

Major cities

images/city1.jpg
New York City

There are 62 cities in New York. The largest city in the state and the most populous city in the United States is New York City, which comprises five counties (boroughs): Bronx, New York (Manhattan), Queens, Kings (Brooklyn), and Richmond (Staten Island). New York City is home to more than two-fifths of the state's population. Albany, the sixth-largest city, is the state capital. The smallest city is Sherrill, New York, in Oneida County. Hempstead is the town with the largest population. If it were a city, it would be the second largest in the state, with over 700,000 residents.

Rank	Name	County	Pop.
1	New York City	multiple	8,405,837
2	Buffalo	Erie	261,310
3	Rochester	Monroe	210,565
4	Yonkers	Westchester	195,976
5	Syracuse	Onondaga	145,170
6	Albany	Albany	97,856
7	New Rochelle	Westchester	77,062
8	Mount Vernon	Westchester	67,292
9	Schenectady	Schenectady	66,135
10	Utica	Oneida	62,239

Metropolitan areas

The following are the ten largest metropolitan areas in the state:

- New York City (19,831,858 in NY/NJ/PA, 12,368,525 in NY)
- Buffalo-Niagara Falls (1,135,509)
- Rochester (1,054,323)
- Albany and the Capital District (870,716)
- Poughkeepsie and the Hudson Valley (670,301)
- Syracuse (662,577)
- Utica-Rome (299,397)
- Binghamton (251,725)
- Kingston (182,493)
- Glens Falls (128,923)

Downstate New York (New York City, Long Island, and the southern portion of the Hudson Valley) can be considered to form the central core of the Northeast megalopolis, an urbanized region stretching from New Hampshire to Virginia.

The major cities of the state developed along the key transportation and trade routes of the early 19th century, including the Erie Canal and railroads paralleling it. Today, the New York Thruway acts as a modern counterpart to commercial water routes.

Facts

- The first American chess tournament was held in New York in 1843.
- A brewer named Matthew Vassar founded Vassar College in Poughkeepsie in 1861.
- The Woodstock Music and Arts Fair was actually held in Bethel.