

**Report to the New York City Council on
Green Carts FY2008-2009
Submitted by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
September 2009**

About this Report

Local Law 9 requires that the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (the Department) provide the New York City Council with a report concerning fresh fruit and vegetables and permits and green carts including:

- the number of applications for permits by borough;
- the number of permits issued by borough;
- the number of people on the waiting list by borough;
- the number of violations issued by borough and by locations; and
- consumption of fruits and vegetables by neighborhood.

The report is required annually for three years. This is the first report and covers activities from the law's effective date of June 13, 2008 through the end of Fiscal Year 2009.

Local Law 9 Implementation

During the first year, the Department made significant progress in implementing Phase 1 of the law, which allowed for the maximum issuance of half of the permits, or 500, of the total 1000 allowed by the law.

On July 31, 2009 the Department launched Phase 2. During the second year, the Department will seek to issue the remaining permits for the maximum number of Green Carts specified by the law. Once fully implemented, these carts will improve accessibility to fresh produce in underserved areas of New York City. In order to encourage potential vendors to apply for Green Cart permits, the Department has held numerous informational sessions and has provided technical support upon request. A website was created (www.nyc.gov/greencarts) with step by step instructions on the application process in multiple languages.

Permitting Process

As Table 1 shows, as of June 30, 2009 almost half (248) of the total permits allotted for the first year of permitting were issued. Potential vendors have six months to complete the permit process after submitting an application for a Green Cart permit. For the most recent round of applications, potential vendors have until December 2009 to get a Green Cart permit.

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Table 1. Permit information by Borough

	<u>Bronx</u>	<u>Brooklyn</u>	<u>Manhattan</u>	<u>Queens</u>	<u>Staten Island</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Permits Available Year 1	175	175	75	50	25	500
Applications Submitted ¹	197	248	227	146	28	846
Permits Issued	78	71	58	40	1	248
People on Wait List at FY end	0	0	348	53	0	NA²

¹Based upon experience during Year 1 of implementation related to completion of process by vendors, the Department expanded the number of applications accepted from vendors to exceed the number of permits available.

²Not applicable for Citywide total; a person may be on the wait list for multiple boroughs

Inspections Process

Table 2 shows the location and number of violations issued to Green Carts by borough through June 30, 2009. A total of 36 violations were found among permitted green carts in four boroughs.

Table 2. Violations by Borough³

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u># OF VIOLATIONS</u>
<u>MANHATTAN</u>	
AMSTERDAM AVE at W 96 ST	1
AMSTERDAM AVE at W 96 ST	2
FREDERICK DOUGLASS BLVD at 125 ST	3
Manhattan Subtotal	6
<u>BRONX</u>	
BAINBRIDGE AVE at E 210 ST	2
BAINBRIDGE AVE at E GUNHILL RD	1
29 E FORDHAM RD	1
3394 JEROME AVE	1
2 E GUNHILL RD	1
DEKALB AV at E GUNHILL RD	1
2372 GRAND CONCOURSE	1
SOUTHERN BLVD at EAST 163 ST	1
E 149 ST at GRAND CONCOURSE	2
92 E 167 ST	2
2190 WHITE PLAINS RD	1
Bronx Subtotal	14
<u>BROOKLYN</u>	
KNICKERBOCKER AVE at HIMROD ST	5
KNICKERBOCKER AVE at GREENE AVE	2
KNICKERBOCKER AVE at GREENE AVE	2
4TH AVENUE at 86TH ST	1
100 HENRY ST	1
CARLTON AVE at PARK PL	1
Brooklyn Subtotal	12
<u>QUEENS</u>	
2 COURT SQ	1
QUEENS BLVD at 46 ST	1
103-13 ROOSEVELT AVE	1

ROOSEVELT AVE at JUNCTION BLVD	1
Queens Subtotal	4
<u>STATEN ISLAND</u>	
Staten Island Subtotal	0
<u>NEW YORK CITY TOTAL</u>	36

3 Only violations found during operational inspections by the DOHMH are presented. Data exclude violations found and corrected during the permitting process. NYPD currently does not have a mechanism for tracking Green Cart violations separate from other mobile food vendors.

Consumption of Fruits and Vegetables

Prior to the enactment of Local Law 9, the DOHMH reviewed precinct-specific data from the 2002 and 2004 NYC DOHMH Community Health Survey (CHS), including data on fruit and vegetable consumption, as well as information on diabetes and obesity, among adult New Yorkers. These data were used to determine which neighborhoods should become Green Cart precincts. To evaluate the Green Cart Initiative, an additional fruit and vegetable consumption question was included on the 2008 survey and will be added to the 2009 and 2010 CHS as well. The CHS fruit and vegetable question asked respondents: “How many total servings of fruit and/or vegetables did you eat yesterday? A serving would equal one medium apple, a handful of broccoli, or a cup of carrots.”

The 2008 surveys were conducted between September 2008 and February 2009. The results should be viewed as additional baseline data because they were collected very early in the implementation of the green cart initiative and there were not a substantial number of Green Carts on the street during this time period. These data suggest that 13% of adult New Yorkers ate no fruits or vegetables on the previous day, and 9% ate 5 or more servings. On the whole, Green Cart precincts had lower consumption than non-Green Cart precincts. While 17% of individuals living in Green Cart precincts reported not eating fruits or vegetables on the previous day, only 11% of residents in other neighborhoods reported zero consumption. This is only a single year of data and does not necessarily represent a trend up or down in fruit and vegetable consumption.

Table 3. Fruit and Vegetable Consumption by Police Precinct, Community Health Survey 2008

Precinct	% with No Fruit and Vegetable Consumption	% with 1-4 Servings Fruit and Vegetables	% with 5 or More Servings Fruit and Vegetables
Bronx			
Green Cart			
40	28.4	70.1	1.5
41	23.3	70.9	5.8
42	31.7	65.1	3.2
43	29.7	66.1	4.2
44	22.0	69.3	8.7

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46	16.9	74.8	8.3
47	15.9	75.4	8.7
48	22.7	72.2	5.1
49	17.4	76.6	6.0
52	12.3	81.9	5.7
Non-Green Cart			
45	14.7	82.8	2.5
50	13.5	74.0	12.5
Brooklyn Green Cart			
67	10.1	82.1	7.8
70	14.3	76.6	9.1
71	14.2	79.0	6.8
73	15.5	79.8	4.7
75	18.8	77.7	3.5
77	9.9	75.6	14.5
79	14.2	72.6	13.2
81	17.5	76.9	5.6
83	16.9	79.3	3.8
Non-Green Cart			
60	4.8	86.0	9.2
61	8.3	79.2	12.5
62	9.3	79.1	11.7
63	16.3	76.5	7.1
66	14.5	75.4	10.1
68	9.3	79.6	11.1
69	14.5	81.8	3.6
72	5.2	83.7	11.1
76	0.8	87.8	11.4
78	2.3	80.6	17.0
84	1.7	83.5	14.7
88	14.0	70.6	15.4
90	11.7	73.9	14.4
94	13.7	67.9	18.4
Manhattan Green Cart			
23	16.2	78.9	4.9
25	16.4	80.3	3.2
26	13.2	79.6	7.1
28	14.0	83.8	2.2
30	18.9	72.3	8.8
32	13.7	82.8	3.5
33	18.3	76.4	5.4
34	9.0	86.9	4.0
Non-Green Cart			
1	13.9	67.2	18.9
5	10.7	75.9	13.4
6	5.7	72.8	21.5
7	7.7	83.3	9.0
9	6.9	73.9	19.2

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10	6.8	76.5	16.7
13	7.9	73.8	18.3
14	6.9	76.7	16.4
17	5.7	69.0	25.3
18	8.7	70.6	20.6
19	2.9	74.6	22.5
20	1.7	86.1	12.2
24	10.7	80.9	8.4
Queens			
Green Cart			
100	10.4	73.2	16.4
101	11.0	82.2	6.8
103	23.9	72.9	3.2
113	16.2	78.5	5.3
Non-Green Cart			
102	12.3	79.5	8.2
104	14.6	76.9	8.5
105	11.0	81.8	7.3
106	16.6	80.4	3.0
107	16.2	80.1	3.7
108	15.1	78.4	6.4
109	14.2	78.0	7.8
110	14.8	82.3	2.9
111	10.3	80.3	9.4
112	8.0	81.4	10.6
114	14.5	74.2	11.3
115	12.2	82.5	5.3
Staten Island			
Green Cart			
120	14.1	77.4	8.5
Non-Green Cart			
122	8.3	82.6	9.1
123	9.9	76.7	13.3
Citywide			
Green Cart	17.1	76.4	6.5
Non-Green Cart	10.7	78.6	10.7