



EQUALITY INDICATORS

*Measuring Change
Toward Greater Equality in New York City*

ANNUAL REPORT

2016



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Foreword



ISLG’s Equality Indicators One Year Later

Michael Jacobson
Founding Executive Director
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When I started the Institute for State and Local Governance (ISLG) in 2013, in many ways I thought of it as a social science experiment. Questions I asked myself included: “Could policy and research be linked in a more actionable and meaningful way?” “Could data analysis be better applied to government for enhanced performance?” “Could the work we do change people’s minds about complex issues like criminal justice reform or inequality?”

ISLG, for me, was a place to test these questions. In the early days of our Institute, we assembled diverse minds, with wide sets of expertise and experience, and charged them with defining and attacking problems and finding solutions. They did so through rigorous, data-driven analysis and applied research. There is no blueprint for the work we do. So we had to find people who were comfortable with being innovative and finding creative solutions to big problems.

Data are always at the center of our work, but we try not to forget the human piece of it. The powerless and voiceless are the people behind the statistics, each with their own unique story to tell. That element adds a sense of urgency and agency to our work.

No ISLG project has been more emblematic of that than the Equality Indicators. First used in NYC in 2015, the Equality Indicators measures the level of inequality faced by NYC’s most disadvantaged populations. In measuring these inequalities, we are committed to looking beyond the common metrics of economics and wages, exploring inequality in all of its many manifestations in different realms (e.g., criminal justice, transportation, quality of health care).

The 2016 score, discussed in-depth in this report, reflects changes in inequality levels from 2015 to 2016. While the 2015 report was groundbreaking for charting new ground in understanding inequality, it used static, one year, scores to do so. This year’s report uses dynamic, multi-year scoring which speaks to whether progress has been made in lessening inequality. It is an exciting change of focus and a more telling one.

As you read the report, I’m sure it will come as no surprise to you to see that inequalities persist in NYC. The overall score for NYC is 46.01 out of 100, strikingly similar to the 2015 score of 45.45 out of 100. One hundred is the ideal state, where there is no inequality: outcomes for disadvantaged groups are equivalent to outcomes for those less likely to experience inequality. By contrast, the scores for this year and last show that disadvantaged groups experience negative outcomes at twice the rate of those less disadvantaged.

That said, changes, both good and bad, were found across areas. We give equal weight to scores across our six domains and calculate change so that positive numbers represent progress while negative numbers represent regress so it is easy to quickly identify high and low performing areas. In this year’s report, it is telling that Economy saw the largest negative score change (-4.19), going from a score of 47.63 in 2015 to a score of 43.44. Based on this year’s scores, we continue to see groups like those with disabilities, justice-involved individuals, and racial minorities struggling with obtaining sustained employment at a livable wage (the Employment topic area saw a negative change score of -8.50). This has far-reaching effects, plunging some families into poverty and holding many back from moving up the income ladder.

This year, Services (Transportation, Essential Needs and Services, Parks and Recreation, and Arts and Culture) is the highest-scoring theme in our framework and showed the greatest improvement (change score of +6.88). Stand-out indicators under this theme include seniors’ access to the arts (change score of +36) and public library accessibility (change score of +60). Both of these changes are the result of direct policy changes and can impact many in our local communities.

An area we were particularly interested in monitoring this year was Health. Health was our lowest scoring theme in 2015 (36.69). This year we saw little progress (+0.88) and it still ranks lowest (37.56), though the numbers are moving in the right direction. The greatest gains were in measures of Wellbeing (change score of +5.25), though both Access to and Quality of Healthcare improved slightly this year (both recorded change scores of +1.00). Unfortunately we lost ground in the area of Mortality (change score of -3.75).

I want to make a point of singling out that 39 of the 96 indicators used in this report deal with race or ethnicity. This is not an easy subject to study, but one that is inextricably linked to inequality. At a time in our country when race is a polarizing issue, I want to commend the Equality Indicators team for dealing with it head on. We know that no honest discussion of inequality can occur without talking about the impact of race, but this is not always an easy conversation to have.

The concerns over race we identified using our indicators were also reiterated by New Yorkers we canvassed in our public survey. Roughly one in six survey respondents (16.6%) cited racism/racial inequality as the greatest inequality issue facing New Yorkers today, compared to fewer than one in ten (9.1%) who said the same in our 2015 survey. This issue was second only to economic inequality (cited by one in four or 23.2% of respondents). From our perspective, New Yorkers do see multiple layers of inequality. They live it. The challenge is in offering them impactful public policy solutions.

This has been the ultimate goal of the Equality Indicators. Funded by The Rockefeller Foundation, whose support was vital to the development and implementation of the framework, the Equality Indicators is designed to be a policy tool. With Rockefeller’s support, we are now starting the process of expanding the framework to other cities around the United States. Marc Shaw, co-founder of the Institute and chair of ISLG’s Advisory Board, has played a key role in helping us understand the issues different cities face in terms of inequalities and government response.

This snapshot of life for the most disadvantaged New Yorkers would also not have been possible without input from community and advocacy groups, those closest to on-the-ground problems. Their feedback made the Equality Indicators a tool for real people. Everyday challenges were illuminated in ways that might have escaped the attention of their more advantaged neighbors.

Applying what we have found in this report to combatting inequality is the goal of this framework. Programs like Mayor de Blasio’s Housing New York Plan are good examples of how to turn insights about inequality into tactical solutions. In fiscal year 2016, the plan financed 23,284 affordable homes. The overall objective of the plan is to create 200,000 affordable housing units by 2018. This is responsive government at its best. Severely rent burdened families in New York are at risk of homelessness and displacement. The Mayor’s plan has given them a way to stay in the neighborhoods they call home.

Inequality is not an issue that is going away. There are no easy fixes for it. But seeing it as a web, as this framework does, gives us a chance to tackle it systematically. As we expand the framework to other cities, it is my hope that local governments will take notice and develop more targeted solutions for mitigating inequality in their cities.

Executive Summary

It is no secret that inequalities in New York City (NYC), in the United States, and around the world are vast and that they are growing. We view equality as a basic human right, yet systematic and persistent forms of discrimination are deeply embedded in society’s very framework. The problems of individuals living in poverty, the justice-involved, women, and ethnic or religious minorities, to name a few, are not new. They are the ones historically left out of jobs, civic participation, improvements in wellbeing, and engagement with society. But with the launch of the Equality Indicators last year, we found a new way for them to stand up and be counted.

The purpose of the Equality Indicators is to investigate whether NYC is making progress in reducing inequality on an annual basis. Last year, we established the baseline against which progress would be measured. This year, for the first time we can see whether progress is being made and where, and begin to explore why (or why not).

In envisioning our framework, we recognized that inequalities exist across numerous areas of life, and that these areas are inextricably linked to another. We choose six foundational domains in which to track progress for those most likely to experience inequalities: **Economy**, **Education**, **Health**, **Housing**, **Justice**, and **Services**. Data are collected from a number of sources ranging from government agencies, to Census surveys, to our own public survey of New Yorkers conducted each year.

The Equality Indicators framework consists of the six **themes** described above, each divided into four **topics** consisting of four **indicators**, 96 indicators in total. Each year, we calculate a static score for that year, and then a score measuring change. The static citywide, theme, topic, and indicator scores range from 1 to 100, with the former representing the most inequality and the latter representing the least inequality. Scores for each of the 96 individual indicators drive scores at each of the successively higher levels: scores for the four indicators under each topic are averaged to produce the score for that topic; the four topic scores under each theme are averaged to produce the score for that theme; and the six theme scores are averaged to produce a citywide score. Change scores at citywide, theme, topic, and indicator level are produced by simply subtracting the previous year’s static score from the current year’s static score.

Based on feedback from City agencies and other organizations, as well as taking another critical look at data and the policy context surrounding specific measures, we made several types of changes to the indicators this year. While some of these changes involved only changes to the year in which data were scored, we replaced eight indicators and made substantive changes to the definitions or data sources of 11. In all cases, if we made a change to this year’s indicator, we also changed last year’s indicator; for this reason, the 2015 scores do not precisely map onto what was reported last year.

We believe the insights our framework offers can be used to guide better public policy. Identifying the most persistent problem areas within the framework gives us the opportunity to work on solutions. Therefore, once we have our findings, we connect them to current policy initiatives and consider how they and new initiatives can improve outcomes for disadvantaged residents of the city.

More information is contained in the full report and online at equalityindicators.org.

2016 NYC EQUALITY SCORE

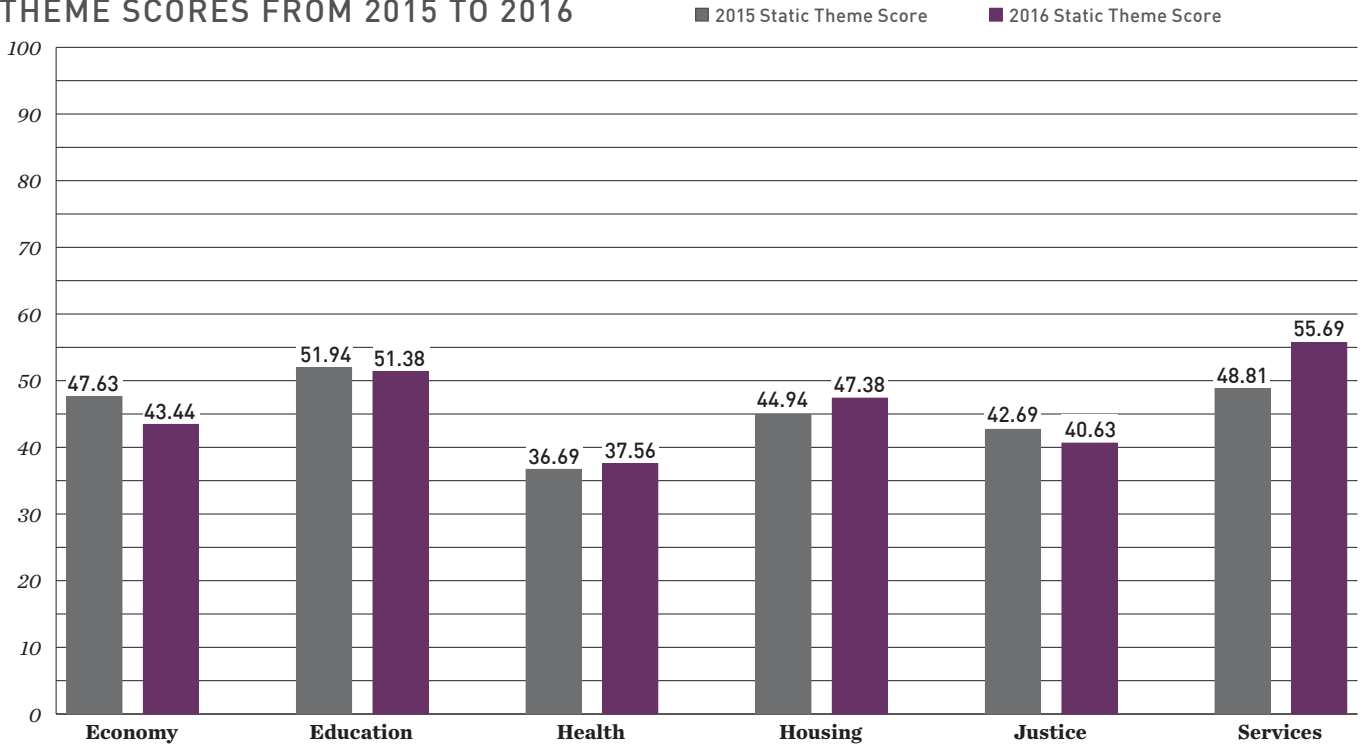
The **2016 NYC Equality Score is 46.01** out of a possible 100, an **increase of +0.56** from the 2015 score of 45.45. These scores suggest that NYC continues to be characterized by vast inequalities, and that when looking at the city as a whole, little has changed. Generally speaking this score means that overall, the disadvantaged groups represented here are almost twice as likely as those not disadvantaged to experience negative outcomes in fundamental areas of life, as measured by the Equality Indicators.

OTHER KEY FINDINGS: THEME, TOPIC, AND INDICATOR SCORES

2016 THEME SCORES

Among the six themes, the largest positive change—accompanied by the highest static score—was found in **Services** (+6.88), and the largest negative change in **Economy** (-4.19). **Housing** (+2.44) and **Justice** (-2.06) demonstrated similar amounts of change to one another, yet that change was positive for the former and negative for the latter. Both **Education** (-0.56) and **Health** (+0.88) remained largely unchanged at the theme level, although their scores were moving in different directions.

THEME SCORES FROM 2015 TO 2016





2016 TOPIC SCORES

Within the 24 topics, change scores range from an increase of +22.25 for *Arts and Culture* to a decrease of -8.50 for *Employment* and *Fairness of the Justice System*. Of the five biggest positive topic changes, two were from the theme of *Services (Arts and Culture: +22.25; Essential Needs and Services: +16.50)*, one from *Justice (Civic Engagement: +9.00)*, one from *Housing (Neighborhood: +6.25)*, and one from *Health (Wellbeing: +5.25)*. Of the five biggest negative changes, two were from the theme of *Economy (Employment: -8.50; Poverty, -6.00)*, two from *Justice (Fairness of the Justice System: -8.50; Political Power: -7.75)*, and one from *Services (Parks and Recreation: -8.25)*. Interestingly, *Education* was the only theme without extreme changes in topic scores; scores for this theme ranged from -4.00 (*Early and Middle School Education*) to +2.00 (*Early Education*).

Three of the topics had extremely low static scores, below 25. *Fairness of the Justice System* had the lowest static score (16.75) followed by *Quality of Health Care* (22.25), and *Transportation* (24.25). At the other end of the spectrum, while there were no scores above 70, *Essential Needs and Services* had the highest static score (67.75), followed by *Parks and Recreation* (66.50), and *Early Education* (66.00).

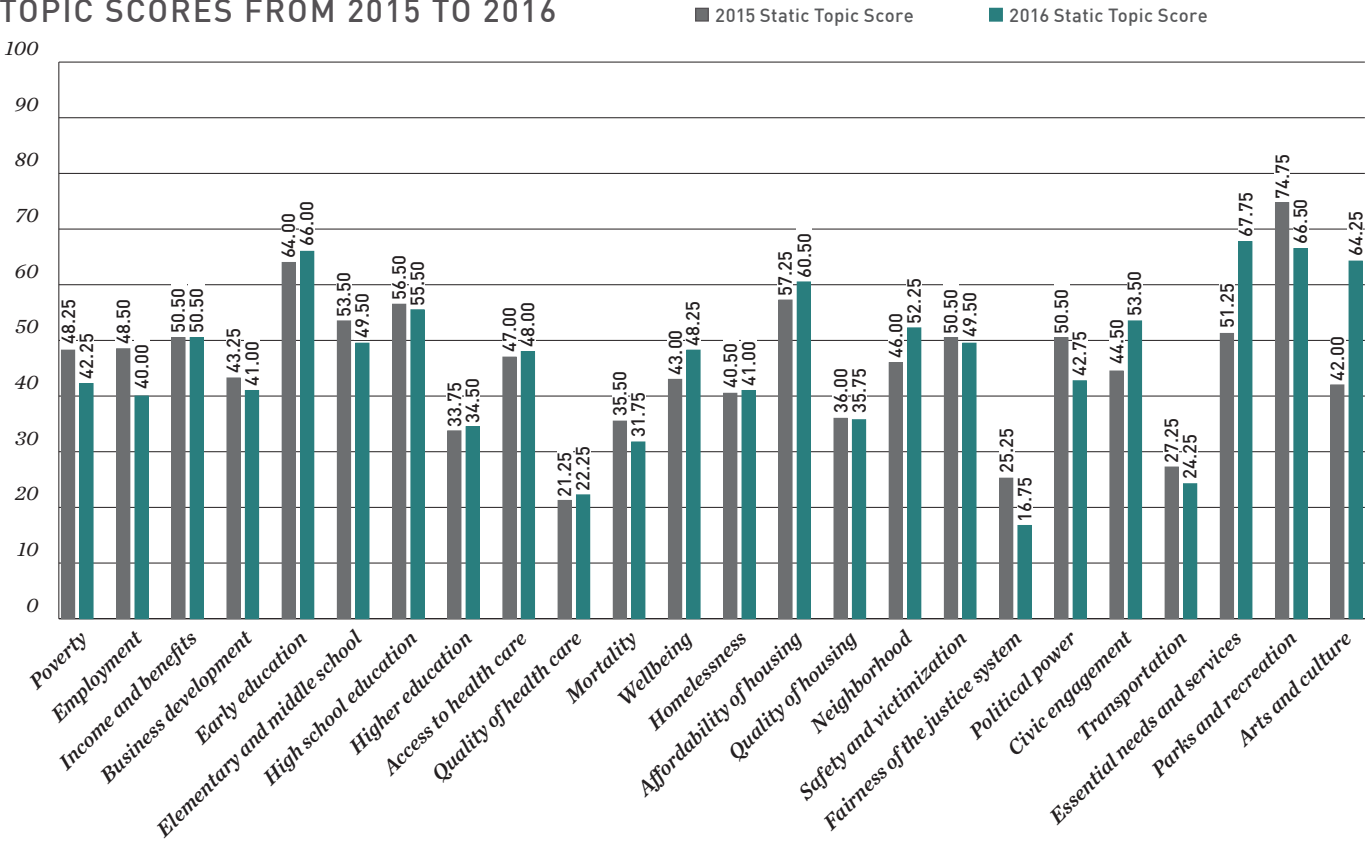
2016 INDICATOR SCORES

At the indicator level, we saw a much wider variation in scores, some with dramatic changes. Change scores range from a high of +60 (*location and public library availability*) to a low of -46 (*disability and unemployment*). Overall, 12 indicators had change scores of +10 or above, showing the greatest amount of positive change. On the other hand, there were nine indicators that had change scores below -10, showing the greatest amount of negative change.

This year, two indicators had static scores of 100, indicating equality across the groups measured, in both cases, based on location: *location and public library availability* and *location and senior access to the arts*. Both of these were based on specific policy changes made by the City, in the first case setting targets to increase the number of days libraries in all boroughs were open, and in the second case greatly expanding a program which places artists in senior centers throughout the city. Two additional indicators had scores above 90: *location and hospital quality* (94), and *sexual orientation and housing stability* (93).

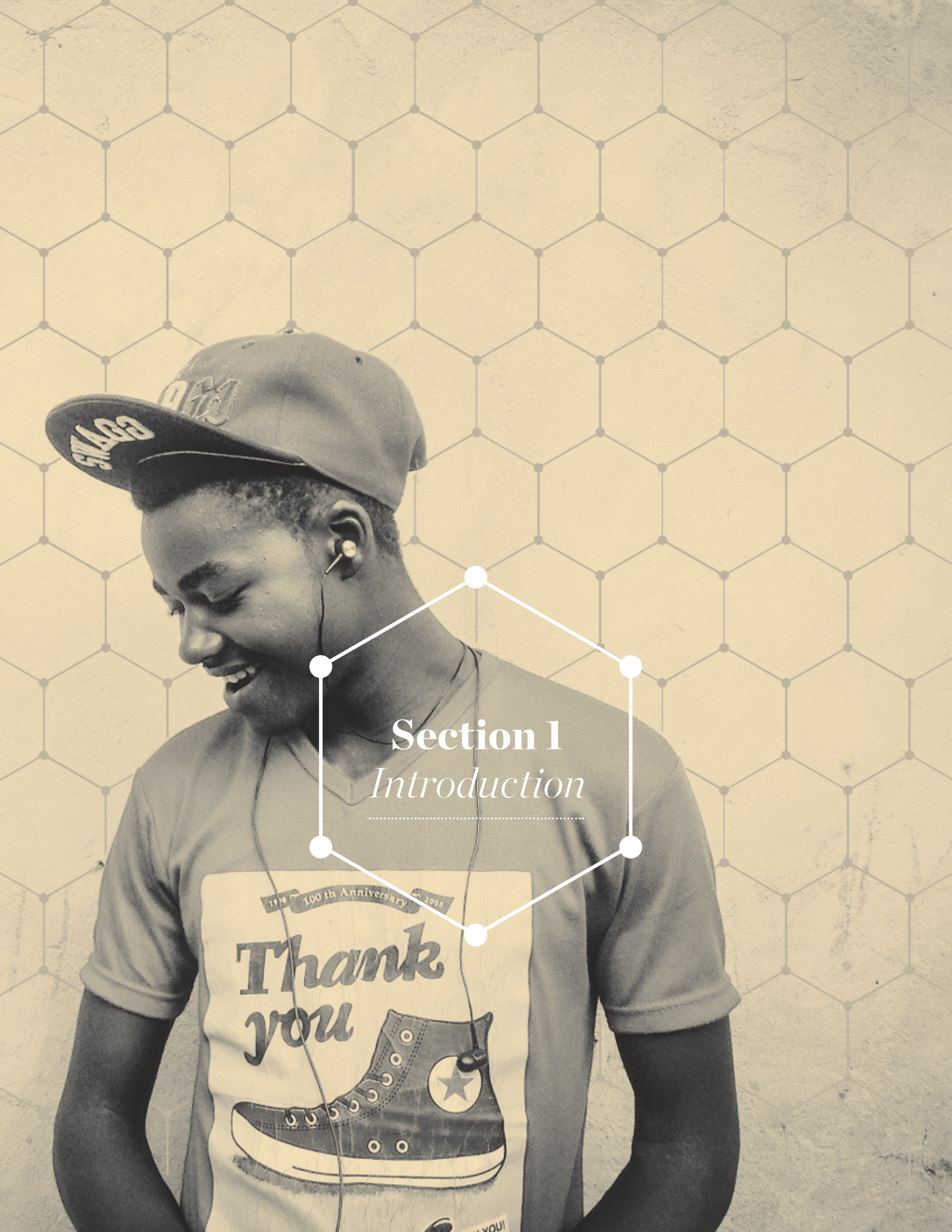
Five indicators had static scores of 10 or below. With a score of 1, the highest amount of inequality as measured by the Equality Indicators, *probation status and employment* received the lowest score, followed by *religion and trust in police* (6), *race and jail admissions* (8), *race and homelessness* (10), and *income and funding for the arts* (10).

TOPIC SCORES FROM 2015 TO 2016



CONCLUSION

The scope of inequality in NYC can only be lessened by gradual shifts in attitudes and awareness. As a society we prize individual achievement, but inequality is a problem requiring a different focus. More informed public policy decisions and more just allocation of critical resources is a good place to start. Combatting inequality will require candid assessment of where we are failing the most vulnerable. These data are designed to serve that purpose. Our measures are not weighted; society’s should not be either. Too often the scales tip in favor of the more advantaged members. It is our hope that this framework can help in the efforts to restore some balance. If it prompts people to think differently about inequality and how they contribute to mitigating or exacerbating it, then we have done our job.



Section 1

Introduction

IA:

Purpose of the Equality Indicators and This Report

It is no secret that inequalities in New York City (NYC), in the United States, and around the world are vast and that they are growing. Numerous groups, from racial and ethnic minorities, to immigrants, to individuals with disabilities, face disadvantages across multiple domains. We view equality as a basic human right (as reflected in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights). Yet systematic and persistent forms of discrimination are deeply embedded in society's very framework. Only by building our own framework, based on data, can we move the discussion around inequality forward. The data tell the story better than we can.

The purpose of the Equality Indicators is to investigate whether NYC, and, in future, other cities, are making progress in reducing inequalities on an annual basis. The Equality Indicators measure change, either toward or away from equality, in six key areas: **Economy, Education, Health, Housing, Justice, and Services**. Because we know inequalities do not occur in a vacuum, we connect our measures to current policy initiatives and consider how they and new initiatives can improve outcomes for disadvantaged residents of the city.

With this report we present our first round of change scores for NYC. This is an exciting time for the project. For the first time we can see whether progress is being made and where, and begin to explore why (or why not). We will first reintroduce the indicators and review revisions made over the past year, and then present our findings for this year alongside information about what is going on in NYC, including City initiatives, that may have contributed to our findings.

The findings are also available online at equalityindicators.org.

1B:

Process of Developing the Initial Framework

We relied on several different sources of information and assistance, in addition to our own experience, to draft the indicators.

Our project staff have experience in developing and implementing indicator tools, which was essential in shaping our initial thinking about the structure of the framework, potential sources of data, and types of indicators most likely to be useful. We also conducted an extensive review of the literature on disparities and existing indicator systems. A number of relevant tools were identified, which informed the present set of indicators. In addition, staff thoroughly examined the NYC Mayor's Management Report (MMR) and Citywide Performance Report (CPR) and other sources of City data in order to get a better sense of what data the City is already collecting and from what agencies, as well as to identify potential indicators that could be adapted for use in the framework.

We solicited feedback on the initial draft framework for the indicators from a number of substantive and methodological experts, and received thorough written comments from 16 of them. This feedback was further enriched by valuable suggestions from more than 100 community groups and individuals who participated in three workshops. The community-engagement process was facilitated by the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies (FPWA), which has almost 300 community-based social service agencies and church-based human service programs in its network. Following the community meetings, the framework and indicators were sent to the Mayor's Office of Operations (MOO), which provided feedback on themes, topics, and indicators.

Once revisions had been made based on the feedback, we tested the approach. To further refine the indicators, we assessed the availability and quality of data, and took a hard look at the value of each indicator after data sources had been identified.

BOX 1: STEPS LEADING TO FRAMEWORK DEVELOPMENT

- Previous experience developing performance measures and collecting data in the United States and internationally, including in post-conflict and data-poor countries
- Thorough review of existing indices in the United States and internationally (e.g., Gender Inequality Index, Boston Indicators Project, UN Rule of Law Indicators)
- Exploratory analyses of citywide data sources and reporting mechanisms (e.g., Mayor's Management Report, Citywide Performance Report)
- Written feedback from 16 U.S. and international experts on equality and performance indicators
- Three citywide community meetings, each involving between 40 and 85 individuals from community-based organizations, conducted in partnership with the Mayor's Office of Operations and the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies
- Suggestions from the Mayor's Office of Operations on what to measure and how to access data
- Testing of the indicators to verify their merit and feasibility

Section 2

About the Equality Indicators

2A: Equality Defined

Our thinking about equality is largely informed by the non-discrimination clauses embedded in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Drawing on this declaration, “equality” is defined as follows:

Everyone has the *same economic, educational, health, housing, justice, and service outcomes* regardless of race, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, gender, single parenthood, age, immigration status, education, criminal record, place of residence, and other characteristics.



The Equality Indicators focus on *outcomes* rather than *opportunities* based on the recognition that equal opportunities do not always lead to equal outcomes. For example, building a new hospital in a poor neighborhood may increase access to medical care but does not guarantee better public health outcomes for local residents. This definition is clearly aspirational, since achieving equal outcomes in all areas of life for all groups is impossible. Instead, the indicators measure proximity to that utopian state: the closer a city gets to it, the better.

2B: Focus on Populations Adversely Affected by Inequality

The purpose of the Equality Indicators is to capture progress toward the betterment of the lives of the subgroups of the NYC population who are mostly likely to experience inequalities on a specific issue. Therefore, for most indicators we looked into the experiences of the most and least disadvantaged populations on that particular issue. We arrived at these groups and the issues to measure based on the review of the literature and feedback from experts and community groups. These groups include:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Children (under 18) | 7. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer individuals (LGBTQ) |
| 2. Immigrants | 8. Racial and ethnic minorities |
| 3. Individuals currently in jail or on probation | 9. Religious minorities |
| 4. Individuals living in poverty | 10. Seniors (65 and older) |
| 5. Individuals with a physical or intellectual disability | 11. Single parents |
| 6. Individuals with less than a high school diploma | 12. Women |

While these are certainly not the only groups experiencing inequalities in NYC, these are the groups represented by specific measures in the Equality Indicators. We note that data—especially data collected annually—are quite limited for a number of disadvantaged populations, which restricted those we were able to include here. In part, this limitation is what motivated us to conduct our own survey (see Sub-section 2d), but more data are needed. Without data, we cannot truly understand the inequalities faced by these groups, and we call for additional, more nuanced data collection in the years to come.

In looking at these groups, most of the individual indicators in the framework compare the most and least disadvantaged populations on a particular issue. For example, we compare: the percentage of people with and without a disability who are unemployed; the rate of blacks and whites being admitted to jail; and the percentage of women and men obtaining degrees in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) disciplines. In this way, the Equality Indicators capture progress (or setbacks) for specific groups in particular areas of life in which they tend to be disadvantaged. Cumulative progress for these groups across different areas of life would be a sign of increasing equality citywide.

2C: Structure of the Equality Indicators

BOX 2: FOUR LEVELS OF INFORMATION

- LEVEL 1 1 FRAMEWORK (WITH 6 THEMES)
- LEVEL 2 6 THEMES (4 TOPICS PER THEME)
- LEVEL 3 24 TOPICS (4 INDICATORS PER TOPIC)
- LEVEL 4 96 INDICATORS

The Equality Indicators measure equality at four different levels—*indicator*, **topic**, **theme**, and **citywide**. At the lowest level, 86 indicators compare those most and least likely to be disadvantaged on a particular outcome. For 10 indicators, however, it was not possible to find a comparison group, and we report numbers—expressed as rates or percentages—for one particular group only. For example, for *hate crime victimization* (ind. 68), although disadvantaged populations include racial and religious minorities and LGBTQ populations, it is not apparent what their hate-crime victimization rates should be compared to. Similarly, for *disability and taxi accessibility* (ind. 83), there is no relevant point of comparison.

At the next level up, the individual indicators are bundled into sets of four, each set representing a particular topic. For example, the indicator *disability and unemployment* is included under the broader topic of **Employment**. There are 24 such topics. Next, the topics are clustered into themes—four topics in each theme and six themes overall: (1) **Economy**; (2) **Education**; (3) **Health**; (4) **Housing**; (5) **Justice**; and (6) **Services**. The topic of **Employment**, for example, is included under the **Economy** theme. At the highest level, all six themes and the 96 individual indicators underlying them, produce a measure of equality citywide. The illustration on pages 16-17 shows how the indicators are clustered together at different levels. Appendix A lists and fully describes each of the indicators.

These topics and themes are not exhaustive. While the six themes cover areas of life that are quite commonly characterized by inequality, inequality can manifest in other realms. Moreover, there are many potential indicators for any given topic, such as **Employment**. To keep the tool manageable in size and possible to implement annually without excessive expense, just a few varied indicators covering different populations likely to be disadvantaged are included. These measures should be viewed as proxies representing larger issues within each domain. The indicators themselves are not mutually exclusive. While **Economy**, for example, may influence **Justice** outcomes, the relationship can also be reversed: people with a criminal record typically face greater difficulties finding and maintaining jobs (measure related to **Economy**). Similar relationships can be easily spotted among other themes and topics, whether **Education**, **Housing**, **Health**, or **Access to Transportation**.

2D: Data Sources

BOX 3: THREE FORMS OF DATA

- Administrative data**, provided by government agencies and non-profits
- ISLG public survey data**, collected specifically for this project
- Secondary public survey data**, publicly available from the websites of federal and NYC government or other organizations

The information for indicators came from three sources of data as described below and in the boxed text above. The benefit of using multiple data sources is that they enrich one another and offer a fuller picture of the issues measured by the indicators. Administrative data are an essential source of information for the indicators, especially in a place like NYC where the capacity for data collection is markedly better than in other places. However, these data are not typically collected for the purpose of measuring inequality; nor do they always capture people’s experiences of inequality or their perceptions. For this reason, it was essential to supplement administrative data with data obtained directly from NYC residents.

Administrative data collection involved obtaining data maintained by City, State, and Federal government agencies, not-for-profit organizations, and research and academic institutions. Some of these data were publicly available, provided on agency/organization websites, the NYC Open Data Portal, the Mayor’s Management Report, or NYC Citywide Performance Reporting. The remainder of the administrative data were provided by the relevant agency or organization upon request.

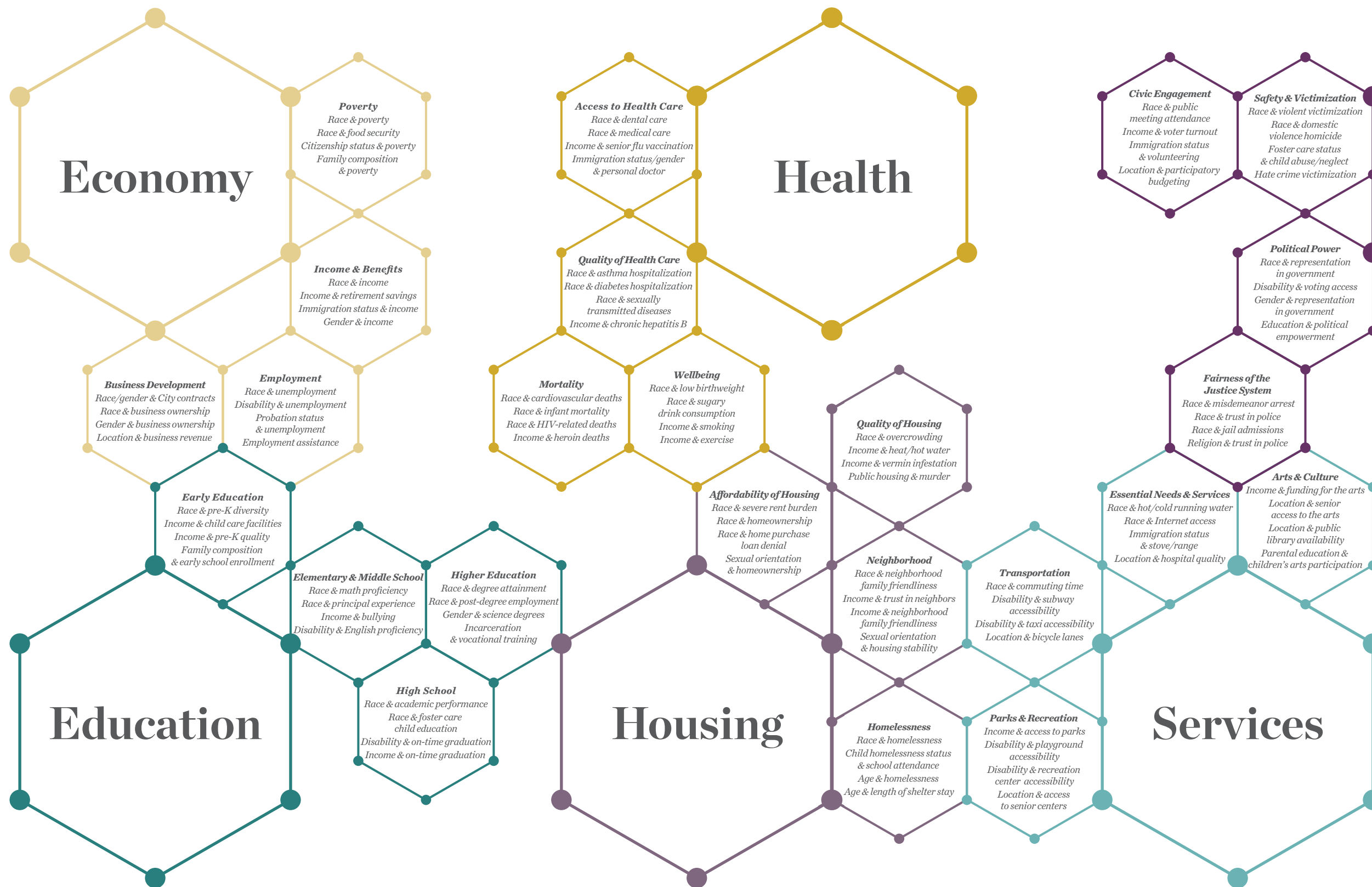
ISLG public survey data were collected as part of an annual survey of NYC residents aged 18 and older. Each year, the survey is conducted using a multi-modal methodology, which includes automated phone calls to landline telephones, live phone calls to cellular telephones, and in-person interviews. The survey consists of a combination of closed-ended and open-ended questions. It also includes demographic questions to enable comparisons. The 2016 survey included 3,003 adults and was conducted from August 2 – August 18, 2016. The 2015 survey included 3,080 adults and was conducted from July 18 – July 31, 2015. The survey will continue to be conducted annually every summer. The survey instrument and additional technical information are provided in Appendix B and Appendix C.

Secondary public survey data collection involved gathering data from annual public surveys currently conducted by government agencies and other organizations. These surveys include the American Community Survey (ACS), Current Population Survey (CPS), NYC School Survey, and Community Health Survey (CHS).

Only annually-collected data are used to populate the indicators to enable us to track change from year to year.¹ Findings for 2016 use the most recent data available as of October of 2016. Data for many of these indicators were collected in 2016; however, in some cases the most recent data available were from 2015 [e.g., arrest data from the New York Police Department (NYPD), which are reported by calendar year] or 2014 [e.g., hospitalization data from the Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS)]. Due to varying time lags in the release of data from different sources, it is likely that we will continue to have up to a two year lag in reporting for some indicators, which we account for in discussing the policy context.

A list of secondary data sources can be viewed in Appendix F, and links are available on our website, equalityindicators.org.

¹The one exception is for the indicator measuring *income and voter turnout* which is not updated if no citywide elections were held in the previous year.



Who experiences inequality?

Based on input from experts and community members, we identified a number of vulnerable groups that are likely to experience inequality because of their:

- Age
- Experience with the justice system
- Family composition
- Gender or gender identity
- Immigration status
- Income
- Lack of a high school diploma
- Physical or intellectual disability
- Place of residence
- Race/ethnicity
- Religion
- Sexual orientation

2E: How Information Is Reported

BOX 4: WHY SCORE INDICATORS?

Scoring has two important and related benefits. It enables the standardization of data produced in different formats (i.e., ratios, percentages, and rates) and from different modes of data collection (i.e., administrative data and survey data). In turn, that makes it possible to synthesize findings across indicators, topics, and themes to produce higher-level findings, which is the purpose of our indicators.

Without scoring, the only take-aways from this process would be individual results for the 96 indicators.

The Equality Indicators are designed to be scored in two ways. **Static Scores** capture findings for a given year and **Change Scores** capture change from one year to the next. In addition to these scores, each indicator description includes raw data and narrative summaries useful for contextualizing these quantitative findings (see Sub-sections 4.3 through 4.8 for indicator-level findings).

STATIC SCORING

Each of the 96 indicators is scored on a scale from 1 (highest possible inequality) to 100 (highest possible equality). These scores are calculated using one of three possible measures:

Ratios	Percentages	Rates
Used for 86 of the 96 indicators	Used for 9 of the 96 indicators	Used for 1 of the 96 indicators
<i>Example:</i> Ratio between the percentages of female and male elected government officials	<i>Example:</i> Percentage of taxis that are not wheelchair accessible	<i>Example:</i> Rate of hate crime victimization citywide

For the 86 indicators expressed as ratios, scores vary in steadily increasing increments (see Appendix D). As mentioned above, two groups—generally the most and least disadvantaged for each issue—are compared to calculate the ratios. Some examples: citizens and non-citizens are compared in their poverty levels (ind. 3); people with and without a disability are compared in terms of on-time graduation from high school (ind. 27); violent victimization rates among blacks and whites are compared to measure racial differences in safety (ind. 65); and the least and most educated residents are compared in terms of their perceived ability to influence government decision making (ind. 76).

For the 9 indicators expressed as percentages (ind. 8, 17, 32, 74, 80, 82, 83, 90, and 91) and the one expressed as a rate (*hate crime victimization*, ind. 68), scores correspond with actual percentages or rate, simply reversed for those where 0 is the best outcome (e.g., percentage of playgrounds not accessible to children with physical disabilities).

The static score for each topic is merely the average of the scores for the four indicators under that topic. Similarly, the static score for each theme is the average of the four topic scores under that theme. Finally, the average of the scores for each of the six themes produces the citywide score for a given year. These higher-level scores also range from 1 to 100.

SCORING CHANGE

Change scores reflect progress, setbacks, or stasis. These scores capture an increase (positive number), decrease (negative number), or no change (0) in score from the previous year. In this way, positive change scores indicate that progress has been made, a score of zero indicates no change, and a negative score indicates that instead of progress, we have found regress.


Change scores at each level are calculated by subtracting the previous year’s score from the current year’s score. Change scores at each successive level are only produced when all relevant lower-level scores have been produced. This means that a topic level score will only be produced when all indicators within the topic are scored, a theme level score will only be produced when all topics in the theme have been scored, and the citywide score will only be produced when all themes have been scored.

2016 STATIC SCORES		2015 STATIC SCORES		2016 CHANGE SCORES
2016 STATIC CITY SCORE	—	2015 STATIC CITY SCORE	=	2016 CITY CHANGE SCORE
2016 STATIC THEME SCORE	—	2015 STATIC THEME SCORE	=	2016 THEME CHANGE SCORE
2016 STATIC TOPIC SCORE	—	2015 STATIC TOPIC SCORE	=	2016 TOPIC CHANGE SCORE
2016 STATIC INDICATOR SCORE	—	2015 STATIC INDICATOR SCORE	=	2016 INDICATOR CHANGE SCORE

It should be noted that because data are provided in multiple formats and often without full datasets, we are unable to consistently perform additional statistical analyses to see whether differences between groups or over time are statistically significant. Therefore, results should be interpreted with caution, particularly when they involve these types of differences.

BOX 5: SCORES PRODUCED BY THE EQUALITY INDICATORS

STATIC	CHANGE
Static indicator score	Indicator change score
Static topic score	Topic change score
Static theme score	Theme change score
Static citywide score	Citywide change score



Section 3

Changes for 2016

3:

Changes for 2016

In 2016, we made changes to our terminology and methodology for calculating change scores in addition to revising specific indicators.

We initially referred to change scores as “dynamic” scores; however, we switched to “change” scores for simplicity’s sake and to aid in ease of understanding. For the same reason, we changed our methodology for calculating change scores. While we originally were going to calculate higher-level change scores by averaging lower-level change scores, we decided to use the same methodology to calculate higher-level scores that we use for indicator-level scores (i.e., subtract the previous year’s score from the current year’s score).

Additionally, based on feedback from City agencies and other organizations, as well as taking another critical look at data and the policy context surrounding specific measures, we made several types of changes to the indicators (see Box 6). While some of these changes involved only changes to the year in which data were scored, we replaced eight indicators and made substantive changes to the definitions or data sources of 11. In all cases, if we made a change to this year’s indicator, we also changed last year’s indicator. So, for example, we changed “*immigration and business ownership*” to “*gender and business ownership*” and used the revised indicator for both 2015 and 2016 (updating the 2015 score accordingly). Similarly, we used 2016 data for “*race and homeownership*” this year and replaced last year’s data—which had been based on 2014 data—with 2015 data, updating the score accordingly.

We note that changing these indicators and adjusting their 2015 scores means that higher-level scores for 2015 have also changed, including the citywide score. However, updating last year’s scores was necessary for them to be comparable to this year’s scores and to show change over a one-year period.

BOX 6: TYPES OF REVISIONS TO INDICATORS

- Replacement of the indicator
- Substantive change to the definition or data source of the existing indicator
- Updates with more recent data in order to reduce lag time between our release year and the data year
- Minor changes to wording of the indicator definition
- Updates to last year’s scores based on corrections and updates made by the data source



The following eight indicators were discontinued and replaced with new indicators:

Old Indicator	New Indicator	Rationale for Change
<i>Immigration status & business ownership</i>	<i>Gender & business ownership</i>	We were advised that the American Community Survey (ACS) was a better source of data and would allow us to track business ownership by individual rather than by household. Using the new data source, it was clear that women were more disadvantaged than immigrants (and in fact, immigrants performed better than those born in the United States).
<i>Foster care status & pre-K enrollment</i>	<i>Income & pre-K quality</i>	One of our original intents was to examine pre-kindergarten quality measures; however, these data were not available at the time last year’s report was released. Given that these data are now available—and that our original indicator may not have captured all early school educational programs in which foster children are enrolled—we elected to use this measure.
<i>Income & school quality</i>	<i>Race & principal experience</i>	The Department of Education (DOE) changed their quality measures and their current report does not contain the measure used in last year’s report. We included principal experience here since principals have important roles to play in schools’ effectiveness and in achieving school reform, which may be particularly important for schools in poorer areas.
<i>Immigration status & on-time graduation</i>	<i>Income & on-time graduation</i>	DOE explained to us that the English Language Learner classification referred to those who were still learning English at the time they were scheduled to graduate and was not a good proxy for immigration status. As a result, we changed to measuring graduation rates for those living below and above the poverty line.
<i>Immigration status & tuberculosis</i>	<i>Income & chronic hepatitis B</i>	Many tuberculosis cases among immigrants may originate outside the United States, and the high rates of identified cases among immigrant groups are due largely to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene’s (DOHMH) outreach efforts to vulnerable populations to ensure timely treatment, rather than deficient outreach and care. As a result, we now look at the relationship between income and chronic hepatitis B, which is one of the most common communicable diseases in NYC.
<i>Age & homelessness prevention</i>	<i>Age & homelessness</i>	Closer investigation of the indicator suggested that it was not a stable measure, and the new measure allowed us to get a better picture of the problem of child homelessness.
<i>Age & critical shelter incidents</i>	<i>Age & length of shelter stay</i>	The Department of Homeless Services (DHS) changed their methodology for counting critical incidents, which meant that data from this year were not comparable to data from last year. As a result, we changed the indicator in order to be able to report change from last year.
<i>Race & liquor store density in poor areas</i>	<i>Race & neighborhood family friendliness</i>	While there were racial disparities in liquor store density in poor areas, they did not match the pattern for racial and ethnic groups in the city as a whole, nor did they match overall patterns based on income. As a result, we decided to replace this measure with one directly exploring neighborhood perceptions.
Total: 8		

For another 11 indicators, we changed either the definition or the data source used for the indicator. These changes are as follows:

Old Indicator	Change Type	Revision and Rationale for Change
<i>Employment assistance</i>	Data source	We switched from using data from the Citywide Performance Report to using data from the Mayor’s Management Report, but in either case the data came from the Human Resources Administration (HRA).
<i>Race/gender & City contracts</i>	Definition and data source	Rather than simply looking at who is getting City contracts, the new measure allowed us to compare the magnitude of contracts received and whether Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs) are particularly disadvantaged when it comes to large contracts.
<i>Race & business ownership</i>	Definition and data source	We were advised that ACS was a better source of data and would allow us to track business ownership by individual rather than by household, so we changed the data source (to the ACS) and the definition (from households to individuals).
<i>Family composition & school enrollment</i>	Data source	The 3-year ACS estimates were discontinued, so we switched to using the 5-year estimates.
<i>Race & academic performance</i>	Definition and data source	DOE expressed doubts about the utility of using Advanced Regents Diploma receipt as an indicator of academic performance. As a result, we switched to looking at performance on a specific Regents exam and obtained the data from a different source.
<i>Race & post-degree employment</i>	Definition and data source	There were several limitations to the original indicator (e.g., long delay in data availability, limited to CUNY students) that we addressed in the revised version using data from the ACS.
<i>Sexual orientation & housing stability</i>	Definition	We switched from using the median years in current homes to the mean years in current homes, since the mean was a more stable measure.
<i>Foster care child abuse & neglect</i>	Definition and data source	The Administration for Children’s Services has started using a new measure of child abuse/neglect that allows them to take into account the number of children involved in each case of maltreatment, the number of times a child is maltreated, and the length of time they are in foster care. As a result, we have switched to using their new measure, for which they provided data specifically on family foster care as well as data on maltreatment within the general population.
<i>Race & hot/cold running water</i>	Definition and data source	Given the comparatively small numbers of individuals represented here, we decided to use the ACS estimates based on a longer period of time (5-year as opposed to 1-year) for greater accuracy. We also changed to measuring this indicator at the household level, which was best reflected in percentages, rather than rates.
<i>Immigration status & stove/range</i>	Definition and data source	Given the comparatively small numbers of individuals represented here, we decided to use the ACS estimates based on a longer period of time (5-year as opposed to 1-year) for greater accuracy. We also changed to measuring this indicator at the household level, which was best reflected in percentages, rather than rates.
<i>Location & senior access to the arts</i>	Definition	The SPARCs program was replaced with SU-CASA, which places two artists per community district in senior centers. As a result, we changed “SPARCS placements” to the more general “artist placements” in the definition.
Total: 11		

We moved our release date back this year in order to allow us to report on the most recent data possible, and more specifically, to reduce the lag time between when the data were released and the Equality Indicators year. Because change is tracked annually, using more recent data meant that we had to update last year’s data as well. Updates to the data year were made for the following 22 indicators:

Indicator	Original 2015 Data Year	New 2015 Data Year	2016 Data Year
<i>Race & food security</i>	2013	2014	2015
<i>Race & unemployment</i>	2014	2015	2016
<i>Disability & unemployment</i>	2014	2015	2016
<i>Race & income</i>	2014	2015	2016
<i>Immigration status & income</i>	2014	2015	2016
<i>Gender & income</i>	2014	2015	2016
<i>Incarceration & vocational training</i>	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
<i>Race & dental care</i>	2013	2014	2015
<i>Race & medical care</i>	2013	2014	2015
<i>Income & senior flu vaccination</i>	2013	2014	2015
<i>Immigration status/gender & personal doctor</i>	2013	2014	2015
<i>Race & sexually transmitted diseases</i>	2013	2014	2015
<i>Race & sugary drink consumption</i>	2013	2014	2015
<i>Income & smoking</i>	2013	2014	2015
<i>Income & exercise</i>	2013	2014	2015
<i>Child homelessness status & school attendance</i>	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
<i>Race & severe rent burden</i>	2013	2014	2015
<i>Race & homeownership</i>	2014	2015	2016
<i>Race & home purchase loan denial</i>	2013	2014	2015
<i>Hate crime victimization</i>	2013	2014	2015
<i>Disability & taxi accessibility</i>	4-month FY2015	FY2015	FY2016
<i>Location & public library availability</i>	4-month FY2015	FY2015	FY2016
Total: 22			

We also made minor changes to some indicator definitions for clarity. For example, we define *income and funding for the arts* as the “ratio between the percentages of organizations receiving City funding for the arts that are located in the bottom and top income areas” rather than the “ratio between the percentages of arts and cultural organizations in the bottom and top income areas that received City funding for the arts” in order to make it clear that we were only including the organizations that received City funding in our measure, not every organization in the top and bottom income areas.

Finally, we updated 2015 data and scores if the original data source corrected or updated their data. For example, the numbers provided by the New York State Office of Taxation and Finance last year were preliminary and we were able to use the final numbers this year. Similarly, DOE updated the school attendance data for the 2015 fiscal year in the 2016 Mayor’s Management Report, and we updated our numbers accordingly.



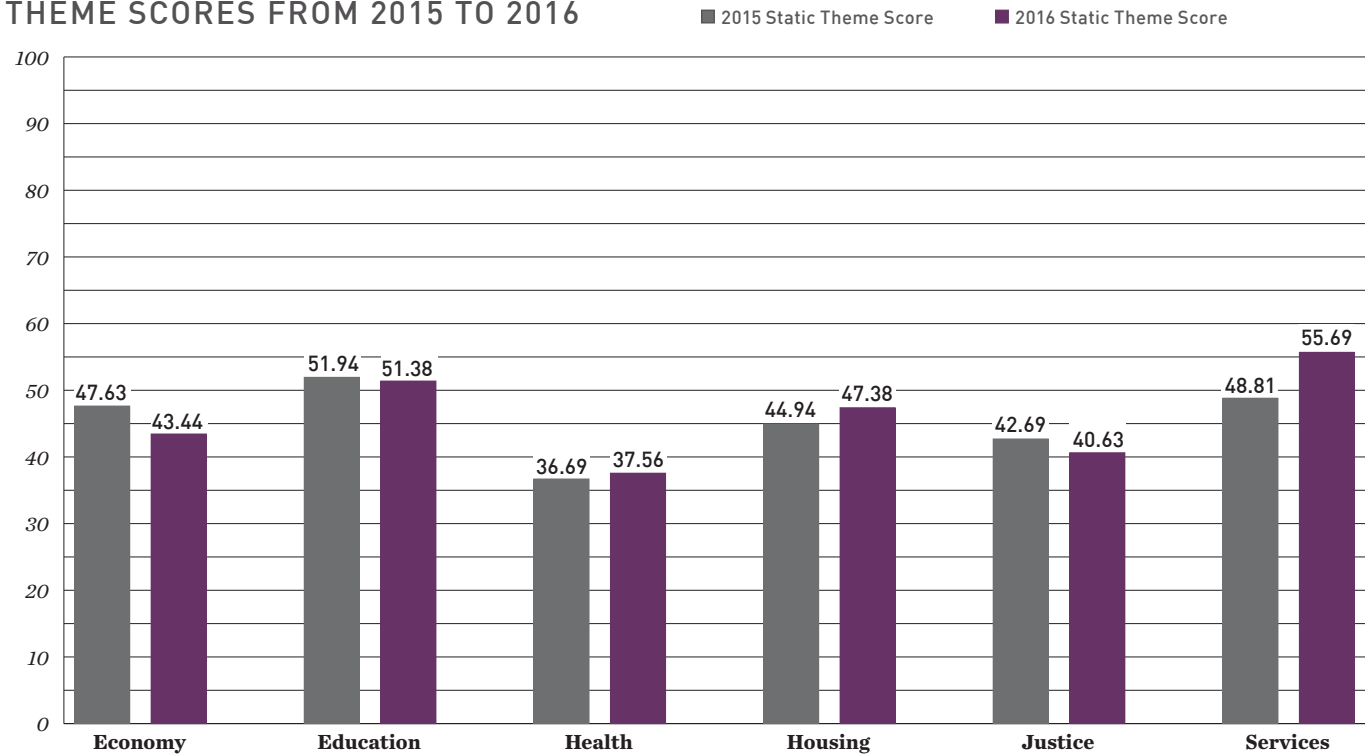
Section 4
Findings

4.1: Overview of Scores

The **2016 NYC Equality Score** is 46.01 out of a possible 100, an **increase of +0.56** from the 2015 score of 45.45. These scores suggest that New York City continues to be characterized by vast inequalities, and that when looking at the city as a whole, little has changed. Generally speaking this score means that overall, the disadvantaged groups represented here are almost twice as likely as those not disadvantaged to experience negative outcomes in fundamental areas of life, as measured by the Equality Indicators.¹

Among the six themes, the largest positive change was found in **Services** (+6.88), and the largest negative change in **Economy** (-4.19). **Housing** (+2.44) and **Justice** (-2.06) demonstrated similar amounts of change to one another, yet that change was positive for the former and negative for the latter. Both **Education** (-0.56) and **Health** (+0.88) remained largely unchanged at the theme level, although their scores were moving in different directions.

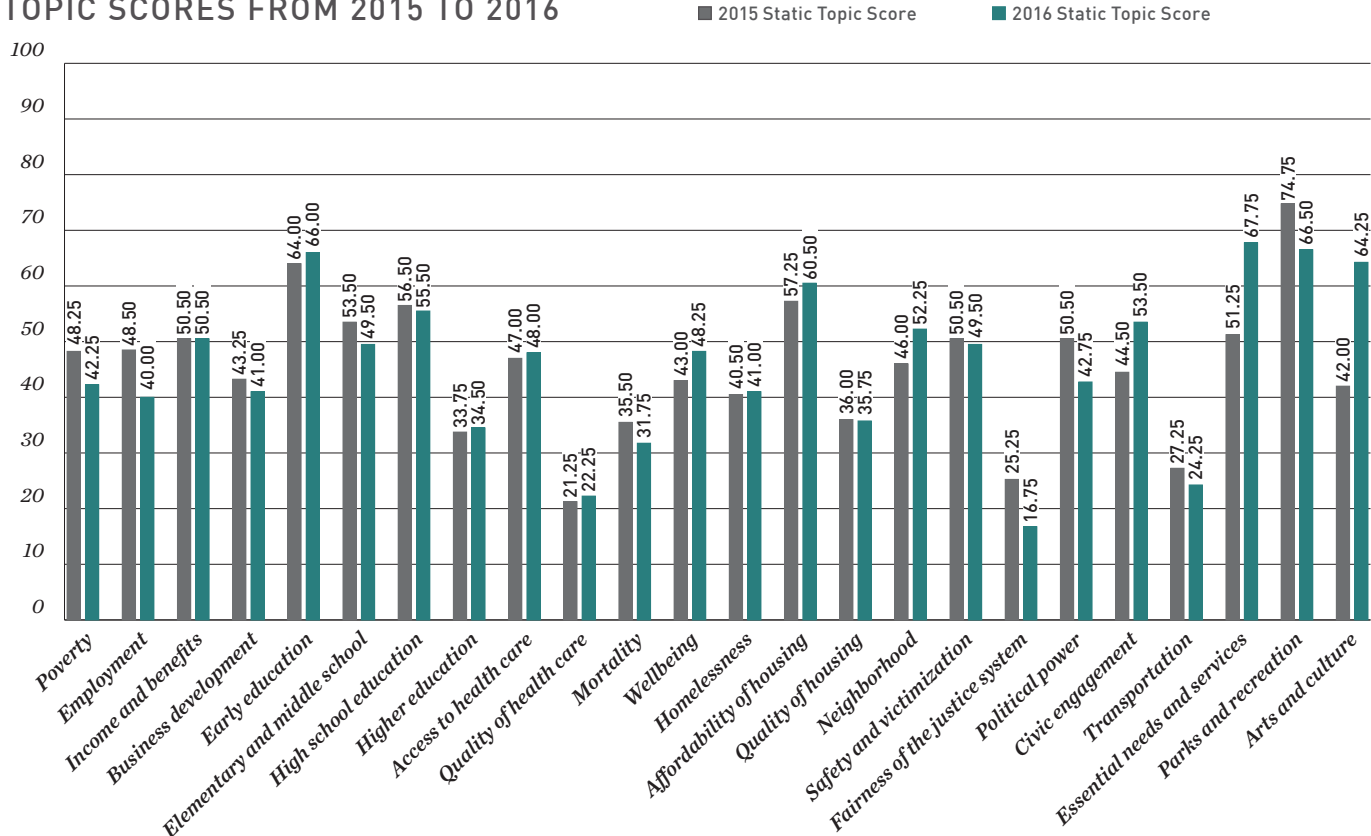
THEME SCORES FROM 2015 TO 2016



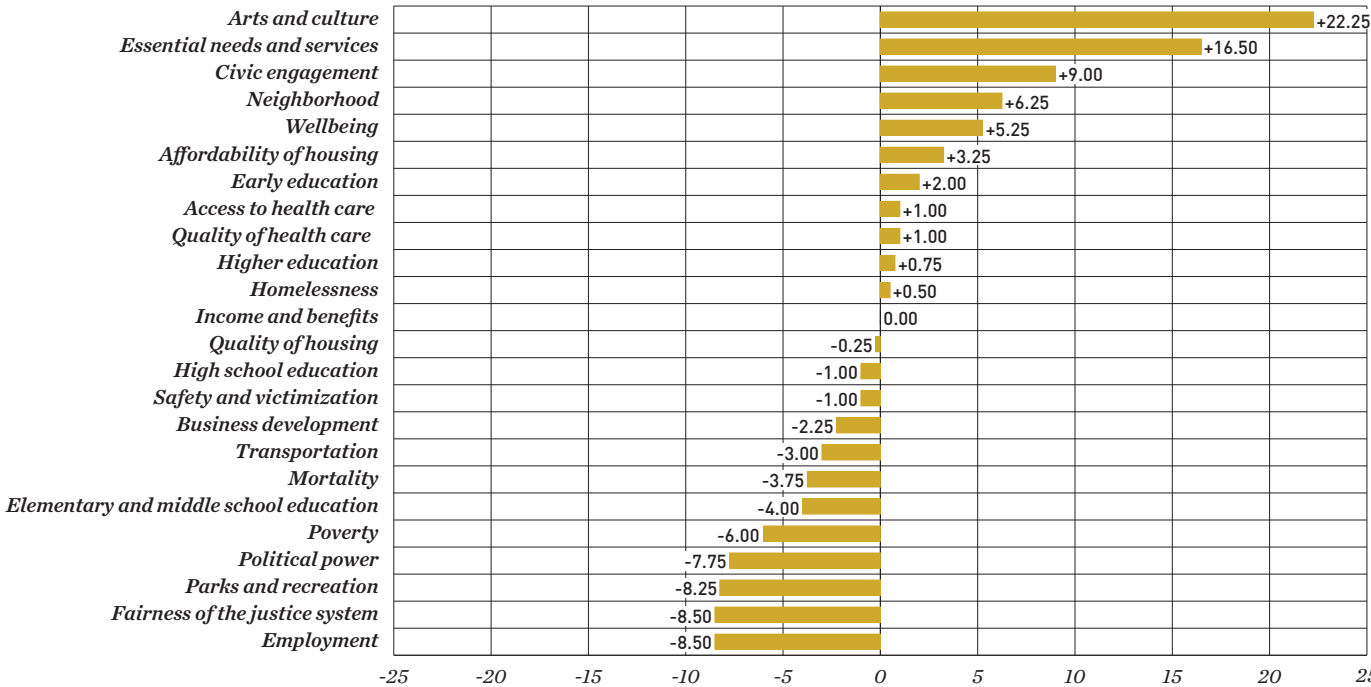
These numbers mask the greater levels of change at the topic level and even more so at the indicator level. Within the 24 topics, change scores range from an increase of +22.25 for **Arts and Culture** to a decrease of -8.50 for **Employment** and **Fairness of the Justice System**. Of the five biggest positive topic changes, two were from the theme of **Services** (**Arts and Culture**: +22.25; **Essential Needs and Services**: +16.50), one from **Justice** (**Civic Engagement**: +9.00), one from **Housing** (**Neighborhood**: +6.25), and one from **Health** (**Wellbeing**: +5.25). Of the five biggest negative changes, two were from the theme of **Economy** (**Employment**: -8.50; **Poverty**, -6.00), two from **Justice** (**Fairness of the Justice System**: -8.50; **Political Power**: -7.75), and one from **Services** (**Parks and Recreation**: -8.25). Interestingly, **Education** was the only theme without extreme changes in topic scores; scores for this theme ranged from -4.00 (**Early and Middle School Education**) to +2.00 (**Early Education**).

¹ The score of 46.01 corresponds with ratios of 1.850-1.874 (see Appendix D).

TOPIC SCORES FROM 2015 TO 2016



RANKED TOPIC CHANGE SCORES





At the indicator level, we saw a much wider variation in scores, some with dramatic changes. Change scores range from a high of +60 (*location and public library availability*) to a low of -46 (*disability and unemployment*).

Overall, 12 indicators had change scores of +10 or above, showing the greatest amount of positive change. They include:

<i>Ind.95</i>	<i>Location & public library availability</i>	<i>+60</i>
<i>Ind.88</i>	<i>Location & hospital quality</i>	<i>+44</i>
<i>Ind.94</i>	<i>Location & senior access to the arts</i>	<i>+36</i>
<i>Ind.77</i>	<i>Race & public meeting attendance</i>	<i>+35</i>
<i>Ind.34</i>	<i>Race & medical care</i>	<i>+26</i>
<i>Ind.64</i>	<i>Sexual orientation & housing stability</i>	<i>+17</i>
<i>Ind.66</i>	<i>Race & domestic violence homicide</i>	<i>+16</i>
<i>Ind.86</i>	<i>Race & Internet access</i>	<i>+15</i>
<i>Ind.5</i>	<i>Race & unemployment</i>	<i>+14</i>
<i>Ind.47</i>	<i>Income & smoking</i>	<i>+14</i>
<i>Ind.57</i>	<i>Race & overcrowding</i>	<i>+13</i>
<i>Ind.62</i>	<i>Income & trust in neighbors</i>	<i>+10</i>

These findings suggest that positive change is being made across a number of areas for several different groups. In particular, some of the disparities facing those living outside of Manhattan in their access to services seem to be lessening. There were also reductions in the disparities faced by racial and ethnic minorities, those in lower income groups, and LGBTQ individuals across several measures. In some cases, these were issues targeted by specific policies and initiatives, which we will discuss further in the sections to follow.

On the other hand, there were nine indicators that had change scores below -10, showing the greatest amount of negative change. These include:

<i>Ind.6</i>	<i>Disability & unemployment</i>	<i>-46</i>
<i>Ind.72</i>	<i>Religion & trust in police</i>	<i>-33</i>
<i>Ind.89</i>	<i>Income & access to parks</i>	<i>-32</i>
<i>Ind.67</i>	<i>Foster care status & child abuse/neglect</i>	<i>-22</i>
<i>Ind.74</i>	<i>Disability & voting access</i>	<i>-19</i>
<i>Ind.81</i>	<i>Race & commuting time</i>	<i>-16</i>
<i>Ind.35</i>	<i>Income & senior flu vaccination</i>	<i>-15</i>
<i>Ind.2</i>	<i>Race & food security</i>	<i>-13</i>
<i>Ind.44</i>	<i>Income & heroin deaths</i>	<i>-12</i>

These findings suggest that despite the positive changes seen in some areas, there are also increasing disparities faced by a wide range of groups, and across a range of issues. These findings suggest areas where new initiatives or greater attention may be needed.

Additional findings at the theme, topic, and indicator levels are discussed in Sections 4.3 through 4.8 to follow.

4.2: *What Do New Yorkers Identify as the Most Important Inequality Issue?*

In our ISLG public survey—conducted specifically to inform the Equality Indicators—respondents are asked each year to describe in a few words what they believe to be the number one inequality issue facing New Yorkers today. Unsurprisingly (and similar to last year), responses varied quite widely. Despite this great variation, there were again three issues that generated enough concern that at least 10% of respondents identified them as the city’s primary inequality issue.

Two of these issues were the same as last year: economic/income inequality was cited by almost one in four respondents (23.2%), an increase from the proportion last year (14.6%). The proportion citing racism/racial inequality also increased, cited by one in six respondents (16.6%) compared to fewer than one in ten (9.1%) last year. Housing/homelessness continued to be a major concern, cited by 14.8% of participants this year, a percentage similar to last year (15.4%). Rounding out the top five were issues related to police or policing, including police brutality (8.4%), and educational inequality (8.1%). It is worth noting that while policing was a major concern for many respondents, a similar number reported concerns about crime/public safety as the major inequality issue facing New Yorkers (7.7%), demonstrating the complex issues facing criminal justice practitioners in New York City.

The word cloud below is a visual representation of the responses to this question by survey participants. Word clouds are graphical representations of word frequency that give greater prominence to words that appear more frequently in a source text. The larger the word in the graphic, the more common the word was in the document.

This year, we also followed up this open-ended question with a close-ended question asking respondents to choose from a list of six options which one they felt was the most important inequality problem in New York City. Here, although the order changed, the same three issues topped the list, with almost one in three respondents (29.5%) citing housing or affordable housing as their number one concern.

Issue	Number	Percentage
Housing/affordable housing	886	29.5%
Income inequality/employment	714	23.8%
Racial inequality or racism	439	14.6%
Education	403	13.4%
Crime or the criminal justice system	402	13.4%
Gender inequality	92	3.1%
Other/not sure	67	2.2%





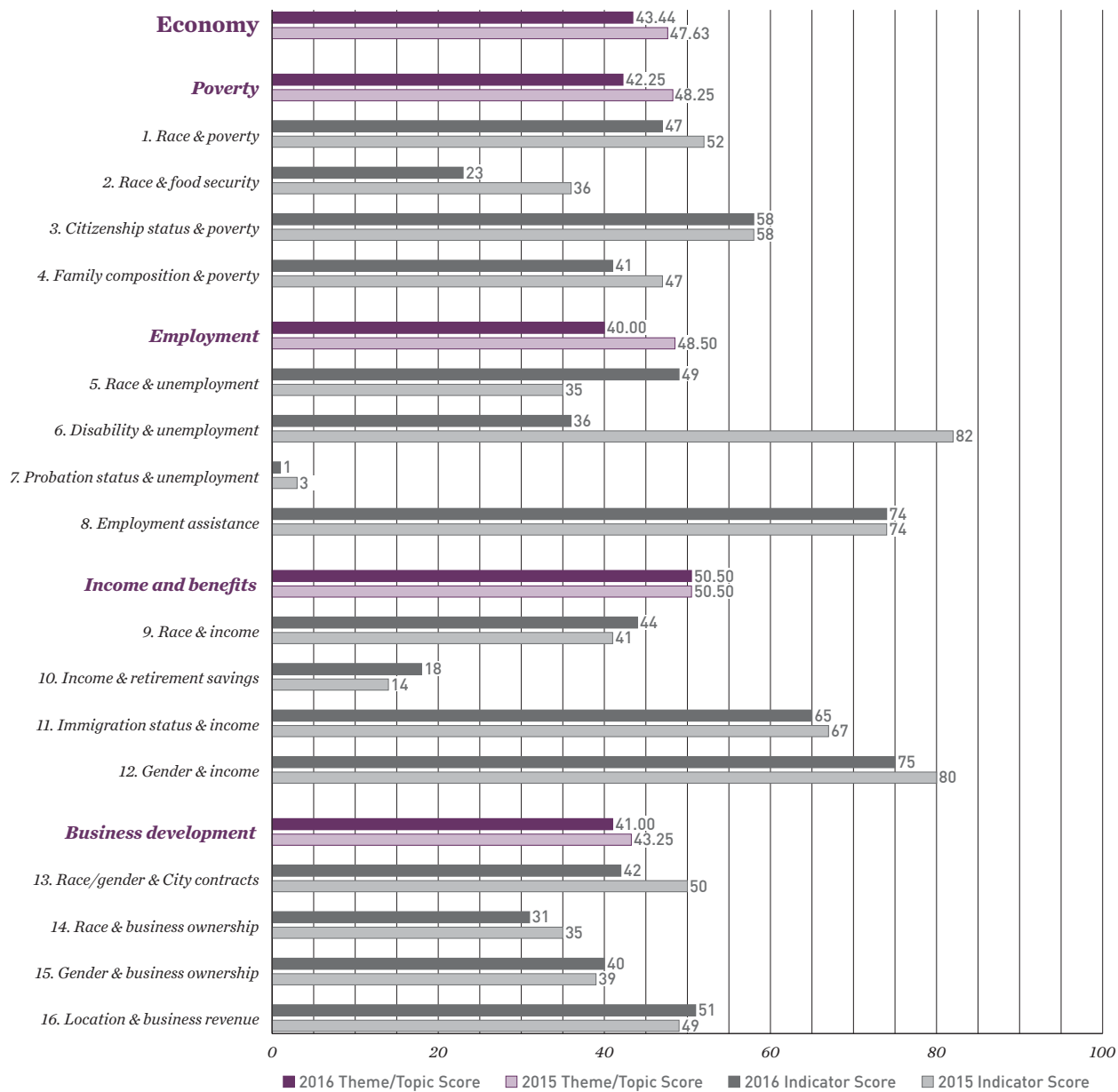
Section 4.3
Economy

Economy

2016 CHANGE SCORE:
-4.19

Disparities in economic outcomes are often top-of-mind in thinking about inequality, and economic inequality continues to be a primary focus of government, the media, and the general public, and featured heavily in this year’s presidential race. Pre-existing inequalities were amplified by the Great Recession, from which our recovery has been slow. It is no surprise, then, that almost one in four New Yorkers cite it as our greatest inequality problem. In the **Economy** theme, we focus on a range of outcomes including the likelihood of living in poverty, income and unemployment, and business ownership and health. Indicators included under this theme explore economic outcomes for a number of disadvantaged groups including racial and ethnic minorities—the focus of six indicators—immigrants (both citizens and non-citizens), and women. We also explore the differential impact of living with a disability, residing in a single-parent household, having a criminal conviction, and living in an outer borough.

Three of the four topics in Economy saw negative changes since last year, which contributed to the more than four-point decrease in the overall theme score (-4.19). The greatest inequality at the topic level was evident in *Employment* (-8.50). *Poverty* and *Business Development* also had negative change scores of -6.00 and -2.25, respectively. *Income and Benefits* remained steady with a change score of zero.



POVERTY (CHANGE SCORE: -6.00)

It is no secret that there are vast disparities in rates of poverty, and that these affect a number of disadvantaged groups. For this reason, three of the indicators under this topic focus specifically on poverty rates, looking at disparities by race and ethnicity, citizenship status, and family composition. In lieu of the federal poverty line, we used a measure of poverty developed by the Center for Economic Opportunity (CEO) that takes into account the high cost of living in NYC. Hand-in-hand with poverty is the fear of not being able to feed oneself and one’s family; therefore, a fourth indicator compares rates of food security among different racial groups.

SCORES:

The negative change score in the **Poverty** topic (-6.00) was driven by negative change scores in three of the four indicators within this topic. *Race and food security* had the largest negative change this year (-13). *Race and poverty* (-5) and *family composition and poverty* (-6) showed smaller negative change, while *citizenship status and poverty* remained the same (0).

CONTEXT:

The latest data from CEO demonstrate our slow recovery from the Great Recession, and the poverty rate citywide has been statistically unchanged over the two most recent years examined, despite the increasing disparities noted here. CEO points to the fact that while employment has increased, wages remain unchanged and housing costs have increased (which also increases the poverty threshold). Reducing the number of New Yorkers living in poverty was an explicit goal of the City’s *One New York: The Plan for a Strong and Just City* (OneNYC), and they have expanded several anti-poverty programs, which should affect poverty rates in the years to come. They are also taking aim at food security by making more New Yorkers eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.

EMPLOYMENT (CHANGE SCORE: -8.50)

Quality employment can help to raise people out of poverty, and employment rates are closely watched as an indicator of economic wellbeing. A number of different groups face difficulties in finding and maintaining employment, even when they are willing and able to work. Under this topic, we compare unemployment rates for blacks and whites, for people with and without a disability, and for people on probation and in the general population. We are also interested in the extent to which programs designed to help disadvantaged groups find permanent employment are successful. Thus, our fourth indicator under this topic looks at whether the assistance provided to cash assistance recipients by the NYC Human Resources Administration (HRA) helped them to find stable employment.

SCORES:

Employment had the most negative change score under the **Economy** theme (-8.75), due primarily to a large negative change score for *disability and unemployment* (-46). Among the four indicators, only one indicator, *race and unemployment*, had a positive change score (+14). *Employment assistance* (0) showed no change, and with a static score of 74, it is one of the indicators under the **Economy** theme with the highest level of equality. *Probation status and unemployment* (-2), on the other hand, dropped to the lowest possible static score of 1, representing the highest level of inequality as measured by the Equality Indicators.

CONTEXT:

In 2014, the City created the Mayor’s Office for Workforce Development and convened the Jobs for New Yorkers Task Force; increased employment and workforce development was also a goal of OneNYC. As outlined in their 2014 report, *Career Pathways*, and in the most recent OneNYC progress report, NYC has implemented a number of initiatives to help New Yorkers improve skills and find jobs, including the launches of HireNYC and the Tech Talent Pipeline, alongside four new Industry Partnerships. In addition to their participation in SYEP, the Department of Probation (DOP) hosts workshops targeting the development of essential skills for employment, and has several initiatives aimed at increasing employment and employment readiness among probationers. Despite these and similar initiatives, disparities in employment remain high, particularly among individuals with disabilities and those on probation, and additional or more targeted programs may be needed.

INCOME AND BENEFITS (CHANGE SCORE: 0.00)

There is little question about the importance of income in shaping a wide range of opportunities and subsequent outcomes for different groups, both within and outside of **Economy**; it is no accident that a number of our indicators in other themes compare those with lower and higher incomes. Three of the indicators under this topic compared median yearly incomes: income for blacks and whites, those born in the United States versus other countries, and women and men. Income later on in life may be closely tied to one’s ability to save during their working years, particularly for individuals in lower income brackets; as a result, the fourth indicator under this topic looks at whether there are income-based differences in the percentage of New Yorkers who have retirement or pension plans.

SCORES:

This topic had the highest static score within the theme and remained steady at 50.50 in both years as two positive and two negative change scores canceled each other out. *Race and income* (+3) and *income and retirement savings* (+4) had small positive changes from last year. *Immigration status and income* (-2) and *gender and income* (-5) both had lower static scores.

CONTEXT:

The City is working to increase median income and access to benefits such as retirement plans; while most of these are designed to improve conditions for the city as a whole, some specifically target disadvantaged groups (e.g., Immigrant Bridge Program) or are thought to affect them most (e.g., Industrial Action Plan). The Commission on Gender Equity works to decrease the gender gap in pay as well as improving conditions for all women in NYC. Additionally, the City’s creation of a retirement savings program for private sector workers at businesses in the City with 10 or more employees may help disadvantaged groups in particular to save for retirement. Finally, in April 2016, New York State passed a law to increase the minimum wage incrementally to \$15 over three years, which will increase the income for a large sector of the working population in NYC.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (CHANGE SCORE: -2.25)

Business growth and development are essential to maintaining the economic health of the city and its ability to generate revenue and jobs. However, **Business Development** is the second lowest-scoring topic in this theme, suggesting that not all New Yorkers have the same ability to start and maintain a business. Three of the indicators in this topic look at how minorities and women fare in terms of owning a business or receiving contracts as a certified Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE). Additionally, as a proxy for business health in different locations, we compare the amount of sales tax businesses in Manhattan collect compared with businesses located in other boroughs.

SCORES:

Inequality in **Business Development** increased slightly as the topic score decreased by more than 2 points. The negative change score of this topic is due primarily to negative change scores in *race/gender and city contracts* (-8) and *race and business ownership* (-4). *Gender and business ownership* (+1) and *location and business revenue* (+2) showed negligible positive changes.

CONTEXT:

Alongside other economic initiatives, NYC has a number of initiatives specific to business development and revenue generation in NYC, some of which target specific groups (e.g., Women Entrepreneurs New York City) or businesses in certain locations (e.g., Bronx Business Bridge) or industries (e.g., UrbanTech NYC). Additionally, the City has recently made increasing opportunities for MWBEs a priority, establishing an Advisory Council on MWBEs in 2015, pledging a minimum of \$16 billion to MWBEs over the next 10 years as part of OneNYC, and creating new measures to increase opportunities for MWBEs in City housing and economic development projects. Although the number of City-certified MWBEs has increased over time and more City contracts are awarded to MWBEs, they continue to be particularly disadvantaged when it comes to receiving larger contracts.

INDICATOR 1: RACE & POVERTY

CHANGE SCORE: -5

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of Asians and whites living below the poverty line	
Results:	2015: Asian (A): 25.6% White (W): 14.9% A-to-W ratio = 1.718, score 52	2016: Asian (A): 26.6% White (W): 14.4% A-to-W ratio = 1.847, score 47
More findings:	The CEO poverty rate for Asians (26.6%) was the highest among racial and ethnic groups, followed closely by Hispanics (24.0%) and blacks (21.5%). Whites had the lowest poverty rate (14.4%). Asians were the only group to have an increase in CEO poverty rates from the previous year (from 25.6%), while the rates for the other three groups decreased. Poverty rates also varied by educational attainment, with the likelihood of living in poverty decreasing as education increased: those with less than a high school diploma were most likely to live in poverty (33.9%) compared to those with a bachelor’s degree or more (8.8%), some college (17.6%), or a high school diploma (24.6%).	
Data sources:	Center for Economic Opportunity <i>Annual Poverty Report 2016</i> , 2013 & 2014	
Context for this indicator:	In 2013, the Earned Income Tax Credit was expanded for low-income single workers (≤\$26,500/year) without dependent children to provide them with up to \$2,000 for three years. This initiative increases earnings for certain low-income individuals and may have contributed to the decrease in poverty rates for Hispanics, blacks, and whites. Additional policies that address the specific needs of Asians living in poverty will likely be needed to improve the inequality measured by this indicator.	

INDICATOR 2: RACE & FOOD SECURITY

CHANGE SCORE: -13

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of Hispanics and Asians with low or very low food security	
Results:	2015: Hispanic (H): 29.3% Asian (A): 10.7% H-to-A ratio = 2.738, score 36	2016: Hispanic (H): 27.2% Asian (A): 5.8% H-to-A ratio = 4.690, score 23
More findings:	More than a quarter of Hispanics (27.2%) had low or very low food security, nearly five times the percentage among Asians (5.8%). Whites (6.0%) fared similarly to Asians, while blacks fell in the middle (17.0%). Rates for all four racial and ethnic groups decreased from the previous year (from 29.3% for Hispanics, 24.3% for blacks, 8.5% for whites, and 10.7% for Asians), though the decrease was smallest for Hispanics. More than one in 10 children (11.6%) experienced food insecurity in the current year, and racial and ethnic differences were especially pronounced among children: 21.0% of Hispanic children had low or very low food security compared to 10.6% of black children, 6.1% of Asian children, and 3.0% of white children. Individuals with disabilities were 1.5 times more likely (19.1%) than their non-disabled counterparts (12.7%) to experience food insecurity.	
Data sources:	Current Population Survey <i>Food Security Supplement</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	The City is targeting food insecurity by increasing access to SNAP (formerly called food stamps). In 2014, HRA eliminated the requirement that able-bodied adults without dependents be employed full-time in order to be eligible to receive SNAP benefits. This change may have contributed to the decrease in food insecurity across racial groups, although the minimal change among Hispanics suggests that future initiatives may need to target this group specifically.	

INDICATOR 3: CITIZENSHIP STATUS & POVERTY

CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of non-citizens and citizens living below the poverty line	
Results:	2015: Non-citizens (NC): 30.1% Citizens (C): 19.2% NC-to-C ratio = 1.572, score 58	2016: Non-citizens (NC): 29.7% Citizens (C): 18.9% NC-to-C ratio = 1.571, score 58
More findings:	Poverty rates varied considerably by citizenship status: the CEO poverty rate for non-citizens (29.7%) was more than 1.5 times higher than the poverty rate for either naturalized citizens (19.1%) or citizens by birth (18.7%). Poverty rates among both citizens and non-citizens were largely unchanged from last year, leading to this indicator’s change score of zero. Racial and ethnic groups with a higher percentage of non-citizens also experienced higher rates of poverty: approximately a quarter of Hispanics (24.0%) and Asians (26.6%) lived below the poverty line compared to 14.4% of whites and 21.5% of blacks.	
Data sources:	Center for Economic Opportunity <i>Annual Poverty Report 2016</i> , 2013 & 2014	
Context for this indicator:	The City has pledged to reduce poverty through OneNYC, and several of their initiatives specifically target immigrants through attempts at spurring growth in industries where the workforce is largely foreign-born (e.g., the industrial and manufacturing sectors) or increasing outreach to immigrants to enroll them in SNAP (as seniors and immigrants are the two largest unenrolled but eligible groups). That said, our findings suggest that attention may need to be paid to poverty rates among immigrants who are not yet US citizens.	

INDICATOR 4: FAMILY COMPOSITION & POVERTY

CHANGE SCORE: -6

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of single-parent and two-parent households living below the poverty line	
Results:	2015: Single-parent households (SP): 31.1% Two-parent households (TP): 17.0% SP-to-TP ratio = 1.829, score 47	2016: Single-parent households (SP): 33.0% Two-parent households (TP): 16.6% SP-to-TP ratio = 1.988, score 41
More findings:	Single-parent families are disproportionately impacted by poverty. Roughly a third (33.0%) of single-parent households lived below the CEO poverty line, compared to 16.6% of dual-parent households. While these rates are similar to the previous year, a slight increase in poverty rates for single-parent households coupled with a slight decrease for dual-parent households resulted in a negative change score this year. Across groups, roughly one in four (24.0%) children lived in poverty, compared to 19.8% of individuals aged 18-64 and 19.8% of those 65 and older. Geographically, residents in the Bronx had the highest poverty rate (26.5%), followed by Brooklyn (21.9%), Queens (20.4%), Staten Island (18.3%), and Manhattan (14.6%).	
Data sources:	Center for Economic Opportunity <i>Annual Poverty Report 2016</i> , 2013 & 2014	
Context for this indicator:	Single parents may disproportionately suffer from the high costs of child care in NYC; thus, initiatives that aim to make child care more affordable have the potential to support single parents in particular. The Administration for Children’s Services increases access to child care through EarlyLearn, which provides low or no-cost child care to eligible families, and child care vouchers for families on public assistance. Additionally, the NYC Child Care and Dependent Tax Credit adds to existing federal and state tax credits and is available to families making less than \$30,000. The current data suggests that these families are still struggling and that more targeted initiatives outside of those involving child care may be needed.	

INDICATOR 5: RACE & UNEMPLOYMENT

CHANGE SCORE: +14

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the unemployment rates for blacks and whites	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 9.7% White (W): 3.5% B-to-W ratio = 2.771, score 35	2016: Black (B): 6.6% White (W): 3.7% B-to-W ratio = 1.784, score 49
More findings:	Blacks had the highest unemployment rates (6.6%), followed by Hispanics (6.5%), Asians (4.9%), and whites (3.7%). These rates represented an improvement from the previous year for blacks (a decrease from 9.7%), Hispanics (8.1%), and Asians (6.6%), although the rate was largely unchanged for whites (3.7%). Unemployment also varied somewhat by immigration status: the unemployment rate was slightly higher for those born in the US (5.5%) than those born outside the US (4.7%). The rate for the latter is driven largely by the lower unemployment rate for naturalized citizens (4.4%); the rate for non-citizens (5.3%) was similar to that of those born in the US.	
Data sources:	Current Population Survey <i>Annual Social and Economic Supplement</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Employment was the focus of a number of City initiatives both outside and within OneNYC. In addition, employment was targeted by the creation of the Mayor’s Office of Workforce Development and the Jobs for New Yorkers Task Force. The former was designed to connect City agencies with business leaders, education and training providers, and community stakeholders, and bring quality jobs to New Yorkers, while the latter’s Career Pathways report outlines plans to build job skills and improve job quality. This renewed attention to effective workforce development may have contributed to decreases in unemployment among racial and ethnic minorities and the consequent decrease in disparities.	

INDICATOR 6: DISABILITY & UNEMPLOYMENT

CHANGE SCORE: -46

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the unemployment rates for people with and without disabilities	
Results:	2015: With disabilities (WD): 7.2% Without disabilities (WOD): 6.6% WD-to-WOD ratio = 1.091, score 82	2016: With disabilities (WD): 13.7% Without disabilities (WOD): 5.0% WD-to-WOD ratio = 2.740, score 36
More findings:	The unemployment rate among people with disabilities (13.7%) was almost three times higher than the rate among those without disabilities (5.0%). This disparity was considerably larger than the prior year, as unemployment among individuals with disabilities almost doubled. We note, however, that the vast majority of people with disabilities (86.0% in the current year) were not in the labor force and not included in these rates, compared to roughly a third (36.9%) of those without disabilities. There was also variation in employment status by type of disability: 30.2% of individuals with difficulties seeing were unemployed compared to 15.5% of those with difficulties walking or climbing stairs. The unemployment rate among individuals with cognitive disabilities (difficulty remembering or making decisions) was 13.6%.	
Data sources:	Current Population Survey <i>Annual Social and Economic Supplement</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	While individuals with disabilities may benefit from the City’s general employment initiatives, few directly target them. One exception is HRA’s Wellness, Comprehensive Assessment, Rehabilitation, and Employment (WeCARE) program which works to connect individuals with mental and medical health conditions—including disabilities—to employment through targeted service delivery. The increasing unemployment rates among these individuals, however, suggests the need for more targeted supports and programs.	

INDICATOR 7: PROBATION STATUS & UNEMPLOYMENT

CHANGE SCORE: -2

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the unemployment rates for probation clients and the general population	
Results:	2015: Probationers (P): 60.8% General population (GP): 6.5% P-to-GP ratio = 9.354, score 3	2016: Probationers (P): 61.6% General population (GP): 5.8% P-to-GP ratio = 10.621, score 1
More findings:	The majority of adults on probation were unemployed (61.6%), and the unemployment rate among probationers was more than 10 times the unemployment rate in the general population (5.8%). Employment status also varied by educational attainment, which may be lower among those on probation. Within the general population, unemployment was higher among individuals with less than a high school diploma (7.0%) than those with a bachelor’s degree or higher (3.5%).	
Data sources:	Department of Probation <i>by request</i> and NYS Bureau of Labor Statistics <i>website</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	DOP hosts workshops targeting the development of essential skills for employment, and has several initiatives aimed at increasing employment and employment readiness among probationers including Employment Works, Arches (a group mentoring program), the new Drive Change fellowship, and participation in SYEP. DOP also runs the Neighborhood Opportunity Network (NeON), which opened offices in all five boroughs in 2014 to connect probationers to employment training, literacy support, and other services. Employment among probationers may also be influenced by passage of the Fair Chance Act last year, which prohibits employers from asking about criminal history prior to making a job offer. The fact that high rates of unemployment persist despite these efforts highlights the difficulties inherent in addressing this disparity and suggests the need for additional resources and support for these individuals.	

INDICATOR 8: EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Percentage of cash assistance recipients who were no longer employed 180 days after being placed in a job	
Results:	2015: Cash assistance recipients no longer employed: 26.1%, score 74	2016: Cash assistance recipients no longer employed: 26.7%, score 74
More findings:	There were a total of 601,800 people receiving cash assistance from HRA in fiscal year 2016; 108,900 received emergency assistance. In addition to monetary benefits, HRA provides employment assistance to current and former recipients of cash assistance. Approximately one quarter (26.7%) of current or former cash assistance recipients were no longer employed 180 days after HRA had helped them to obtain employment, similar to the previous year. On average, 34.1% of families receiving cash assistance were participating in work or work-related activities per the federal guidelines.	
Data sources:	Human Resources Administration <i>Mayor’s Management Report</i> , FY2015 & FY2016	
Context for this indicator:	While we saw no change this year, the City recognizes the need to improve its employment programs. In 2015, HRA released four concept papers, CareerAdvance, CareerBridge, CareerCompass, and YouthPathways, representing the first steps in their efforts. Reforms include individualized assessments of clients’ strengths and needs, and maximizing education and training services to build long-term career pathways. As the plans in these papers are implemented, they have the potential to ensure that more cash assistance recipients are placed in stable, long-term jobs with the potential to become careers in future.	

Income and Benefits

INDICATOR 9: RACE & INCOME

CHANGE SCORE: +3

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the median yearly personal incomes for Hispanics and whites	
Results:	2015: Hispanic (H): \$30,075 White (W): \$59,875 W-to-H ratio = 1.991, score 41	2016: Hispanic (H): \$33,057 White (W): \$63,490 W-to-H ratio = 1.921, score 44
More findings:	The median annual income for white full-time workers (\$63,490) was nearly twice that of Hispanic (\$33,057), more than 1.5 times that of black (\$38,229) and about 1.3 times that of Asian (\$50,000) full-time workers. There were also large racial and ethnic differences in full-time hourly wages: the median hourly wage for whites was \$26.67, compared to \$15.38 for Hispanics, \$17.31 for blacks, and \$22.12 for Asians.	
Data sources:	Current Population Survey <i>Annual Social and Economic Supplement</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Given that racial and ethnic minorities are more likely to live in poverty than whites, the planned increase in the minimum wage to \$15 over the next three years may particularly impact them, as may more general workforce development and employment programs. Similarly, programs targeting low-income workers such as WorkAdvance and the Work Progress Program may have a greater impact on racial and ethnic minorities than on whites. That said, numerous systematic and structural barriers facing racial and ethnic minorities may need to be targeted before real changes are found in income disparities.	

INDICATOR 10: INCOME & RETIREMENT SAVINGS

CHANGE SCORE: +4

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of people in the bottom and middle income groups who do not have retirement or pension plans	
Results:	2015: <\$30,000 (B): 78.8% \$70-100,000 (M): 12.1% B-to-M ratio = 6.512, score 14	2016: <\$30,000 (B): 78.3% \$70-100,000 (M): 14.2% B-to-M ratio = 5.514, score 18
More findings:	There were large income-based disparities in retirement savings: nearly eight in 10 (78.3%) of those making less than \$30,000 per year indicated that they did not have a retirement or pension plan, compared to about one in 10 (14.2%) of those in the middle income group (those making \$70-100,000 per year), rates similar to the previous year. Among racial and ethnic groups, Asians were the most likely to report not possessing a retirement or pension plan (58.1%), followed by Hispanics (55.6%), blacks (43.9%), and whites (34.5%). Immigrants were also more likely to report not having a retirement or pension plan (50.5%) than those born in the US (43.7%).	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Our findings showed that more than two-thirds of low-income residents in NYC—those perhaps most in need of saving for the future—do not have a retirement or pension plan. To that end, in February 2016 the City announced plans to create a retirement savings program for private sector workers working at a business with 10 or more employees; given our finding that low-income, minority, and immigrant New Yorkers were least likely to have a retirement or pension plan, this may particularly improve outcomes for these groups.	

INDICATOR 11: IMMIGRATION STATUS & INCOME

CHANGE SCORE: -2

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the median yearly personal incomes for foreign-born and US-born individuals	
Results:	2015: Foreign-born (FB): \$35,008 US-born (UB): \$48,000 UB-to-FB ratio = 1.371, score 67	2016: Foreign-born (FB): \$39,000 US-born (UB): \$55,000 UB-to-FB ratio = 1.410, score 65
More findings:	The median personal income of full-time workers born in the US (\$55,000) was considerably higher than that of foreign-born, full-time workers (\$39,000). Citizenship status also accounted for differences in median income: the median income for foreign-born citizens was considerably higher (\$43,680) than that of non-citizens (\$30,010). There were also differences in hourly wages: the median hourly wage for full-time workers was considerably higher for US-born citizens (\$24.04) than naturalized citizens (\$19.23), whose median hourly wage was in turn higher than that of non-citizens (\$12.74).	
Data sources:	Current Population Survey <i>Annual Social and Economic Supplement</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Little change was noted this year. However, as with racial and ethnic minorities, the increase in the minimum wage to \$15 over the next three years and initiatives targeting low-income workers such as WorkAdvance and the Work Progress Program may have an outsized impact on immigrants, both among naturalized citizens and among non-citizens. In addition, the OneNYC initiatives targeting industries where the workforce is largely foreign-born (e.g., the industrial and manufacturing sectors) may help to reduce disparities in this area in the future.	

INDICATOR 12: GENDER & INCOME

CHANGE SCORE: -5

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the median yearly personal incomes for women and men	
Results:	2015: Women (W): \$40,000 Men (M): \$44,000 M-to-W ratio = 1.100, score 80	2016: Women (W): \$42,000 Men (M): \$ 50,980 M-to-W ratio = 1.214, score 75
More findings:	The median yearly income for men employed full-time was \$50,980, compared to women employed full-time, whose median income of \$42,000 was almost 20% less than that of men, equivalent to 80¢ on the dollar. While median income increased for both genders, the larger increase among men meant that the disparity also increased. A similar gender gap existed in hourly pay: \$21.63 for men compared to \$19.23 for women. The hourly pay gender gap also varied by educational attainment: for those with less than a high school diploma, the median hourly wage was higher for men (\$12.00) than for women (\$10.58). The median hourly wage was also higher for men (\$29.81) than women (\$28.57) with at least a bachelor’s degree.	
Data sources:	Current Population Survey <i>Annual Social and Economic Supplement</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	The gender pay gap is one of the most well-known in the US, and has received increased attention during this election cycle. Increasing employment and income among women and decreasing the pay gap is one of the goals of the NYC Commission on Gender Equity, launched in 2015. Additionally, in August 2016, the Public Advocate released a report on the gender pay gap in NYC and introduced a bill to prohibit wage discrimination. These and other policies that address the gender pay gap will hopefully reduce the inequality in income between women and men.	

INDICATOR 13: RACE/GENDER & CITY CONTRACTS

CHANGE SCORE: -8

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of small versus large contracts going to minority and women-owned business enterprises	
Results:	2015: Small contracts ≤ \$100k (S): 24.0% Large contracts > \$1M (L): 13.6% S-to-L Ratio = 1.769, score 50	2016: Small contracts ≤ \$100k (S): 33.5% Large contracts > \$1M (L): 17.1% S-to-L ratio = 1.961, score 42
More findings:	In fiscal year 2016, 4,516 MWBEs were certified by the City—an increase from 4,115 in the previous year—and 1,011 MWBEs were awarded City contracts. However, being certified does not necessarily mean that outcomes are equal: there is a large disparity in the value of contracts awarded to MWBEs and non-MWBEs. The City awarded 16,356 contracts with values of less than \$100,000 in FY2016, among which about one third (33.54% or 5,485) were awarded to MWBEs. In contrast, during the same time period, the City awarded 503 contracts with values of over one million dollars yet only 17.10% (or 86) of these large contracts went to MWBEs. The percentage of both small and large contracts going to MWBEs increased from the previous year; however, the increase was much larger for small contracts, leading to a negative change score.	
Data sources:	Mayor’s Office of Contract Services <i>Agency Procurement Indicators Reports</i> , FY2015 & FY2016	
Context for this indicator:	The City has recently made increasing opportunities for MWBEs a priority, establishing an Advisory Council on MWBEs in 2015, pledging a minimum of \$16 billion to MWBEs over the next 10 years as part of OneNYC, and creating new measures to increase opportunities for MWBEs in City housing and economic development projects. These types of initiatives may explain the increase in the percentage of contracts going to MWBEs more broadly, but initiatives targeting large contracts—and increasing the competitiveness of MWBEs in seeking these contracts—may be needed if disparities are to be reduced.	

INDICATOR 14: RACE & BUSINESS OWNERSHIP

CHANGE SCORE: -4

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and whites who are business owners	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 1.7% White (W): 4.9% W-to-B ratio = 2.882, score 35	2016: Black (B): 1.5% White (W): 5.2% W-to-B ratio = 3.467, score 31
More findings:	Considerable racial and ethnic disparities exist in rates of business ownership. The business ownership rates for whites (5.2%) were more than three times those for blacks (1.5%); rates among Hispanics (2.1%) were only slightly higher than blacks, while Asians (3.7%) fell between blacks and whites. This disparity was greater than in the previous year, when fewer whites (4.9%) and more blacks (1.7%) were business owners. Individuals who were part of married couples in which both spouses were present were considerably more likely to be business owners (4.7%) than those who were never married (1.9%), or who were divorced (3.7%), or even those part of married couples where one spouse was absent (3.7%).	
Data sources:	American Community Survey <i>1-year PUMS</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	Initiatives designed to encourage the start-up and growth of MWBEs could also have the effect of increasing new businesses owned by minorities and helping to keep existing ones up and running. Additionally, some of the initiatives designed to encourage business ownership in low-income communities may have an outsized impact on blacks and other minorities. One such initiative is the Bronx Business Bridge launched by CEO and Lehman College in 2014, which is designed to provide support and resources to entrepreneurs from underserved communities.	

INDICATOR 15: GENDER & BUSINESS OWNERSHIP

CHANGE SCORE: +1

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of women and men who are business owners	
Results:	2015: Women (W): 2.1% Men (M): 4.6% M-to-W ratio =2.190, score 39	2016: Women (W): 2.2% Men (M): 4.5% M-to-W ratio =2.045, score 40
More findings:	There was a large gender gap in business ownership: men (4.5%) were more than twice as likely to be business owners compared to women (2.2%). The gender gap in business ownership narrowed slightly from the previous year during which 4.6% of men and 2.1% of women were business owners. The business ownership rate also distributes differently across the five boroughs: Manhattan has the highest business ownership rate (4.2%), followed by Queens (3.6%), Brooklyn (3.4%), Staten Island (2.9%), and Bronx (1.7%).	
Data sources:	American Community Survey <i>1-year PUMS</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	One of the goals of the Commission on Gender Equity is to increase women’s economic opportunity, and they highlight a number of initiatives and pieces of legislation that help to move toward achieving this goal. One example was the launch of the Women Entrepreneurs New York City (WE NYC) initiative in 2015, which includes support, mentoring, and specific tools and resources to help women—especially low-income and immigrant women—start and maintain businesses. In the same year, NYC created an Advisory Council on Women Owned Business Enterprises. Although large disparities remain, these and similar initiatives may help to decrease disparities in future years.	

INDICATOR 16: LOCATION & BUSINESS REVENUE

CHANGE SCORE: +2

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of sales tax collected from businesses located outside and within Manhattan	
Results:	2015: Non-Manhattan (NM): 35.8% Manhattan (M): 64.2% M-to-NM ratio = 1.794, score 49	2016: Non-Manhattan (NM): 36.6% Manhattan (M): 63.4% M-to-NM ratio = 1.733, score 51
More findings:	Although Manhattan is only one of the five boroughs, it receives the lion’s share of sales tax collection citywide (63.4%), collecting more than 1.5 times the percentage of sales tax collected from all other boroughs combined (36.6%). Within the other boroughs, 12.7% of sales tax was collected from Brooklyn, 15.5% was collected from Queens, 6.5% was collected from the Bronx, and 1.9% was collected from Staten Island. These numbers are similar to the previous year, when Manhattan businesses collected 64.2% of sales tax, compared to 35.8% for businesses located outside of Manhattan.	
Data sources:	NYS Department of Taxation and Finance <i>by request</i> , 3/2014-2/2015 & 3/2015-2/2016	
Context for this indicator:	NYC Small Business Services has a number of programs and incentives that may promote business development outside of Manhattan. For example, businesses that take space in newly constructed or previously vacant buildings may be eligible for a reduction in electric costs, while the Greenpoint-Williamsburg Relocation Grant Program provides financial support to businesses affected by rezoning in these areas. Initiatives like the Bronx Business Bridge mentioned previously should also help to reduce location-based disparities in NYC in future years.	



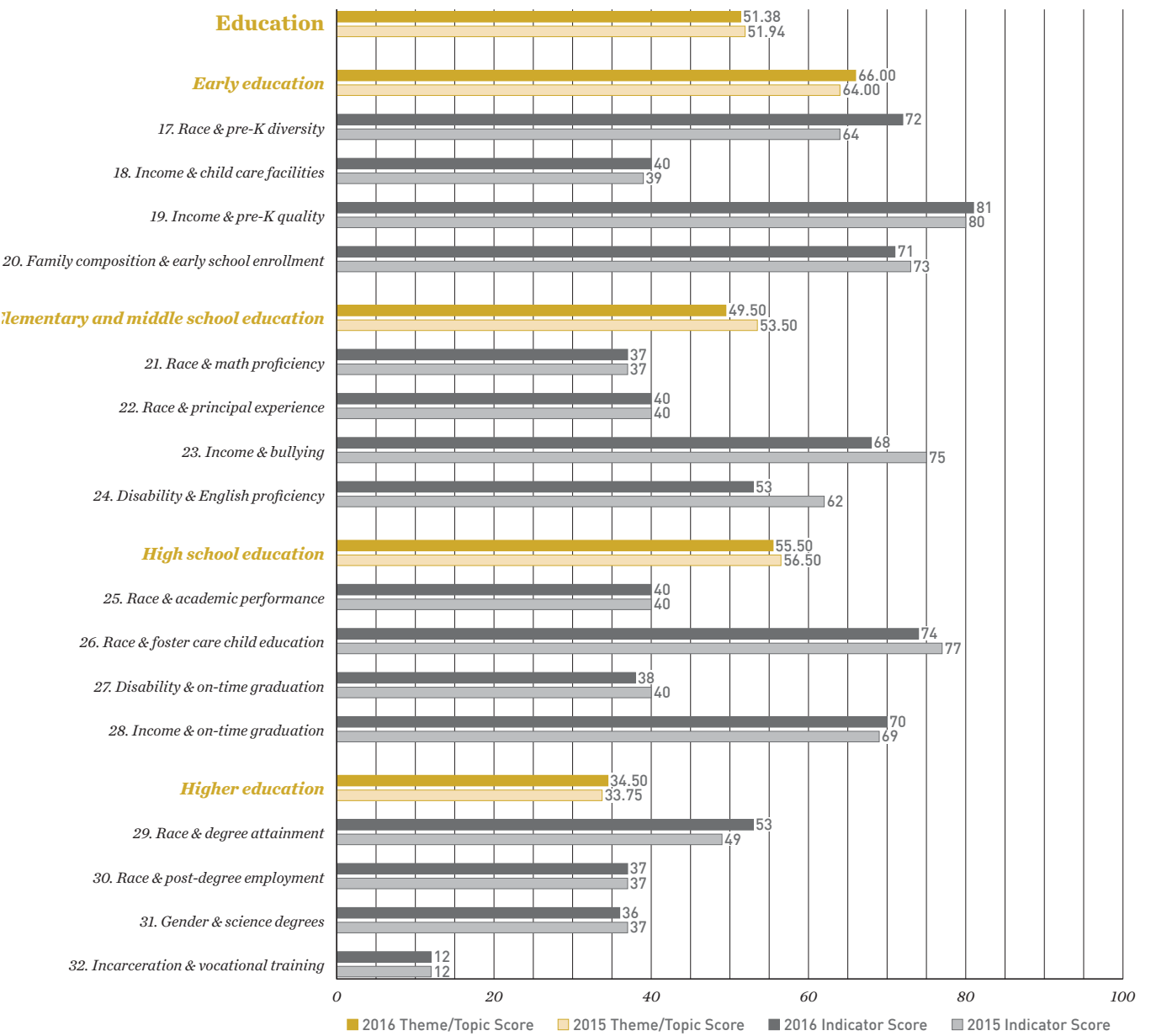
Section 4.4 Education

Education

2016 CHANGE SCORE:
-0.56

In the United States, education is broken down into discrete phases of learning based on age and development. We used these phases to create our topics: **Early Education**, **Elementary and Middle School Education**, **High School Education**, and **Higher Education**. Most of the indicators in this theme focus on inequalities faced by racial and ethnic minorities (seven indicators), and people living in poverty or in low-income neighborhoods (four indicators). Other indicators look at other disadvantaged groups including individuals with a disability, women, children of single parents, children in foster care, and individuals involved in the criminal justice system.

Education had the second highest static score among all six themes (51.38), yet inequality in Education changed very little from last year (-0.56). With a minimal positive change (score of +2.00), **Early Education** had the theme's highest static topic score (66.00). **Elementary and Middle School Education** had the biggest negative change (-4.00), but it was still small; **High School Education** similarly dropped only slightly (-1.00). **Higher Education** (+0.75) saw almost no change from the previous year.



EARLY EDUCATION (CHANGE SCORE: +2.00)

Early Education for children under the age of five encompasses pre-kindergarten programs and child care services. This topic includes a measure of the racial diversity of public pre-kindergarten (pre-K) programs, as well as two measures related to income: access to a nearby child care facility for parents in the bottom and top income groups and the quality rating of public pre-Ks in the bottom and top income neighborhoods. We also compare school enrollment based on family composition, comparing single- to dual-parent households.

SCORES:

While **Early Education** had the highest topic score in the theme, inequality persists with little—albeit positive—change (+2.00) overall. *Race and pre-K diversity* had the highest increase (+8), but minimal change in the other three indicators kept the topic change score down. While what change occurred was positive, parents in the bottom income group were still twice as likely as parents in the top income groups to report not having a child care center near their home (+1), and the disparity between average pre-K quality ratings in the bottom and top income groups similarly saw little change (+1). Inequality in early school enrollment for single- and two-parent households increased slightly (-2).

CONTEXT:

In 2014 and 2015, the NYC Department of Education (DOE) launched and expanded the Pre-K for All initiative, the goal of which is to bring free, full-day, high-quality early childhood education to all children. The initiative included a major outreach campaign to encourage enrollment, as well as training for pre-K staff and leadership. Additionally, DOE made school diversity a priority after the School Diversity Accountability Act was passed in 2015. The Administration for Children’s Services is also working to expand EarlyLearn. However, the persistent inequalities in this topic suggest that more work is needed to improve disadvantaged groups’ access to quality early child care and education. Establishing new pre-K programs with qualified staff in underserved neighborhoods and enrolling children from diverse backgrounds will improve the indicators in this topic.

ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL EDUCATION (CHANGE SCORE: -4.00)

This topic focuses on children between the ages of 5 and 15 who are enrolled in a NYC public elementary or middle school.

Elementary and Middle School Education assesses both educational attainment and school environment, with indicators for math and English proficiency, as well as principal experience and bullying. Two of the indicators measure inequalities between black and Asian students, one indicator compares schools in the bottom and top income areas, and one indicator identifies disparities for students with and without disabilities.

SCORES:

The negative change score for this topic was driven by small, negative changes in *income and bullying* (-7) and *disability and English proficiency* (-9). Despite these negative change scores, students in both the bottom and top income areas reported less bullying based on differences at their schools, and students with and without disabilities performed better on the English Language Arts Common Core exam. Neither of the indicators in this topic examining racial and ethnic disparities, *race and math proficiency* and *race and principal experience* saw change from the previous year (both with change scores of 0).

CONTEXT:

DOE has implemented several initiatives to address inequalities in elementary and middle school education. Some, like the Respect for All initiative, have been in place since the previous administration but continue to be expanded. Others, including Learning Partners, rely on interschool collaboration to use the strengths and assets of successful schools to improve those that are underperforming. Still others, including the Renewal School Program and Fair Student Funding, allocate extra resources to the most challenged schools and students who have special needs or have fallen behind. Two indicators saw no change and the other two saw negative change, but overall better results for their groups, suggesting that the impact of these policies may be better understood in later reports.

HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION (CHANGE SCORE: -1.00)

High School Education includes measures of academic performance and on-time graduation. Race is the focus of two of the indicators under this topic, including a comparison of black and white students’ Comprehensive English Regents exam results and a comparison between black and Asian foster care youth and whether they are on track to graduate. On-time graduation rates reveal inequalities for students with disabilities and students living in poverty.

SCORES:

The minimal change across indicators in this topic resulted in very little change in **High School Education** (-1.00). The only positive score was for *income and on-time graduation* (+1), yet this change was quite small. Inequalities remained the same in *race and academic performance* (change score of 0), while *race and foster care child education* (-3) and *disability and on-time graduation* (-2) saw small, negative changes.

CONTEXT:

None of the indicator change scores in this topic exceed a magnitude of 3, suggesting that inequalities within high school may be particularly resistant to change. Indeed, as the third phase of **Education** within the purview of DOE, change at the high school level is dependent to some extent on the results at the previous two phases. Many of DOE’s current initiatives fall under the umbrella of the overarching Equity and Excellence for All agenda, which aims to have 80% of students graduating high school on time (and two-thirds college-ready) by 2026. Several components of this agenda, including the Single Shepherd program, did not begin implementation until the fall of 2016, so we will assess the impact that these new initiatives have on **Education** indicators from pre-K to high school in future reports. New initiatives that specifically target students with disabilities and those in foster care may be needed in the future to alleviate some of the additional disparities noted here.

HIGHER EDUCATION (CHANGE SCORE: +0.75)

Higher Education encompasses degree attainment, vocational training, and post-degree employment. Two of the four indicators under this topic look at racial and ethnic disparities in bachelor degree attainment and employment after receiving a degree. The other indicator related to degree attainment focuses specifically on attainment of CUNY science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) degrees, where the biggest inequality is faced by women. The fourth measure is participation in vocational training for sentenced jail inmates.

SCORES:

Higher Education was the lowest-scoring topic in **Education** across both years measured, and saw little change (+0.75). *Race and degree attainment* saw the only positive change in this topic (+4), due to an increase in the percentage of Hispanic respondents who have a bachelor’s degree, although the change was small. Little or no change was noted in any other indicator within the topic. We found no change in *race and post-degree employment* or *incarceration and vocational training* (change scores of 0), and there was only negligible change in *gender and science degrees* (-1).

CONTEXT:

With a student body that includes 29.8% Hispanic, 25.2% black, and 58.0% female students, CUNY is uniquely positioned to address inequality in higher education, especially in STEM degrees for women and degree attainment for underrepresented minorities. They have several initiatives underway to try to address these disparities. At the same time, additional efforts outside CUNY will be needed in order to move the needle within **Higher Education**. For example, vocational training initiatives are run by the Department of Correction (DOC) and are connected to other themes and topics within our framework, including **Economy** and **Employment**. The negligible change in this topic is indicative of its complexity and the integrated efforts that will be needed to produce change.

INDICATOR 17: RACE & PRE-K DIVERSITY

CHANGE SCORE: +8

Indicator defined:	Percentage of pre-Ks with more than 75% of their enrollees from one racial or ethnic group	
Results:	2015: Percentage of pre-Ks with more than 75% of its enrollees from one racial or ethnic group: 36.5%, score 64	2016: Percentage of pre-Ks with more than 75% of its enrollees from one racial or ethnic group: 28.6%, score 72
More findings:	Over a quarter of public pre-Ks (28.6%) had more than 75% of their enrollees from one racial or ethnic group, a decrease from the percentage in the previous academic year (36.5%). A much higher percentage (72.7%) of pre-Ks had a racial or ethnic majority of some kind (i.e., >50%): 32.5% of schools were majority Hispanic, 22.6% were majority black, 10.5% were majority white, and 6.8% were majority Asian. Only roughly a quarter (27.4%) had no racial or ethnic majority.	
Data sources:	Department of Education <i>by request</i> , AY2014-2015 & AY2015-2016	
Context for this indicator:	Increasing diversity in early education has benefits for children’s development, in addition to the potential for reducing prejudice, and the City is making some efforts to improve diversity within its schools. In 2015, the City Council passed the School Diversity Accountability Act to confront segregation and increase diversity in public schools grades pre-K to 12. The law requires DOE to provide demographic data in an annual reports on diversity, including data on race or ethnicity, and calls on the DOE to establish diversity as an institutional priority. The new focus on school diversity could have contributed to the small, positive change in this indicator.	

INDICATOR 18: INCOME & CHILD CARE FACILITIES

CHANGE SCORE: +1

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of parents in the bottom and top income groups without a child care center within a 10-minute walk	
Results:	2015: <\$30,000 (B): 14.3% >\$70,000 (T): 6.5% B-to-T ratio = 2.200, score 39	2016: <\$30,000 (B): 26.8% >\$70,000 (T): 13.4% B-to-T ratio = 2.000, score 40
More findings:	There were increases in the percentages of parents in both the bottom (14.3% to 26.8%) and top (6.5% to 13.4%) income groups that reported there was no child care center within a 10-minute walk of their home, and the disparity between the two remains large. There were also notable racial and ethnic disparities, with more than a quarter of Asian parents (26.4%) indicating there was not a child care center within a 10-minute walk compared to 19.4% of white, 15.2% of Hispanic, and 14.4% of black parents. Lesbian/gay/bisexual parents were also substantially more likely (29.0%) than heterosexual parents (16.4%) and foreign-born parents were more likely (24.3%) than US-born parents (14.2%) to not have a child care center nearby.	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	In 2014, the Administration for Children’s Services and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene formed a task force on early care to evaluate the city’s early care and education system and provide recommendations for improvement. The same year the Administration for Children’s Services committed \$56 million for new EarlyLearn service providers targeted to locations of greatest need throughout the city. The Administration is currently working to increase additional seats for infants and toddlers and ensure that families are aware of the child care options available in their neighborhoods. If these efforts are successful in targeting low-income areas, we will likely see positive change in this indicator in future.	

INDICATOR 19: INCOME & PRE-K QUALITY

CHANGE SCORE: +1

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the average ECERS ratings in pre-Ks in the bottom and top income areas	
Results:	2015: Bottom (B): 3.97 Top (T): 4.39 B-to-T ratio = 1.106, score 80	2016: Bottom (B): 3.81 Top (T): 4.18 B-to-T ratio = 1.097, score 81
More findings:	DOE’s Early Childhood Environmental Rating System (ECERS) rates pre-K programs across six different areas that relate to child development outcomes. The average ECERS rating decreased slightly from the previous year for pre-Ks in both the top (4.39 to 4.18) and bottom (3.97 to 3.81) income areas. The disparity between the two income groups decreased very little from last year, but both groups had an average rating higher than 3.4, which is the level shown to be associated with improved levels of child outcomes.	
Data sources:	Department of Education <i>CLASS and ECERS-R Results by Site</i> , FY2014 & FY2015	
Context for this indicator:	In 2015, the City established Pre-K for All Program Quality Standards. During the same year, DOE expanded the Pre-K Summer Institute to bring professional development, training, and support to pre-K teachers and program leaders across the city, in collaboration with Bank Street College of Education, CUNY, and Fordham University. As more teachers and leaders participate in this program, pre-Ks in all income areas may see an increase in their ECERS ratings, yet additional support to pre-Ks in low-income neighborhoods maybe be needed if disparities are to be decreased.	

INDICATOR 20: FAMILY COMPOSITION & EARLY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT CHANGE SCORE: -2

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of 3- and 4-year-olds living with one and two parents who are not enrolled in school	
Results:	2015: Single parent (SP): 46.7% Two parents (TP): 37.1% SP-to-TP ratio = 1.259, score 73	2016: Single parent (SP): 46.4% Two parents (TP): 36.1% SP-to-TP ratio = 1.284, score 71
More findings:	In the current year, a greater percentage of 3- and 4-year-olds living with one parent (46.4%) than with two parents (36.1%) were not enrolled in school. These percentages were quite similar to the previous year for both children living with one parent (46.7%) and with two parents (37.1%), although the disparity increased slightly. Children living with single fathers were particularly likely not to be enrolled in school (54.2%, up from 53.2%), although those living with single mothers were not too far behind (44.6%, down from 45.1%). Additionally, there was a slight decrease in the disparity between children living in households at or below the poverty threshold (46.9%, down from 47.2%) and children living in households above the poverty threshold (37.2%, down from 38.2%).	
Data sources:	American Community Survey <i>5-year PUMS</i> , 2009-2013 & 2010-2014	
Context for this indicator:	While we did not see increases in enrollment for either group, the City has engaged in extensive outreach to remind parents to enroll their four-year-olds in pre-K programs since the launch of Pre-K For All (or Universal Pre-K), in 2014. To date, these efforts have been successful: enrollment in the 2015-2016 school year was more than triple the enrollment in 2013-2014. These changes would not yet have been captured by our data, so we will closely monitor this number in future years to see whether or not these efforts increased enrollment for children from both single- and dual-parent households.	

Elementary and Middle School Education

INDICATOR 21: RACE & MATH PROFICIENCY

CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and Asians in grades 3-8 rated less than proficient on the math Common Core	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 80.9% Asian (A): 32.6% B-to-A ratio = 2.482, score 37	2016: Black (B): 80.0% Asian (A): 32.2% B-to-A ratio = 2.484, score 37
More findings:	There was no change from last year in the disparity between black and Asian students’ performance on the math Common Core. Eight in 10 black students in grades 3-8 were not proficient on the math Common Core (80.0%), compared to less than a third of Asian students (32.2%). Three-quarters of Hispanics (75.7%) were not proficient, while fewer than half of whites (42.2%) did not achieve proficiency. There was also a large disparity by disability status, with 88.6% of students with disabilities compared to 56.6% of students without disabilities not reaching proficiency, and also by free/reduced lunch status, with 47.5% of students not receiving free/reduced lunches compared to 69.7% of students receiving free/reduced lunch not reaching proficiency. There was little difference by gender, with almost two-thirds of both males (64.4%) and females (62.7%) not proficient in math.	
Data sources:	Department of Education <i>Math Data File</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	The City has implemented a number of initiatives in the past three years to improve middle school students’ academic performance, including expanded after-school programs, the School Renewal Program (providing the most challenged schools with additional funding), instructional resources and experienced leadership, and the Community School expansion. However, there were no noticeable improvements in students’ math proficiency this year, and large disparities remained. Given that the vast majority of black students continue to fall short of proficiency, more targeted initiatives or new programs may be needed.	

INDICATOR 22: RACE & PRINCIPAL EXPERIENCE

CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the median years of principal experience in majority black and majority Asian schools	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 4.00 Asian (A): 8.30 A-to-B ratio = 2.075, score 40	2016: Black (B): 2.55 Asian (A): 5.30 A-to-B ratio = 2.078, score 40
More findings:	While there was no change in the disparity between majority black and majority Asian schools, the median years of principal experience across schools fell from the previous year. Majority Asian schools had the greatest decline of 3 years but still maintained the highest median years of principal experience (5.3, down from 8.3 years). Majority black schools still had the fewest median years (2.6, down from 4.0). The decrease in majority Hispanic schools decreased by over two years (6.2 to 4.0 years), while majority white schools had the smallest decrease (6.1 years to 5.0 years).	
Data sources:	Department of Education <i>School Quality Reports</i> , AY2013-2014 & AY2014-2015	
Context for this indicator:	Principals are important to the success and functioning of schools. Greater experience may help them in improving outcomes and achieving reform, yet experienced principals are not distributed equitably. Although not directly impacting years of experience, DOE has made efforts to provide support to new principals through expansion of the Learning Partners program and the launch of Learning Partners Plus. The program builds relationships between sets of host and partner schools. Host schools have more experienced principals who can mentor new principals at designated partner schools.	

INDICATOR 23: INCOME & BULLYING

CHANGE SCORE: -7

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of students in schools located in the bottom and top income areas who believe students who are different are persistently bullied	
Results:	2015: Bottom (B): 13.3% Top (T): 10.9% B-to-T ratio = 1.218, score 75	2016: Bottom (B): 10.3% Top (T): 7.6% B-to-T ratio = 1.358, score 68
More findings:	In both the bottom and top 20% median income census tracts, the average percentages of students who reported that students at their school were bullied all or most of the time based on differences such as race, immigration status, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability were smaller than the prior year. However, the disparity between the bottom (10.3%, from 13.3%) and top (7.6%, from 10.9%) income areas increased. There were also disparities in general bullying (i.e., not based on differences): on average 28.2% of students in the bottom income areas and 21.9% of students in the top income areas reported general bullying at their schools. In addition, more students on average in schools in the bottom (29.2%) versus the top (17.8%) income areas reported not feeling safe in the area outside their school.	
Data sources:	Department of Education <i>NYC School Survey</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	DOE launched the citywide Respect for All program in 2007 and continues to expand training for school staff and to provide resources for parents to combat harassment, discrimination and bullying. The program includes an annual Respect for All Week in which schools are encouraged to incorporate themes in their lessons and activities such as how to be an ally to a victim of bullying and understanding sexual orientation and gender identity. While this initiative may have contributed to the overall decrease in bullying based on differences, initiatives targeting schools in low-income areas may be needed in order to reduce disparities in safety and harassment.	

INDICATOR 24: DISABILITY & ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

CHANGE SCORE: -9

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of students with and without disabilities in grades 3-8 rated less than proficient on the English Language Arts Common Core	
Results:	2015: With disabilities (WD): 93.1% Without disabilities (WOD): 63.2% WD-to-WOD ratio = 1.473, score 62	2016: With disabilities (WD): 90.7% Without disabilities (WOD): 54.0% WD-to-WOD ratio = 1.680, score 53
More findings:	Students with and without disabilities improved their proficiency on the English Language Arts Common Core, but there was a larger disparity between these groups than in the prior year. More than nine in 10 students with disabilities in grades 3-8 were still rated less than proficient on the English Language Arts Common Core (90.7%), compared to 54.0% of students without disabilities. There were also large racial and ethnic differences in proficiency: 72.8% of Hispanics and 73.4% of blacks were not proficient in English Language Arts compared to 40.8% of Asians and 41.1% of whites. There was also a disparity by free/reduced lunch status, with 45.2% of students not receiving free/reduced lunch compared to 68.6% of students receiving free/reduced lunch not reaching proficiency.	
Data sources:	Department of Education <i>English Language Arts Data File</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	DOE’s Fair Student Funding formula takes into account students who require extra support, including students with special needs, when allocating funding to schools. In 2015, Mayor de Blasio announced an additional \$60 million annually to provide funding to 130 identified schools. This may have contributed to the small improvement in English proficiency overall from the prior year; however, given that the vast majority of students with disabilities still are not reaching proficiency, greater academic support and initiatives specifically targeting these students seem to be warranted.	

High School Education

INDICATOR 25: RACE & ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of black and white high school students not passing the Comprehensive English Regents exam	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 29.5% White (W): 14.4% B-to-W ratio: 2.049, score 40	2016: Black (B): 29.2% White (W): 14.2% B-to-W ratio: 2.056, score 40
More findings:	The percentages of black and white high school students not passing the Comprehensive English Regents exam remained almost unchanged from the prior year with only a slight decrease in both percentages (29.5% to 29.2% for black students and 14.4% to 14.2% for white students). Hispanic students fared as poorly as black students, with 29.0% not passing compared to 15.7% of Asian students. A similar disparity was found between economically disadvantaged students (26.8%) and students not facing economic disadvantage (19.6%).	
Data sources:	NYS Education Department <i>NYC Public Schools School Report Card</i> , 2013-2014 & 2014-2015	
Context for this indicator:	While we saw no change in proficiency or disparities this year, we may see improvements in future years through a new program, the Single Shepherd program. Part of DOE’s Equity and Excellence for All agenda, this program will pair all students in grades 6-12 in Districts 7 and 23 with a dedicated counselor to provide academic, social, and emotional support. Districts 7 and 23 are both over 96% black and Hispanic, so this initiative, which began implementation in Fall 2016, may directly impact blacks’ and Hispanics’ proficiency rates.	

INDICATOR 26: RACE & FOSTER CARE CHILD EDUCATION

CHANGE SCORE: -3

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of black and Asian foster care children 17-years-old or older enrolled in high school who are not on track to graduate	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 76.7% Asian (A): 65.7% B-to-A ratio = 1.167, score 77	2016: Black (B): 77.6% Asian (A): 62.8% B-to-A ratio = 1.236, score 74
More findings:	Overall, 76.7% of children in foster care aged 17-years-old or older were not on track to graduate high school, which is similar to the previous year; however, the disparity between black and Asian foster care children increased somewhat (77.6% of black children compared to 62.8% of Asian children). Rates among Hispanic (76.2%) and white children (77.2%) were similar to those of black children. There were also differences by gender and age group: males (79.9%) were more likely than females (73.8%) and 17- to 19-year-olds (77.1%) were more likely than 20- to 21-year-olds (71.3%) to not be on track to graduate.	
Data sources:	Administration for Children’s Services <i>High School Graduation Rates of Youth in Foster Care Annual Report</i> , AY2013-2014 & AY2014-2015	
Context for this indicator:	Failure to graduate on time may put already vulnerable foster care children at an even further disadvantage. The City has taken an interest in the achievement of children in foster care, passing legislation that requires the Administration for Children’s Services to report data on foster care youth’s high school graduation rates, employment, and housing outcomes on an annual basis in 2014. Furthermore, several charter schools, including Mott Haven Academy, Broome Street Academy, and ROADS Charter Schools, have special resources and services for foster care youth. Foster care children may also benefit from alternative programs such as DOE’s Transfer Schools, or Youth Adult Borough Centers. However, given the lack of improvement in outcomes so far, more or different types of support may be needed.	

INDICATOR 27: DISABILITY & ON-TIME GRADUATION

CHANGE SCORE: -2

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of students with and without disabilities not graduating from high school in four years	
Results:	2015: With disabilities (WD): 63.4% Without disabilities (WOD): 30.6% WD-to-WOD ratio = 2.072, score 40	2016: With disabilities (WD): 62.4% Without disabilities (WOD): 26.8% WD-to-WOD ratio = 2.328, score 38
More findings:	The percentages of students with disabilities (62.4%) and without disabilities (26.8%) that did not graduate on time both decreased from the previous year, but the disparity between the groups increased slightly. Racial and ethnic disparities were also notable with 39.6% of Hispanic students and 38.3% of black students not graduating on time, compared to 19.9% of white students and 17.5% of Asian students.	
Data sources:	Department of Education <i>Graduation Results</i> , June 2014 & June 2015	
Context for this indicator:	In June 2016, the New York State Board of Regents voted to reduce the number of Regents exams required for students with disabilities to graduate from five to two. Qualifying students must have a current Individualized Education Program and must pass English and math Regents exams. Superintendents will also be allowed to review other documentation of proficiency when awarding diplomas. This ruling is likely to increase on-time graduation rates for students with disabilities in future years; however, we note that it may not actually improve their academic performance and recommend that this change be accompanied by greater efforts to help them pass Regents exams.	

INDICATOR 28: INCOME & ON-TIME GRADUATION

CHANGE SCORE: +1

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of 18-year-olds living below and above the poverty line who have a high school diploma or higher	
Results:	2015: Below poverty line (B): 45.6% Above poverty line (A): 60.5% A-to-B ratio = 1.325, score 69	2016: Below poverty line (B): 44.6% Above poverty line (A): 58.5% A-to-B ratio = 1.312, score 70
More findings:	Less than half (44.6%) of 18-year-olds living below the poverty line had a high school diploma, compared to more than half (58.5%) of 18-year-olds living above the poverty line. The small improvement from the previous year is due to smaller percentages possessing a diploma for both groups: 45.6% to 44.6% for those living below the poverty line and 60.5% to 58.5% for those living above it.	
Data sources:	American Community Survey <i>5-year PUMS</i> , 2009-2013 & 2014-2015	
Context for this indicator:	DOE’s Public School Choice program was introduced in 2004 to give students who attend low-performing schools an opportunity to transfer to better-performing schools. Priority is given to students who are low-performing and low-income. This program has the potential to increase academic opportunity and achievement for some students living in low-income areas, but to fully address the remaining inequality in this indicator, low-performing schools themselves need to be improved, rather than simply transferring students from them.	

INDICATOR 29: RACE & DEGREE ATTAINMENT

CHANGE SCORE: +4

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of Hispanics and whites who do not have a bachelor’s degree	
Results:	2015: Hispanic (H): 63.3% White (W): 35.3% H-to-W ratio = 1.791, score 49	2016: Hispanic (H): 58.8% White (W): 35.1% H-to-W ratio = 1.675, score 53
More findings:	Overall, 46.6% of respondents did not have a bachelor’s degree or higher; of these, 5.7% did not have a high school diploma. The percentage of white respondents without a bachelor’s degree was similar to the prior year (35.1% compared to 35.3% last year), while the percentage for Hispanic respondents decreased (58.8% down from 63.3%), lessening the disparity between the two groups. The percentages of black respondents (54.0%) and Asian respondents (41.5%) that have less than a bachelor’s degree also decreased from the prior year. 63.9% of respondents with a physical disability and 62.8% of respondents with an intellectual disability had less than a bachelor’s degree, compared to only 46.2% of respondents without a disability.	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	DOE & CUNY’s Graduate NYC! initiative was created in 2010 with the goal of more than doubling the number of CUNY college degree recipients—many of whom are racial and ethnic minorities—by 2020. In recent years, the focus of this program has shifted toward more equitable outcomes with targeted resources and interventions aimed at increasing rates of college readiness, associate degree completion, and bachelor’s degree enrollment for black and Hispanic students. This year’s change score may be an early sign of the potential positive impact of this program on degree attainment among racial and ethnic minorities.	

INDICATOR 30: RACE & POST-DEGREE EMPLOYMENT

CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of recent black and white graduates who are unemployed	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 25.9% White (W): 10.0% B-to-W ratio = 2.590, score 37	2016: Black (B): 24.0% White (W): 9.5% B-to-W ratio = 2.526, score 37
More findings:	The percentage of recent graduates who are unemployed declined overall from the previous year, but the inequality between blacks and whites remained unchanged. Among black recent graduates, almost one-quarter were unemployed (24.0%, down from 25.9% in the previous year). For whites, the percentage was one in ten (9.5%, down from 10.0%). The percentages for Hispanic and Asian recent graduates also decreased slightly: 18.7%, down from 19.1% for Hispanic recent graduates, and 14.8%, down from 15.0% for Asian recent graduates.	
Data sources:	American Community Survey 5-year PUMS, 2009-2013 & 2010-2014	
Context for this indicator:	Both CUNY and the City have initiatives underway to increase the employment of recent graduates, including a partnership with Revature to provide free coding bootcamps to CUNY graduates, and the City’s new Tech Talent Pipeline and Industry Partnership initiatives. However, such efforts may need to target racial and ethnic minorities specifically in order to reduce disparities. One such effort is CUNY’s Black Male Initiative, which incorporates career development components that, when expanded and institutionalized, may increase future employment opportunities for black CUNY graduates.	

INDICATOR 31: GENDER & SCIENCE DEGREES

CHANGE SCORE: -1

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of female and male CUNY degree recipients whose degrees are in STEM fields	
Results:	2015: Women (W): 7.4% Men (M): 18.9% M-to-W ratio = 2.569, score 37	2016: Women (W): 8.0% Men (M): 21.0% M-to-W ratio = 2.625, score 36
More findings:	Men were much more likely to get STEM degrees than women: 21.0% of male CUNY graduates received their degrees in STEM fields compared to only 8.0% of female graduates. While the percentage increased slightly for both men and women, the disparity was slightly higher than the previous year. Of those getting STEM degrees, women were the most likely to get their degrees in science disciplines (59.7%) followed distantly by technology (21.0%), while men were most likely to get them in technology (50.0%) followed by science (26.1%). Within racial and ethnic groups, Asians were by far the most likely to get their degrees in STEM fields (19.4%), followed by blacks (12.3%), whites (11.8%), and Hispanics (10.0%).	
Data sources:	CUNY Office of Institutional Research <i>website</i> , AY2013-2014 & AY2014-2015	
Context for this indicator:	CUNY has several initiatives to address the gender disparity in STEM degrees, including Science Now, which provides science and engineering research projects for K-12 students, and the Women in Science program, which organizes events for college students. However, the small change and persistent inequality in this indicator highlights the need for programs specifically encouraging women to pursue science degrees, or to provide support to women currently pursuing such degrees. One example is CUNY’s new tech education initiative Women in Technology and Entrepreneurship in NY. Another was recently developed by Dr. Preethi Radhakrishnan at LaGuardia Community College, who was awarded a \$30,000 Elsevier Foundation grant to develop a program to encourage women to pursue STEM careers.	

INDICATOR 32: INCARCERATION & VOCATIONAL TRAINING

CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Percentage of the average daily sentenced jail population not attending vocational training	
Results:	2015: Percentage not attending vocational training: 256 of 2,143 or 88.1%, score 12	2016: Percentage not attending vocational training: 226 of 2,042 or 88.9%, score 12
More findings:	While the average daily jail population was 9,790, the majority of these inmates were pretrial detainees; the average daily sentenced population was 2,042. The vast majority of sentenced jail inmates did not attend vocational training (88.9%), which may restrict their opportunities upon release from prison and contribute to the cycle of incarceration. The percentage not attending vocational training remained relatively unchanged from the prior year (88.1%).	
Data sources:	Department of Correction, <i>by request</i> and <i>Mayor’s Management Report</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Participation in vocational training may be increased both by increasing programming and increasing the types of programming offered. One example is Working I.T. Out, a federally funded re-entry program launched by DOC in 2014 that trained 140 sentenced adult male and female inmates at Rikers Island jails in Green Technology both pre- and post-release. This and similar programs will likely need to be expanded and new ones added before the proportion attending vocational training increases.	



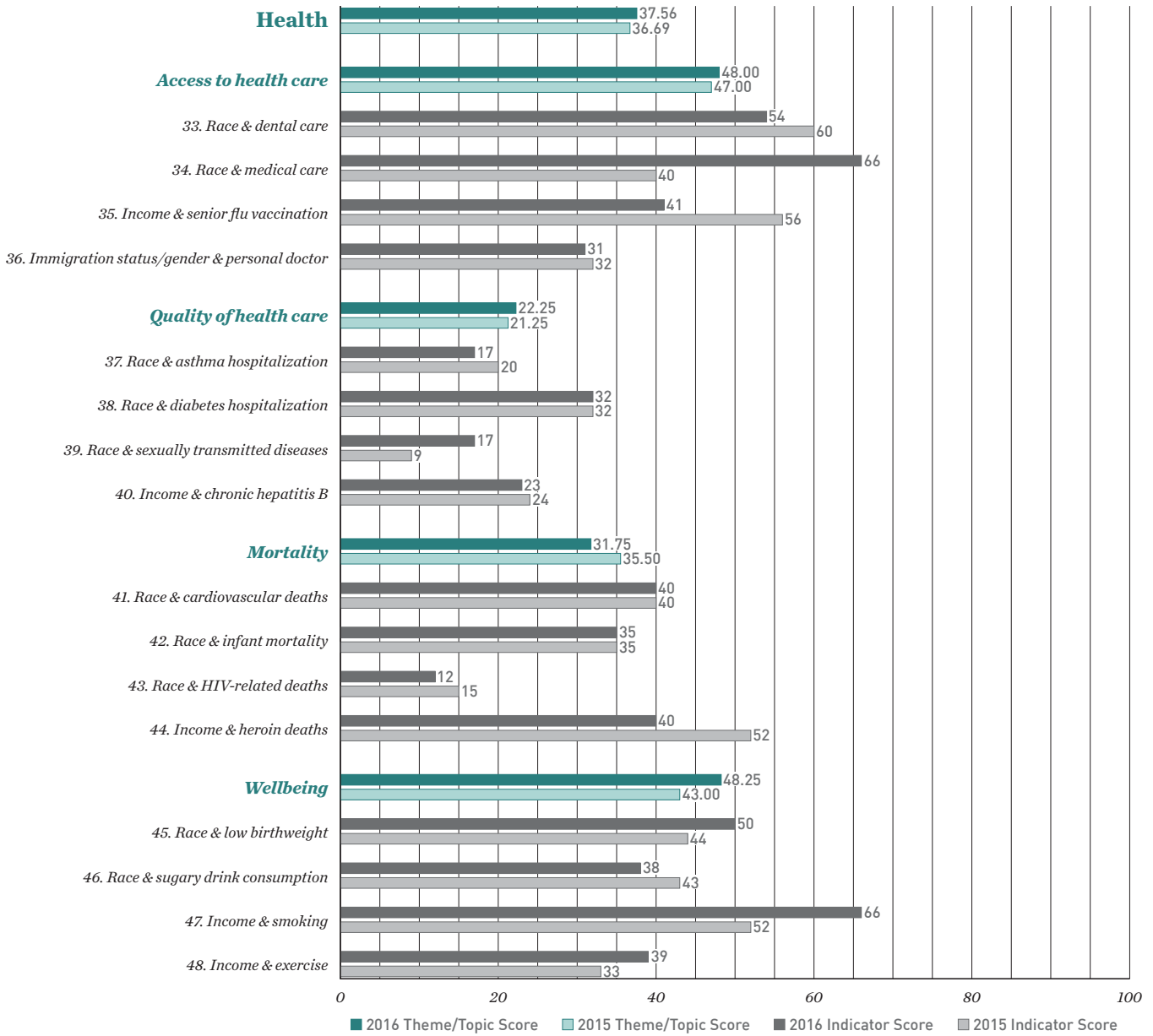
Section 4.5 Health

Health

2016 CHANGE SCORE:
+0.88

Inequalities in health receive little attention in the media and public discourse, yet our findings show that there are dramatic inequalities in this area. Our indicators examine disparities not only in whether people receive care, but whether the care they receive is effective, and their general health and wellbeing. Prior research has revealed sizable racial and ethnic disparities in health care, and 10 indicators compare racial and ethnic groups. Our remaining six indicators in the theme examine disparities based on income and on immigration status. Recognizing the existing disparities, particularly among racial and ethnic minorities, NYC’s Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) created the Center for Health Equity to strengthen and amplify the Health Department’s work to eliminate health inequities, which are rooted in historical and contemporary injustices and discrimination, including racism.

Health demonstrated little change since last year (change score of +0.88) and, consistent with last year, it had lowest static score among all six themes (37.56). At the topic level, only *Mortality* had a negative change (-3.75). The other three topics showed positive change: both *Access to Health Care* and *Quality of Health Care* increased slightly (+1.00), while *Wellbeing* increased by more than five points (+5.25).



ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE (CHANGE SCORE: +1.00)

Access to Health Care assesses to what extent different groups have comparable access to basic medical and preventive care, ranging from access to a primary care physician, dentist, and needed care, as well as vaccination for influenza. Within this area, we looked at racial and ethnic minorities, seniors, individuals living in poverty, and immigrants. **Access to Health Care** was one of the higher-scoring indicators in the **Health** theme, but with little change there is still evidence of marked inequality in this area.

SCORES:

The topic **Access to Health Care** had a small, but positive change score of +1.00. However, large variations were found at the indicator level with indicator change scores ranging from -15 to +26. Among the four indicators, only *race and access to medical care* showed improvement (+26), yet its score was large enough to cancel out the impact of the other three indicators, all of which were negative. *Race and dental care*, *income and senior flu vaccination*, and *immigration status/gender and personal doctor* all showed increases in disparities with change scores of -6, -15, and -1, respectively.

CONTEXT:

DOHMH has directly targeted several of these indicators, launching ad campaigns to educate the public about tooth decay, flu vaccinations, and health insurance (which has a vast impact on the likelihood of receiving needed care) every year from 2013 to 2015. The Mayor’s office has also sought to improve access to healthcare, announcing the launch of the Caring Neighborhoods initiative to provide healthcare services in underserved neighborhoods in 2015. Focusing specifically on access for immigrants, the Mayor’s Task Force on Immigrant Health Care Access was launched in 2014 and released their findings and recommendations in 2015. In response to these recommendations, the Mayor announced the Direct Access health initiative to expand coverage for undocumented immigrants in 2015. Despite these efforts, the scores in this topic suggest that greater efforts are needed to improve disadvantaged groups’ access to health care in NYC.

QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE (CHANGE SCORE: +1.00)

Quality of Health Care measures quality of care across races and income levels by looking at four diseases that typically can be prevented or managed with adequate health care. The first three indicators under this topic compare blacks and whites in terms of their hospitalization rates for asthma, their hospitalization rates for diabetes, and their chlamydia rates, a sexually transmitted disease (STD). The final indicator compares rates of chronic hepatitis B diagnoses among different income levels. The topic **Quality of Health Care** not only received the lowest score (with a static topic score of 22.25) under the theme of **Health**, it also scored the second lowest among all 24 topics included in the Equality Indicators.

SCORES:

Similar to the previous topic, **Quality of Health Care** had a small, but positive change score of +1.00. Among the four indicators under this topic, only one had a positive change, while one had no change and the other two showed small amounts of negative change. Some improvement was found in the disparity in chlamydia rates between blacks and whites (+8), although the differences remained large. Disparities in blacks’ and whites’ hospitalization rates for asthma increased somewhat (-3), although no change was found in the level of inequality in diabetes hospitalization rates (0). A slight, negative change was noted in the disparities between high and low poverty individuals in rates of newly diagnosed chronic hepatitis B (-1).

CONTEXT:

DOHMH has a number of initiatives aimed at healthy eating, which may help to keep diabetes under control, in addition to preventing new cases. They have also launched a number of campaigns designed to increase condom use and use of medications that can be used to prevent STDs, in addition to increasing the numbers of people getting tested; these campaigns may prevent the spread of chlamydia and other STDs. They have also launched the Check Hep B Program and Viral Hepatitis Initiative to increase testing and improve health outcomes for people with chronic hepatitis B and C. While increasing testing may increase the number of new cases reported—which could be related to the negative change we noted—it also means that those with the disease may be more likely to receive treatment.

MORTALITY (CHANGE SCORE: -3.75)

The **Mortality** topic area includes four causes of death that might have been prevented or significantly forestalled through better health care. Three of these indicators look at race and ethnicity, comparing mortality rates due to heart disease, infant mortality, and HIV. The fourth indicator compares heroin overdose death rates by neighborhood poverty levels.

SCORES:

The topic **Mortality** was the only **Health** topic that had a negative change score (-3.75) and this score was due primarily to the decrease in score for the indicator *income and heroin deaths* (-12). Measures related to differential rates of death from heart disease and infant mortality saw no change from the previous year (both with change scores of 0). Inequality between blacks and whites is most pronounced in the rate of HIV-related deaths: its score declined -3 from the previous year to a static score of 12.

CONTEXT:

DOHMH has several initiatives designed to decrease early and preventable mortality, although most target the city as a whole, rather than targeting specific disadvantaged populations. Their healthy eating initiatives, in combination with new sodium warning labels, may help to reduce heart disease, while the City’s Safe Sleep campaign seeks to reduce infant mortality by educating parents and caregivers about safe sleeping practices. As noted above, DOHMH has several initiatives aimed at increasing STD testing and condom use, in addition to the PreP & PEP initiative which works to increase awareness of HIV prevention medications. Finally, increased availability and access to naloxone, an overdose-reversing medication, can indirectly prevent heroin-related deaths. The City made naloxone available without a prescription at participating pharmacies in 2015; however, increased efforts to make naloxone available in low-income neighborhoods may be needed in order to decrease disparities in this area.

WELLBEING (CHANGE SCORE: +5.25)

The area of **Wellbeing** may encompass physical, emotional, mental, and social health, and is an important aspect of quality of life. Here, we look at disparities by race and ethnicity and among income groups, examining differences between blacks and whites and those living in high and low poverty areas. This topic assesses racial inequality in low birthweight and consumption of sugary drinks, and income inequality in smoking and lack of exercise.

SCORES:

The topic **Wellbeing** showed the greatest positive change within **Health** (+5.25), with three of the four indicators demonstrating positive change and only one negative. The indicator *income and smoking* had the highest positive change score in this topic (+14). Two other indicators demonstrated smaller but also positive change scores of +6, one comparing low birthweight among black and white children, and one looking at exercise among different income groups. Only the indicator comparing sugary drink consumption between blacks and whites saw increasing inequality with a negative change score of -5.

CONTEXT:

The likelihood of babies being born with low birthweight is increased by preterm births, which are more likely to occur in cases of teen pregnancy and when mothers smoked during pregnancy. The former was targeted by Human Resources Administration’s (HRAs) Teen Pregnancy Prevention campaign, and a number of initiatives aimed at reducing smoking may influence both rates of smoking during pregnancy and rates of smoking overall for teens and adults in NYC. Since 2013, City Council has passed several measures to restrict access to tobacco and smoking areas, while DOHMH has released multiple anti-smoking ads highlighting the negative impacts of smoking. In June 2013 and June 2015, DOHMH launched new ad campaigns to increase awareness of the high sugar content in drinks and the negative impact they may have on health. Finally, the creation of the Center for Active Design in 2013 and the launch of the Community Parks Initiative in 2014 are meant to promote physical activity and increase opportunities for physical activity; while these are not directly aimed at exercise, they may have similar health benefits.

Access to Health Care

INDICATOR 33: RACE & DENTAL CARE

CHANGE SCORE: -6

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of Asians and whites who have not had a dental cleaning in the past year	
Results:	2015: Asian (A): 50.6% White (W): 33.2% W-to-A ratio = 1.524, score 60	2016: Asian (A): 59.4% White (W): 35.6% W-to-A ratio = 1.669, score 54
More findings:	Asians/Pacific Islanders were most likely not to have had their teeth cleaned by a dental professional in the past year (59.4%), followed by blacks (42.6%) and Hispanics (45.3%), with whites reporting the least likelihood (35.6%). Additionally, 19.6% of Asian/Pacific Islander respondents had never had a dental cleaning, which was more than five times the percentage of any other racial group. Disparities increased from the previous year: the percentage of Asians who had not received dental care in the past year increased, while the percentage was equivalent for whites. Income also influenced the likelihood of having a dental cleaning: 53.6% of people in the lowest income group compared to 26.1% of those in the highest had not a dental cleaning in the past year. ¹	
Data sources:	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Community Health Survey EpiQuery</i> , 2014 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Community Health Survey by request</i> , 2015	
Context for this indicator:	In 2013, DOHMH launched an ad campaign to educate the public about tooth decay and promote awareness of oral health. While it was designed to increase dental health, the percentage of those visiting dentists in the most recent 12-month period decreased, while disparities increased somewhat. In 2015, City Council restored its funding for the NYU College of Dentistry’s Mobile Dental Van Program for the fiscal year 2016, which is meant to increase dental care access for NYC school children. While it may increase the percentage of children receiving dental care, it may need to target specific groups in order to reduce disparities.	

INDICATOR 34: RACE & MEDICAL CARE

CHANGE SCORE: +26

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of Hispanics and whites who did not receive medical care they needed in the past year	
Results:	2015: Hispanic (H): 13.7% White (W): 6.6% H-to-W ratio = 2.076, score 40	2016: Hispanic (H): 12.1% White (W): 8.7% H-to-W ratio = 1.391, score 66
More findings:	A higher percentage of Hispanics reported that they had not received needed medical care in the past year (12.1%) than blacks (9.9%), Asians/Pacific Islanders (9.0%), or whites (8.7%), although only the difference between whites and Hispanics was statistically significant. Data from the previous year suggest that racial differences are decreasing: 13.7% of Hispanics and 6.6% of whites reported not receiving needed medical care during that time period. People with private insurance were least likely to have gone without care in the past year (7.9%), while people with Medicaid (10.6%) and the uninsured (19.7%) were most likely.	
Data sources:	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Community Health Survey EpiQuery</i> , 2014 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Community Health Survey by request</i> , 2015	
Context for this indicator:	DOHMH and HRA have launched several ad campaigns designed to encourage people to sign up for health insurance, which should increase their ability to receive needed care. In 2015, the City launched the Caring Neighborhoods initiative to create and expand more community health centers to provide healthcare services in underserved neighborhoods. While likely too recent to account for the positive change in our indicator—particularly given that it was partially driven by an increase in the percentage of whites lacking care—these initiatives may help to effect positive change in the future by increasing access to community healthcare and insurance.	

¹Note that in the 2015 Community Health Survey indicators of household income, income was imputed for respondents with missing income data. Income was not imputed for respondents in the 2014 CHS data.

INDICATOR 35: INCOME & SENIOR FLU VACCINATION

CHANGE SCORE: -15

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the influenza non-vaccination rates for people aged 65 and older in the bottom and top income groups	
Results:	2015: Bottom (B): 39.8% Top (T): 24.8% T-to-B ratio = 1.605, score 56	2016: Bottom (B): 39.1% Top (T): 19.6% T-to-B ratio = 1.995, score 41
More findings:	Among people 65 and older, large income-based differences were found in flu vaccination rates with those living in poverty [<100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)] markedly more likely to report not having been vaccinated (39.1%) than those from more affluent households (≥ 600% of the FPL; 19.6%). There were also racial and ethnic differences within this age group, with blacks the least likely to get a flu vaccination (44.1% unvaccinated) compared to Hispanics (34.2%), whites (34.1%), and Asians (18.4%). Since the previous year, reported vaccination rates among New Yorkers 65 and older from low-income (39.8% unvaccinated) and from high-income (24.8% unvaccinated) households tended to increase, but the numerical increase was greater among affluent households and the disparity also increased.	
Data sources:	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Community Health Survey EpiQuery</i> , 2014 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Community Health Survey by request</i> , 2015	
Context for this indicator:	DOHMH targets influenza each year via a flu shot ad campaign to remind New Yorkers to get vaccinated to prevent influenza infection. They have also launched several programs aimed at increasing vaccination among children, who are also at a higher risk than working-age adults. However, more efforts may be needed to target influenza among seniors who are at increased risk of influenza-related hospitalization and death; no significant changes in citywide vaccination rates for those 65 and older were found between this year and the previous.	

INDICATOR 36: IMMIGRATION STATUS/GENDER & PERSONAL DOCTOR CHANGE SCORE: -1

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of foreign-born men and US-born women without a personal doctor or health care provider	
Results:	2015: Foreign-born men (FBM): 26.3% US-born women (UBW): 8.1% FBM-to-UBW ratio = 3.247, score 32	2016: Foreign-born men (FBM): 28.4% US-born women (UBW): 8.4% FBM-to-UBW ratio = 3.381, score 31
More findings:	The likelihood of having a regular doctor was influenced by both gender and immigration status: foreign-born men were three times more likely to report not having a regular doctor (28.4%) than US-born women were (8.4%), although there was little difference between foreign-born women (15.9%) and US-born men (14.6%). These differences seem to persist, as similar disparities were found the previous year. Racial and ethnic disparities were also large: Hispanics were more than two times as likely (25.5%) as whites (10.5%) not to have a regular doctor, while blacks and Asians fell in between the two (14.3% and 18.0%, respectively).	
Data sources:	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Community Health Survey EpiQuery</i> , 2014 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Community Health Survey by request</i> , 2015	
Context for this indicator:	In 2014 and 2015, DOHMH and HRA launched ad campaigns to remind New Yorkers to sign up for a health insurance plan, which may increase the number of people with a primary care physician. In 2015, the City planned to provide health care access for immigrant New Yorkers through a new Direct Access health initiative. In May 2016, the Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs launched a campaign to remind immigrant New Yorkers of their eligible benefits under Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, including access to health care. These initiatives are fairly new, but it is possible that they may result in fewer disparities for immigrants in the future.	

INDICATOR 37: RACE & ASTHMA HOSPITALIZATION CHANGE SCORE: -3

Indicator defined:	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ hospitalization rates due to asthma	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 476.3 (per 100,000) White (W): 91.7 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 5.192, score 20	2016: Black (B): 455.1 (per 100,000) White (W): 76.9 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 5.917, score 17
More findings:	Blacks are nearly six times more likely (455.1 per 100,000) than whites (76.9) to be hospitalized for asthma; the rate for Hispanics is also high (313.2). While blacks’ rates of hospitalization for asthma decreased from the previous year, the rate for whites decreased further, leading to a small negative change score this year. Hispanics are more likely to be admitted through the emergency room (98.8%) compared to blacks (98.4%) and whites (97.6%). However, on average, whites end up staying in the hospital longer: 4.0 days, as compared to 3.2 days for Hispanics and blacks. Across all racial and ethnic groups, women (2.2%) have similar hospitalization rates to men (1.9%).	
Data sources:	Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System <i>Hospital Inpatient Discharges</i> , 2013 & 2014	
Context for this indicator:	In November 2014, DOHMH and Montefiore Medical Center began conducting a two-year study to examine whether pest control can effectively reduce asthma hospitalization among children. If so, the results of this study may be used to guide policies targeting pest control in NYC, particularly in low-income and minority neighborhoods. Along these lines, the City developed an Integrated Pest Management Tool Kit in 2016 to promote allergen reduction through pest control. As more New Yorkers become aware of the tool kit, we may see positive change in this indicator.	

INDICATOR 38: RACE & DIABETES HOSPITALIZATION CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ hospitalization rates due to diabetes	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 420.6 (per 100,000) White (W): 130.8 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 3.216, score 32	2016: Black (B): 373.7 (per 100,000) White (W): 113.3 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 3.299, score 32
More findings:	Out of 17,330 individuals hospitalized for diabetes for whom race/ethnicity was known, 40.8% were blacks, 26.0% were Hispanics, 17.9% were whites, and 15.3% represented other racial/ethnic groups. While hospitalization rates across racial and ethnic groups decreased, the hospitalization rate of 373.7 for blacks was still three times higher than the rate for whites (113.3), similar to the previous year. Hispanics and blacks were also more likely than whites (97.4%, 97.1%, and 91.4%, respectively) to be admitted to the hospital through the emergency room for diabetes complications. Length of stay, however, was higher for whites (6.2 days) than it was for blacks (5.7 days) and Hispanics (5.7 days).	
Data sources:	Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System <i>Hospital Inpatient Discharges</i> , 2013 & 2014	
Context for this indicator:	Healthy diets containing less sugar may help individuals with diabetes to manage the disease, preventing hospitalization. Shop Healthy NYC was launched in 2013 and expanded in 2015 to increase access to healthy foods for residents with limited access to nutritious foods, which may include minorities and those living in poverty. In 2014, DOHMH launched the “Take Me With You” ad campaign to remind New Yorkers the importance of healthy eating and the Farm to Preschool program to increase access to healthy food at 11 participating preschools. It is possible that programs like these may be partially behind the general reduction in diabetes hospitalizations, although more targeted interventions may be needed to reduce disparities.	

INDICATOR 39: RACE & SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES CHANGE SCORE: +8

Indicator defined:	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ chlamydia rates	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 774.3 (per 100,000) White (W): 98.4 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 7.868, score 9	2016: Black (B): 785.0 (per 100,000) White (W): 136.0 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 5.773, score 17
More findings:	Racial and ethnic differences in STD rates were considerable, with blacks almost six times more likely to be diagnosed with chlamydia (785.0 per 100,000) than whites (136.0), seven times more likely than Asians/Pacific Islanders (108.0), and two times as likely as Hispanics (399.4). The differences in gonorrhea rates were also large: 267.6 for blacks, 111.7 for Hispanics, 85.1 for whites and 23.6 for Asians. Worryingly, with the exception of Hispanics, both chlamydia and gonorrhea rates increased for all racial and ethnic groups from the previous year. However, increases in chlamydia were greater among whites than blacks, which meant that disparities decreased.	
Data sources:	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>by request</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	In response to increasing STD rates citywide, DOHMH launched campaigns to promote condom use in 2015, and a campaign the following year to remind young New Yorkers to get tested and treated for STDs. Alongside these ad campaigns, they announced expanded hours for STD clinics and introduced the #PlaySure kit to promote condom use. While we may see temporary increases in cases as more people are tested, increased testing can also increase the proportion of people receiving treatment and prevent the spread of STDs, lowering subsequent rates.	

INDICATOR 40: INCOME & CHRONIC HEPATITIS B CHANGE SCORE: -1

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the rates of newly diagnosed chronic hepatitis B in the highest and lowest poverty areas	
Results:	2015: Very high poverty area (VHP): 128.8 (per 100,000) Low poverty area (LP): 28.4 (per 100,000) VHP -to-LP ratio = 4.535, score 24	2016: Very high poverty area (VHP): 132.5 (per 100,000) Low poverty area (LP): 28.2 (per 100,000) VHP -to-LP ratio = 4.699, score 23
More findings:	Considerable income-based differences were found in the prevalence of newly diagnosed chronic hepatitis B, with the likelihood increasing as poverty increases. Residents living in very high poverty areas (≥30% of people below the FPL) had the highest new chronic hepatitis B rate (132.5 per 100,000) compared to individuals from high poverty (81.7), medium poverty (81.2) and low poverty (28.2) areas (<10 below the FPL). When broken down by borough, Brooklyn residents had the highest chronic hepatitis B rate (95.5) and Staten Island residents had the lowest chronic hepatitis B rate (27.8). Chronic hepatitis B rates for residents from the other three boroughs fell between the two [Queens (91.3), the Bronx (71.9), and Manhattan (66.3)].	
Data sources:	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Communicable Disease EpiQuery</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	In 2014, the City launched the Check Hep B Program to increase testing and improve health outcomes for people with chronic hepatitis B. In FY16, the City Council created a new Viral Hepatitis Initiative and allocated \$975,000 to community health organizations to provide hepatitis B and C prevention and clinical care services, and committed to fund \$1.5 million for the Viral Hepatitis Initiative the following year. While the latter two initiatives are fairly new, they may help to increase the proportion of patients receiving treatment and decrease the rates of new cases in the future. They may need to target specific areas of the city in order to reduce disparities, however.	

INDICATOR 41: RACE & CARDIOVASCULAR DEATHS

CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Ratio between blacks’ and Asians’ heart disease mortality rates	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 216.7 (per 100,000) Asian (A): 100.9 (per 100,000) B-to-A ratio = 2.148, score 40	2016: Black (B): 206.7 (per 100,000) Asian (A): 98.4 (per 100,000) B-to-A ratio = 2.101, score 40
More findings:	Across all racial and ethnic groups, blacks are most likely to die from heart disease (206.7 per 100,000, age adjusted), followed by whites (196.3), Hispanics (133.0), and Asians/Pacific Islanders (98.4), although rates overall have decreased across groups. The rate for black men (264.7) is highest, although men generally, regardless of their race or ethnicity, die from heart disease at a markedly higher rates than women (219.3 and 146.8, respectively). When broken down by borough, Staten Island residents are most likely to die from heart disease (229.4 per 100,000, age adjusted), compared to the Bronx (194.3), Brooklyn (178.6), Queens (154.8), and Manhattan (134.3).	
Data sources:	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Vital Statistics EpiQuery</i> , 2013 & 2014	
Context for this indicator:	Low salt intake can prevent high blood pressure and reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke, which would reduce cardiovascular deaths. In 2013, DOHMH launched an ad campaign to encourage New Yorkers to buy products with less sodium. Additionally, the NYC sodium warning label rule, which requires national chain food service establishments to post labels next to items with 2,300 milligrams or more of sodium, came into effect on December 1, 2015. Initiatives like these may be responsible for decreasing mortality rates overall, but may need to target blacks and men specifically to reduce disparities. Initiatives targeting obesity may also help to reduce disparities in this area, as obesity is linked to cardiovascular disease and is more prevalent among blacks than whites.	

INDICATOR 42: RACE & INFANT MORTALITY

CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the infant mortality rates for black and white mothers	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 8.3 (per 1,000 live births) White (W): 3.0 (per 1,000 live births) B-to-W ratio = 2.767, score 35	2016: Black (B): 7.5 (per 1,000 live births) White (W): 2.6 (per 1,000 live births) B-to-W ratio = 2.885, score 35
More findings:	While rates have decreased overall, the racial/ethnic gap in the infant mortality rate is substantial with black infants almost three times more likely to die in infancy (7.5 per 1,000 live births) than whites (2.6) and Asians (2.6), and nearly twice as likely as Hispanics other than Puerto Ricans (Puerto Ricans: 7.6; other Hispanics: 4.1). Mortality is higher among infants of US-born mothers (4.8) than those of foreign-born mothers (3.2), though when looking at maternal birthplace, those from Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and Honduras have the highest rates of infant mortality (7.9, 7.3 and 6.8, respectively). Maternal education also tends to be associated with infant mortality: infant mortality rates for those with less than a bachelor’s degree (4.8) are more than twice the rate for those with a bachelor’s degree or above (2.3).	
Data sources:	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Vital Statistics EpiQuery</i> , 2013 & 2014	
Context for this indicator:	There are several initiatives designed to reduce infant mortality at the state and city level, yet significant disparities remain. In fact, DOHMH cited racial and ethnic disparities in infant mortality as part of the impetus for creating the Center for Health Equity, which is designed to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in health citywide. DOHMH is currently analyzing infant mortality data to create an infant mortality rate disparity reduction strategy, which will hopefully help to reduce disparities in future. In targeting infant mortality across the city, DOHMH launched a new Safe Sleep campaign in 2015 to raise awareness of safe sleep habits and reduce preventable infant deaths.	

INDICATOR 43: RACE & HIV-RELATED DEATHS

CHANGE SCORE: -3

Indicator defined:	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ HIV-related death rates	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 14.8 (per 100,000) White (W): 2.3 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 6.435, score 15	2016: Black (B): 14.0 (per 100,000) White (W): 2.0 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 7.000, score 12
More findings:	There were 523 HIV-related deaths in NYC during this time period. Broken down by race and ethnicity, blacks died due to HIV/AIDS at a rate seven times higher (14.0 per 100,000) than whites (2.0), and 2.5 times higher than Hispanics (5.5). The death rate for men is also considerably higher than the rate for women (8.5 versus 3.4), although even larger disparities are noted when combining race/ethnicity and gender: HIV-related death rates are 21.7 for black men compared to 0.7 for white women. Residents from the poorest neighborhoods (12.2 per 100,000) are more than seven times more likely to die from HIV than the residents of the wealthiest (1.7).	
Data sources:	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Vital Statistics EpiQuery</i> , 2013 & 2014	
Context for this indicator:	Although too recent to have affected the rates reported here, the City has a number of initiatives designed to increase testing and treatment, which should help to reduce death rates overall in future years, and prevent new cases of HIV. These include DOHMH’s first annual RED (Remembering-Empowering-Doing) Ball in 2014 to recognize World Aids Day, a 2015 outreach campaign to increase awareness of medications to prevent infection, PrEP & PEP, and the 2016 #PlaySure kit to promote condom use. Additionally, after adopting New York State’s Ending the Epidemic Task Force report, the City recently announced a comprehensive plan to prevent and treat HIV/AIDS infection in NYC. In the future, these and similar initiatives may increase testing and treatment and reduce new cases, all of which may reduce overall HIV-related death rates, although it remains to be seen whether they are also able to reduce disparities, or whether targeted initiatives are needed.	

INDICATOR 44: INCOME & HEROIN DEATHS

CHANGE SCORE: -12

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the rates of heroin overdose deaths in the highest and lowest neighborhood poverty areas	
Results:	2015: Low poverty area (LP): 5.7 (per 100,000) Very high poverty area (VHP): 9.7 (per 100,000) VHP -to-LP ratio = 1.702, score 52	2016: Low poverty area (LP): 4.9 (per 100,000) Very high poverty area (VHP): 10.4 (per 100,000) VHP -to-LP ratio = 2.122, score 40
More findings:	Among the 800 drug overdose deaths in NYC during this time period, 460 (57%) involved heroin. Since 2010, the overdose death rate has been increasing steadily for all income-level neighborhoods except the wealthiest leading to increasing disparities. The death rate in the city’s poorest areas (≥30% living below the poverty level) during the current year was more than two times that of its affluent areas (<10% living below the poverty level), with rates of 10.4 versus 4.9, respectively. There were also disparities by borough, with rates among Staten Island (11.6) and Bronx (9.5) residents twice those of Brooklyn (5.7), Manhattan (4.9), and Queens (3.7) residents. This is one area where whites are at greater risk than other racial and ethnic groups, dying at a rate (10.5) that is more than 1.5 times than that for blacks (4.9) and Hispanics (6.8).	
Data sources:	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Epi Data Tables, Unintentional Drug Poisoning (Overdose) Deaths Involving Opioids in NYC</i> , 2013 & 2014	
Context for this indicator:	Although too recent to impact the rates reported here, the City made naloxone, an overdose-reversing medication, available without a prescription at participating pharmacies in NYC in 2015. Increased availability of naloxone may help to reduce the number of deaths due to heroin overdoses in the future, although they may need to target availability in specific neighborhoods in order to reduce disparities. The City also made September 9th New York City Overdose Awareness Day in 2014.	

INDICATOR 45: RACE & LOW BIRTHWEIGHT

CHANGE SCORE: +6

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of black and white children born with low birthweight	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 12.6% White (W): 6.6% B-to-W ratio = 1.909, score 44	2016: Black (B): 11.6% White (W): 6.6% B-to-W ratio = 1.758, score 50
More findings:	Black infants were more than 1.5 times more likely than whites to be born with low birthweight (11.6% and 6.6%, respectively), which means weighing less than 2,500 grams; however, this disparity was less than in the previous year as percentages decreased for blacks (from 12.6%) but remained steady for whites. The percentages for Hispanics (7.8%) and Asians/Pacific Islanders (8.0%) were more comparable to that for whites, but still higher. Black women were also more likely to have a preterm birth (<37 weeks; 12.0%), compared to whites (7.2%), which may account for some differences in low birthweight. There were also differences by nativity, although foreign-born women were actually less likely to have low birthweight babies (7.5%) than US-born mothers (8.9%).	
Data sources:	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Vital Statistics EpiQuery</i> , 2013 & 2014	
Context for this indicator:	Low birthweight is linked to maternal health, and is also more common among preterm births. Both of these outcomes are more common among teenage mothers; thus HRA’s Teen Pregnancy Prevention campaign specifically targeted this group. New York State’s Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program may help to improve outcomes for this indicator in the future for mothers of all ages. While these and similar initiatives are designed to reduce the number of babies born with low birthweight overall, it remains to be seen whether they are able to further decrease disparities.	

INDICATOR 46: RACE & SUGARY DRINK CONSUMPTION

CHANGE SCORE: -5

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and whites who consume one or more sugary drinks a day	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 29.6% White (W): 15.2% B-to-W ratio = 1.947, score 43	2016: Black (B): 34.1% White (W): 14.8% B-to-W ratio = 2.304, score 38
More findings:	More than a quarter (26.8%) of New Yorkers said they consumed at least one sugary drink a day in the past year, which is similar to the prior year (22.5%). Blacks and Hispanics were two times as likely to consume at least one sugary drink a day (34.1% and 31.1%, respectively), compared to Asians/Pacific Islanders (16.6%) and whites (14.8%); interestingly, rates increased slightly for blacks from the previous year, while they were similar for whites. Large income-based differences were also found in sugary drink consumption: those living in poverty (<100% of the FPL) were more likely to consume at least one sugary drink a day (27.7%) than those from more affluent households (≥600% of the FPL; 10.7%).	
Data sources:	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Community Health Survey EpiQuery</i> , 2014 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Community Health Survey by request</i> , 2015	
Context for this indicator:	NYC has undertaken a number of initiatives targeting consumption of sugary drinks, yet large disparities remain. DOHMH launched multiple ad campaigns to remind New Yorkers of the risks of consuming too many sugary drinks in 2013 and 2015, and unveiled #OurVoiceNYC in 2015 to engage youth throughout the city to remind their neighbors of the negative effects of sugary drinks. While initiatives such as these are important, our data suggest that more needs to be done to reduce sugary-drink consumption, particularly among blacks and Hispanics.	

INDICATOR 47: INCOME & SMOKING

CHANGE SCORE: +14

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of people in the bottom and top income groups who smoke	
Results:	2015: Bottom (B): 16.0% Top (T): 9.4% B-to-T ratio = 1.702, score 52	2016: Bottom (B): 16.5% Top (T): 11.8% B-to-T ratio = 1.398, score 66
More findings:	Smoking rates overall were similar to the previous year, although this year we saw increases in the smoking rate among those in the top income group, while rates remained relatively steady in the bottom income group; for this reason, we saw a decrease in disparities. In the current year, those in the highest poverty group (<100% of the FPL) were about a third more likely to smoke (16.5%) compared to those in the lowest poverty group (≥600% of the FPL; 11.8%), they were also more likely to smoke than those in low poverty (12.8%) and medium poverty groups (13.3%). Education is also related to smoking: individuals with a bachelor’s degree are less likely to smoke (10.3%) than those who have less than a bachelor’s degree (16.3%).	
Data sources:	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Community Health Survey EpiQuery</i> , 2014 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Community Health Survey by request</i> , 2015	
Context for this indicator:	NYC has undertaken major efforts to reduce smoking rates over the past decade, and rates have declined considerably since 2002. The Smoke Free Air Act banning smoking in most restaurants and bars went into effect in 2003, and the ban was extended to electronic or e-cigarettes in 2013. NYC also introduced two bills targeting tobacco use in 2013, and DOHMH launched multiple anti-smoking ad campaigns in 2014, 2015, and 2016. While important, these initiatives have been less successful in reducing smoking rates over the past year, and may need to target specific areas or groups in order to further reduce disparities in the future.	

INDICATOR 48: INCOME & EXERCISE

CHANGE SCORE: +6

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of people in the bottom and top income groups who do not exercise	
Results:	2015: Bottom (B): 31.2% Top (T): 10.2% B-to-T ratio = 3.059, score 33	2016: Bottom (B): 32.9% Top (T): 14.6% B-to-T ratio = 2.253, score 39
More findings:	Citywide, similar percentages of New Yorkers exercised this year (76.0%) as the previous year (74.6%). While disparities decreased, this was largely due to increases in the percentage of more affluent individuals not exercising. Generally speaking, however, the percentage of New Yorkers not exercising decreased gradually as household poverty levels decreased: in the current year, 32.9% of those in the highest (<100% of the FPL), 28.0% in high, 25.6% in medium, 18.7% in low, and 14.6 % in the lowest poverty levels (≥600% of the FPL) did not exercise. Perhaps related to differences in income, there was also a noticeable difference in exercise by educational level: individuals with a bachelor’s degree were markedly more likely to exercise (17.3% did not exercise) than those with less than a bachelor’s degree (30.3% did not exercise).	
Data sources:	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Community Health Survey EpiQuery</i> , 2014 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene <i>Community Health Survey by request</i> , 2015	
Context for this indicator:	The ability to exercise may be linked to free time, something those living in poverty may have less of. As a result, initiatives which incorporate exercise into everyday activities may be particularly effective for these individuals. One such initiative was the creation of the Center for Active Design in 2013 to promote physical activity and reduce obesity through the design of buildings, streets and neighborhoods. The ability to exercise across income groups may also be improved by free and accessible places to do so. In 2014, NYC launched the Community Parks Initiative (CPI) to increase the accessibility and quality of parks in NYC; 20 CPI sites are being designed to include adult exercise areas.	



Section 4.6 Housing

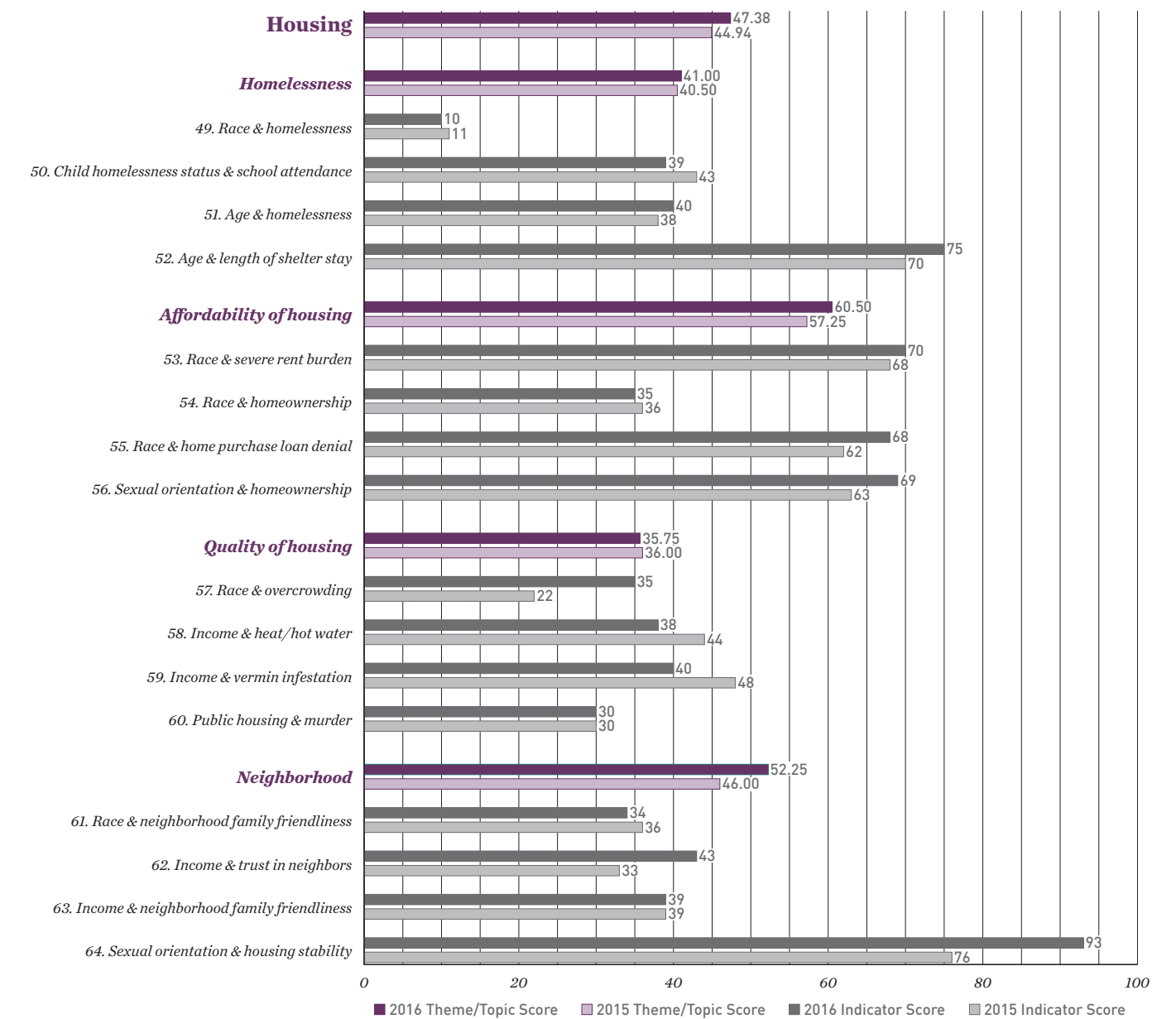
Housing

2016 CHANGE SCORE:

+2.44

Participants in ISLG's public survey this year and last identified housing as one of the most important inequality problems in NYC. It is likely that these responses were driven at least in part by the rising costs of housing in NYC, which have increased much more rapidly than income. Housing has also been a major focus of the current NYC administration, receiving attention from both the Mayor and numerous individual agencies. Our indicators within this theme examine whether housing is accessible, affordable, high quality, and safe for all city residents and focus on several specific disadvantaged groups: racial/ethnic groups, children, lesbian/gay/bisexual (LGB) individuals, New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) residents, and people living in poverty.

The Housing theme score demonstrated a small increase in score compared to last year (+2.44). This change was driven by small, positive changes in two topics: *Neighborhood* (+6.25) and *Affordability of Housing* (+3.25). By contrast, we saw little change in the scores for *Homelessness* (+0.50) and *Quality of Housing* (-0.25).



HOMELESSNESS (CHANGE SCORE: +0.50)

Homelessness continues to be a major problem in NYC, and large racial/ethnic and age-related inequalities in homelessness in the city persist. This topic includes four indicators that address the challenges that homelessness poses for certain racial/ethnic and age groups, in particular blacks and children. We measure two prevalence rates for homeless shelter use: one compares rates between black and white single adults, and the other compares rates between children and adults. Since research suggests family transience affects children’s school attendance, we compare school absenteeism rates for homeless and non-homeless children. We also track the average length of stay in shelters for families with children in comparison to single adults.

SCORES:

The measure of *race and homelessness* (static score 10) was the lowest scoring indicator under the theme of **Housing** and is one of the lowest indicator scores overall in the framework this year, remaining practically unchanged from last year (-1). There was also a negligible change in the score for *age and homelessness* (+2). The score for *age and length of shelter stay* saw a larger, but still small, increase (+5), while the score for *child homelessness and school attendance* decreased slightly (-4).

CONTEXT:

The City has made numerous efforts to help those at risk and those who are homeless by maintaining affordable housing, improving the conditions of shelters, and connecting those currently homeless to housing. These efforts include Homebase, a key prevention program, programs to freeze rent for specific disadvantaged groups (e.g., the Disability Rent Increase Exemption and the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption), and the Living in Communities (LINC) initiative, designed to provide support during the transition from shelter to permanent housing. More recently, the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) has also taken aim at the unsheltered population. In 2016, the Mayor launched HOME-STAT a new homelessness prevention and response program to improve data analytics and outreach to homeless individuals living on the streets.

AFFORDABILITY OF HOUSING (CHANGE SCORE: +3.25)

Housing affordability continues to be a critical issue for NYC residents, as both rental and sales prices continue to rise. Three indicators within this topic focus on racial/ethnic differences, looking at rental affordability, homeownership, and home purchase loan denial. Keeping in mind the discrimination many face in the housing market based on their sexual orientation, a fourth indicator compares homeownership rates between LGB and heterosexual individuals.

SCORES:

Affordability of Housing demonstrated a small increase of just over three points from last year (+3.25). There was a small but positive change (+2) in *race and severe rent burden*. Home purchase denial rates dropped for both black and white applicants, as did the disparity between these two groups (+6). The difference in homeownership rates between LGB and heterosexual individuals also improved (+6). *Race and homeownership* changed only negligibly (-1).

CONTEXT:

Mayor de Blasio has made the affordability of housing a key focus of his administration. His *Housing New York* plan includes targets for an unprecedented 200,000 new or preserved affordable housing units over 10 years, as well as the launch of the Mandatory Inclusionary Housing program and the Zoning for Quality and Affordability program. The plan addresses affordability for both low-income and middle-income New Yorkers, which is arguably crucial for the sustainability of affordable housing, but does not fully address the needs of those most severely rent burdened. The plan also currently favors improving affordability of rental housing rather than promoting homeownership. Thus, an increased focus on very low-income individuals and increasing opportunities for homeownership might lead to greater positive change in the future.

QUALITY OF HOUSING (CHANGE SCORE: -0.25)

Overcrowded living conditions affect many New Yorkers, even residents who are not in the bottom income group, while housing maintenance deficiencies and violent crime near the home are linked to negative health and wellbeing outcomes, including mental and emotional health. Within this topic, we measure rates of overcrowding across racial/ethnic groups. We also measure the percentages of people in the bottom and top income groups who have lost heat or hot water within the past year, or have had problems with vermin, including mice, rats, and cockroaches. A fourth indicator compares the murder rates in public housing and elsewhere in the city.

SCORES:

Quality of Housing remained largely unchanged from its score last year (-0.25), and it received the lowest static topic score (35.75) under this theme; however, the nearly flat change in the topic score is due to indicator change scores canceling out one another. The score for *race and overcrowding* increased moderately (+13) but remains low. Our public survey data on housing maintenance deficiencies suggest a widening gap between residents in the bottom and top income groups. Low-income residents were even more likely than high-income residents to report problems with heat or hot water (-6) and vermin (-8) than in the prior year. There was no change in *public housing and murder* (0).

CONTEXT:

There are several City agencies involved in addressing ***Quality of Housing*** issues, including Housing Preservation and Development (HPD), the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (DOITT), the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA), and the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice (MOCJ). One of the most prominent examples of interagency collaboration can be found in the Mayor’s Action Plan for Neighborhood Safety (MAP), an initiative that involves seven agencies and three government offices, along with neighborhood residents. This type of systemic approach to addressing safety and quality issues in public housing and beyond may trigger positive change in this topic.

NEIGHBORHOOD (CHANGE SCORE: +6.25)

NYC boasts one of the most diverse populations in the world, including a large foreign-born population. However, residents are typically segregated in neighborhoods according to racial/ethnic and income demographics, in part due to the cost of housing. Two indicators under the ***Neighborhood*** topic examine neighborhood family friendliness by comparing the percentages of specific demographic groups reporting that their neighborhood is not a good place to raise a family: one measures differences between racial/ethnic groups and another between income groups. A third indicator of neighborhood quality looks at neighborhood social cohesion using the percentages of people in the top and bottom income groups who think their neighbors are not willing to help one another. The fourth indicator compares LGB and heterosexual individuals in terms of the average number of years they have resided at their current address.

SCORES:

There was a small increase in ***Neighborhood*** (+6.25), due in large part to the moderate positive change in *sexual orientation and housing stability* (+17), which has one of the highest static scores this year (93), and in *income and trust in neighbors* (+10). The score comparing perceptions of neighborhood family friendliness across racial/ethnic groups decreased somewhat (-2), but there was no change in the indicator score comparing people in the bottom and top income groups on this measure (0).

CONTEXT:

Concentrations of low- or high-income households in specific neighborhoods may explain the low, unchanging score for perceptions of neighborhood family friendliness across income groups, since more low-income families are likely to report their neighborhood has insufficient opportunities for their children. However, the data from our social cohesion measure—*income and trust in neighbors*—suggest a brighter outlook. Not only were perceptions about trust in neighbors more equal among the lowest and highest income groups, there were lower percentages of people in each group who disagree that people in their neighborhood are willing to help one another. Ideally, efforts to increase equal access to the educational, recreational, and other services that make an area family friendly will build stronger social networks.

INDICATOR 49: RACE & HOMELESSNESS

CHANGE SCORE: -1

Indicator defined:	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ single adult shelter use rates	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 1,040.7 (per 100,000) White (W): 140.8 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 7.389, score 11	2016: Black (B): 1,085.7 (per 100,000) White (W): 142.7 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 7.609, score 10
More findings:	The number of single adults in NYC shelters increased to 35,563 people, and large disparities in homelessness rates between racial and ethnic groups remained. The rate among blacks (1,085.7) was more than seven times the rate among whites (142.7), nearly three times the rate among Hispanics (386.4), and more than 48 times the rate among Asians (22.2). Although both blacks’ and whites’ shelter use rates increased from the previous year, these increases were small and the disparity increased very minimally. The single adult shelter use rate was highest among those 30-44 years of age (1,483.7), followed by 45-64 (751.5), 18-29 (444.7), and 65 and older (164.7).	
Data sources:	Department of Homelessness Services <i>Data Dashboard</i> , FY2014 & FY2015	
Context for this indicator:	In response to the growing homelessness rate, and the persistent inequality highlighted in this indicator, new City policies aim to ensure efficient and effective delivery of homeless services, and to prevent displacement of individuals and families at risk of homelessness. These policies include the creation of the Tenant Support Unit, which provides free, anti-eviction legal services for tenants. While this initiative is important for combatting displacement and reducing homelessness, it only addresses one of the causes of homelessness, which might account for the lack of change in this indicator.	

INDICATOR 50: CHILD HOMELESSNESS STATUS & SCHOOL ATTENDANCE CHANGE SCORE: -4

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the absenteeism rates for homeless and non-homeless children	
Results:	2015: Children in shelters (CS): 16.1% General population (GP): 8.3% CS-to-GP ratio = 1.940, score 43	2016: Children in shelters (CS): 18.0% General population (GP): 8.1% CS-to-GP ratio = 2.222, score 39
More findings:	The average daily absenteeism rate among children residing in shelters (18.0%) was more than double that of children in the general population (8.1%). This disparity was greater than the previous year when the general population absenteeism rate was higher (8.3%) and the rate among homeless children was lower (16.1%). Fifty-five percent of families placed in the shelter system remained in the area of their youngest child’s school address, which is a similar percentage to the prior fiscal year (52.9%).	
Data sources:	Department of Homeless Services <i>Mayor’s Management Report</i> , FY2015 & FY2016	
Context for this indicator:	Homeless children miss substantially more days of school than their peers who have housing, in part because of their family’s transience. In order for homeless families to access shelter services, parents and their children must visit a city intake center. It is common for families to visit an intake center multiple times to finalize their application, which may disrupt children’s school attendance. Under a new rule to be implemented in November 2016, children are not required to revisit the intake center if their parents reapply for shelter within 30 days, which is the case for 47% of families. This new rule may contribute to positive change in future reports.	

INDICATOR 51: AGE & HOMELESSNESS

CHANGE SCORE: +2

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the shelter use rates for children and adults	
Results:	2015: Children (C): 2,323.1 (per 100,000) Adults (A): 950.0 (per 100,000) C-to-A ratio = 2.445, score 38	2016: Children (C): 2,530.8 (per 100,000) Adults (A): 1,228.6 (per 100,000) C-to-A ratio = 2.060, score 40
More findings:	Across the shelter system, the rate of shelter use for children (2,530.8 per 100,000) was twice that of adults (1,228.6 across three shelter types: families with children, adult families, and single adults). Rates for both age groups were higher than in the previous year (increasing from 2,323.1 for children and 950.0 for adults), although the disparity decreased somewhat. Among children, 44.4% were five years of age or younger, 42.0% six to 13 years of age, and 13.7% were children 14 to 17 years of age. Among adults, 35.2% were 18-29 years of age, 32.2% were 30 to 44 years of age, 29.7% were 45 to 64 years of age, and 2.9% were 65 or older, across all three shelter system types.	
Data sources:	Department of Homelessness Services <i>Data Dashboard</i> , FY2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	Part of DHS’s new comprehensive plan focuses on homelessness prevention reforms, including targeted outreach to doubled-up families with school-age children and the expansion of the HomeBase program to better serve families in their home borough rather than through a citywide intake center. These prevention efforts, especially when targeted toward families with children, may help to address the inequality in this indicator.	

INDICATOR 52: AGE & LENGTH OF SHELTER STAY

CHANGE SCORE: +5

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the average length of stay in shelters for families with children and single adults	
Results:	2015: Families with children (F): 430 days Single adults (S): 329 days F-to-S ratio = 1.307, score 70	2016: Families with children (F): 431 days Single adults (S): 355 days F-to-S ratio = 1.214, score 75
More findings:	Whereas the average length of stay for single adults in shelters was 355 days, it was 563 days for adult families and 431 days for families with children. Length of stay increased only one day from the previous year for families with children (from 430 days), yet it increased 26 days for single adults (from 329 days), resulting in a small increase in score. This disparity also resulted in higher costs, as the daily shelter cost was higher in the families with children shelter (\$120.22) than in the single adult shelter (\$94.57). The percentage of adult families who exited permanent housing and returned to the DHS shelter system within one year was 1.6% for subsidized placement and 11.9% for unsubsidized placement. For families with children, the return rate was 1.4% for subsidized placement and 19.9% for unsubsidized placement.	
Data sources:	Department of Homeless Services <i>Mayor’s Management Report</i> , FY2015 & FY2016	
Context for this indicator:	The CITYFEPS Rent Supplemental Program is one of several DHS rental assistance programs, specifically serving families with children that are either at risk of entry to shelter or already in shelter. LINC is another program that serves both individuals and families. Funding for these programs is limited, and the City recognizes the need for a more streamlined approach to rehousing homeless New Yorkers and connecting them to essential services. Implementation of these reform efforts may contribute to both positive change in this indicator and overall shorter shelter stays across age groups.	

INDICATOR 53: RACE & SEVERE RENT BURDEN

CHANGE SCORE: +2

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of Asian and white renters who spend more than 50% of their income on rent	
Results:	2015: Asian (A): 32.3% White (W): 23.8% A-to-W ratio = 1.357, score 68	2016: Asian (A): 29.7% White (W): 22.7% A-to-W ratio = 1.308, score 70
More findings:	Severe rent burden refers to spending more than 50% of household income on rent. Hispanics and Asians were the most likely to be severely rent burdened, 30.1% and 29.7%, respectively. Blacks were not far behind (27.8%), however, followed by whites (22.7%). The disparity between Asians and whites was slightly less than in the prior year, when a larger percentage of Asians (32.3%) and whites (23.8%) were severely rent burdened. People with a disability were more likely to be severely rent burdened (34.4%) compared to people without a disability (26.8%), and people born outside the US were more likely to be severely rent burdened (29.2%) than those born in the US (26.5%), although the difference was small.	
Data sources:	American Community Survey <i>I-year PUMS</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	More than a million New Yorkers were severely rent burdened in 2015. Alleviating this burden is one of the primary objectives of Mayor de Blasio’s policy agenda. The Lower Manhattan Acquisition Program aims to preserve affordable housing in Lower Manhattan, particularly Chinatown and the Lower East Side. New funding will be provided to non-profit developers to acquire and maintain affordable multi-family buildings in the target area. Chinatown is also the site of one of the first buildings to be supported by HPD’s Green Housing Preservation Program, a 20-unit apartment building that will be made more energy efficient and remain income-restricted for 40 years. Projects like these will likely contribute to greater positive change in this indicator as they are developed.	

INDICATOR 54: RACE & HOMEOWNERSHIP

CHANGE SCORE: -1

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of Hispanics and whites who are homeowners	
Results:	2015: White (W): 40.2% Hispanic (H): 15.0% W-to-H ratio = 2.680, score 36	2016: White (W): 43.3% Hispanic (H): 15.7% W-to-H ratio = 2.758, score 35
More findings:	Hispanics were by far the least likely to be homeowners (15.7%) and whites were the most likely (43.3%); blacks (32.7%) and Asians (41.0%) fell between the two. This disparity was slightly larger than in the previous year when a similar percentage of Hispanics (15.0%) and a smaller percentage of whites (40.2%) were homeowners. Individuals with less than a high school diploma were less likely to be homeowners (25.1%) than those with a high school diploma (38.5%). Those with some college experience (33.9%) or a bachelor’s degree and above (35.8%) fell between the two.	
Data sources:	Current Population Survey <i>Annual Social and Economic Supplement</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Only 31% of NYC residents own homes, compared to 64% nationwide, and the costs of purchasing a house continue to increase. Part of the Mayor’s 10-year housing plan, the New Infill Homeownership Opportunities Program, aims to provide more affordable homeownership opportunities for moderate- and middle-income households. While preference is given to applicants based on income, this program has the potential to increase homeownership for non-white New Yorkers indirectly. More targeted support and rent-to-own programs may be needed in order to decrease disparities in homeownership in future years, however.	

INDICATOR 55: RACE & HOME PURCHASE LOAN DENIAL

CHANGE SCORE: +6

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the home purchase loan denial rates for black and white applicants	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 20.0% White (W): 13.6% B-to-W ratio = 1.471, score 62	2016: Black (B): 16.7% White (W): 12.3% B-to-W ratio = 1.358, score 68
More findings:	A higher number of whites (22,235) than blacks (4,776) applied for home purchase loans, yet the denial rate was higher for black applicants (16.7%) than it was for white applicants (12.3%); the rate for Hispanics (16.2%) and Asians (14.8%) fell between the two. However, the difference in outcomes were less pronounced than the previous year when 20.0% of black applicants and 13.6% of white applicants were denied home purchase loans. Residents in Brooklyn and Queens had the smallest disparities in denial rates between black and white applicants (15.9% vs. 14.4% and 15.2% vs. 13.5%, respectively). The greatest inequalities were found in Manhattan (26.4% vs. 10.4% for blacks and whites, respectively), followed by the Bronx (19.4% vs. 11.6%), and Staten Island (14.4% vs. 10.3%).	
Data sources:	Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council <i>Home Mortgage Disclosure Act Data</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	Many consider homeownership a pathway to economic mobility, yet blacks are more likely to be denied this opportunity. Although some targeted initiatives to make homeownership more accessible are no longer active, the New York State Attorney General filed a complaint in New York federal court in 2014 against a national bank headquartered in the state regarding discriminatory lending practices known as redlining, an issue that has occurred for decades in the US. While the result was a relatively insignificant settlement of \$1 million, this action has increased public attention on discriminatory lending practices and similar efforts may lead to additional positive change in this indicator.	

INDICATOR 56: SEXUAL ORIENTATION & HOMEOWNERSHIP

CHANGE SCORE: +6

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of lesbian/gay/bisexual and heterosexual individuals who are homeowners	
Results:	2015: Heterosexual (Non-LGB): 38.7% Lesbian/gay/bisexual (LGB): 26.8% Non-LGB-to-LGB ratio = 1.444, score 63	2016: Heterosexual (Non-LGB): 40.7% Lesbian/gay/bisexual (LGB): 30.6% Non-LBG-to-LGB ratio = 1.330, score 69
More findings:	People who identified as heterosexual were more likely to be homeowners (40.7%) than people who identified as LGB (30.6%); these rates increased somewhat from the previous year though the increase was higher for LGB individuals (from 26.8%) than it was for heterosexual individuals (from 38.7%), resulting in decreased disparity. Single parents were less likely to be homeowners (20.1%) than those in two-parent households (45.6%). People with a criminal record were less likely to be homeowners (21.6%) than people without a record (40.4%), which is a greater disparity between the two groups than in the previous year, 26.3% and 38.3%, respectively.	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	In NYC, sexual orientation and gender identity are protected under the city’s Human Rights Law, which may be enforced in issues related to housing discrimination. New York State laws also prohibit housing discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identification. In 2015, City Council approved an additional \$5 million in funding for the NYC Commission on Human Rights, allowing for an increase in enforcement staffing to better uphold the strongest civil rights law in the country. This additional funding may have contributed to the small change score for this indicator.	

INDICATOR 57: RACE & OVERCROWDING

CHANGE SCORE: +13

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of Hispanic and white renter households that have more than 1.5 people per room	
Results:	2015: Hispanic (H): 6.6% White (W): 1.4% H-to-W ratio = 4.714, score 22	2016: Hispanic (H): 4.9% White (W): 1.7% H-to-W ratio, 2.882, score 35
More findings:	Households were considered severely overcrowded when they had more than 1.5 residents per room. By this measure, 4.1% of renter households were severely overcrowded, essentially the same rate as the previous year (4.2%). A higher percentage of Hispanic renter households were severely overcrowded (4.9%) than white renter households (1.7%) and black renter households (2.2%). Asian renter households had the highest severe crowding rate in the current year (5.2%). Overall, the disparity was smaller than in the previous year, when the percentage of renter households that were severely overcrowded was slightly lower for whites (1.4%), while the percentage for Hispanics was higher (6.6%). The severe crowding rates for Asians (4.3%) and blacks (2.8%) fell in the middle that year.	
Data sources:	NYU Furman Center <i>State of New York City's Housing and Neighborhoods 2014</i> , 2013 NYU Furman Center <i>State of New York City's Housing and Neighborhoods 2015</i> , 2014	
Context for this indicator:	Initiatives designed to increase affordable housing may also reduce overcrowding, and such initiatives may have contributed to the decrease for Hispanics we saw this year. Overcrowding was also indirectly targeted by Mayor de Blasio's 2015 task force to review the use of three-quarter houses, specifically residences that house 10 or more unrelated adults that receive a public assistance allowance for rent. While this task force might help to mitigate inequality in overcrowded housing conditions, it may not reduce disparities in overcrowding, and there is also concern that shutting down three-quarter houses might contribute to homelessness if tenants are not able to be relocated.	

INDICATOR 58: INCOME & HEAT/HOT WATER

CHANGE SCORE: -6

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of people in the bottom and top income groups who have had problems with heat or hot water in the past year	
Results:	2015: <\$30,000 (B): 24.0% >\$150,000 (T): 12.5% B-to-T ratio = 1.920, score 44	2016: <\$30,000 (B): 22.8% >\$150,000 (T): 9.8% B-to-T ratio = 2.327, score 38
More findings:	More than one in five people making less than \$30,000 per year (22.8%) reported having had a problem with their heat or hot water in the past year compared to 9.8% of those making over \$150,000. Rates for both groups were lower than in the previous year, when 24.0% of those making less than \$30,000 per year and 12.5% of those making more than \$150,0000 reported problems; this decrease was larger for those in the higher income group, however, resulting in increased disparity. Hispanics (25.0%) and blacks (21.4%) were more likely to report having had a problem than whites (13.4%) and Asians (12.6%). People who identified as LGB were also more likely to report having had a problem with heat or hot water (22.2%) than people who identified as heterosexual (18.5%).	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Adequate heat and hot water are essential needs, yet many in the city experience problems with them. In 2014, the City launched an updated 311 smartphone application to improve the process for reporting complaints. Tenants may submit hot water complaints year-round and heat complaints during the regulated “Heat Season,” October 1st thru May 31st. Programs such as these, which may increase the likelihood that problems will be fixed and future issues prevented, may have contributed to the decreases in problems with heat and hot water we saw this year.	

INDICATOR 59: INCOME & VERMIN INFESTATION

CHANGE SCORE: -8

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of people in the bottom and top income groups who have had problems with vermin in the past year	
Results:	2015: <\$30,000 (B): 43.8% >\$150,000 (T): 24.1% B-to-T ratio = 1.817, score 48	2016: <\$30,000 (B): 44.0% >\$150,000 (T): 21.0% B-to-T ratio = 2.095, score 40
More findings:	Problems with vermin such as mice, rats, and cockroaches, were strongly linked to income: 44.0% of those making less than \$30,000 a year reported having had a problem with vermin, compared to 39.5% of those making \$30-50,000, 38.8% of those making \$50-70,000, 33.2% of those making \$70-100,000, 30.7% of those making \$100-150,000, and 21.1% of those making more than \$150,000. This disparity increased from the previous year, when roughly the same percentage of those making less than \$30,000 (43.8%) yet a higher percentage of those making more than \$150,000 (24.1%) reported problems. Blacks (45.6%), Hispanics (44.5%), and Asians (50.5%) were more likely to have had problems with vermin than whites (27.7%).	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Despite the decreases we observed among the most affluent New Yorkers, the number of rodent complaints increased citywide, according to data from 311. Vermin are more often present in poor-quality housing and are associated with numerous health hazards, including asthma, allergies and communicable disease. Every year since 2007, HPD designates severely distressed multiple dwellings that have hazardous code violations, including the presence of vermin. Their Emergency Repair Program corrects the code violations at the owner's expense. While this initiative addresses vermin infestation in around 200 buildings per year, other policies are necessary to ensure that low-income individuals can live in quality housing without these health hazards.	

INDICATOR 60: PUBLIC HOUSING & MURDER

CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the murder rates in NYCHA housing developments and in the rest of NYC	
Results:	2015: NYCHA: 12.5 (per 100,000) NYC: 3.5 (per 100,000) NYCHA-to-NYC ratio = 3.531, score 30	2016: NYCHA: 13.0 (per 100,000) NYC: 3.7 (per 100,000) NYCHA-to-NYC ratio = 3.534, score 30
More findings:	Residents living in NYCHA developments were victims of 15.0% of murders citywide, and the murder rate within NYCHA (13.0 per 100,000) was more than three times the rate in the rest of NYC (3.7). Both figures were similar to data from the previous year so the score remained unchanged. The same pattern was found for shootings: 20.1% of the shootings in the past year were located within NYCHA, and the shooting rate within NYCHA (57.3 per 100,000) was over 5 times higher than the rate outside of NYCHA (11.2 per 100,000).	
Data sources:	New York Police Department <i>by request</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	Launched in July 2014, MAP allocated more than \$200 million to improve safety in the 15 NYCHA developments with the highest rates of violent crimes through more targeted law enforcement, expanded programming for residents, and improvements to the physical environment of NYCHA developments, such as increasing lighting. Between FY2014 and FY2015, the 15 NYCHA developments participating in MAP saw an 11.6% decrease in violent crimes. While no effect on our data was observed this year, MAP may reduce murder alongside other violent crimes in upcoming years, especially if there is an opportunity for it to be expanded to additional developments.	

INDICATOR 61: RACE & NEIGHBORHOOD FAMILY FRIENDLINESS CHANGE SCORE: -2

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and whites who think their neighborhood is not a good place to raise a family	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 30.5% White (W): 11.6% B-to-W ratio = 2.629, score 36	2016: Black (B): 25.0% White (W): 8.5% B-to-W ratio = 2.941, score 34
More findings:	Black (25.0%), Asian (20.3%), and Hispanic (19.7%) participants in our public survey were more likely than white participants (8.5%) to disagree that their neighborhood is a good place to raise a family. While these percentages were lower than the previous year for Hispanic (30.2%), black (30.5%), and white respondents (11.6%), the percentage for Asian respondents was higher than the previous year (15.9%). People who identified as LGB were also more likely to disagree (21.1%) than people who identified as heterosexual (16.4%). Additionally, residents of the Bronx were more likely to disagree their neighborhood was family friendly (27.0%) than residents of Brooklyn (17.7%), Manhattan (15.8%), Queens (13.8%), or Staten Island (7.2%).	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Affordability and access to quality schools are some of the factors residents might consider when assessing whether or not their neighborhood is a good place to raise a family. The Mayor’s Executive Budget for FY2015 allocated funding to expand affordable housing in the city, as well as educational programming, including 53,000 seats in universal full-day pre-kindergarten and afterschool programming for nearly 100,000 middle school children. The increase in the percentages of Hispanic, black, and white residents that consider their neighborhoods to be family friendly might be tied to the expansion of these programs.	

INDICATOR 62: INCOME & TRUST IN NEIGHBORS CHANGE SCORE: +10

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of people in the bottom and top income groups who think their neighbors are not willing to help one another	
Results:	2015: <\$30,000 (B): 32.5% >\$150,000 (T): 10.4% B-to-T ratio = 3.125, score 33	2016: <\$30,000 (B): 21.5% >\$150,000 (T): 11.1% B-to-T ratio = 1.937, score 43
More findings:	People in lower income groups reported lower levels of trust in their neighbors than respondents in higher income groups: 21.5% of those with incomes below \$30,000 compared to 11.1% of those making more than \$150,000 felt their neighbors were not willing to help each other. The percentage dropped considerably from the previous year for those in the lower income group (from 32.5%), while it increased very slightly for those in the higher income group (from 10.4%), resulting in decreased disparity. Rates also varied by race, with 21.8% of blacks, 20.5% of Hispanics, 19.6% of Asians, and 12.4% of whites reporting that they did not think their neighbors were willing to help one another. People with one or more children were more likely to report not trusting their neighbors (20.0%) than people with no children (16.7%).	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Neighborhood social cohesion, such as the number and quality of relationships between neighborhood residents, is associated with a number of physical and mental health outcomes. A 2015 Pew Research Center national survey found whites, seniors, and wealthy individuals are more likely to trust most or all of their neighbors, and data from ISLG’s 2015 and 2016 public surveys of NYC residents found similar patterns of trust in neighbors. Initiatives designed to increase housing stability and positive interactions within a community and reduce crime may also increase trust in neighbors, and it is possible that one or more of these may have resulted in the increased trust we observed this year.	

INDICATOR 63: INCOME & NEIGHBORHOOD FAMILY FRIENDLINESS CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of people in the bottom and top income groups who think their neighborhood is not a good place to raise a family	
Results:	2015: <\$30,000 (B): 32.1% >\$150,000 (T): 14.5% B-to-T ratio = 2.214, score 39	2016: <\$30,000 (B): 20.3% >\$150,000 (T): 9.0% B-to-T ratio = 2.256, score 39
More findings:	The percentage of people who disagree that their neighborhood is a good place to raise a family fell for some income groups, especially for people making less than \$30,000 (from 32.1 % to 20.3%), but also people making \$50,000 to 70,000 (from 21.2% to 15.8%) and more than \$150,000 (from 14.5% to 9.0%). People making \$30,000 to \$50,000 (25.6%), \$70,000 to \$100,000 (18.7%), and \$100,000 to \$150,000 (9.5%) had somewhat higher percentages of disagreement than the previous year. Jewish residents were least likely to report disagreement that their neighborhood was family friendly (5.5%), while Catholics (15.0%), Protestants (18.6%), Muslims (21.0%) and Atheists (16.6%) were in the middle, and residents who have other religious beliefs had the highest percentage of disagreement (24.6%).	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	The Department of City Planning is currently engaged in neighborhood planning efforts in all five boroughs. The plans include strategies for affordable housing, economic development, and community resources. While the plans aim to improve the quality and affordability of these neighborhoods, they also raise concerns regarding gentrification and displacement that could lead to greater disparity among income groups in future reports. However, the increases in affordability and accessibility to education may be partially responsible for the increases in reported neighborhood family friendliness we observed across income groups this year.	

INDICATOR 64: SEXUAL ORIENTATION & HOUSING STABILITY CHANGE SCORE: +17

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the mean years spent at their current address for lesbian/gay/bisexual and heterosexual individuals	
Results:	2015: Heterosexual (Non-LGB): 6.4 Lesbian/gay/bisexual (LGB): 5.4 Non-LGB-to-LGB ratio = 1.182, score 76	2016: Heterosexual (Non-LGB): 7.5 Lesbian/gay/bisexual (LGB): 7.2 Non-LGB-to-LGB ratio = 1.039, score 93
More findings:	The average number of years that people had lived at their current address was very similar for people who identified as heterosexual (7.5) and people identifying as LGB (7.2). These numbers both represented increases from the previous year when the mean was 6.4 for heterosexual respondents and 5.4 for LGB respondents; the larger increase among LGB respondents resulted in a decrease in disparity between the two this year. Among racial and ethnic groups, whites had the longest average tenure (8.1), which was only slightly longer than blacks (7.7), followed by Asians (6.8) and Hispanics (6.6).	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Housing tenure is a component of housing stability and contributes to neighborhood social cohesion. LGB and transgender (LGBT) individuals who are older face higher rates of housing discrimination. The current NYC housing plan includes funding for the development of two large, affordable housing properties designed specifically for LGBT seniors: Ingersoll Senior Residences in Brooklyn and Crotona Senior Residences in the Bronx. While any age- and income-qualified individual can apply, these developments provide much-needed welcoming communities for LGBT elders and may contribute to greater positive change in the future.	



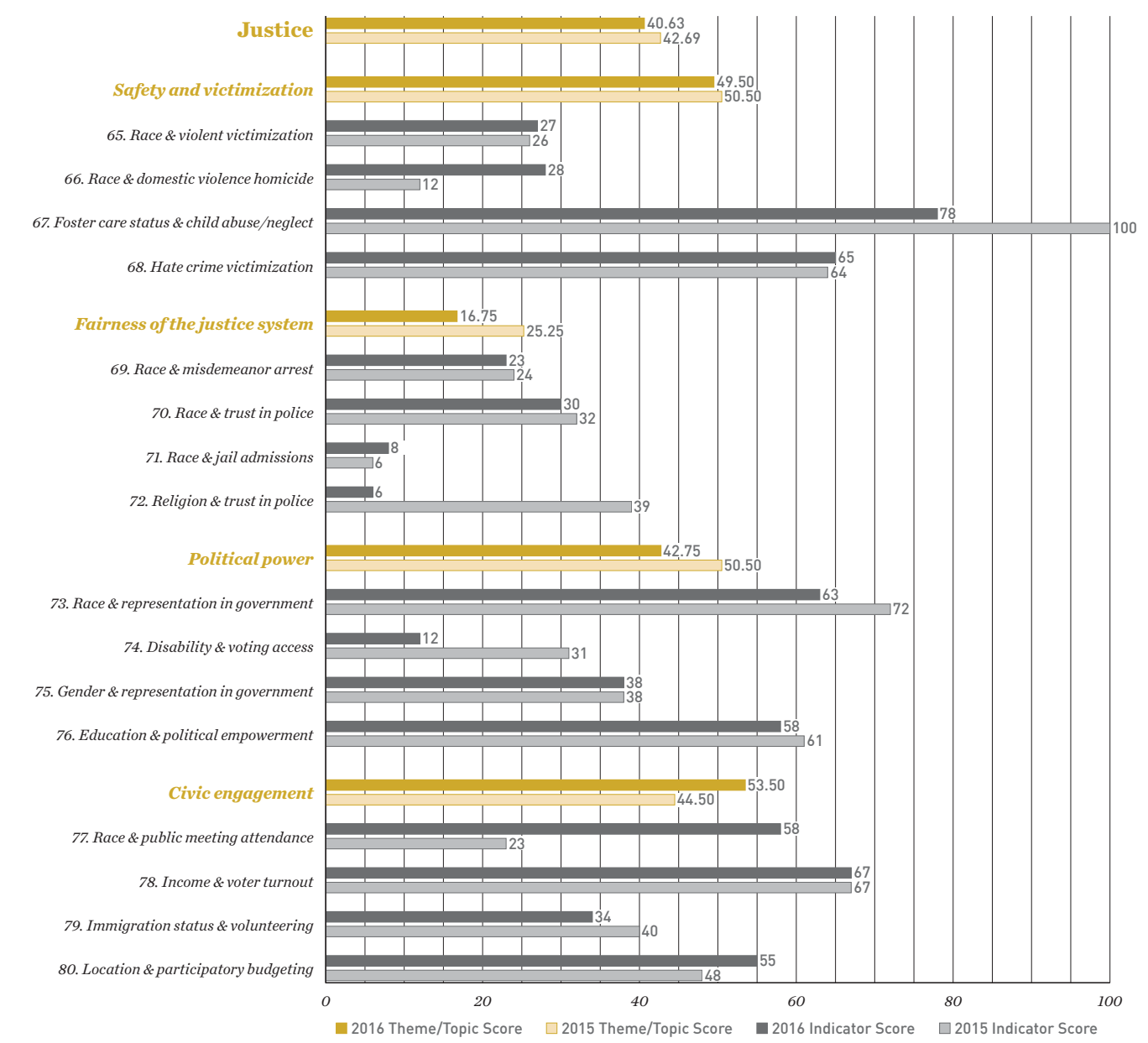
Section 4.7
Justice

Justice

2016 CHANGE SCORE:
-2.06

The indicators under this theme explore disparities in public safety and the criminal justice system, while also identifying the opportunities and barriers New Yorkers experience when participating in civil society and local government. Seven indicators within this theme examine racial/ethnic disparities, while the remaining nine examine issues that adversely affect women, immigrants, children, people with disabilities, people living in poverty, or people with less than a high school diploma.

With a static score of 40.63, the Justice theme is 2.06 points lower this year than last. *Fairness of the Justice System* had the lowest static topic score overall in the framework this year (16.75) and had the largest decrease within the theme (-8.50), followed by *Political Power* (-7.75). *Safety and Victimization* also experienced negative change, but it was quite small (-1.00). The only topic with a positive change was *Civic Engagement* (+9.00).



SAFETY AND VICTIMIZATION (CHANGE SCORE: -1.00)

All those living in NYC should be equally free from victimization and threats to their personal safety, yet we know that large disparities in victimization exist. Two of the indicators in this topic compare blacks and whites, one looking at violent victimization and one at family-related homicide. Another looks at whether children in foster care—an especially vulnerable group—are more likely to be victims of child abuse and neglect. We also report the citywide hate crime victimization rate.

SCORES:

The indicators within ***Safety and Victimization*** included both a large negative change and a moderate positive change, resulting in little change overall (-1.00). A large decrease in score was found for *foster care status and child abuse/neglect* (-22). Conversely, racial disparities in domestic violence homicide improved moderately (+16), though the indicator score remained low. Racial disparities in violent crime victimization increased only very slightly (+1), and there was a similarly slight change *hate crime victimization* citywide (+1).

CONTEXT:

A number of national and city initiatives, such as Cure Violence NYC, attempt to address violent crime victimization rates across the city. There are also numerous efforts underway to reduce domestic violence across the city by the Commission on Gender Equity and the Office to Combat Domestic Violence (OCDV), including the Public Housing Domestic Violence Response Team. A recent review of the Administration for Children’s Services also heightened legislative action and interagency coordination to address the issue of child abuse/neglect in foster care.

FAIRNESS OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM (CHANGE SCORE: -8.50)

Two indicators within this topic measure trust in police, looking across racial/ethnic and religious groups. The remaining two indicators measure racial/ethnic equality in the justice system by comparing misdemeanor arrest rates and jail admissions rates among blacks and whites. Examined together with the race/ethnicity-focused indicators within the ***Safety and Victimization*** topic, the indicator scores and change scores under this topic reflect troubling racial and religious inequalities.

SCORES:

Fairness of the Justice System decreased in score (-8.50) and was the lowest scoring topic in the framework this year. The negative topic change score was driven in part by a large change score (-33) for the indicator comparing Muslim and Jewish residents who say they would not feel comfortable asking the police for help. The drop was not as dramatic when comparing black and white residents views of police (-2), although the racial/ethnic gap in views remains substantial. Negligible improvements in already low scores for *race and jail admissions* rates (+2) and *race and misdemeanor arrest* rates comparing blacks and whites (+1) suggest persistent racial/ethnic inequality in the criminal justice system.

CONTEXT:

In July 2015, the New York Police Department (NYPD) announced plans to recruit more black and Muslim police officers as part of efforts to improve trust with the city’s residents, especially among groups whose relationships with police are already strained. Related public safety programs aim to reduce disparities in jail admissions, including the NYC Justice Reboot, the MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge, and an infusion of funding to cut unnecessary detention and reduce reliance on monetary bail. These efforts, as well others discussed further in this report, also aim to address misdemeanor arrest rates that remain over four times greater for blacks compared to whites.

POLITICAL POWER (CHANGE SCORE: -7.75)

All of the indicators under this topic measure the degree to which NYC government and political processes are representative of and responsive to all city residents. In addition to two indicators measuring the gender or racial/ethnic composition of local government, two indicators measure the responsiveness of government to people with disabilities or people with less than a high school diploma—two groups who, in addition to women and racial/ethnic minorities, have had less access to political decision-making processes. Our data suggest political power for these groups is not improving.

SCORES:

The negative change score for this topic was driven by an increasing divide between black and white residents’ perceptions of being represented in local government (-9), as well as a decrease in voting access for people with physical disabilities (-19). However, there was no change in the score for *gender and representation in government* (0) and a only small decrease (-3) in the indicator score comparing perceptions of influence in government decision-making among people with the lowest and highest education levels.

CONTEXT:

There are numerous disparities in representation in NYC based on race, ethnicity, and gender, and targeted efforts may be needed to decrease them. We investigated the political gender gap further in our special report, *Who Runs Our Cities?*, which is available on our website. The feeling that one is not represented in government may also account for a perceived inability to affect government. This perception is likely borne out by real disparities based on education level and income, and greater opportunities for equal participation and representation may help to alleviate these disparities. Additionally, the drop in accessible voting locations, taken together with other indicators under the topic of ***Political Power***, points to a need to improve the representativeness and responsiveness of local government.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (CHANGE SCORE: +9.00)

This topic received the only positive topic change score under the theme of **Justice** and has the third largest positive topic change score in the framework overall. Here, we examine four practices that promote a vibrant and engaged society: attending public meetings, voting, volunteering, and participatory budgeting. The indicators pay particular attention to members of disadvantaged racial/ethnic groups, people living in poverty, and immigrants.

SCORES:

The driver of the positive change score for ***Civic Engagement*** (+9) was a large improvement in the indicator score for *race and public meeting attendance* (+35). With four new districts engaged in participatory budgeting, the proportion of city council districts engaged in participatory budgeting increased as well (+7). And while the volunteering rate for US-born individuals increased, the rate for foreign-born individuals decreased, resulting in a six point drop in score. The score for *income and voter turnout* did not change since data for this year’s general election are not yet available and there were no citywide elections last year.

CONTEXT:

NYC’s diverse population requires equally diverse opportunities for engagement in civic activities and duties. Voting, public meetings, and volunteering have been typical pathways for civic engagement, though they are not without challenges. Rates of public meeting attendance are relatively low for all racial/ethnic groups, as well as for both US-born and foreign born residents. Volunteering is also relatively low for all racial/ethnic and immigrant groups, though roughly one-fifth of US-born residents as well as whites report volunteering. Participatory budgeting appears to offer greater opportunities for members of disadvantaged groups to have a say in local governance. The majority of participants in recent cycles of participatory budgeting in NYC were people of color. They, along with individuals from low-income households, voted in recent participatory budgeting elections at higher rates than recent general elections in NYC.

Safety and Victimization

INDICATOR 65: RACE & VIOLENT VICTIMIZATION

CHANGE SCORE: +1

Indicator defined:	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ violent crime victimization rates	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 757.4 (per 100,000) White (W): 179.9 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 4.209, score 26	2016: Black (B): 749.8 (per 100,000) White (W): 183.8 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 4.079, score 27
More findings:	Racial/ethnic disparities in violent victimization rates were sizeable and persistent, with blacks (749.8 per 100,000) more than four times more likely to be victims of violent crimes, which include murder, rape, robbery, and felonious assault, than whites (183.8). The rates for Hispanics (509.1) and Asians/Pacific Islanders (282.4) were also much higher than the rate for whites. There were small increases in victimization rates from the prior year for both whites (179.9) and Hispanics (502.9), while the rates for blacks and Asians decreased (from 757.4 and 282.7, respectively).	
Data sources:	New York Police Department <i>Year End Enforcement Report</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	Victims of violent crimes may experience trauma or physical injury, as well as problems in a variety of other areas of their lives. In 2014, NYC expanded its CURE Violence program, a multi-agency effort designed to introduce at-risk individuals to alternative models of conflict resolution. The expansion includes the addition of wrap-around services: job training, mental health, school-based conflict mediation, and an anti-violence training academy. While this and similar programs may help to reduce victimization, specific initiatives aiming to decrease victimization among blacks made be needed if disparities are to be decreased.	

INDICATOR 66: RACE & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDE

CHANGE SCORE: +16

Indicator defined:	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ family-related homicide rates	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 1.8 (per 100,000) White (W): 0.3 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 7.055, score 12	2016: Black (B): 1.6 (per 100,000) White (W): 0.4 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 3.945, score 28
More findings:	There were 63 family-related homicides in the current year, and nearly half of them involved black victims (30). Overall, blacks had a considerably higher victimization rate (1.6 per 100,000) than Hispanics (0.6), Asians (0.6) or whites (0.4). From the prior year, family-related homicide cases for blacks decreased slightly (from 34 to 30), while all other racial/ethnic groups saw slight increases (Hispanics from 13 to 15; Asians from 5 to 7; and whites from 7 to 11 homicides). Twenty-seven cases in the current year involved an intimate partner; of these, 12 involved a boyfriend/girlfriend, nine involved a spouse or live-in partner, and six involved a child in common.	
Data sources:	Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee <i>Annual Report 2014</i> , 2013 Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee <i>Annual Report 2015</i> , 2014	
Context for this indicator:	Domestic violence is a serious problem that can lead to a cascade of negative consequences for both victims and their families. The City has a dedicated agency to respond to victims’ needs and aid in prevention efforts, the Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence, and preventing domestic violence is also one of the goals of the Commission on Gender Equity. In 2014, the City implemented the Public Housing Domestic Violence Response Team to strengthen the safety net for survivors of domestic violence living in public housing. The City also implemented a Coordinated Approach to Prevent Stalking program to link stalking victims to services before problems escalate. These and similar programs may have contributed to the reduction in black fatalities this year, and may help to further decrease them in future.	

INDICATOR 67: FOSTER CARE STATUS & CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT CHANGE SCORE: -22

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the child abuse and neglect rates for children in and out of family foster care	
Results:	2015: Foster care (FC): 4.0 (per 100,000 days) Non-foster care (NF): 4.8 (per 100,000 days) FC-to-NF ratio = 0.833, score 100	2016: Foster care (FC): 5.2 (per 100,000 days) Non-foster care (NF): 4.5 (per 100,000 days) FC-to-NF ratio = 1.156, score 78
More findings:	There were 9,926 children in foster care in the current year, a decrease from the previous year when 11,098 children were in care. Children in family foster care were somewhat more likely than children in the community to experience abuse and/or neglect this year, with 5.2 incidents per 100,000 days in family foster care compared to 4.5 for children out of foster care. These data show the opposite pattern from last year, when children out of the foster care system were more likely to experience abuse and/or neglect (4.8 compared to 4.0 for children in family foster care). Citywide, there were 19,974 substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect, which was fewer than in the previous year, when there were 21,256 substantiated cases.	
Data sources:	Administration for Children’s Services <i>by request</i> , FY2015 & FY2016	
Context for this indicator:	While children in foster care are especially vulnerable, no child should experience abuse or neglect, which can have serious, lasting, and even fatal consequences. After an incident in 2014, and a subsequent review of Administration for Children’s Services cases, the City announced the creation of the Children’s Cabinet that same year, a multi-agency initiative that encourages communication among city agencies and develops strategies for a holistic approach to children’s safety and wellbeing. The concerted work of the Children’s Cabinet, alongside increased efforts by the Administration for Children’s Services, can hopefully reduce rates of child abuse and neglect for children in and out of foster care in future years.	

INDICATOR 68: HATE CRIME VICTIMIZATION

CHANGE SCORE: +1

Indicator defined:	Rate of hate crime victimization citywide	
Results:	2015: 308 Hate Crimes Rate: 36.3 (per 1,000,000), score 64	2016: 307 Hate Crimes Rate: 35.9 (per 1,000,000), score 65
More findings:	There were 307 hate crimes committed in NYC; 113 were in Brooklyn, 102 in Manhattan, 45 in Queens, 31 in the Bronx, and 16 in Staten Island. Across New York State, religiously-motivated hate crimes are most common (50.9%), followed by anti-race/ethnicity/national origin hate crimes (27.2%). Within race/ethnicity, anti-black hate crimes have their own category accounting for one-sixth of the total hate crimes. The remaining categories of hate crimes were anti-sexual orientation (20.7%), anti-gender (0.6%), and anti-age (0.4%). The number of hate crimes in each NYC borough were similar to figures from last year, as were the percentages of types of hate crimes across New York State.	
Data sources:	New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services <i>Hate Crime in NYS Annual Report 2014</i> , 2013 New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services <i>Hate Crime in NYS Annual Report 2015</i> , 2014	
Context for this indicator:	Hate crimes are motivated by bias against characteristics of the victim, such as race or sexual orientation, and are considered especially pernicious because they not only harm victims, but send a message of intolerance and intimidation to the group to which they belong. In 2000, the City enacted a hate crime initiative allocating \$3.8 million to create an NYPD Hate Crimes Task Force, and \$1.2 million to aid in prosecution. The Task Force continues to investigate crimes flagged as potential hate crimes, looks for patterns in such crimes, and works towards specific prevention efforts. Given that hate crimes are driven by bias, however, preventing these crimes will involve work outside of law enforcement to fight prejudice and strengthen ties between communities.	

Fairness of the Justice System

INDICATOR 69: RACE & MISDEMEANOR ARREST

CHANGE SCORE: -1

Indicator defined:	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ misdemeanor arrest rates	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 1,773.4 (per 100,000) White (W): 392.8 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 4.515, score 24	2016: Black (B): 1,691.2 (per 100,000) White (W) 363.3 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 4.656, score 23
More findings:	Substantial racial and ethnic disparities persist in misdemeanor arrests. Blacks, who have the highest misdemeanor arrest rates (1,691.2 per 100,000), were more than four times more likely to be arrested than whites (363.3) or Asians/Pacific Islanders (326.9). The misdemeanor arrest rate for Hispanics was also very high (991.9), yet considerably lower than the rate for blacks. Rates decreased for all racial/ethnic groups from the prior year, but the decreases were highest for blacks (-82.2, from 1,773.4) and Hispanics (-97.6, from 1,089.5), and lowest for whites (-29.5, from 392.8) and Asians/Pacific Islanders (-40.6, from 367.5).	
Data sources:	New York Police Department <i>Year End Enforcement Report</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	Misdemeanor arrests can have considerable negative repercussions, including loss of employment, housing, and child custody, and police have more discretion about whether to make an arrest in these cases than in felonies. In NYC, a number of initiatives and policy changes have been enacted to reduce disproportionate minority contact with law enforcement, resolve procedural justice issues, and ultimately reduce disparities in misdemeanor arrests. These include the 2014 agreement to reform stop & frisk, NYC’s Justice Reboot, a revision of marijuana arrest policies, and expansion of the Young Men’s Initiative. While we found that the arrest rate has decreased, blacks and Hispanics are still disproportionately likely to be arrested, and additional work will need to be done by both police and communities to address these disparities.	

INDICATOR 70: RACE & TRUST IN POLICE

CHANGE SCORE: -2

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and whites who would not be comfortable asking the police for help	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 26.4% White (W): 8.1% B-to-W ratio = 3.259, score 32	2016: Black (B): 25.5% White (W) 7.1% B-to-W ratio = 3.592, score 30
More findings:	Stark racial and ethnic differences exist in trust in police. One in four blacks (25.5%) said they would not be comfortable seeking help from a police officer, compared to 17.2% of Asians, 15.8% of Hispanics, and 7.1% of whites. In fact, blacks were more than three times more likely than whites to mistrust the police. While we found no noticeable gap in police trust by gender or immigration status, individuals who identified as LGB (23.2%) were considerably more likely to feel uncomfortable seeking help from the police than individuals identifying as heterosexual (14.9%).	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Distrust of law enforcement weakens police legitimacy and jeopardizes public safety. NYPD’s Community Affairs Bureau is dedicated to cultivating and promoting positive, productive police-community relationships, and each precinct has a dedicated local Community Affairs officer. In 2015, the NYPD announced a neighborhood policing plan to work towards rebuilding community support and forging new partnerships with citizens, especially in communities of color. The NYPD has also made efforts to increase their numbers of minority police officers. Critics contend that to improve trust, however, additional efforts will need to focus on accountability.	

INDICATOR 71: RACE & JAIL ADMISSIONS

CHANGE SCORE: +2

Indicator defined:	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ jail admissions rates	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 2,067.3 (per 100,000) White (W): 241.4 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 8.562, score 6	2016: Black (B): 1,832.9 (per 100,000) White (W): 223.8 (per 100,000) B-to-W ratio = 8.192, score 8
More findings:	Racial and ethnic disparities in incarceration rates remain a serious problem. Blacks were eight times more likely to be admitted to NYC jails (1,832.9 per 100,000) than whites (223.8) in the current year. Blacks were also nearly twice as likely as Hispanics (850.2), and over 18 times more likely than Asians/Pacific Islanders (81.1) to be jailed. Rates decreased across all racial and ethnic groups from the previous year (from 2,067.3 for blacks, 968.1 for Hispanics, 241.4 for whites, and 94.8 for Asians/Pacific Islanders). Men are by far more likely to be admitted to jail than women: in the current year, 58,546 (90.5%) admissions were men while 6,181 (9.5%) were women.	
Data sources:	Department of Correction <i>by request</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	Incarceration has serious negative consequences for individuals, families, and communities. In 2015, NYC enacted a range of initiatives and policy changes aimed at reducing disparities in jail admissions through resolving procedural and case processing issues, introducing policing practices that limit custodial arrests, and expanded diversion and bail options. Programs with the goal of reducing jail populations and racial and ethnic disparities in admissions include Justice Reboot, the MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge, and NYC’s Alternative Bail Initiative, which reduces reliance on monetary bail. While scores on this indicator have improved minimally, the magnitude of the disparity suggests additional efforts will need to be made.	

INDICATOR 72: RELIGION & TRUST IN POLICE

CHANGE SCORE: -33

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of Muslim and Jewish individuals who would not be comfortable asking the police for help	
Results:	2015: Muslim (M): 19.0% Jewish (J): 8.8% M-to-J ratio: 2.159, score 39	2016: Muslim (M): 29.6% Jewish (J): 3.4% M-to-J ratio: 8.706, score 6
More findings:	Trust in police was markedly different among religious groups, but there was a particularly large gap between Jewish and Muslim residents. Of those reporting a religious affiliation, 3.4% of Jewish respondents said that they would not be comfortable seeking help from a police officer, compared to 29.6% of Muslim, 15.9% of Protestant, and 11.5% of Catholic respondents. In fact, Muslim residents were nearly nine times more likely to be uncomfortable seeking help from police than Jewish residents. Police distrust dropped slightly for all religious groups from the previous year, with the exception of Muslims: the percentage of Muslims who said they would not feel comfortable asking the police for help rose by more than 10 from 19.0% in 2015.	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Trust in police is essential for community cooperation, public safety and national security. Yet, the dramatic decline in scores on this indicator from the previous year show that among Muslim-Americans, trust in police remains limited. In recent years, the NYPD, city government officials, and federal law enforcement have made efforts to build relationships with the Muslim community. In 2015, the NYPD announced a neighborhood policing plan to strengthen community support and to increase the number of Muslim police officers, but more efforts to build bridges may be needed before trust can be restored.	

INDICATOR 73: RACE & REPRESENTATION IN GOVERNMENT CHANGE SCORE: -9

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and whites who think the government is not racially and ethnically diverse	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 36.1% White (W): 28.4% B-to-W ratio = 1.271, score 72	2016: Black (B): 39.9% White (W): 27.4% B-to-W ratio = 1.456, score 63
More findings:	Racial and ethnic differences were observed in respondents’ perceptions about whether the government is racially and ethnically diverse: 39.9% of blacks, 33.3% of Hispanics, 27.4% of whites and 24.3% of Asians reported that they “somewhat disagree” or “strongly disagree” that the NYC government represents the racial and ethnic diversity of the population. The percentages of respondents who disagreed were higher than the previous year’s estimates for Hispanics (29.3%) and blacks (36.1%), and slightly lower for Asians (25.0%) and whites (28.4%).	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	It is important that people from all racial and ethnic groups feel that they are represented in government and that they have equal chances of being a part of local and national government. In addition to elections, hiring practices at city agencies contribute to the diversity of government. All local government agencies must adhere to the City’s Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, which prohibits discriminatory employment actions against employees and employment applicants based on multiple statuses, including race. Hiring practices, policies, transparency, and outreach may all factor into public perceptions of government’s racial and ethnic diversity or lack thereof. More broadly, efforts to encourage racial and ethnic minorities to seek out positions in government and to provide them with resources and support will help to increase their representation.	

INDICATOR 74: DISABILITY & VOTING ACCESS CHANGE SCORE: -19

Indicator defined:	Percentage of polling sites in the most recent election with barriers to accessibility	
Results:	2015: 43 of 62 sites surveyed had barriers Sites with barriers: 69.4%, score 31	2016: 37 of 42* sites surveyed had barriers Sites with barriers: 88.1%, score 12
More findings:	In the 2015 general election, 37 out of 42* sites visited had barriers to accessibility, including inadequate ramps (41%), inadequate exterior (17%) or interior signage (2%), narrow entryways/pathways (52%), and insufficient space to access ballot marking devices (29%). Only five sites (12%) had no barriers. Sites were less accessible than during the 2014 election (69.4%), which already had a higher percentage of barriers compared to 2013 (66.6%). Perhaps relating to these barriers, in ISLG’s 2016 public survey, 59.3% of people with a physical disability said that they did not think they could influence government decision making, compared to 54.2% of those without a physical disability. <i>*One additional site surveyed was not in operation and is not included in these numbers.</i>	
Data sources:	Center for Independence of the Disabled New York <i>Poll Site Survey</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	In 2012, a federal court ruled that NYC was in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act due to the inaccessibility of many polling stations, yet accessibility plans have been finalized for only 59% of them at present. The reason for the drop in the percentage of accessible polling sites is unclear; however, future voters with disabilities will now have better information about the accessibility barriers of their polling locations ahead of election day thanks to new city-level legislation. While not a substitute for increased physical access, efforts such as these which alert those with physical disabilities to barriers to access in advance of elections will allow them to seek out alternate arrangements.	

INDICATOR 75: GENDER & REPRESENTATION IN GOVERNMENT CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of female and male elected government officials	
Results:	2015: Female (F): 29.5% Male (M): 70.5% M-to-F ratio = 2.390, score 38	2016: Female (F): 29.7% Male (M): 70.3% M-to-F ratio = 2.367, score 38
More findings:	There was no change in the gender disparity among elected officials since our previous review, though we note that no citywide elections occurred during this data collection period. Out of 165 elected local government officials, only 29.7% were women as compared to 70.3% men. These officials include the Mayor, Comptroller, Public Advocate, City Council members, Assembly members, district attorneys, borough presidents, State Senators, and US Representatives from NYC congressional districts. This disparity was similar among City Council representatives, though not as pronounced for members of the New York State Assembly. More promisingly, there were more women than men among NYC’s appointed officials, such as commissioners and deputy commissioners.	
Data sources:	ISLG <i>review of public websites</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	NYC has never had a female mayor, and women continue to be underrepresented among local elected officials. However, the City’s efforts to reduce the gender gap in representation is evident in the higher percentage of women than men among appointed officials. Additionally, in July 2015, Mayor de Blasio signed Executive Order 10, which created the Commission on Gender Equity. The commission was tasked with a number of responsibilities for reducing gender-based inequality throughout the city, including in government. Our special report, <i>Who Runs Our Cities?</i> , further explores the issue of gender representation in local government across the largest 100 cities in the US.	

INDICATOR 76: EDUCATION & POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT CHANGE SCORE: -3

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the perceived inability to influence government decision making for people with the lowest and highest educational levels	
Results:	2015: Less than HS diploma (LE): 70.6% Professional degree (HE): 47.2% LE-to-HE ratio = 1.496, score 61	2016: Less than HS diploma (LE): 70.1% Professional degree (HE): 45.0% LE-to-HE ratio = 1.558, score 58
More findings:	Of those with less than a high school diploma, 70.1% agreed that they don’t have any say about what the government does, compared to 45.0% of those with a professional/graduate degree; agreement was 59.7% among those with a high school diploma, 61.9% among those with a technical/vocational degree, and 51.8% among those with a 4-year college degree. These percentages were quite similar to the previous year, though the slightly higher percentage among those with a professional/graduate degree last year (47.2%) led to a slight increase in disparities. These numbers also varied by income: 64.6% of those making less than \$30,000 compared to 44.2% of those making more than \$150,000 felt they did not have a say.	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Findings from NYC residents mirror data on similar issues about national level political empowerment. In 2015, Pew found that almost half (47%) of those with postgraduate degrees ranked high in feelings of political efficacy, compared to a third (33%) of those with a high school diploma or less. These findings suggest that greater efforts may need to be made to reach out to those with lower educational attainment and those with lower income levels to ensure they feel their voices matter and to engage them in government decision-making processes.	

INDICATOR 77: RACE & PUBLIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

CHANGE SCORE: +35

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of Asians and blacks attending public meetings	
Results:	2015: Asian (A): 1.6% Black (B): 7.3% B-to-A ratio = 4.563, score 23	2016: Asian (A): 5.4% Black (B): 8.5% B-to-A ratio = 1.574, score 58
More findings:	Differences between racial/ethnic groups were found in the likelihood of attending one or more public meetings in the past year: 8.5% of blacks, 7.8% of whites, 2.0% of Hispanics, and 5.4% of Asians reported attendance. Equality between black and Asian respondents improved dramatically from the previous year when blacks were more than four times more likely to attend public meetings (7.3%) than Asians (1.6%). While attendance increased for both groups, the much larger increase among Asians led to a large increase in score. Differences in attendance by race/ethnicity may also relate to immigration status: twice as many of those born in the US (7.0%) reported attending public meetings as those born outside the US (4.5%).	
Data sources:	Current Population Survey <i>Volunteer Supplement</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	Public meeting attendance is relatively low for all racial and ethnic groups, which may explain how small changes in the reference groups greatly influenced the score for this indicator. That said, a recent study also found that blacks are most likely to attend public meetings. Public meetings offer opportunities for those who, historically, have been less well-represented in government and allow people to have a voice in what happens in their communities. Greater outreach and appropriate translation assistance and services may improve attendance rates for Hispanics and Asians, especially within immigrant communities.	

INDICATOR 79: IMMIGRATION STATUS & VOLUNTEERING

CHANGE SCORE: -6

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of foreign-born and US-born individuals who volunteer	
Results:	2015: Foreign-born (FB): 7.6% US-born (UB): 15.2% UB-to-FB ratio = 2.000, score 40	2016: Foreign-born (FB): 6.5% US-born (UB): 19.3% UB-to-FB ratio = 2.969, score 34
More findings:	US-born New Yorkers are nearly three times more likely to report volunteering (19.3%) as foreign-born individuals (6.5%). Since the prior year, the percentage of foreign-born individuals who volunteer decreased from 7.6%. At the same time, there was an increase among US-born individuals who volunteer (from 15.2%), resulting in a larger disparity in volunteering rates between the two groups. There were also notable differences by race/ethnicity. Hispanics and Asians, groups that tend to have higher foreign-born populations, were less likely to volunteer (6.8% of Hispanics and 8.3% of Asians) than blacks (12.8%) and whites (21.8%).	
Data sources:	Current Population Survey <i>Volunteer Supplement</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	Volunteering is one way for people to contribute to their communities, and may foster community trust and social cohesion. Initiatives that work to better integrate immigrants into city life and their communities may encourage volunteering and other forms of civic engagement. The Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA) works to provide services and support to immigrants, enhancing their integration into the civic, social, and economic life of the city. One NYC One Nation was a two-year initiative started in 2011 by MOIA to engage NYC’s immigrants, including their access to volunteering opportunities.	

INDICATOR 78: INCOME & VOTER TURNOUT

CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the voter turnout rates in the bottom and top income areas	
Results:	2015: Bottom income (B): 17.7% Top income (T): 24.2% T-to-B ratio = 1.367, score 67	2016: <i>*No citywide elections in calendar year 2015</i>
More findings:	Important differences were found in voting patterns in poor versus rich areas: 17.7% of those from the bottom 20% median income census tracts voted in the 2014 election, compared to 24.2% of those in the top 20%. We also found differences in the 2014 voter turnout rates by racial and ethnic composition, with voting most likely in majority white and black census tracts and least likely in majority Asian census tracts. Findings showed 22.3% of people in majority white, 21.3% of people in majority black, 16.5% of people in majority Hispanic, and 13.9% of people in majority Asian census tracts voted in the election that year.	
Data sources:	CUNY Center for Urban Research <i>by request</i> , 2014	
Context for this indicator:	Voting is one of the primary routes through which citizens make their voices heard in government, and low turnout rates decrease political influence among disadvantaged groups. Nationally, people with lower incomes are less likely to vote than those with higher incomes, giving them less voice in the political process and likely contributing to their feelings that they are less able to influence government. Greater targeted outreach to encourage voting among those with lower incomes and to make them feel that their voice matters may help to increase turnout in the future.	

INDICATOR 80: LOCATION & PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

CHANGE SCORE: +7

Indicator defined:	Percentage of city council districts not engaged in participatory budgeting	
Results:	2015: Districts with participatory budgeting: 24 Districts without participatory budgeting: 27 Districts without PB: 52.9%, score 48	2016: Districts with participatory budgeting: 28 Districts without participatory budgeting: 23 Districts without PB: 45.1%, score 55
More findings:	During the 2015-16 participatory budgeting (PB) cycle (Cycle 5), 28 out of 51 city council districts engaged in PB, decreasing the percentage of non-participating council districts from 52.9% to 45.1%. Together, participating districts allocated \$38 million for locally-developed capital projects, \$6 million more than the previous cycle. Approximately 67,000 people voted in Cycle 5, and while details about these voters are not available, findings from the Center for Urban Justice on Cycle 4 suggested PB voters were more diverse than general election voters.	
Data sources:	New York City Council <i>Participatory budgeting website</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Participatory budgeting allows community members to decide how to spend government funds and typically engages a more diverse body of participants than general elections, including more racial and ethnic minorities, individuals living in poverty, and immigrants. Unlike general elections, participatory budgeting is open to non-citizens and 14- to 17-year-olds, giving them a decisive voice in their communities. Participatory budgeting efforts are growing in NYC, as well as in cities across the US and worldwide, and we encourage more city council districts to adopt the practice.	

Subway



Section 4.8 Services

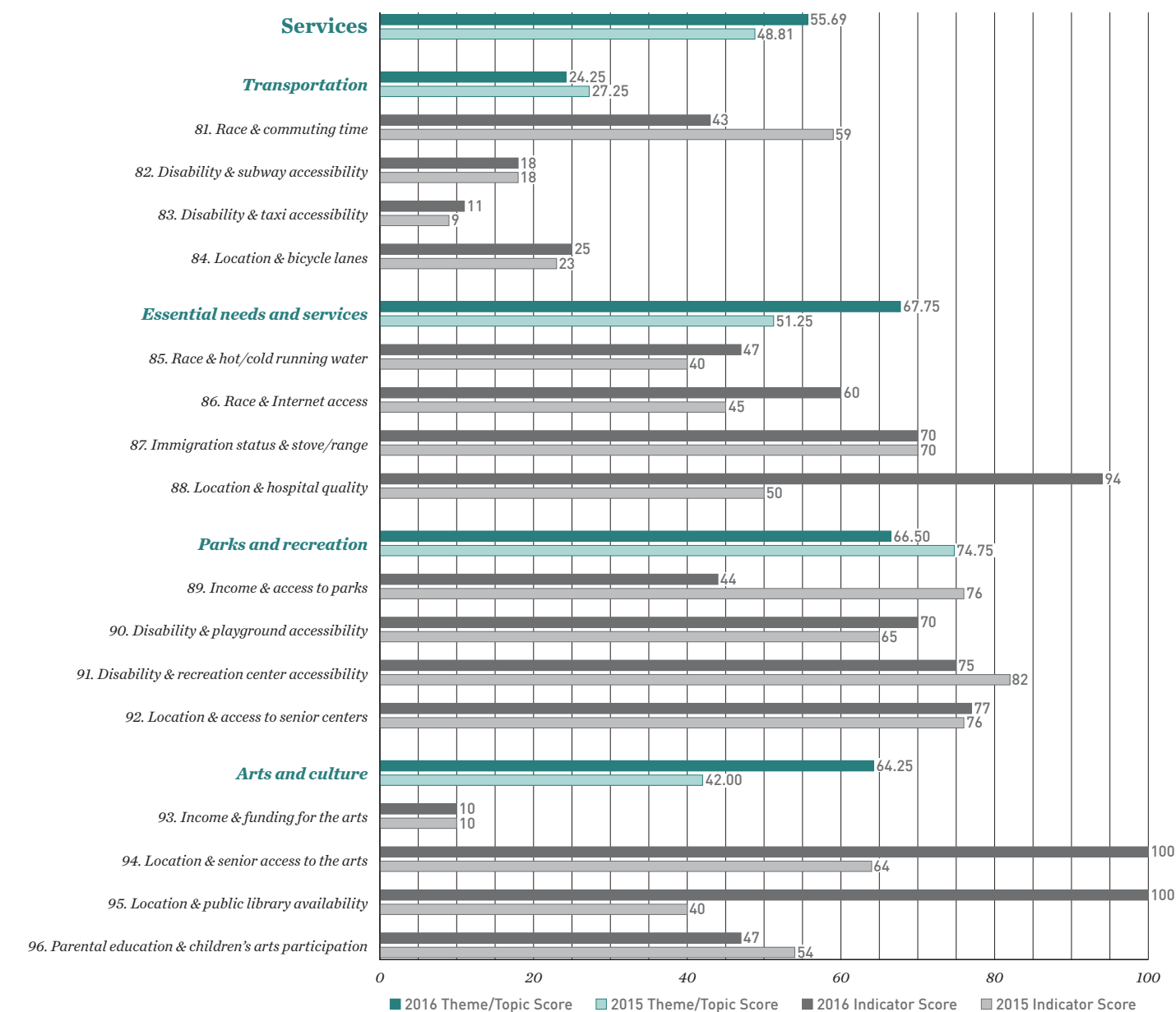
Services

2016 CHANGE SCORE:

+6.88

Services includes a wide range of services that meet the basic needs of NYC residents as well as that improve their quality of life. Location is the most prominent marker of inequality in this theme, with five of the sixteen indicators measuring disparities according to location, followed by disability and race/ethnicity. Categorized into four topics, indicators in this theme assess inequality in transportation and access to parks and recreation for people with disabilities, essential needs and services by race/ethnicity, and arts and culture by location. The City took action to improve basic needs and quality of life through the Office of the Mayor, City Council, New York City Department of Parks and Recreation (NYC Parks), and other city agencies.

Two of the topics in this theme had positive changes, which produced the overall positive theme score: **Arts and Culture** (+22.25) had a large positive change score, while the change in **Essential Needs and Services** was moderate (+16.50). **Essential Needs and Services** (67.75) had the highest static topic score across the six themes this year. By contrast, **Parks and Recreation** had a small negative change (-8.25), as did **Transportation** (-3.00). **Transportation** had one of the lowest static topic scores in the framework (24.25), evidence of pronounced inequality in this area, especially for people with disabilities.



TRANSPORTATION (CHANGE SCORE: -3.00)

Safe, efficient transit options are essential for commuting to work, attending appointments, and participating in social engagements. The **Transportation** topic area assesses access to subways, taxis, and bicycle lanes to understand what transit options are available, as well as the overall commuting time. Subways and taxis are measured by accessibility for people with physical disabilities, commuting time by racial and ethnic disparities, and bicycle lanes by location, comparing access in Manhattan and the outer boroughs.

SCORES:

Inequality in **Transportation** increased (-3.00) and it received the lowest static topic score (24.25) under the theme of **Services**. Most of the increase in inequality can be attributed to a moderate increase in inequality in *race and commuting time* between blacks and whites (-16). Barriers to using the subway or taking a taxi contributed to high inequality for New Yorkers with physical disabilities and without, with no change for *disability and subway accessibility* (0) and minimal change for *disability and taxi accessibility* (+2). Taxi accessibility was the most unequal indicator score under this topic, with a score of 11. The inequality between residents of Manhattan and other boroughs in *location and bicycle lanes*—assessing access to a safe and affordable transportation alternative—saw a negligible increase (+2).

CONTEXT:

The City made a number efforts to bridge barriers to accessing public transit and increase alternate transit options; they are also working to increase safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. The Mayor’s *One New York: The Plan for a Strong and Just City* (OneNYC) expanded the city’s bicycle lane network and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) Select Bus Service (SBS) Bus Rapid Transit lines to reduce commute times. MTA subway accessibility continues to lag behind other cities due in large part to the relative size and scope of the NYC subway system in comparison to smaller cities less heavily dependent on public transit. However, the Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) reported that they are working towards accessibility for at least half of all taxis, which would be a significant improvement.

ESSENTIAL NEEDS AND SERVICES (CHANGE SCORE: +16.50)

Essential Needs and Services covers the necessities of a 21st century NYC home, where disparities persist along lines of race and ethnicity, immigration status, and location. Here we use race/ethnicity as the defining factor in inequality in access to hot and cold running water and Internet, immigration status for whether New Yorkers have a stove or range for cooking, and location for access to timely and effective care at a local hospital. In the digital age, home Internet access is increasingly more necessary, and running water, stove access, and quality healthcare are still essential needs not currently met for all New Yorkers.

SCORES:

This topic showed reduced inequality overall with a moderate positive change score of +16.50, largely due to improving equality for hospital and Internet access. The *location and hospital quality* indicator had the biggest increase within **Services** (+44), and had the second-highest increase across all six themes. Its high static score (94) indicates that residents of the outer boroughs are almost as likely to have a highly-rated hospital nearby as Manhattan residents. The disparity in *race and Internet access* among New Yorkers in high-speed Internet access at home had a moderate positive change (+15), as did the overall likelihood of Internet access across different races. Inequality also decreased slightly in *race and hot/cold running water* (+7), indicating decreased disparities between blacks and whites in terms of the proportion who lack reliable hot and cold running water at home. Finally, *immigration status and stove/range* showed no change in inequality between US- and foreign-born individuals with a stove at home (0).

CONTEXT:

Initiatives from disparate private and public interests have worked to secure equal access to **Essential Needs and Services**. Access to running water and a stove or range at home for hygiene and safe cooking are essential, basic needs. Reports of predatory landlords and hazardous living conditions have brought unequal access to basic needs to the attention of City Council and the Public Advocate. Internet access and timely and effective care at local hospitals are also essential needs of a 21st century city. The City recognizes that access to high-speed Internet is increasingly necessary to perform in school and in the job market, and is in the process of expanding Internet access to public spaces and public housing. Additionally, OneNYC set goals to improve patient experience, efficiency, accountability and financial stability in the city’s 11 public hospitals, to ensure all New Yorkers have access to high-quality healthcare.

PARKS AND RECREATION (CHANGE SCORE: -8.25)

This topic assessed access to **Parks and Recreation** for New Yorkers of different incomes, neighborhoods, ages, and abilities. It sheds light on who has access to facilities and programming at parks, playgrounds, recreation centers, and senior centers. The indicators under this topic address the proximity of parks in relation to income, the accessibility of playgrounds and NYC recreation centers for people with physical disabilities, and the availability of senior centers in Manhattan and the outer boroughs.

SCORES:

Parks and Recreation had a negative change score (-8.25), which, while small, was the largest negative change score in the **Services** theme. The decline was largely due to one indicator, *income and access to parks*, where there was a large increase in inequality between low and high income earners (-32). The score for *disability and playground accessibility* increased slightly (+5), indicating greater access for children with disabilities, while *location and access to senior centers*, measuring the relative availability of senior centers for older residents of Manhattan and other boroughs, had a negligible increase (+1). Inequality increased for *disability and recreation center accessibility*, which looks at the extent to which people with and without a physical disability have access to NYC Parks recreational centers (-7).

CONTEXT:

NYC Parks’ Community Parks Initiative (CPI) is a \$130-million program that financed redesign, reconstruction, repairs, and the addition of accessible swings in parks and playgrounds in neighborhoods with concentrated poverty. Playgrounds received additional attention when the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) hired NYC youth to help identify physical issues with playgrounds and other public spaces. To open up recreation to more low-income New Yorkers, NYC Parks reduced the annual recreation center membership rate for veterans and people with disabilities, making facilities more financially accessible. The City’s Department for the Aging (DFTA) and Age-Friendly NYC Commission and the work to ensure the City is addressing the challenges of aging New Yorkers in several areas including access to services.

ARTS AND CULTURE (CHANGE SCORE: +22.25)

Participating in **Arts and Culture** fosters cognitive capacity and creativity, and improves quality of life. This topic assesses funding, libraries, and programming to understand differences in access to the arts and cultural events. Location is the differentiating factor in measuring equality for both senior access to the arts and public library availability, while equality in funding for the arts is measured by area income, and parental education level to assess children’s participation in arts activities. Generally speaking, the indicators under this topic aim to measure to what extent income, location, or parents’ education either limit or expand access.

SCORES:

The change score for **Arts and Culture** overall (+22.25) is the largest improvement in equality for any topic across the six themes. The change is due to improvements in two indicators, both of which reached a static score of 100: *location and public library availability*, which measures access to libraries open six days a week (+60), and *location and senior access to the arts* in Manhattan as compared to all other boroughs (+36). By contrast, the *income and funding for the arts* indicator shows that organizations in wealthy areas of the city continue to be much more likely to receive city funding than those in poor areas (0). There was a small increase in inequality in *parental education and children’s arts participation* (-7).

CONTEXT:

NYC agencies, departments, and initiatives have prioritized increasing access to **Arts and Culture** for different age groups and all New Yorkers, citywide. DFTA expanded the City’s Seniors Partnering with Artists Citywide (SPARC) program with SU-CASA, a community arts residency program now in 101 senior centers, all but reaching the stated goal of 102 sites. In 2016, the Mayor’s Management Report relayed that the city’s public libraries met a 2015 goal to get all branches citywide open six days a week. IDNYC aims to make arts and culture more accessible through free memberships to museums and cultural attractions throughout the city. City-wide after-school programs COMPASS NYC and SONYC bring arts to students K-12, including youth in foster care and homeless facilities. These efforts may have impacted the large positive **Arts and Culture** change score.

INDICATOR 81: RACE & COMMUTING TIMECHANGE SCORE: -16

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and whites whose commute to work is an hour or more	
Results:	2015: Blacks (B): 21.1% Whites (W): 13.8% B-to-W ratio = 1.529, score 59	2016: Blacks (B): 23.7% Whites (W): 12.2% B-to-W ratio = 1.943, score 43
More findings:	Commuting time varied by racial and ethnic group, with blacks being the most likely to have commutes over one hour (23.7%, up from 21.1% in the previous year) and whites the least likely (12.2%, down from 13.8%). The percentages of people whose commute to work was an hour or more increased for all racial and ethnic groups except for whites. Among Asians the rate increased from 19.4% to 23.1%, and it increased 15.0% to 15.6% for Hispanics.	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Research has found that lengthy commute times are associated with a range of physical health, mental health, and quality of life outcomes. The City has made some efforts towards reducing commute times—particularly through expansion of Select Bus Service (SBS). OneNYC committed to expanding SBS, and it was implemented on the Q44, the second busiest bus route in Queens, and M86, the second busiest crosstown bus route in Manhattan, in 2015. However, our results suggest that more may need to be done to shorten commute times for New Yorkers across racial and ethnic groups and reduce disparities.	

INDICATOR 82: DISABILITY & SUBWAY ACCESSIBILITYCHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Percentage of subway stations that are not wheelchair accessible	
Results:	2015: Number of stations in NYC subway and Staten Island Railway: 491 Number that are wheelchair accessible: 87 Percentage that are not wheelchair accessible: 82.3%, score 18	2016: Number of stations in NYC subway and Staten Island Railway: 491 Number that are wheelchair accessible: 87 Percentage that are not wheelchair accessible: 82.3%, score 18
More findings:	The vast majority of subway stations within NYC (82.3%) were not accessible to people in wheelchairs, no change from the previous year. There were a total of 491 stations, 469 stations in the NYC subway system and 22 in the Staten Island Railroad. Only 83 stations in the NYC subway system, and 4 Staten Island Railroad stations were wheelchair accessible. Additionally, fifteen non-accessible stations in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens allowed same-platform transfers for a train that later stopped at an accessible station. We also note that six stations were usually accessible but were inaccessible at the time of data collection due to construction or repairs.	
Data sources:	MTA <i>website</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Reliable transit is essential to hold a job, attend doctors’ appointments, and participate in community and social events. With no change in ADA accessibility from the previous year, the MTA lags behind other major city systems, most of which are ADA accessible in at least 50% of their stations. San Francisco, Atlanta, Los Angeles, and Miami transit systems are 100% compliant with ADA standards, with all transit stations ADA accessible. In part, the lack of change may be because the NYC system is an old system and several times as large as many other cities, serving millions more people daily. That said, while this makes conversion to accessible facilities more difficult, it also makes it more necessary.	

INDICATOR 83: DISABILITY & TAXI ACCESSIBILITYCHANGE SCORE: +2

Indicator defined:	Percentage of taxis that are not wheelchair accessible	
Results:	2015: Percentage of yellow taxis that were not wheelchair accessible: 95.8% Percentage of Boro taxis that were not wheelchair accessible: 82.5% Percentage of taxis that are not wheelchair accessible: 91.2%, score 9	2016: Percentage of yellow taxis that were not wheelchair accessible: 93.6% Percentage of Boro taxis that were not wheelchair accessible: 80.8% Percentage of taxis that are not wheelchair accessible: 89.1%, score 11
More findings:	The vast majority of both yellow medallion taxis and Boro (or green) taxis were not wheelchair accessible in 2016: 89.1% were inaccessible, down slightly from 91.2% in the previous year. Out of the 13,587 yellow taxis, 876 were wheelchair accessible, a total of only 6.5%. Out of the 7,237 Boro taxis, 1,393 were wheelchair accessible, a total of 19.3%. In total, then, 93.6% of yellow taxis and 80.8% of Boro taxis were not accessible to people in wheelchairs, a slight improvement from the previous year, when 95.8% of yellow taxis and 82.5% of Boro taxis were not accessible. In the current year, 304 additional yellow taxis and 153 additional Boro taxis were accessible, while there was no change in the total number of taxis.	
Data sources:	Taxi and Limousine Commission <i>Mayor’s Management Report</i> , FY2015 & FY2016	
Context for this indicator:	Taxis are an important form of public transportation for the elderly and for those with limited mobility, yet the vast majority are currently inaccessible to those in wheelchairs. According to the TLC’s 2014 plan to expand access to yellow and Boro taxis, the Disability Advocacy Project (DAP) and NYC government are working toward making more than half of all taxis in NYC wheelchair accessible. DAP will also expand upon existing dispatch services so that wheelchair users in all boroughs will have access to yellow or Boro taxis.	

INDICATOR 84: LOCATION & BICYCLE LANESCHANGE SCORE: +2

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of non-Manhattan and Manhattan census tracts without bicycle lanes	
Results:	2015: Non-Manhattan (NM): 51.4% Manhattan (M): 11.1% NM-to-M ratio = 4.630, score 23	2016: Non-Manhattan (NM): 48.4% Manhattan (M): 11.1% NM-to-M ratio = 4.356, 25
More findings:	Just under half (48.4%) of census tracts outside of Manhattan did not have bicycle lanes, compared to 51.4% in the previous year. There was no change in the tracts in Manhattan over time, 11.1% of which were without bicycle lanes. There are bicycle lanes on city streets and in green areas such as parks. Looking only at streets—where they are most essential for safety and commuting—three-quarters (76.7%) of census tracts in Manhattan compared to 44.4% of census tracts outside Manhattan had bicycle lanes, a slight increase for both from the previous year, when they were present in 74.7% of census tracts in Manhattan and 44.3% in the outer boroughs.	
Data sources:	Department of Transportation <i>Bicycle Maps</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	Designated bike lanes are an important safety feature for both cyclists and pedestrians in the city, yet they continue to be more present in Manhattan than in other boroughs. The City is making efforts to increase their use: OneNYC set goals to expand the City’s bike network, and in 2015, the City installed over 58 miles of bike lanes, including 12 miles of protected lanes. Additionally, the Vision Zero Action Plan released in 2014 outlined initiatives that the Mayor’s Office and a number of City agencies are undertaking to reduce death and serious injury on our streets, which included several bicycle lane projects in all five boroughs.	

Essential Needs and Services

INDICATOR 85: RACE & HOT/COLD RUNNING WATER

CHANGE SCORE: +7

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of black and white households that do not have hot and cold running water at home	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 0.676% White (W): 0.335% B-to-W ratio = 2.018, score 40	2016: Black (B): 0.497% White (W): 0.271% B-to-W ratio = 1.834, score 47
More findings:	There were large racial and ethnic disparities in New Yorkers’ access to running water at home. The percentage without hot and cold running water was highest for blacks (0.497%), followed by Hispanics (0.494%), Asians (0.330%), and whites (0.271%). These numbers represent an improvement from the previous year, when the disparity in lack of access to running water between blacks (0.676%) and whites (0.335%) was larger and the percentages without running water were higher across racial and ethnic groups (the percentages for Hispanics and Asians were 0.633% and 0.545%, respectively).	
Data sources:	American Community Survey 5-year PUMS, 2009-2013 & 2010-2014	
Context for this indicator:	Access to hot and cold running water is a fundamental need, yet, while access is increasing, some NYC residents still lack such access. In 2014, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) collaborated with the Human Resources Administration to launch the Home Water Assistance Program to provide a water and sewer bill credit to help 12,500 low-income homeowners in New York City pay for hot and cold running water. It is possible that this and similar programs may contribute to greater increases in access in future years, although their effect on disparities in access remains to be seen.	

INDICATOR 87: IMMIGRATION STATUS & STOVE/RANGE

CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of foreign-born and US-born households that do not have a stove or range at home	
Results:	2015: Foreign-born (FB): 0.823% US-born (US): 0.631% FB-to-US ratio = 1.304, score 70	2016: Foreign-born (FB): 0.749% US-born (US): 0.573% FB-to-US ratio = 1.307, score 70
More findings:	Immigrant households (0.749%) were more likely than those of US-born New Yorkers (0.573%) not to have a stove or range, effectively no change from the previous year, when the percentages were 0.823% for foreign-born and 0.631% for US-born New Yorkers. Within immigrant households, lack of access was higher among non-citizens (0.885%) than among naturalized citizens (0.632%). There were also large racial and ethnic disparities: 0.913% of Asian households lacked a stove or range, compared to 0.697% of black households, 0.557% of white households, and 0.555% of Hispanic households.	
Data sources:	American Community Survey 5-year PUMS, 2009-2013 & 2010-2014	
Context for this indicator:	For many NYC immigrants, precarious housing arrangements and landlord harassment leave them without access to safe kitchen facilities, which include a proper stove or range. While too recent to have impacted this year’s scores, in July 2015 the Tenant Support Unit was created to inform tenants of their rights. These rights include requiring landlords to maintain appliances such as stoves in working order.	

INDICATOR 86: RACE & INTERNET ACCESS

CHANGE SCORE: +15

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and Asians who do not have high-speed Internet at home	
Results:	2015: Black (B): 21.2% Asian (A): 11.3% B-to-A ratio = 1.876, score 45	2016: Black (B): 15.0% Asian (A): 10.0% B-to-A ratio = 1.500, score 60
More findings:	The percentage of people without high-speed Internet at home decreased for all racial and ethnic groups, but disparities persisted. In total, 15.0% of blacks did not have Internet access, down from 21.2% in the previous year, compared to 10% of Asians, whose rates were down from 11.3%. The rate among whites fell from 16.3% to 13.6%. Hispanics surpassed blacks as the most likely not to have high-speed Internet at home, 15.5%, down from 18.5%. Access also varied by income, with the percentage of people without high-speed Internet decreasing as income increased: 16.6% of those making less than \$30,000 did not have high-speed Internet, compared to 1.0% of those making more than \$150,000.	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	In 2011, the United Nations declared access to the Internet a basic human right. Access to the Internet ensures access to information and communication networks that could improve education, health, and employment outcomes. Access among New Yorkers has increased, and some of this improvement may be related to the City’s efforts. In 2015, NYC announced ConnectHome a multi-agency initiative that brings free Internet access to five outer-borough public housing developments. Additionally, in 2014, the Mayor’s Office announced the LinkNYC project to cover NYC with free Wi-Fi. Provided by CityBridge, the project provides free wireless Internet to hotspots in the five boroughs by converting old payphones into Wi-Fi kiosks. The first free Wi-Fi kiosks were installed in January 2016.	

INDICATOR 88: LOCATION & HOSPITAL QUALITY

CHANGE SCORE: +44

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of non-Manhattan and Manhattan hospitals given high ratings for timely and effective care	
Results:	2015: Non-Manhattan (NM): 39.4% Manhattan (M): 69.2% M-to-NM ratio = 1.757, score 50	2016: Non-Manhattan (NM): 44.8% Manhattan (M): 46.2% M-to-NM ratio = 1.030, score 94
More findings:	Among rated hospitals in Manhattan, 46.2% were given high performance ratings for timely and effective care compared to 44.8% of the hospitals located in the outer boroughs. The location-based disparity decreased considerably from the previous year; however, the magnitude of the decrease was driven largely by a large decrease in ratings for Manhattan hospitals, 69.2% of which were given high ratings during the previous year compared to 39.4% of non-Manhattan hospitals. Disparities were greatest among private hospitals: half of private Manhattan hospitals and 29.0% of private non-Manhattan hospitals rated high, a decrease from 80.0% and 44.0% respectively in the previous year.	
Data sources:	New York State Health Profiles, 7/1/2013-6/30/2014 & 7/1/2014-6/30/2015	
Context for this indicator:	In response to poor hospital ratings, OneNYC included plans to improve the public healthcare system by expanding access to high-quality healthcare to low performing areas, as well as stabilizing hospital finances. Of the 11 public hospitals, 8 out of 11 are in the outer boroughs, with 3 hospitals each in Manhattan, the Bronx, and Brooklyn, 2 in Queens, and zero on Staten Island. Together with the public hospital system’s initiative Vision 2020, OneNYC aims to improve patient experience, expand access, and improve efficiency, accountability, support, and finances. Initiatives such as these may be able to increase timely and effective care for hospitals across the city in future years.	

INDICATOR 89: INCOME & ACCESS TO PARKS

CHANGE SCORE: -32

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of residents in the bottom and top income areas who do not live within a 5-minute walk of a park	
Results:	2015: <\$30,000 (B): 19.4% >\$150,000 (T): 16.2% B-to-T ratio = 1.198, score 76	2016: <\$30,000 (B): 20.4% >\$150,000 (T): 10.7% B-to-T ratio = 1.907, score 44
More findings:	People with an annual income below \$30,000 were more likely not to live within a 5-minute walk of a park (20.4%, up from 19.4% in the previous year) than people with an annual income above \$150,000 (10.7%, down from 16.2%), and disparities in access increased. Interestingly, however, people in the relatively high-income range making \$100,000-\$150,000 were the most likely not to have a park nearby (26.3%). People with children were less likely (19.3%, up from 14.5%) than people without children (22.8%, up from 22.4%) to not have a park within a 5-minute walk. In 2016, there was little difference between racial and ethnic groups' access to local parks (21.5% of whites, 20.8% of blacks, 19.5% of Hispanics, and 26.9% of Asians lacked access).	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Access to parks has a variety of social, economic and health-related benefits. In 2014, NYC Parks launched CPI, a multi-faceted program to invest in under-resourced public parks in neighborhoods with concentrated poverty. Since its launch, the initiative has completed improvements in 60 parks and playgrounds in underserved neighborhoods around the city. Improvements include repainted playground areas and courts, replaced basketball nets, added accessible swings, and replanted garden areas. While this initiative may not increase proximity to a park, it may improve the quality of the parks closest to those living in poverty.	

INDICATOR 90: DISABILITY & PLAYGROUND ACCESSIBILITY

CHANGE SCORE: +5

Indicator defined:	Percentage of playgrounds not accessible to children with physical disabilities	
Results:	2015: 442 out of 1,249 playgrounds not accessible Percentage of playgrounds not accessible: 35.4%, score 65	2016: 374 out of 1,237 playgrounds not accessible Percentage of playgrounds not accessible: 30.2%, score 70
More findings:	Out of the 1,237 playgrounds citywide, 374 (30.2%) are not accessible to children with physical disabilities, while 863 (69.8%) are fully or partially accessible. In the previous year, 442 out of 1,249 playgrounds citywide (35.4%) were not accessible while 807 (64.6%) were fully or partially accessible. Partially accessible playgrounds require transfer platforms and ground level play features at minimum, while those at the highest levels of accessibility require ramped play equipment and universally accessible swings. There was considerable variation in accessibility by borough: roughly half (46.0%) of the playgrounds in the Bronx were not accessible, compared to just over a quarter (25.1%) in Manhattan. Queens (28.2%), Staten Island (28.9%), and Brooklyn (26.0%) fell in the middle.	
Data sources:	Department of Parks and Recreation <i>website</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Play is critical to the social, emotional, cognitive and physical development of all children, and accessible playgrounds make play possible for all children regardless of disability status. CPI invests in public parks, and the initiative has added accessible swings to playgrounds in neighborhoods with concentrated poverty across the city, which is likely responsible for the increase in score noted this year. Additionally, in 2015, DYCD hired 30 youth through the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) to work with the City's Street Conditions and Observation Unit to identify physical condition issues in playgrounds and other public spaces.	

INDICATOR 91: DISABILITY & RECREATION CENTER ACCESSIBILITY CHANGE SCORE: -7

Indicator defined:	Percentage of City recreation centers not accessible to individuals with physical disabilities	
Results:	2015: Nine out of 49 City recreation centers not accessible City recreation centers not accessible to people with physical disabilities: 18.4%, score 82	2016: 13 out of 52 City recreation centers not accessible City recreation centers not accessible to people with physical disabilities: 25.0%, score 75
More findings:	Recreation centers include NYC Parks' standard recreation centers, as well as field houses, which offer more limited facilities and programming, and community centers, which are operated by community-based organizations through an agreement with NYC Parks. Citywide, 13 out of 52 City recreation centers (25.0%, up from 18.4%) were not accessible to individuals with a physical disability, while 39 recreation centers were fully accessible. Within boroughs, four out of 10 facilities in the Bronx, one out of nine in Brooklyn, two out of 15 in Manhattan, eight out of 11 in Queens, and four out of seven in Staten Island were inaccessible. However, overall the negative change score reflects the addition of three new facilities that were not accessible.	
Data sources:	Department of Parks and Recreation <i>website</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Recreation centers increase opportunities to engage in sports and other social activities, and may strengthen community ties, yet individuals with disabilities may not have equal access to such facilities. While NYC Parks has worked to increase access through reducing membership costs for individuals with disabilities, physical changes to the centers themselves will be needed in order to increase physical accessibility.	

INDICATOR 92: LOCATION & ACCESS TO SENIOR CENTERS

CHANGE SCORE: +1

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the numbers of senior centers per 100,000 people aged 75 and older outside and within Manhattan	
Results:	2015: Non-Manhattan (NM): 51.3 Manhattan (M): 61.5 M-to-NM ratio = 1.198, score 76	2016: Non-Manhattan (NM): 49.1 Manhattan (M): 57.1 M-to-NM ratio = 1.162, score 77
More findings:	The number of senior centers per 100,000 people 75 and older was 57.1 in Manhattan and 49.1 outside of Manhattan, compared to 61.5 in Manhattan and 51.3 outside of Manhattan in the previous year. Although all outer boroughs saw decreases, there continued to be considerable variation, with 61.8 senior centers per 100,000 people aged 75 and older in the Bronx, 55.5 in Brooklyn, 41.5 in Staten Island, and 37.8 in Queens. Utilization rates also varied from the previous year: daily attendance in Manhattan was 150.6, up from 144.0, and 107.7 outside Manhattan, up from 106.2. Daily attendance rates by individual non-Manhattan boroughs varied and did not follow the same pattern as the number of centers: they were 127.6 in Queens, 103.6 in Brooklyn, 96.9 in Staten Island, and 93.3 in the Bronx.	
Data sources:	Department for the Aging <i>by request</i> , 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Older New Yorkers face numerous challenges to living in NYC, and nearby senior centers may provide them with support and resources, in addition to opportunities for social engagement. In 2015, the Age-Friendly NYC Commission, a partnership between the Mayor's Office, City Council, and the New York Academy of Medicine, was officially established to ensure the City is addressing the challenges of aging New Yorkers in community and civic participation, housing, public spaces and transportation, and health and social services; this may include increasing access to senior centers and other resources.	

INDICATOR 93: INCOME & FUNDING FOR THE ARTS

CHANGE SCORE: 0

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of organizations receiving City funding for the arts that are located in the bottom and top income areas	
Results:	2015: Bottom (B): 7.3% Top (T): 55.2% T-to-B ratio = 7.562, score 10	2016: Bottom (B): 7.6% Top (T): 58.4% T-to-B ratio = 7.684, score 10
More findings:	The NYC Department of Cultural Affairs awarded \$31,466,002 to 883 arts organizations in the current year. Among organizations with physical mailing addresses (e.g., no PO boxes), 60 (7.6%) were located in the bottom 20% median income census tracts, while 460 (58.4%) were located in the top 20%. These results were quite similar to the previous year, when 59 (7.3%) of organizations with physical mailing addresses were in the bottom 20% tracts, while 449 (55.2%) were in the top 20%, and the score remained the same. In the current year, the majority of funded organizations were located in Manhattan (63.3%) followed distantly by Brooklyn (18.3%), Queens (9.7%), the Bronx (6.7%), and Staten Island (2.0%).	
Data sources:	Department of Cultural Affairs <i>DCLA Programs Funding</i> , 2014 & 2015	
Context for this indicator:	Local proximity to arts and cultural organizations increases access, and may facilitate attendance, yet funding for these organizations continues to be disproportionately awarded to those in wealthy areas. While the IDNYC card reduces some barriers to access for those with lower incomes by making membership at leading cultural institutions free, it does not address issues related to location and, more specifically, to proximity. Programs that provide support and resources to organizations in underserved areas may be needed to help them continue their work and increase their competitiveness for City funding.	

INDICATOR 94: LOCATION & SENIOR ACCESS TO THE ARTS

CHANGE SCORE: +36

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the numbers of artist placements per 100,000 people 75 and older outside and within Manhattan	
Results:	2015: Non-Manhattan (NM): 9.8 Manhattan (M): 13.9 M-to-NM ratio = 1.421, score 64	2016: Non-Manhattan (NM): 21.2 Manhattan (M): 17.8 M-to-NM ratio = 0.838, score 100
More findings:	The number of artist placements in Manhattan rose from 14 to 19, while outside Manhattan it rose from 36 to 82. Accordingly, the placement rate per 100,000 people 75 and older within Manhattan rose from 13.9 to 17.8, while the placement rate outside of Manhattan rose to 21.2 from 9.8, actually surpassing the Manhattan rate. In 2016, within specific non-Manhattan boroughs, the placement rate was 19.6 in Queens, 22.5 in Brooklyn, 20.7 in Staten Island, and 22.0 in the Bronx. In the previous year, the placement rate was 8.0 in Queens, 9.5 in Brooklyn, 11.0 in Staten Island, and 13.4 in the Bronx.	
Data sources:	Department of Cultural Affairs <i>website</i> , 2015 Department for the Aging <i>by request</i> , 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Participation in the arts can help to maintain cognitive function and provides an opportunity for social engagement. The City is committed to increasing seniors’ access to the arts through artist placements at senior centers throughout NYC. For several years, Seniors Partnering with Artists Citywide (SPARC) placed artists at senior centers throughout the city. This year, with funding from City Council, the City greatly expanded SPARC into the new program SU-CASA, with the intention to support 102 total residencies throughout the city. These placements will be distributed geographically, two in each of the 51 City Council districts. As the direct result of this program, the number of artist residencies more than doubled in 2016, and location-based disparities were eliminated.	

INDICATOR 95: LOCATION & PUBLIC LIBRARY AVAILABILITY

CHANGE SCORE: +60

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of New York Public Library and non-NYPL branches open six days a week	
Results:	2015: Non-NYPL (NN): 49.0% NYPL (N): 100.0% N-to-NN ratio = 2.041, score 40	2016: Non-NYPL (NN): 100% NYPL (N): 100% N-to-NN ratio = 1.000, score 100
More findings:	Over the past year, access to libraries across the city increased, and now all public libraries citywide are open at least six days per week. In the previous year, just under half (49.0%) of non-New York Public Library (NYPL) branches, which include the Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) and Queens Borough Public Library (QPL), were open six days a week. Despite this improvement, some discrepancies in average weekly scheduled open hours remained: 50.0 hours for NYPL branches, compared to 47.8 in non-NYPL branches (49.3 in BPL branches and 46.3 in QPL branches). This represents an increase in all systems, however, from 46.6 for NYPL branches, and 42.6 in non-NYPL branches (45.0 in Brooklyn and 40.2 in Queens).	
Data sources:	Public Libraries <i>Mayor’s Management Report</i> , FY2015 & FY2016	
Context for this indicator:	NYPL, BPL, and QPL focus on equitable service to ensure access to information, resources and programs throughout the five boroughs. The 2015 Mayor’s Management Report (MMR) set targets to increase QPL and BPL’s access rates to 100% (by keeping branches open six days per week). In 2015, QPL’s rate of access was 33% and BPL’s was 67%. By 2016, 100% of public libraries city-wide, including QPL and BPL, were open six days per week, and the 2016 MMR’s stated goal was to maintain the new standard.	

INDICATOR 96: PARENTAL EDUCATION & CHILDREN’S ARTS PARTICIPATION

CHANGE SCORE: -7

Indicator defined:	Ratio between the percentages of children whose parents have the least and most education who do not participate in arts activities	
Results:	2015: Less than a high school diploma (LE): 41.9% Professional degree (HE): 25.3% LE-to-HE ratio = 1.656, score 54	2016: Less than a high school diploma (LE): 36.5% Professional degree (HE): 19.8% LE-to-HE ratio = 1.843, score 47
More findings:	Children of parents with less than a high school diploma were considerably more likely not to participate in arts activities in or out of school (36.5%, compared to 41.9% in the previous year) than those of parents with a professional or graduate degree (19.8%, down from 25.3%). While there was an improvement for these two highest and lowest education groups, and for those with a high school diploma (21.3%, down from 27.3%), there was a decrease in the rate of arts participation among the children of parents who attended technical or vocational school (31.8% did not participate in arts activities, up from 16.3% in the previous year) and 4-year college graduates (28.5% not participating, up from 25.0%). Non-participation rates were higher for children living with one parent (29.0%) than with two parents (23.0%).	
Data sources:	ISLG Public Survey, 2015 & 2016	
Context for this indicator:	Participating in arts activities has benefits beyond social engagement: it may foster cognitive development and improve academic performance. NYC has made several efforts to increase children’s access to the arts, yet large disparities in who accesses these activities remains. In 2014, DYCD expanded after school programming for public school students with the Comprehensive After School System of NYC (COMPASS NYC), which offers a variety of arts, academics, recreation, and enrichment programs, and specifically targeted underserved children, specifically youth in ACS and homeless facilities, with the COMPASS School’s Out New York City pilot program. Yet more may need to be done to increase access to the arts for students citywide.	

Appendix A:

List Of Indicators and Definitions

Economy

POVERTY

#	Name	Definition
Ind.1	Race & poverty	Ratio between the percentages of Asians and whites living below the poverty line
Ind.2	Race & food security	Ratio between the percentages of Hispanics and Asians with low or very low food security
Ind.3	Citizenship status & poverty	Ratio between the percentages of non-citizens and citizens living below the poverty line
Ind.4	Family composition & poverty	Ratio between the percentages of people in single-parent and two-parent households living below the poverty line

EMPLOYMENT

#	Name	Definition
Ind.5	Race & unemployment	Ratio between the unemployment rates for blacks and whites
Ind.6	Disability & unemployment	Ratio between the unemployment rates for people with and without disabilities
Ind.7	Probation status & unemployment	Ratio between the unemployment rates for probation clients and the general population
Ind.8	Employment assistance	Percentage of cash assistance recipients who were no longer employed 180 days after being placed in a job

INCOME AND BENEFITS

#	Name	Definition
Ind.9	Race & income	Ratio between the median yearly personal incomes for Hispanics and whites
Ind.10	Income & retirement savings	Ratio between the percentages of people in the bottom and middle income groups who do not have retirement or pension plans
Ind.11	Immigration status & income	Ratio between the median yearly personal incomes for foreign-born and US-born individuals
Ind.12	Gender & income	Ratio between the median yearly personal incomes for women and men

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

#	Name	Definition
Ind.13	Race/gender & City contracts	Ratio between the percentages of small versus large contracts going to minority and women-owned business enterprises
Ind.14	Race & business ownership	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and whites who are business owners
Ind.15	Gender & business ownership	Ratio between the percentages of women and men who are business owners
Ind.16	Location & business revenue	Ratio between the percentages of sales tax collected from businesses located outside and within Manhattan

Education

EARLY EDUCATION

#	Name	Definition
Ind.17	Race & pre-K diversity	Percentage of pre-Ks with more than 75% of their enrollees from one racial or ethnic group
Ind.18	Income & child care facilities	Ratio between the percentages of parents in the bottom and top income groups without a child care center within a 10-minute walk
Ind.19	Income & pre-K quality	Ratio between the average ECERS ratings in pre-Ks in the bottom and top income areas
Ind.20	Family composition & early school enrollment	Ratio between the percentages of 3- and 4-year-olds living with one and two parents who are not enrolled in school

ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL EDUCATION

#	Name	Definition
Ind.21	Race & math proficiency	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and Asians in grades 3-8 rated less than proficient on the math Common Core
Ind.22	Race & principal experience	Ratio between the median years of principal experience in majority black and majority Asian schools
Ind.23	Income & bullying	Ratio between the percentages of students in schools located in the bottom and top income areas who believe students who are different are persistently bullied
Ind.24	Disability & English proficiency	Ratio between the percentages of students with and without disabilities in grades 3-8 rated less than proficient on the English Language Arts Common Core

HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION

#	Name	Definition
Ind.25	Race & academic performance	Ratio between the percentages of black and white students not passing the Comprehensive English Regents exam
Ind.26	Race & foster care child education	Ratio between the percentages of black and Asian foster care children 17-years-old or older enrolled in high school who are not on track to graduate
Ind.27	Disability & on-time graduation	Ratio between the percentages of students with and without disabilities not graduating from high school in four years
Ind.28	Income & on-time graduation	Ratio between the percentages of 18-year-olds living below and above the poverty line who have a high school diploma or higher

HIGHER EDUCATION

#	Name	Definition
Ind.29	Race & degree attainment	Ratio between the percentages of Hispanics and whites who do not have a bachelor's degree
Ind.30	Race & post-degree employment	Ratio between the percentages of recent black and white graduates who are unemployed
Ind.31	Gender & science degrees	Ratio between the percentages of female and male CUNY degree recipients whose degrees are in STEM fields
Ind.32	Incarceration & vocational training	Percentage of the average daily sentenced jail population not attending vocational training

Health

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

#	Name	Definition
Ind.33	Race & dental care	Ratio between the percentages of Asians and whites who have not had a dental cleaning in the past year
Ind.34	Race & medical care	Ratio between the percentages of Hispanics and whites who did not receive medical care they needed in the past year
Ind.35	Income & senior flu vaccination	Ratio between the influenza non-vaccination rates for people aged 65 and older in the bottom and top income groups
Ind.36	Immigration status/gender & personal doctor	Ratio between the percentages of foreign-born men and US-born women without a personal doctor or health care provider

QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE

#	Name	Definition
Ind.37	Race & asthma hospitalization	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ hospitalization rates due to asthma
Ind.38	Race & diabetes hospitalization	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ hospitalization rates due to diabetes
Ind.39	Race & sexually transmitted diseases	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ chlamydia rates
Ind.40	Income & chronic hepatitis B	Ratio between the rates of newly diagnosed chronic hepatitis B in the highest and lowest poverty areas

MORTALITY

#	Name	Definition
Ind.41	Race & cardiovascular deaths	Ratio between blacks’ and Asians’ heart disease mortality rates
Ind.42	Race & infant mortality	Ratio between the infant mortality rates for black and white mothers
Ind.43	Race & HIV-related deaths	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ HIV-related death rates
Ind.44	Income & heroin deaths	Ratio between the rates of heroin overdose deaths in the highest and lowest poverty areas

WELLBEING

#	Name	Definition
Ind.45	Race & low birthweight	Ratio between the percentages of black and white children born with low birthweight
Ind.46	Race & sugary drink consumption	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and whites who consume one or more sugary drinks a day
Ind.47	Income & smoking	Ratio between the percentages of people in the bottom and top income groups who smoke
Ind.48	Income & exercise	Ratio between the percentages of people in the bottom and top income groups who do not exercise

Housing

HOMELESSNESS

#	Name	Definition
Ind.49	Race & homelessness	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ single adult shelter use rates
Ind.50	Child homelessness status & school attendance	Ratio between the absenteeism rates for homeless and non-homeless children
Ind.51	Age & homelessness	Ratio between the shelter use rates for children and adults
Ind.52	Age & length of shelter stay	Ratio between the average length of stay in shelters for families with children and single adults

AFFORDABILITY OF HOUSING

#	Name	Definition
Ind.53	Race & severe rent burden	Ratio between the percentages of Asian and white renters who spend more than 50% of their income on rent
Ind.54	Race & homeownership	Ratio between the percentages of Hispanics and whites who are homeowners
Ind.55	Race & home purchase loan denial	Ratio between the home purchase loan denial rates for black and white applicants
Ind.56	Sexual orientation & homeownership	Ratio between the percentages of lesbian/gay/bisexual and heterosexual individuals who are homeowners

QUALITY OF HOUSING

#	Name	Definition
Ind.57	Race & overcrowding	Ratio between the percentages of Hispanic and white renter households that have more than 1.5 people per room
Ind.58	Income & heat/hot water	Ratio between the percentages of people in the bottom and top income groups who have had problems with heat or hot water in the past year
Ind.59	Income & vermin infestation	Ratio between the percentages of people in the bottom and top income groups who have had problems with vermin in the past year
Ind.60	Public housing & murder	Ratio between the murder rates in NYCHA housing developments and in the rest of NYC

NEIGHBORHOOD

#	Name	Definition
Ind.61	Race & neighborhood family friendliness	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and whites who think their neighborhood is not a good place to raise a family
Ind.62	Income & trust in neighbors	Ratio between the percentages of people in the bottom and top income groups who think their neighbors are not willing to help one another
Ind.63	Income & neighborhood family friendliness	Ratio between the percentages of people in the bottom and top income groups who think their neighborhood is not a good place to raise a family
Ind.64	Sexual orientation & housing stability	Ratio between the mean years spent at their current address for lesbian/gay/bisexual and heterosexual individuals



Justice

SAFETY AND VICTIMIZATION

#	Name	Definition
Ind.65	Race & violent victimization	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ violent crime victimization rates
Ind.66	Race & domestic violence homicide	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ family-related homicide rates
Ind.67	Foster care status & child abuse/ neglect	Ratio between the child abuse and neglect rates for children in and out of family foster care
Ind.68	Hate crime victimization	Rate of hate crime victimization citywide

FAIRNESS OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

#	Name	Definition
Ind.69	Race & misdemeanor arrest	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ misdemeanor arrest rates
Ind.70	Race & trust in police	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and whites who would not be comfortable asking the police for help
Ind.71	Race & jail admissions	Ratio between blacks’ and whites’ jail admissions rates
Ind.72	Religion & trust in police	Ratio between the percentages of Muslim and Jewish individuals who would not be comfortable asking the police for help

POLITICAL POWER

#	Name	Definition
Ind.73	Race & representation in government	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and whites who think the government is not racially and ethnically diverse
Ind.74	Disability & voting access	Percentage of polling sites in the most recent election with barriers to accessibility
Ind.75	Gender & representation in government	Ratio between the percentages of female and male elected government officials
Ind.76	Education & political empowerment	Ratio between the perceived inability to influence government decision making for people with the lowest and highest educational levels

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

#	Name	Definition
Ind.77	Race & public meeting attendance	Ratio between the percentages of Asians and blacks attending public meetings
Ind.78	Income & voter turnout	Ratio between the voter turnout rates in the bottom and top income areas
Ind.79	Immigration status & volunteering	Ratio between the percentages of foreign-born and US-born individuals who volunteer
Ind.80	Location & participatory budgeting	Percentage of city council districts not engaged in participatory budgeting

Services

TRANSPORTATION

#	Name	Definition
Ind.81	Race & commuting time	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and whites whose commute to work is an hour or more
Ind.82	Disability & subway accessibility	Percentage of subway stations that are not wheelchair accessible
Ind.83	Disability & taxi accessibility	Percentage of taxis that are not wheelchair accessible
Ind.84	Location & bicycle lanes	Ratio between the percentages of non-Manhattan and Manhattan census tracts without bicycle lanes

ESSENTIAL NEEDS AND SERVICES

#	Name	Definition
Ind.85	Race & hot/cold running water	Ratio between the percentages of black and white households that do not have hot and cold running water at home
Ind.86	Race & Internet access	Ratio between the percentages of blacks and Asians who do not have high-speed Internet at home
Ind.87	Immigration status & stove/ range	Ratio between the percentages of foreign-born and US-born households that do not have a stove or range at home
Ind.88	Location & hospital quality	Ratio between the percentages of non-Manhattan and Manhattan hospitals given high ratings for timely and effective care

PARKS AND RECREATION

#	Name	Definition
Ind.89	Income & access to parks	Ratio between the percentages of residents in the bottom and top income areas who do not live within a 5-minute walk of a park
Ind.90	Disability & playground accessibility	Percentage of playgrounds not accessible to children with physical disabilities
Ind.91	Disability & recreation center accessibility	Percentage of City recreation centers not accessible to individuals with physical disabilities
Ind.92	Location & access to senior centers	Ratio between the numbers of senior centers per 100,000 people aged 75 and older outside and within Manhattan

ARTS AND CULTURE

#	Name	Definition
Ind.93	Income & funding for the arts	Ratio between the percentages of organizations receiving City funding for the arts that are located in the bottom and top income areas
Ind.94	Location & senior access to the arts	Ratio between the numbers of artist placements per 100,000 people aged 75 and older outside and within Manhattan
Ind.95	Location & public library availability	Ratio between the percentages of New York Public Library and non-NYPL branches open six days a week
Ind.96	Parental education & children’s arts participation	Ratio between the percentages of children whose parents have the least and most education who do not participate in arts activities

Appendix B: ISLG Public Survey Technical Notes

THE MARGIN OF ERROR FOR THE OVERALL SAMPLE IS +/- 1.79%.

The margin of error by borough is as follows:

- The Bronx +/- 4.3%
- Brooklyn +/-3.2%
- Manhattan +/- 4.1%
- Queens +/- 3.4%
- Staten Island +/- 7.3%

The completion rate for the surveys fielded by IVR calls was 1.8%.

The completion rate for surveys fielded by live calls was 1.1%.

The completion rate for the in-person intercept surveys is unknown as respondent candidates who were either approached to participate in the survey, but chose not to do so, or did not qualify to participate were not enumerated.

Appendix C: ISLG Public Survey Questionnaire

The survey was conducted in English, Chinese, Russian and Spanish. The questionnaires in Chinese, Russian and Spanish are available from the authors.

Hello, my name is _____. We are conducting a general opinion survey ***about living in New York City for survey research purposes only.*** We are not selling anything. ***All*** of your answers ***will be*** confidential and your name will never ***be associated with your answers.***

S.1. Gender

1. Man
2. Woman

S.2. Do you live in New York City?

1. Yes
2. No

S.3. In which borough do you live?

1. Bronx
2. Manhattan
3. Brooklyn
4. Queens
5. Staten Island
6. Other

S.4. What is your home zip code?

S.5. For statistical purposes only, please tell me your race?

1. White/Caucasian
2. Black/African-American
3. Hispanic/Latino
4. Asian/Asian-American
5. Other
6. Refused

S.6. Do you consider yourself Hispanic or Latino?

1. Yes
2. No

S.7. Again, for statistical purposes only, what is your age?

Great. Now, I am going to read you a few statements and, for each one, I am going to ask you whether you agree or disagree. Do you agree or disagree? Is that strongly (agree/disagree) or somewhat (agree/disagree)?

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Somewhat disagree
4. Strongly disagree
5. Don't know/unsure

Continued on next pages



1. The government of New York City represents the racial and ethnic diversity of the population of New York City.

2. If I were in trouble, I would feel comfortable asking a police officer for help.

3. My neighborhood is a good place to raise a family.

4. People in my neighborhood are willing to help one another.

5. People like me don’t have any say about what the government does.

6. In a few words, what is the number one most important inequality problem in New York City right now?

7. If you had to choose, which of the following would you say is the number one most important inequality problem in New York City?

- 1. Housing or affordable housing
- 2. Income inequality or employment
- 3. Education
- 4. Crime or the criminal justice system
- 5. Racial inequality or racism
- 6. Gender inequality
- 7. Don’t know/unsure

Moving on, I am going to ask you a few questions about your housing situation.

8. How many years you have lived at your current address?

9. Do you rent or own your home?

- 1. Rent
- 2. Own
- 3. Don’t know/unsure/refused

10. What is the number of rooms in your apartment or house?

11. What is the total number of people living in your apartment or house?

12. Do you have high-speed Internet in your home?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don’t know/unsure

13. During the past 12 months, have you had a problem with your heat or hot water?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don’t know/unsure

14. [If yes] Did you report the problem?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don’t know/unsure

15. During the past 12 months, have you had any problems with vermin such as rats, mice or cockroaches?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don’t know/unsure

16. [If yes] Did you report the problem?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don’t know/unsure

17. Were you homeless at any point in the last 12 months?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don’t know/unsure/refused

We are almost done. For the final section of the survey, I am going to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

18. What is the last grade that you completed in school?

- 1. Some high school or less
- 2. High school
- 3. Technical or vocational school
- 4. Graduated 4-year college
- 5. Graduated professional degree (such as a masters degree)
- 6. Don’t know/unsure/refused

19. What is your religious background?

- 1. Protestant
- 2. Catholic
- 3. Jewish
- 4. Muslim
- 5. Something else
- 6. None/atheist
- 7. Don’t know/unsure/refused

20. Were you born in the United States?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don’t know/unsure

21. And, again, for statistical purposes only, do you personally identify as heterosexual, gay, lesbian, bisexual or something else?

- 1. Heterosexual
- 2. Gay
- 3. Lesbian
- 4. Bisexual
- 5. Something else
- 6. Don’t know/unsure/refused

Continued on next pages



22. What is your current employment status? Are you employed full time, employed part time, currently unemployed but looking for work, currently unemployed but not looking for work, retired, or are disabled and unable to work.

- 1. Full time
- 2. Part time
- 3. Unemployed, looking
- 4. Unemployed, not looking
- 5. Retired
- 6. Disabled, unable to work
- 7. Don't know/unsure

23. [If employed] How long is your average commute from home to work?

- 1. 15 minutes or less
- 2. 15-30 minutes
- 3. 30-45 minutes
- 4. 45 minutes to 1 hour
- 5. 1 hour or longer
- 6. Don't know/unsure

24. [If employed] What is your total annual individual income before taxes?

- 1. 15,000 or less
- 2. 15,000-30,000
- 3. 30,000-50,000
- 4. 50,000-70,000
- 5. 70,000-100,000
- 6. 100,000-150,000
- 7. 150,000 or more
- 8. Don't know/unsure/refused

25. What is your total annual household income before taxes?

- 1. 15,000 or less
- 2. 15,000-30,000
- 3. 30,000-50,000
- 4. 50,000-70,000
- 5. 70,000-100,000
- 6. 100,000-150,000
- 7. 150,000 or more
- 8. Don't know/unsure/refused

26. Do you have a retirement or pension plan?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know/unsure

27. How many children under the age of 18 do you have?

28. [If have children] Do the children live at home with you?

- 1. Yes, all do
- 2. Yes, some do
- 3. No

29. [If have children] Are you a single parent?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know/unsure/refused

30. As far as you know, is there a child-care center within a ten-minute walk from your home?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know/unsure

31. [If have children] Does your child/do your children participate in arts activities at school or outside of school?

- 1. Yes, at school
- 2. Yes, outside of school
- 3. No
- 4. Don't know/unsure/refused

32. Do you live within a five-minute walk of a park?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know/unsure

33. Do you have a physical disability?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know/unsure/refused

34. Do you have an intellectual disability?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know/unsure/refused

35. Have you ever been convicted of a crime?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know/unsure

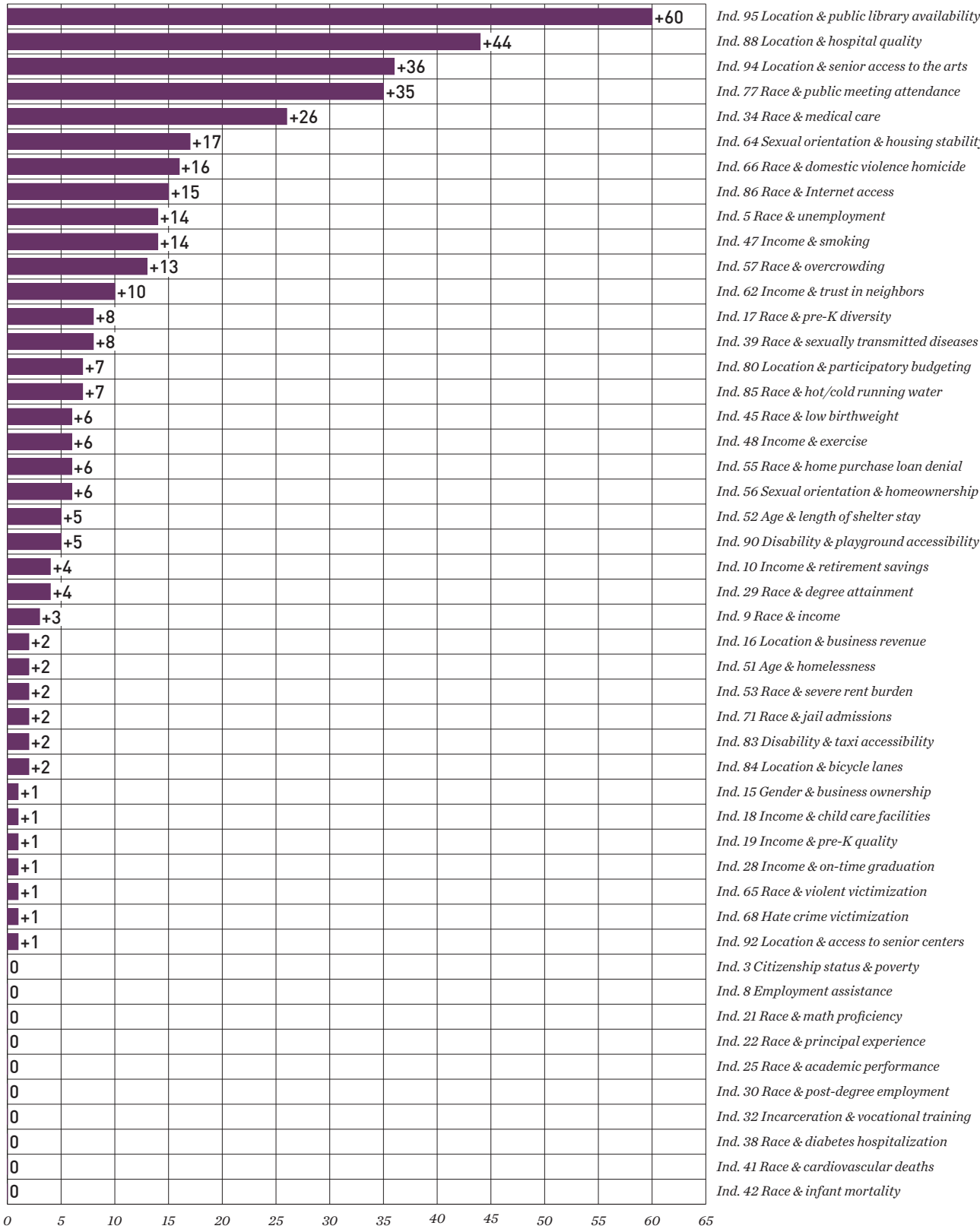
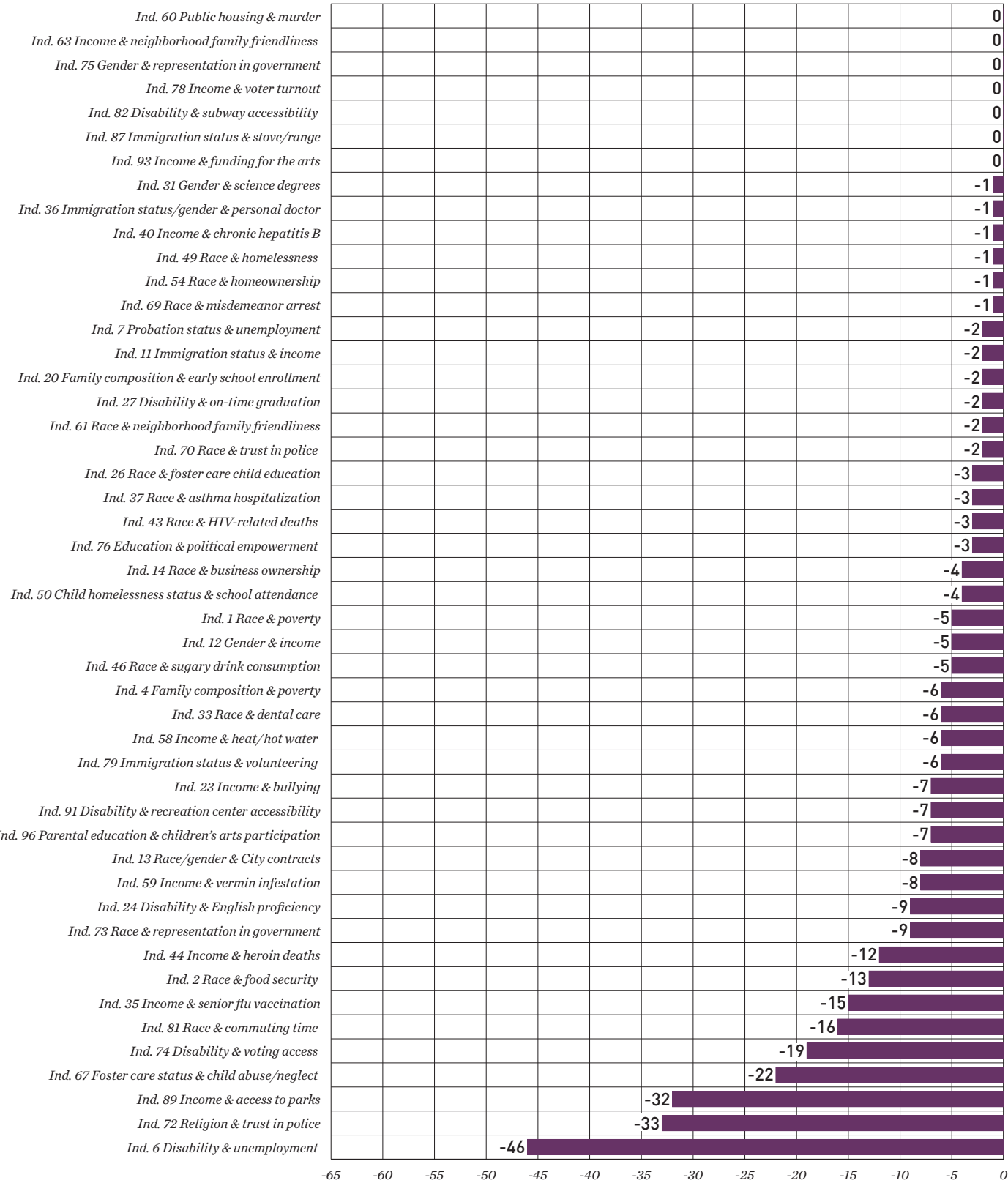
Thank you for your time.

Appendix D:
Ratio-to-Score Conversion Table

SCORE RANGE	RATIO FROM	RATIO TO	INCREASE BY
100	1.000	1.004	n/a
99	1.005	1.009	+0.005
98	1.010	1.014	+0.005
97	1.015	1.019	+0.005
96	1.020	1.024	+0.005
95	1.025	1.029	+0.005
94	1.030	1.034	+0.005
93	1.035	1.039	+0.005
92	1.040	1.044	+0.005
91	1.045	1.049	+0.005
90	1.050	1.054	+0.005
89	1.055	1.059	+0.005
88	1.060	1.064	+0.005
87	1.065	1.069	+0.005
86	1.070	1.074	+0.005
85	1.075	1.079	+0.005
84	1.080	1.084	+0.005
83	1.085	1.089	+0.005
82	1.090	1.094	+0.005
81	1.095	1.099	+0.005
80	1.100	1.119	+0.020
79	1.120	1.139	+0.020
78	1.140	1.159	+0.020
77	1.160	1.179	+0.020
76	1.180	1.199	+0.020
75	1.200	1.219	+0.020
74	1.220	1.239	+0.020
73	1.240	1.259	+0.020
72	1.260	1.279	+0.020
71	1.280	1.299	+0.020
70	1.300	1.319	+0.020
69	1.320	1.339	+0.020
68	1.340	1.359	+0.020
67	1.360	1.379	+0.020
66	1.380	1.399	+0.020
65	1.400	1.419	+0.020
64	1.420	1.439	+0.020
63	1.440	1.459	+0.020
62	1.460	1.479	+0.020
61	1.480	1.499	+0.020
60	1.500	1.524	+0.025
59	1.525	1.549	+0.025
58	1.550	1.574	+0.025
57	1.575	1.599	+0.025
56	1.600	1.624	+0.025
55	1.625	1.649	+0.025
54	1.650	1.674	+0.025
53	1.675	1.699	+0.025
52	1.700	1.724	+0.025
51	1.725	1.749	+0.025

SCORE RANGE	RATIO FROM	RATIO TO	INCREASE BY
50	1.750	1.774	+0.025
49	1.775	1.799	+0.025
48	1.800	1.824	+0.025
47	1.825	1.849	+0.025
46	1.850	1.874	+0.025
45	1.875	1.899	+0.025
44	1.900	1.924	+0.025
43	1.925	1.949	+0.025
42	1.950	1.974	+0.025
41	1.975	1.999	+0.025
40	2.000	2.149	+0.150
39	2.150	2.299	+0.150
38	2.300	2.449	+0.150
37	2.450	2.599	+0.150
36	2.600	2.749	+0.150
35	2.750	2.899	+0.150
34	2.900	3.049	+0.150
33	3.050	3.199	+0.150
32	3.200	3.349	+0.150
31	3.350	3.499	+0.150
30	3.500	3.649	+0.150
29	3.650	3.799	+0.150
28	3.800	3.949	+0.150
27	3.950	4.099	+0.150
26	4.100	4.249	+0.150
25	4.250	4.399	+0.150
24	4.400	4.549	+0.150
23	4.550	4.699	+0.150
22	4.700	4.849	+0.150
21	4.850	4.999	+0.150
20	5.000	5.249	+0.250
19	5.250	5.499	+0.250
18	5.500	5.749	+0.250
17	5.750	5.999	+0.250
16	6.000	6.249	+0.250
15	6.250	6.499	+0.250
14	6.500	6.749	+0.250
13	6.750	6.999	+0.250
12	7.000	7.249	+0.250
11	7.250	7.499	+0.250
10	7.500	7.749	+0.250
9	7.750	7.999	+0.250
8	8.000	8.249	+0.250
7	8.250	8.499	+0.250
6	8.500	8.749	+0.250
5	8.750	8.999	+0.250
4	9.000	9.249	+0.250
3	9.250	9.499	+0.250
2	9.500	9.749	+0.250
1	9.750	9.999	+0.250

Appendix E: Ranked Indicator Change Scores



Appendix F: Secondary Data Sources

[Administration for Children’s Services \(by request\)](#)

[Administration for Children’s Services, High School Graduation Rates of Youth in Foster Care Report](#)

[American Community Survey, 1-year PUMS*](#)

[American Community Survey, 5-year PUMS*](#)

[Center for Economic Opportunity, Annual Poverty Report](#)

[Center for Independence of the Disabled New York, Poll Site Survey Summary Report](#)

[City University of New York Center for Urban Research \(by request\)](#)

[City University of New York Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, Degrees Granted in STEM](#)

[Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement*](#)

[Current Population Survey, Food Security Supplement*](#)

[Current Population Survey, Volunteer Supplement*](#)

[Department for the Aging \(by request\)](#)

[Department of Correction \(by request\)](#)

[Department of Cultural Affairs, DCLA Programs Funding](#)

[Department of Education, CLASS and ECERS-R Results by Site](#)

[Department of Education, English Language Arts Data File](#)

[Department of Education, June Graduation Results](#)

[Department of Education, Math Data File](#)

[Department of Education, NYC School Survey](#)

[Department of Education, School Quality Report](#)

[Department of Health and Mental Hygiene \(by request\)](#)

[Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Communicable Disease EpiQuery](#)

[Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Community Health Survey](#)

[Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Epi Data Tables, Unintentional Drug Poisoning Overdose Deaths Involving Opioids in NYC, 2000-2014](#)

[Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Vital Statistics EpiQuery, Infant Mortality](#)

[Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Vital Statistics EpiQuery, Live Births](#)

[Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Vital Statistics EpiQuery, Mortality](#)

[Department of Homelessness Services, Data Dashboard](#)

[Department of Parks and Recreation website](#)

[Department of Probation \(by request\)](#)

[Department of Transportation, Bicycle Maps](#)

[Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act Data](#)

[Institute for State and Local Governance, Public Survey](#)

[Mayor’s Management Report](#)

[Mayor’s Office of Contract Services, Agency Procurement Indicators Report](#)

[Metropolitan Transportation Authority website](#)

[New York City Council, Participatory Budgeting website](#)

[New York City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee, Annual Report](#)

[New York Police Department \(by request\)](#)

[New York Police Department, Year End Enforcement Report](#)

[New York State Bureau of Labor Statistics website](#)

[New York State Department of Education, NYC Public Schools - School Report Card](#)

[New York State Department of Taxation and Finance \(by request\)](#)

[New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, Hate Crime in NYS Annual Report](#)

[New York State Health Profiles](#)

[New York University Furman Center, State of New York City’s Housing and Neighborhoods](#)

[Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System, Hospital Inpatient Discharges](#)

*Census data from the American Community Survey and Current Population Survey can be obtained from [American FactFinder](#) and [DataFerrett](#).



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