The Dynamics of Family Homelessness in New York City

II. Neighborhood Dynamics

IC PH

Institute for Children, Poverty & Homelessness

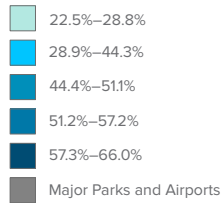# Neighborhood Dynamics in New York City

Neighborhood Dynamics in New York City takes a closer look at the community factors driving family homelessness. Neighborhood determinants such as educational attainment, unemployment, rent burden, and poverty all contribute to the homelessness crisis. It is important to study geographic patterns of neighborhood instability and community resources to assess need and determine if resources are being allocated to the areas in which families are the most at risk for homelessness.
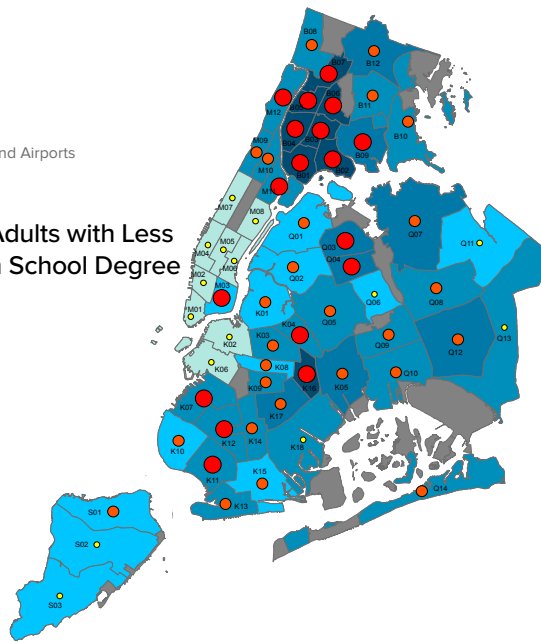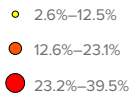
Low-Wage Occupations & Educational Attainment

For homeless and low-income students, education is the key to breaking the cycle of poverty. A high school diploma gives adults access to further educational opportunities and higher-paying jobs, which will in turn vastly decrease their risk of falling into homelessness.
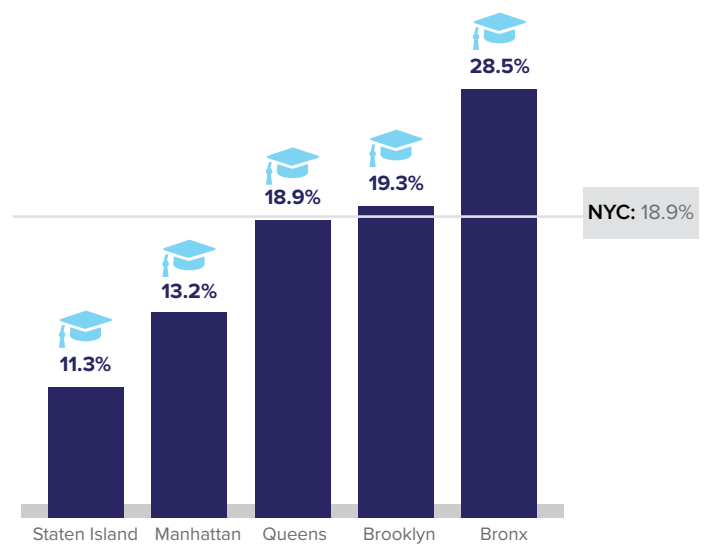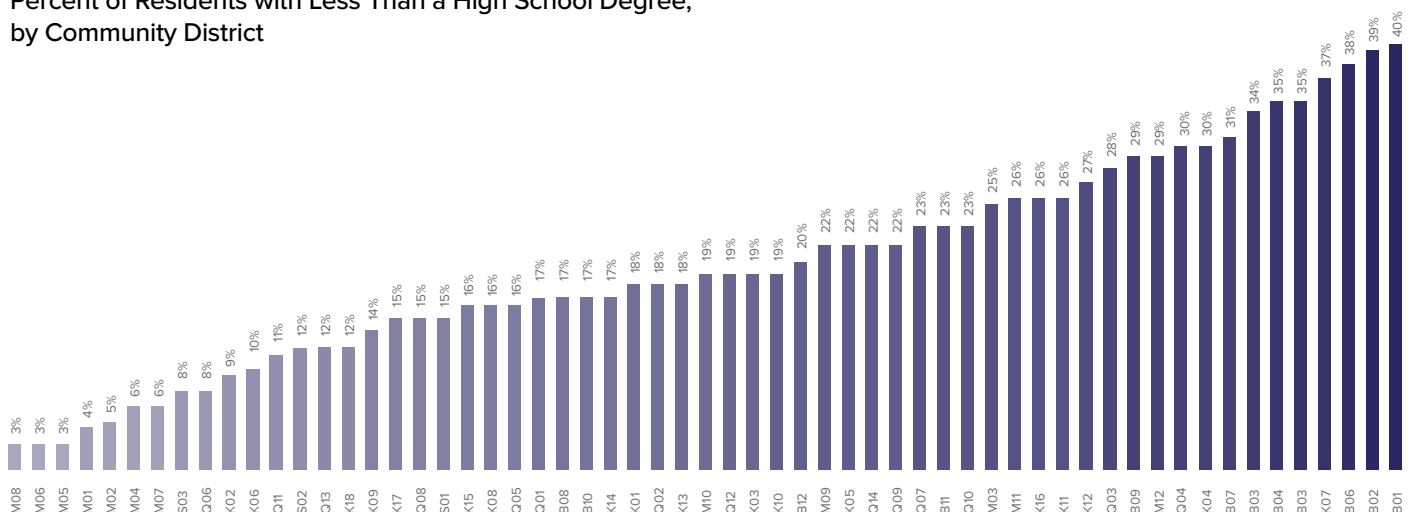
Percent in Low-Wage Occupations

- 22.5%–28.8%
- 28.9%–44.3%
- 44.4%–51.1%
- 51.2%–57.2%
- 57.3%–66.0%
- Major Parks and Airports

Percent of Adults with Less Than a High School Degree

- 2.6%–12.5%
- 12.6%–23.1%
- 23.2%–39.5%

Percent of Residents with Less Than a High School Degree, by Borough

Staten Island	Manhattan	Queens	Brooklyn	Bronx
11.3%	13.2%	18.9%	19.3%	28.5%

NYC: 18.9%

Percent of Residents with Less Than a High School Degree, by Community District

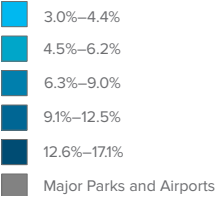	M08	M06	M05	M01	M02	M04	M07	S03	Q06	K02	K06	Q11	S02	Q13	K18	K09	K17	Q08	S01	K15	K08	Q05	Q01	B08	B10	K14	K01	Q02	K13	M10	Q12	K03	K10	B12	M09	K05	Q14	Q09	Q07	B11	Q10	M03	M11	K16	K11	K12	Q03	B09	M12	Q04	K04	B07	B03	B04	B03	K07	B06	B02	B01
3%	3%	3%	4%	5%	6%	6%	8%	8%	9%	10%	11%	12%	12%	12%	14%	15%	15%	15%	16%	16%	16%	17%	17%	17%	17%	18%	18%	18%	19%	19%	19%	19%	20%	22%	22%	22%	22%	23%	23%	23%	25%	26%	26%	26%	27%	28%	29%	29%	30%	30%	31%	34%	35%	35%	37%	38%	39%	40%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *2017 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates*.
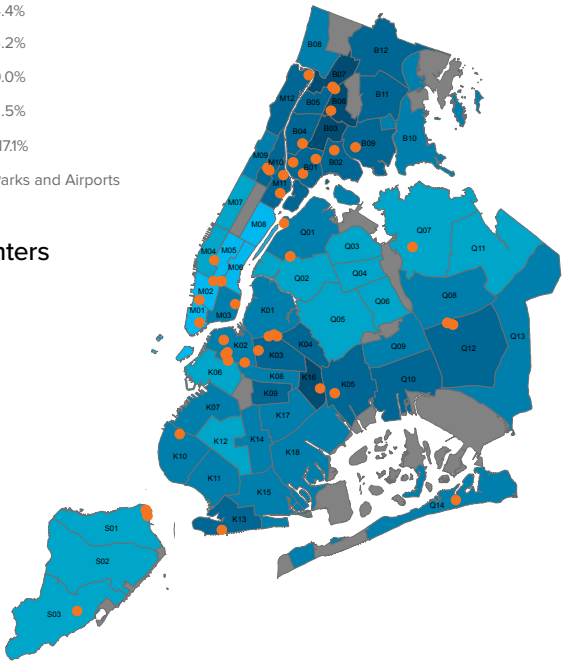
Unemployment & Job Center Locations

Parental job loss increases a family's likelihood of experiencing housing instability. Meanwhile, some neighborhoods with high unemployment lack services in their own communities. Ensuring that job centers are easily accessible to those who need them could prevent families from becoming homeless.
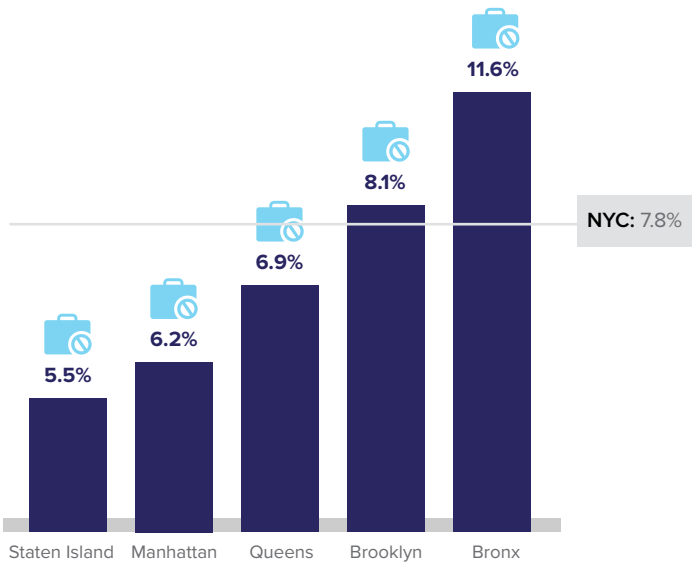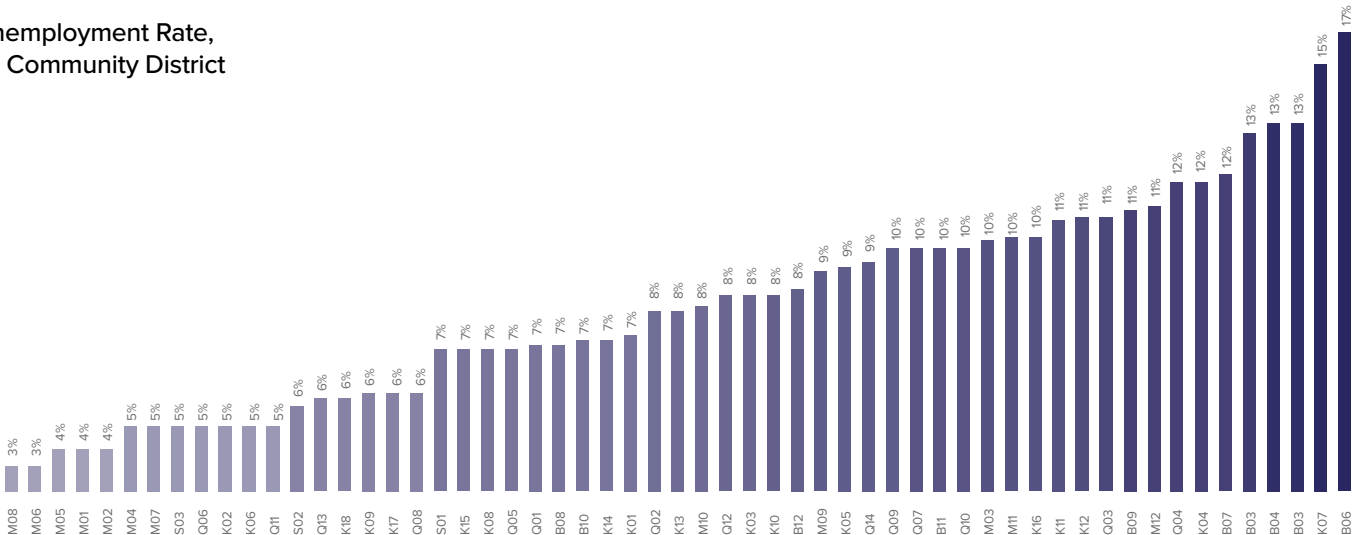
Percent Unemployed

- 3.0%–4.4%
- 4.5%–6.2%
- 6.3%–9.0%
- 9.1%–12.5%
- 12.6%–17.1%
- Major Parks and Airports

Job Centers

Unemployment Rate, by Borough

- Staten Island: 5.5%
- Manhattan: 6.2%
- Queens: 6.9%
- Brooklyn: 8.1%
- Bronx: 11.6%
- NYC: 7.8%

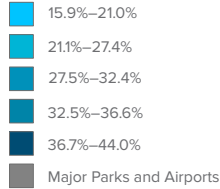## Unemployment Rate, by Community District

Source: New York City Human Resources Administration, "Job Centers," https://www1.nyc.gov, accessed January 3, 2019; New York State Department of Labor, "New York Career Center Locator," https://labor.ny.gov, accessed January 3, 2019; New York City Housing Authority, "Jobs-Plus," http://opportunitynycha.org/, accessed June 3, 2019; US Census Bureau, *2017 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates*.

Severe Rent Burden & Disappearing Affordable Units

Percent of households spending 50% or more of income on rent and number of subsidized units that will be eligible to expire between 2018–2023.

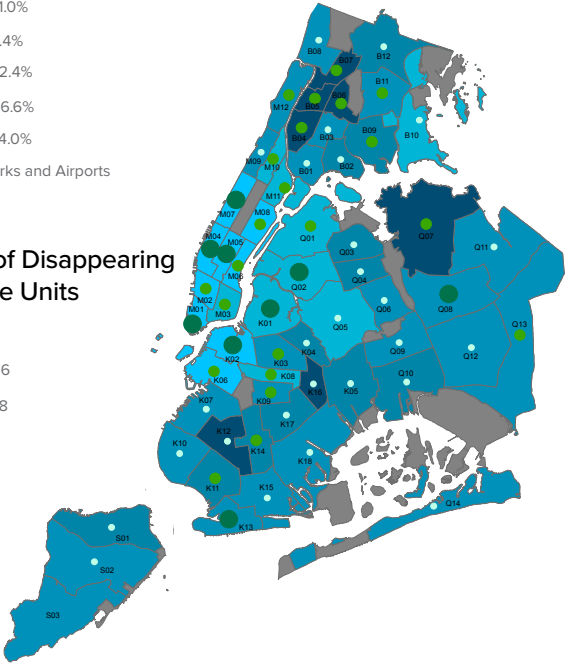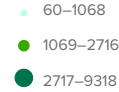Severely rent burdened households are often just one lost paycheck or medical emergency away from eviction, which is the second-most common reason that families enter shelter in NYC. As rents continue to rise, the preservation of affordable housing is essential to keeping families on the brink of homelessness stably housed in their communities.
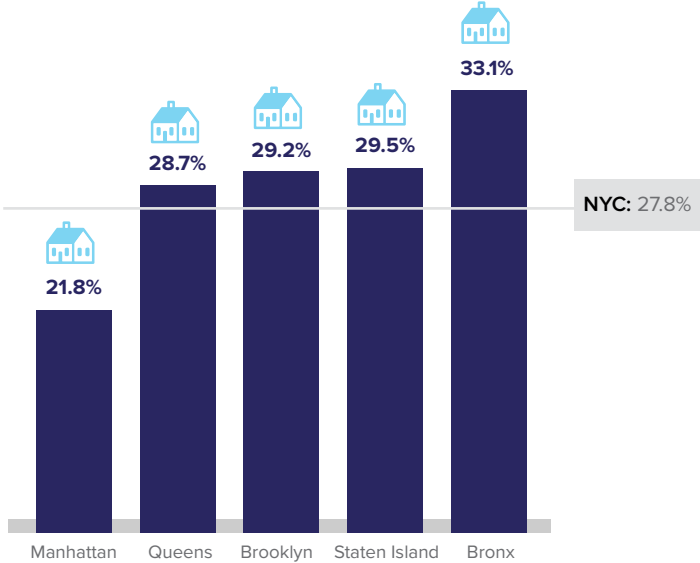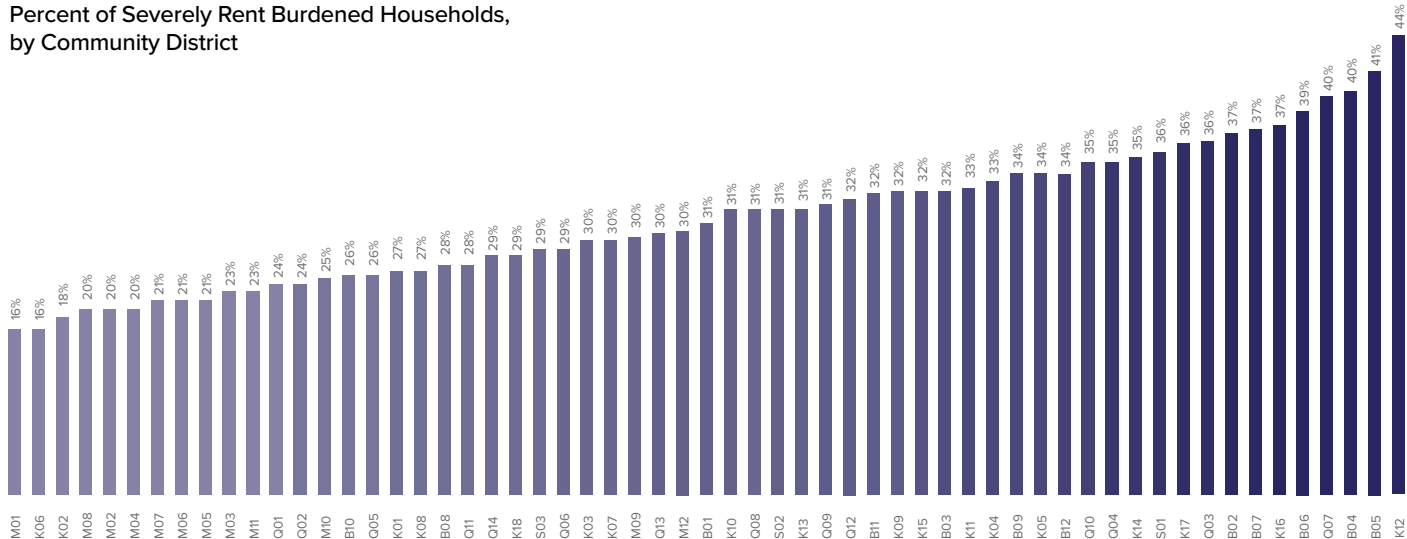
Percent Severely Rent Burdened

- 15.9%–21.0%
- 21.1%–27.4%
- 27.5%–32.4%
- 32.5%–36.6%
- 36.7%–44.0%
- Major Parks and Airports

Number of Disappearing Affordable Units

- 60–1068
- 1069–2716
- 2717–9318

Percent of Severely Rent Burdened Households, by Borough

Borough	Percent
Manhattan	21.8%
Queens	28.7%
Brooklyn	29.2%
Staten Island	29.5%
Bronx	33.1%

NYC: 27.8%

Percent of Severely Rent Burdened Households, by Community District

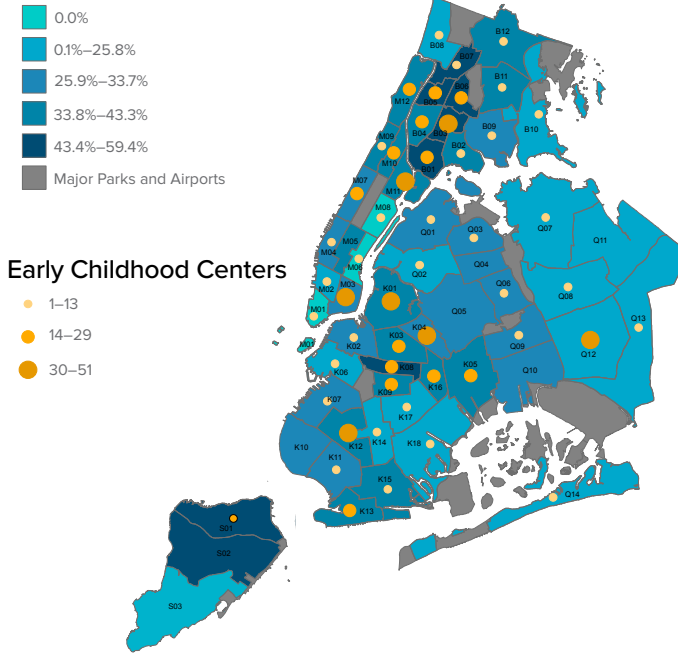| District	Percent
M01	16%
K06	16%
K02	18%
M08	20%
M02	20%
M04	20%
M07	21%
M06	21%
M05	21%
M03	23%
M11	23%
Q01	24%
Q02	24%
M10	25%
B10	26%
Q05	26%
K01	27%
K08	27%
B08	28%
Q11	28%
Q14	29%
K18	29%
S03	29%
Q06	29%
K03	30%
K07	30%
M09	30%
Q13	30%
M12	30%
B01	31%
K10	31%
Q08	31%
S02	31%
K13	31%
Q09	32%
Q12	32%
B11	32%
K09	32%
K15	33%
B03	33%
K11	33%
K04	34%
B09	34%
K05	34%
B12	35%
Q10	35%
Q04	35%
K14	36%
S01	36%
K17	36%
Q03	37%
B02	37%
B07	37%
K16	39%
B06	40%
Q07	40%
B04	41%
B05	44%
K12	44%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *2017 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates*; NYU Furman Center's CoreData.nyc.

Single Mothers with Young Children in Poverty & Early Childhood Learning Locations
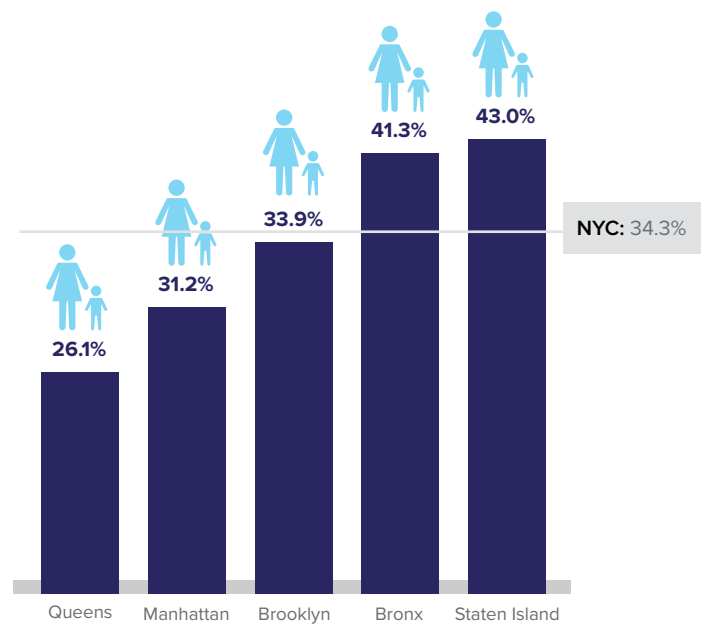
Low-income single mothers of young children are at high risk for becoming homeless. Head Start and child care programs are invaluable to parents struggling to make ends meet. Services like these give children the best chance of future academic success.
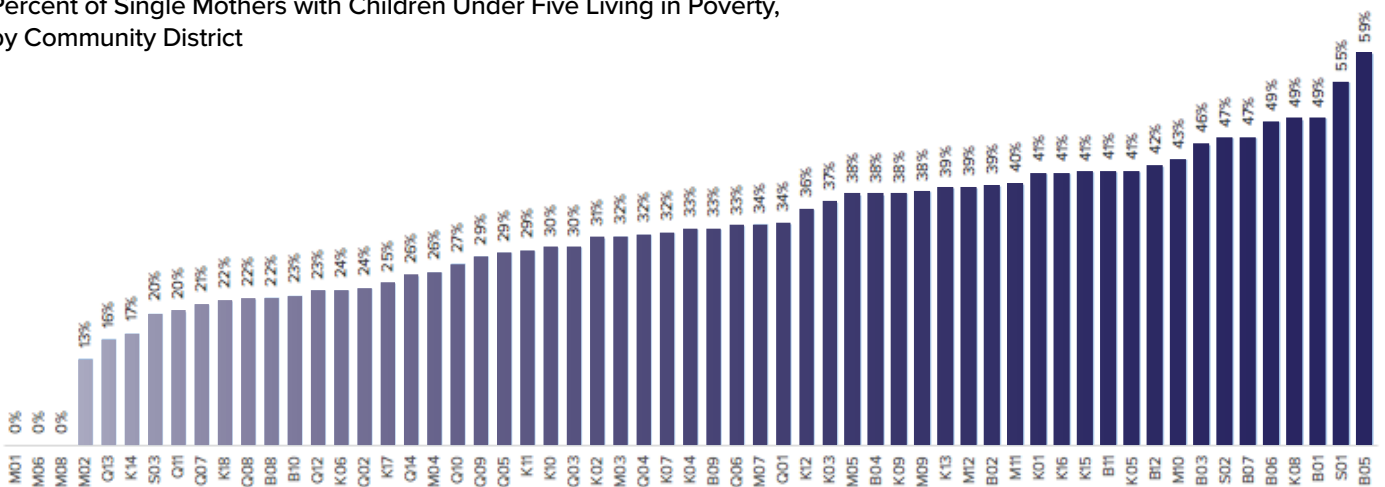
Percent Below Poverty Level

- 0.0%
- 0.1%–25.8%
- 25.9%–33.7%
- 33.8%–43.3%
- 43.4%–59.4%
- Major Parks and Airports

Early Childhood Centers

- 1–13
- 14–29
- 30–51

Percent of Single Mothers with Children Under Five Living in Poverty, by Borough

Queens	Manhattan	Brooklyn	Bronx	Staten Island
26.1%	31.2%	33.9%	41.3%	43.0%

NYC: 34.3%

Percent of Single Mothers with Children Under Five Living in Poverty, by Community District

M01 0% · M06 0% · M08 0% · M02 13% · Q13 16% · K14 17% · S03 20% · Q11 20% · Q07 22% · K18 22% · Q08 22% · B08 22% · B10 23% · Q12 23% · K06 24% · Q02 24% · K17 25% · Q14 26% · M04 26% · Q10 27% · Q09 29% · Q05 29% · K11 30% · K10 30% · Q03 31% · K02 32% · M03 32% · Q04 32% · K07 33% · K04 33% · B09 33% · Q06 33% · M07 34% · Q01 34% · K12 36% · K03 37% · M05 38% · B04 38% · K09 38% · M09 38% · K13 39% · M12 39% · B02 39% · M11 40% · K01 41% · K16 41% · K15 41% · B11 41% · K05 41% · B12 42% · M10 43% · B03 46% · S02 47% · B07 47% · B06 49% · K08 49% · B01 49% · S01 55% · B05 59%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *2017 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates*, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Head Start, Head Start Center Locator, accessed January 3, 2019; New York City Department of Education, *Child Care Financial Assistance: Find a Child Care Program*, https://www1.nyc.gov, accessed January 3, 2019.

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Aurora Zepeda, Chief Operating Officer

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Chloe Stein, Principal Policy Analyst
Kristen MacFarlane, Senior GIS Analyst
Mukta Ramola, GIS Analyst

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