Weekly Report on Self-Response (Rates Issued on April 23)
NYC Department of City Planning
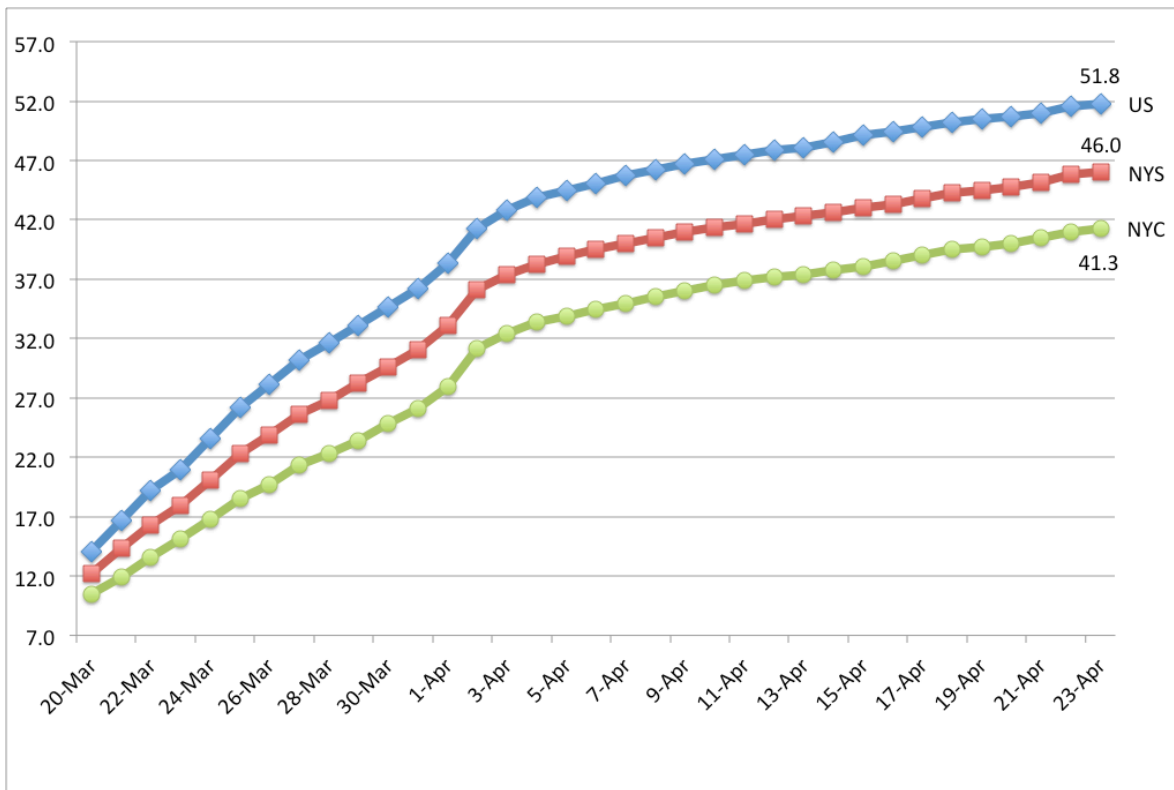**Population Division**

The self-response rate measures the percentage of housing units that self-responded either online, by mail, or by phone.

Why we care:
If an area has a low self-response rate, it means:
- More census enumerators will be knocking on doors to count residents in-person; and
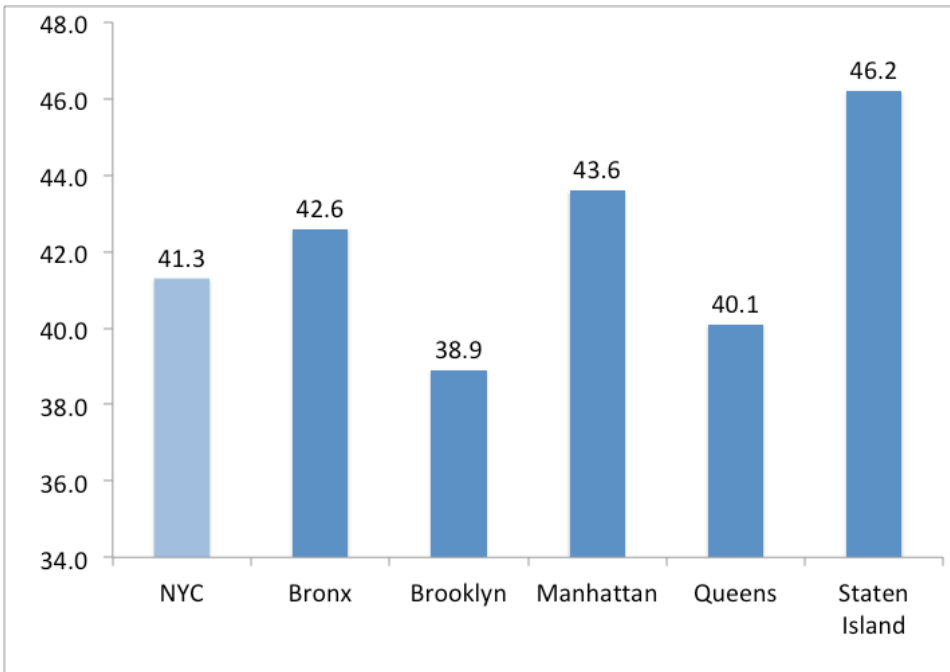- It is more likely people in the area may be missed or counted inaccurately.

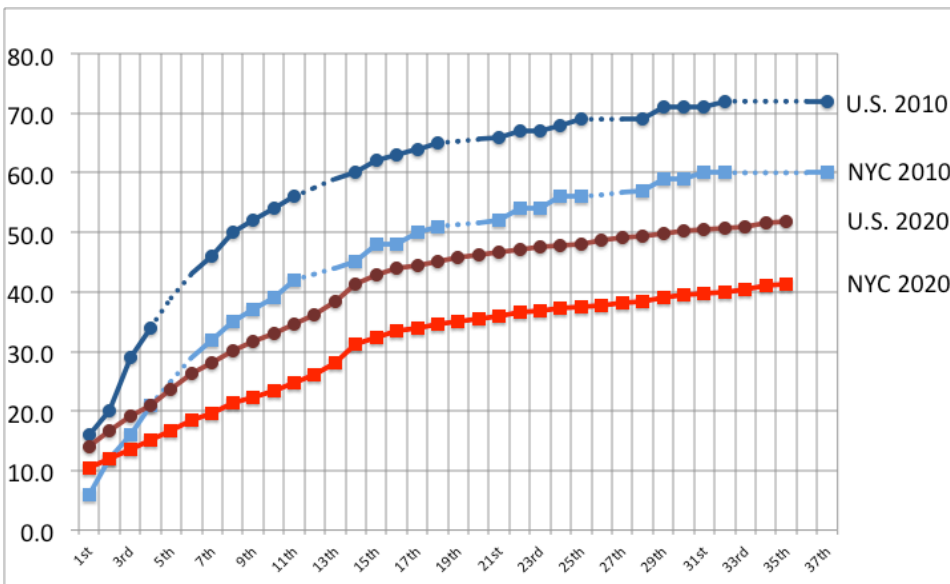**How does New York City fare in Comparison to New York State and the U.S.?**

New York City's response rate stands at 41.3 percent, compared to 46.0 percent for New York State, and 51.8 percent for the U.S.

Over the past week (April 16-23), New York City was up 2.8 percentage points, compared to 2.7 percentage points for New York State, while the nation was up 2.4 percentage points.
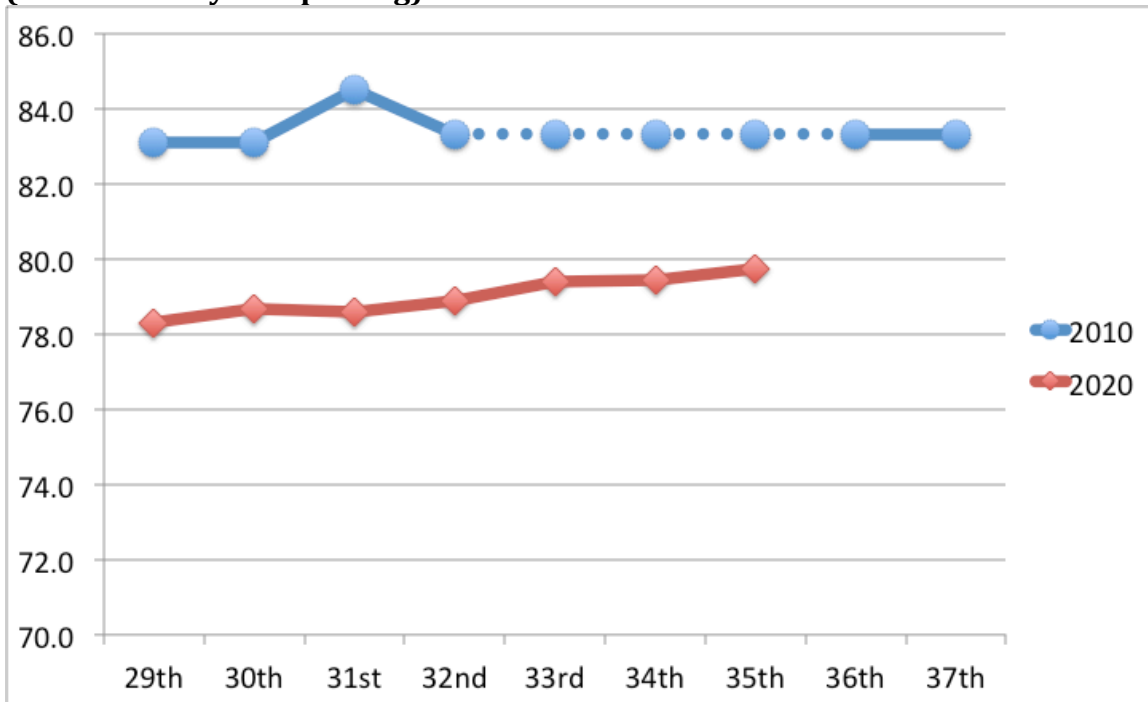
Self-Response Rates by Borough as of April 23

Comparison of Self-Response Rates for 2010 and 2020 by Day of Reporting*†

* First day of reporting was 8 days into the census self-response period, the second day was the 9th day, and so on. The 2020 response rate is calculated on the universe of all housing units in the denominator. In contrast, in 2010, a participation rate was used, which removed addresses identified as undeliverable as addressed (UAA) from the universe.
† April 23rd, 2020 corresponds to the 35th day of reporting. Data in 2010 are available for the 32nd day and 37th day of reporting, and the data are missing for the 33rd through 36th days. However, 2010 rates for the city and nation were unchanged between the 32nd and 37th days.

NYC Share of U.S. Response Rate in 2020 and 2010*
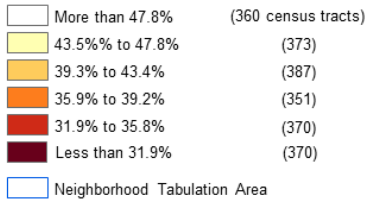**(from 29th day of reporting)**

* April 23rd, 2020 corresponds to the 35th day of reporting. Data in 2010 are available for the 32nd day and 37th day of reporting, and the data are missing for the 33rd through 36th days. However, 2010 rates for the city and nation were unchanged between the 32nd and 37th days.
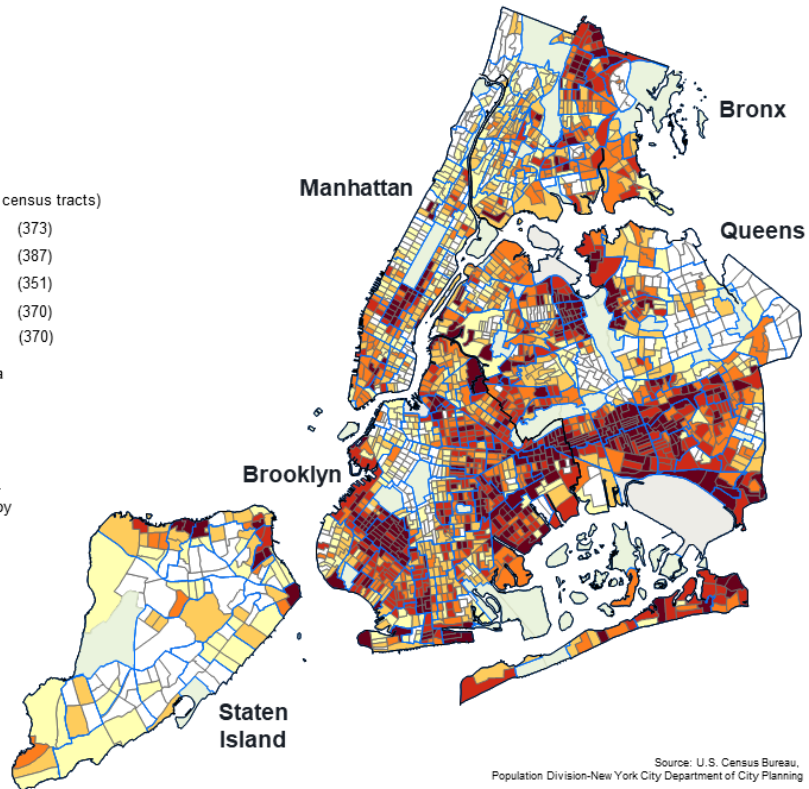
New York City 2020 Self-Response Rates* as issued on April 23 by Census Tract
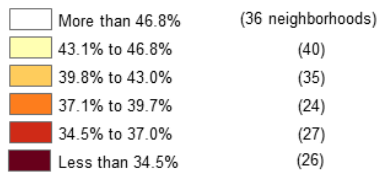
New York City: 41.3%

Self-Response Rate

	More than 47.8%	(360 census tracts)
	43.5%% to 47.8%	(373)
	39.3% to 43.4%	(387)
	35.9% to 39.2%	(351)
	31.9% to 35.8%	(370)
	Less than 31.9%	(370)
	Neighborhood Tabulation Area	

*Self-Response Rate measures the percentage of housing units that self-responded either online, by mail, or by phone.

Bronx

Manhattan

Queens

Brooklyn

Staten Island

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division-New York City Department of City Planning

New York City 2020 Self-Response Rates* as issued on April 23 by Neighborhood Tabulation Area

New York City: 41.3%

Self-Response Rate

	More than 46.8%	(36 neighborhoods)
	43.1% to 46.8%	(40)
	39.8% to 43.0%	(35)
	37.1% to 39.7%	(24)
	34.5% to 37.0%	(27)
	Less than 34.5%	(26)

*Self-Response Rate measures the percentage of housing units that self-responded either online, by mail, or by phone.

Bronx

Manhattan

Queens

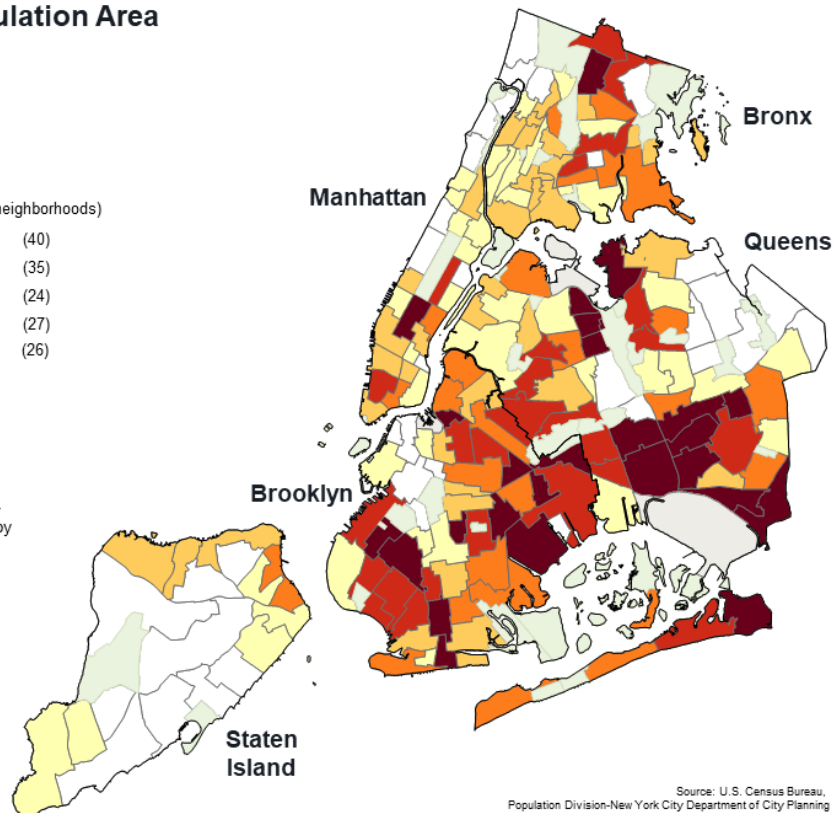Brooklyn

Staten Island

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division-New York City Department of City Planning

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Neighborhood Change, April 16 – April 23

10 neighborhoods with **lowest** self-response rates as of April 23

NTA	NTA Names	% Self-Response April 16	% Self-Response April 23	Percentage Point Change*
QN26	North Corona	22.7	24.8	2.1
BK88	Borough Park	24.6	26.6	2.0
BK72	Williamsburg	26.7	28.5	1.8
QN27	East Elmhurst	26.6	29.2	2.6
QN54	Richmond Hill	27.2	29.5	2.2
MN17	Midtown-Midtown South	27.7	29.6	2.0
BK83	Cypress Hills-City Line	27.6	29.9	2.2
QN55	South Ozone Park	28.1	30.1	2.0
QN01	South Jamaica	28.5	30.9	2.4
BK96	Rugby-Remsen Village	29.1	31.1	1.9

*Percentage point change is calculated on self-response rates before rounding to the tenth.

10 neighborhoods with **highest** self-response rates as of April 23

NTA	NTA Names	% Self-Response April 16	% Self-Response April 23	Percentage Point Change*
MN50	Stuyvesant Town-Cooper Village	54.6	58.6	4.1
BX13	Co-op City	50.4	53.1	2.8
QN42	Oakland Gardens	49.6	53.1	3.5
QN47	Ft. Totten-Bay Terrace-Clearview	50.6	52.8	2.2
QN44	Glen Oaks-Floral Park-New Hyde Park	47.9	52.7	4.8
SI48	Arden Heights	49.7	52.1	2.4
MN35	Washington Heights North	47.6	51.9	4.3
BK40	Windsor Terrace	48.8	51.9	3.0
SI25	Oakwood-Oakwood Beach	49.5	51.6	2.1
BX22	North Riverdale-Fieldston-Riverdale	47.3	51.6	4.3

*Percentage point change is calculated on self-response rates before rounding to the tenth.

As part of its fourth mailing — April 8th to April 30th — Census Bureau materials mailed to households that have failed to respond will include a paper questionnaire as an additional way to respond. This strategy provides a mail-in paper option for **all** households to respond, including those previously limited to the internet and phone options. The hope is that this will provide a boost to self-response, especially in areas where rates have been very low and internet access may be less than optimal. Thus far, however, patterns throughout the city have remained largely unchanged.

The fifth week of the self-response period reveals a continuation of the persistent pattern of lower self-response in neighborhoods that are predominantly black— a virtual repeat of last week's pattern. A large number of black communities in the Bronx, Queens, and Brooklyn are in the lowest two intervals of self-response in the map above. These include Stuyvesant Heights, Ocean Hill, Rugby-Remsen Village, Erasmus, and Canarsie in Brooklyn; South Jamaica, Baisley Park, Rosedale, and Far Rockaway in Queens; and Williamsbridge, Eastchester, and Wakefield in the Bronx. But once again, there are several communities with a majority or plurality of black residents that are above the city average, including Cambria Heights in Queens, Harlem in Manhattan, and Flatbush in Brooklyn; Co-op City and Parkchester in the Bronx have among the highest rates in the city.

While most of Staten Island has exhibited high levels of self-response, Stapleton-Rosebank is an exception. Most areas of Manhattan are also showing relatively high self-response, though the Upper East Side-Carnegie Hill, Midtown, and SoHo-Tribeca are lagging. Finally, Borough Park and Williamsburg in Brooklyn continue to have low levels of self-response.

As discussed in last week's report, increases in the foreign-born are associated with lower levels of self-response, though the relationship is neither strong nor straightforward. Neighborhoods with large foreign-born concentrations lie on both ends of the self-response spectrum. Some neighborhoods with large concentrations of immigrants have relatively high response, most notably in a corridor from Washington Heights South, Washington Heights North, and Marble Hill-Inwood in Upper Manhattan, extending to Kingsbridge Heights and Van Cortlandt Village in the Bronx. And, while not in the highest response category, a cluster of fairly high response has emerged in the south Bronx communities of East Concourse, West Concourse, and Highbridge, all with a large plurality of the foreign-born.

But there are a sizable number of immigrant neighborhoods that show low self-response: North Corona, Corona, East Elmhurst, Flushing, East Flushing, Queensboro Hill, and College Point in the northern section of Queens, and Richmond Hill, South Ozone Park, and Jamaica in the southern part of the borough. In Brooklyn, a corridor of low response starts in Sunset Park, Dyker Heights, and Bensonhurst, and runs through Homecrest and into Brighton Beach — all neighborhoods with large immigrant populations. Finally, several neighborhoods characterized by large black West Indian populations have low response, including Erasmus, Rugby-Remsen

Village, East Flatbush-Farragut, Flatlands and Canarsie in Brooklyn, and Rosedale in Queens.

Please note: This overview provides a broad picture of self-response based on the **aggregate characteristics of neighborhoods.** We cannot determine at an individual level who is and who is not self-responding to the census. It is important to keep this limitation in mind when examining neighborhoods with populations of different race/Hispanic origins and/or with substantial native- and foreign-born populations.