



COMMUNITY HEALTH + RESOURCES

Summary of breakout sessions at Community Health + Resources and Economic Development Summit on June 13 2017

During the Community Health and Resources breakout session of the summit, 49 participants shared data, ideas, and provided feedback on recommendations on Bushwick's neighborhood resources, local amenities and needs. In small groups, participants used maps to identify resources and disparities in the neighborhood and reviewed proposed recommendations from the community health and resources subcommittee.

Key Takeaways

Resource Identification

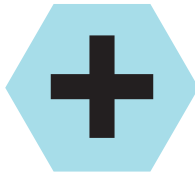
Participants were asked to identify neighborhood amenities, talk about where they frequent and where more services are needed in the following areas:

- Community Resources (libraries, senior centers, cultural institutions)
- Medical + Mental Services (hospitals, clinics, mental health facilities)
- Food Access (groceries, farmers markets, food pantry)



Food Access

- Incorporate healthy eating programs for youth and the elderly.
- Increase access to high quality food at affordable prices.
- Promote local food businesses, start-ups and entrepreneurship opportunities
- Collaborate on approach with Economic Development Subcommittee.



Health Services

- Create a healthy culture of sexual and mental health awareness.
- Promote preventive action rather than reactive treatments.
- Increase multi-lingual services and outreach.
- Increase variety of services such as urgent care, substance abuse, women's health + mental health.



Community Resources

- Improve access to quality education, specifically special education services.
- Incorporate intergenerational activities such as recreational centers and swimming pools.
- Establish and distribute directories of services in Bushwick
- Increase programs for immigrants and working families

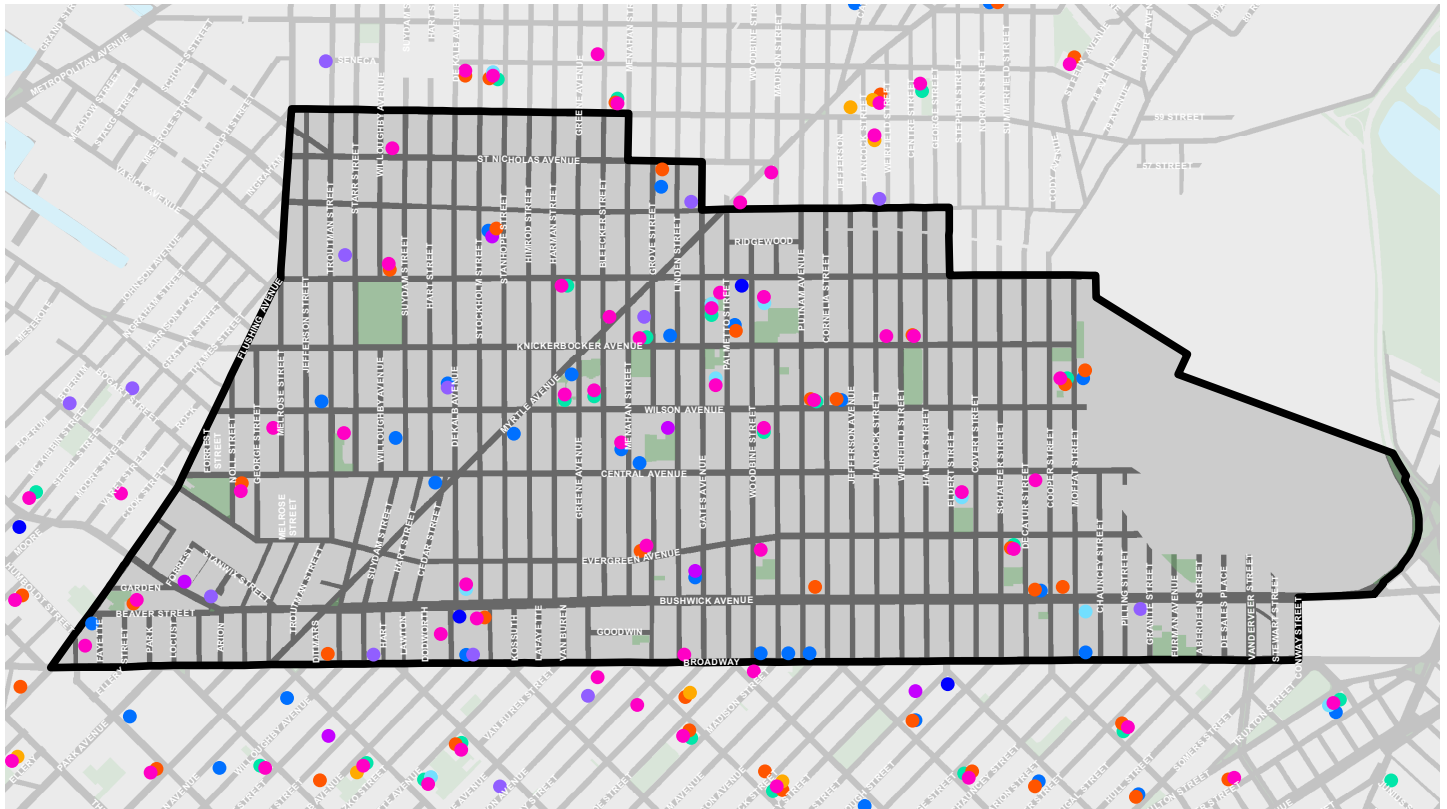
Recommendation feedback

After reviewing the recommendations from the subcommittee, residents gave input on the language, pointed out where the recommendations did not go far enough and what else should be added to them.

- Establish partnership among schools, senior centers, NGO's, churches and local retail to promote healthy food options; providing incentives and education on eating and staying healthy.
- Incorporate physical and mental health awareness into everyday life, increasing access to different types of health services and a culture to talk about these issues openly without being stigmatized.
- Teach youth basic life skills that enrich their lives both in and out of school, including partnering with local organizations to give youth real world experience while establishing deeper roots in their neighborhood.

Activity 1: Community Resources

The map listed all community resources such as libraries, senior centers, schools and more. Participants identified any services that were not indicated in the map as well as the resources they were not aware of, and discussed the resources still needed in the community.



- Public Libraries
- Comprehensive After School Systems (COMPASS) Sites
- K-12 (Public, Charter, or Private
- Other Cultural Institutions
- DOE Universal Pre-Kindergarten
- Park Land
- Senior Centers
- Preschools, Special Ed, and/or Schools for Students with Disabilities
- Water Body
- Community Centers and Community School Programs
- Bushwick (BK Community District 4)
- Child Care

What's Missing ?



Education

- Improve overall quality of education
- More access to Special Ed Pre-K/ Schools for students with disabilities
- Tutoring services



Services

- Immigration legal services
- Job training programs
- Elected official offices in Bushwick
- Programs for working families



Recreational

- Intergenerational activities*
- Increase open space imprint (not just programming)
- Athletic facilities(Rec Center,YMCA's)*
- Sports fields (Basketball courts)
- Swimming Pool *

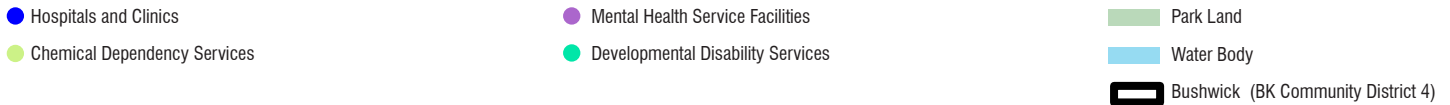
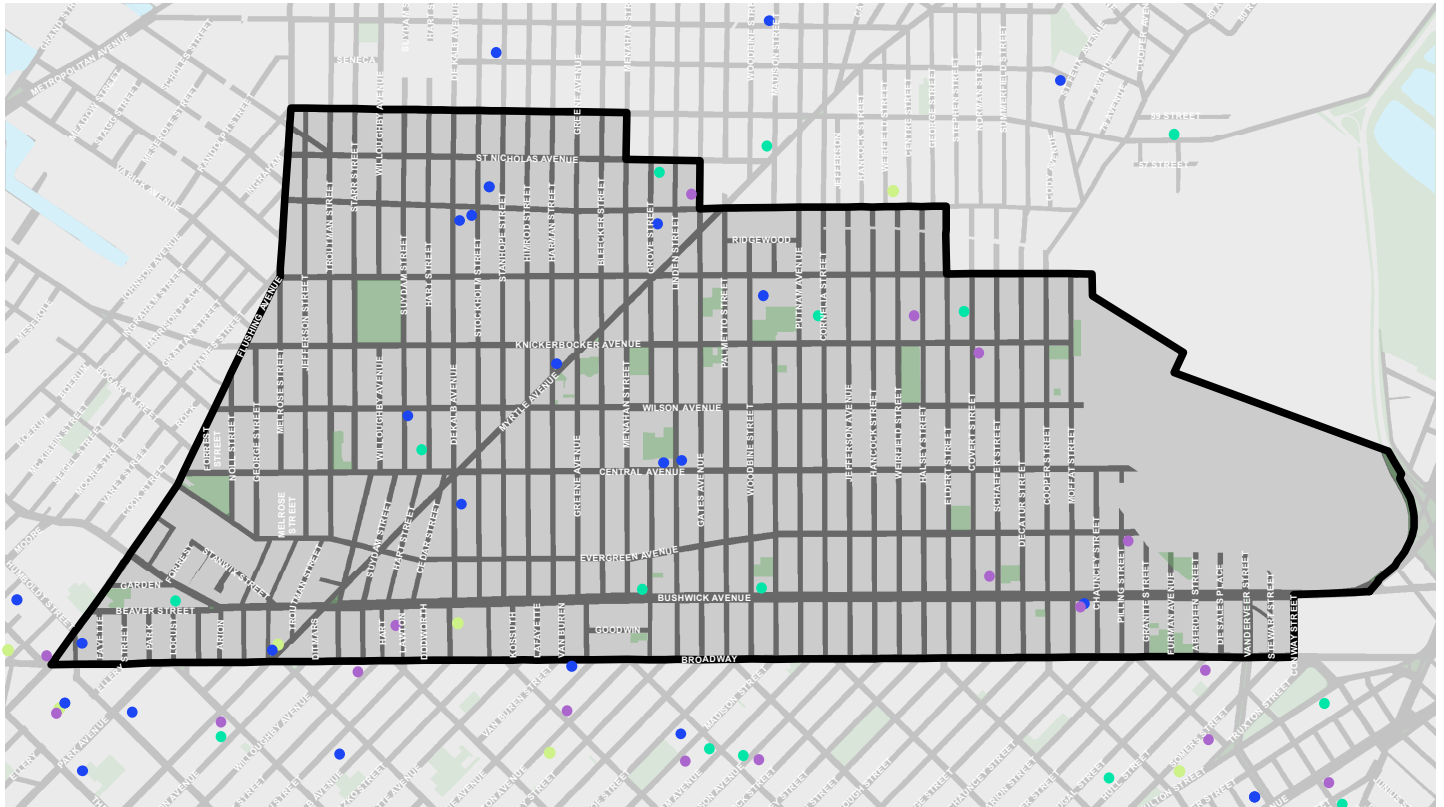


Assets

- Museum on Bushwick's history
- Farmers market
- Introduction of Citi Bikes/Bike lane expansion
- Directories of services in Bushwick

* The need for a pool was frequently mentioned, thought to be a great intergenerational activity and could help alleviate the drowning ratio for African Americans, which statistically have a higher percentage of drowning city-wide. Many recommended allowing community access to the Olympic sized pool in Bushwick HS which is currently underutilized and only accessible to students on certain times.

Activity 2: Medical + Mental Health Services



Improve Existing Services

- Create higher quality facilities.
- Increase non-English language services.
- Promote counseling, mental health awareness, + increase knowledge of existing services.
- Promote preventive action rather than reactive treatment.
- Avoid over-medication of youth with behavioral problems.
- Ensure medical services are near transit.
- Increase health services in Northeastern Bushwick.

Build Awareness

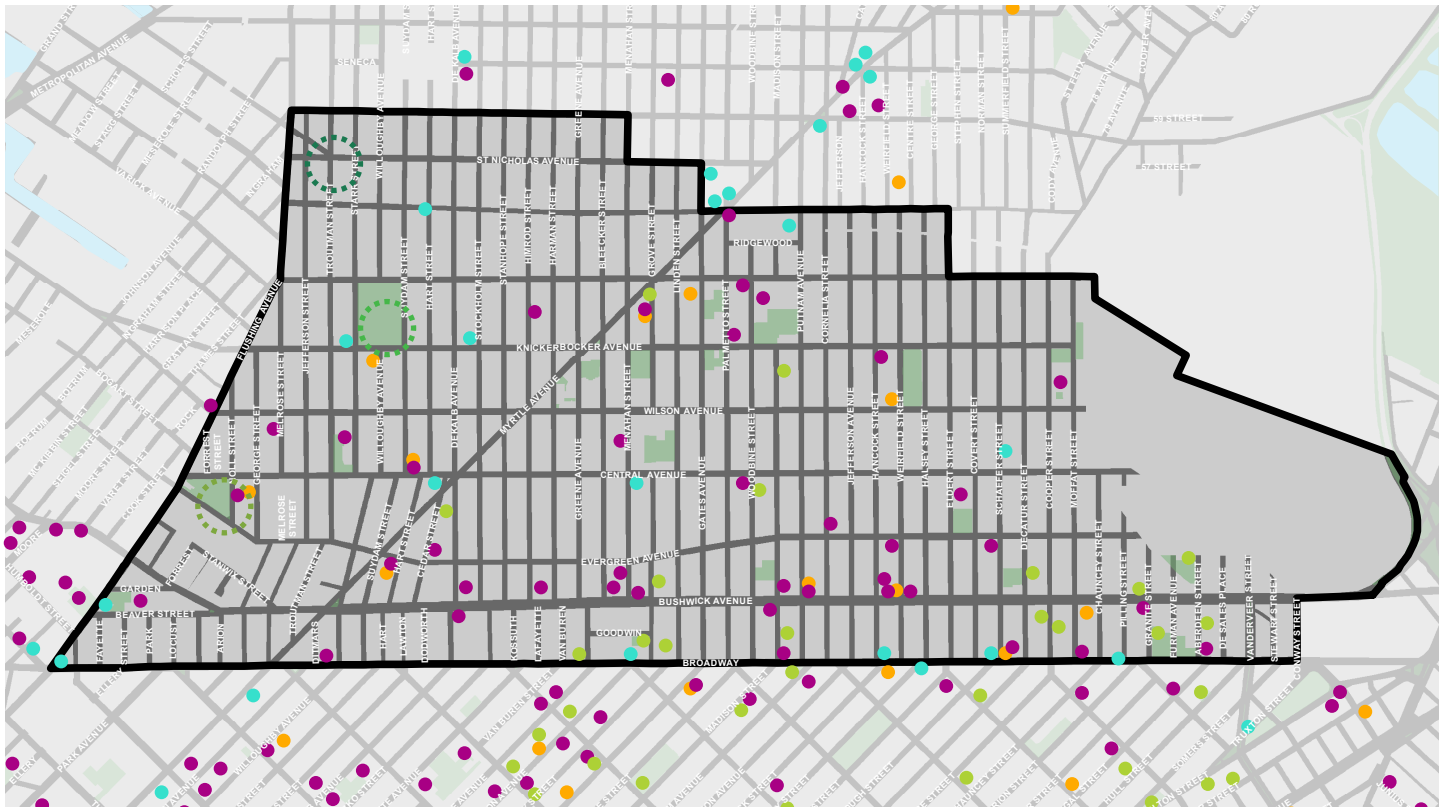
- Collaborate with doctors to open discussions on mental health.
- Destigmatize mental health services in Latino/minority communities.
- Educate people on the link between mental health and physical health.
- Raise awareness in medical field + among families, specifically Alzheimer's disease.
- Build knowledge on mental + sexual health among young people.

Missing Key Services

- Women's health
- Assisted living
- Nutrition/ pediatrics
- Dental services
- Urgent care
- Substance abuse
- Mental health like Dementia, Alzheimer's, Hoarding



Activity 3: Food Access

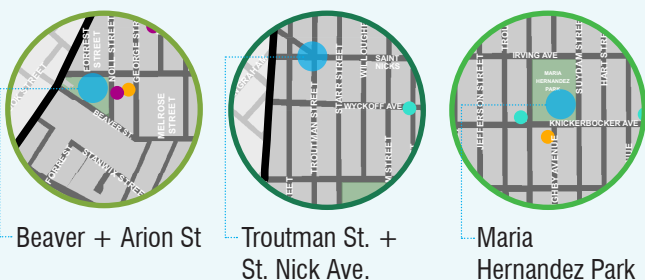


- Grocery Stores
- Child Nutrition
- Soup Kitchens and Food Pantries
- Community Gardens
- Popular farmers market (Added after community input)
- Park Land
- Water Body
- Bushwick (BK Community District 4)

Where do people get their food?

- STORES:** Grocery store/supermarket
Bodega
Fruit and other food stands
Market on Linden St + Irving Ave
- EAT OUT:** Food carts and trucks
New restaurants
- OTHER:** Senior centers
Hospitals
Schools
Food pantries
Street produce vendors on Knickerbocker

Popular Farmers Market Options



NEEDS

- Increase access to affordable + high quality food
- Healthy restaurants
- Drop-off zones for food delivery services like FreshDirect + Amazon Prime Pantry
- Farmers markets

ISSUES

- Some stores no longer accept EBT
- New food stores are not affordable to the community

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Incorporate Shop Healthy program with discounts for healthy groceries
- Allow zoning for small business, keeping wealth local
- Create food hubs, food entrepreneurship, food production start ups
- Collaborate with Economic Development Subcommittee

COMMUNITY HEALTH + RESOURCES RECOMMENDATIONS

KEY ISSUE	RECOMMENDATIONS	FEEDBACK
<p>OBJECTIVES are the big ideas – the overall goals that the community wants the Bushwick Plan to achieve.</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATIONS are specific policy and program solutions aimed at solving the problem identified by the objectives or goals.</p>	<p>FEEDBACK is what we heard at the Summit. Participants discussed if a recommendation addresses the objective and what else was missing.</p>
<h2>IMPROVE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES COORDINATION AND ACCESS</h2>		
<p>1 EXPANDING ACCESS TO OUTPATIENT SERVICES.</p> <p>There are limited good quality outpatient services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Improve and sustain healthcare services, with a focus on customer service and specialized medical facilities. B. Increase health service provider with a focus on asthma and sexual health and ensure that their services reach LGBTQ and undocumented families and individuals in Bushwick. C. Change the days and hours of clinics/outpatient healthcare providers to ensure that working people can get services there. 	<p>Health services should include care for diabetes, hypertension, substance abuse, obesity, nutrition, pediatrics and disabilities.</p> <p>More access to urgent care, dialysis treatment and substance abuse centers is needed.</p>
<p>2 EXPANDING THE REACH + ACCESS OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES</p> <p>There are not enough mental health services in Bushwick, nor is there an efficient referral system to maximize reach.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Increase the number of mental health service providers. B. Train community organizations to advertise the need for mental health services to overcome the cultural taboo or stigma against mental health. C. Add a mental health division at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center and other local health institutions. D. Combine tutoring with medical supervision so that children receiving asthma treatment can also get help with work and parents do not need to take off from school to treat their children. 	<p>Include mental health training in schools and aftercare programs.</p> <p>Collaborate with physical/medical doctors to destigmatize mental health treatment and build a culture of mental health awareness.</p> <p>Open more youth oriented mental health centers.</p> <p>More choices for medical affordability & insurance are needed.</p>
<h2>IMPROVE ACCESS TO FOOD</h2>		
<p>3 IMPROVE ACCESS TO FRESH, HEALTHY AND AFFORDABLE QUALITY FOOD</p> <p>Rising cost of food and lack of widely available healthy and affordable food.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Provide substantial funding for local food pantries. B. Require new (or renovated) food stores to accept EBT as payment to ensure that all families with SNAP can access food. C. Establish a “senior discount” at new (or renovated) food stores to ensure that seniors have access to affordable food where they live. D. Work with the local Health Action Center to establish free nutrition and cooking classes to be paired with pantries and community gardens. 	<p>Increase healthy food access for youth and seniors, incorporating stipends & discounts for making healthy choices.</p> <p>Expand to school, soup kitchens, & hospitals.</p> <p>Partner with schools/churches to incorporate healthier options in lunches and food distribution.</p> <p>Access to healthy cooking education, EBT, and culturally relevant food literature.</p> <p>Protect & support local food based business & manufacturing assets.</p>

ENSURE RESOURCES + PROGRAMMING MEETS YOUTH'S NEEDS

4 ENSURE THAT RESOURCES AND PROGRAMMING MEET THE NEEDS OF YOUNGER BUSHWICK RESIDENTS IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL AND OVER THE SUMMER

Young Bushwick residents and their families rely on limited educational + recreational opportunities.

- A. Provide arts activities and education both during and after school in all Bushwick schools.
- B. Fund the expansion of youth services programming with an emphasis in job training, internship & job placement.

“Enrichment” should be added to the description.

Improve overall quality of education in District 32: incorporate vocational, tech-oriented training and basic life skills concurrent with high school curriculum.

Involve local businesses to link youth to professional development: providing internships, summer jobs and other paid opportunities.

Expand art education beyond schools to libraries, community centers, etc.

Add affordable and accessible programs for families.

Incorporate app that lists all the youth services in the neighborhood and around the city.

RESOURCES + PROGRAMS TO MEET NEEDS OF OLDER ADULTS

5 ENSURE THAT THE NEEDS OF OLDER BUSHWICK RESIDENTS ARE MET SO THAT THEY ARE ABLE TO COMFORTABLE AGE IN PLACE

Older adults in Bushwick have limited access to resources and programs that enable them to have full quality lives.

- A. When feasible, combine senior housing development with family housing.
- B. Prioritize senior housing with unit size variation on deepest MIH affordable housing.
- C. Where feasible, build larger senior housing developments to maximize the amount of senior housing.
- D. Ensure that future senior housing is developed in locations with easy access to local supermarkets, senior centers, hospitals, local pharmacies and other health and wellness services.
- E. When feasible, create additional space in units for seniors to accommodate medical equipment so they can remain in their homes and avoid institutionalization.
- F. Prioritize fixing streets/pavements near senior residences and centers to ensure that they are safe and easy for seniors to navigate, traffic lights give ample time for crossing and stop and other traffic signs are clear in order to keep seniors safe.
- G. Provide tenant know your rights workshops and resources for seniors not living in senior housing developments.
- H. Fund local organizations to provide/expand accessible programming (in senior centers and residences) including fitness, educational, and arts/cultural to support health and wellness.

Adult day cares that provide social medical services are needed.

Actually affordable housing is needed.

Create a facility/safe place for victims of elder abuse.

Ensure collaboration of medical/ mental health doctors.

Provide on-site social services as part of operating budget.

Allow for senior housing that has a range of household types living with dependents.

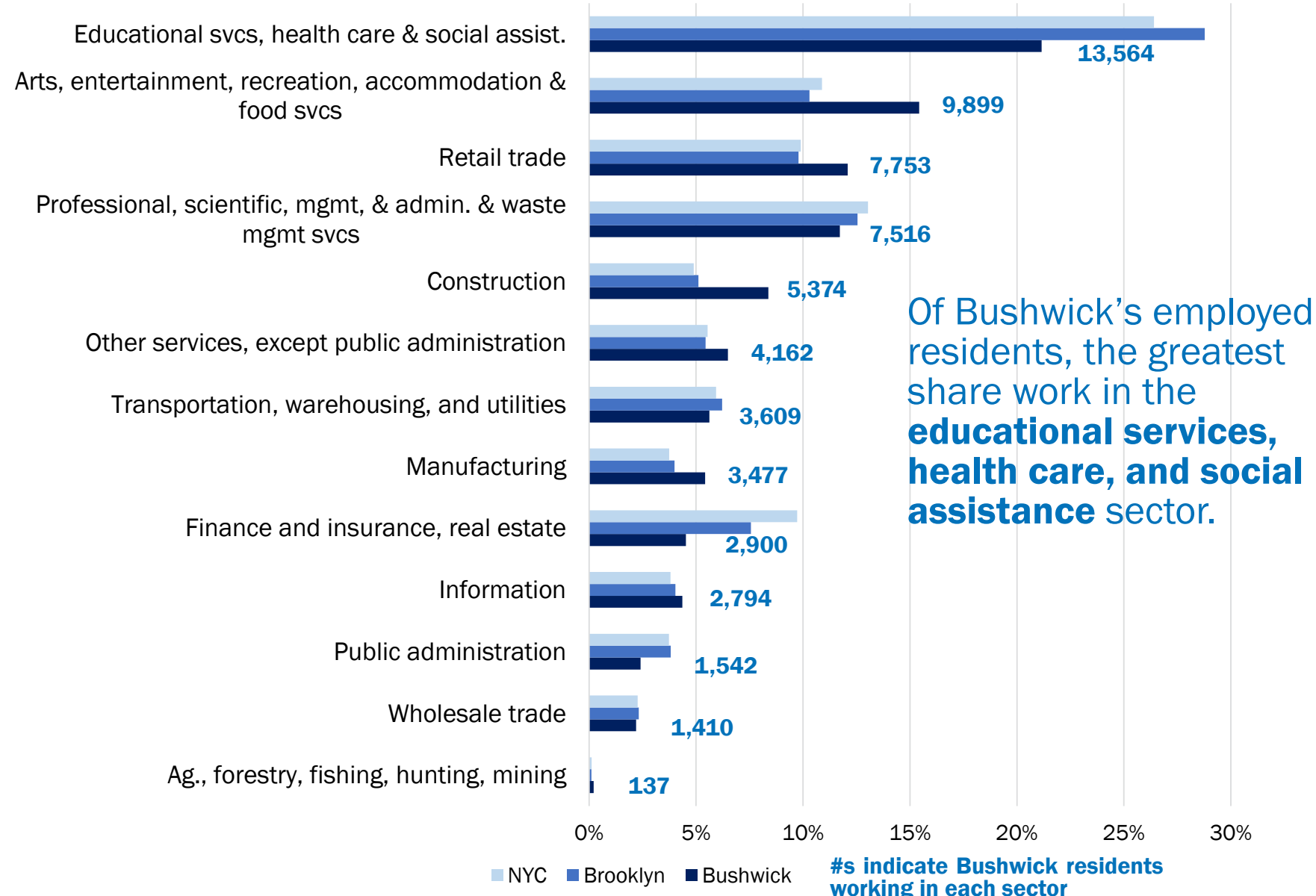
Open up a swimming pool older adults can use.

Make mobile health units accessible.

Introduce programs that provide transportation to healthy food, vegetables and fruits.

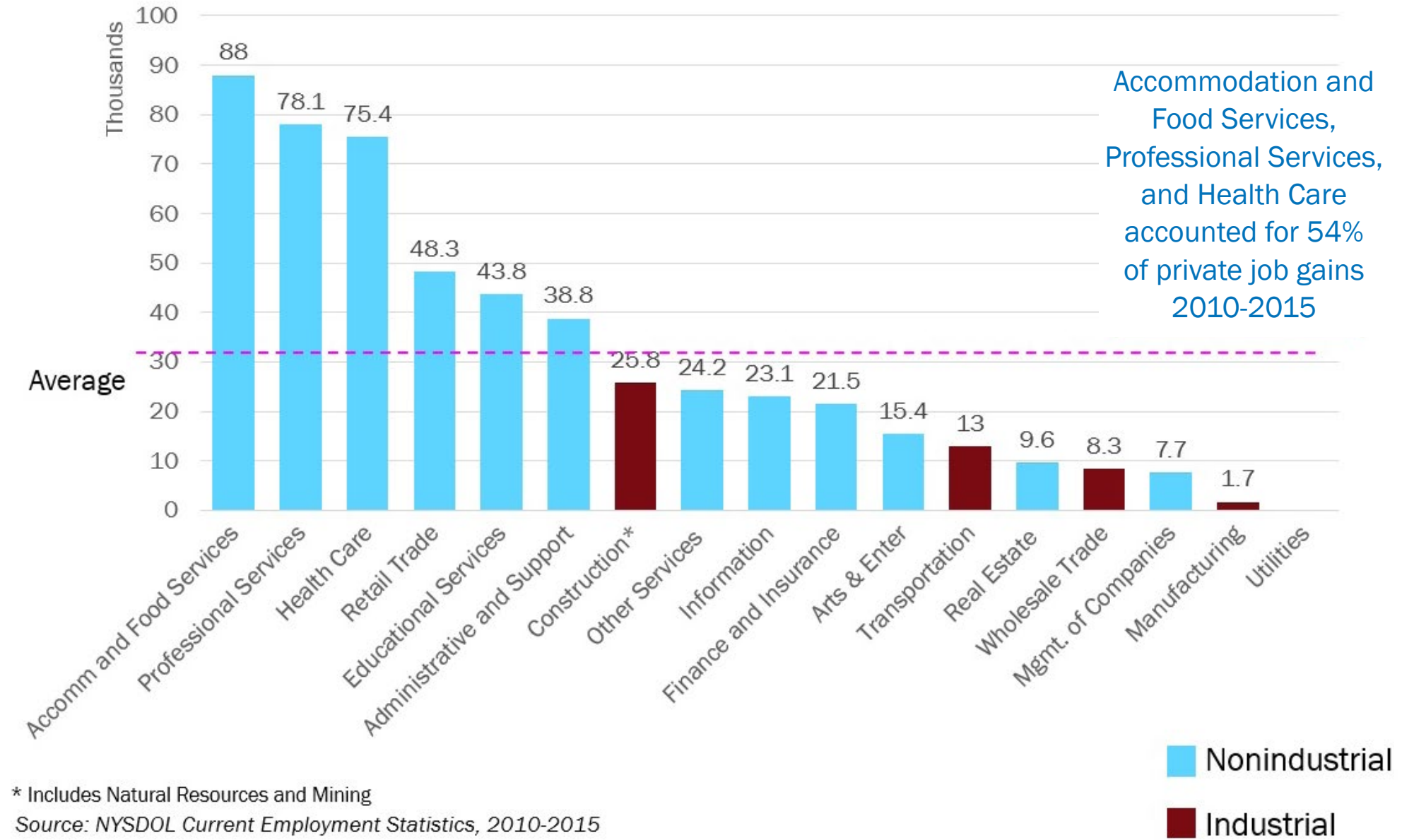
Jobs and Employment

What do Bushwick, Brooklyn, and New York City residents do for work?

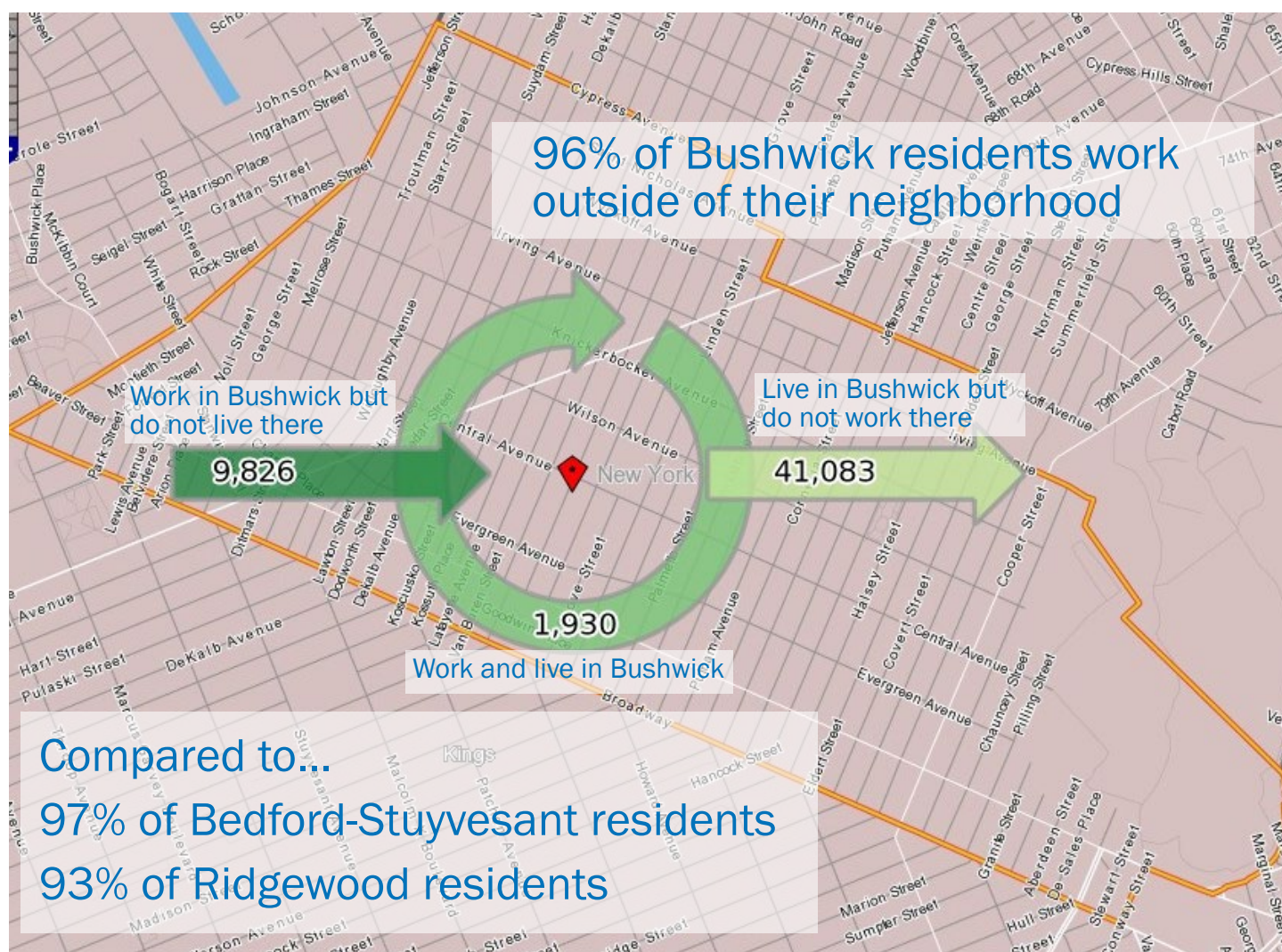


Source: 2011-2015 American Community Survey. 2015 private sector employment.

What jobs are growing city-wide?

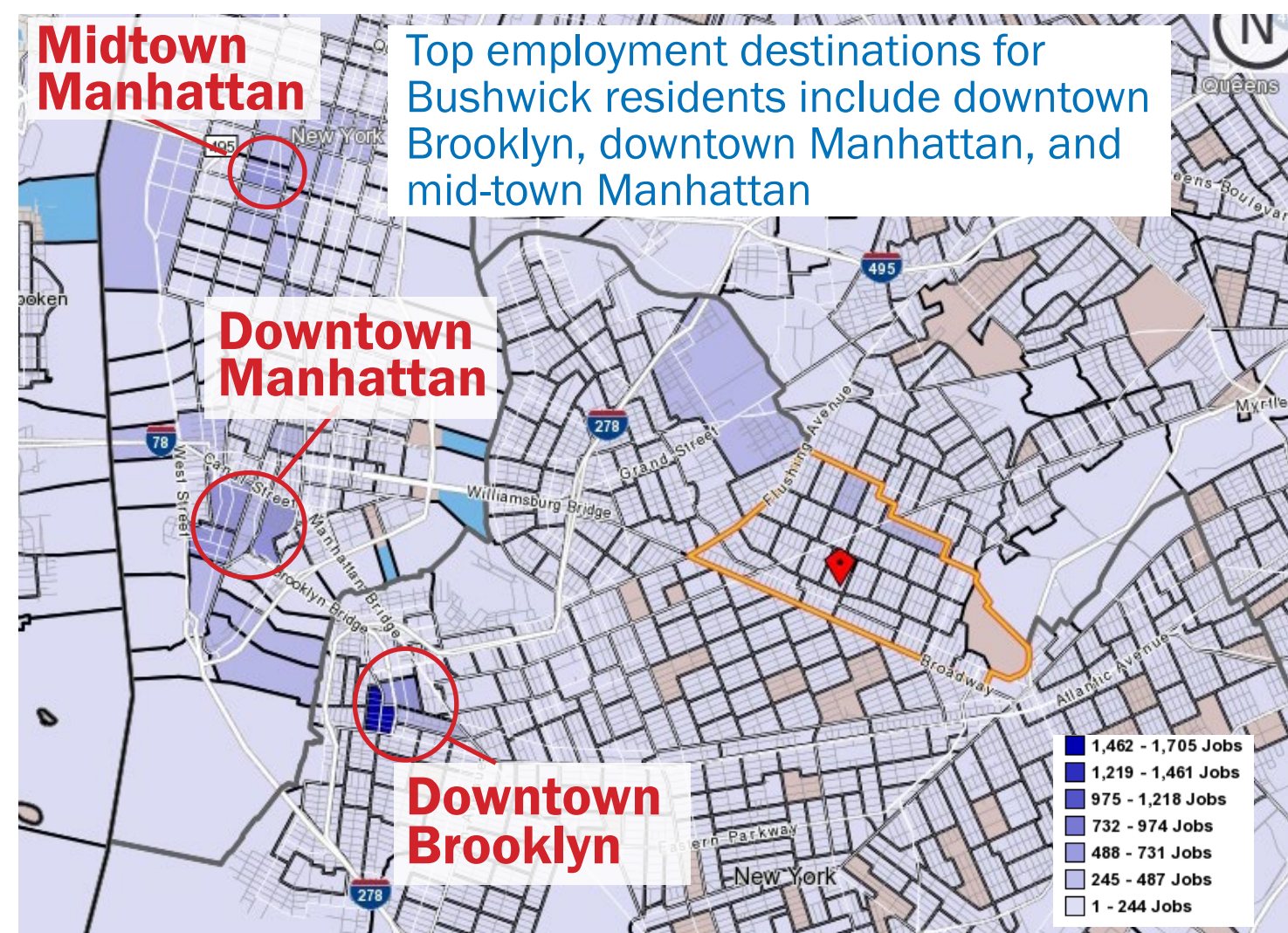


Bushwick Employment Inflow/Outflow



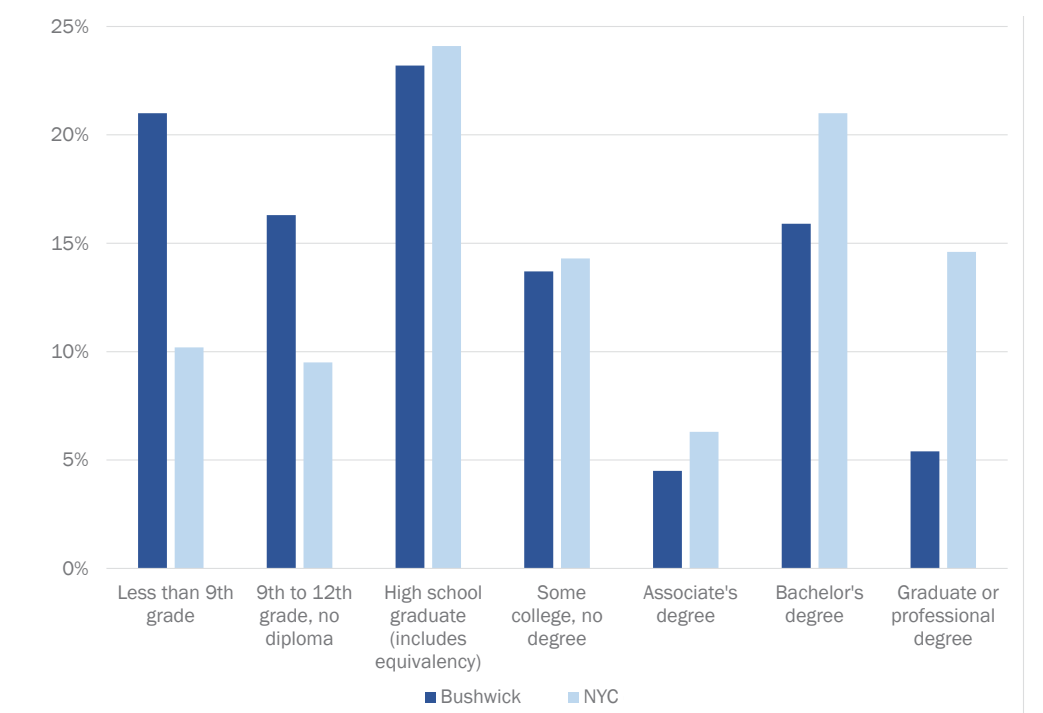
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap Application and LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (Beginning of Quarter Employment, 2nd Quarter of 2002-2014).

Where do Bushwick residents work?



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap Application and LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (Beginning of Quarter Employment, 2nd Quarter of 2002-2014).

Educational Attainment



Source: 2011-2015 American Community Survey

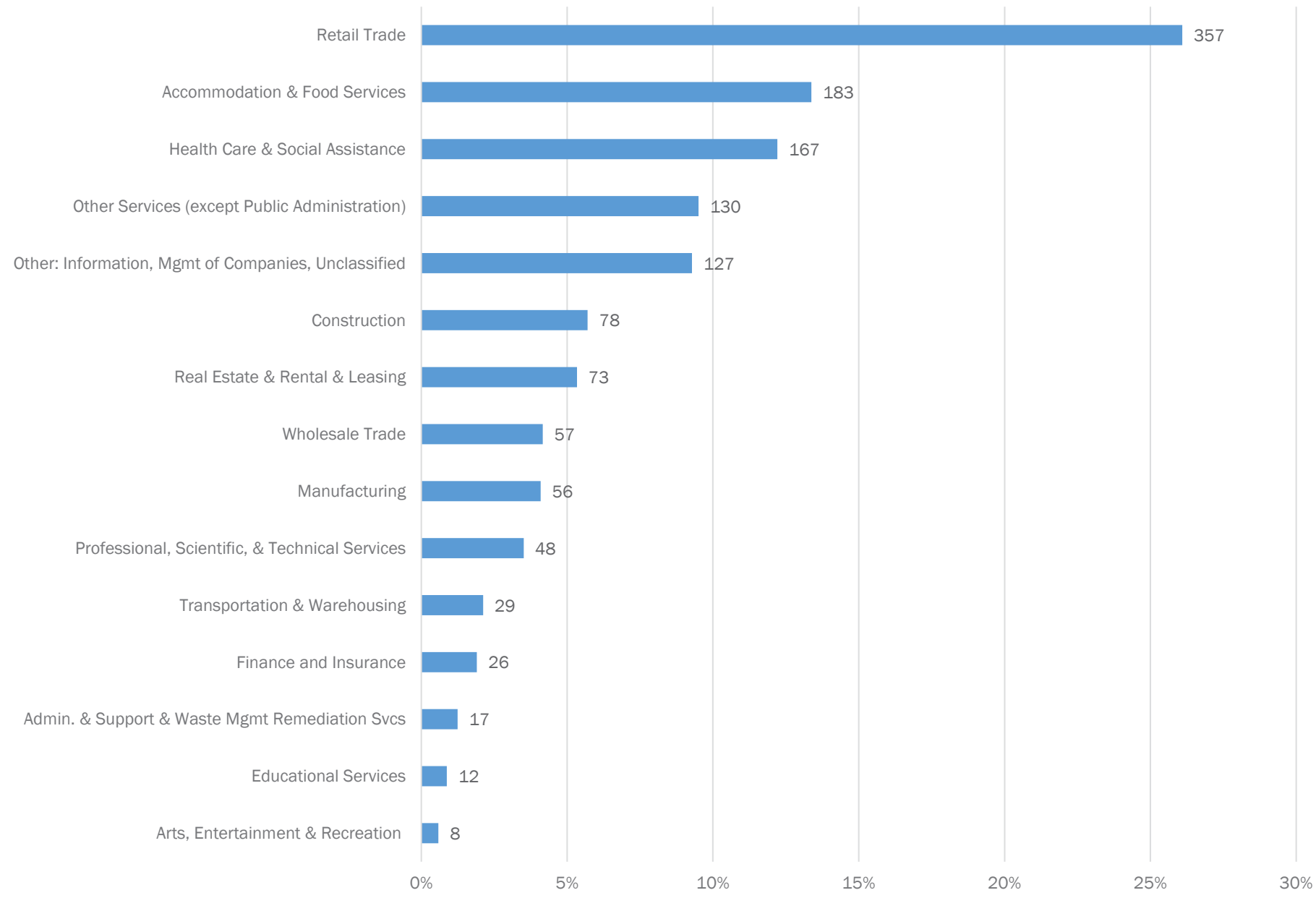
Bushwick Residents with less than a high school education: **37%**

Compared to...city-wide: **20%**



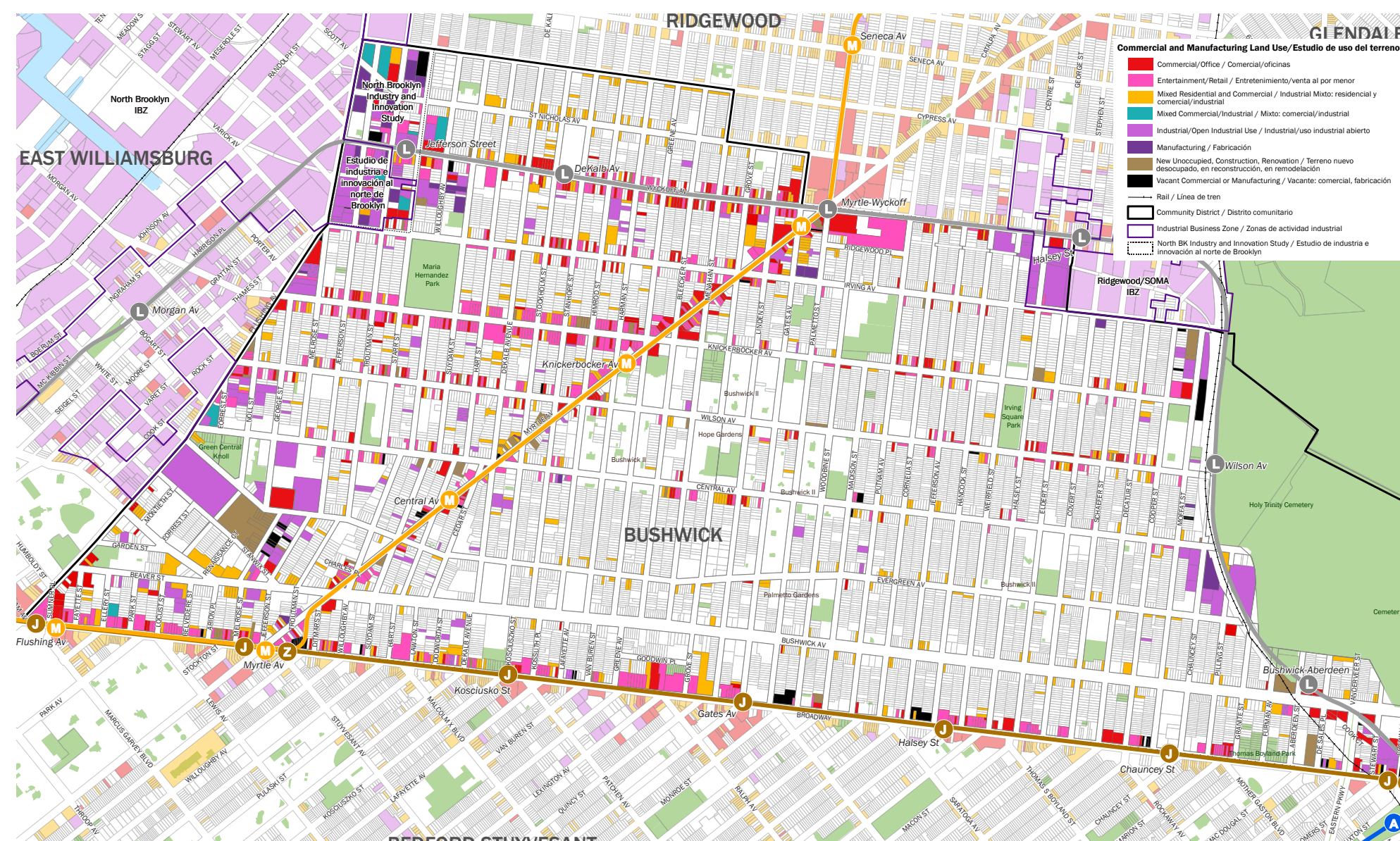
Existing Businesses

What types of businesses are located in Bushwick?



Source: Quarterly Census of Employees and Wages (QCEW), 3Q 2000, 3Q 2008, 3Q 2013, and 3Q 2014; DCP HEIP Division (December, 2015)

Commercial and Industrial Uses in Bushwick



Knickerbocker Avenue retail corridor
Retail businesses are concentrated along major retail corridors including Wyckoff, Knickerbocker, and Myrtle Avenues, and Broadway.

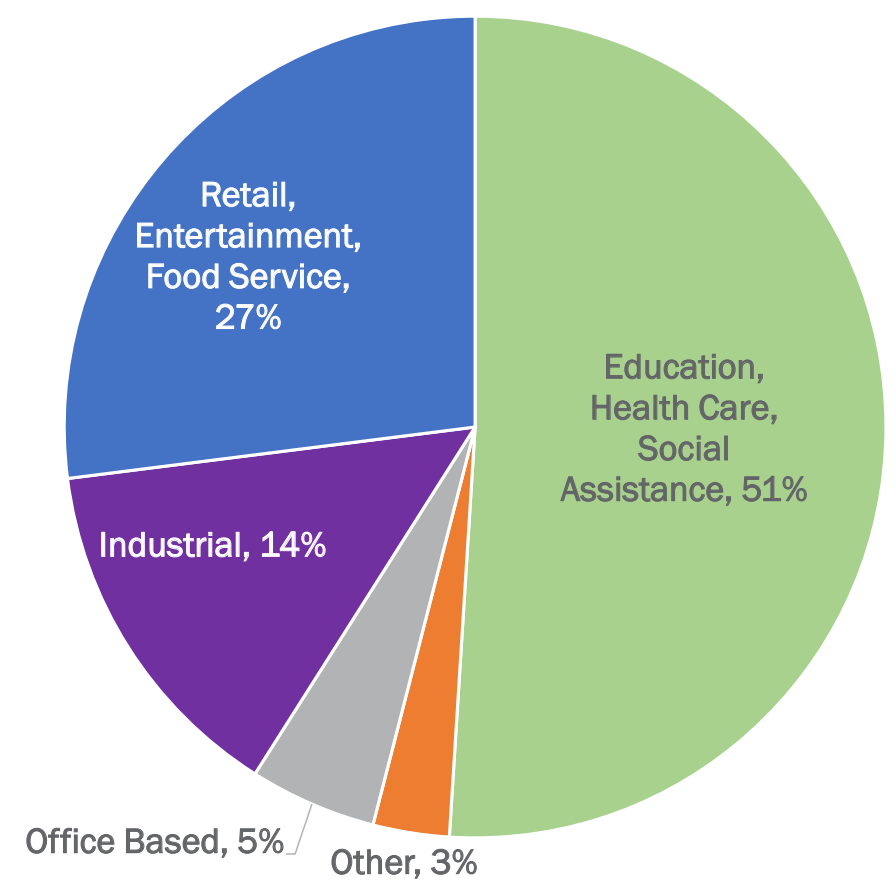


La Isla restaurant on Myrtle Avenue
Restaurants also tend to locate along major retail corridors, as do sidewalk food vendors.



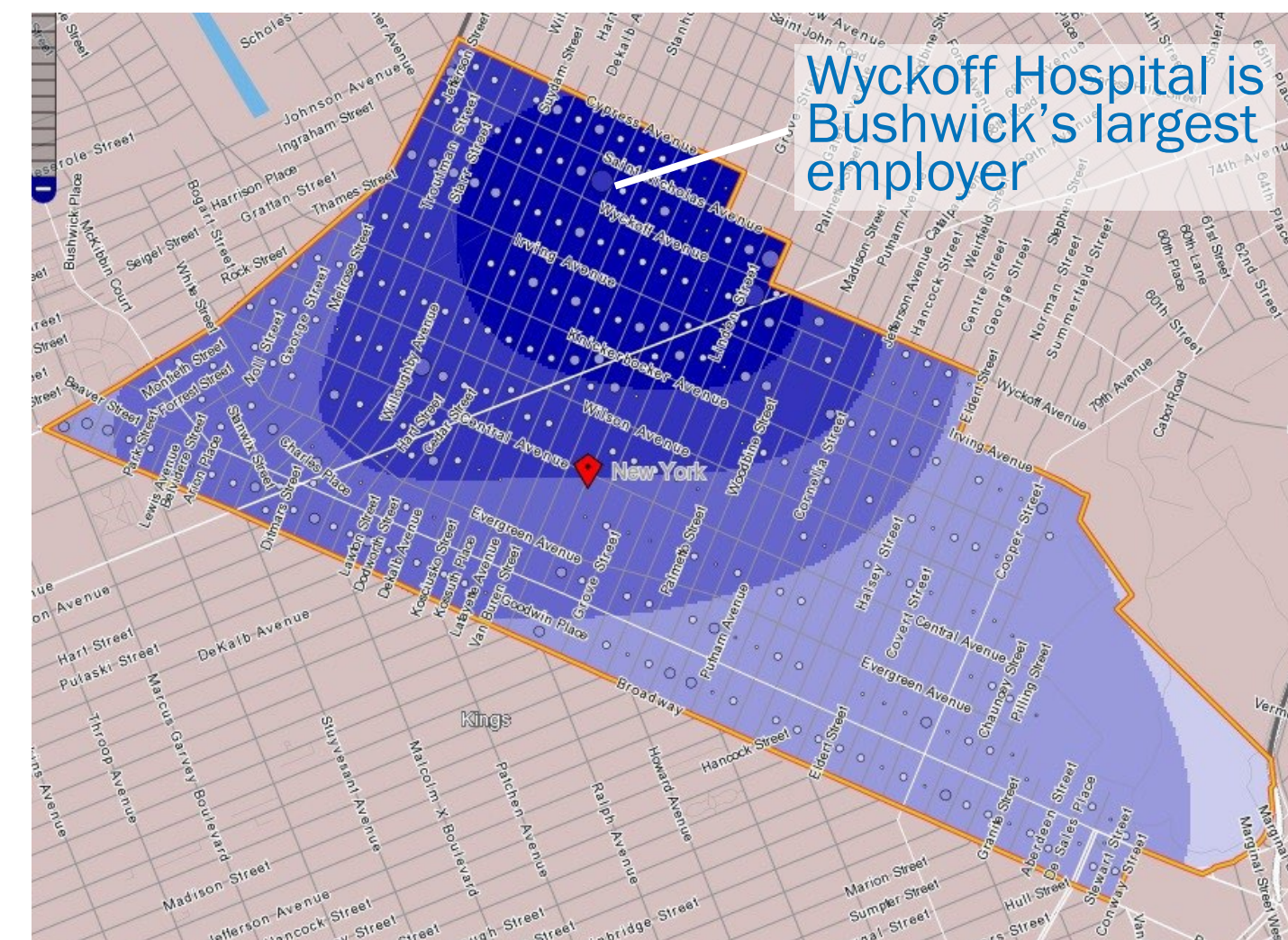
Wyckoff Hospital, Bushwick's largest employer
Health Care businesses, generally categorized as community facilities, are located throughout the neighborhood.

What types of jobs are located in Bushwick?



Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), 2015

Where do people work in Bushwick?

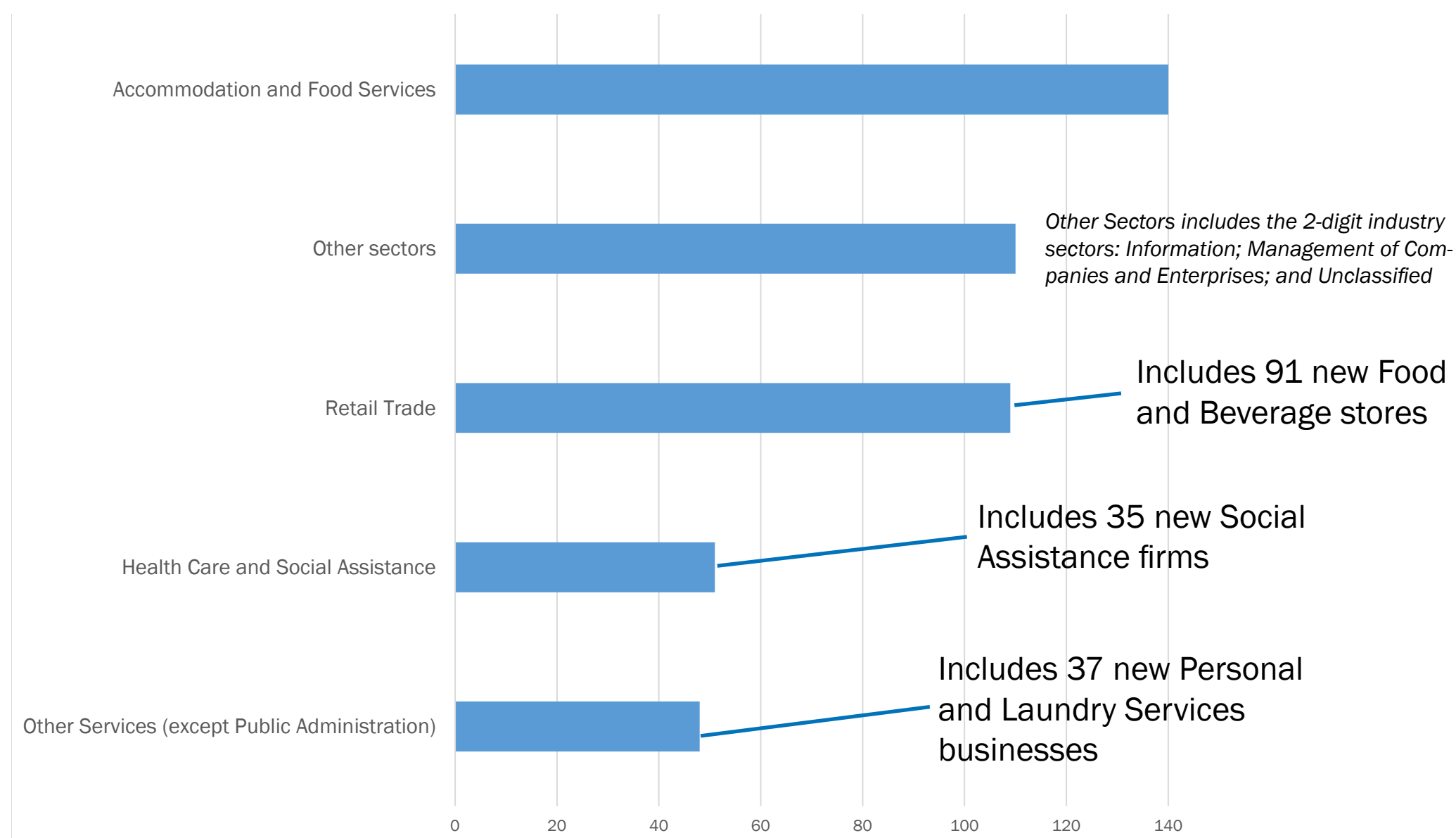


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap Application and LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (Beginning of Quarter Employment, 2nd Quarter of 2002-2014).

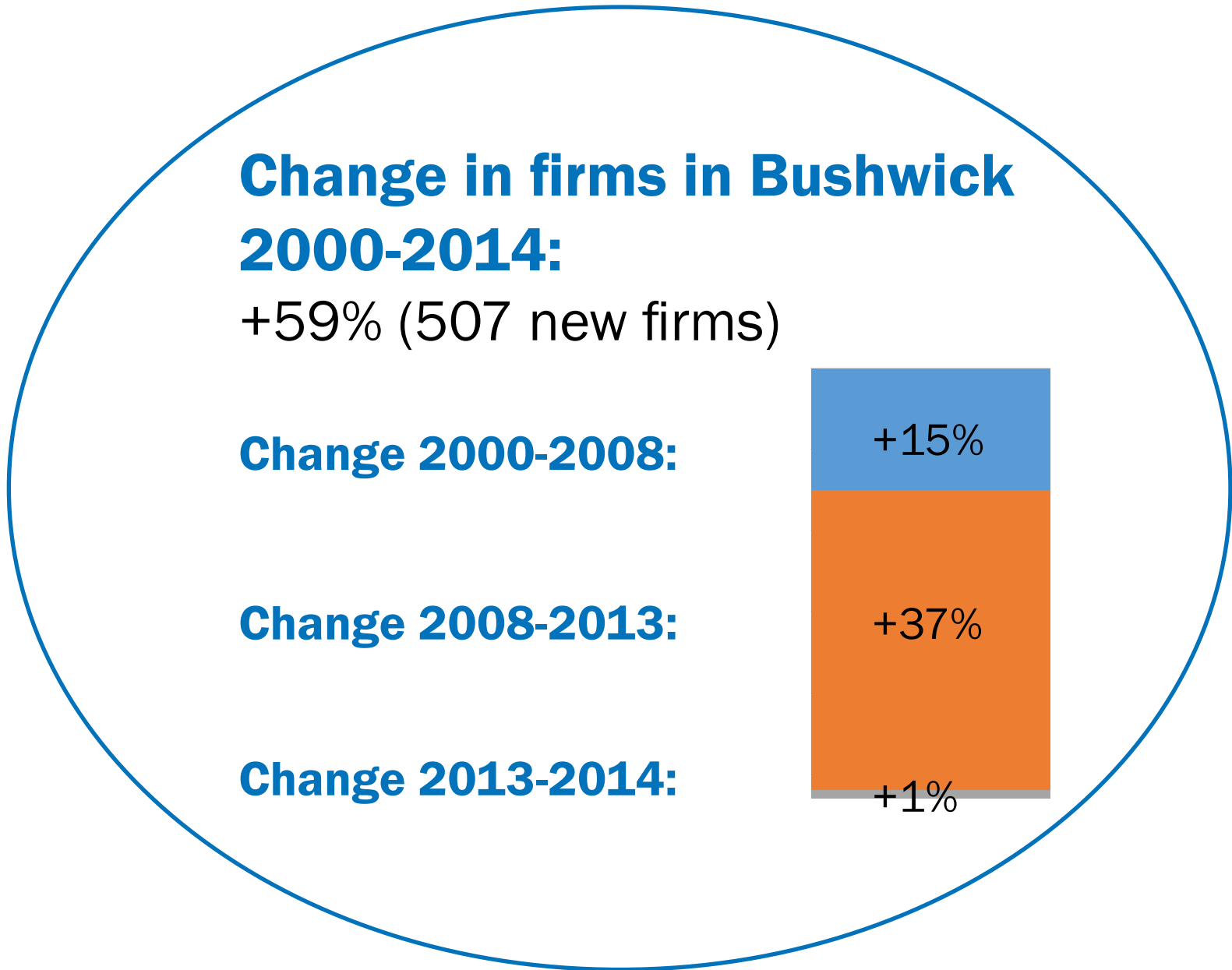


Entrepreneurship and New Businesses

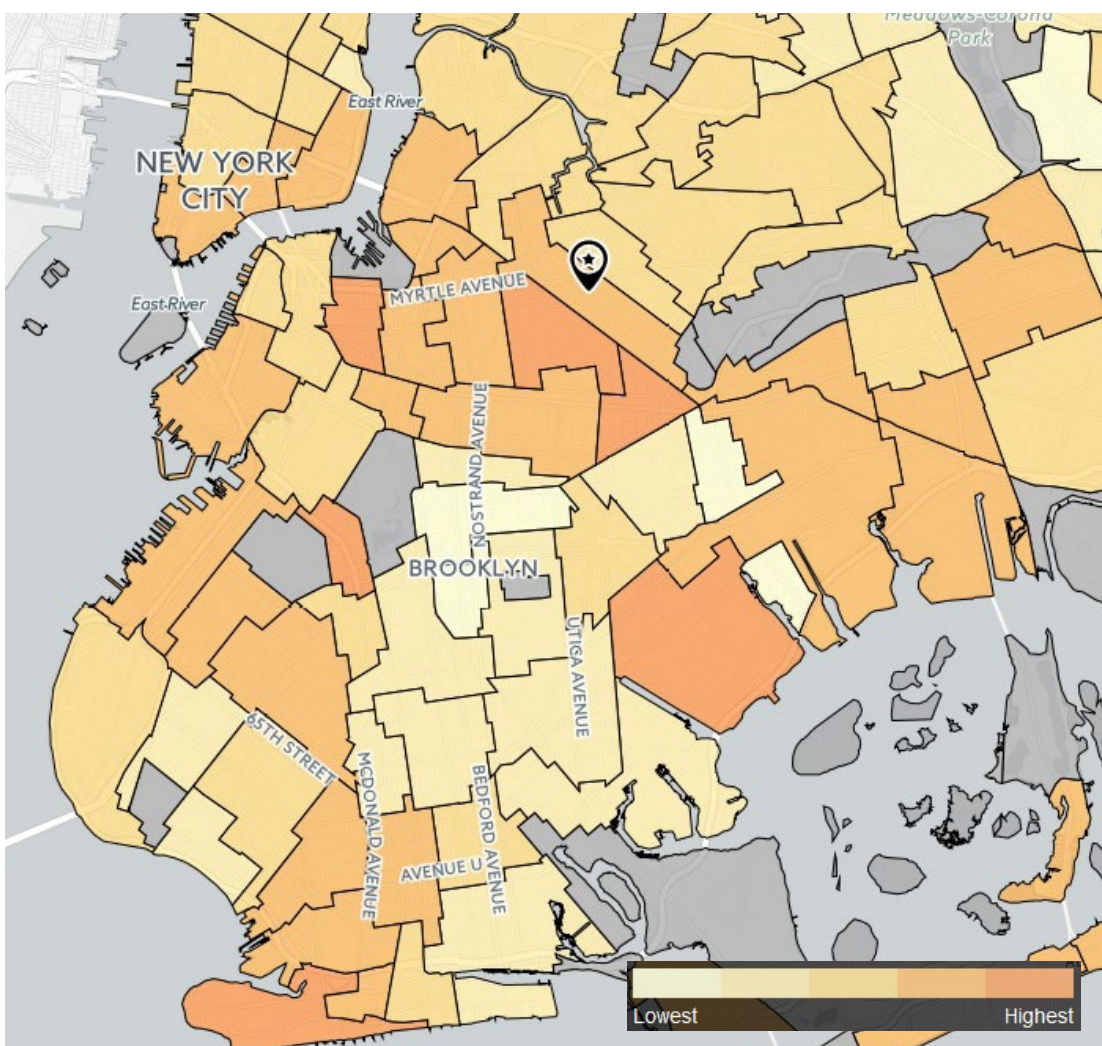
What types of new businesses are locating in Bushwick?



Source: Quarterly Census of Employees and Wages (QCEW), 3Q 2000, 3Q 2008, 3Q 2013, and 3Q 2014; DCP HEIP Division (December, 2015) New businesses 2000-2014. Only top 5 sectors shown.



Where are new businesses opening? (Nov. 2011-Nov. 2013)



Sources: NYC DCA, NYC DOHMH. Percentage change between November 2011 and November 2013.

Some new Bushwick businesses...

La Lupe: opened 2015



Molasses Bookstore: opened 2012



The Wheelhouse: opened 2017



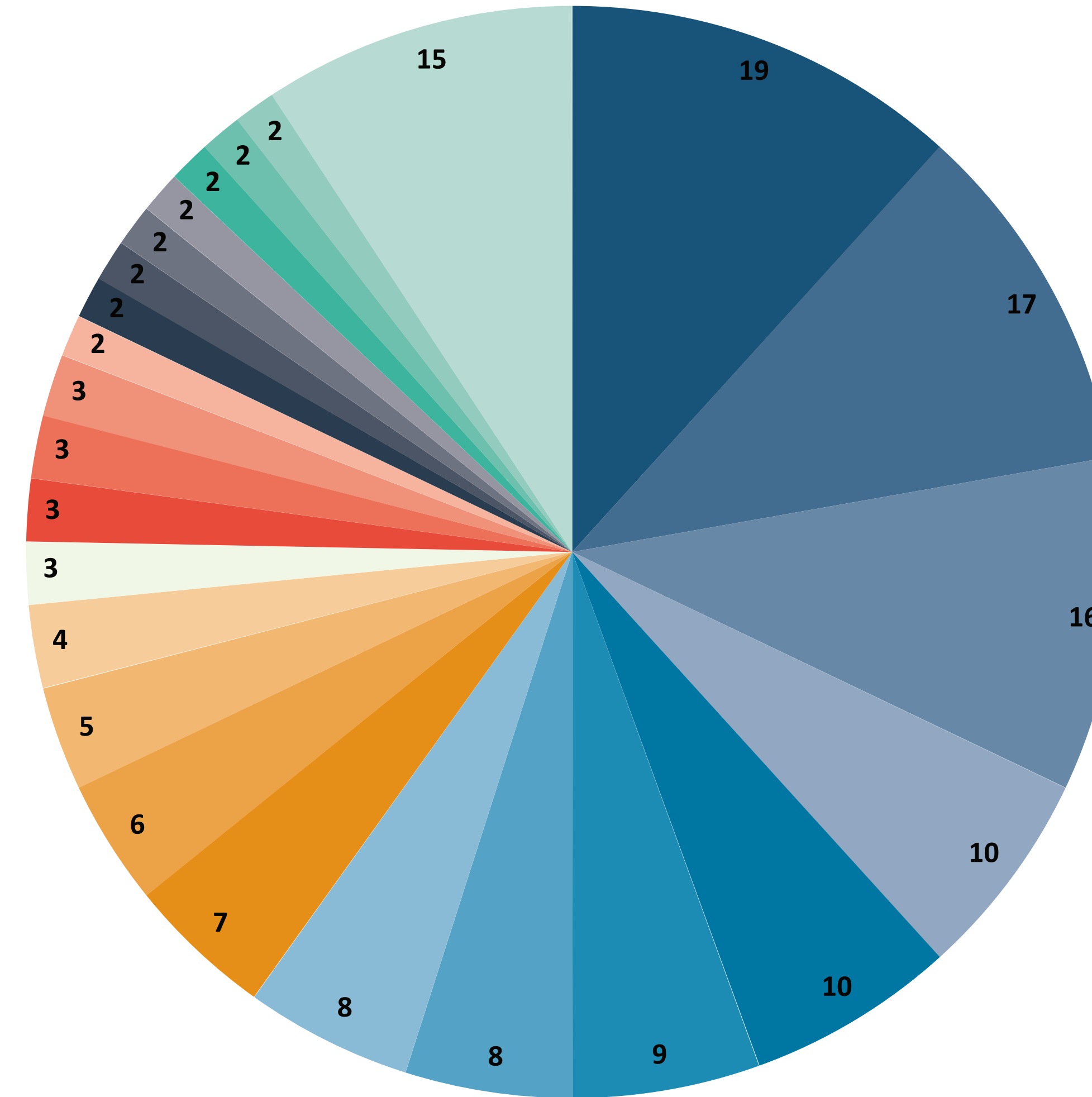
NEIGHBORHOOD 360° COMMERCIAL DISTRICT NEEDS ASSESSMENT

KNICKERBOCKER AVENUE



Retail Mix

- Clothing Store 19
- General Merchandise Store 17
- Limited Service Restaurant 16
- Bodega/Deli/Convenience Store 10
- Cell Phone Store 10
- Full Service Restaurant 9
- Professional Services 8
- Specialty Food Store 8
- Barber Shop / Hair Salon / Beauty 7
- Shoe Store 6
- Pharmacy & Health Store 5
- Church 4
- Electronic Store 3
- Hardware Store 3
- Jewelry Store 3
- Laundromat 3
- Coffee Shop 2
- Department Store 2
- Electronics Store 2
- Home Goods Store 2
- Jewelry Store 2
- Liquor Store 2
- Medical Services 2
- Thrift Store 2
- Other 15



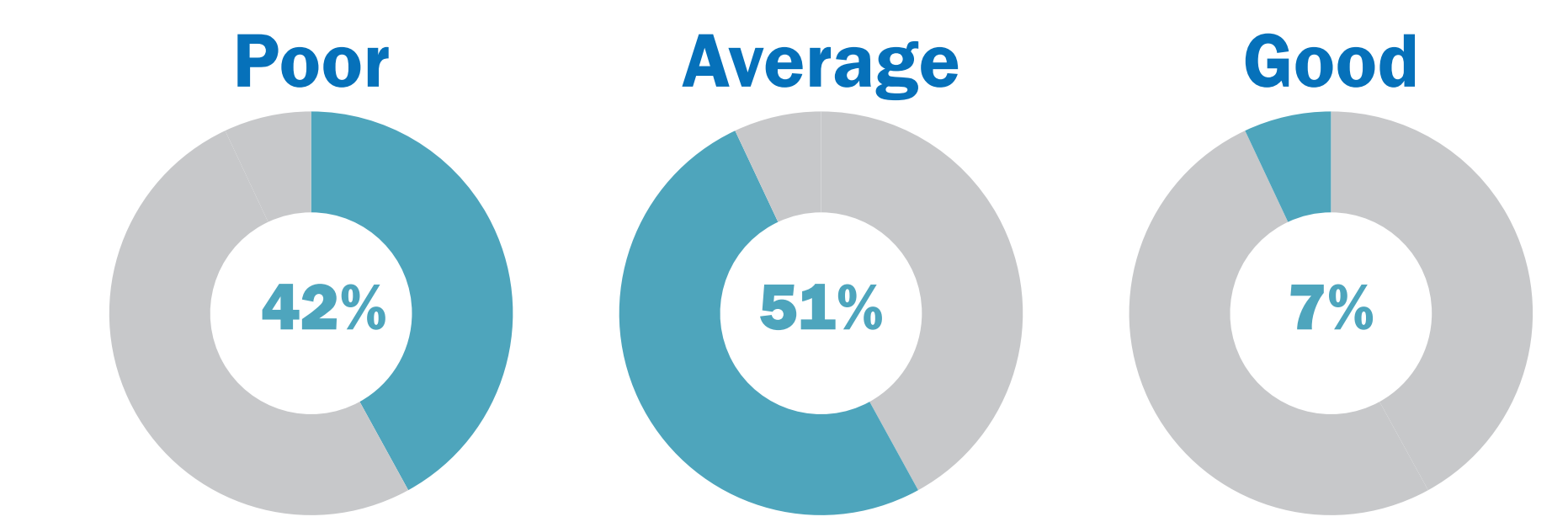
Total No. of Storefront Businesses

162

Vacant Storefronts

9%

Storefront Conditions

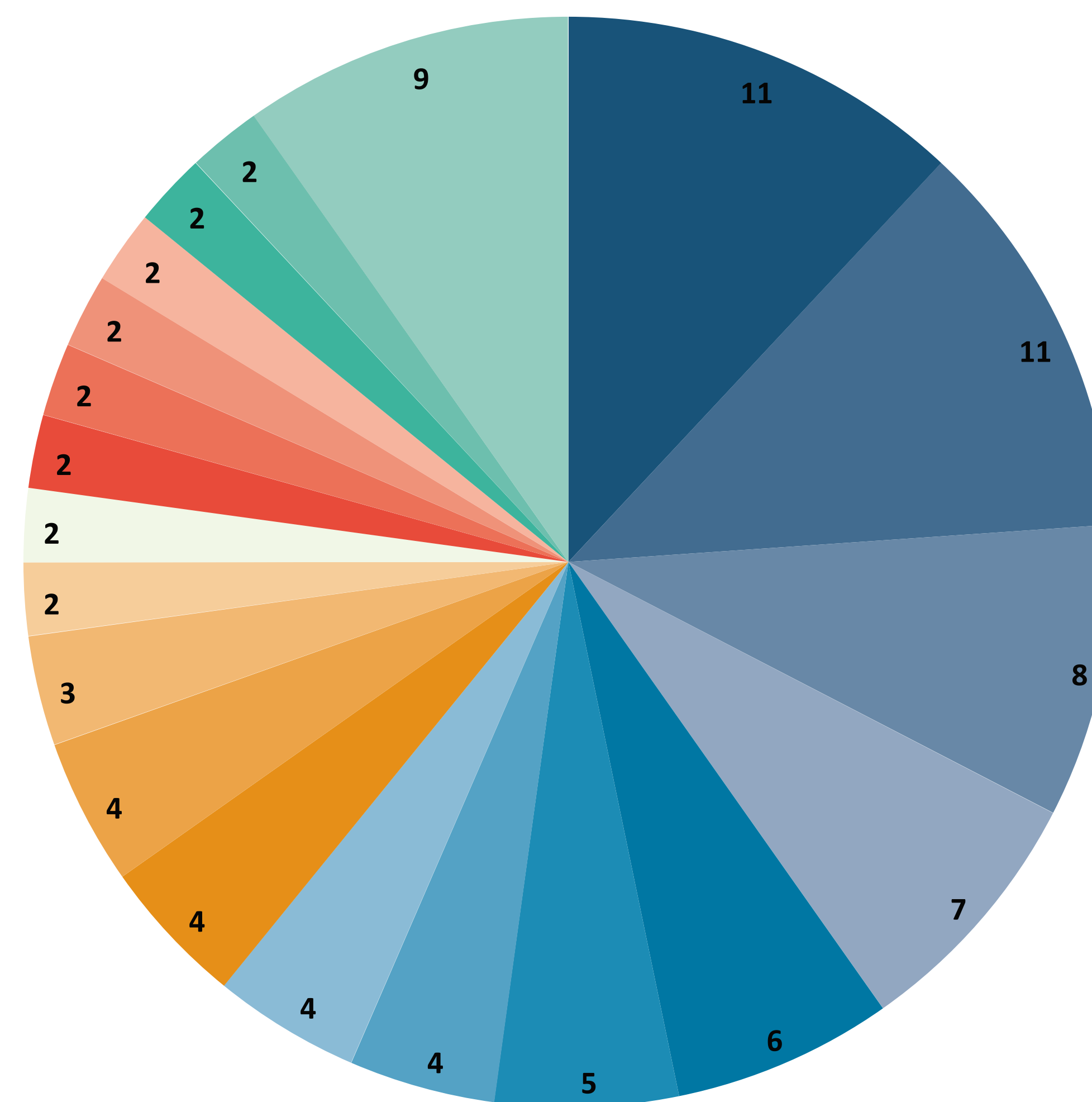


MYRTLE AVENUE



Retail Mix

- Full Service Restaurant 11
- Limited Service Restaurant 11
- Bodega/Deli/Convenience 8
- General Merchandise 7
- Barber Shop / Hair Salon 6
- Cell Phone Store 5
- Medical Services 4
- Nail Salon 4
- Nonprofit & Community Organizations 4
- Professional Services 4
- Government Agency Office 3
- Auto Parts/Repair 2
- Cash Advance & Money Transfer Services 2
- Department Store 2
- Gas Station 2
- Pharmacy & Health Stores 2
- School 2
- Supermarket & Grocery Store 2
- Thrift Store 2
- Other 9



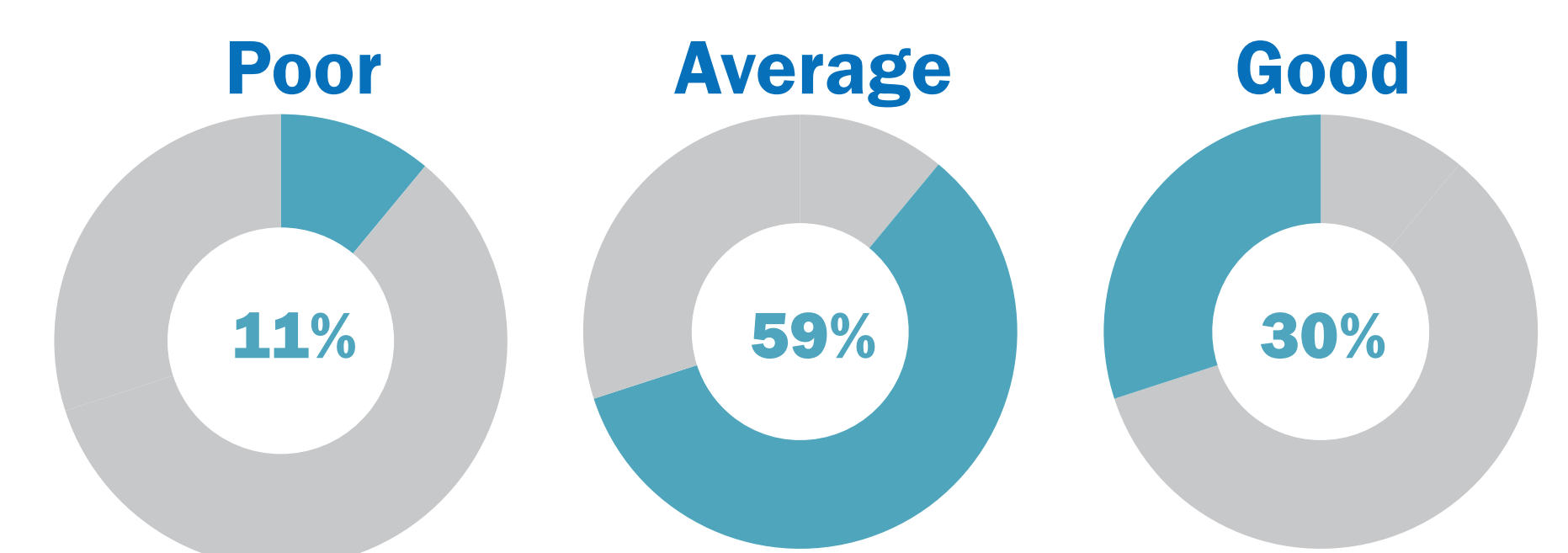
Total No. of Storefront Businesses

92

Vacant Storefronts

26%

Storefront Conditions



Economic Development Feedback: Business Environment and Support

What goods and services do people leave the neighborhood to access?

Grocery stores (especially for fresh food), banks, pharmacies, clothing (especially for work attire), bookstores, medical care, recreation (movies, bowling, swimming pools)

What sorts of businesses should Bushwick have more of?

FOOD

Fresh produce, affordable healthy food, Trader Joe's, farmers markets, places for students to get lunch, health food

RECREATION

Youth activities, theaters, bowling alley, cultural centers, gyms, art and performance centers

RETAIL

Clothing stores, vitamin stores, hardware stores, malls

SERVICES

Bike shops, flat fix, laundromats, education services

...less of?

FOOD

Bodegas, coffee shops, fast food, junk food

NIGHTLIFE

Night clubs, bars

RETAIL

99 cent stores

SERVICES

Barber shops, appliance repair shops

Ideas and Recommendations

RESOURCES AND SUPPORT FOR BUSINESS OWNERS

Lease terms are too short – businesses need lease renewal support, as do **start-up businesses**. Businesses also need **legal and negotiation training and support**. There should be more information on **how to access these resources**.

Protections are needed for business owners and **street vendors**.

Create a **coalition** of various burgeoning **merchant organizations** in Bushwick, using the Downtown Brooklyn Partnership as a model. Focus on non-profit **capacity building** while building a coalition to create oversight of non-profits and merchants associations.

Find ways to encourage **developers** to be part of the local community and take part in capacity building. Affordable **day care services** would help business owners and working families.

STREETSCAPE AND PLACEMAKING

Streetscape beautification (including cleaner tree pits, public art, and more lighting at night) is needed on Knickerbocker, Broadway, and around Maria Hernandez Park. Upgrades to **Maria Hernandez Park** would attract more customers to local businesses.

Form BIDs to help with **sanitation**, increase funding for sanitation.

Provide **wifi** in parks to help students and people who work remotely.

DEVELOPMENTS

Create an **FAR bonus** for developers who provide affordable commercial space.

Subsidize developers who create affordable commercial space.

Retail businesses are concentrated along major retail corridors including Wyckoff, Knickerbocker, and Myrtle Avenues, and Broadway.



Knickerbocker Avenue retail corridor

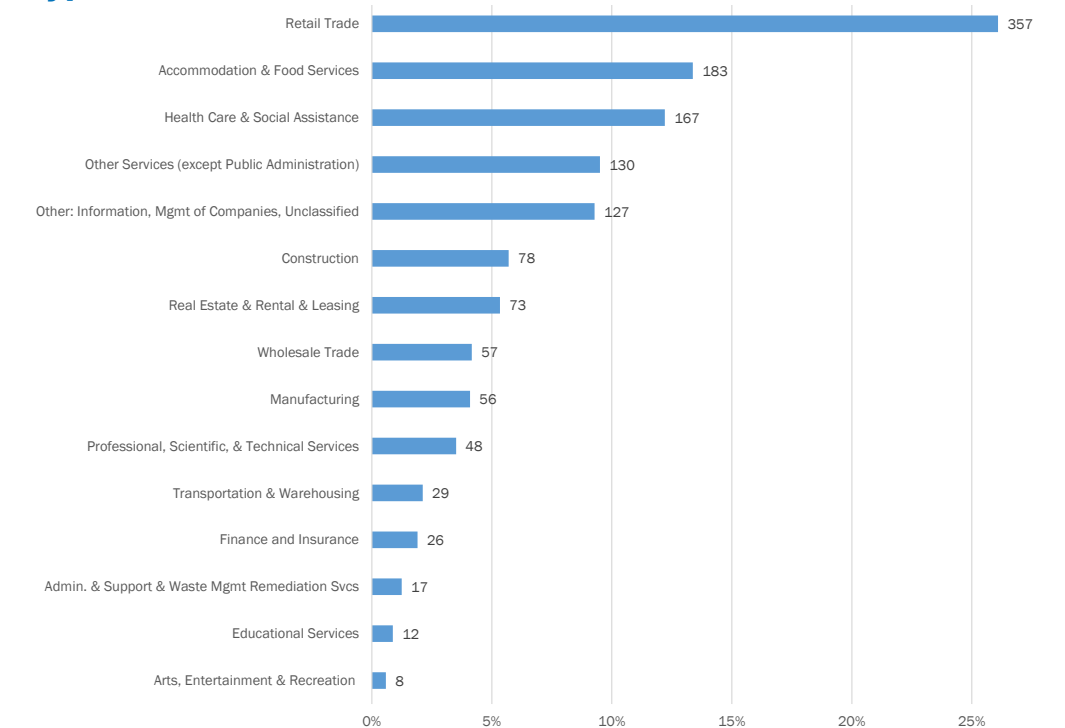
We heard...

Capacity building is needed for local merchants. A coalition of burgeoning merchant groups throughout Bushwick could be useful.

Improving streetscape and sidewalk conditions would encourage people to shop more. Improvements to Maria Hernandez Park could also attract more people to neighborhood, who might stick around to shop and dine out.

Knickerbocker Avenue is a successful commercial corridor with a diverse array of stores.

Types of businesses located in Bushwick



Source: Quarterly Census of Employees and Wages (QCEW), 3Q 2000, 3Q 2008, 3Q 2013, and 3Q 2014; DCP HEIP Division (December, 2015)

Economic Development Feedback: Workforce Development and Jobs

What job skills/training is needed?

INDUSTRY AND TRADES

Advanced manufacturing
Apprenticeships
Carpentry
Construction
Crane operators
Trade schools
High-end construction

TECHNOLOGY

Data entry/general computer skills
Healthcare technology training
Coding

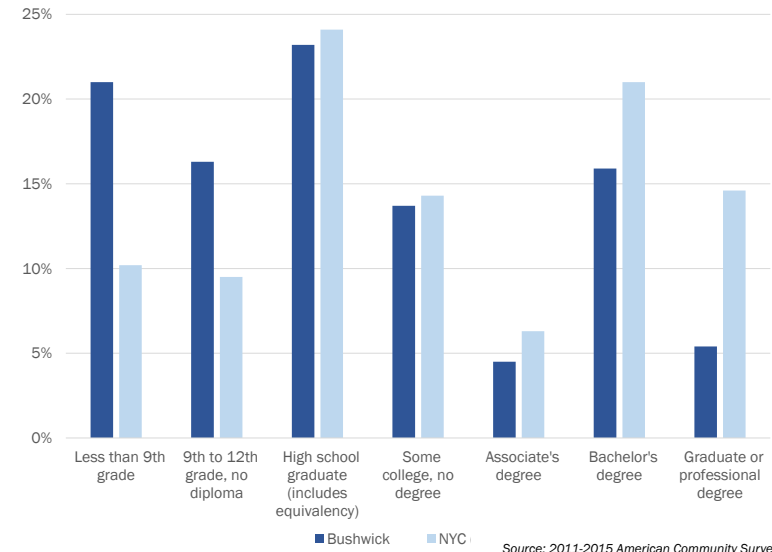
GENERAL

Entrepreneurship
Job readiness
Small business (loans, license)
College counseling

OTHER

Restaurant experience, help getting a food handler's license
Food and beverage training

Educational Attainment



Bushwick Residents with less than a high school education: **37%**
Compared to...city-wide: **20%**

Ideas and Recommendations

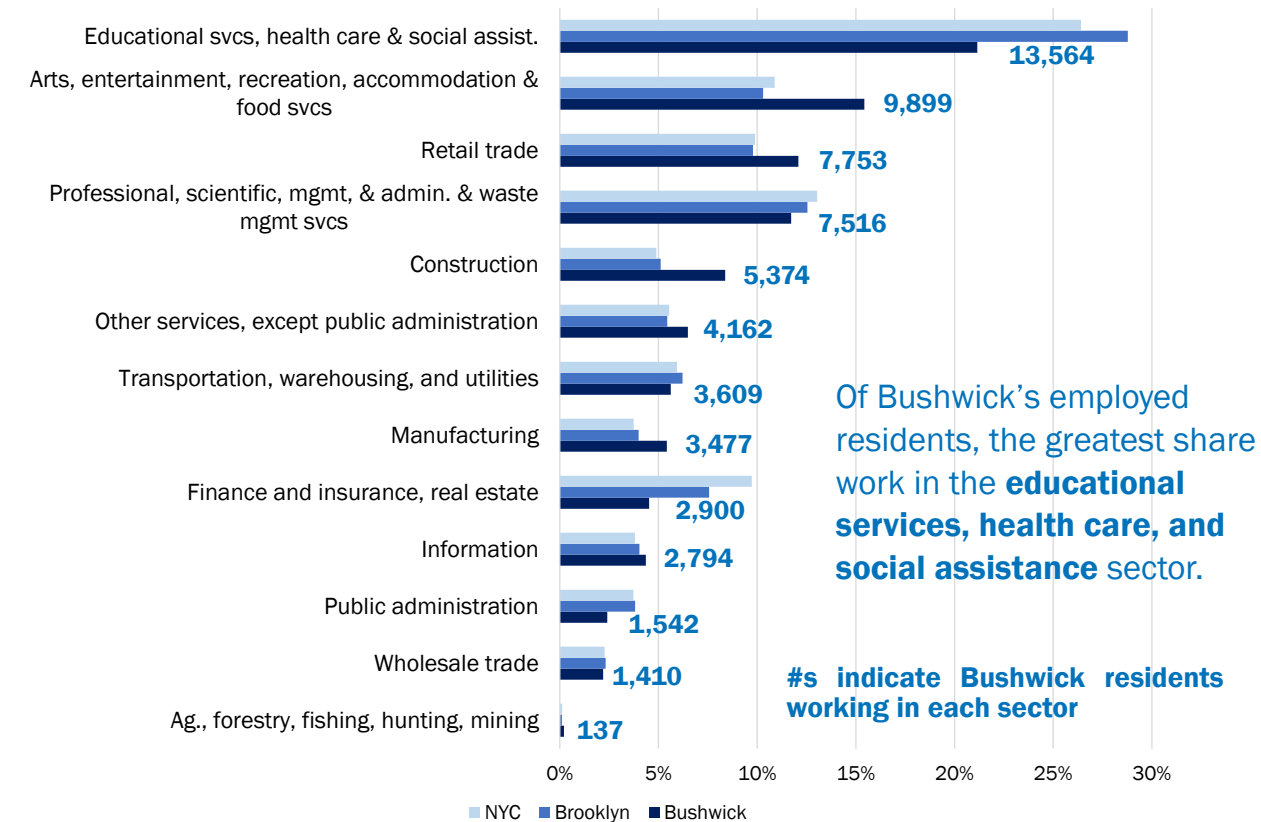
EMPLOYMENT AND JOBS

Implement initiatives to help combat **unemployment**, including **internship and apprenticeship** programs that connect community members to local businesses.
Provide services for **college counseling**, including guidance on filling out the FAFSA and other college entrance materials.
There is insufficient access to **construction jobs**. Explore implementation of **construction training programs** that start at the high school level.
Implement a **bar/restaurant** local hiring program.
There should be more support for **local hiring**, including job training for Bushwick residents.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

There should be a **central resource** for workforce development programs, as well as better marketing, branding and outreach of existing programs.
Funding sustainability is an issue for CBOs.

What do Bushwick, Brooklyn, and New York City residents do for work?



We heard...

Many people are not aware of the numerous organizations currently providing workforce development services in Bushwick and throughout the city.

People are interested in training in industry and trades, tech skills, and help for small business owners/entrepreneurs.

The concentration of senior housing in Bushwick could lead to opportunities for more health care/social assistance workers.

Groups currently doing workforce development in Bushwick and beyond:

- CUNY Building Performance Lab
- Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow
- Community colleges
- Evergreen
- Saint Nick's Alliance
- Make the Road New York
- Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizen's Council
- NYC Dept. for the Aging
- NYC Dept. of Youth and Community Devt.
- NYC Economic Devt. Corporation
- NYC Dept. of Small Business Services
- NYC Dept. of Consumer Affairs
- Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
- Brooklyn Workforce Innovations
- Per Scholas