



Melrose Community Survey 2014 Summary of Results

WHEDco, a community development organization in the South Bronx, and **The Partnership for a Healthier Bronx at Bronx Health REACH**, a community-based coalition committed to improving the health of Bronx residents, surveyed Melrose community members on their needs and interests. Melrose is a fast-growing neighborhood with significant recent development and investment (housing, higher education, etc.). However, it remains part of the poorest congressional district in the U.S. and the least healthy county in New York State. As more families and children move into the neighborhood, it creates an opportunity for the community to once again come together to drive the change they want to see. Below is a brief summary of the results of the survey.

Numbers:

- We surveyed 1,000 people who live, work, or go to school in Melrose
- Breakdown by zip code: 32.8% in 10451, 23.4% in 10455, 30.7% in 10456, 13.1% did not mark zip code but indicated they live, work, or go to school in the area
- Surveys were gathered from: Melrose organizations/meetings (279), Bronx Health REACH and WHEDco programs (199), faith-based organizations (33), street surveys (376), and Survey Monkey via email (113)

Feelings about the neighborhood:

Statement	Percentage who strongly agreed/agreed
My neighborhood is close enough to buses	78.3%
My neighborhood is close enough to trains/subways	68.5%
I have access to places to exercise in my neighborhood	50.1%
I can get healthy foods in my neighborhood	47.9%
I have access to high quality health services in my neighborhood	41.4%

Statement	Percentage who disagreed/strongly disagreed
My neighborhood is clean and well-maintained	40.3%
I know about community events and resources	40.1%
My neighborhood is safe	37.3%
My neighborhood has affordable housing	34.7%
I have access to high quality health services in my neighborhood	30.9%

About respondents/family:

	Full-time	Part-time	Not working
Employed	33.4%	17.5%	34.5%
School	10.1%	14.8%	n/a

Respondents indicated there were availability and quality gaps in the education system:

- **CHILDCARE:** About half of people with children under 5 do not have childcare for them and about 1/3 of those who do have childcare are not satisfied with it
- **AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS:** 55% of elementary/middle school-aged children are not in an after school program, 1/3 of which are not in the program because there was no space available. Among those children that are in an after school program, about 1/3 of caregivers are not satisfied with it
- **K-12:** about 1/3 are not satisfied with the quality of K-12 in their neighborhood

- **HEALTH:** 2/3 rate their health as excellent, very good, or good; 1/3 as fair or poor.
 - Only 20% responded that they did not have a main doctor. Among those respondents that do have a main doctor, about half report are going more than once a year

Condition	Percent of respondents/family members who are dealing with condition *Less than half have seen a specialist for any of these issues
Diabetes	27.8%
Asthma	27.2%
Heart disease	13.2%
Cancer	9.1%
Substance abuse	4.1%
STD	1.6%

- About 50% of respondents ate 1-2 pieces of fruit/servings of vegetables; 9% reported none
- About 60% indicated they participated in some physical activity/exercise in the last 30 days
- About 60% do not live in a smoke-free building

Most common types of businesses/organizations respondents would most like to see in the neighborhood:

Business/organization	Number of times indicated
Fruit and vegetable vendor	301
Entertainment (movie, arcade)	267
Indoor fitness/gym	248
Cultural institution (performance space, museum)	227
Community center/social service organization	225

Most common things respondents would like help with:

Service/Area	Number of times indicated
Housing	389
Employment/job training	368
Computer training	289
Continuing education	268
Youth education	227

Respondent Demographic Information:

- Age:
 - 18-24 years – 16.4%
 - 25-44 years – 41.9%
 - 45-64 years – 31.5%
 - 65 years and older – 10.1%

- Gender:
 - Male – 33.7%
 - Female – 52.7%

- Major source of Income:
 - Employment – 42.0%
 - Public benefits – 14.9%
 - Pension/Social Security – 15.9%

- Race/Ethnicity:
 - Latino – 37.6%
 - Black – 35.1%
 - White – 3.4%
 - Multiracial – 2.8%

- Household Income:
 - Less than \$19,999 – 29.5%
 - \$20,000-\$34,999 – 12.1%
 - \$35,000-\$49,999 – 7.0%
 - \$50,000-\$74,999 – 7.5%
 - \$75,000 or higher – 5.6%

For further information or to get involved in the Melrose Planning Committee, please contact: Kerry McLean, kmclean@whedco.org or 718-839-1189