

# WHO GETS INTO NYC'S SPECIALIZED HIGH SCHOOLS?

VISUALIZING SIX YEARS OF DEMOGRAPHIC IMBALANCE IN SHSAT RESULTS

by **InsideSchools**

## SHSAT TAKERS AND OFFERS CITYWIDE, 2015-2020

Each year, the demographic breakdown of 8th graders who take the Specialized High School Admissions Test (SHSAT), required for admission at eight of the city's most prestigious high schools, looks somewhat like the population of all 8th graders citywide. But the students who score high enough on the exam to get an offer have long been disproportionately Asian and White, renewing a longstanding debate each year about the fairness of the SHSAT as the sole determinant of entry into these schools.

### LEGEND

ASIAN

BLACK

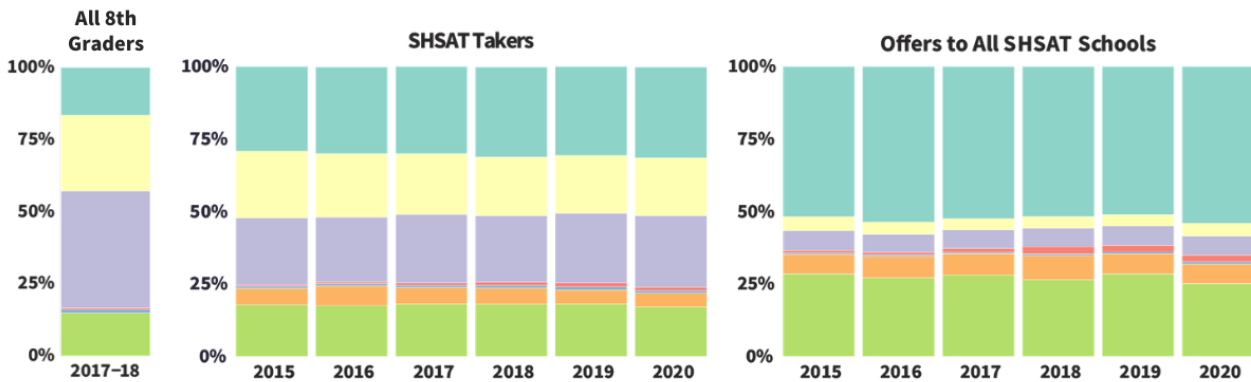
LATINX

MULTI-RACIAL

NATIVE AMERICAN

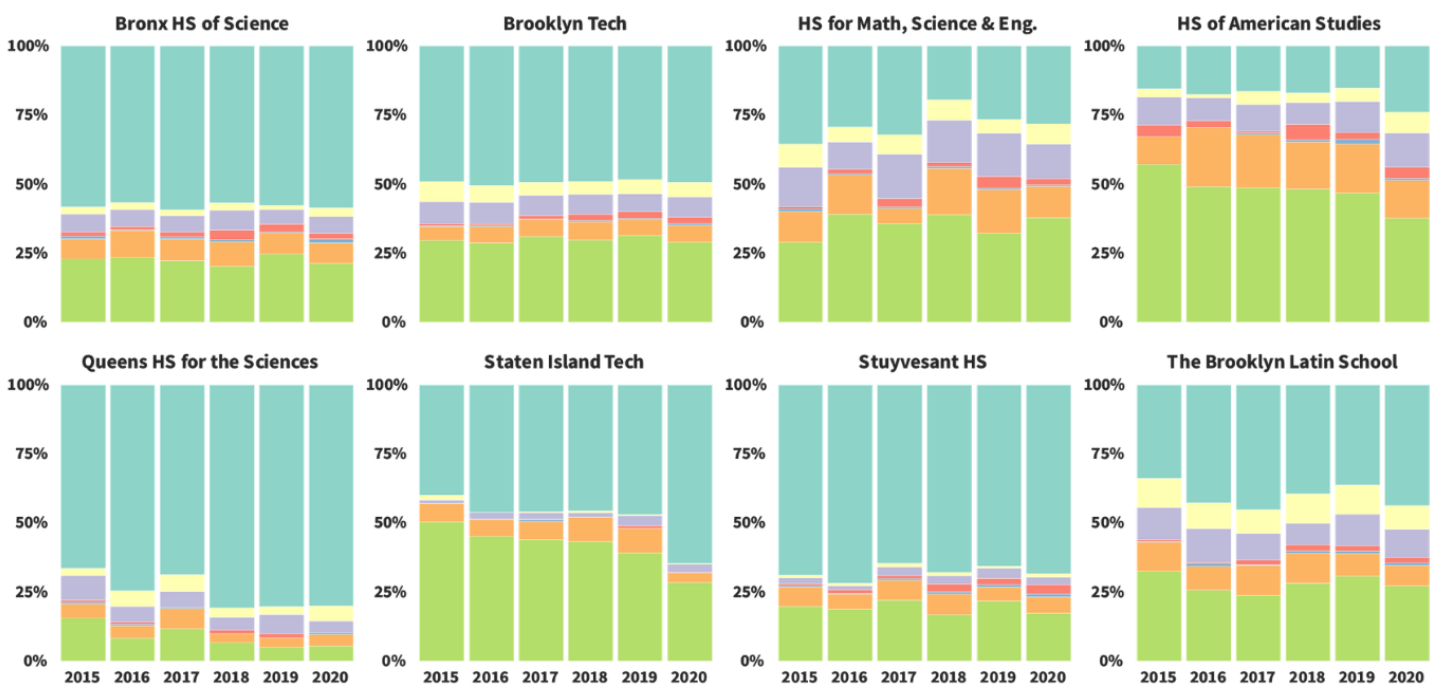
UN-KNOWN

WHITE



## OFFERS TO EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL, 2015-2020

This demographic imbalance is most pronounced at Stuyvesant HS and Staten Island Tech, where fewer than 2% of offers have gone to Black students in each of the past six years. Other schools, like the HS for American Studies, the HS for Math, Science and Engineering, and Brooklyn Latin have made offers to a more diverse group of students, though still not reflective of the NYC student population or the group of all SHSAT takers as a whole.



**DATA SOURCE:** Demographics of all 8th Graders comes from Individual Student Registrar data provided by the NYC DOE to CNYCA, for which 2017-18 is the most recent year available. All other data comes from the publicly available SHSAT Overall Summaries, 2015-2020.

**CREDIT:** Nicole Mader, senior research fellow at CNYCA and InsideSchools

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