



Ally and Dylan McElroy read with their children, Kaylee, 2, and Brayden, 5 months, in their Bohemia apartment in the home of Ally's parents.

BARRY SLOAN

Not movin' out yet

■ **4 in 10** LI young adults living with relatives: Study

■ **7 in 10** planning to move to less-expensive regions

BY MAURA MCDERMOTT
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Long Island's housing costs are so high that four in 10 young adults live with relatives, and seven in 10 say they're likely to move to a less-expensive region within five years, a new survey shows.

Of Long Islanders 18 to 34 years old, 41 percent live with parents or other relatives, according to the survey to be released Wednesday by the Long Island Index, a project of the Garden City-based Rauch Foundation. That's up 6 percentage points from 2015 and 10 percentage points from 2004.

The new survey found that 71 percent of young adults — and 59 percent of all adults — said they were “somewhat” or “very” likely to leave in the next five years in search of lower housing costs.

The Island needs more housing options, including downtown rentals, said Nancy Rauch Douzinas, president of the

Rauch Foundation. “If we want to keep young people around, we have to have something they can afford,” she said.

Long Islanders have grown increasingly likely to consider lifting long-standing restrictions on rentals. The survey found that 57 percent of residents favor allowing four-story buildings in downtowns, with apartments above shops, and 68 percent said rental apartments should be allowed in private homes.

The survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 4.1 percentage points. It used cell-phones and landlines to reach 1,423 Long Island residents.

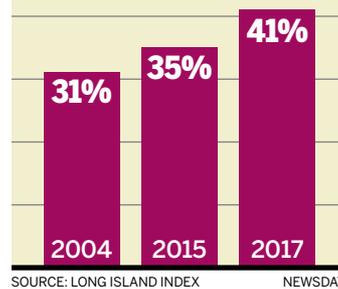
The support for apartments in private homes “is at an all-time high,” and support for downtown development is close to its 2014 peak of 58 percent, said Leonie Huddy, a professor of political science at Stony Brook University and an author of the survey report.

Many young adults on Long Island say they want to stay, but they're not sure they can afford homes here.

Dylan and Ally McElroy, both 25, live with their children, 2-year-old Kaylee and 5-month-old Brayden, in a two-bedroom basement apartment in the home of Ally's parents in Bohemia while Dylan finishes his

NEST GAIN

Percentage of LI residents 18-34 living with parents, in-laws or other relative



SOURCE: LONG ISLAND INDEX NEWSDAY

MBA at St. John's University, where he also works full-time in the college athletics office.

Dylan said many of his friends have moved to places such as South Carolina, where they pay as little as \$600 a month for spacious homes.

“Obviously, it would be easy to pack up and head down South like everyone else is doing, but I do love it here and I would love to stay here if possible,” he said.

The McElroys applied last year for a down payment assistance grant through the Community Development Corp. of Long Island but never made it

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off the waiting list. They'll try again this year.

The wages earned by recent college graduates often are too low to qualify for Long Island's pricey rentals, which can easily cost \$1,600 or more, said David Vitt, an economics professor at Farmingdale State College. “When they get a \$40,000 job, it's tough for them to convince a landlord to take a risk on them,” he said.

Building more apartments could put a damper on price growth, he said.

In addition to high housing costs, Long Islanders also face hefty student debt and job growth that's concentrated in the lower-paying service sector, said Gwen O'Shea, chief executive of the Community Development Corp. of Long Island in Centereach.

“People are looking at their finances, taking into account the cost of living and saying, ‘This math just doesn't work out,’” O'Shea said.

False missile alert in Japan

TOKYO — Japan's public broadcaster mistakenly sent an alert Tuesday warning citizens of a North Korean missile launch and urging them to seek immediate shelter, then minutes later corrected it, days after a similar error in Hawaii.

NHK television issued the message on its internet and mobile news sites as well as on Twitter, saying North Korea appeared to have fired a missile at Japan. It said the government was telling people to evacuate and take shelter.

“North Korea appears to have fired a missile,” NHK said, adding a government warning had been issued. “The government: Seek shelter inside buildings and basements.”

The false alarm came just days after Hawaii's Emergency Management Agency sent a mistaken warning of a North Korean missile attack to mobile phones across the state, triggering panic.

NHK said the mistake was the result of an error by a staff member who was operating the alert system for online news, but did not elaborate.

NHK deleted the tweet and text warning after several minutes, issued a correction and apologized several times on air and on other formats.

“The flash was a mistake,” NHK said. “We are very sorry.”

Unlike the mistaken Hawaii warning, the NHK alert did not contain the statement, “This is not a drill.”

NHK was able to correct its error in a few minutes, far faster than the nearly 40 minutes that lapsed before the Hawaii alert was withdrawn.

— AP