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Improving the state of New York's health

A Matter of Equity: NYC Voters' Opinions on Universal Free School Lunch

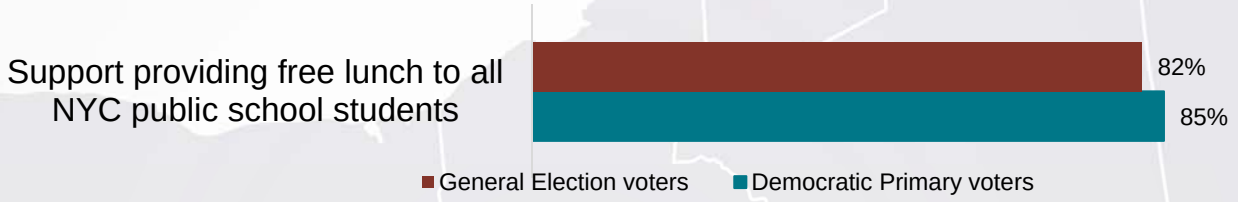
April 2017

Key Findings

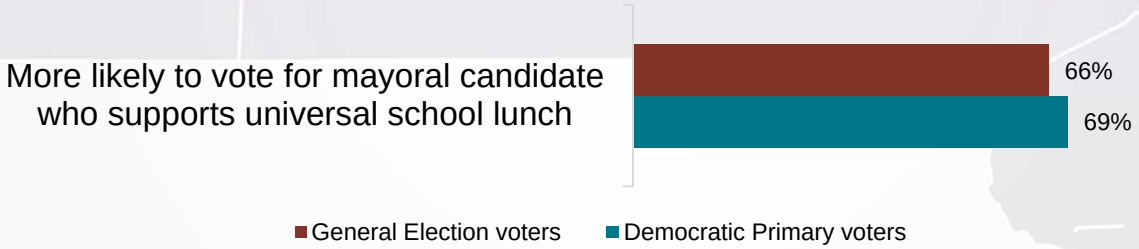
- 82% of NYC voters support universal free school lunch
  - Two-thirds would be more likely to vote for a mayoral candidate who supports free school lunch
- Support for universal free school lunch is intense
  - 72% say it should be a major priority
  - It ranks as high on the agenda as other issues like affordable housing for seniors, police body cameras, and opening shelters for the homeless
- New Yorkers support school lunch for multiple reasons, including:
  - Promoting economic and educational equity
  - Providing financial help to working families
  - Advancing students' physical and emotional health
  - Improving students' academic performance and graduation rates

New York City Voters Overwhelmingly Support Universal School Lunch

- 82% of NYC voters support universal free school lunch



- New Yorkers would be more likely to vote for a mayoral candidate who supports free school lunch



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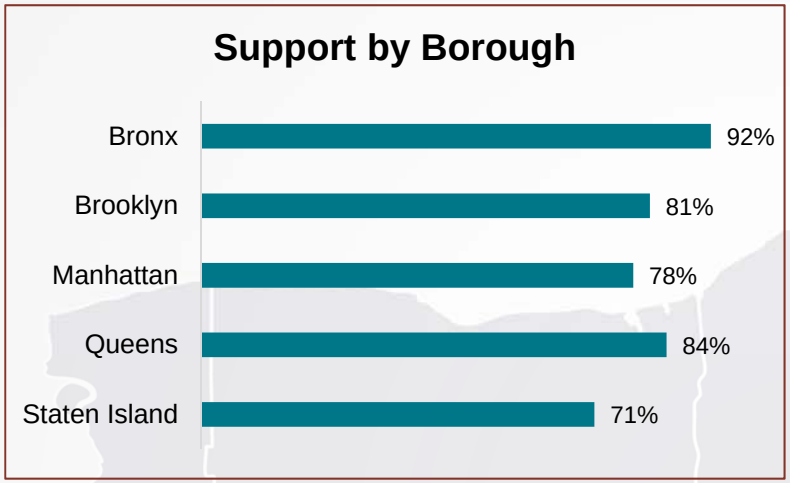
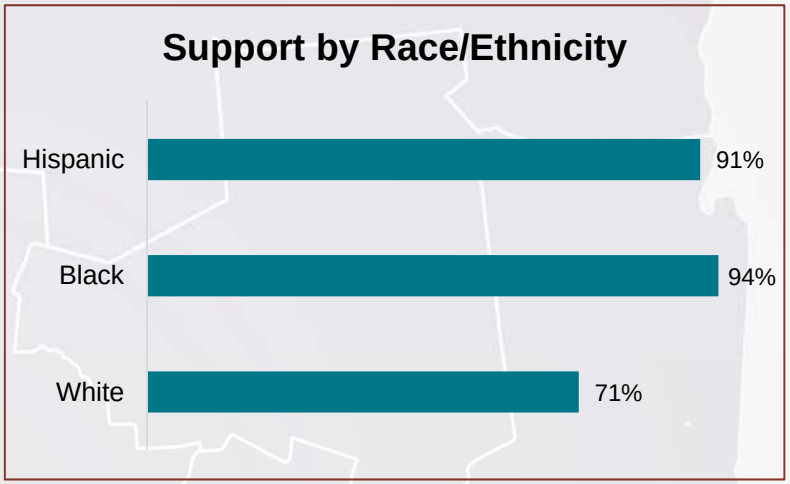
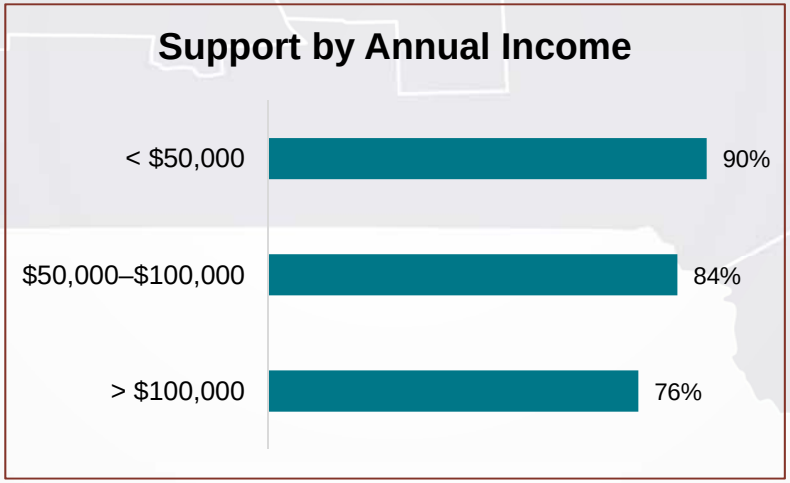
Support for Universal School Lunch Is High Across Boroughs and Population Groups







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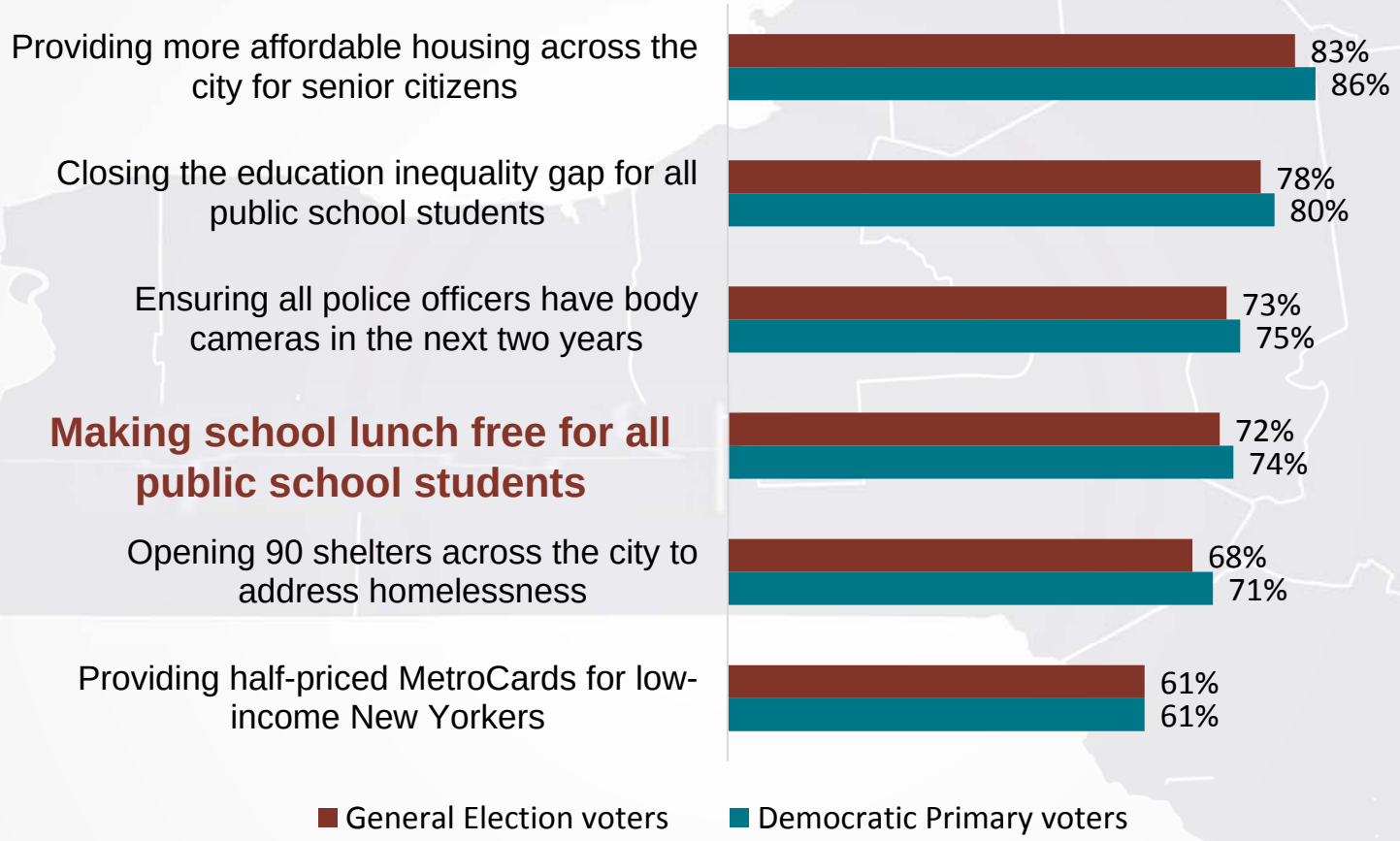
School Lunch and Closing Educational Equity Gaps Are Major Priorities for New Yorkers

Percentage saying an issue should be a major priority



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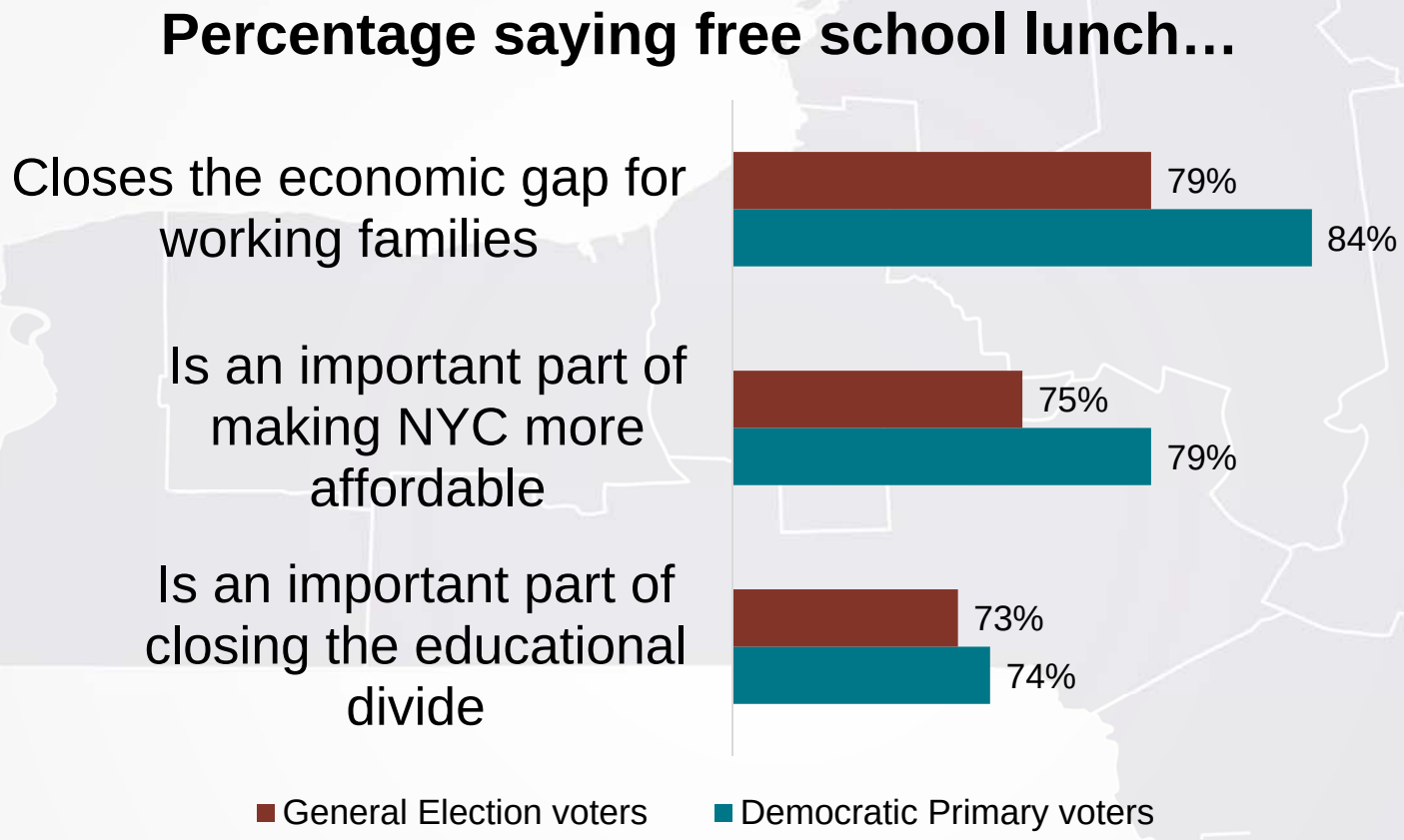
Voters View School Lunch As a Broad Equity Issue



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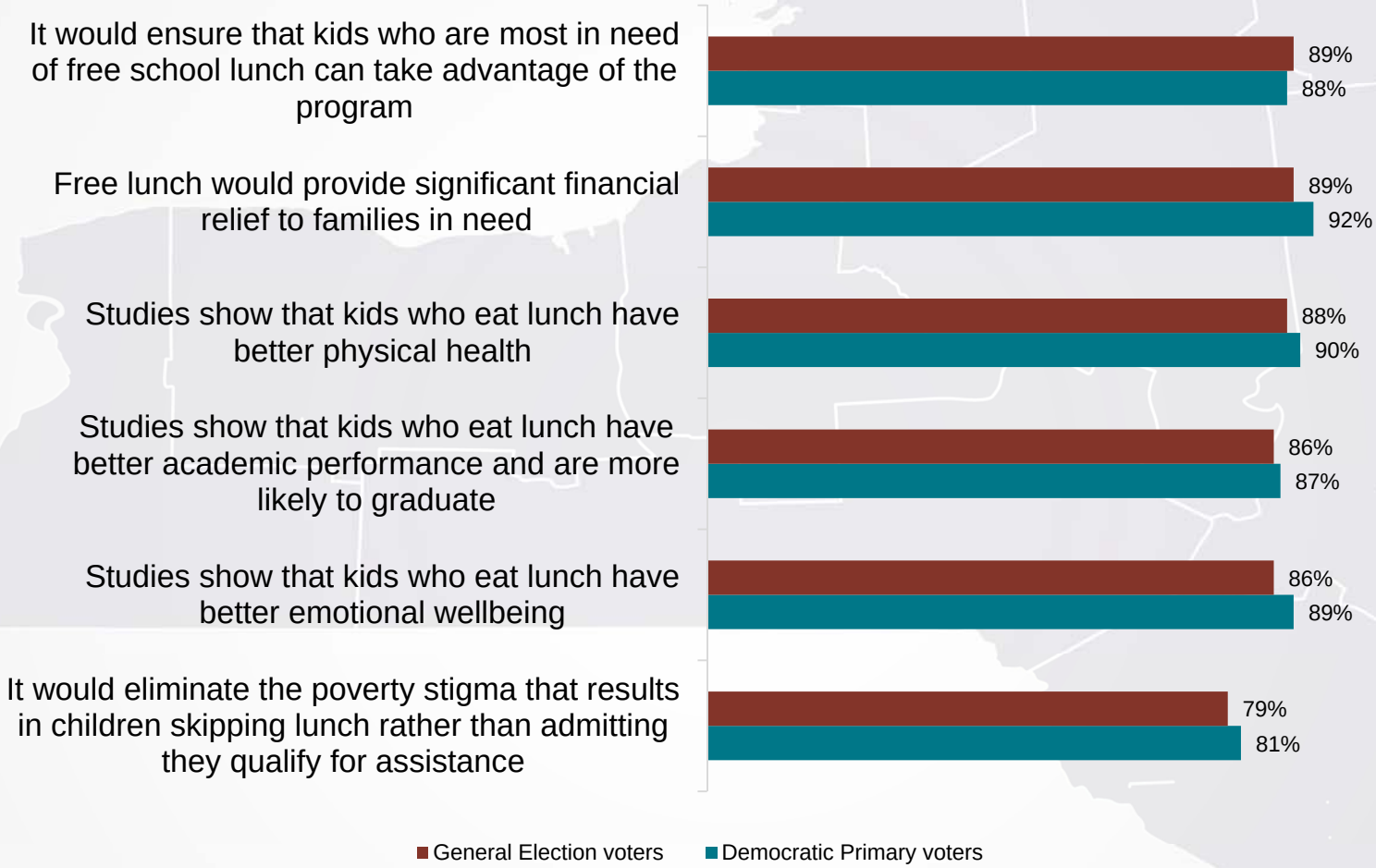
NYC Voters Support Universal Free School Lunch for Multiple Reasons



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Methodology

- Global Strategy Group conducted a telephone survey April 3–6, 2017, with 600 likely 2017 general election voters and 414 likely 2017 Democratic primary voters in New York City.
- The geographic and demographic samples of the expected electorate are properly represented based on past voter turnout statistics.
- The results have a margin of error of +/-4.0% for General Election and +/-4.9% for Democratic Primary voters.