



Cuts to Summer Programs Hit NYC's Poorest Communities the Hardest March 2016

Districts Set to Lose the Most Summer Programs Have High Rates of Child Poverty; Brownsville, Where 53% of Children Live in Poverty, Faces Biggest Cuts

Across the City, Thousands of Low-Income Children Face Summer Learning Loss

Despite the well-known fact that summer programming can help close the achievement gap, prevent summer learning loss, and keep children safe while parents work, the de Blasio administration is planning to cut summer programs for nearly 31,000 middle school students. As the Community District map of these cuts shows in Appendix 1, the proposed cut impacts children and families in every corner of the City – and the cuts are particularly drastic in communities with the greatest needs.

Summer programming is a critical component of the after-school system. From its inception, the original Out of School Time (OST) model included summer programming. The same parents who need their children in a safe and developmentally appropriate environment from 3-6 PM during the school year also need their children in this type of environment during the months of July and August. According to the National Summer Learning Association, summer learning loss accounts for two-thirds of the ninth grade achievement gap in reading and low-income youth lose two to three months of achievement each year.¹

At the Preliminary Budget briefing, Mayor de Blasio stated, “There are some things that we chose not to continue. We talked last year about the summer after-school program, that’s something we thought was a good thing but was not necessarily a priority we could devote to.” The Campaign for Children could not disagree more. Summer programming must be a priority for New York City – the city’s youth and their caregivers depend on it.

While eliminating summer programming would negatively impact all 31,000 children across the five boroughs, the poorest children in New York City – those who need summer learning the most – would bear the brunt of these cuts. A closer look at the seven Community Districts due to lose over 1,000 slots shows that nearly all of these communities have child poverty rates exceeding the citywide child poverty rate of 29.6%. Furthermore, academic achievement in the school districts of these communities falls well below the citywide average, with significantly fewer children meeting math and reading comprehension standards.

¹ National Summer Learning Association. *Research Brief: More Than a Hunch: Kids Lose Learning Skills Over the Summer Months.* http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.summerlearning.org/resource/collection/CB94AEC5-9C97-496F-B230-1BECDFC2DF8B/Research_Brief_04_-_Cooper.pdf.

Cuts to Summer Camp Compared to Poverty and Academic Scores

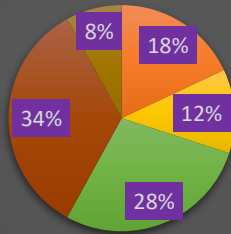
Community Districts with Largest Summer Camp Cuts	Number of summer camp slots cut (CD)	Child poverty rate (CD)- 2014 (Citywide= 29.6% child poverty rate)	Percent passing Math grades 3-8 (2015)- closest school district (Citywide= 35.2% passing rate)	Percent passing reading grades 3-8 (2015)- closest school district (Citywide= 30.4% passing rate)
Brownsville	1,577	53%	13%	13.3%
East Harlem	1,281	48%	26.4%	23.6%
East New York	1,219	36%	18%	16%
The Rockaways	1,137	28%	34.2%	23.6%
East Tremont	1,097	55%	16.6%	13%
Central Harlem	1,087	35%	15.2%	16.3%
Lower east side	1,030	31%	42.2%	38.3%

For example, the Community District of Brownsville, which is due to lose the most summer program slots, has one of the highest child poverty rates in the City, and the Brownsville School District has the lowest passage rate for math and one of the lowest for reading. Appendix 2 and 3 show the distribution of summer camp cuts, the child poverty rates, and test scores for each school district in the City.

We know, too, that summer programs are an essential resource for working parents and in particular the poor and working poor in New York City. In fact, last summer, Citizens' Committee for Children and the Campaign for Children surveyed nearly 2,500 parents whose children were in city-funded summer programs and documented that over 91% of the surveyed parents relied on summer programs to be able to work or go to school.

The survey also asked parents what they would do if they did not have a summer program. The responses showed just how much of a struggle it would be for these parents. A third of parents would leave the child with a relative in the absence of an educational environment; another third hoped they could find another summer camp, which is unlikely given the overall reduction in programs across the city. **Nearly 20% of parents said they would quit their jobs if they lost access to a summer program for their child, and 12% said they would leave the child home alone.**

2,500 parents Were asked: What would you do if there was no summer program for your child?



Quit Job Leave child home alone Leave child with a relative Find another summer camp Other

In addition, 64% of surveyed parents said they relied on summer programs for free, nutritious meals for their children, who may otherwise go without.

A few parents summed up the need for summer programs, saying:

"I need them to be in a safe place while I work. I do not have anyone I trust to care for them while I work so I would be unemployed without summer camp. They also learn while having fun."

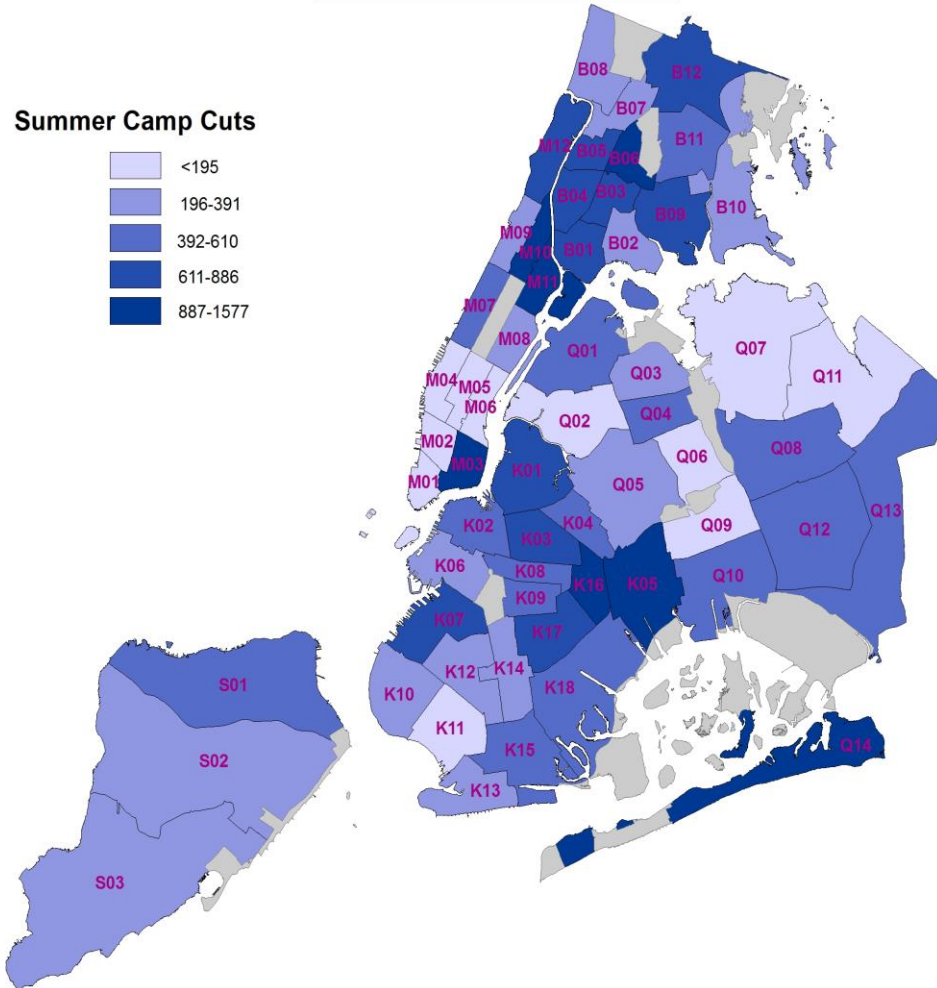
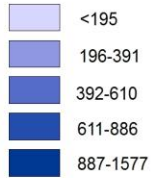
"It is important for me, my child and my family because he will have an advantage come September. Because while other kids are watching TV and playing video games, my child is learning and that means so much to us."

There is no mistaking that summer programs play a critical role in addressing income inequality and improving educational outcomes, especially for low-income children. Summer programs enable parents to work. Summer programs keep children safe. Summer programs keep children positively engaged. Summer programs prevent summer learning loss. Summer programs are essential – that is why the administration must restore summer programs for 31,000 middle school students.

Appendix 1: The City FY 2017 Budget Proposes to Cut Summer Programming for 31,000 Middle School Children throughout New York City

Cuts by Community District

Summer Camp Cuts



Community District	# of Summer Slots Due to Be Cut
Bronx – Total Cuts 7,680	
Mott Haven (B01)	870
Hunts Point (B02)	350
Morrisania (B03)	715
Concourse/Highbridge (B04)	816
University Heights (B05)	646
East Tremont (B06)	1097
Bedford Park (B07)	300
Riverdale (B08)	390
Unionport/Soundview (B09)	886
Throgs Neck (B10)	375
Pelham Parkway (B11)	500
Williamsbridge (B12)	735
Brooklyn – Total Cuts 10,711	
Williamsburg/Greenpoint (K01)	671
Fort Greene/Brooklyn Hts (K02)	505
Bedford Stuyvesant (K03)	845
Bushwick (K04)	541
East New York (K05)	1319
Park Slope (K06)	391
Sunset Park (K07)	727
Crown Heights North (K08)	595
Crown Heights South (K09)	435
Bay Ridge (K10)	281
Bensonhurst (K11)	195
Borough Park (K12)	330
Coney Island (K13)	260
Flatbush/Midwood (K14)	335
Sheepshead Bay (K15)	442
Brownsville (K16)	1577
East Flatbush (K17)	671
Canarsie (K18)	591
Manhattan – Total Cuts 5,753	
Battery Park/Tribeca (M01)	131
Lower East Side (M03)	1030
Chelsea/Clinton (M04)	190
Midtown Business District (M05)	100
Murray Hill/Stuyvesant (M06)	50
Upper West Side (M07)	526
Upper East Side (M08)	295
Manhattanville (M09)	265
Central Harlem (M10)	1087
East Harlem (M11)	1281
Washington Heights (M12)	798
Queens – Total Cuts 5,555	
Astoria (Q01)	470
Sunnyside/Woodside (Q02)	145
Jackson Heights (Q03)	242
Elmhurst/Corona (Q04)	475
Ridgewood/Glendale (Q05)	305
Rego Park/Forest Hills (Q06)	195
Flushing (Q07)	185
Fresh Meadows/Briarwood (Q08)	555
Woodhaven (Q09)	80
Howard Beach (Q10)	491
Bayside (Q11)	105
Jamaica/St. Albans (Q12)	610
Queens Village (Q13)	560
The Rockaways (Q14)	1137
Staten Island – Total Cuts 1,220	
St. George (S01)	510
South Beach (S02)	390
Tottenville (S03)	320
CITYWIDE TOTAL	30,919

**Appendix 2: Proposed Cuts to Summer Camp and Child Poverty
By Community District**

Community District	Summer Slots Due to Cut	Child Poverty Rate
University Heights (BO5)	646	59.8%
East Tremont (B06)	1097	54.9%
Morrisania (B03)	715	54.9%
Mott Haven (B01)	870	54.0%
Hunts Point (B02)	350	54.0%
Brownsville (K16)	1577	52.8%
East Harlem (M11)	1281	48.4%
Unionport/Soundview (B09)	886	47.0%
Concourse/Highbridge (B04)	816	45.7%
Coney Island (K13)	260	44.8%
Borough Park (K12)	330	44.8%
Bedford Stuyvesant (K03)	845	44.2%
Williamsburg/Greenpoint (K01)	671	43.5%
Bedford Park (B07)	300	43.0%
Bushwick (K04)	541	37.7%
Sunset Park (K07)	727	36.8%
East New York (K05)	1319	36.1%
Central Harlem (M10)	1087	35.4%
St. George (S01)	510	35.1%
Riverdale (B08)	390	31.8%
Washington Heights (M12)	798	31.6%
Lower East Side (M03)	1030	31.4%
Astoria (Q01)	470	31.0%
Crown Heights North (K08)	595	30.8%
Pelham Parkway (B11)	500	30.6%
Bay Ridge (K10)	281	29.5%
Elmhurst/Corona (Q04)	475	28.8%
Crown Heights South (K09)	435	28.2%

The Rockaways (Q14)	1137	28.1%
Fort Greene/Brooklyn Hts (K02)	505	28.0%
Manhattanville (M09)	265	27.7%
Flatbush/Midwood (K14)	335	25.8%
Bensonhurst (K11)	195	25.7%
East Flatbush (K17)	671	25.6%
Williamsbridge (B12)	735	25.2%
Sheepshead Bay (K15)	442	25.1%
Howard Beach (Q10)	491	23.6%
Jackson Heights (Q03)	242	21.6%
Chelsea/Clinton (M04)	190	21.4%
Midtown Business District (M05)	100	21.4%
Sunnyside/Woodside (Q02)	145	21.1%
Canarsie (K18)	591	21.1%
Ridgewood/Glendale (Q05)	305	20.4%
Woodhaven (Q09)	80	20.0%
Flushing (Q07)	185	19.4%
Jamaica/St. Albans (Q12)	610	18.9%
Fresh Meadows/Briarwood (Q08)	555	16.0%
Throgs Neck (B10)	375	15.4%
Tottenville (S03)	320	14.1%
Queens Village (Q13)	560	14.0%
Bayside (Q11)	105	9.9%
South Beach (S02)	390	9.8%
Park Slope (K06)	391	8.0%
Upper East Side (M08)	295	6.7%
Rego Park/Forest Hills (Q06)	195	6.4%
Battery Park/Tribeca (M01)	131	4.6%
Upper West Side (M07)	526	2.9%
Murray Hill/Stuyvesant (M06)	50	2.3%

**Appendix 3: Common Core Math and ELA (English and Language Arts) Scores
By School District**

School District Name	School District Number	Percent Passing Common Core ELA Test	Percent Passing Common Core Math Test
Lower East Side	SD 1	38%	42%
Stuyvesant Town, Upper East Side	SD 2	59%	68%
Upper West Side	SD 3	49%	50%
East Harlem	SD 4	24%	26%
Central Harlem	SD 5	16%	15%
Washington Heights	SD 6	19%	23%
Mott Haven	SD 7	11%	14%
Hunts Point, Port Morris	SD 8	19%	22%
East Tremont, Morris Heights	SD 9	13%	17%
Riverdale, Kingsbridge, Fordham	SD 10	18%	22%
Eastchester, Baychester, Co-op City	SD 11	21%	25%
Crotona Park, Morrisania, Melrose	SD 12	12%	14%
Brooklyn Heights, Downtown Brooklyn	SD 13	25%	26%
Williamsburg, Greenpoint	SD 14	27%	28%
S. Brooklyn, Park Slope, Sunset Park	SD 15	43%	49%
Bedford Stuyvesant	SD 16	17%	16%
Crown Heights	SD 17	22%	24%
East Flatbush, Canarsie	SD 18	23%	23%
East New York	SD 19	16%	18%
Bay Ridge, Bensonhurst	SD 20	41%	55%
Gravesend, Coney Island	SD 21	42%	49%
Flatbush, Midwood, Sheepshead Bay	SD 22	35%	40%
Brownsville, Ocean Hill	SD 23	13%	13%
Sunnyside, Woodside, Jackson Heights	SD 24	33%	40%
Flushing, Whitestone	SD 25	43%	58%
Bayside, Douglaston, Little Neck	SD 26	59%	70%
Jamaica, Howard Beach, Rockaways	SD 27	30%	34%
Jamaica, Forest Hills	SD 28	35%	41%
Queens Village, Rosedale, Hollis	SD 29	25%	25%
Long Island City, Astoria	SD 30	34%	42%
Staten Island	SD 31	37%	39%
Bushwick	SD 32	19%	21%