



Homeless Outreach Population Estimate 2022 Results

What is the HOPE Survey?

- Annual survey effort conducted in order to estimate the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and sleeping in public places such as streets, parks, and subways on a single winter night.
- Fulfills federal Department of Housing and Urban Development requirement for January “point-in-time” survey of unsheltered individuals.
- Conducted annually since 2005 using same sampling methodology:
 - *All* areas of the city where individuals experiencing homelessness are known to stay (i.e., “high density” areas) based on past surveys and outreach worker observations—all individuals experiencing homelessness in these areas are counted, *and*
 - Random sample of all other areas, termed “low density”—results from these areas used to estimate the number of individuals experiencing homelessness in areas not surveyed.

HOPE 2022 Method Changes Due to COVID-19

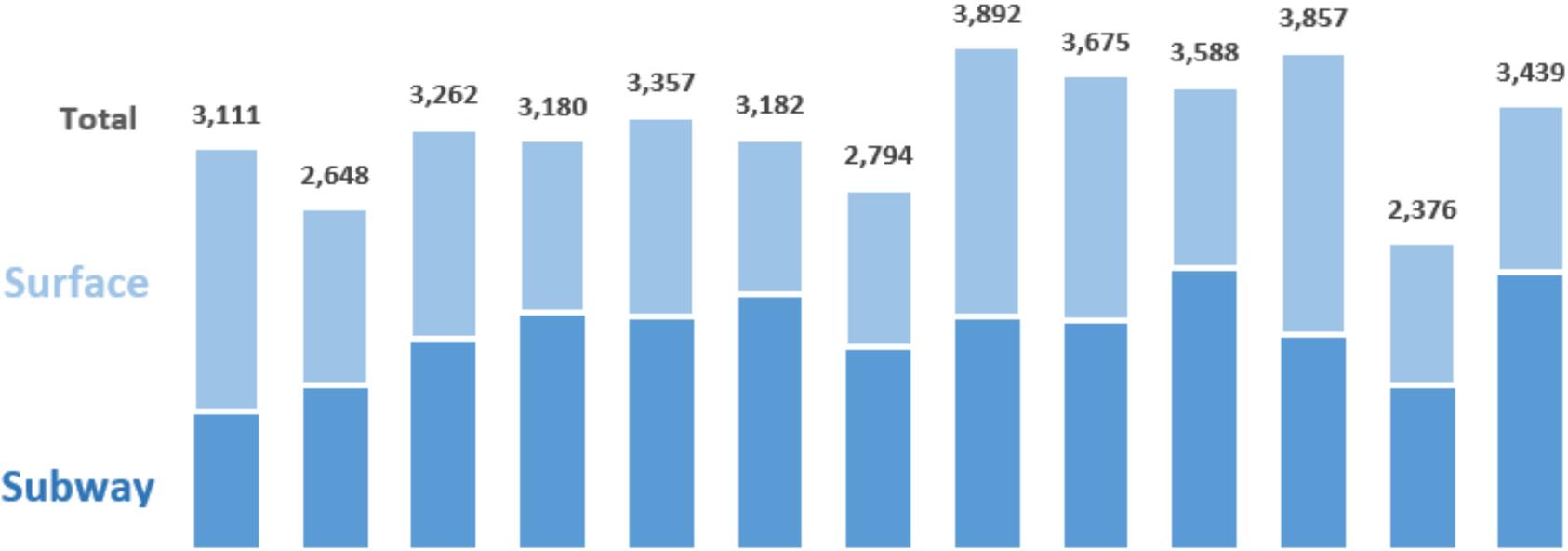
- Due to the Omicron variant surge, HOPE 2022 pivoted from a volunteer-based to a largely provider-based count.
- As in 2021, the HOPE sampling methodology was maintained; key methodological changes generally followed those adopted for HOPE 2021:
 - Surveying over four days instead of one
 - Remote deployment and training using app/dashboard
 - Canvassing by outreach providers and DSS volunteers (rather than community volunteers)
 - Only people deemed likely to be street homeless were observed/surveyed
 - No Shadow Count (an approach in which non-homeless volunteers pretend to be homeless, to check whether canvassers approach them. Prior years' data used in our final estimation)
 - Earlier start (10pm) to give providers more time – *However, with subways no longer closed overnight, the 2022 survey was able to continue until 4am (2021 ended at 1am)*

Key Findings

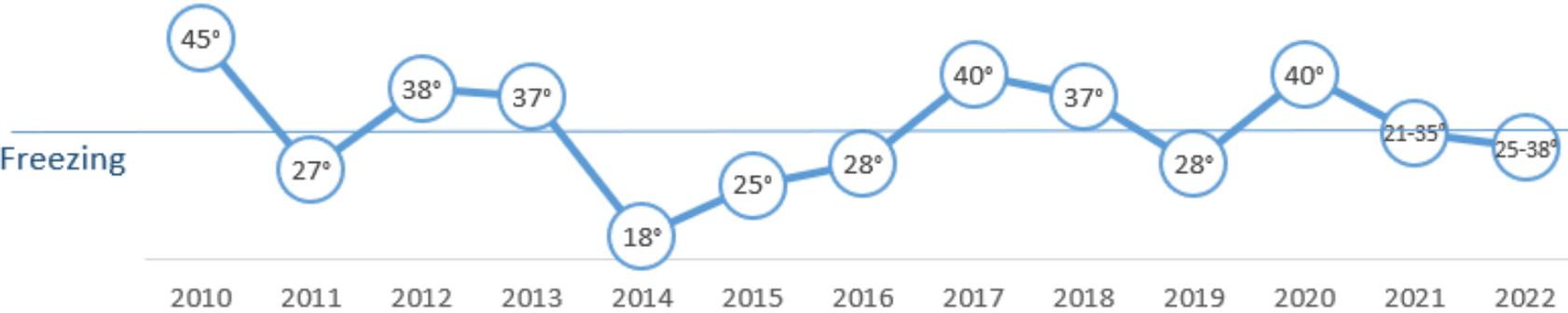
- Total estimate of **3,439 unsheltered individuals on January 25th, 2022.**
 - This is about 400 people less than in 2020 (3,857) and about 1,000 people more than in HOPE 2021 (2,376).*
 - There was a substantial increase in the subway estimate. As in previous years, colder weather was associated with more unsheltered in subways than on surface.
 - On the surfaces, by borough, Queens had the largest percentage increase.
 - Manhattan had the largest decrease.



HOPE Estimates, 2010-2022

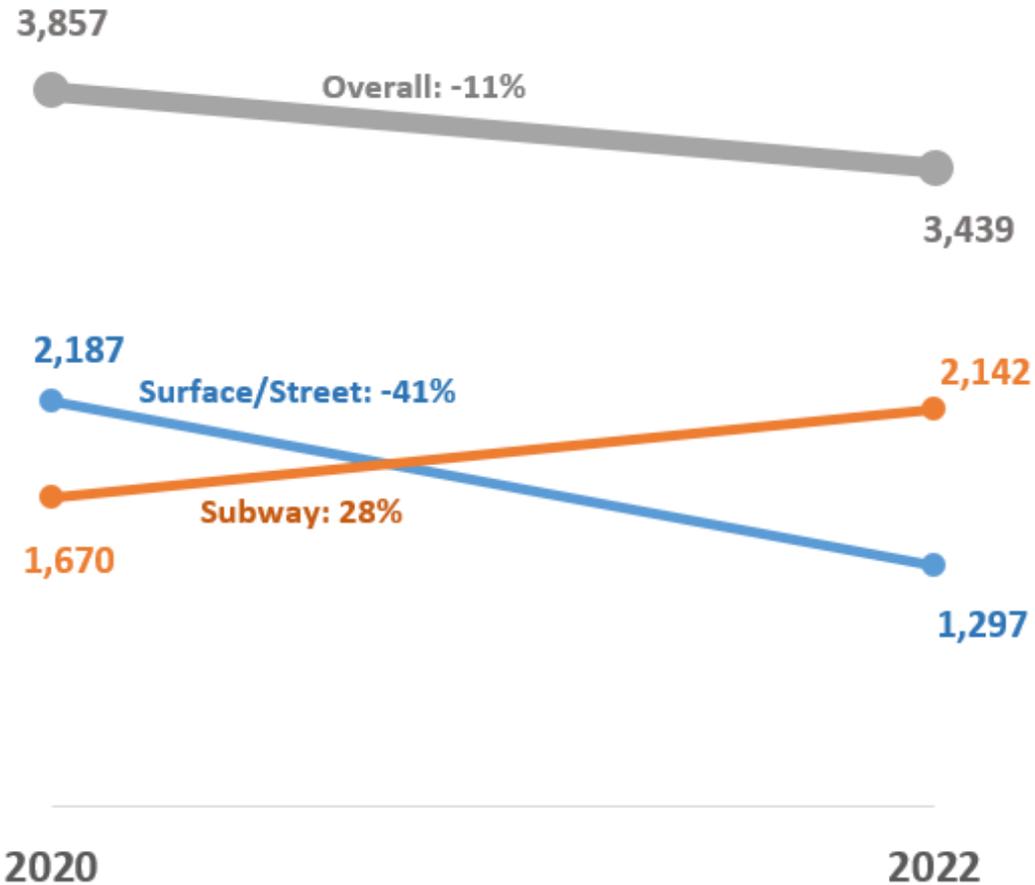


HOPE Temperature (degree F)

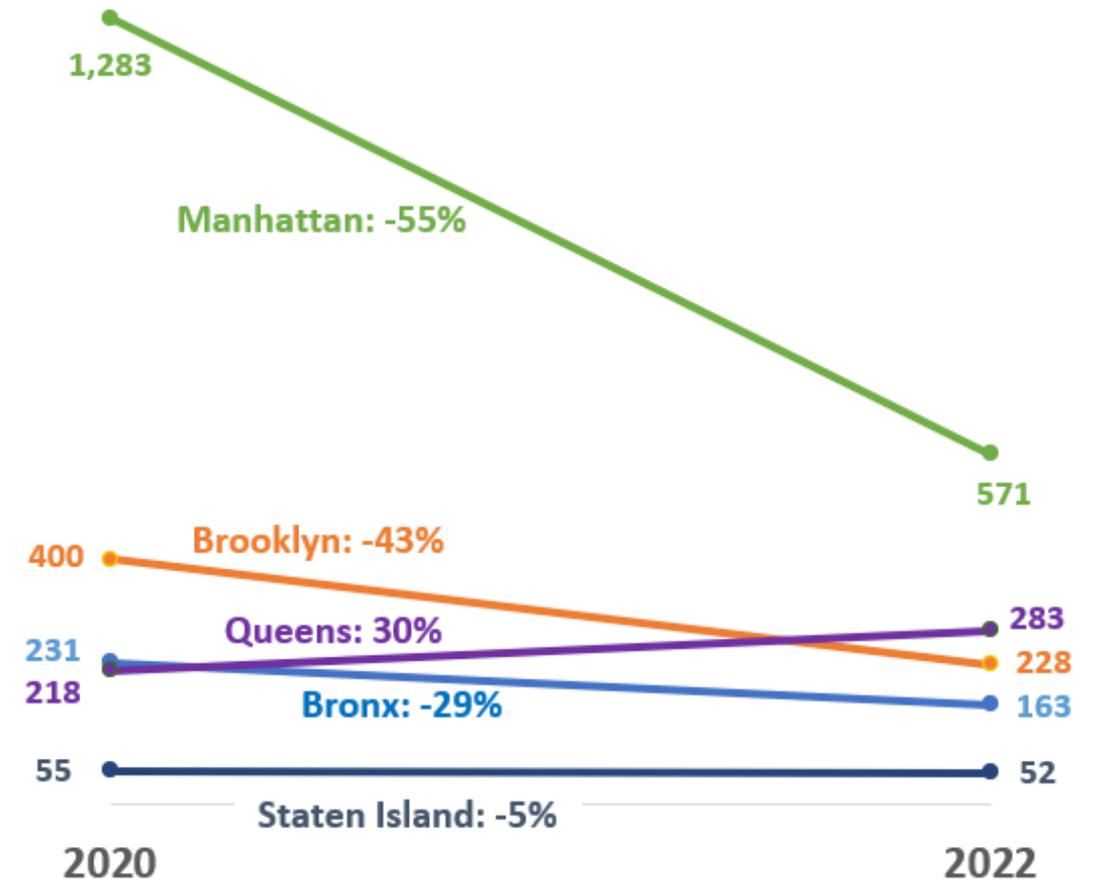


Change in HOPE Estimates, 2020-2022

Change in NYC Unsheltered Homelessness



Change in NYC *Surface/Street* Unsheltered Homelessness by Borough



**Note: Because HOPE 2021 results were substantially affected by policy and behavioral changes associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 findings allow for more equitable comparisons*