Center for an Urban Future

Innovative Ideas. Independent Policy.


New York by the Numbers

Economic snapshots of the five boroughs

Center for an Urban Future

July 2008
Volume 1 • Issue 1

In this issue:

Attack of the Chains? A borough-by-borough analysis of New York City's largest retailers

Even after Starbucks makes good on its recently announced plan to close 11 of its New York City stores by mid-2009, the Seattle-based coffee chain will still have a whopping 235 retail outlets throughout the five boroughs. As difficult as it may be to fathom, however, Starbucks doesn't top the list of retailers with the most chains in the city. As we detail in this inaugural issue of New York by the Numbers, the Center for an Urban Future's monthly economic snapshot of the five boroughs, Starbucks actually has roughly 100 fewer stores here than both Dunkin' Donuts and Subway.

These food chains are hardly the only retailers with a significant presence in the city. According to our research, at least 32 retailers have 50 or more stores throughout the city, a list that includes everything from CVS and GNC to GameStop and Payless. Dozens of other companies have more than 10 outlets here.

The charts below details the number of stores in the city—broken down by borough—for more than 150 major retailers operating here. The vast majority of those on our list are national retailers that are headquartered elsewhere, but we also decided to include several home-grown companies that have multiple stores here, from Nathan's to Jimmy Jazz.

New York City's Largest Retailers

Retailer	NYC	Manhattan	Brooklyn	Queens	Bronx	Staten Island
Dunkin' Donuts	341	78	89	96	49	29
Subway	335	136	57	77	44	21
McDonald's	248	72	57	67	41	11
Starbucks	235	186	18	21	4	6
Duane Reade	216	139	31	27	11	8
Baskin-Robbins	215	46	58	70	26	15
Rite Aid	209	37	57	68	42	5
Radio Shack	116	40	27	25	18	6
GNC	115	41	29	28	14	3
Payless	109	31	36	27	20	5
CVS	108	37	22	34	11	14
Sbarro's	105	34	26	24	12	9

Report - July 2008

Attack of the Chains?

This inaugural edition of New York by the Numbers, a new monthly CUF feature, features a ranking of more than 150 national retailers with multiple stores in New York City, from Dunkin' Donuts (341 stores) to Crate and Barrel (2 stores). We provide a borough-by-borough breakdown of the number of stores each retailer has here.

by Center for an Urban Future

Click here to read the full report (PDF).

Even after Starbucks makes good on its recently announced plan to close 11 of its New York City stores by mid-2009, the Seattle-based coffee chain will still have a whopping 235 retail outlets throughout the five boroughs. As difficult as it may be to fathom, however, Starbucks doesn't top the list of retailers with the most chains in the city. As we detail in this inaugural issue of New York by the Numbers, the Center for an Urban Future's monthly economic snapshot of the five boroughs, Starbucks actually has roughly 100 fewer stores here than both Dunkin' Donuts and Subway.

These food chains are hardly the only retailers with a significant presence in the city. According to our research, at least 32 retailers have 50 or more stores throughout the city, a list that includes everything from CVS and GNC to GameStop and Payless. Dozens of other companies have more than 10 outlets here.

The charts below details the number of stores in the city—broken down by borough—for more than 150 major retailers operating here. The vast majority of those on our list are national retailers that are headquartered elsewhere, but we also decided to include several home-grown companies that have multiple stores here, from Nathan's to Jimmy Jazz.

RELATED PRESS

Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks dominate NYC's retail

The Real Deal, July 31, 2008

Chains chokin' off mom-and-pop shops

New York Daily News, by Erin Durkin and Bill Hutchinson, August 01, 2008

Small Business: Suffering in Good Times and Bad

Gotham Gazette, by Jillian Jonas, March 30, 2009

Brooklyn Prefers Dunkin' Donuts Over Starbucks

Gothamist, by Jen Carlson, September 01, 2008

Report: New York is a Dunkin Town

Metro New York, by Amy Zimmer, August 01, 2008

New South Bronx mall brings Gateway to change

Crain's New York Business, by Hilary Potkewitz, May 02, 2009

Dunkin Donuts is the Top Chain

Grub Street Blog/New York Magazine, July 31, 2008

'Bucks' Getting 'Dunk'ed

New York Post, by Hasani Gittens, August 01, 2008

A Ceasefire in the Sunset Park Pizza War

New York Times, by David Gonzalez, August 07, 2008

Dunkin Donuts Top Chain in NY

Crain's New York Business, by Joyce Hanson, July 31, 2008

Donuts are King by Number of Stores in New York City

The Wall Street Journal Blog, by Sushil Cheema, August 05, 2008

Queens is running on Dunkin': Report

Queens Time Ledger, by Howard Koplowitz, August 08, 2008

News Flash: New York City Flooded with Chain Stores

Gothamist, by John Del Signore, July 31, 2008

Shoppers cry - Bring in chains

New York Daily News, by Dorian Block, September 08, 2008

No 'shore-tage' of doughnut shops

Staten Island Advance, by Tevah Platt, August 21, 2008

New York City Runs on Dunkin'

The Real Estate Blog/New York Observer, by Lysandra Ohrstrom, July 31, 2008

Seven Dunkin' stores on auction block

The Real Deal, by Roland Li, September 23, 2008

Study shows Brooklyn sweeter on Dunkin

New York Daily News, by Veronika Belenkaya, September 01, 2008

It's raining chain stores on the Island

Staten Island Advance, by James Queally, August 01, 2008

Hell's Kitchen gets a Dunkin' Donuts, continuing chain's expansion tear

The Real Deal, by Sara Polsky, October 15, 2008

Dunkin' Donuts: the Starbucks of Brooklyn

Brownstoner, by Lisa Selin Davis, September 02, 2008

Are chain stores taking over NYC?

amNewYork, by David Freedlander, August 01, 2008

And what a year it was The Bronx saw its share of high drama, low comedy in 2008

New York Daily News, by Daily News Staff Writers, December 28, 2008

New York City is Becoming Fast Food Capital of America and Chick-Fil-A Chains are Rising

Newsweek, by Maria Perez, November 09, 2017

CENTER FOR AN URBAN FUTURE
120 Wall Street, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10005

cuf@nycfuture.org © All Rights Reserved.