



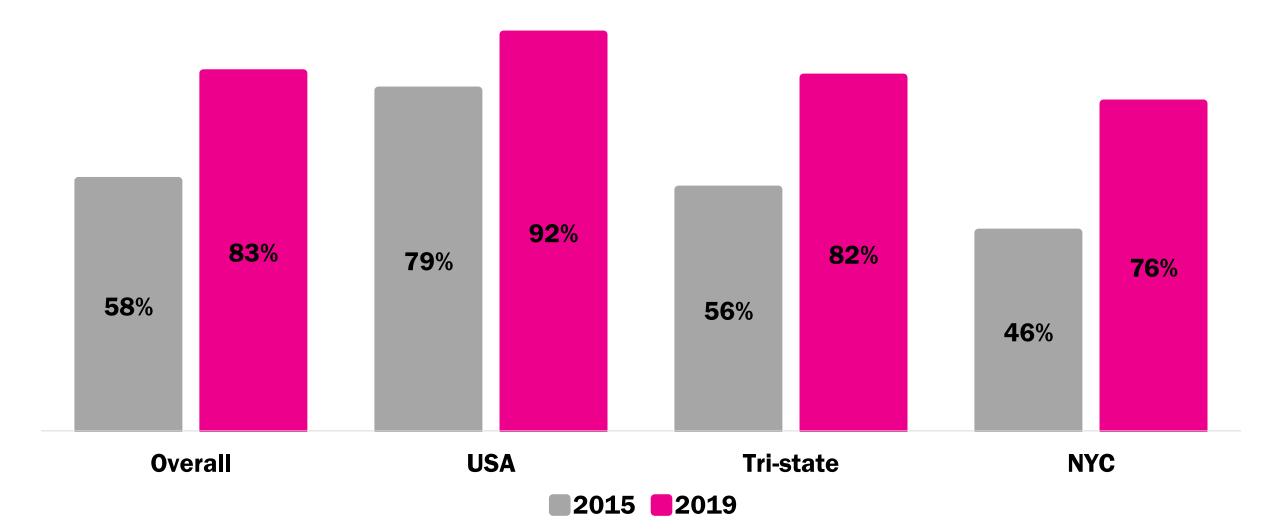
In March 2019, we surveyed 4,071 people about Times Square online and in focus groups.

Those surveyed included:

- **1,504** National online survey respondents
- 1,082 Times Square Alliance newsletter respondents
- **1,485** Broadway League theatergoer respondents

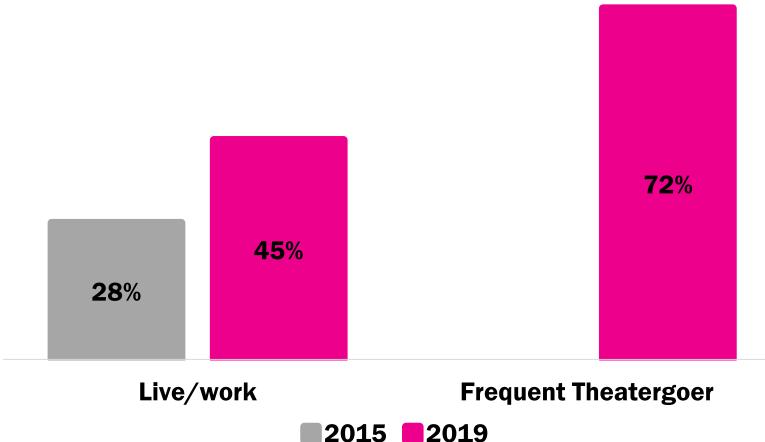
Overall satisfaction strong and up across the board

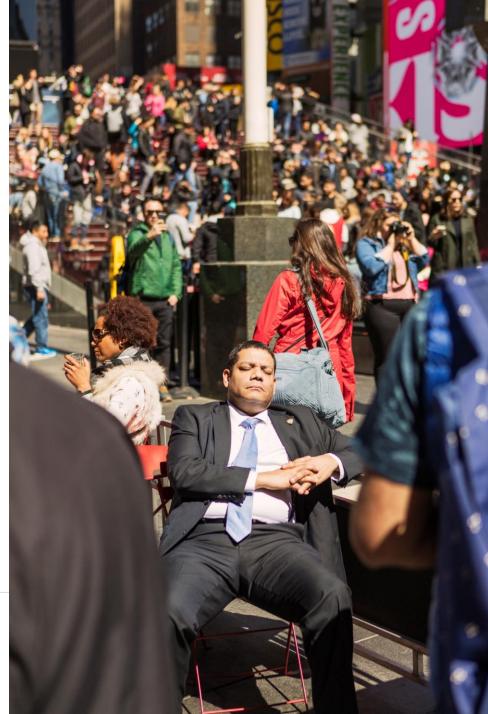
Percentage of <u>national online survey respondents</u> who are "very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied" with their Times Square experience



Our live/work and theatergoer respondents are less satisfied

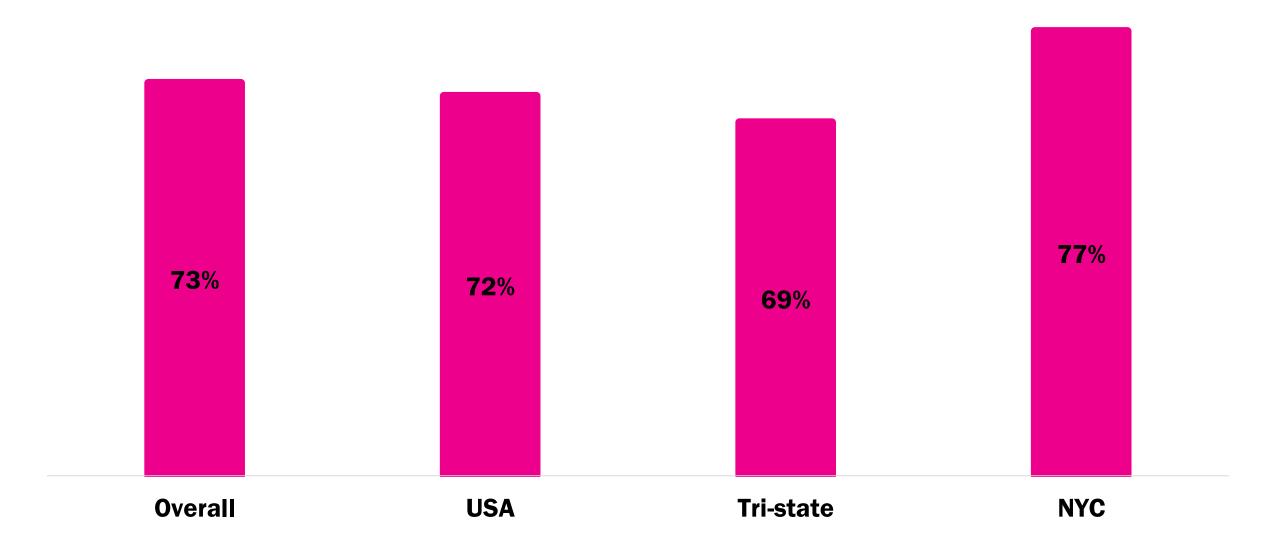
Percentage of <u>Alliance newsletter live/work</u> and <u>Broadway league</u> theatergoer respondents who are "very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied" with their Times Square experience





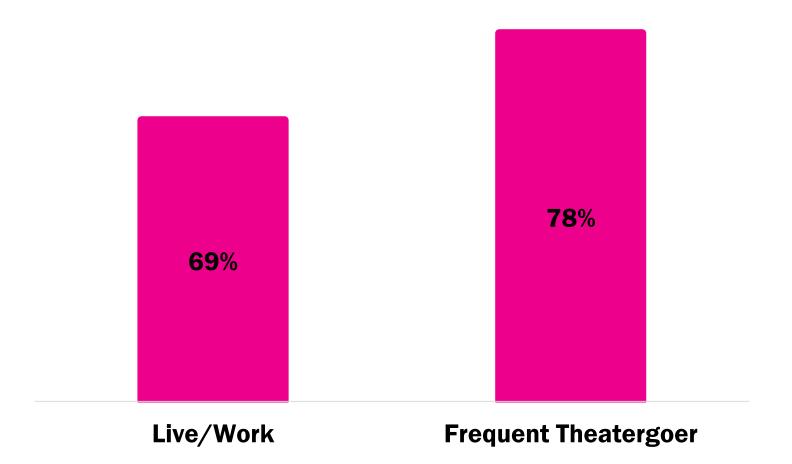
More than 2/3 of people believe Times Square is improving

Percentage of <u>national online survey respondents</u> who believe Times Square has improved in the last 10 years



...Even Times Square skeptics

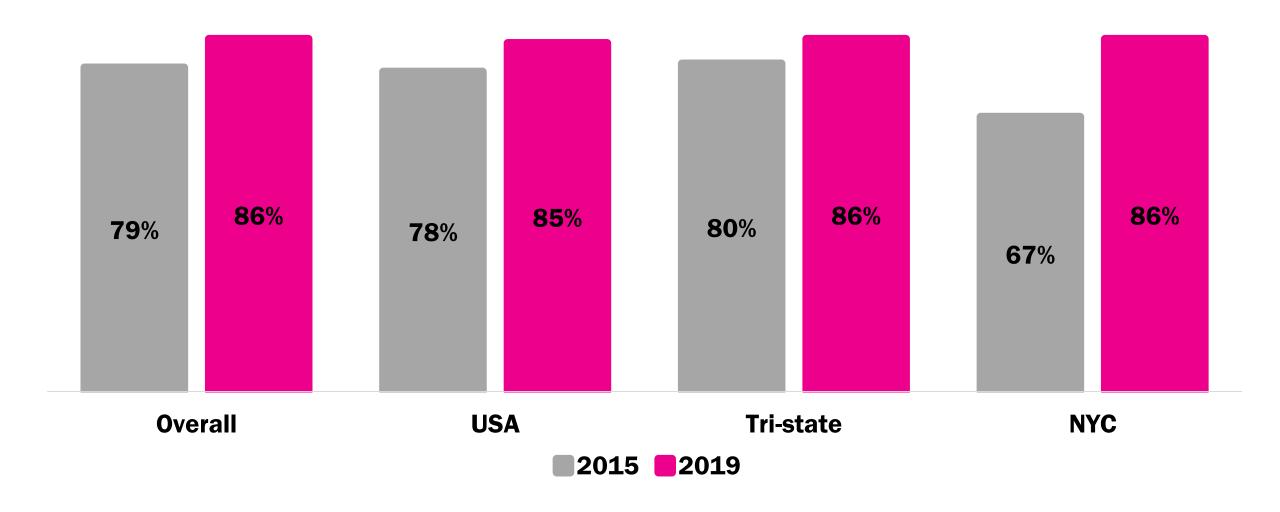
Percentage of <u>Alliance newsletter</u> and <u>Broadway league theatergoer</u> respondents who believe Times Square has improved in the last 10 years





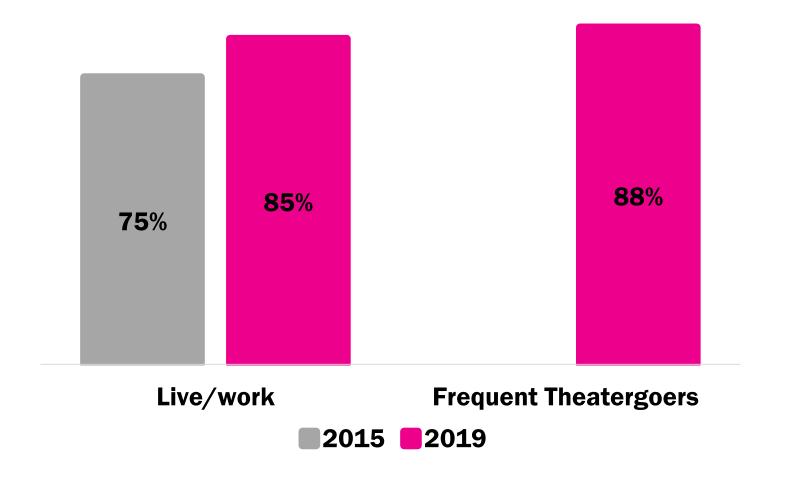
Improved safety ratings

Percentage of <u>national online survey respondents</u> who rated safety in Times Square as "excellent" or "good"



...For locals, as well

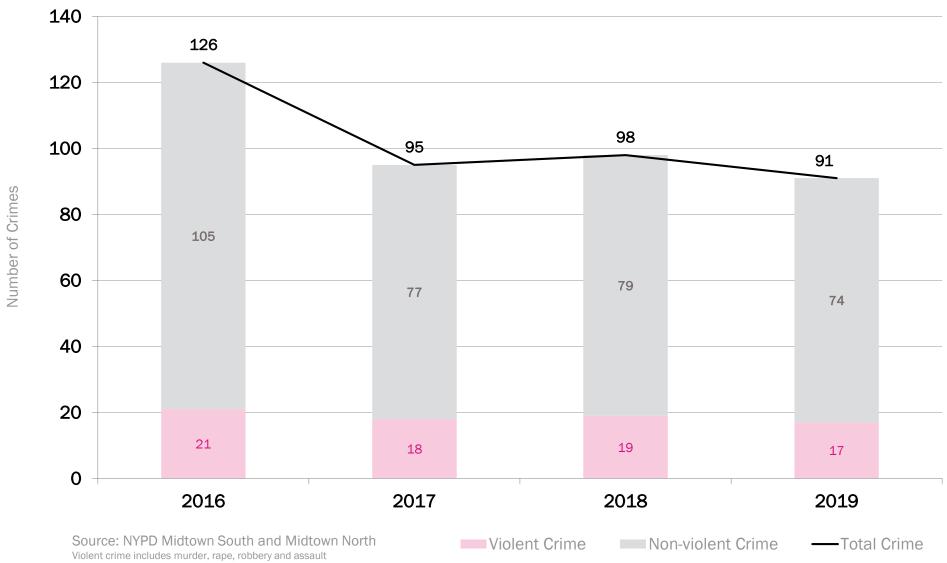
Percentage of <u>Alliance newsletter</u> and <u>Broadway league theatergoer</u> respondents who rated safety in Times Square as "excellent" or "good"





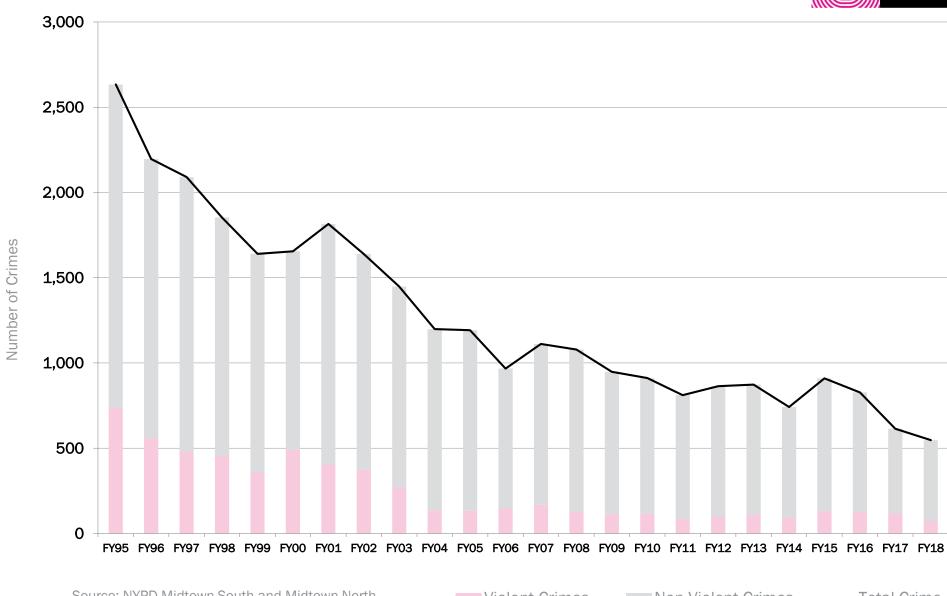
CRIME IN TIMES SQUARE Q1 2016-2019



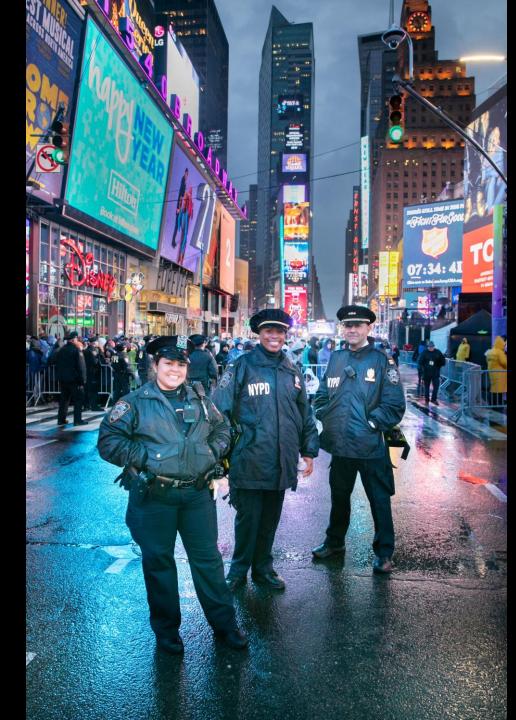


ANNUAL CRIME IN TIMES SQUARE



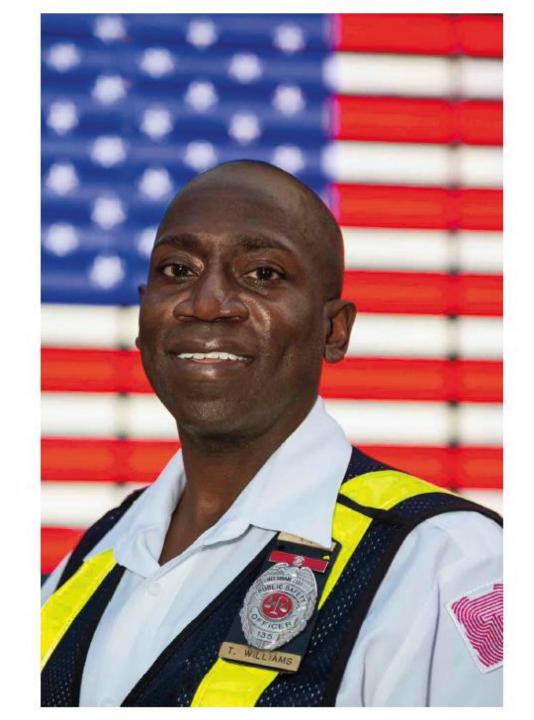






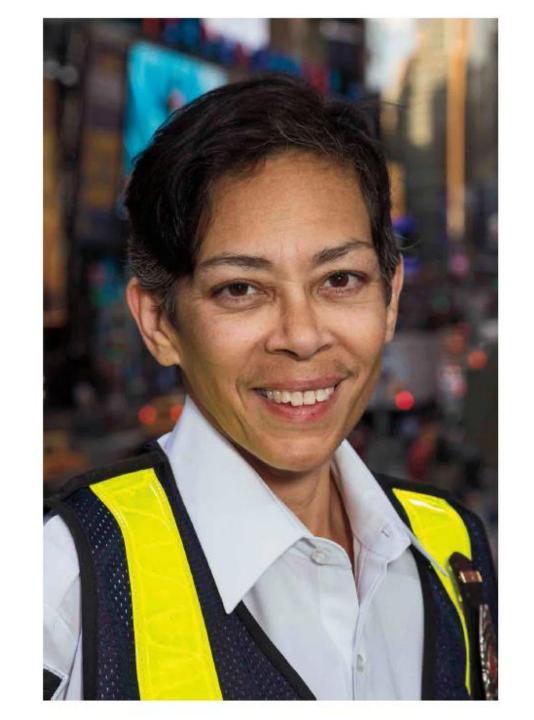
TYRONE WILLIAMS PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER

I have been working as a Public Safety Officer for twenty-five years and being in Times Square makes the world just a bit smaller. Once in a while, someone that I met previously will say hello and we catch up on what's going on in our lives. It's wonderful to know that we are able to provide such a friendly experience for everyone that someone will remember you again.



MARGARITA TORRES PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER

To give you some examples of my experience at Times Square: I saw the first digital screen go up and when Cats opened and when Cats closed, and Times Square has grown and cleaned itself up like an adult.



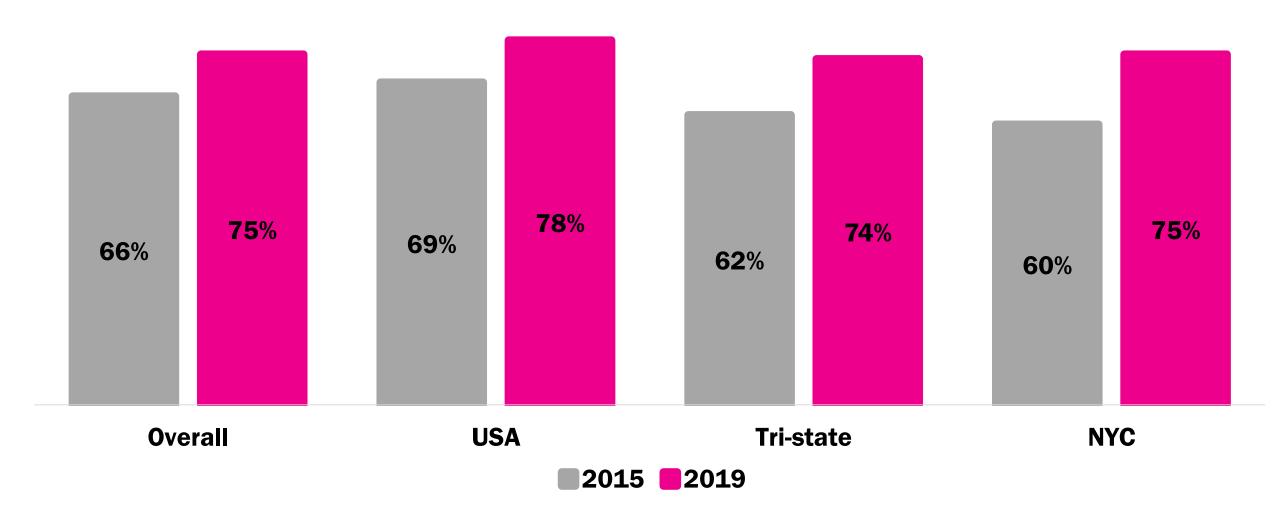
BEVERLY GRAHAM DISPATCHER

I don't remember my first Times Square experience, but what first struck me was the Naked Cowboy. But that was years ago when he was new. It was quite interesting to see a man with a guitar in his underwear. It's a lot different now from when I came here for the first time.



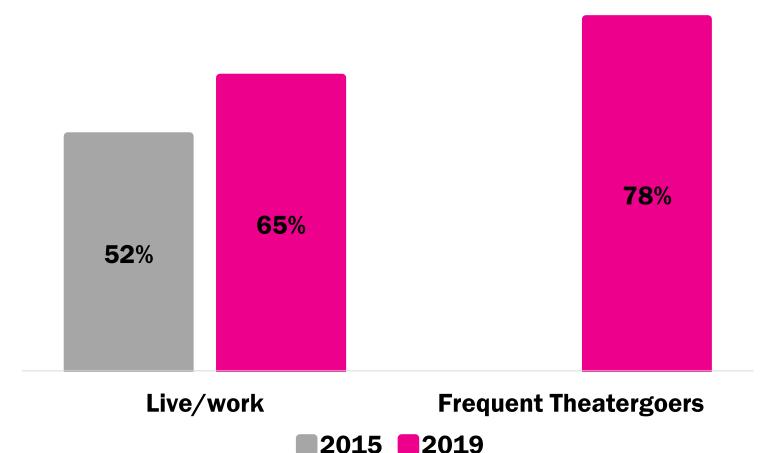
Cleanliness: strong ratings, up from 2015

Percentage of <u>national online survey respondents</u> who rated cleanliness in Times Square as "excellent" or "good"



Softer but still strong satisfaction among locals/regulars

Percentage of <u>Alliance newsletter</u> and <u>Broadway league theatergoer</u> respondents who rated cleanliness in Times Square as "excellent" or "good"





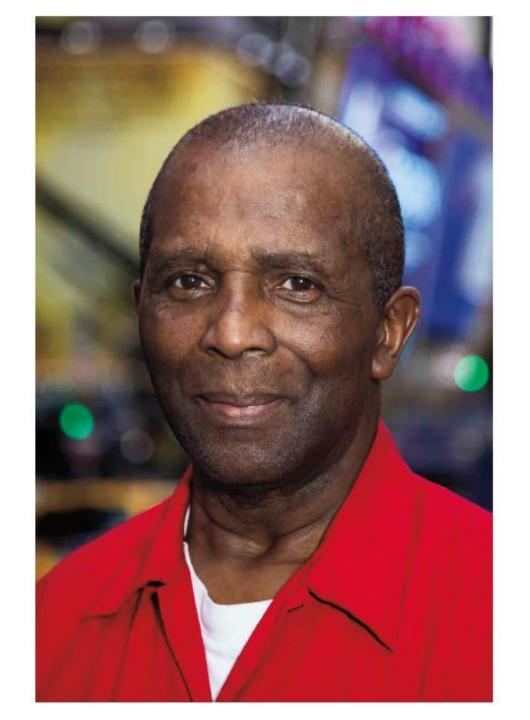
BERNADETTE MURRELL SANITATION WORKER

On the first day, there was a feeling of being a little nervous because the litter was so high, the streets were so dirty, and there were peep shows, prostitutes, drug addicts, and drug dealers everywhere. Today Times Square is the complete opposite of that and my greatest achievement is contributing to that result.



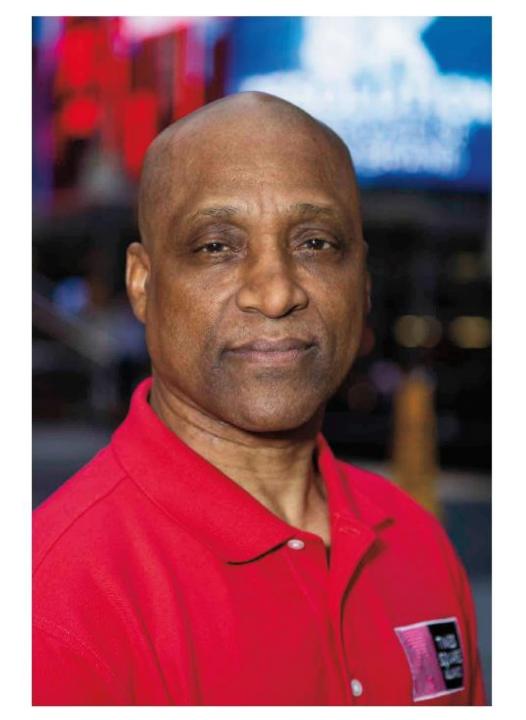
RICHARD BROWN SANITATION WORKER

Out here in the streets, one begins to not pay attention to their surroundings since the task is just to sweep.



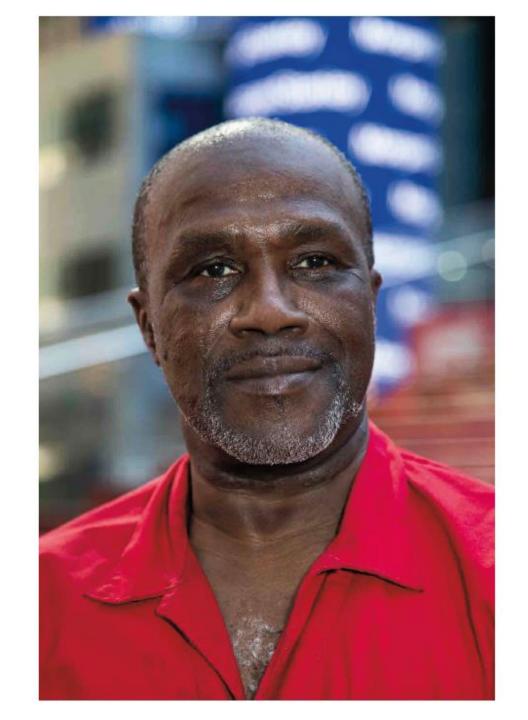
MACK TOSCANO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, SANITATION

My greatest achievement so far is the investment given to my children that would guarantee them successful careers. My first son is a musician, my second son is a filmmaker, and my daughter is a lawyer.



JOHN SIMON SANITATION WORKER

Nearly everyone knows that I've been at the Times Square Alliance for twenty-five years, but what no one knows is that I've also been practicing martial arts for forty years.



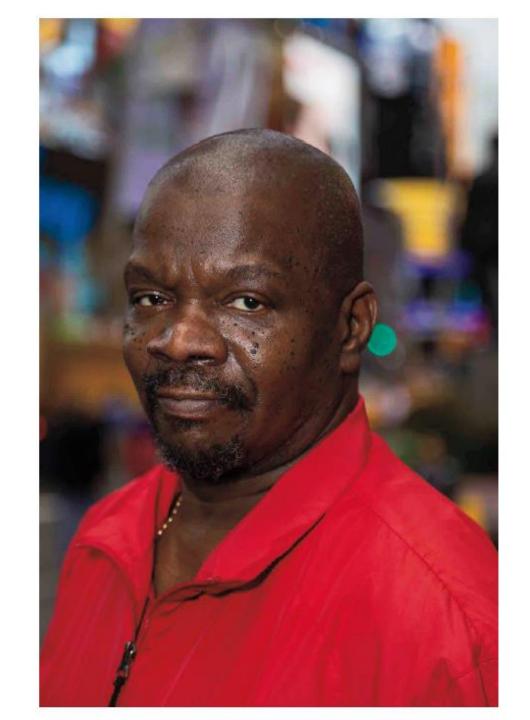
EDDIE LEMON ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR

What fulfills me is having everything in my name. From the house, to the car, to the cable bill, everything is my name. It's something I take pride in. On my bucket list I've still got mountain climbing, parachute jumping, and walking on a glass bridge in China.



LEONARD GIDEON SUPERVISOR

For over twenty-four years, being able to see that Ball Drop for the new year is always refreshing.



LISA RINGGOLD SUPERVISOR

What more can I say about Times Square that no one else knows? It's interesting, exciting, and most importantly just a great place.



Subway Bathrooms: Are They as Bad as You Think?

We visited underground relief stations across the city. Here's what we found.



Times Square

A/C/E/N/Q/R/W/S/1/2/3/7 lines

Touch of class: A guard sits in a booth and buzzes you in to one of four single-occupancy restrooms, where you have a five-minute time limit.

The stainless-steel sink and toilet gave off a penitentiary vibe, but were reasonably clean. It was the only station on our tour that supplied all the basics of personal hygiene...

Before



After





...and much needed protections on 42nd Street are on their way



Mayor de Blasio at February 2019 Town Hall



Top benefits of being in Times Square

For locals*

- 1. Proximity to theater and cultural activity (82%)
- 2. Good transportation options (79%)
- 3. People watching (31%)

For visitors (USA)**

- 1. Proximity to theater and cultural activity (65%)
- 2. People watching (63%)
- 3. Quality food and beverage options (52%)



^{*}Subset of TSq Alliance newsletter respondents

^{**}Subset of national online survey respondents

Top drawbacks of being in Times Square

For locals*

- 1. Too much pedestrian congestion (79%)
- 2. Costumed characters and solicitors (76%)
- 3. Too much vehicular traffic (41%)

For visitors (USA)**

- 1. Too much pedestrian congestion (47%)
- 2. Too much vehicular traffic (36%)
- 3. Costumed characters and solicitors (22%)



^{*}Subset of TSq Alliance newsletter respondents

^{**}Subset of national online survey respondents



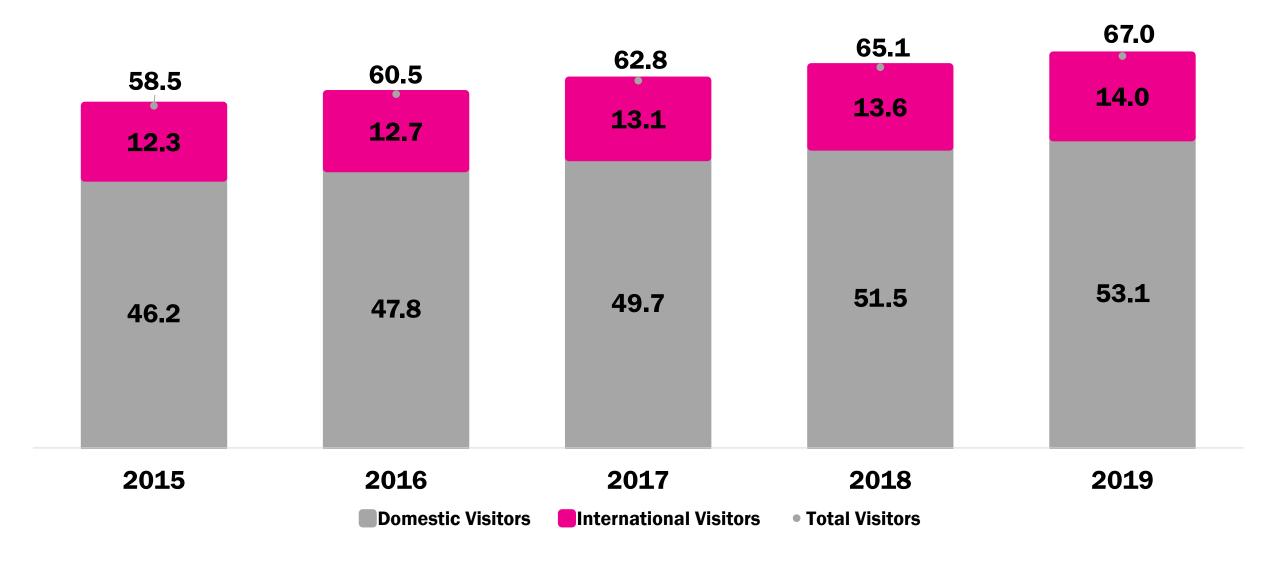
A Case for Municipal Control and a Comprehensive Transportation Vision for the Five Boroughs



NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL SPEAKER COREY JOHNSON

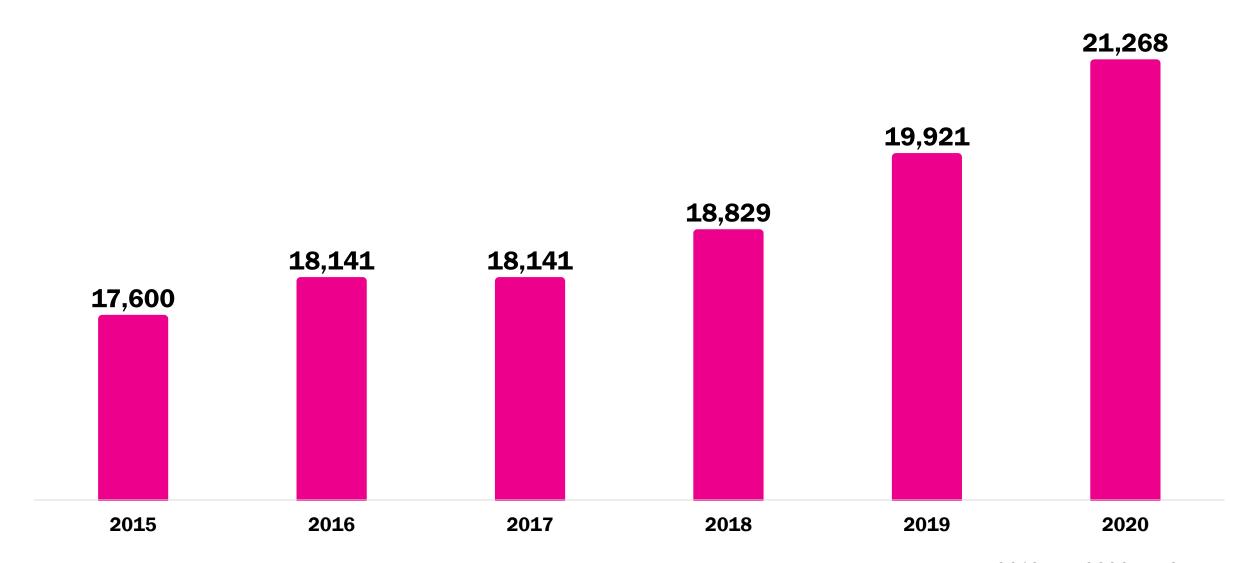
More people are coming to New York than ever

Visitors to NYC (in millions)



The number of hotel rooms continues to grow

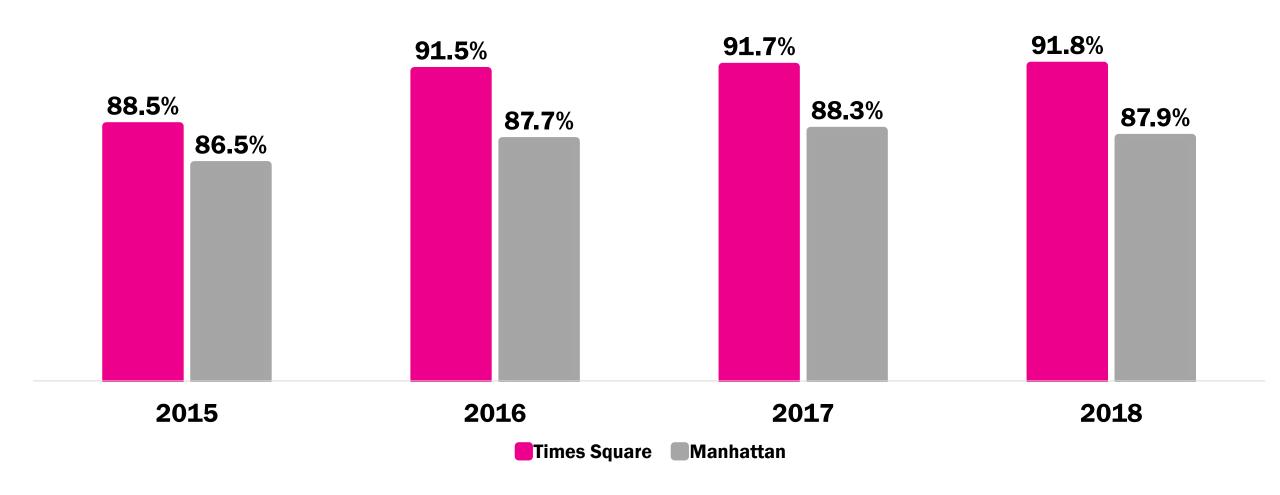
Number of hotel rooms in Times Square



Note: 2019 and 2020 are forecasts

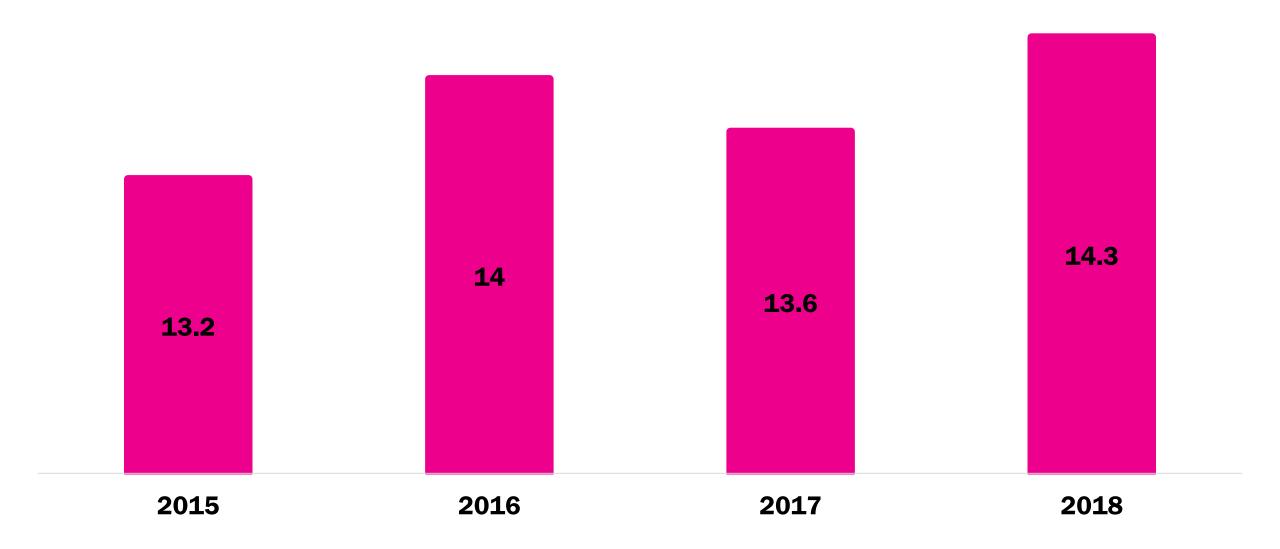
And occupancy remains high

Average hotel occupancy rates



Broadway attendance is trending up

Annual Broadway attendance (millions)





nycfuture.org MAY 2018



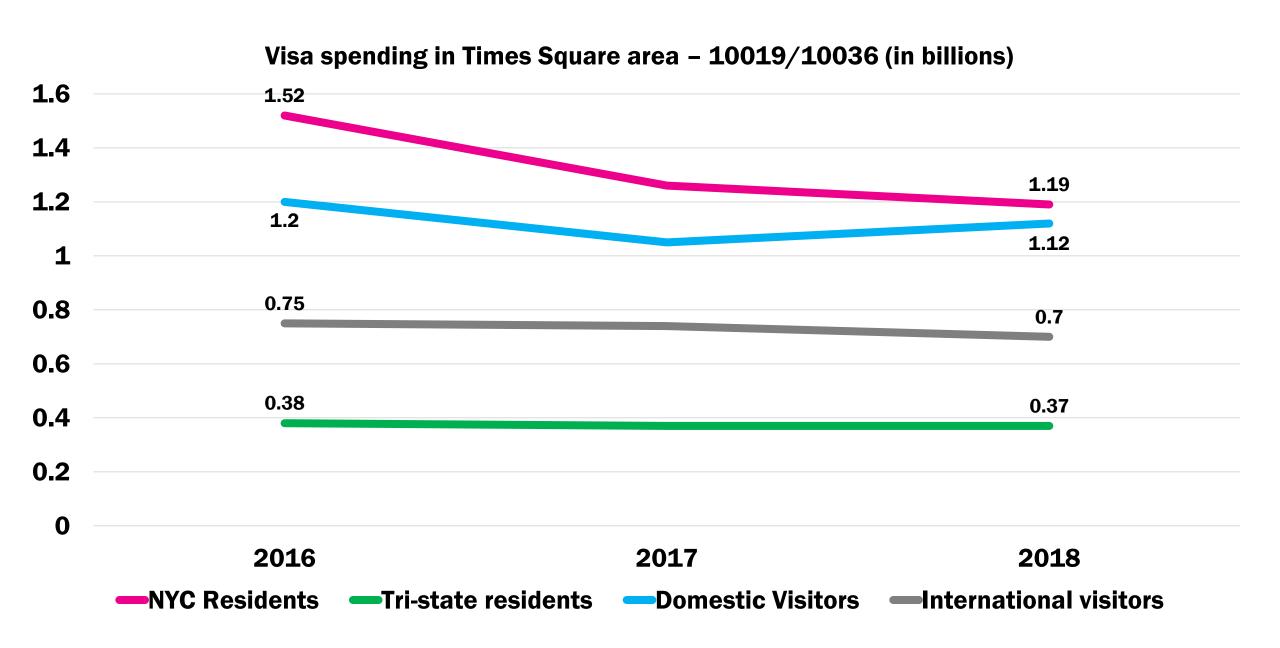
DESTINATION NEW YORK

Spurred by 30 million more tourists over the past two decades, tourism is now driving NYC's economic future.

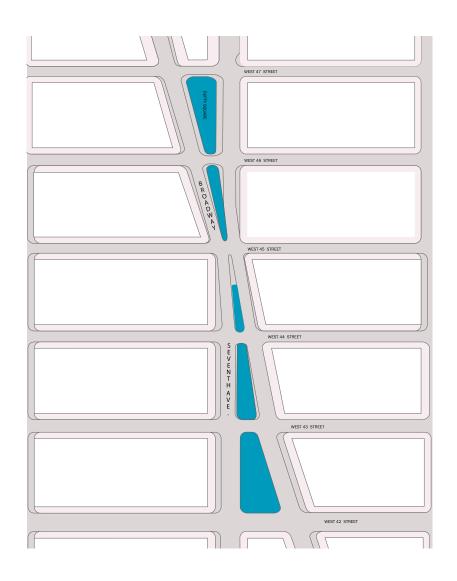
Council hearing on the tourism economy brought attention to a major jobs driver across the city



A drop in local spending, driven by fewer retail purchases

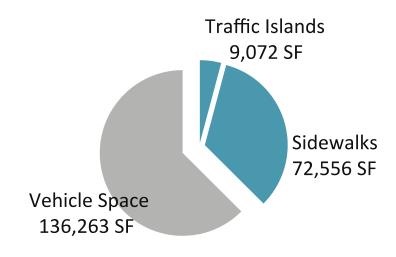


Pre-2008: Original Duffy Square and sidewalks



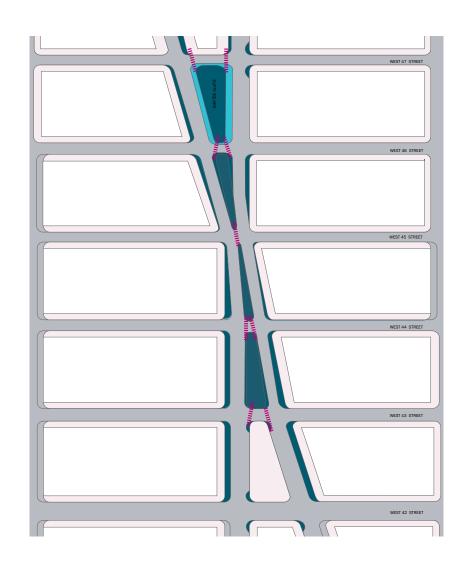
Pedestrian Space as a Percentage of Total Space in Times Square:

37%



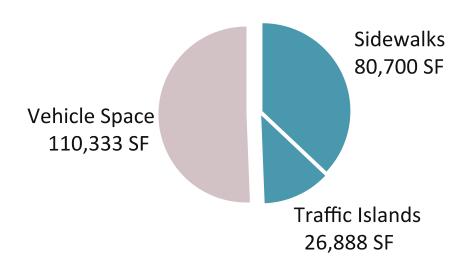


2008: Duffy Plaza Extension



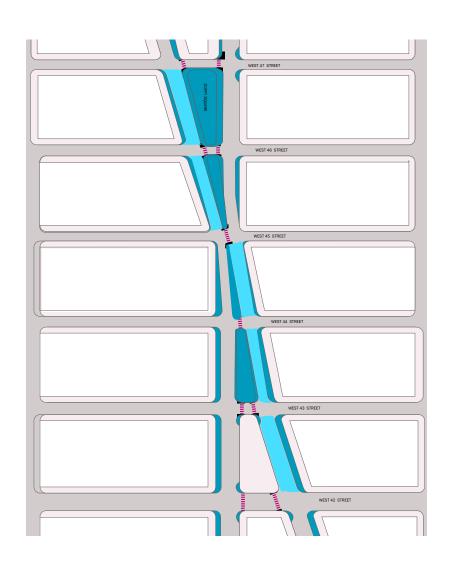
Pedestrian Space:

49%



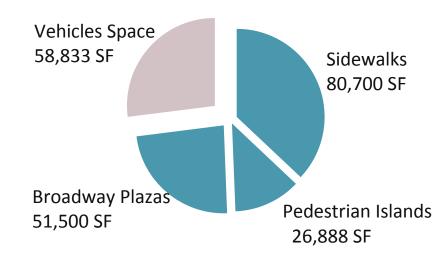


2009: Broadway Pedestrian Plazas

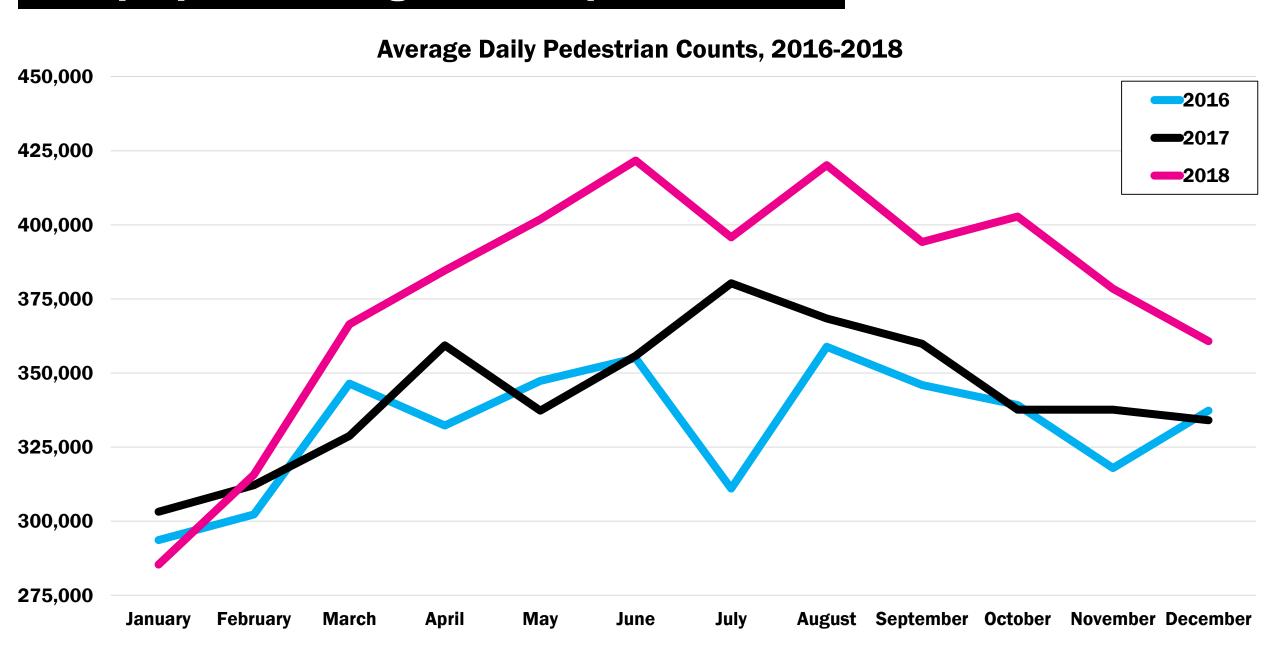


Pedestrian Space:

73%



More people are coming to Times Square than ever



Aggressive hustling and hawking remains an endemic problem

60%

of neighborhood employees/residents reported an unpleasant interaction with a costumed character or solicitor

26%

reported being touched without consent

68%

said the top way to improve the TSq experience is better regulation of characters ("public art," for example, was 43%)



Non-consensual touching still a problem (March 2019 survey comments)

"Elmo character tried to **touch my breast** during photo op then became very agitated and hostile because I did not offer him money right away."

- Joni, 68

"Costumed character forcefully grabbed my child's hand to take a picture, and then demanded the 'tip.' Another costumed person suddenly appeared and quickly took another picture so I felt forced to give them another 'tip.'"

- Anonymous woman, 38, the Bronx

"I am a wheelchair user, and a costumed character attempted to sit on my lap. He thought he was being funny. I wasn't in the mood."

- Christina, 34, Manhattan

Non-consensual touching still a problem (March 2019 survey comments)

"Costumed characters were NOT in the zone where they should be, and many of them come to my minor age daughter try to stop her for photos. She ignores but then, some tries to grab her, or tap her shoulder, and these unwanting unnecessary body touching against minor is really unacceptable."

- Nami, 36, the Bronx

"I kept saying 'we DON'T want a photo' 'DO NOT TOUCH MY SON,' but it didn't do anything."

- Denise, 42

"A solicitor grabbed me and **pushed his body against mine** when I said I wasn't interested"

- Linda, 61, Tri-state area

Costumed characters hassle, harass and hold pedestrians



Follow

Times Square terror: Mickey shook my hand & wouldn't let go, then I was crowded by a bunch of other characters.

2:50 PM - 8 Mar 2019 from Manhattan, NY



Follow

alright this is the 2nd time the Elmo by Times Square hits on me...

9:20 PM - 17 Feb 2019



Follow

I never thought I'd ever say this in my life: but I got harassed by a Micky Mouse today at Times Square.

1:39 PM - 5 Mar 2019



ĹŢ





Jess Butler @iraebutler27

Follow

Elmo just hit on me in Times Square and I think I have to move now

7:17 PM - 28 Mar 2019



Reviewed February 26, 2019

Beware



Mark J **F**12

"Avoid the scammers, Do not accept free cd's - Not Free. Beware of characters dressed up offering to take your photo, lots more will photo bomb you, then want money!"



Reviewed February 25, 2019 via mobile



Big bright and everyone wants to rip you off



Leicester, United Kingdom

1130

"Avoid the Disney characters who work like a pack of wolves in this area, they will save and try to hold your hand or worse your child's hand and when contact is made they will pull you into the centre where you will be surrounded by lots of others and a photo will be taken."



Pushy and not particularly enjoyable



langtonjame

"One of the dressed up characters took my friend's phone and would not give it her back until she had her photo taken with him and gave him cash."



Always pestered



lee0113 Lincoln, United Kingdom

28 1 7

"Lovely place but the amount of people wanting money off you and not taking no for an answer does wear thin after a while. If they just left it after we declined... it wouldn't be too bad but they don't."

⊕⊕⊕○○○ Reviewed 2 weeks ago

Fun to wander through, but a bit unpleasantly crowded



Kathy V Christchurch, Ner Zealand

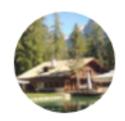
"Our 3 year old spotted Elmo and was keen for a photo with him, which he had, but a half dozen other 'characters' swooped in then wanted a big cash sum "to share". Was happy to pay Elmo and decent tip, but the other characters muscled in, then were grumpy!"





Reviewed 1 week ago via mobile Scammers!

"Full of scammers! Especially CD scammers who threaten to punch you if you don't give money all with NYPD nearby. Horrible place only worth going to say you've been there!"



matilda m

19 **1**3

Reviewed January 23, 2019 crowded

"do not let the costumed people wearing Disney outfits approach you. They do not work there and are panhandlers. They will chase you down for a tip after forcing you to take pictures"

■ 02-16-2019, 03:18 PM

Cantabridgienne

Avoiding the characters in Times Square is VERY good advice, especially if your son is very friendly and trusting. Also, do not let anyone put a CD in your/his hands (they will loudly harass you for money/accuse you of theft). You'll also have people left and right trying to give you leaflets for things but they are usually harmless.

I'd avoid Times Square altogether--it's kind of a nightmare--but I know it's on some first-timers bucket list. Does your son have any sensory issues with crowds/noise?

Rate this post positively



6,063 posts, read 5,219,374 times

Reputation: 10725





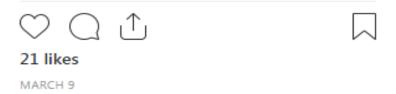
enviip Had a great time in NYC today with @mandie.85 @ericsehl @sehlkarrie and my sister! It was tiring but at the same time it was so much fun. There are so many great things to do and see and you'll have a great time no matter what time of year you go.

...

Bonus story: while I was taking a picture of the megatron i was on a group of people dressed as different characters (elmo,minnie,etc.)

Pretty much just ran up to me and were aggressively asking me to take picture with them(it was pretty terrifying). One dressed the deadpool also grabbed my sister by the arm. Luckily my Nana and Papa stepped in(we avoided those characters for the rest of the day).

#nyc #timessquare #newyork #storytime



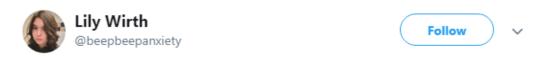


iamshellieb These characters in #timessquare are so aggressive and look crazy. cankayapro □□ eliskandarov That Spider-Man is melting or something realkwasi Not for it □□but as long as little man is having fun □□♂ drcherylvernaemakeup Yep they are crraaaazzzzzzy danellking0 & Spider-Man has a beer belly and is missing a paert of his glove! 🕲 😂 🔾 ###### dierblessed He's gotten so tall!! Where's the baby boy? iamshellieb @eliskandarov He got a big ass



26 likes

Follow



One time I was walking in Times Square and Minnie Mouse grabbed me by the arm and asked if I wanted a picture and I panicked and ran away

Just shouted "NO" to a Times Square Elmo going in for a hug. Guess I'm home..

9:32 AM - 7 Dec 2018



alexa, add thoes characters in times square that force you into photos then scream at you when you dont give them five dollars to my list of fears please

Follow

Follow

5:32 AM - 6 Jan 2019



I got groped by a costumed character at Disney World when I was 15. The panic I feel for little kids when the costumed characters in Times Square reach for them as they pass is very real and one of the many reasons I hate having to come to TImes Square.



french press of bel-air

@_seemonsters_

Replying to @MidwesternQueen

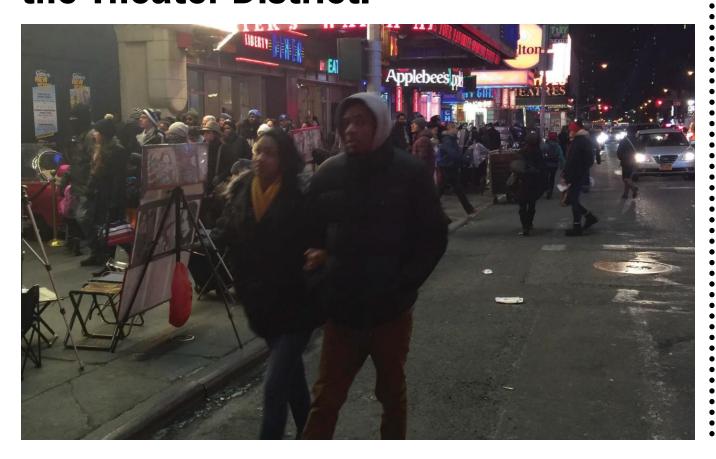
Wait until you come this time and a middleaged woman in an Elmo costume runs up behind you and starts humping you in the middle of Times Square

8:39 PM - 13 Mar 2019

8:33 AM - 22 Dec 2018

Possible legislative or regulatory solutions

We are working to clarify and clean up previous legislation to further address pedestrian crowding and safety within the Theater District.



DANIEL R. GARODNICK

DISTRICT OFFICE
211 EAST 43th STRIET, SUTIE 1205
NEW YORK, NY 10017
(212) 818-4580
FAX: (212) 818-6006

CITY HALL OFFICE 250 BROADWAY, ROOM 1762 NEW YORK, NY 10007 (212) T88-7393 FAX: (212) 442-1457

garodnick@council.nyc.gov



THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK DEPUTY LEADER

CHAIR

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

COMMITTEES

RANSPORTATION

RULES, PRIVILEGES AND ELECTION

June 30, 2017

Commissioner James O'Neill New York City Police Department One Police Plaza New York, NY 10038

Dear Commissioner O'Neill,

We need your increased attention to commercial activity in the Times Square Pedestrian Plazas that is taking place outside the prescribed zones that were set aside for that purpose.

As you know, in April 2016, after a pattern of aggressive behavior by costume characters and ticket sellers in Times Square, and many complaints about congestion in the area, the City Council adopted Local Law 53, which allowed the Department of Transportation (DOT) to create Designated Activity Zones (DAZs) to regulate commercial activity in the Times Square Pedestrian Plazas. The goal of the law was to reduce congestion and aggressive behavior by limiting "designated activities" to the DAZs, and to allow room for people who were not interested in these activities to walk through the plazas without interference.

DOT defined "designated activities" as "commercial activities, entertainment or performances by individuals or groups—where any form of compensation, donation, or gratuity

Top drawbacks of being in Times Square

For locals*

- 1. Too much pedestrian congestion (79%)
- 2. Costumed characters and solicitors (76%)
- 3. Too much vehicular traffic (41%)

For visitors (USA)**

- 1. Too much pedestrian congestion (47%)
- 2. Too much vehicular traffic (36%)
- 3. Costumed characters and solicitors (22%)



^{*}Subset of TSq Alliance newsletter respondents

^{**}Subset of national online survey respondents

Top benefits of being in Times Square

For locals*

- 1. Proximity to theater and cultural activity (82%)
- 2. Good transportation options (79%)
- 3. People watching (31%)

For visitors (USA)**

- 1. Proximity to theater and cultural activity (65%)
- 2. People watching (63%)
- 3. Quality food and beverage options (52%)



^{*}Subset of TSq Alliance newsletter respondents

^{**}Subset of national online survey respondents

Which words best describe Times Square?

Crowded	77 %
Energetic	58 %
Commercialized	58 %
Diverse	39%
Unique	29%

^{*}Times Square Alliance newsletter respondents

Which words best describe Times Square?

Safe	19%
Creative	17 %
Authentic	8%
Edgy	6 %
Cutting edge	6%



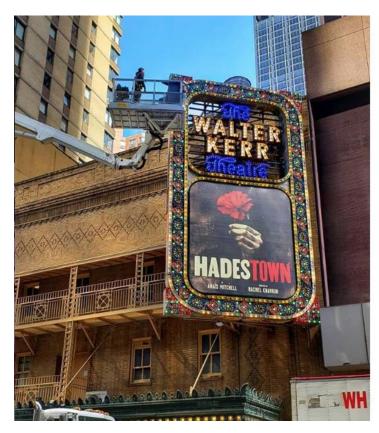


Celebrating New York in Times Square



City Culture Creativity

Celebrating the best of Times Square on social media, including Broadway...





timessquarenyc 🐡 • Follow

timessquarenyc #SpottedinTimesSquare: Some small fixes are being made to the Walter Kerr Theatre's @hadestown sign today so that it can continue shining brightly on 48th Street.

View all 20 comments

sergeysahnov Nicely Good heat work copallirum

seattle98101 Looked so much better when it said, "Springsteen on Broadway". I would go again, and again, and again.



2,868 likes

APRIL 4





timessquarenyc * • Follow

timessquarenyc Excited for #VivaBroadway tonight? We asked #Broadway's @mandy.gonzalez, @anavillafaneofficial, and @kathryndallison to take over our stories for the day in the lead up to the big event. They'll be talking #hispanicheritagemonth, their work, and more!

View all 6 comments

mustache2222 For New Year's Eve, could I suggest you please invite a new artist named Cymphonique Miller to have her come to Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve this year?

@officialcymphonique is a great entertainer and actress. She has played Kacey Simon from the hit Nickelodeon show How to Rock, she also has a new







U

1,398 likes

SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

Log in to like or comment.

...

Classic and creative food...





timessquarenyc 🐡 • Follow

timessquarenyc Too cool for an ice cream sandwich? Try @amorinogelato's new ICE CREAM BURGER! Choose your sauce, two flavors of Amorino's velvety gelato (we went for tiramisu and blueberry cheesecake with Nutella sauce) to be sandwiched between flaky buns.

Load more comments

weijmie @michaelsluis97 😊

lea6125 😊 😊 😊 😊

fiii_tari @flaviacorsinof7 não marchava?

fran_schutz @leebayer temo q probar 🥮

flaviacorsinof7 @fiii_tari hum não sei, não gosto muito quando fazem essas misturas fiii_tari @flaviacorsinof7 mas tínhamos de prover p poder criticar.







2,114 likes

APRIL 13

Log in to like or comment.



Times Square @ @TimesSquareNYC · Apr 3

MEAT us at @pastramiqueenyc for a sandwich fit for royalty — Now you can find some of #NYC's finest pastrami & Jewish deli classics right in the heart of #TimesSquare at Pastrami Queen's newest location: bit.ly/2HX6A91



Unique retail and entertainment...



On Sunday 4/14, the 1st #NYC screening of #BombardierBlood will be playing at AMC Empire 25 in #TimesSquare! Don't miss this compelling documentary about hemophiliac mountaineer Chris Bombardier's mission to climb Mount Everest & the Seven Summits: bit.ly/2G89zlg



10:09 AM - 12 Apr 2019



Times Square ② @TimesSquareNYC · Apr 22

Looking for a way to be environmentally friendly this #EarthDay ? Recycle your old jeans (doesn't matter what brand!) at @AEO in #TimesSquare and get a \$10 off coupon for your next pair of American Eagle jeans.



...And history, hidden gems and important conversations of the day



timessquarenyc . Follow

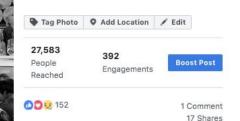
timessquarenyc A 3D-printed statue of teen Joaquin "Guac" Oliver, one of the victims from the Marjory Stoneman Douglas school shooting, has been unveiled in #TimesSquare. This life-sized printed replica of Joaquin holding a flower - a touching nod to the bouquet he held as he died (a Valentine's Day gift for his girlfriend) - stands as a protest, demanding regulations on 3D guns. You can see the statue from 11am to 1pm today - the activation, which has been made possible by Joaquin's father Manuel Oliver, founder of @ChangetheRef, and ALMA Advertising Agency, is encouraging visitors to sign up to vote ahead of the November 6th miterm elections and fight for gun control. #GuacisBack #3Dactivist

3,294 likes





As New York City's town square, Times Square was a gathering place for thousands of young people who marched to protest the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr on April 5, 1968. The march stretched some 12 blocks at times as the group proceeded down Broadway to City Hall. Dr. King's life and legacy continue to inspire and move people today as we celebrate one of history's greatest activists, #MLKDay





timessquarenvc . Follow

timessquarenyc Do you get dizzy with excitement when you see #TimesSquare from a different perspective? Thanks to @Benz for #exploringtimessquare from new heights! Share your exciting photos of Times Square and use #exploringtimessquare and we just might

Load more comments

ten716 @_ims0bklyn_ @ e9



syahirahmhdsffn @aairinahmad one day nak berhijrah ke sini . im telling the truth aairinahmad @syahirahmhdsffn inshaAllah one day 💘

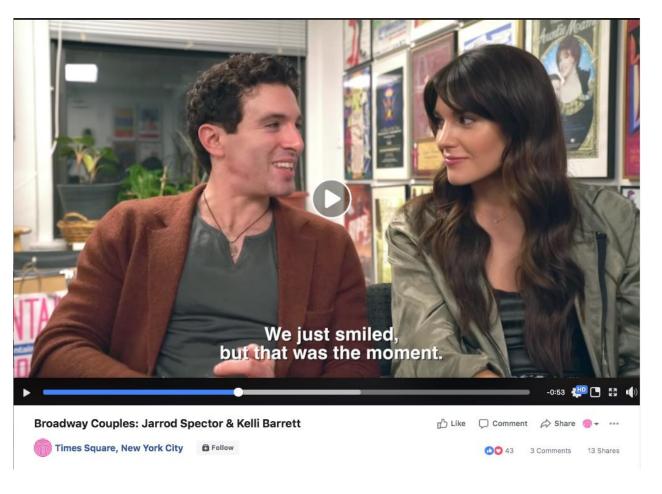
leidy.rivera.395 Beautiful



7,763 likes

MARCH 18

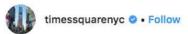
Celebrating the big moments...





The big personalities...





timessquarenyc It's finally feeling like spring! Thank you to @tristan_frenchbulldog for exploring #TimesSquare 😀

Load more comments

romaniangal @florcris83 this could be Kody's cousin 😂

whoiscys @dead_chu zen lui stevenmc90 @ngr_1992

subalmant @anna_balmant e a cara de pleno com essa vista 😎

deidreclase @bobfanok good thing it's on the list 😔 umm. Omg. Your stories... 😧

bobfanok @deidreclase YAOMM * * * #INGINETE

deidreclase @bobfanok yaAomm 💥



APRIL 13

Log in to like or comment.





timessquarenyc . Follow

timessquarenyc Pip-pip-hooray! @imfeelingpipsy was feline fine in the heart of #TimesSquare. Thank you for #exploringtimessquare and sharing fun tails of your #NYC adventure! Post your Times Square adventure using #exploringtimessquare and we just might repost. 🐱

Load more comments

antoniomartinezestates 💗



erinkell79 @gokellergo @mariamandato @squatch_72

najwaftlisa_ So cute cat... 💞





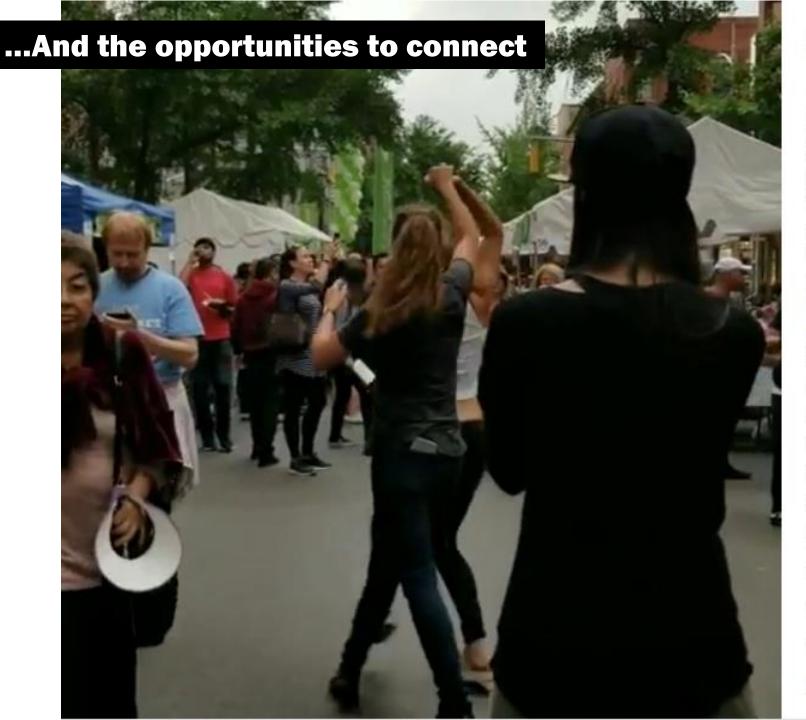




4,988 likes

FEBRUARY 15

Log in to like or comment.





timessquarenyc We love that #TasteTSq gets people on their feet, dancing to the sounds of live music and the good vibes that come from eating lots of delicious food!

mafeoz1 @andreitarp_15 Vamos a tener q ir a enseñarle a esos troncos jajajjajaja

felizmentecasados @marcanthony (A)



ginethhh @gabita_castro chamaaaa hay que ir a enseñarles 😂 😂 😂

mph1971 That is so cute

gabita_castro @ginethhh no comment 🖖



alexama05 Fuera de ritmo

kos_silva 👌 💯

jusscorts @abrilalInde ayyyy ♥♥♥







14,957 views

JUNE 4, 2018

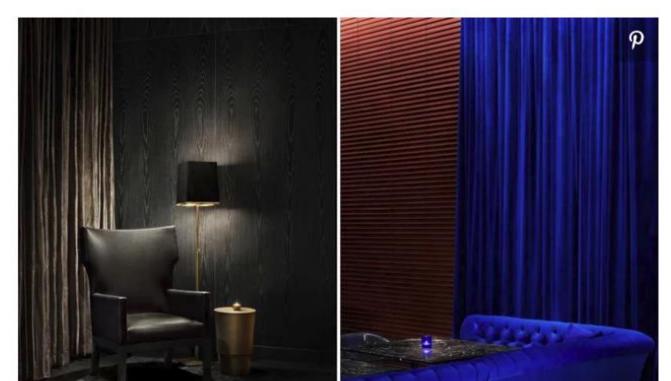
This New Times Square Hotel Is a Celebrity Hotspot

The Times Square Edition is making New York's "most hated neighborhood" cool again.

BY **SIOBHAN REID**

UPDATED: APRIL 12, 2019





"Hospitality impresario Ian Schrager finds the neighborhood's energy intoxicating — it's one of the reasons he chose the then-seedy spot as the address of his iconic midtown Manhattan nightclub, Studio 54.

"'When you mix diverse things and diverse people, that's when the magic happens,' said the Brooklyn-born hotelier in an interview with *Travel + Leisure*."



2

WHAT'S GOING ON | MAR. 27, 2019

Wait — Is Times Square Suddenly a Good Restaurant Neighborhood?

By Chris Crowley



"'Times Square is iconic — we want to try to go into iconic locations...' says Kyle Cameron, a co-owner of Los Tacos No. 1. "We want to open in high-traffic areas; we don't want to open on the LES or whatever."

vacion Leadership Money Consumer industry Lifestyle Featured Biandvoice Lists Advisor

422 views | Apr 3, 2019, 01:43pm

If You're Chasing Digital-First, You Might Already Be Behind



Roy Erez Contributor ①

Fintech

I write about fintech, innovation in retail and entrepreneurship.

"Levi's is one retailer that has reimagined its digital offering as an immersive customer experience. When Levi's opened its largest flagship store to date, in New York City's Times Square, it piloted a 360-degree, 3-D, shoppable store experience on its website. By clicking on hot spots, consumers were able to purchase the products they saw and learn more about each area of the store as they took a virtual tour."













LATEST NEWS

WEATHER

TRANSIT

POLITICS

ARTS+CULTURE

COMMUNITY+NEIGHBORHOODS

OUR JOURNALISTS







HUMAN INTEREST

Instrument Repair Shop Still Makes Music in Times Square





PUBLISHED 11:23 AM ET JAN. 16, 2019



NEW YORK - Roberto Romeo holds a saxophone in place as his colleague brings down a hammer on a metal rod inserted inside the shiny instrument.





f





NEW YORK

Times Square Red Steps turn 10

The iconic TKTS staircase makes history in NYC and Hollywood

By Nikki M. Mascali Published: October 22, 2018





"New Yorkers may find this hard to believe, but it is possible to find peace and quiet in the midst of the chaos in Times Square. Don't believe us? Just take a seat on the Times Square Red Steps and see for yourself."



METRO MONEY

A New Yorker Tours Times Square

Mom-and-pop shops, 'Smoky Mary's' lure a local; One tip: go with a 10-year-old.



By Anne Kadet Nov. 13, 2018 10:00 a.m. ET



"... the Alliance recommended family-owned Bibble & Sip at West 51st Street...

"'It doesn't feel like Times Square,' said Michael, munching his Earl Grey banana bread. 'But what does it feel like?'

"We pondered the cozy space with its plastic vines and alpaca motif. 'It's kind of indescribable,' he concluded."

The New York Times

As New Year's Eve Ball Drops, the Free Press Gets a Moment in the Spotlight

By Michael M. Grynbaum

Dec. 30, 2018



"'People who are watching across the country will see the media together, standing on the stage, visually united behind this principle,' Mr. Simon [of the Committee to Protect Journalists] said in an interview. "That's a positive message at a time when journalists around the world are threatened as never before."





NEW YORK, ENTERTAINMENT







The Approval Matrix: Week of July 23, 2018



The New York Times

Review: Hear the Beat of Dancing Feet, Right in Times Square



Full Circle Souljahs presented "Behind the Groove — Times Square Edition," a showcase of hip-hop styles. Julieta Cervantes for The New York Times

By Siobhan Burke

"On Thursday evening, there was reason to brave the crowds, the noise and the invitations to take a photo with Spiderman. Danspace Project had come to Midtown.

"Three new works allow even the most jaded New Yorkers to see the city's commercial epicenter through fresh lenses.

"By the end, they had so transformed the space, or your perception of it, that you might have mistaken the flashing ads behind them for poetry."



FY19 Snapshot Year-to-Date

Current positive budget variance of \$1.2MM as of March 31st

Expect to add approximately \$150K to cash at the end of the fiscal year



FY20 Budget Goals

Present a balanced budget

Manage costs and increase non-assessment revenue streams to preclude 2021 assessment increase

Use focused investments in advocacy, public space improvements, programming and communications to address challenges

FY20 Assessment Increase

From \$13.7MM to \$14.4MM; third and final year

2 Approved by Board and membership in 2016

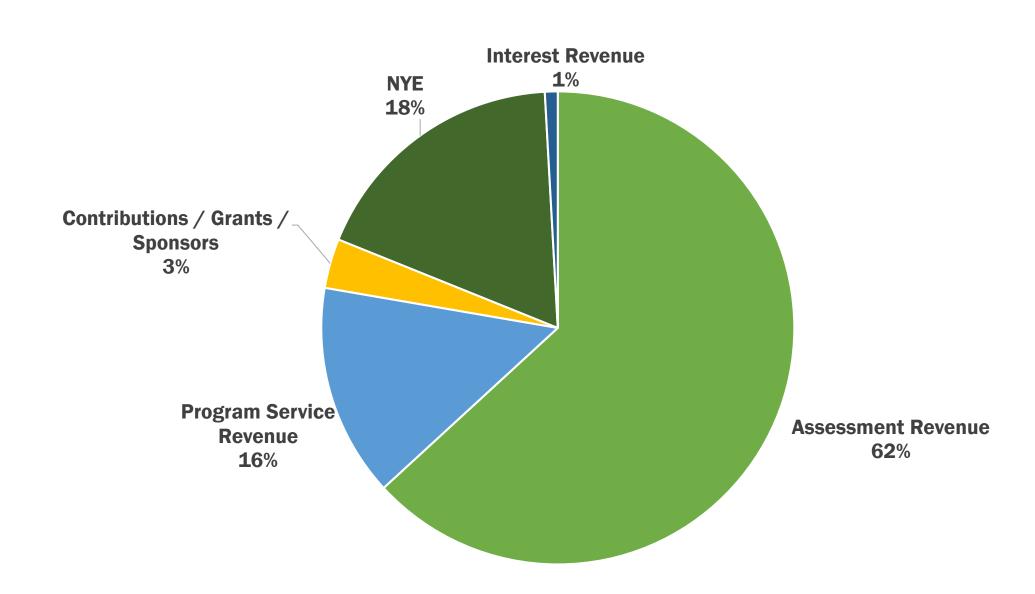
Non-assessment funds are 38% of revenues, up from 23% ten years ago

Assessment Increase Drivers

- 1 End of Visitor Center Payment
- Wage Increases
- 3 Health Insurance



FY20: Revenue % by Source



FY20: Expenses by Department

