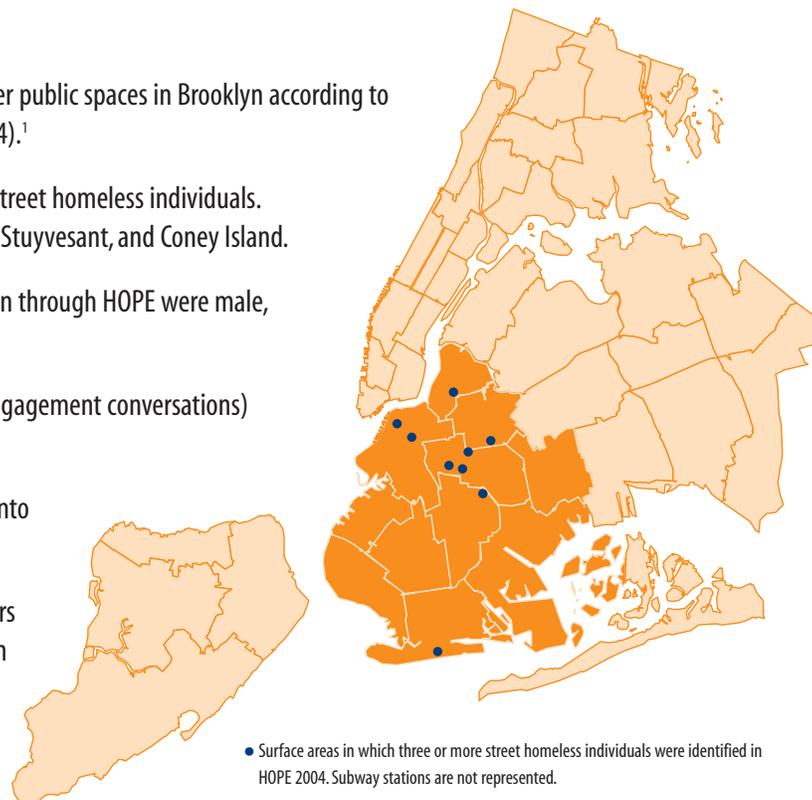
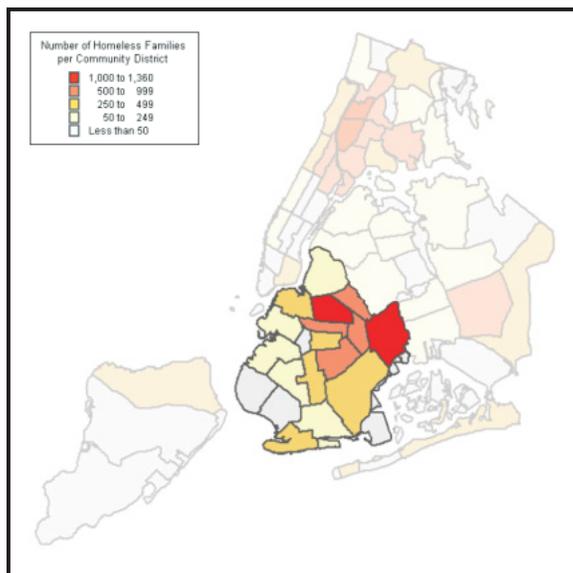


Street Homelessness in Brooklyn

- An estimated 414 individuals are living on the streets or in other public spaces in Brooklyn according to the annual Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE 2004).¹
- HOPE identified neighborhoods with higher concentrations of street homeless individuals. These include downtown Brooklyn, East Williamsburg, Bedford-Stuyvesant, and Coney Island.
- The majority of street homeless individuals surveyed in Brooklyn through HOPE were male, ranging in age from 21 to 55.
- Brooklyn outreach teams have an average of 1,157 contacts (engagement conversations) with street homeless people every month.
- These contacts result in an average of 56 monthly placements into shelters or drop-in centers.
- In addition to shelters, Brooklyn has two 24-hour drop-in centers and 23 faith-based organizations that provide beds for those on the streets.



Family Homelessness in Brooklyn



- Brooklyn contains three of the 10 communities citywide that experience the highest incidences of family homelessness. These communities are Bedford-Stuyvesant, East New York, and Brownsville.
- In total, 36% of all families eligible for shelter services come from Brooklyn.
- The average size of families entering shelter from Brooklyn is 2.86. The citywide average is 2.90.

If you see someone in need on the street, dial 311 and a mobile outreach response team will be dispatched to visit the person and assist them into shelter.

The Department of Homeless Services worked with the Vera Institute of Justice to understand where homeless families are coming from.

Contributing Factors

Studies have shown that factors such as poverty, unemployment rates, and mental illness, among others, affect rates of homelessness. Here's a snapshot of how Brooklyn compares to the rest of the city on these factors.

Factor	Brooklyn	Citywide	Percent of Citywide
Population ²	2,465,326	8,008,278	31%
Persons Living Below Poverty Level ²	610,476	1,668,938	37%
Persons Living Below 200% of Poverty Level ²	1,110,050	3,124,894	36%
Persons on Public Assistance ³	146,007	438,062	33%
Female Heads of Household ²	195,988	576,354	34%
Children in Foster Care ⁴	5,256	18,723	28%
No. of Adults with Emotional Distress Consistent with Mental Illness ⁵	125,400	385,300	33%
Prevalence of Alcohol or Drug Abuse ⁶	223,889	746,985	30%
Median Rent ²	\$672	\$705	N/A
Percent of Renter-Households that spend 50% of Household Income on Rent ²	24.8%	22.31%	N/A
Median Household Income ²	\$32,135	\$38,293	N/A
Unemployment Rates ⁷	8.6%	7.9%	N/A

To get involved in *Uniting for Solutions Beyond Shelter*, visit www.nyc.gov/endinghomelessness.

Sources:

- 1: Homeless Outreach Population Estimate, a point-in-time estimate of the number of unsheltered individuals, February 2004
- 2: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census
- 3: HRA Facts Quarterly Supplement, April 2004
- 4: Administration for Children's Services, May 2004
- 5: Estimate based on the NYC DOHMH, Community Health Survey, 2002
- 6: NYS OASAS, alcohol and non-opiate prevalence based on 1994 NYS Household Survey applied to 2002 U.S. Census, age 18+; opiate prevalence based on 1998 NYS Heroin Study applied to 2002 U.S. Census, age 16+.
- 7: U.S. Dept of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2002