

BUSHWICK

Borough: Brooklyn

District: 32

Location

Bushwick is located in northeast Brooklyn, bound to the northwest by Flushing Avenue, to the northeast by the borough line separating Brooklyn from Queens, to the southwest by Broadway, and to the southeast by Vermont Avenue and the Cemetery of the Evergreens.

Transportation

J, L, M Trains

B13, B26, B38, B52, B54, B60, Q24 Buses

School Information

There are 27 schools located within Bushwick. 25 of those schools (listed below) have three or more Fellows currently teaching there, averaging more than nine Fellows per school. Nearly all of the schools in Bushwick qualify for Title I Funds. More than 87 percent of students in these schools on average are eligible for the free lunch program (see below). The majority of these schools also meet the Adequate Yearly Progress standards measured by New York State Department of Education. For more information about specific schools, you may visit the school report card section of the Department of Education's website at <http://schools.nyc.gov/daa>.

Fellows who work in Bushwick tend to live all throughout Brooklyn and lower Manhattan. Please see the *Relocation Guide* for information on finding a place to live.

Please visit www.nycteachingfellows.org/mypersonalinfo/downloads/SchoolsBriefDescriptions.pdf for more information on Title I Funds, Free Lunch Program, and Adequate Yearly Progress.

School Name	School Code	School Type	Grade Levels	Student Enrollment	Number of Fellows	Percentage Eligible for Free Lunch
EBC for Public Service - Bushwick	K545	High School	9 - 12	637	10	78.40%
Academy of Urban Planning	K552	High School	9 - 11	453	15	97.20%
New York Harbor High School	K551	High School	9 - 11	396	17	83.60%
Bushwick Community High School	K564	High School	9 - 10	355	4	86.50%
Bushwick High School for Social Justice	K549	High School	9 - 11	438	14	75.00%
Bushwick Leaders High School for Academic Excellence	K556	High School	9 - 11	407	13	86.10%
I.S. 347 School For Humanities	K347	Middle School	6 - 8	549	10	89.10%
I.S. 349 School for Math, Science & Technologies	K349	Middle School	6 - 8	538	11	89.40%
J.H.S. 162 Wiloughby Junior High School	K162	Middle School	6 - 8	780	13	97.60%
J.H.S. 291 Roland Hayes Junior High School	K291	Middle School	6 - 8	890	7	93.10%
J.H.S. 296 Halsey Junior High School	K296	Middle School	6 - 8	788	14	75.30%
J.H.S. 383 Philippa Schulyer Junior High School	K383	Middle School	5 - 8	1,091	15	55.80%
P.S. 45 Horace Greene School	K045	Elementary	PK - 5	808	8	96.60%
P.S. 75 Mayda Cortiella School	K075	Elementary	PK - 5	649	9	76.90%
P.S. 86 Irvington School	K086	Elementary	PK - 5	544	3	86.50%
P.S. 106 Edward E. Hale School	K106	Elementary	PK - 5	626	3	94.80%
P.S. 116 Elizabeth L. Farrel School	K116	Elementary	K - 5	464	5	88.00%
P.S. 120 Carlos Tapia School	K120	Elementary	PK - 5	485	5	88.60%
P.S. 123 Suydam SchoolL	K123	Elementary	K - 5	991	13	93.50%
P.S. 145 Andrew Jackson School	K145	Elementary	PK - 5	1,064	19	92.20%
P.S. 151 Lyndon B. Johnson School	K151	Elementary	PK - 5	482	8	95.80%

P.S. 274 Kosciusko School	K274	Elementary	PK - 5	862	7	97.10%
P.S. 376 Felisa Rincon De Gautier School	K376	Elementary	K - 5	539	5	82.70%
P.S. 377-Alejandra Benitez De Garza School	K377	Elementary	PK - 5	849	8	79.50%
P.S. 384 Frances Carter School	K384	Elementary	PK - 5	658	6	98.40%

Neighborhood Demographic Data

Demographic data from 2000 New York City Community District Census Data

Median Household Income \$22,056

Total population under age 18 Percent of Population 33.6%

Ethnicity

Hispanic Origin	67.2%
Black/African American	23.8
Asian or Pacific Islander	3.1
White	2.9
Other	3.0

Total foreign born population 34.8%

Total population not proficient in English* 36.6%

*Older than five years

Brief History of Bushwick

In 1638 the Dutch West India Company purchased the Bushwick area from the Canarsee Algonquin Indians. Peter Stuyvesant chartered the area in 1661, naming it "Boswijck," meaning "little town in the woods" in 17th Century Dutch. The community was originated by French settlers, a Dutch translator, and one of the original eleven slaves brought to New Netherlands who worked his way to freedom.

Its area included the modern day communities of Bushwick, Williamsburg, and Greenpoint, which all farmed food and tobacco. The major thoroughfare allowed farmers to bring their goods to the town dock. At the turn of the 17th century, Bushwick consisted of four villages: Green Point, Bushwick Shore, Bushwick Green, and Bushwick Crossroads.

Farmers and gardeners from the other Bushwick villages sent their goods to Bushwick Shore to be ferried to New York City for sale. Bushwick Shore's proximity to New York City led to the creation of several farming developments. Originally a development within Bushwick Shore, Williamsburgh expanded during the first half of the nineteenth century and eventually seceded to form its own city.

As Brooklyn grew, factories that manufactured sugar, oil, glue, beer, glass, and chemicals were built in Bushwick. In 1868, the Long Island Rail Road extended to Bushwick Terminal, which allowed industrialists to easily access raw materials and export finished goods.

In the 1840s and 1850s, a majority of the immigrants were German, which became the dominant population. Bushwick established a considerable brewery industry, including Brewer's Row: fourteen breweries operating in a fourteen block area by 1890. Bushwick was dubbed the "beer capital of the Northeast."

The first elevated railway in Brooklyn, the Lexington Avenue Elevated, opened in 1885. By the end of 1889, the Broadway Elevated and the Myrtle Avenue Elevated were completed, which enabled the rapid residential development of Bushwick from farmland.

At the turn of the 20th century, brewery owners and doctors commissioned mansions along Bushwick and Irving Avenues. Bushwick homes were designed in the Italianate, Neo Greco, Romanesque Revival, and Queen Anne styles by well known architects. Bushwick became a center of culture with several Vaudeville era playhouses, including the Amphion Theatre, the nation's first theatre with electric lighting. The neighborhood even prospered during events such as Prohibition and the Great Depression.

After the Great Depression, the German enclave was replaced by a significant proportion of Italian-American immigrants. After World War II, African Americans and Puerto Rican immigrants began to move into Bushwick. Small apartment buildings were built to accommodate the incoming residents. At the same time, locally rising energy costs, advances in transportation, and the invention of the steel can encouraged beer companies to move out of New York City. As the breweries closed, the neighborhood deteriorated. One out of every eight buildings was damaged or destroyed by fire every year from 1969 to 1977.

On the night of July 13, 1977, a major blackout occurred in New York City. Arson, looting, and vandalism followed throughout the city. Bushwick, however, saw some of the most devastating damages and losses. Shops were looted and burned, and fire spread to many residential buildings. In the aftermath, nearly half of Bushwick became empty lots, unsafe dwellings, and vacant businesses.

Residents who could afford to leave left. New immigrants, primarily from the Dominican Republic, started moving into the area. Apartment renovation and new construction did not keep up with demolition of unsafe buildings, forcing overcrowded conditions at first. As buildings came down, the vacant lots made parts of the neighborhood look and feel desolate; more residents left. The neighborhood was a hotbed of poverty and crime through the 1980s, and remained a poor area through the 1990s.

In the 2000s, in the wake of lower crime rates citywide and a shortage of cheap housing in other neighborhoods, a new influx of White Americans have moved into converted-warehouse lofts, brownstones, and other renovated buildings. Today, property values are increasing from speculation, and police protection has increased. Residents of the former artist colony in Gowanus, Brooklyn have been making their way to Bushwick. Main avenues are filling up with musicians, crafts, art spaces, vintage stores, organic markets, yoga studios, music venues, and vegetarian restaurants, adding to the established variety of Hispanic restaurants and nightspots. Apart from the rise in industry and housing, organizations such as Make the Road by Walking, a social justice group comprised of hundreds of low-income community members, and Still We Rise, a nonprofit community-advocacy group focusing on HIV/AIDS, education, and affordable housing, are also making great strides in Bushwick.

**Information in this section is from the following sources:*

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bushwick,_Brooklyn

<http://www.villagevoice.com/nyclife/0550,lagorio,70798,15.html>

Cultural & Recreational Institution

Maria Hernandez Park

Further Research/Community Information

<http://www.forgotten-ny.com/STREET%20SCENES/bushwick/bushwick.html>

<http://bushwickartproject.org/>

<http://www.bushwickcountryclub.com/>

<http://www.the-wick.com/places.htm>