



A PORTRAIT OF NEW YORK CITY 2018

WELL-BEING IN THE FIVE BOROUGHS AND THE GREATER METRO AREA



EDUCATION IN THE NYC METRO AREA

Education is a means to a host of desirable ends. People with higher levels of education earn more and are less likely to be unemployed than those whose formal educations ended with high school; they are also concentrated in higher-paying occupations that tend to be more interesting and engaging and to offer better working conditions, greater societal respect, more autonomy, and more extensive benefits. Earnings move in lockstep with educational attainment, with bachelor's degree holders earning about double, on average, what high school graduates earn, and those with professional degrees earning one and half times what college graduates take home.

But the benefits of education are not just economic. For society as a whole, higher levels of educational attainment are associated with less crime, lower incarceration rates, and greater civic engagement, political participation, tolerance of difference, and support for the rights of others. Measure of America ranked the 170 Census Bureau-defined public use microdata areas (PUMAs) in the New York metro area according to their scores on the Education Index, which is calculated using two indicators: school enrollment for children and young adults ages 3 to 24 and educational degree attainment for adults 25 and over.

Education Index in Regional and National Context

| | EDUCATION INDEX | HIGHEST DEGREE ATTAINED | | | | SCHOOL ENROLLMENT |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| | | Less than high school | High school diploma | Bachelor's degree | Graduate degree | |
| UNITED STATES | 5.17 | 12.9% | 56.5% | 19.0% | 11.6% | 77.3% |
| NY Metro | 6.00 | 13.8 | 47.6 | 22.6 | 16.0 | 80.6 |
| New York City | 5.45 | 19.1 | 44.1 | 21.7 | 15.1 | 78.6 |

Top- and Bottom-Scoring Areas by Education Index

| RANK | PUMA NAME | EDUCATION INDEX |
|------------------|---|-----------------|
| TOP 10 | | |
| 1 | NY: NYC-Manhattan Community District 8-Upper East Side | 9.57 |
| 2 | NJ: Union County (Northwest)-Summit City & Westfield Town (North) | 9.51 |
| 3 | CT: Fairfield, New Canaan, Wilton, Weston & Easton Towns | 9.39 |
| 4 | NY: Nassau County (Northwest)-North Hempstead Town (North) | 9.23 |
| 5 | NY: Westchester County (Central)-White Plains City | 8.84 |
| 6 | NJ: Essex County (Southwest) | 8.79 |
| 7 | NY: NYC-Brooklyn Community District 6-Park Slope, Carroll Gardens & Red Hook | 8.76 |
| 8 | NJ: Mercer County (North)-Princeton Borough | 8.66 |
| 9 | NJ: Morris County (South)-Morristown Town, Madison & Florham Park Boroughs | 8.65 |
| 10 | NY: NYC-Manhattan Community District 1 & 2-Battery Park City, Greenwich Village/Soho | 8.62 |
| BOTTOM 10 | | |
| 161 | NJ: Essex County (Southeast)-Newark City (North & East) | 3.31 |
| 162 | NY: NYC-Bronx Community District 9-Castle Hill, Clason Point & Parkchester | 3.31 |
| 163 | NY: NYC-Bronx Community District 4-Concourse, Highbridge & Mount Eden | 3.25 |
| 164 | NY: Suffolk County (Central)-Islip Town (Northwest) | 3.24 |
| 165 | NY: NYC-Brooklyn Community District 4-Bushwick | 3.09 |
| 166 | NJ: Passaic County (Southeast)-Paterson City | 3.06 |
| 167 | NY: NYC-Bronx Community District 3 & 6-Belmont, Crotona Park East/East Tremont | 3.03 |
| 168 | NJ: Union County (Northeast)-Elizabeth City | 2.95 |
| 169 | NY: NYC-Bronx Community District 7-Bedford Park, Fordham North & Norwood | 2.65 |
| 170 | NY: NYC-Bronx Community District 1 & 2-Hunts Point, Longwood & Melrose | 2.54 |

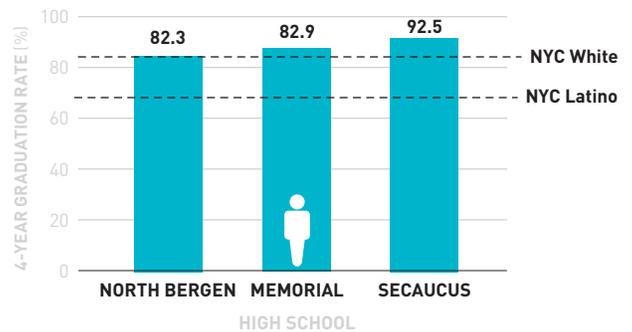
NYC vs. Metro Area

- PUMAs in the greater New York metro area occupy seven of the top ten spots. Four of these PUMAs are in New Jersey, two in New York, and one in Connecticut.
- Four of the bottom ten areas are outside of the city, and these metro area PUMAs are split, with two in New York State and two in New Jersey.

A Tale of Two Latino Communities

West New York, Secaucus, and Guttenberg in Hudson County, NJ, and Jackson Heights and North Corona in Queens are two predominantly Latino clusters of neighborhoods in the metro area with many commonalities. Latinos make up an equally large share of the population in both (68 percent and 67 percent), with the remaining population made up predominantly of white and Asian residents, and both are majority foreign born (51 percent and 59 percent). The life expectancy in both neighborhood clusters is predictably high, given the Latino and immigrant shares of the population. The rates of poverty, homeownership, and married households are also similar, and the rates of single-mother households in both places are below the national average. **But when it comes to educational attainment, the Hudson County neighborhood cluster is an outlier among majority-Latino neighborhoods, outperforming not just Jackson Heights and North Corona but most other majority-Latino neighborhood clusters in the metro area.**

Latino Grad Rates in NJ Neighborhood Surpasses Those of NYC Whites



A look at the local schools can give us insight into how adult educational attainment will look in the years to come. A recent Measure of America study of on-time high school graduation rates in NYC by neighborhood of residence found that three quarters (75.2 percent) of students residing in Jackson Heights and North Corona graduated high school in four years—similar to the citywide rate of 73 percent. A glance at the on-time high school graduation rates of the public high schools in West New York, Secaucus, and Guttenberg reveal far better student outcomes; school-wide rates are between 82.7 percent and an impressive 94 percent. Public high school students classified as Hispanic have graduation rates comparable to those of their white classmates, **and Latino graduation rates in West New York, Secaucus, and Guttenberg are on par with those of Asian and white students in New York City.** This bodes well for the future of West New York–area Latinos, who will likely see a narrowing of the adult educational attainment gap in years to come.

Looking at only the Latino populations in these two neighborhood clusters, the share of adults with less than a high school diploma is 10 percentage points higher in the Queens neighborhoods than in the New Jersey neighborhoods (37 percent vs. 27 percent). A little over 40 percent of Latino adults in West New York, Secaucus, and Guttenberg have at least some college education, while only a little over a quarter of those in Jackson Heights and North Corona do. In addition to (and likely as a result of) better educational outcomes, Latinos in the New Jersey neighborhoods also earn about \$2,500 more on average.

Click [here](#) to read *A Portrait of New York City 2018*. For more information, visit www.measureofamerica.org.