There are more than 10,000 street vendors in New York City, and they play an iconic role in urban life. What could be more New York than a hot dog in Times Square or DVDs on Canal Street? Selling things from a table or cart might seem simple, but in New York it’s hard — long hours for low pay in a confusing system of regulations. This is a guide to the complicated, and sometimes unfair, rules that govern street vending in New York City.
1. Get a license.
   1. Obtenga una licencia.

2. Vend on a legal street.
   2. Venda en una calle legal.

3. Vend in a legal spot.
   3. Venda en un lugar legal.

**KEY**

1 FT = 0.31 M
1 M = 3 FT 5 IN

- Greater than (более)
- Less than (менее)

- Más de
- Menos de

- More than
- Less than
Ways to a Better Vendor World

In New York, street vending has always attracted visitors, hawkers selling homemade goods, and vendors peddling handcrafted items. Yet, regulating vendors and making a positive impact on their communities requires thoughtful planning. Our approach includes:

1. Lift the Caps
   - Currently, there are caps in place for several types of vendors, including food vendors and general vendors.
   - Removing the caps would allow for a more equitable distribution of vending opportunities.

2. Increase Street Access
   - Adding more street vendors could benefit communities in various ways, including economic growth and cultural diversity.

3. Reduce the Fines
   - High fines can deter vendors from returning to the same location, leading to a decrease in consumer engagement.
   - Reducing fines could encourage vendors to stay and increase their presence in the area.

4. Reform Administration and Enforcement
   - Transparency in the process is essential to maintain trust and fairness.

The City Defines Four Types of Vendors

- **Food Vendors**
  - Common Items Sold: Food, vegetables, fruit
  - Number of Vendors: 1,360

- **General Vendors**
  - Common Items Sold: Clothes, shoes, household items
  - Number of Vendors: 2,100

- **First Amendment Vendors**
  - Common Items Sold: Books, newspapers
  - Number of Vendors: 20

- **Veteran Vendors**
  - Common Items Sold: N/A
  - Number of Vendors: 50

- **Unlicensed Vendors**
  - Common Items Sold: N/A
  - Number of Vendors: N/A

Welcome to Cup.org

Get to Know Your Street Vendors

How I'm Hoon Chan

A Korean-Vietnamese man from Queens, New York, makes his living selling food.

How I'm Hor 2019

I'm from Vietnam, and I sell souvenirs. I was in a war and had a lot of stress. I came to New York to learn about it. I sell souvenirs and visit places.

How I'm Ryan Liang Dang

I'm from Beijing, China, and I sell clothes. I came here to sell clothes and see New York.

How I'm Beri Stein

I'm from the United States, and I sell food. I went to college and learned about it.

How I'm Rafaela Mendez Santana

I'm from Puerto Rico, and I sell food. I came here to study and learn about it.
GET INVOLVED

Street vending is an important but challenging job in New York City. By working together we can create positive changes for our community. The Street Vendor Project is a union of more than 700 NYC street vendors of all kinds. To learn more: join a meeting, call 646-602-5679, or visit www.streetvendor.org.

En la ciudad de Nueva York el trabajo de vendedor ambulante es importante pero difícil. Trabajando juntos, nosotros podemos crear cambios positivos para nuestra comunidad. The Street Vendor Project es una coalición de más de 700 vendedores ambulantes de todo tipo. Para aprender más, venga a una de nuestras reuniones, llame al 646-602-5679, o visite nuestra página web: www.streetvendor.org.