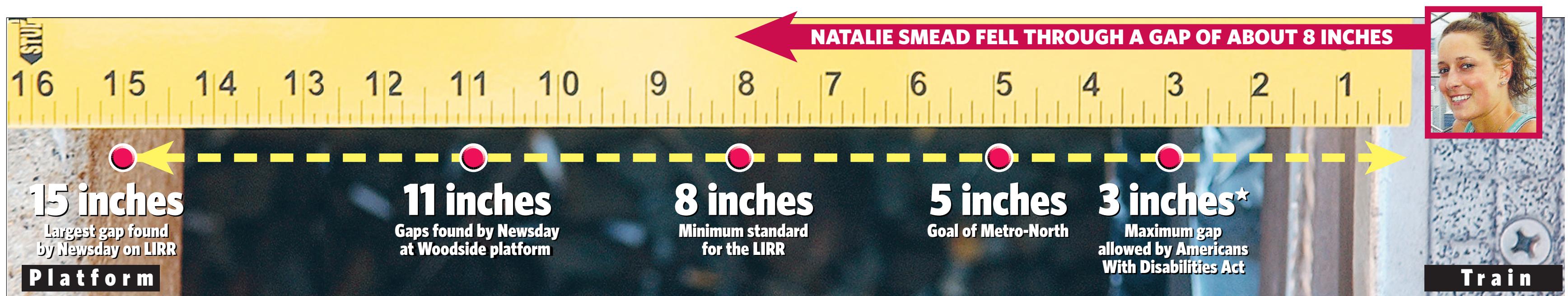


# ACTUAL SIZE: COULD YOU FALL INTO THIS?



NEWSDAY PHOTO / JIM PEPELE  
\*New stations must have a platform gap no more than 3 inches wide and 5/8 inches high according to The Americans with Disabilities Act. But the United States Department of Transportation says on its Web site that for most commuter and intercity rail stations, meeting the requirement "is likely to be infeasible."

# MEASURING THE GAP

A team of Newsday staffers measured gaps at some LIRR stations. The railroad then issued a report detailing the widest gaps found at their major stations. Here are the results.



# THE FIGURES: NEWSDAY'S AND THE LIRR'S

Three days after Natalie Smead died at the Woodside station on Aug. 5, Newsday reporters began measuring gaps at various stations and continued through December. Reporters found some gaps as large as 15 inches. The LIRR, meanwhile, had never measured gaps until September, under orders from the National Transportation Safety Board. Newsday obtained those measurements in December. This chart includes both the LIRR's measurements of 40 stations and those taken by Newsday. These stations represent more than 75 percent of the railroad's daily ridership. N/A indicates measurements were not taken.

Station	What Newsday measured	What the LIRR measured	
	Horizontal gap	Horizontal gap	Vertical gap
Amagansett	n/a	8.5 inches	0.5 inches
Babylon	8.5	9.5	1.75
Baldwin	7.5	8.5	4.5
Bayside	8	8.25	5
Bellmore	9.25	9.25	2.5
Bridgehampton	n/a	8.25	1.25
Carle Place	n/a	9	1.75
Central Islip	9	n/a	n/a
Deer Park	9	9.75	3.75
Flatbush Avenue	15	15.5	4
Forest Hills	n/a	10	3.5
Freeport	n/a	9	3.75
Glen Cove	n/a	10.5	2
Glen Street	n/a	9	1
Great Neck	9	9.75	3.5
Greenvale	n/a	11.5	2
Hampton Bays	n/a	7.5	1
Hewlett	8	n/a	n/a
Hicksville	8.5	11	3.25
Hunterspoint Avenue	n/a	12	6.25
Huntington	8.5	9.75	3
Jamaica	5.5	9.75	5.75

Station	What Newsday measured	What the LIRR measured	
	Horizontal gap	Horizontal gap	Vertical gap
Manhasset	9 inches	8.75 inches	2.5 inches
Massapequa	9.25	9.5	4.5
Merillon Avenue	n/a	11	3
Merrick	9	9	2.5
Mineola	10	11	4
Montauk	n/a	9.75	3.5
New Hyde Park	n/a	11.13	4
Oyster Bay	n/a	9.5	2
Penn Station	8	12.5	4.5
Plandome	n/a	12.5	5
Port Jefferson	n/a	14.5	3.5
Port Washington	10	10.5	4.5
Rockville Centre	7.5	n/a	n/a
Ronkonkoma	8	10.25	5
Shea Stadium	n/a	13.75	5.5
Smithtown	7.25	n/a	n/a
Southampton	n/a	8	4.75
Syosset	15	14	7.5
Valley Stream	7.25	n/a	n/a
Wantagh	10	9.5	3
Westhampton	n/a	8.5	1.5
Westbury	n/a	8.5	3.5
Woodside	11	10	5.5