The United States' most populous city, often referred to as New York City or NYC, is New York. In 2020, its population reached 8,804,190 people across 300.46 square miles, making it the most densely populated major city in the country and over two times more populous than the nation's second-largest city, Los Angeles. The city's population also exceeds that of 38 individual U.S. states. Situated at the southern end of New York State, New York City serves as the Northeast megalopolis and New York metropolitan area's geographic and demographic center - the largest metropolitan area in the country by both urban area and population. Over 58 million people also live within 250 miles of the city. A significant influencer on commerce, health care and life sciences, research, technology, education, politics, tourism, dining, art, fashion, and sports, New York City is a global cultural, financial, entertainment, and media hub. It houses the headquarters of the United Nations, making it a significant center for international diplomacy, and is often referred to as the world's capital.