5 percent were children. However, the number of individuals in families actually decreased by 2.0 percent from 2017 to 2018 while the number of individuals not in families increased by 10 percent.
In New York City, growth in real median household income slowed to 1.5 percent between 2016 and 2017 with the City’s median income just barely exceeding the nationwide median income in 2017.

Between 2016 and 2017, the U.S. real median household income increased by 2.5 percent, outpacing the growth of New York City’s median household income of 1.5 percent (its lowest level of growth since 2014). Both nationally and citywide, median household income in 2017 was at its highest level since 2007 ($61,810 and $62,040, respectively).

Between 2000 and 2017, the distribution of household income became more skewed toward higher and lower incomes as the share of moderate- to middle-income households decreased.

The share of households earning less than $40,000 annually remained relatively stable at about 34 percent between 2000 and 2017 (2018$) with less than a one percentage point increase. At the other end of the distribution, the share of households earning above $100,000 per year increased nearly four percentage points to almost 32 percent. The share of moderate and middle income households dropped by 3.1 percentage points.
The New York City metropolitan area’s economy continued to grow between 2016 and 2017, although it grew at just under two thirds of the rate of metropolitan areas nationwide.

Gross domestic product (GDP) in the New York City metropolitan area increased by 1.3 percent between 2016 and 2017, just under two thirds of the rate of growth of metropolitan areas nationwide (2.1%). Though New York City’s regional economic growth from 2009-2012 outpaced the nationwide metropolitan index (6.9% compared to 5.7%), its growth has lagged the national average since 2012 (5.9% compared to 11.2%).

Figure 12: Index of Real Gross Domestic Product (Index=100 in 2009)

Sources: Bureau of Economic Analysis, NYU Furman Center