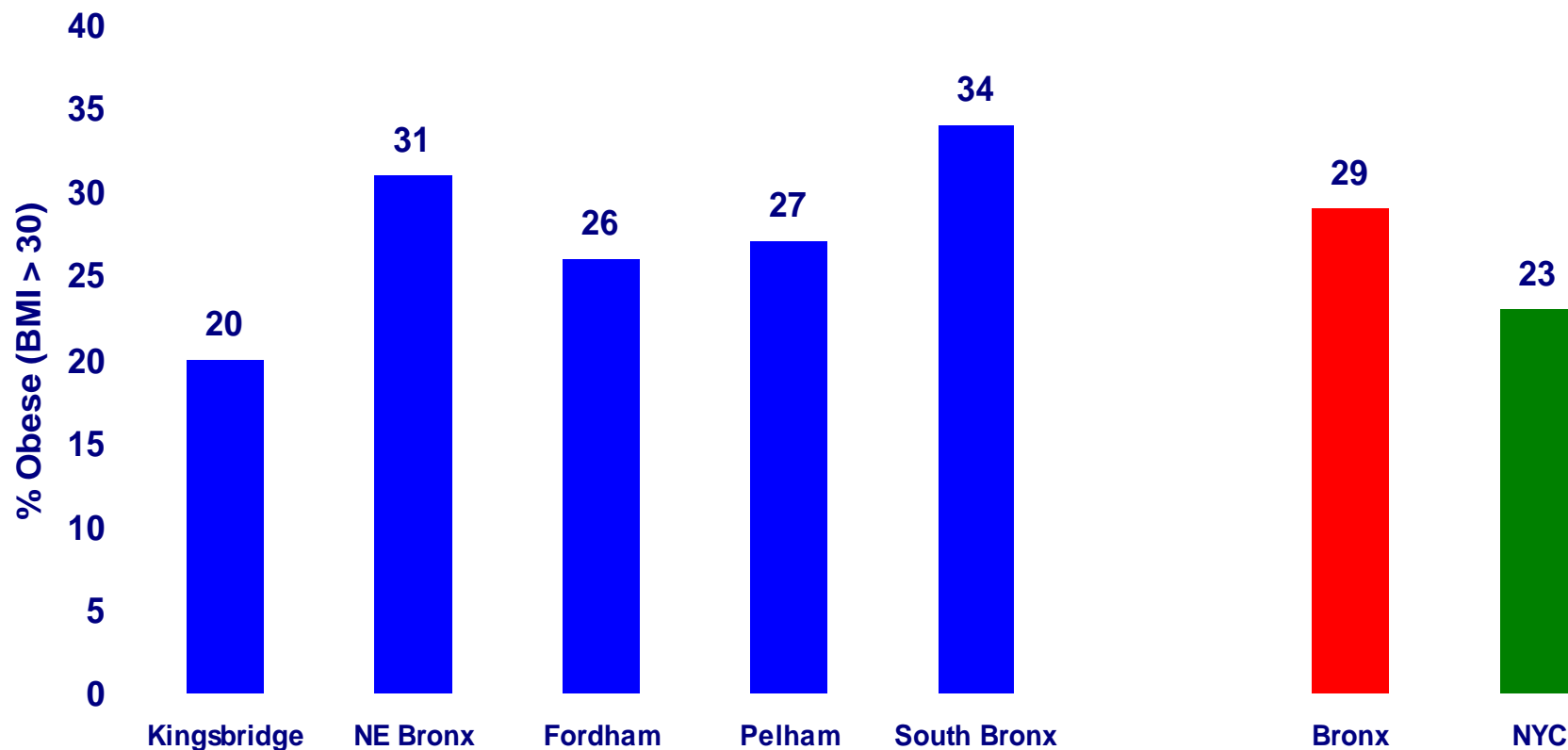


Bronx Food and Sustainability Coalition

(BxFSC)



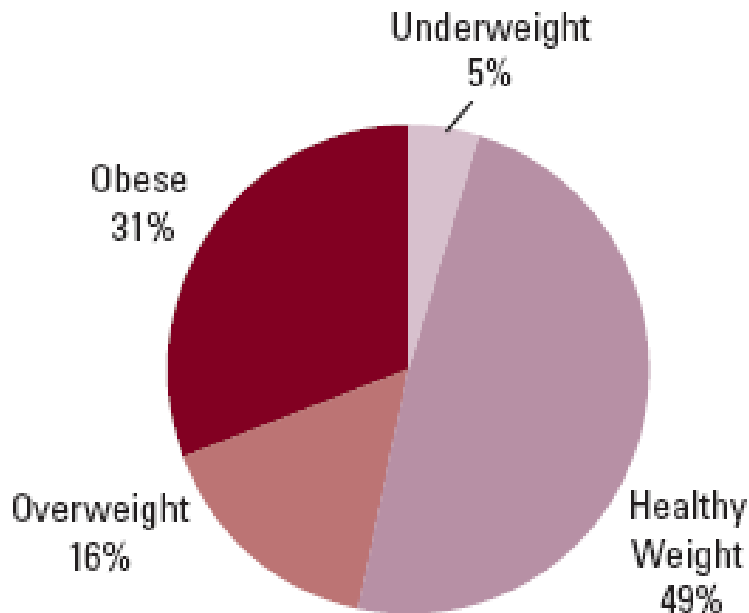
Percent of Obese Bronx Adult Residents (BMI > 30) by Neighborhood Area



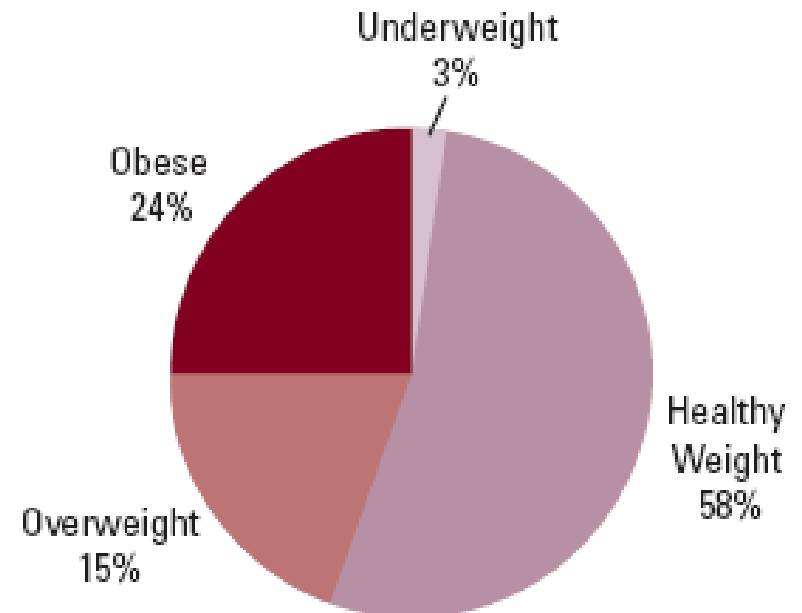
Source: Community Health Survey 2008

Between 39% and 47% of Children in the South Bronx are Either Overweight or Obese

Head Start Children



Public Elementary School Children



Head Start data from physical exams; Elementary school data from 2005 DOHMH Height and Weight survey

Hunger in NYC

- Approximately 3.3 million New Yorkers experience difficulty affording food for themselves and their families
- 1.76 million New Yorkers rely on SNAP (food stamp) benefits (\$4.35/day/person)
- 1.5 million NYC residents live below the poverty line (\$17,600/family of 3)
- Over 1.3 million New Yorkers report using a soup kitchen, food pantry, or emergency food program

Food Deserts

- Only 550 supermarkets (at least 10,000 square feet in size) remain in NYC.
- At least 3 million New Yorkers live in dense high need areas.
- 750,000 in these areas live more than five blocks from a grocery store or supermarket.

Bronx Food Summit

- Date: May 1, 2010
- Attendance: 663 people
- Workshops: Six (6) panel discussions and twenty-three (23) workshops
- Notable sponsors and speakers: Marjorie Carter, Council Speaker Christine Quinn, Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, Bronx hip-hop pioneers Melle Mel & Kurtis Blow, United States Department of Agriculture, New York Road Runners, Montefiore Hospital, New York Botanical Gardens and many more
- Started the “food access” movement in the borough
- Official launch of the Bronx Food and Sustainability Coalition

Origins

- **Bronx Food and Sustainability Coalition** is working to create a more healthy, equitable, and sustainable food system in the Bronx and to assure access to healthy, affordable food to all
- Membership: 120 + active members and six sub-committees
- Email base: 843 members on email list
- Website (May 2011)
- E-Newsletter (May 2011)

Mission & Goals

- **Bronx Food and Sustainability Coalition** is working to create a more healthy, equitable, and sustainable food system in the Bronx and to assure access to healthy, affordable food to all
- Build greater public health by supporting the development of balanced food environments that empower residents with opportunities to make healthy food choices and reduce environmental causes of obesity, diabetes, heart disease and other diet-related illnesses
- Make the Bronx a market for processing and consuming local food (and support the creation of more food and green jobs in the borough)
- Increase public “food literacy” by promoting the sharing of information that will allow communities to make food-related choices that positively influence public health, social responsibility and environmental sustainability.

BxFSC Projects

- **Policy:** Drop finger-imaging mandate for food stamps
- **Advocacy:** Community organizing/training; Urban agriculture; Economic sustainability via food enterprises and green jobs; Increased food access - more supermarkets, community-supported agriculture (CSAs), farmers markets, food pantries, food coops, community gardens
- **Initiatives:** Agro-Tourism; Small business incubator for food business enterprises/entrepreneurship; Community kitchen

Community Boards/Agro-Tourism

How community boards can play a role...

- Appoint a food “czar” or create a food committee – BxFSC will provide technical support and training to selected individual or committee
- Grant award to fund a Bronx community board with a food committee or food “czar” (Strategic Alliance for Health and Food Systems Network)
- Agro-Tourism

Adopt-A-Bodega

- Part of the Department of Health's Healthy Bodegas Initiative
- Provides people and community organizations with the tools and support necessary to build relationships with bodegas and show community interest and demand for healthy foods.
- Email bodegas@health.nyc.gov to learn more
- http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/cdp/cdp_pan_aab.shtml

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

- “Farm share” pay-in-advance program
- Communities have direct access to high quality, fresh produce grown by local farmers
- Vegetables and fruits delivered 1x/week during the growing season to local sites
- Generally all accept EBT/ food stamps, and many have a sliding fee scale based on income
- One share feeds about 3-4 people
- Half a share feeds about 1 or 2 people

Bronx Farm Share / CSA Programs

- Nolasco Farms—*South Bronx CSA*
 - pick-up site at Friends of Brook Park (Brook Ave between 140th and 141st) www.southbronxcsa.org
 -
- For information about other CSA's in NYC, contact Just Food at justfood.org/csaloc/ or call 212-645-9880 x233.
- Fresh Radish Farms—*Bronx CSA*
 - pick-up site at Grand Concourse Seventh Day Adventist Temple (1275 Grand Concourse at the corner of 169th) bronxcsa.wordpress.com
-

La Finca del Sur

- 138th and Grand Concourse
- Three-acre urban farm (One of the largest farms in the city)
- First women-run urban farm in the Bronx
- Transforming three acres of land into:
 - an innovative urban farm
 - farmer's marketplace
 - health & wellness hub
 - children's science program
 - community gathering/performance space
 - <http://bronxfarmers.blogspot.com/>



Farmers Markets

- 3 organizations: Harvest Home Farmers Markets (Maritza Owens), Greenmarket (GrowNYC, formerly Council on the Environment of NYC) and community-run farmers markets
- All markets accept coupons from food assistance programs such as Women Infants and Children (WIC) and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)
- Some markets accept EBT/Food Stamps & Health Bucks
- Grow NYC Greenmarket
 - <http://cenyc.org/ourmarkets>
- Harvest Home Farmers Market
 - <http://www.harvesthomefm.org/Locations.html>



“Grow to Learn NYC”

- NYC School garden website <http://growtolearn.org/>
 - Success stories, seed funding, teacher resources, tools for parents, talk to the experts



Wanaqua Garden at PS 43 Jonas Bronck Elementary School, Bronx