

Overlooked & Undercounted 2019

The Self-Sufficiency Standard for New York City

PHILANTHROPY NEW YORK
OCTOBER 16, 2019





Housing



Child Care



Food



Transportation



Health Care



Miscellaneous



Taxes

What is the Self-Sufficiency Standard?

Income necessary to
meet the basic needs
of working families

Monthly budget

2 adults, 2 school-age children

	Bronx	Northwest Brooklyn	Brooklyn (Excluding NW)	North Manhattan	South Manhattan	Queens	Staten Island
Housing	\$1,562	\$2,349	\$1,693	\$1,315	\$2,970	\$1,839	\$1,637
Child Care	\$1,354	\$1,354	\$1,354	\$1,354	\$1,354	\$1,354	\$1,354
Food	\$859	\$918	\$918	\$1,424	\$1,424	\$935	\$968
Transportation	\$242	\$242	\$242	\$242	\$242	\$242	\$242
Health Care	\$571	\$571	\$571	\$571	\$571	\$571	\$571
Miscellaneous	\$459	\$543	\$478	\$491	\$656	\$494	\$477
Taxes*	\$982	\$1,385	\$1,072	\$1,134	\$1,965	\$1,150	\$1,070
Tax Credits (-)	(\$433)	(\$433)	(\$433)	(\$433)	(\$433)	(\$433)	(\$433)
Self-Sufficiency Wage							
Hourly (per adult)	\$15.89	\$19.68	\$16.74	\$17.32	\$24.85	\$17.48	\$16.72
Annual	\$67,137	\$83,146	\$70,729	\$73,172	\$104,983	\$73,819	\$70,630
Emergency Savings Fund	\$107	\$119	\$110	\$112	\$192	\$112	\$110

* The Standard is calculated by adding expenses and taxes and subtracting tax credits. The "Taxes" row includes payroll and sales taxes plus income taxes.

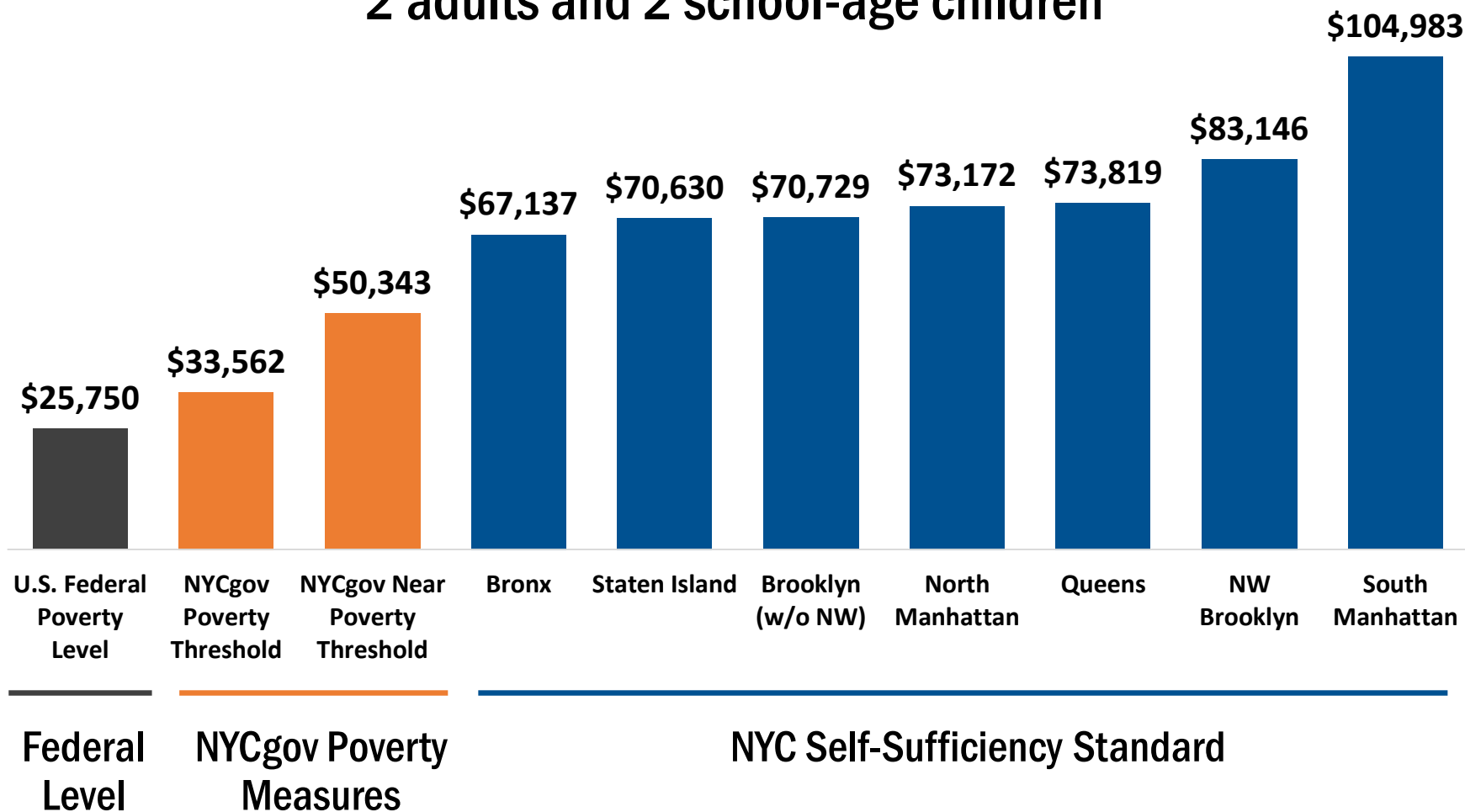
Monthly budget

1 adult, 1 school-age child

	Bronx	Northwest Brooklyn	Brooklyn (Excluding NW)	North Manhattan	South Manhattan	Queens	Staten Island
Housing	\$1,562	\$2,349	\$1,693	\$1,315	\$2,970	\$1,839	\$1,637
Child Care	\$677	\$677	\$677	\$677	\$677	\$677	\$677
Food	\$463	\$495	\$495	\$768	\$768	\$504	\$522
Transportation	\$121	\$121	\$121	\$121	\$121	\$121	\$121
Health Care	\$492	\$492	\$492	\$492	\$492	\$492	\$492
Miscellaneous	\$331	\$413	\$348	\$337	\$503	\$363	\$345
Taxes*	\$836	\$1,226	\$913	\$863	\$1,843	\$987	\$900
Tax Credits (-)	(\$217)	(\$217)	(\$217)	(\$217)	(\$217)	(\$217)	(\$217)
Self-Sufficiency Wage							
Hourly (per adult)	\$24.23	\$31.57	\$25.69	\$24.76	\$40.66	\$27.08	\$25.43
Annual	\$51,180	\$66,674	\$54,257	\$52,285	\$85,877	\$57,199	\$53,716
Emergency Savings Fund	\$167	\$294	\$184	\$173	\$403	\$200	\$181

Self-Sufficiency Standard compared to Federal and Local Poverty Guidelines

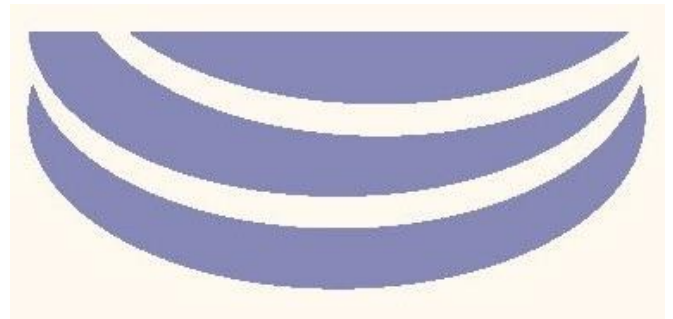
2 adults and 2 school-age children



**Self-Sufficiency
Standard increased
87% on average**



**But wages only
increased 37%**



Between 2000 and 2018

40%

of Households in NYC live below Self-Sufficiency Standard

> 2.5 million

**New Yorkers lack enough income to cover
basic needs**

of Households below the Standard...



78%

**are people
of color**



56%

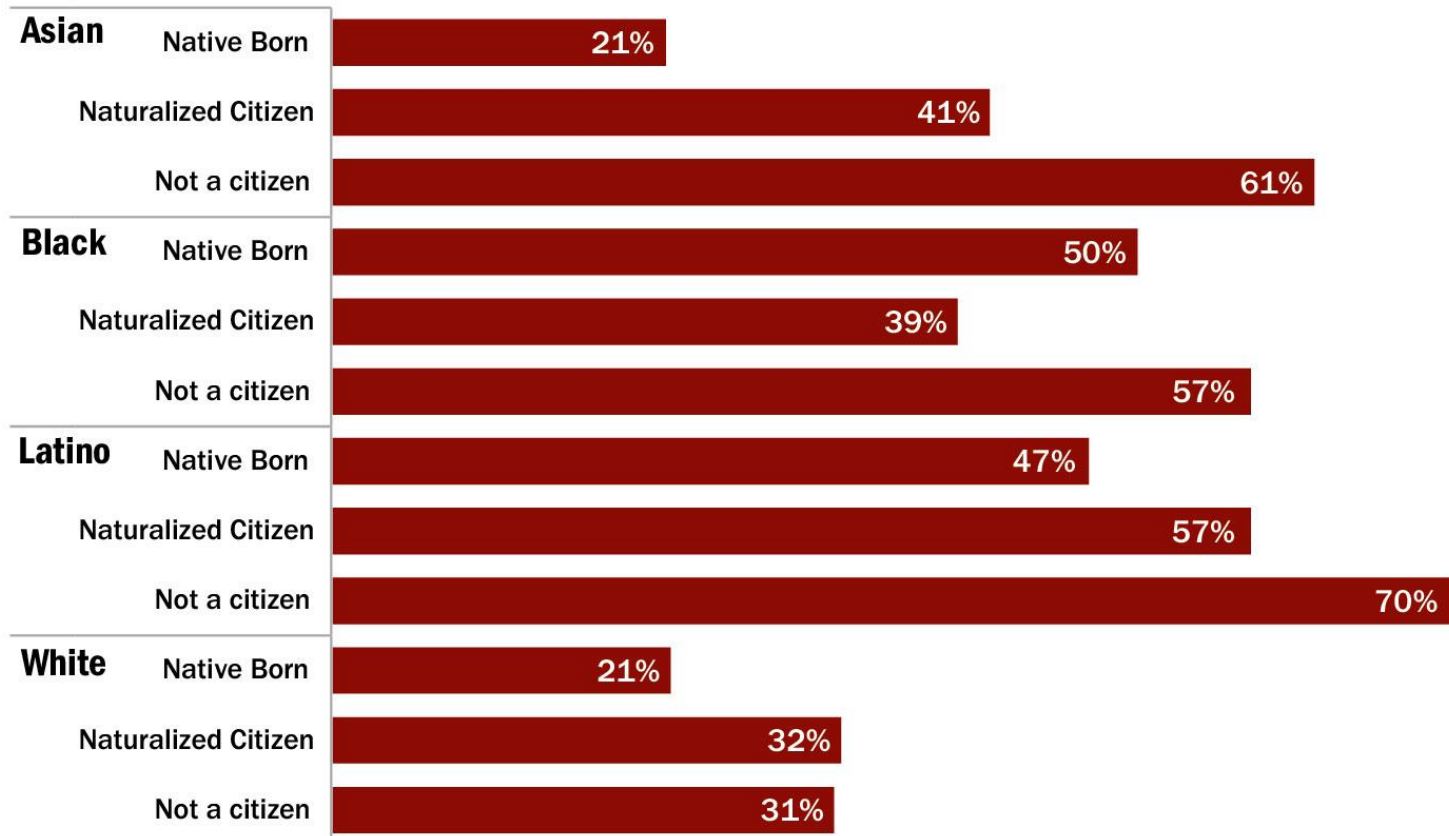
**are foreign-
born**



84%

**have at least
one worker**

Income Inadequacy Rate by Nativity & Race/Ethnicity

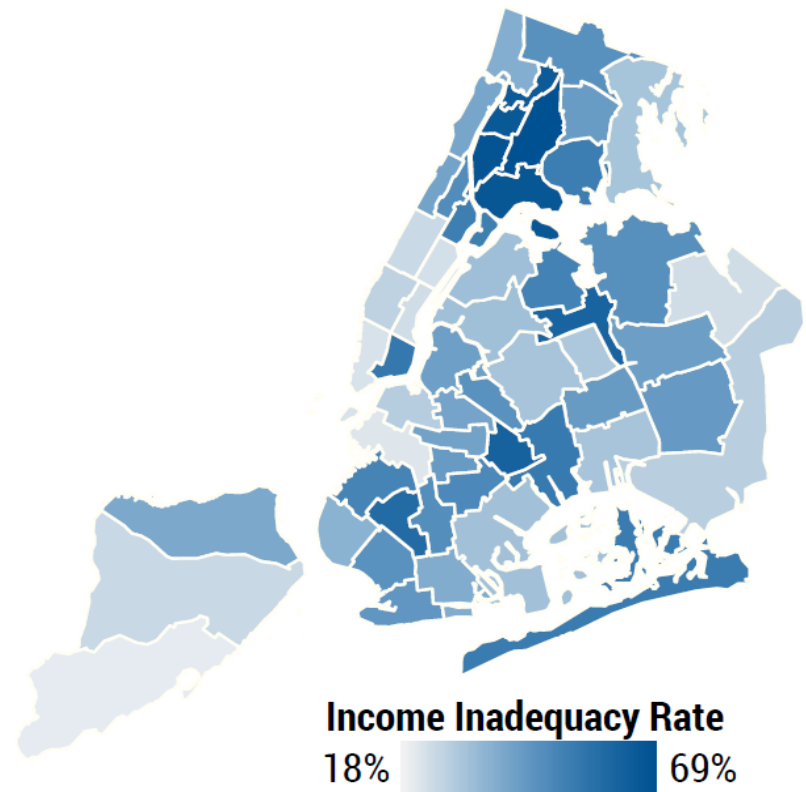


The Cost of Living Varies By Location

5 areas with highest rates of Income Inadequacy are all in the Bronx:

- CD 3 & 6, Belmont, Crotona Park East & East Tremont **69%**
- CD 4, Concourse, Highbridge & Mount Eden **68%**
- CD 1 & 2, Hunts Point, Mott Haven, Longwood & Melrose **67%**
- CD 5, Morris Heights, Fordham South & Mount Hope **66%**
- CD 7, Bedford Park, Fordham North & Norwood **65%**

Income Inadequacy Rates by PUMA/Community District*



* Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs) are geographical statistical areas that contain at least 100,000 people. In NYC, PUMAs approximate NYC Community Districts (CDs).

Policy Recommendations: A collective city-wide effort

In 2018, 32 issue experts convened to review the data in the briefs and develop policy recommendations that fit the following criteria:

Policy changes that would:

1. Be most impactful on **increasing income**
2. Be most powerful in **reducing major nondiscretionary costs**
3. Reach a broad audience, **inclusive of traditionally marginalized populations**
4. Advance **coordinated and interconnected solutions**
5. Have **already gained traction** legislatively and/or have established public support

Policy Recommendations Working Group Participants

Mimi Abramovitz	<i>Hunter School of Social Work</i>	Dennis Johnson	<i>Children's Health Fund</i>
Joel Berg	<i>Hunger Free America</i>	Nicole Lavan	<i>Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation</i>
Lucy Block	<i>Association for Neighborhood & Housing Development</i>	Jesse Laymon	<i>NYC Employment and Training Coalition</i>
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Alison Conforti	<i>Just Food</i>	Bev Neufeld	<i>PowHerNY</i>
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Leah Kabran Eden	<i>United Way of New York City</i>	James Parrott	<i>Center for New York Affairs</i>
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Edline Jacquet	<i>Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies (FPWA)</i>	Triada Stampas	<i>Food Bank for New York City</i>

Policy Recommendations: Issue Areas



Earnings &
Working
Conditions

Benefits &
Supports

Child Care

Food

Housing

Health Care

See Key Findings & Recommendations brief: pp. 12-17

Action Steps: How to Use the Self-Sufficiency Standard

- Explore the briefs and interactive maps to **understand borough and community district** data
- Incorporate the **language of self-sufficiency** into grants, advocacy materials, and conversations with stakeholders
- Knowing that costs increased nearly 3x the rate of wages between 2000 and 2018, review how much **funding and benefit amounts for grantees have increased** over that same time period
- Explore how the Self-Sufficiency Standard can be used to **evaluate progress, analyze policy impacts, guide grantmaking decisions**, and document the nature and extent of true poverty*

* See Brief 1, p. 16-17 for examples of how the Standard has been used across the U.S.)

RESOURCES:

[http://unitedwaynyc.org/resources/
self-sufficiency-standard-2018](http://unitedwaynyc.org/resources/self-sufficiency-standard-2018)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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