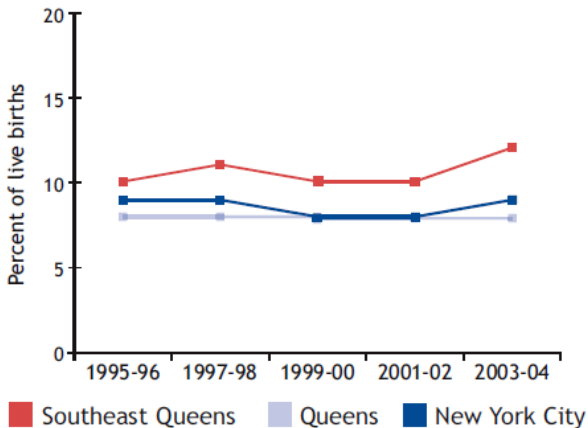


Common Diseases/Health Conditions Found in Southeast Queens and Possible Environmental Associations

Disease/ Health Condition	Associated with/ Exacerbated by <i>Air Pollution</i>	Associated with/ Exacerbated by <i>Noise Pollution</i>	Relevant Notes & Implications for Southeast Queens
Cancer	✓	✖	Cancer is the <u>#1 cause</u> of years of potential life lost in Southeastern Queens. If only 13% of S.E. Queens residents smoke, why is lung cancer the #1 cancer found in men and #2 cancer found in women?
Cardiovascular Effects/ Heart disease	✓	✓	The heart disease hospitalization rate in Southeast Queens has increased by 20% in the past decade.
Low Birth Weight	✓	✖	In 2003-2004, the average percent of babies born with low birth weight in Southeast Queens was 12%. Southeast Queens has the lowest birth weight compared to Queens (8%) and NYC overall (9%).
Hypertension/ High Blood Pressure	✓	✓	High blood pressure contributes to heart disease. In Southeast Queens, 28% of adults were told by a health care professional that they have high blood pressure (similar to 26% in Queens and NYC overall).
Diabetes	✓	✖	In Southeast Queens, 11% of adults have diabetes (8% in Queens & 9% in New York City). More than one in 10 adults have diabetes in S.E. Queens.
Obesity	✓	✓	In Southeast Queens, adults are more likely to be obese than in Queens overall (24% vs. 19%) (20% in New York City). To make this clearer, one in 4 adults are obese in Southeast Queens .
Asthma	✓	✖	The air quality grade for Queens barely passing. Queens county was graded an F for ozone and graded B for 24-hour particle pollution. Both ozone and particulate pollution significantly affect asthmatic residents. With over 42,631 pediatric asthma and 166,728 adult asthma sufferers in Queens county, this issue must take precedence.
Mental Illness/ Psychiatric Disorder	✓	✓	The mental illness hospitalization rate in Southeast Queens has increased by <u>more than 65%</u> during the past decade. S.E Queens annual rate of mental illness is higher than Queens overall. More than three in 10 adults suffer from serious psychological effects in S.E. Queens.
Autism	✓	✖	The prevalence of autistic disorder, a serious developmental condition, has risen dramatically over the past two decades. A recent study conducted in Los Angeles suggest associations between autism and prenatal air pollution exposure.
Behavioral Health	✓	✓	Both air and noise pollution affects behavioral health. Noise has been associated with increased annoyance, stress responses , as well as decreased motivation in children.

Low birthweight

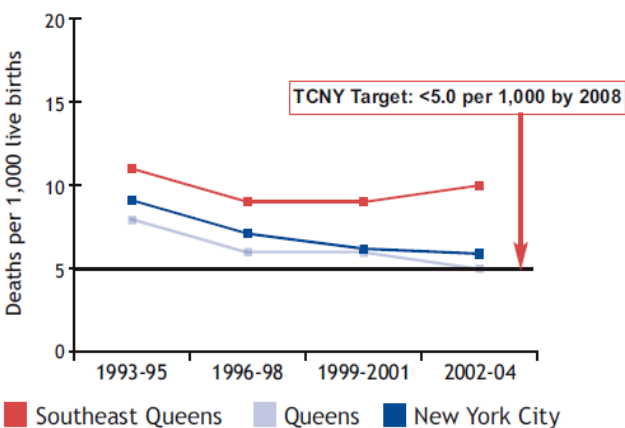
Low-birthweight babies are more common in Southeast Queens



Low birthweight is defined as <2,500 grams (5.5 pounds).
Data Source: Bureau of Vital Statistics, NYC DOHMH, 1995-2004

Infant mortality rate (IMR)

The Southeast Queens IMR is still higher in Queens and NYC overall



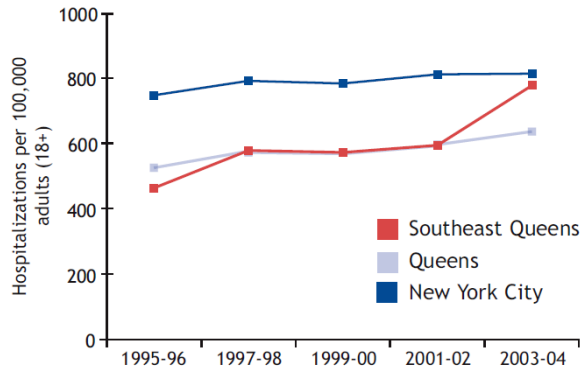
Data Source: Bureau of Vital Statistics, NYC DOHMH, 1993-2004

Important Figures that assess the Health of South East Queens

What could be the source of these health conditions?

Mental illness

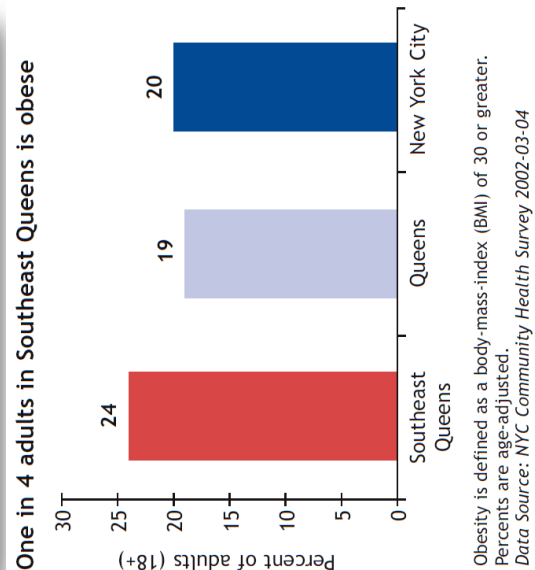
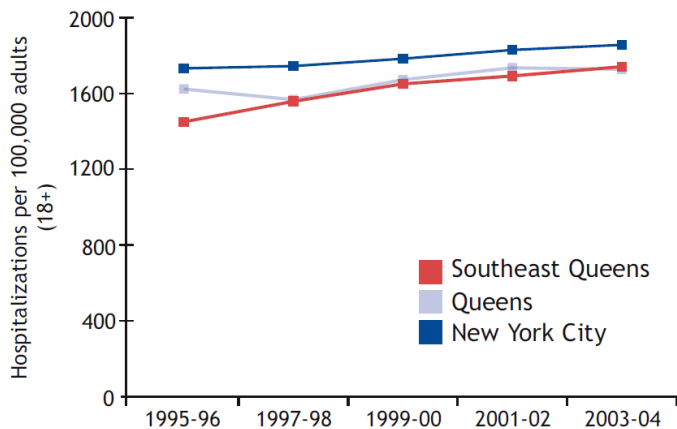
The mental illness hospitalization rate has increased during the past 10 years in Southeast Queens



Rates are age-adjusted.
Data Sources: New York State Department of Health Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System, 1995-2004; U.S. Census 1990 and 2000/NYC Department of City Planning

Heart disease hospitalizations

The heart disease hospitalization rate has increased in Southeast Queens



Obesity is defined as a body-mass-index (BMI) of 30 or greater. Percents are age-adjusted.
Data Source: NYC Community Health Survey 2002-03-04

These charts were accessed from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Community Health Profiles (2nd Edition-2006). <http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/data/2006chp-409.pdf>