[Template:Other uses](/wiki/Template:Other_uses" \o "Template:Other uses) [Template:Use mdy dates](/wiki/Template:Use_mdy_dates) [Template:Coord](/wiki/Template:Coord) [Template:Infobox settlement](/wiki/Template:Infobox_settlement)

**Brooklyn** ([Template:IPAc-en](/wiki/Template:IPAc-en)) is the most populous of [New York City's](/wiki/New_York_City) five [boroughs](/wiki/Borough_(New_York_City)), with a Census-estimated 2,636,735 residents in 2015.<ref name=BrooklynQuickFacts/> It is geographically adjacent to the borough of [Queens](/wiki/Queens) at the southwestern end of [Long Island](/wiki/Long_Island). Since 1896, Brooklyn has had the same boundaries as **Kings County**, the most populous [county](/wiki/County_(United_States)) in the [U.S. state](/wiki/U.S._state) of [New York](/wiki/New_York_(state)), and the [second-most densely populated county](/wiki/List_of_the_most_populous_counties_in_the_United_States) in the [United States](/wiki/United_States), after the [county of New York](/wiki/Manhattan) (which is coextensive with the borough of [Manhattan](/wiki/Manhattan)).[[1]](#cite_note-1) With a land area of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) and water area of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), Kings County is New York's fourth-smallest county by land area and third-smallest by total area, though it is the second-largest among the city's five boroughs.[[2]](#cite_note-2) Today, if it were an independent city, Brooklyn would rank as the [fourth most populous city in the U.S.](/wiki/List_of_United_States_cities_by_population), behind only the other boroughs of New York City combined, [Los Angeles](/wiki/Los_Angeles), and [Chicago](/wiki/Chicago).

Brooklyn was an independent incorporated city (and previously an authorized village and town within the provisions of the [New York State Constitution](/wiki/New_York_State_Constitution)), until January 1, 1898, when, after a long [political campaign and public relations battle](/wiki/City_of_Greater_New_York) during the 1890s, according to the new Municipal Charter of "Greater New York," Brooklyn was consolidated with the other cities, boroughs, and counties to form the modern "City of New York" surrounding the [Upper New York Bay](/wiki/New_York_Bay) with five constituent boroughs. The borough continues, however, to maintain a [distinct culture](/wiki/Culture_of_Brooklyn). Many [Brooklyn neighborhoods](/wiki/List_of_Brooklyn_neighborhoods) are [ethnic enclaves](/wiki/Ethnic_enclave). Brooklyn's official motto, displayed on the Borough [seal](/wiki/Seal_(device)) and [flag](/wiki/Flags_of_New_York_City's_boroughs#Brooklyn), is [Template:Lang](/wiki/Template:Lang), which translates from early modern [Dutch](/wiki/Dutch_language) to "[Unity makes strength](/wiki/Unity_makes_strength)".

In the first decades of the [21st century](/wiki/21st_century), Brooklyn has experienced a [renaissance](/wiki/Renaissance) as an [avant garde](/wiki/Avant_garde) destination for [hipsters](/wiki/Hipster_(contemporary_subculture)),[[3]](#cite_note-3) with concomitant [gentrification](/wiki/Gentrification), dramatic [house price](/wiki/House_price) increases, and a decrease in [housing affordability](/wiki/Housing_affordability).[[4]](#cite_note-4) Since 2010, Brooklyn has evolved into a thriving hub of [entrepreneurship](/wiki/Entrepreneurship) and [high technology](/wiki/High_tech) [startup firms](/wiki/Startup_company),[[5]](#cite_note-5)<ref name=BrooklynDesignHub/> and of [postmodern art](/wiki/Postmodern_art)<ref name=BrooklynArt1>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> and [design](/wiki/Design).<ref name=BrooklynDesignHub>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> [Template:NYC boroughs](/wiki/Template:NYC_boroughs) [Template:Long Island](/wiki/Template:Long_Island)

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## History[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|left|250px|](/wiki/File:Currier_&_Ives_Brooklyn2.jpg)[Currier and Ives](/wiki/Currier_and_Ives) print of Brooklyn, 1886. [thumb|left|250px|Brooklyn Museum - Hooker's Map of the Village of Brooklyn](/wiki/File:Brooklyn_Museum_-_Hooker's_Map_of_the_Village_of_Brooklyn.jpg)

The history of [European](/wiki/European_colonization_of_the_Americas) settlement in Brooklyn spans more than 350 years. The settlement began in the 17th century as the small [Dutch-founded](/wiki/Dutch_colonization_of_the_Americas) town of "Breuckelen" on the [East River](/wiki/East_River) shore of [Long Island](/wiki/Long_Island), grew to be a sizable city in the 19th century, and was consolidated in 1898 with New York City (then confined to [Manhattan](/wiki/Manhattan) and part of [the Bronx](/wiki/The_Bronx)), the remaining rural areas of Kings County, and the largely rural areas of [Queens](/wiki/Queens) and [Staten Island](/wiki/Staten_Island), to form the modern City of New York.

### Colonial era[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

#### Six Dutch towns[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

[Template:New Netherland](/wiki/Template:New_Netherland) [thumb|left|250px|A typical dining table in the Dutch village of Brooklyn,](/wiki/Image:Dining_table_in_Brooklyn,_c._1664_IMG_3837.JPG) [Template:Circa](/wiki/Template:Circa), from [The Brooklyn Museum](/wiki/The_Brooklyn_Museum).

The [Dutch](/wiki/Netherlands) were the first Europeans to settle the area on the western edge of Long Island, which was then largely inhabited by the [Lenape](/wiki/Lenape), a [Native American](/wiki/Native_Americans_in_the_United_States) people who are often referred to in contemporary colonial documents by a variation of the place name "[Canarsie](/wiki/Canarsie)". The "Breuckelen" settlement, named after [Breukelen](/wiki/Breukelen) in the [Netherlands](/wiki/Netherlands), was part of [New Netherland](/wiki/New_Netherland), and the [Dutch West India Company](/wiki/Dutch_West_India_Company) lost little time in chartering the six original parishes (listed here first by their later, more common English names):[[6]](#cite_note-6)

* [Gravesend](/wiki/Gravesend,_Brooklyn): in 1645, settled under Dutch patent by [English](/wiki/England) followers of the [Anabaptist](/wiki/Anabaptist), [Lady Deborah Moody](/wiki/Lady_Deborah_Moody), possibly after [Gravesend](/wiki/Gravesend), England, or ['s-Gravenzande](/wiki/'s-Gravenzande), Netherlands
* [Brooklyn](/wiki/Brooklyn_Heights,_Brooklyn): as "Breuckelen" in 1646, after the town now spelled "[Breukelen](/wiki/Breukelen)", [Netherlands](/wiki/Netherlands)
* [Flatlands](/wiki/Flatlands,_Brooklyn): as "New [Amersfoort](/wiki/Amersfoort)" in 1647
* [Flatbush](/wiki/Flatbush,_Brooklyn): as "[Midwout](/wiki/Midwood,_Brooklyn)" in 1652
* [New Utrecht](/wiki/New_Utrecht,_Brooklyn): in 1657, after the city of [Utrecht](/wiki/Utrecht_(city)), Netherlands
* [Bushwick](/wiki/Bushwick,_Brooklyn): as "Boswijck" in 1661

The capital of the colony, [New Amsterdam](/wiki/New_Amsterdam) across the East River, obtained its charter later than the village of Brooklyn did, in 1653. The neighborhood of [Marine Park](/wiki/Marine_Park) was home to the first tidal mill in North America. This mill was built by the Dutch, and the foundation can be seen today. However, the area was not formally settled as a town. Many incidents and documents relating to this period are in [Gabriel Furman's](/wiki/Gabriel_Furman) early (1824) compilation.[[7]](#cite_note-7)

#### Six townships in an English province[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

[thumb|right|250px|Village of Brooklyn and environs, 1766](/wiki/File:BrooklynMap1766.jpg) What is today Brooklyn left Dutch hands after the final [English](/wiki/Kingdom_of_England) conquest of [New Netherland](/wiki/New_Netherland) in 1664, in a prelude to the [Second Anglo–Dutch War](/wiki/Second_Anglo–Dutch_War). New Netherland was taken in a naval action, and the conquerors renamed their prize in honor of the overall English naval commander, [James, Duke of York](/wiki/James_II_of_England), brother of the Monarch, [King Charles II of England](/wiki/Charles_II_of_England) and future king himself as [King James II of England and James VII of Scotland](/wiki/James_II_of_England); Brooklyn became a part of the new English and later British colony, the [Province of New York](/wiki/Province_of_New_York).

The English reorganized the six old Dutch towns on southwestern Long Island as *Kings County* on November 1, 1683,[[8]](#cite_note-8) one of the ["original twelve counties"](/wiki/Province_of_New_York#Counties) then established in New York Province. This tract of land was recognized as a political entity for the first time, and the municipal groundwork was laid for a later expansive idea of Brooklyn identity.

Lacking the [patroon](/wiki/Patroon) and tenant farmer system established along the [Hudson River Valley](/wiki/Hudson_Valley), this [agricultural](/wiki/Agricultural) county unusually came to have one of the highest percentages of [slavery](/wiki/Slavery_in_the_colonial_United_States) among the population in the ["Original Thirteen Colonies"](/wiki/Thirteen_Colonies) along the [Atlantic Ocean](/wiki/Atlantic_Ocean) eastern coast of [North America](/wiki/North_America).[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

#### Revolutionary War[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further) [thumb|right|250px|The](/wiki/File:Battle-of-Long-Island-Map-sml.jpg) [Battle of Long Island](/wiki/Battle_of_Long_Island) was fought across Kings County.

On August 27, 1776, the [Battle of Long Island](/wiki/Battle_of_Long_Island) (also known as the *Battle of Brooklyn*) was the first major engagement fought in the [American Revolutionary War](/wiki/American_Revolutionary_War) after independence was declared, and the largest of the entire conflict. [British](/wiki/Kingdom_of_Great_Britain) troops forced [Continental Army](/wiki/Continental_Army) troops under [George Washington](/wiki/George_Washington) off the heights near the modern sites of [Green-Wood Cemetery](/wiki/Green-Wood_Cemetery), [Prospect Park](/wiki/Prospect_Park_(Brooklyn)), and [Grand Army Plaza](/wiki/Grand_Army_Plaza).[[9]](#cite_note-9) Washington, viewing [particularly fierce fighting](/wiki/Old_Stone_House_(Brooklyn)) at the [Gowanus Creek](/wiki/Gowanus_Canal) from his vantage point atop a hill near the west end of present-day [Atlantic Avenue](/wiki/Atlantic_Avenue_(Brooklyn)), was famously reported to have emotionally exclaimed: "What brave men I must this day lose!".[[10]](#cite_note-10) The [fortified](/wiki/Fortification) American positions at [Brooklyn Heights](/wiki/Brooklyn_Heights,_Brooklyn) consequently became untenable and were evacuated a few days later, leaving the British in control of [New York Harbor](/wiki/New_York_Harbor). While Washington's defeat on the battlefield cast early doubts on his ability as the commander, the subsequent [tactical withdrawal](/wiki/Tactical_withdrawal) of all his troops and supplies across the [East River](/wiki/East_River) in a single night is seen by historians as one of his most brilliant triumphs.[[10]](#cite_note-10) The surrounding region was controlled by the British for the duration of the war, as New York City was soon occupied and became their military and political base of operations in [North America](/wiki/British_America) for the remainder of the conflict. The British generally enjoyed a dominant [Loyalist](/wiki/Loyalist_(American_Revolution)) sentiment from the remaining residents in Kings County who did not evacuate, though the region was also the center of the fledgling—and largely successful—[American intelligence network](/wiki/Intelligence_in_the_American_Revolutionary_War), headed by Washington himself.

The British set up a system of notorious [prison ships](/wiki/Prison_Ship_Martyrs'_Monument) off the coast of Brooklyn in [Wallabout Bay](/wiki/Wallabout_Bay), where more American [patriots](/wiki/Patriot_(American_Revolution)) died of intentional neglect than died in combat on all the battlefields of the American Revolutionary War, combined. The [Treaty of Paris](/wiki/Treaty_of_Paris_(1783)) in 1783 resulted, in part, in the [evacuation of the British from New York City](/wiki/Evacuation_Day_(New_York)), celebrated by residents into the 20th century.

### Post-colonial era[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

#### Urbanization[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

[thumb|250px|left|A preindustrial *Winter Scene in Brooklyn*,](/wiki/File:Francis_Guy -_Winter_Scene_in_Brooklyn -_Google_Art_Project.jpg) [Template:Circa](/wiki/Template:Circa), by Francis Guy ([Brooklyn Museum](/wiki/Brooklyn_Museum)). The first half of the 19th century saw the beginning of the development of urban areas on the economically strategic East River shore of Kings County, facing the adolescent City of New York confined to Manhattan Island. The [New York Navy Yard](/wiki/New_York_Naval_Shipyard) operated in [Wallabout Bay](/wiki/Wallabout_Bay) (border between Brooklyn and Williamsburgh) for the entire 19th century and two thirds of the 20th century.

The first center of [urbanization](/wiki/Urbanization) sprang up in the Town of Brooklyn, directly across from [Lower Manhattan](/wiki/Lower_Manhattan), which saw the incorporation of the Village of Brooklyn in 1816. Reliable steam [ferry service](/wiki/List_of_ferries_across_the_East_River) across the East River to [Fulton Landing](/wiki/Fulton_Ferry,_Brooklyn) converted [Brooklyn Heights](/wiki/Brooklyn_Heights,_Brooklyn) into a [commuter town](/wiki/Commuter_town) for [Wall Street](/wiki/Wall_Street). Ferry Road to Jamaica Pass became [Fulton Street](/wiki/Fulton_Street_(Brooklyn)) to [East New York](/wiki/East_New_York). Town and Village were combined to form the first, kernel incarnation of the City of Brooklyn in 1834.

In parallel development, the Town of Bushwick, a little farther up the river, saw the incorporation of the Village of [Williamsburgh](/wiki/Williamsburg,_Brooklyn) in 1827, which separated as the Town of Williamsburgh in 1840, only to form the short-lived City of Williamsburgh in 1851. [Industrial deconcentration](/wiki/Industrial_deconcentration) in mid-century was bringing shipbuilding and other manufacturing to the northern part of the county. Each of the two cities and six towns in Kings County remained independent municipalities, and purposely created non-aligning street grids with different naming systems.

But the East River shore was growing too fast for the three-year-old infant City of Williamsburgh, which, along with its Town of [Bushwick](/wiki/Bushwick,_Brooklyn) hinterland, was subsumed within a greater City of Brooklyn in 1854.

By 1841, the growing city across the East River from Manhattan produced its own prominent newspaper with the appearance of the [*The Brooklyn Eagle, and Kings County Democrat*](/wiki/Brooklyn_Eagle) published by Alfred G. Stevens.[[11]](#cite_note-11) It later became the most popular and highest circulation afternoon paper in America. The publisher changed to L. Van Anden on April 19, 1842,[[12]](#cite_note-12) and the paper was renamed *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle and Kings County Democrat* on June 1, 1846.[[13]](#cite_note-13) On May 14, 1849, the name was shortened to *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*.[[14]](#cite_note-14) On September 5, 1938, the name was further shortened, to *Brooklyn Eagle*.[[15]](#cite_note-15) The establishment of the paper in the 1800s set a tone for the developing separate identity for Brooklynites in the next century along with its famous [National League](/wiki/National_League) baseball team, the [Brooklyn Dodgers](/wiki/Brooklyn_Dodgers). Both major institutions were lost in the 1950s, when the paper closed in 1955 after unsuccessful attempts at a sale following a reporters' strike and the baseball team decamped for Los Angeles in a realignment of [major league baseball](/wiki/Major_league_baseball) in 1957.

Agitation against Southern slavery was stronger in Brooklyn than in New York, and under Republican leadership the city was fervent in the Union cause in the [Civil War](/wiki/US_Civil_War). After the war the [Henry Ward Beecher Monument](/wiki/Henry_Ward_Beecher_Monument) was built downtown to honor a famous local [abolitionist](/wiki/Abolitionism_in_the_United_States). A great victory arch at what was then the south end of town celebrated the armed forces, the place now being called [Grand Army Plaza](/wiki/Grand_Army_Plaza).

The city had a population of 25,000 in 1834, but the police department only comprised 12 men on the day shift and another 12 at night. Every time a rash of burglaries broke out, officials blamed burglars coming in from New York City. Finally in 1855, a modern police force was created, employing 150 men. Voters complained of inadequate protection and excessive costs. In 1857 the state legislature merged the Brooklyn force with that of New York City.[[16]](#cite_note-16)

#### Civil War[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]

[thumb|right|250px|"Any Thing for Me, if You Please?" Post Office, 1864](/wiki/Image:Brooklyn_Museum_-_%22Any_Thing_for_Me,_If_You_Please?%22--Post_Office_of_the_Brooklyn_Fair_in_Aid_of_the_Sanitary_Commission_-_Winslow_Homer_-_overall.jpg) Fervent in the Union cause, the city of Brooklyn played a major role in supplying troops and [materiel](/wiki/Materiel) for the [American Civil War](/wiki/American_Civil_War). The most well known regiment to be sent off to war from the city was the [14th Brooklyn](/wiki/14th_Brooklyn) *"Red Legged Devils"*. They fought from 1861 to 1864, wore red the entire war, and were the only regiment named after a city, and President Lincoln called them into service personally, making them part of a handful of 3 year enlisted soldiers in April 1861. Unlike other regiments during the American Civil War, the 14th wore a uniform inspired by that of the French [Chasseurs](/wiki/Chasseur), a light infantry used for quick assaults on the enemy.

As both a seaport and a manufacturing center, Brooklyn was well prepared to play to the Union's strengths in shipping and manufacturing. The two combined in shipbuilding; the ironclad [*Monitor*](/wiki/USS_Monitor) was built in Brooklyn.

#### Twin city[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]

[thumb|left|250px|The Twin cities of Brooklyn and New York in 1866, showing wards.](/wiki/File:1866_Johnson_Map_of_New_York_City_and_Brooklyn_-_Geographicus_-_NewYorkCity2-johnson-1866.jpg) Taking a thirty-year break from municipal expansionism, this well-situated coastal city established itself as the third-most-populous American city for much of the 19th century. Brooklyn is referred to as a [twin city](/wiki/Twin_cities_(geographical_proximity)) of New York in the 1883 poem, "[The New Colossus](/wiki/The_New_Colossus)" by [Emma Lazarus](/wiki/Emma_Lazarus), which appears on a plaque inside the [Statue of Liberty](/wiki/Statue_of_Liberty). The poem calls New York Harbor "the air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame". As a twin city to New York, it played a role in national affairs that was later overshadowed by its century-old submergence into its old partner and rival.

Economic growth continued, propelled by [immigration](/wiki/Immigration) and [industrialization](/wiki/Industrialization). The waterfront from [Gowanus Bay](/wiki/Gowanus_Bay) to [Greenpoint](/wiki/Greenpoint,_Brooklyn) was developed with piers and factories. Industrial access to the waterfront was improved by the [Gowanus Canal](/wiki/Gowanus_Canal) and the canalized [Newtown Creek](/wiki/Newtown_Creek). The [USS *Monitor*](/wiki/USS_Monitor) was only the most famous product of the large and growing [shipbuilding industry](/wiki/Shipbuilding_industry) of Williamsburg. After the [Civil War](/wiki/US_Civil_War), trolley lines and other transport brought [urban sprawl](/wiki/Urban_sprawl) beyond [Prospect Park](/wiki/Prospect_Park_(Brooklyn)) and into the center of the county.

The rapidly growing population needed more water, so the City built centralized waterworks including the [Ridgewood Reservoir](/wiki/Ridgewood_Reservoir). The municipal Police Department, however, was abolished in 1854 in favor of a Metropolitan force covering also New York and Westchester Counties. In 1865 the Brooklyn Fire Department (BFD) also gave way to the new Metropolitan Fire District.

Throughout this period the peripheral towns of Kings County, far from Manhattan and even from urban Brooklyn, maintained their rustic independence. The only municipal change seen was the secession of the eastern section of the Town of Flatbush as the Town of New Lots in 1852. The building of [rail links](/wiki/History_of_the_New_York_City_Subway) such as the [Brighton Beach Line](/wiki/BMT_Brighton_Line) in 1878 heralded the end of this isolation.

[thumb|250px|right|](/wiki/File:Currier_and_Ives_Brooklyn_Bridge2.jpg)[Brooklyn Bridge](/wiki/Brooklyn_Bridge) in 1883, by [Currier and Ives](/wiki/Currier_and_Ives)

[Sports](/wiki/Sports_in_Brooklyn) became big business, and the Brooklyn Bridegrooms played professional baseball at Washington Park in the convenient suburb of [Park Slope](/wiki/Park_Slope,_Brooklyn) and elsewhere. Early in the next century, they brought their new name of [Brooklyn Dodgers](/wiki/Brooklyn_Dodgers) to [Ebbets Field](/wiki/Ebbets_Field), beyond [Prospect Park](/wiki/Prospect_Park_(Brooklyn)). Racetracks, [amusement parks](/wiki/Amusement_park), and [beach resorts](/wiki/Beach_resort) opened in [Brighton Beach](/wiki/Brighton_Beach), [Coney Island](/wiki/Coney_Island), and elsewhere in the southern part of the county.

Toward the end of the 19th century, the City of Brooklyn experienced its final, explosive growth spurt. Railroads and industrialization spread to [Bay Ridge](/wiki/Bay_Ridge,_Brooklyn) and [Sunset Park](/wiki/Sunset_Park,_Brooklyn). In the space of a decade, the city annexed the Town of [New Lots](/wiki/New_Lots,_Brooklyn) in 1886, the Town of [Flatbush](/wiki/Flatbush,_Brooklyn), the Town of [Gravesend](/wiki/Gravesend,_Brooklyn), the Town of [New Utrecht](/wiki/New_Utrecht) in 1894, and the Town of [Flatlands](/wiki/Flatlands,_Brooklyn) in 1896. Brooklyn had reached its natural municipal boundaries at the ends of Kings County.

##### Mayors of the City of Brooklyn[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]

*See also*: [*List of mayors of New York City*](/wiki/List_of_mayors_of_New_York_City) and [*Brooklyn borough presidents*](/wiki/Borough_President#Brooklyn_Borough_Presidents)

Brooklyn elected a mayor from 1834 until consolidation in 1898 into the [City of Greater New York](/wiki/City_of_Greater_New_York), whose own second mayor (1902–1903), [Seth Low](/wiki/Seth_Low), had been Mayor of Brooklyn from 1882 to 1885. Since 1898, Brooklyn has, in place of a separate mayor, elected a [Borough President](/wiki/Borough_President).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mayors of the City of Brooklyn[[17]](#cite_note-17) | | | |
| **Mayor** | **Party** | **Start year** | **End year** |
| [George Hall](/wiki/George_Hall_(Brooklyn)) | Democratic-Republican | colspan=2|1834 |  |
| [Jonathan Trotter](/wiki/Jonathan_Trotter) | Democrat | 1835 | 1836 |
| [Jeremiah Johnson](/wiki/Jeremiah_Johnson_(general)) | rowspan=2|Whig | 1837 | 1838 |
| [Cyrus P. Smith](/wiki/Cyrus_P._Smith) | 1839 | 1841 |  |
| [Henry C. Murphy](/wiki/Henry_C._Murphy) | rowspan=3|Democrat | colspan=2|1842 |  |
| [Joseph Sprague](/wiki/Joseph_Sprague) | 1843 | 1844 |  |
| [Thomas G. Talmage](/wiki/Thomas_G._Talmage) | colspan=2|1845 |  |  |
| [Francis B. Stryker](/wiki/Francis_B._Stryker) | rowspan=2|Whig | 1846 | 1848 |
| [Edward Copland](/wiki/Edward_Copland) | colspan=2|1849 |  |  |
| [Samuel Smith](/wiki/Samuel_Smith_(mayor_of_Brooklyn)) | Democrat | colspan=2|1850 |  |
| [Conklin Brush](/wiki/Conklin_Brush) | Whig | 1851 | 1852 |
| [Edward A. Lambert](/wiki/Edward_A._Lambert) | Democrat | 1853 | 1854 |
| [George Hall](/wiki/George_Hall_(Brooklyn)) |  | 1855 | 1856 |
| [Samuel S. Powell](/wiki/Samuel_S._Powell) | rowspan=2|Democrat | 1857 | 1860 |
| [Martin Kalbfleisch](/wiki/Martin_Kalbfleisch) | 1861 | 1863 |  |
| [Alfred M. Wood](/wiki/Alfred_M._Wood) | rowspan=2|Republican | 1864 | 1865 |
| [Samuel Rooth](/wiki/Samuel_Rooth_(politician)) | 1866 | 1867 |  |
| [Martin Kalbfleisch](/wiki/Martin_Kalbfleisch) | rowspan=3|Democrat | 1868 | 1871 |
| [Samuel S. Powell](/wiki/Samuel_S._Powell) | 1872 | 1873 |  |
| [John W. Hunter](/wiki/John_W._Hunter) | 1874 | 1875 |  |
| [Frederick A. Schroeder](/wiki/Frederick_A._Schroeder) | Republican | 1876 | 1877 |
| [James Howell](/wiki/James_Howell_(Brooklyn_Politician)) | Democrat | 1878 | 1881 |
| [Seth Low](/wiki/Seth_Low) | Republican | 1882 | 1885 |
| [Daniel D. Whitney](/wiki/Daniel_D._Whitney) | rowspan=3|Democrat | 1886 | 1887 |
| [Alfred C. Chapin](/wiki/Alfred_C._Chapin) | 1888 | 1891 |  |
| [David A. Boody](/wiki/David_A._Boody) | 1892 | 1893 |  |
| [Charles A. Schieren](/wiki/Charles_A._Schieren) | rowspan=2|Republican | 1894 | 1895 |
| [Frederick W. Wurster](/wiki/Frederick_W._Wurster) | 1896 | 1897 |  |

### New York City borough[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further)

[thumb|right|250px|Brooklyn in 1897](/wiki/Image:1897_Brooklyn_map.jpg) In 1883, the Brooklyn Bridge was completed, transportation to Manhattan was no longer by water only, and the City of Brooklyn's ties to the City of New York were strengthened.

The question became whether Brooklyn was prepared to engage in the still-grander process of consolidation then developing throughout the region, whether to join with the county of [New York](/wiki/Manhattan), the county of [Richmond](/wiki/Richmond_County,_New_York) and the western portion of [Queens County](/wiki/Queens) to form the five boroughs of a united City of New York. [Andrew Haskell Green](/wiki/Andrew_Haskell_Green) and other progressives said Yes, and eventually they prevailed against the [*Daily Eagle*](/wiki/Brooklyn_Eagle) and other conservative forces. In 1894, residents of Brooklyn and the other counties voted by a slight majority to merge, effective in 1898.[[18]](#cite_note-18) Kings County retained its status as one of New York State's counties, but the loss of Brooklyn's separate identity as a city was met with consternation by some residents at the time. The merger was called the "Great Mistake of 1898" by many newspapers of the day, and the phrase still denotes Brooklyn pride among old-time Brooklynites.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

## Geography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]

Brooklyn totals [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) in area, of which [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) is land (73%), and [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) is water (27%); the borough is the second-largest in land area among the boroughs of New York City. However, Kings County, coterminous with Brooklyn, is New York State's fourth-smallest [county](/wiki/County_(New_York)) by land area and third-smallest by total area.[[2]](#cite_note-2) Brooklyn lies at the southwestern end of Long Island, and the borough's western border constitutes the island's western tip. Brooklyn's water borders are extensive and varied, including [Jamaica Bay](/wiki/Jamaica_Bay); the [Atlantic Ocean](/wiki/Atlantic_Ocean); [The Narrows](/wiki/The_Narrows), separating Brooklyn from the borough of [Staten Island](/wiki/Staten_Island) in New York City and crossed by the [Verrazano–Narrows Bridge](/wiki/Verrazano–Narrows_Bridge); [Upper New York Bay](/wiki/Upper_New_York_Bay), separating Brooklyn from [Jersey City](/wiki/Jersey_City,_New_Jersey) and [Bayonne](/wiki/Bayonne,_New_Jersey) in the [U.S. state](/wiki/U.S._state) of [New Jersey](/wiki/New_Jersey); and the [East River](/wiki/East_River), separating Brooklyn from the borough of Manhattan in New York City and traversed by the [Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel](/wiki/Brooklyn-Battery_Tunnel), the [Brooklyn Bridge](/wiki/Brooklyn_Bridge), the [Manhattan Bridge](/wiki/Manhattan_Bridge), the [Williamsburg Bridge](/wiki/Williamsburg_Bridge), and numerous routes of the [New York City Subway](/wiki/New_York_City_Subway). To the east of Brooklyn lies the borough of Queens, which contains [John F. Kennedy International Airport](/wiki/John_F._Kennedy_International_Airport) in that borough's [Howard Beach](/wiki/Howard_Beach,_Queens) neighborhood, approximately two miles from the border of the [East New York](/wiki/East_New_York,_Brooklyn) neighborhood of Brooklyn.

### Boroughscape[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]

[Template:Wide image](/wiki/Template:Wide_image)

### Climate[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]

Under the [Köppen climate classification](/wiki/Köppen_climate_classification), using the [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) coldest month (January) [isotherm](/wiki/Isotherm_(contour_line)), Brooklyn experiences a [humid subtropical climate](/wiki/Humid_subtropical_climate) (*Cfa*),[[19]](#cite_note-19) with partial shielding from the [Appalachian Mountains](/wiki/Appalachian_Mountains) and moderating influences from the [Atlantic Ocean](/wiki/Atlantic_Ocean). Brooklyn receives plentiful precipitation all year round, with nearly 50 inches yearly. The area averages 234 days with at least some sunshine annually, and averages 57% of possible sunshine annually, accumulating 2,535 hours of sunshine per annum.[[20]](#cite_note-20) Brooklyn lies in the [USDA](/wiki/USDA) [7b plant hardiness zone](/wiki/Hardiness_zone).[[21]](#cite_note-21) [Template:Weather box](/wiki/Template:Weather_box)

## Demographics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main)

[thumb|250px|Brooklyn has been New York City's most populous borough since the mid-1920s. (Key: Each borough's historical population in millions. **The Bronx**, **Brooklyn**, **Manhattan**, **Queens**, **Staten Island**)](/wiki/Image:New_York_City_Demographics_05_500px_Julius_Schorzman.png) [Template:Historical populations](/wiki/Template:Historical_populations)

Since 2010, the population of Brooklyn was estimated by the [United States Census Bureau](/wiki/United_States_Census_Bureau) to have increased 5.3% to 2,636,735, as of 2015 – Brooklyn's estimated population represented 30.8% of New York City's estimated population of 8,550,405; 33.6% of Long Island's population of 7,838,722; and 13.3% of New York State's population of 19,795,791.<ref name=NYCest>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>[[22]](#cite_note-22)<ref name=QueensQuickFacts>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>[[23]](#cite_note-23)[[24]](#cite_note-24)<ref name=NYSQuickFacts>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> [thumb|left|250px|](/wiki/File:Jueus_ultraortodoxes_satmar_a_brooklyn.jpg)[Ultra-Orthodox](/wiki/Haredi_Jews) [Jewish (יהודי)](/wiki/Jews_in_New_York_City) residents in Brooklyn, home to the largest Jewish community in the United States, with approximately 600,000 individuals, about 23% [Jewish](/wiki/Jews) of the borough's population in 2011.[[25]](#cite_note-25)

### 2010 Census[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]

According to the [2010 United States Census](/wiki/2010_United_States_Census), Brooklyn's population was 42.8% [White](/wiki/White_American), including 35.7% [non-Hispanic White](/wiki/Non-Hispanic_White); 34.3% [Black](/wiki/Black_American), including 31.9% non-Hispanic black; 10.5% [Asian](/wiki/Asian_American); 0.5% [Native American](/wiki/Native_American); 0.0% (rounded) [Pacific Islander](/wiki/Pacific_Islander_American); 3.0% [Multiracial American](/wiki/Multiracial_American); and 8.8% from [Other races](/wiki/Race_(United_States_Census)). [Hispanics and Latinos](/wiki/Hispanic_and_Latino_American) made up 19.8% of Brooklyn's population.[[26]](#cite_note-26)[thumb|250px|left|Celebrating](/wiki/File:Celebrating_Chinese_New_Year_on_8th_Avenue_Sunset_Park,_Brooklyn.jpg) [Chinese New Year](/wiki/Chinese_New_Year) in [*Little Fuzhou (小福州)*](/wiki/Little_Fuzhou#Little_Fuzhou,_Brooklyn), one of several [Chinatowns in Brooklyn (布鲁克林華埠)](/wiki/Chinatowns_in_Brooklyn#Chinatownscape), in [Sunset Park (日落公園)](/wiki/Sunset_Park,_Brooklyn). Brooklyn's rapidly growing [Chinese American](/wiki/Chinese_Americans_in_New_York_City) population was estimated to have surpassed 200,000 in 2014.[[27]](#cite_note-27)

### 2012 estimates[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]

According to the 2012 U.S. Census Bureau estimates, there are 2,565,635 people (up from 2.3 million in 1990), 880,727 households, and 583,922 families living in Brooklyn.[[28]](#cite_note-28)[[29]](#cite_note-29) The population density was 34,920/square mile (13,480/km²). There were 930,866 housing units at an average density of 13,180/square mile (5,090/km²).

Of the 880,727 households in Brooklyn, 38.6% were married couples living together, 22.3% had a female householder with no husband present, and 33.7% were non-families. 33.3% had children under the age of 18 living in them. Of all households 27.8% are made up of individuals and 9.8% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.75 and the average family size was 3.41.

In Brooklyn the population was spread out with 26.9% under the age of 18, 10.3% from 18 to 24, 30.8% from 25 to 44, 20.6% from 45 to 64, and 11.5% who are 65 years of age or older. The median age was 33 years. Brooklyn has more women and girls, with 88.4 males for every 100 females. Brooklyn's [lesbian](/wiki/Lesbian) community is the largest out of all of the New York City boroughs.[[30]](#cite_note-30) The median income for households in Brooklyn was $32,135, and the median income for a family was $36,188. Males had a median income of $34,317, which was higher than females, whose median income was $30,516. The per capita income was $16,775. About 22% of families and 25.1% of the population were below the poverty line, including 34% of those under age 18 and 21.5% of those age 65 or over.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Racial composition** | **2014**[**[31]**](#cite_note-31) | **2010**[**[32]**](#cite_note-32) | **1990**[**[33]**](#cite_note-33) | **1950**[**[33]**](#cite_note-33) | **1900**[**[33]**](#cite_note-33) |
| [White](/wiki/White_American) | 49.3% | 42.8% | 46.9% | 92.2% | 98.3% |
| [Template:Nbsp](/wiki/Template:Nbsp)—Non-Hispanic | 35.8% | 35.7% | 40.1% | n/a | n/a |
| [Black or African American](/wiki/African_American) | 35.2% | 34.3% | 37.9% | 7.6% | 1.6% |
| [Hispanic or Latino](/wiki/Hispanic_and_Latino_Americans) (of any race) | 19.5% | 19.8% | 20.1% | n/a | n/a |
| [Asian](/wiki/Asian_American) | 12.1% | 10.5% | 4.8% | 0.1% | 0.1% |

### Languages[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]

Brooklyn has a high degree of [linguistic diversity](/wiki/Linguistic_diversity_index). As of 2010, 54.12% (1,240,416) of Brooklyn residents ages 5 and older spoke [English](/wiki/English_language) at home as a [primary language](/wiki/Primary_language), while 17.16% (393,340) spoke [Spanish](/wiki/Spanish_language), 6.46% (148,012) [Chinese](/wiki/Chinese_language), 5.31% (121,607) [Russian](/wiki/Russian_language), 3.47% (79,469) [Yiddish](/wiki/Yiddish_language), 2.75% (63,019) [French Creole](/wiki/French-based_creole_languages), 1.35% (31,004) [Italian](/wiki/Italian_language), 1.20% (27,440) [Hebrew](/wiki/Hebrew_language), 1.01% (23,207) [Polish](/wiki/Polish_language), 0.99% (22,763) [French](/wiki/French_language), 0.95% (21,773) [Arabic](/wiki/Arabic_language), 0.85% (19,388) [various Indic languages](/wiki/Indo-Aryan_languages), 0.70% (15,936) [Urdu](/wiki/Urdu_language), and [African languages](/wiki/Languages_of_Africa) were spoken as a [main language](/wiki/Main_language) by 0.54% (12,305) of the population over the age of five. In total, 45.88% (1,051,456) of Brooklyn's population ages 5 and older spoke a [mother language](/wiki/Mother_language) other than English.[[34]](#cite_note-34)[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

## Neighborhoods[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

[thumb|250px|left|Landmark 19th-century rowhouses on tree-lined Kent Street in](/wiki/File:Greenpoint_Houses.JPG) [Greenpoint Historic District](/wiki/Greenpoint,_Brooklyn) [thumb|right|220px|](/wiki/File:Park_Slope_Houses.jpg)[Park Slope](/wiki/Park_Slope,_Brooklyn) [right|thumb|220px|150–159 Willow Street, three original red-brick early 19th-century](/wiki/File:Willow_Street_Brooklyn_Heights_2006.jpg) [Federal Style](/wiki/Federal_architecture) houses in [Brooklyn Heights](/wiki/Brooklyn_Heights) [right|thumb|220px|Middagh Street, Brooklyn Heights](/wiki/File:USA-NYC-Brooklyn_Middagh_Street.jpg)

Brooklyn's neighborhoods are dynamic in ethnic composition. For example, during the early to mid-20th century, [Brownsville](/wiki/Brownsville,_Brooklyn) had a majority of [Jewish](/wiki/Jews_in_New_York_City) residents; since the 1970s it has been majority African American. [Midwood](/wiki/Midwood,_Brooklyn) during the early 20th century was filled with ethnic [Irish](/wiki/Irish_American), then filled with Jewish residents for nearly 50 years, and is slowly becoming a [Pakistani](/wiki/Pakistani_American) enclave. Brooklyn's most populous racial group, white, declined from 97.2% in 1930 to 46.9% by 1990.[[33]](#cite_note-33) Along with [gentrification](/wiki/Gentrification), many of Brooklyn's neighborhoods are also becoming increasingly diverse, with an influx of immigrants integrating its neighborhoods. The borough also attracts people previously living in other cities in the United States. Of these, most come from [Chicago](/wiki/Chicago), [Detroit](/wiki/Detroit), [San Francisco](/wiki/San_Francisco), [Washington, D.C.](/wiki/Washington,_D.C.), [Baltimore](/wiki/Baltimore), [Philadelphia](/wiki/Philadelphia), [Boston](/wiki/Boston), [Cincinnati](/wiki/Cincinnati), and [Seattle](/wiki/Seattle).[[35]](#cite_note-35)[[36]](#cite_note-36)[[37]](#cite_note-37)[[38]](#cite_note-38)[[39]](#cite_note-39)[[40]](#cite_note-40)[[41]](#cite_note-41) Brooklyn contains dozens of distinct neighborhoods, representing many of the major ethnic groups found within the New York City area. The borough is home to a large African American community. [Bedford-Stuyvesant](/wiki/Bedford-Stuyvesant,_Brooklyn) is home to one of the most famous African American communities in the city, along with [Brownsville](/wiki/Brownsville,_Brooklyn), [East New York](/wiki/East_New_York), and [Coney Island](/wiki/Coney_Island,_Brooklyn). Brooklyn's African American and [Caribbean](/wiki/Caribbean) communities are spread throughout much of Brooklyn.

Brooklyn is also home to many [Russians](/wiki/Russians) and [Ukrainians](/wiki/Ukrainians), who are mainly concentrated in the areas of [Brighton Beach](/wiki/Brighton_Beach,_Brooklyn) and [Sheepshead Bay](/wiki/Sheepshead_Bay,_Brooklyn). Brighton Beach features many Russian and Ukrainian businesses and has been nicknamed [*Litte Russia*](/wiki/Russian_Americans_in_New_York_City#Russiantownscape) and *Little* [*Odessa*](/wiki/Odessa), respectively. Originally these communities were mostly Jewish; however, the non-Jewish Russian and Ukrainian communities of Brighton Beach now also represent various aspects of Russian and Ukrainian culture.

[Bushwick](/wiki/Bushwick,_Brooklyn) is the largest hub of Brooklyn's [Hispanic American](/wiki/Hispanic_and_Latino_Americans) community. Like other Hispanic neighborhoods in New York City, Bushwick has an established [Puerto Rican](/wiki/Stateside_Puerto_Ricans) presence, along with an influx of many [Dominicans](/wiki/Dominican_Americans_(Dominican_Republic)), [South Americans](/wiki/South_American), [Central Americans](/wiki/Central_American), [Mexicans](/wiki/Mexican_people), as well as a more recent influx of Puerto Ricans. As nearly 80% of Bushwick's population is Hispanic, its residents having created many businesses to support their various national and distinct traditions in food and other items. [Sunset Park's](/wiki/Sunset_Park,_Brooklyn) population is 42% Hispanic, made up of these various ethnic groups. Brooklyn's main Hispanic groups are Puerto Ricans, [Mexicans](/wiki/Mexican_American), Dominicans, and [Panamanians](/wiki/Panamanian_American); they are spread out throughout the borough. Puerto Ricans and Dominicans are predominant in Bushwick, [Williamsburg](/wiki/Williamsburg,_Brooklyn), and East New York, while Mexicans are predominant in Sunset Park and Panamanians in [Crown Heights](/wiki/Crown_Heights,_Brooklyn).

[Italian Americans](/wiki/Italian_American) are mainly concentrated in the neighborhoods of [Bensonhurst](/wiki/Bensonhurst), [Dyker Heights](/wiki/Dyker_Heights,_Brooklyn), [Bay Ridge](/wiki/Bay_Ridge,_Brooklyn), [Bath Beach](/wiki/Bath_Beach,_Brooklyn), [Cobble Hill](/wiki/Cobble_Hill,_Brooklyn), and [Carroll Gardens](/wiki/Carroll_Gardens,_Brooklyn) where there are many Italian restaurants, bakeries, [delicatessens](/wiki/Delicatessen), pizzerias, cafes, and social clubs.

[Orthodox Jews](/wiki/Orthodox_Jews) and [Hasidic Jews](/wiki/Hasidic_Jews) have become concentrated in [Borough Park](/wiki/Borough_Park,_Brooklyn), Williamsburg, and [Flatbush](/wiki/Flatbush,_Brooklyn), where there are many [yeshivas](/wiki/Yeshiva), [synagogues](/wiki/Synagogue), and [kosher](/wiki/Kosher) delicatessens, as well as many other Jewish businesses. Other notable religious Orthodox and [Hasidic Jewish](/wiki/Hasidic_Judaism) neighborhoods are [Kensington](/wiki/Kensington,_Brooklyn), [Midwood](/wiki/Midwood,_Brooklyn), [Canarsie](/wiki/Canarsie,_Brooklyn), [Sea Gate](/wiki/Sea_Gate,_Brooklyn), and [Crown Heights](/wiki/Crown_Heights,_Brooklyn). Many hospitals in Brooklyn were started by Jewish charities, including [Maimonides Medical Center](/wiki/Maimonides_Medical_Center) in Borough Park and Brookdale Hospital in Brownsville.[[42]](#cite_note-42)[[43]](#cite_note-43) Many non-religious Jews are concentrated in [Ditmas Park](/wiki/Ditmas_Park,_Brooklyn), [Windsor Terrace](/wiki/Windsor_Terrace,_Brooklyn) and [Park Slope](/wiki/Park_Slope,_Brooklyn). Brooklyn's [Polish](/wiki/Polish-Americans) are largely concentrated in [Greenpoint](/wiki/Greenpoint,_Brooklyn), which is home to [Little Poland](/wiki/Little_Poland,_Brooklyn). They are also scattered throughout the southern parts of Brooklyn.

Brooklyn's [West Indian](/wiki/West_Indian) community is concentrated in the Crown Heights, Flatbush, [East Flatbush](/wiki/East_Flatbush,_Brooklyn), Kensington, and Canarsie neighborhoods in central Brooklyn. Brooklyn is home to one of the largest communities of West Indians outside of the Caribbean, being rivaled only by Toronto, Miami, Montreal,and London. Although the largest West Indian groups in Brooklyn are mostly [Jamaicans](/wiki/Jamaican_American), [Guyanese](/wiki/Guyanese_American) and [Haitians](/wiki/Haitian_Americans), there are [West Indian immigrants](/wiki/West_Indian_American) from nearly every part of the Caribbean. Crown Heights and Flatbush are home to many of Brooklyn's West Indian restaurants and bakeries. Brooklyn has an annual, celebrated Carnival in the tradition of pre-Lenten celebrations in the islands. Started by natives of [Trinidad and Tobago](/wiki/Trinidad_and_Tobago), the [West Indian Labor Day Parade](/wiki/Labor_Day_Carnival) takes place every Labor Day on [Eastern Parkway](/wiki/Eastern_Parkway_(Brooklyn)).

Brooklyn's [Greek Americans](/wiki/Greek_Americans) live throughout the borough, but their businesses today are concentrated in Downtown Brooklyn near Atlantic Avenue. Greek-owned diners are also found throughout the borough, but many Greeks have re-located off of Atlantic Avenue due to demographic shift.

[Chinese Americans](/wiki/Chinese_American) live throughout the southern parts of Brooklyn, in [Sunset Park](/wiki/Sunset_Park,_Brooklyn), [Bensonhurst](/wiki/Bensonhurst,_Brooklyn), [Gravesend](/wiki/Gravesend,_Brooklyn), and [Homecrest](/wiki/Homecrest,_Brooklyn). The largest concentration is in [Sunset Park](/wiki/Sunset_Park,_Brooklyn) along 8th Avenue, which is known for [Chinese](/wiki/Culture_of_China) culture. It is called ["Brooklyn's Chinatown"](/wiki/Chinatown,_Brooklyn). Many [Chinese restaurants](/wiki/Chinese_cuisine) can be found throughout Sunset Park, and the area hosts a popular [Chinese New Year](/wiki/Chinese_New_Year) celebration.

[Irish Americans](/wiki/Irish_American) can be found throughout Brooklyn, in low to moderate concentrations in the neighborhoods of Bay Ridge, [Marine Park](/wiki/Marine_Park,_Brooklyn), [Gerritsen Beach](/wiki/Gerritsen_Beach,_Brooklyn), and [Vinegar Hill](/wiki/Vinegar_Hill,_Brooklyn). Many moved east on Long Island in the mid-twentieth century.

Today, [Arab Americans](/wiki/Arab_American) and Pakistanis along with other Muslim communities have moved into the southwest portion of Brooklyn, particularly to [Bay Ridge](/wiki/Bay_Ridge,_Brooklyn), where there are many Middle Eastern restaurants, hookah lounges, halal shops, Islamic shops and mosques. Coney Island Avenue is home to *Little* [*Pakistan*](/wiki/Pakistan) as Church Avenue is to Bangladeshis. Jay Street Borough Hall (Downtown Brooklyn) is little Arabia. Pakistani Independence Day is celebrated every year with parades and parties on Coney Island Avenue. Earlier, the area was known predominately for its Irish, Norwegian, and Scottish populations. There are also many Middle Eastern, particularly Yemeni, businesses, mosques, and restaurants on [Atlantic Avenue](/wiki/Atlantic_Avenue_(New_York_City)) west of [Flatbush Avenue](/wiki/Flatbush_Avenue), near Brooklyn Heights.

## Government and politics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|250px|right|](/wiki/File:Bk_Boro_Hall_summer_dusk_jeh.JPG)[Brooklyn Borough Hall](/wiki/Brooklyn_Borough_Hall)

Since consolidation with New York City in 1898, Brooklyn has been governed by the New York City Charter that provides for a "strong" [mayor-council system](/wiki/Mayor-council_government). The centralized [government of New York City](/wiki/Government_of_New_York_City) is responsible for [public education](/wiki/New_York_City_Department_of_Education), correctional institutions, public safety, recreational facilities, sanitation, water supply, and welfare services. On the other hand, the [Brooklyn Public Library](/wiki/Brooklyn_Public_Library) is an independent [nonprofit organization](/wiki/Nonprofit_organization) partially funded by the government of New York City, but also by the [government of New York State](/wiki/Government_of_New_York_State), the [U.S. federal government](/wiki/Government_of_the_United_States), and [private donors](/wiki/Fundraising).

The office of [Borough President](/wiki/Borough_President) was created in the consolidation of 1898 to balance centralization with local authority. Each borough president had a powerful administrative role derived from having a vote on the [New York City Board of Estimate](/wiki/New_York_City_Board_of_Estimate), which was responsible for creating and approving the city's budget and proposals for land use. In 1989, the [Supreme Court of the United States](/wiki/Supreme_Court_of_the_United_States) declared the Board of Estimate unconstitutional because Brooklyn, the most populous borough, had no greater effective representation on the Board than Staten Island, the least populous borough; it was a violation of the high court's [1964 "one man, one vote" reading](/wiki/Reynolds_v._Sims) of the [Fourteenth Amendment](/wiki/Fourteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution).[[44]](#cite_note-44) Since 1990 the Borough President has acted as an advocate for the borough at the mayoral agencies, the City Council, the New York state government, and corporations. Brooklyn's current Borough President is [Eric Adams](/wiki/Eric_Adams_(politician)), elected as a [Democrat](/wiki/Democratic_Party_(United_States)) in November 2013 with 90.8% of the vote. Adams replaced popular Borough President [Marty Markowitz](/wiki/Marty_Markowitz), also a [Democrat](/wiki/Democratic_Party_(United_States)), who partially used his office to promote tourism and new development for Brooklyn.

The Democratic Party holds the majority of public offices. As of 2005, 69.7% of registered voters in Brooklyn were Democrats. Party platforms center on affordable housing, education and economic development. The most controversial political issue is the proposed [Atlantic Yards](/wiki/Atlantic_Yards), a large housing and sports arena project. Pockets of majority Republican influence exist in Gravesend, Bensonhurst, [Bay Ridge](/wiki/Bay_Ridge), [Dyker Heights](/wiki/Dyker_Heights) and [Midwood](/wiki/Midwood) by U.S. Representative Dan Donovan and New York State Senator Marty Golden.

Each of the city's five counties (coterminous with each borough) has its own criminal court system and [District Attorney](/wiki/District_Attorney), the chief public prosecutor who is directly elected by popular vote. The current District Attorney of Kings County is [Kenneth P. Thompson](/wiki/Kenneth_P._Thompson), a Democrat elected in 2013. Brooklyn has 16 City Council members, the largest number of any of the five boroughs. Brooklyn has 18 of the city's 59 community districts, each served by an unpaid Community Board with advisory powers under the city's Uniform Land Use Review Procedure. Each board has a paid district manager who acts as an interlocutor with city agencies.

## Economy[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=21)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|250px|right|The](/wiki/File:Launching_of_USS_North_Carolina_(BB-55),_June_1940.jpg) [USS *North Carolina*](/wiki/USS_North_Carolina_(BB-55)), launched at [Brooklyn Navy Yard](/wiki/Brooklyn_Navy_Yard), June 1940 [thumb|250px|right|Newer buildings near](/wiki/File:Brooklyn_buildings_near_East_River_IMG_3731.JPG) [East River State Park](/wiki/East_River_State_Park)

Brooklyn's job market is driven by three main factors: the performance of the national and city economy, population flows and the borough's position as a convenient back office for New York's businesses.[[45]](#cite_note-45) Forty-four percent of Brooklyn's employed population, or 410,000 people, work in the borough; more than half of the borough's residents work outside its boundaries. As a result, economic conditions in Manhattan are important to the borough's jobseekers. Strong international immigration to Brooklyn generates jobs in services, retailing and construction.[[45]](#cite_note-45) Since the late 20th century, Brooklyn has benefited from a steady influx of financial [back office](/wiki/Back_office) operations from Manhattan, the rapid growth of a high-tech and entertainment economy in [DUMBO](/wiki/DUMBO,_Brooklyn), and strong growth in support services such as accounting, personal supply agencies, and computer services firms.[[45]](#cite_note-45) Jobs in the borough have traditionally been concentrated in manufacturing, but since 1975, Brooklyn has shifted from a manufacturing-based to a service-based economy. In 2004, 215,000 Brooklyn residents worked in the services sector, while 27,500 worked in manufacturing. Although manufacturing has declined, a substantial base has remained in apparel and niche manufacturing concerns such as furniture, fabricated metals, and food products.[[46]](#cite_note-46) The pharmaceutical company [Pfizer](/wiki/Pfizer) was founded in Brooklyn in 1869 and had a manufacturing plant in the borough for many years that once employed thousands of workers, but the plant shut down in 2008. However, new light-manufacturing concerns packaging organic and high-end food have sprung up in the old plant.[[47]](#cite_note-47) First established as a shipbuilding facility in 1801, the [Brooklyn Navy Yard](/wiki/Brooklyn_Navy_Yard) employed 70,000 people at its peak during World War II and was then the largest employer in the borough. The [*Missouri*](/wiki/USS_Missouri_(BB-63)), the ship on which the Japanese formally surrendered, was built there, as was the [*Maine*](/wiki/USS_Maine_(ACR-1)), whose sinking off Havana led to the start of the Spanish–American War. The iron-sided Civil War vessel the [*Monitor*](/wiki/USS_Monitor) was built in Greenpoint. From 1968–1979 [Seatrain Shipbuilding](/wiki/Seatrain_Lines) was the major employer.[[48]](#cite_note-48) Later tenants include industrial design firms, food processing businesses, artisans, and the film and television production industry. About 230 private-sector firms providing 4,000 jobs are at the Yard.

Construction and services are the fastest growing sectors.[[49]](#cite_note-49) Most employers in Brooklyn are small businesses. In 2000, 91% of the approximately 38,704 business establishments in Brooklyn had fewer than 20 employees.[[50]](#cite_note-50) [Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of), the borough's unemployment rate was 5.9%.[[51]](#cite_note-51) Brooklyn is also home to many banks and [credit unions](/wiki/Credit_union). According to the [Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation](/wiki/Federal_Deposit_Insurance_Corporation), there were 37 banks and 26 credit unions operating in the borough in 2010.[[52]](#cite_note-52)[[53]](#cite_note-53) The [rezoning](/wiki/Zoning_in_the_United_States) of [Downtown Brooklyn](/wiki/Downtown_Brooklyn) has generated over US$10 billion of private investment and $300 million in public improvements since 2004. Brooklyn is also attracting numerous [high technology](/wiki/High_technology) [start-up companies](/wiki/Start-up_company), as [Silicon Alley](/wiki/Silicon_Alley), the [metonym](/wiki/Metonym) for New York City's [entrepreneurship ecosystem](/wiki/Entrepreneurship_ecosystem), has expanded from [Lower Manhattan](/wiki/Lower_Manhattan) into Brooklyn.[[54]](#cite_note-54)

## Culture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=22)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|220px|right|The](/wiki/File:Brooklyn_Museum_Front_Entrance.jpg) [Brooklyn Museum](/wiki/Brooklyn_Museum) on [Eastern Parkway](/wiki/Eastern_Parkway) [thumb|220px|right|](/wiki/File:Bridge_to_Eden.jpg)[Brooklyn Botanic Garden](/wiki/Brooklyn_Botanic_Garden) [right|thumb|220px|The](/wiki/File:The_Soldiers_and_Sailors_Memorial_Arch_at_Grand_Army_Plaza.jpg) [Soldiers' and Sailors' Arch](/wiki/Soldiers'_and_Sailors'_Arch) at [Grand Army Plaza](/wiki/Grand_Army_Plaza) [Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) Brooklyn has played a major role in various aspects of American culture including literature, cinema, and theater. The [Brooklyn accent](/wiki/Brooklyn_accent) has often been portrayed as the "typical New York accent" in American media, although this accent and stereotype are supposedly fading out.[[55]](#cite_note-55) Brooklyn's official colors are blue and gold.[[56]](#cite_note-56)

### Cultural venues[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]

Brooklyn hosts the world-renowned [Brooklyn Academy of Music](/wiki/Brooklyn_Academy_of_Music), the [Brooklyn Philharmonic](/wiki/Brooklyn_Philharmonic), and the second largest public art collection in the United States, housed in the [Brooklyn Museum](/wiki/Brooklyn_Museum).

The [Brooklyn Museum](/wiki/Brooklyn_Museum), opened in 1897, is New York City's second-largest public art museum. It has in its permanent collection more than 1.5 million objects, from ancient Egyptian masterpieces to contemporary art. The [Brooklyn Children's Museum](/wiki/Brooklyn_Children's_Museum), the world's first museum dedicated to children, opened in December 1899. The only such New York State institution accredited by the [American Alliance of Museums](/wiki/American_Alliance_of_Museums), it is one of the few globally to have a permanent collection[Template:Spndover](/wiki/Template:Spnd) 30,000 cultural objects and natural history specimens.

The [Brooklyn Academy of Music](/wiki/Brooklyn_Academy_of_Music) (BAM) includes a 2,109-seat opera house, an 874-seat theater, and the art house BAM Rose Cinemas. [Bargemusic](/wiki/Bargemusic) and St. Ann's Warehouse are located on the other side of Downtown Brooklyn in the [DUMBO](/wiki/DUMBO) arts district. [Brooklyn Technical High School](/wiki/Brooklyn_Technical_High_School) has the second-largest auditorium in New York City (after [Radio City Music Hall](/wiki/Radio_City_Music_Hall)), with a seating capacity of over 3,000.[[57]](#cite_note-57)

### Media[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]

#### Local periodicals[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=25)]

Brooklyn has several local newspapers: The [*Brooklyn Daily Eagle*](/wiki/Brooklyn_Eagle), [*Bay Currents*](/wiki/Bay_Currents) (Oceanfront Brooklyn), *Brooklyn View*, [*The Brooklyn Paper*](/wiki/The_Brooklyn_Paper), and Courier-Life Publications. Courier-Life Publications, owned by Rupert Murdoch's [News Corporation](/wiki/News_Corporation), is Brooklyn's largest chain of newspapers. Brooklyn is also served by the major New York dailies, including [*The New York Times*](/wiki/The_New_York_Times), the [*New York Daily News*](/wiki/New_York_Daily_News), and the [*New York Post*](/wiki/New_York_Post).

The borough is home to the bi-weekly cultural guide [*The L Magazine*](/wiki/The_L_Magazine) and the arts and politics monthly [*Brooklyn Rail*](/wiki/Brooklyn_Rail), as well as the arts and cultural quarterly [*Cabinet*](/wiki/Cabinet_(magazine)).

*Brooklyn Magazine* is one of the few glossy magazines about Brooklyn. Several others, that are now defunct, include: *BKLYN Magazine* (a bimonthly lifestyle book owned by Joseph McCarthy, that saw itself as a vehicle for high-end advertisers in Manhattan and was mailed to 80,000 high-income households), *Brooklyn Bridge Magazine*, *The Brooklynite* (a free, glossy quarterly edited by Daniel Treiman), and *NRG* (edited by Gail Johnson and originally marketed as a local periodical for Clinton Hill and Fort Greene, but expanded in scope to become the self-proclaimed "Pulse of Brooklyn" and then the "Pulse of New York").[[58]](#cite_note-58)

#### Ethnic press[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=26)]

Brooklyn has a thriving ethnic press. [*El Diario La Prensa*](/wiki/El_Diario_La_Prensa), the largest and oldest Spanish-language daily newspaper in the United States, maintains its corporate headquarters at 1 [MetroTech Center](/wiki/MetroTech_Center) in [downtown Brooklyn](/wiki/Downtown_Brooklyn).[[59]](#cite_note-59) Major ethnic publications include the Brooklyn-Queens Catholic paper [*The Tablet*](/wiki/The_Tablet_(Diocese_of_Brooklyn)), [*Hamodia*](/wiki/Hamodia), an Orthodox Jewish daily and [*The Jewish Press*](/wiki/The_Jewish_Press), an Orthodox Jewish weekly. Many nationally distributed ethnic newspapers are based in Brooklyn. Over 60 ethnic groups, writing in 42 languages, publish some 300 non-English language magazines and newspapers in New York City. Among them the quarterly "[L'Idea](/wiki/L'Idea)", a bilingual magazine printed in Italian and English since 1974. In addition, many newspapers published abroad, such as [*The Daily Gleaner*](/wiki/Gleaner_Company) and *The Star* of Jamaica, are available in Brooklyn.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed) [Our Time Press](/wiki/Our_Time_Press) published weekly by DBG Media covers the Village of Brooklyn with a motto of "The Local paper with the Global View".

#### Television[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=27)]

The City of New York has an official television station, run by the [NYC Media Group](/wiki/NYC_Media_Group), which features programming based in Brooklyn. [Brooklyn Community Access Television](/wiki/Brooklyn_Community_Access_Television) is the borough's [public access channel](/wiki/Public_access_television).[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

### Events[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=28)]

* The annual [Coney Island Mermaid Parade](/wiki/Coney_Island_Mermaid_Parade) (mid-to-late June) is a costume-and-float parade.[[60]](#cite_note-60)\* Coney Island also hosts the annual [Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest](/wiki/Nathan's_Hot_Dog_Eating_Contest) (July 4).[[60]](#cite_note-60)\* The annual [Labor Day Carnival](/wiki/Labor_Day_Carnival) (also known as the Labor Day Parade or West Indian Day Parade) takes place along [Eastern Parkway](/wiki/Eastern_Parkway) in [Crown Heights](/wiki/Crown_Heights,_Brooklyn).

## Parks and other attractions[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=29)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|right|250px|](/wiki/File:Bbg_cherry_esplande.jpg)[Kwanzan Cherries](/wiki/Prunus_serrulata) in bloom at [Brooklyn Botanic Garden](/wiki/Brooklyn_Botanic_Garden). [thumb|right|250px|](/wiki/File:Coney_Island_Beach-1.jpg)[Astroland](/wiki/Astroland) in [Coney Island](/wiki/Coney_Island).

* [Brooklyn Botanic Garden](/wiki/Brooklyn_Botanic_Garden): located adjacent to Prospect Park is the [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) botanical garden, which includes a cherry tree esplanade, a one-acre (0.4 ha) rose garden, a Japanese hill and pond garden, a fragrance garden, a water lily pond esplanade, several conservatories, a rock garden, a native flora garden, a [*bonsai*](/wiki/Bonsai) tree collection, and children's gardens and discovery exhibits.
* [Coney Island](/wiki/Coney_Island) developed as a playground for the rich in the early 1900s, but it grew as one of America's first amusement grounds and attracted crowds from all over New York. The [Cyclone rollercoaster](/wiki/Coney_Island_Cyclone), built in 1927, is on the [National Register of Historic Places](/wiki/National_Register_of_Historic_Places). The 1920 Wonder Wheel and other rides are still operational. Coney Island went into decline in the 1970s, but has undergone a renaissance.[[61]](#cite_note-61)\* [Floyd Bennett Field](/wiki/Floyd_Bennett_Field): the first municipal airport in New York City and long closed for operations, is now part of the [National Park System](/wiki/National_Park_System). Many of the historic hangars and runways are still extant. Nature trails and diverse habitats are found within the park, including [salt marsh](/wiki/Salt_marsh) and a restored area of [shortgrass prairie](/wiki/Shortgrass_prairie) that was once widespread on the [Hempstead Plains](/wiki/Hempstead_Plains).
* [Green-Wood Cemetery](/wiki/Green-Wood_Cemetery), founded by the social reformer Henry Evelyn Pierrepont[[62]](#cite_note-62) in 1838, is an early [Rural cemetery](/wiki/Rural_cemetery). It is the burial ground of many notable New Yorkers.
* [Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge](/wiki/Jamaica_Bay_Wildlife_Refuge): a unique Federal wildlife refuge straddling the Brooklyn-Queens border, part of [Gateway National Recreation Area](/wiki/Gateway_National_Recreation_Area)
* [New York Transit Museum](/wiki/New_York_Transit_Museum) displays historical artifacts of Greater New York's subway, commuter rail, and bus systems; it is located at Court Street, a former [Independent Subway System](/wiki/Independent_Subway_System) station in [Brooklyn Heights](/wiki/Brooklyn_Heights) on the [Fulton Street Line](/wiki/IND_Fulton_Street_Line).
* [Prospect Park](/wiki/Prospect_Park_(Brooklyn)) is a public park in central Brooklyn encompassing [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert).[[63]](#cite_note-63) The park was designed by [Frederick Law Olmsted](/wiki/Frederick_Law_Olmsted) and [Calvert Vaux](/wiki/Calvert_Vaux), who created Manhattan's [Central Park](/wiki/Central_Park). Attractions include the Long Meadow, a [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) meadow, the Picnic House, which houses offices and a hall that can accommodate parties with up to 175 guests; [Litchfield Villa](/wiki/Litchfield_Villa), [Prospect Park Zoo](/wiki/Prospect_Park_Zoo), the [Boathouse](/wiki/Boathouse_on_the_Lullwater_of_the_Lake_in_Prospect_Park), housing a visitors center and the first urban [Audubon Center](/wiki/National_Audubon_Society);[[64]](#cite_note-64) Brooklyn's only lake, covering [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert); the Prospect Park Bandshell that hosts free outdoor concerts in the summertime; and various sports and fitness activities including seven baseball fields. Prospect Park hosts a popular annual Halloween Parade.

### Sports[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=30)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [thumb|left|250px|](/wiki/File:Barclays_Center_Rain_Night.jpg)[Barclays Center](/wiki/Barclays_Center), located in [Pacific Park](/wiki/Pacific_Park,_Brooklyn) within [Prospect Heights](/wiki/Prospect_Heights,_Brooklyn), is Brooklyn's premier sports venue. Brooklyn's major professional sports teams are the [NBA's](/wiki/National_Basketball_Association) [Brooklyn Nets](/wiki/Brooklyn_Nets) and the [NHL's](/wiki/National_Hockey_League) [New York Islanders](/wiki/New_York_Islanders). The Nets and Islanders moved into the borough in 2012 and 2015, respectively, and both play their home games at [Barclays Center](/wiki/Barclays_Center) in Prospect Heights. Previously, the Nets had played in [Uniondale, New York](/wiki/Uniondale,_New_York) and in [New Jersey](/wiki/New_Jersey), while the Islanders had played in Uniondale since their inception.

Brooklyn also has a storied sports history. It has been home to many famous sports figures such as [Joe Paterno](/wiki/Joe_Paterno), [Vince Lombardi](/wiki/Vince_Lombardi), [Mike Tyson](/wiki/Mike_Tyson), [Joe Torre](/wiki/Joe_Torre), and [Vitas Gerulaitis](/wiki/Vitas_Gerulaitis). Basketball legend [Michael Jordan](/wiki/Michael_Jordan) was born in Brooklyn though he grew up in [Wilmington, North Carolina](/wiki/Wilmington,_North_Carolina).

In the earliest days of organized baseball, Brooklyn teams dominated the new game. The second recorded game of baseball was played near what is today [Fort Greene Park](/wiki/Fort_Greene_Park) on October 24, 1845. Brooklyn’s [Excelsiors](/wiki/Excelsior_of_Brooklyn), [Atlantics](/wiki/Brooklyn_Atlantics) and [Eckfords](/wiki/Eckford_of_Brooklyn) were the leading teams from the mid-1850s through the [Civil War](/wiki/American_Civil_War), and there were dozens of local teams with neighborhood league play, such as at [Mapleton Oval](/wiki/Mapleton_Park,_Brooklyn,_NY).<ref name=BrooklynBallParks.com/> During this "Brooklyn era", baseball evolved into the modern game: the first [fastball](/wiki/Fastball), first [changeup](/wiki/Changeup), first [batting average](/wiki/Batting_average), first [triple play](/wiki/Triple_play), [first pro baseball player](/wiki/Jim_Creighton), first [enclosed ballpark](/wiki/Union_Grounds), first [scorecard](/wiki/Baseball_scorekeeping), first known African-American team, first black championship game, first road trip, first gambling scandal, and first eight pennant winners were all in or from Brooklyn.[[65]](#cite_note-65) Brooklyn's most famous historical team, the [Brooklyn Dodgers](/wiki/Brooklyn_Dodgers), named for "trolley dodgers" played at [Ebbets Field](/wiki/Ebbets_Field).[[66]](#cite_note-66) In 1947 [Jackie Robinson](/wiki/Jackie_Robinson) was hired by the Dodgers as the first African-American player in Major League Baseball in the modern era. In 1955, the Dodgers, perennial National League pennant winners, won the only [World Series](/wiki/World_Series) for Brooklyn against their rival [New York Yankees](/wiki/New_York_Yankees). The event was marked by mass euphoria and celebrations. Just two years later, the Dodgers moved to Los Angeles. [Walter O'Malley](/wiki/Walter_O'Malley), the team's owner at the time, is still vilified, even by Brooklynites too young to remember the Dodgers as Brooklyn's ball club.

After a 43-year hiatus, professional baseball returned to the borough in 2001 with the [Brooklyn Cyclones](/wiki/Brooklyn_Cyclones), a [minor league](/wiki/Minor_league_baseball) team that plays in [MCU Park](/wiki/MCU_Park) in [Coney Island](/wiki/Coney_Island). They are an affiliate of the [New York Mets](/wiki/New_York_Mets).

## Transportation[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=31)]

### Public transport[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=32)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

About 57 percent of all households in Brooklyn were households without [automobiles](/wiki/Automobile). The citywide rate is 55 percent in New York City.[[67]](#cite_note-67) [thumb|right|250px|](/wiki/File:Coney_Island-Stillwell_Avenue_Terminus.jpg)[Coney Island – Stillwell Avenue](/wiki/Coney_Island –_Stillwell_Avenue) subway station Brooklyn features extensive [public transit](/wiki/Public_transport). Eighteen [New York City Subway](/wiki/New_York_City_Subway) services, including the [Franklin Avenue Shuttle](/wiki/Franklin_Avenue_Shuttle), traverse the borough. Approximately 92.8% of Brooklyn residents traveling to Manhattan use the subway, despite the fact that some neighborhoods like [Flatlands](/wiki/Flatlands,_Brooklyn) and [Marine Park](/wiki/Marine_Park) are poorly served by subway service. Major stations, out of the [170 currently in Brooklyn](/wiki/List_of_New_York_City_Subway_stations_in_Brooklyn), include:

* [Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center](/wiki/Atlantic_Avenue –_Barclays_Center)
* [Broadway Junction](/wiki/Broadway_Junction_(New_York_City_Subway))
* [DeKalb Avenue](/wiki/DeKalb_Avenue_(BMT_Fourth_Avenue_Line))
* [Jay Street – MetroTech](/wiki/Jay_Street –_MetroTech)
* [Coney Island – Stillwell Avenue](/wiki/Coney_Island –_Stillwell_Avenue)[[68]](#cite_note-68)Proposed New York City Subway lines never built include a line along Nostrand or Utica Avenues to Marine Park,[[69]](#cite_note-69) as well as a subway line to [Spring Creek](/wiki/Spring_Creek,_Brooklyn).[[70]](#cite_note-70)[[71]](#cite_note-71)

Brooklyn was once served by [an extensive network of streetcars](/wiki/List_of_streetcar_lines_in_Brooklyn), many of which were replaced by [the public bus network that covers the entire borough](/wiki/List_of_bus_routes_in_Brooklyn). There is also daily express bus service into Manhattan. New York's famous yellow cabs also provide transportation in Brooklyn, although they are less numerous in the borough. There are three commuter rail stations in Brooklyn: [East New York](/wiki/East_New_York_(LIRR_station)), [Nostrand Avenue](/wiki/Nostrand_Avenue_(LIRR_station)), and [Atlantic Terminal](/wiki/Atlantic_Terminal), the terminus of the [Atlantic Branch](/wiki/Atlantic_Branch) of the [Long Island Rail Road](/wiki/Long_Island_Rail_Road). The terminal is located near the [Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center](/wiki/Atlantic_Avenue –_Barclays_Center) subway station, with ten connecting subway services.

A [streetcar](/wiki/Streetcar) line [connecting Brooklyn with Queens](/wiki/Brooklyn_Queens_Connector) was proposed by the city in February 2016, with the planned timeline calling for service to begin around 2024.

### Roadways[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=33)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [400px|thumb|right|View of](/wiki/File:View_of_Eastern_Parkway_Looking_towards_Museum_Eugene_Wemlinger_ca._1903-_1910_Brooklyn_Museum.jpg) [Eastern Parkway](/wiki/Eastern_Parkway) looking toward the [Brooklyn Museum](/wiki/Brooklyn_Museum), cellulose nitrate negative photograph by Eugene Wemlinger ca. 1903-1910 [Brooklyn Museum](/wiki/Brooklyn_Museum)

[400px|thumb|right|The](/wiki/File:Marine_Parkway_Bridge -_cropped.jpg) [Marine Parkway Bridge](/wiki/Marine_Parkway_Bridge) [right|thumb|400px|](/wiki/File:Williamsburg_Bridge_from_Gowanus_Bay_jeh.jpg)[Williamsburg Bridge](/wiki/Williamsburg_Bridge), as seen from [Wallabout Bay](/wiki/Wallabout_Bay) with [Greenpoint](/wiki/Greenpoint,_Brooklyn) and [Long Island City](/wiki/Long_Island_City) in background

The great majority of [limited-access expressways and parkways](/wiki/Limited-access_road) are located in the western and southern sections of Brooklyn. These include the [Brooklyn-Queens Expressway](/wiki/Brooklyn-Queens_Expressway), the [Gowanus Expressway](/wiki/Gowanus_Expressway) (which is part of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway), the [Prospect Expressway](/wiki/Prospect_Expressway) ([New York State Route 27](/wiki/New_York_State_Route_27)), the [Belt Parkway](/wiki/Belt_Parkway), and the [Jackie Robinson Parkway](/wiki/Jackie_Robinson_Parkway) (formerly the Interborough Parkway). Planned expressways that were never built include the Bushwick Expressway, an extension of [I-78](/wiki/I-78)[[72]](#cite_note-72) and the Cross-Brooklyn Expressway, I-878.[[73]](#cite_note-73) Major thoroughfares include [Atlantic Avenue](/wiki/Atlantic_Avenue_(New_York_City)), [Fourth Avenue](/wiki/Fourth_Avenue_(Brooklyn)), 86th Street, [Kings Highway](/wiki/Kings_Highway_(Brooklyn)), [Bay Parkway](/wiki/Bay_Parkway_(Brooklyn)), [Ocean Parkway](/wiki/Ocean_Parkway_(Brooklyn)), [Eastern Parkway](/wiki/Eastern_Parkway), [Linden Boulevard](/wiki/Linden_Boulevard), [McGuinness Boulevard](/wiki/McGuinness_Boulevard), [Flatbush Avenue](/wiki/Flatbush_Avenue), [Pennsylvania Avenue](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Avenue_(Brooklyn)), and [Nostrand Avenue](/wiki/Nostrand_Avenue).

Much of Brooklyn has only named streets, but [Park Slope](/wiki/Park_Slope), [Bay Ridge](/wiki/Bay_Ridge), [Sunset Park](/wiki/Sunset_Park,_Brooklyn), [Bensonhurst](/wiki/Bensonhurst), and [Borough Park](/wiki/Borough_Park,_Brooklyn) and the other western sections have [numbered streets](/wiki/List_of_numbered_Brooklyn_streets) running approximately northwest to southeast, and numbered avenues going approximately northeast to southwest. East of Dahill Road, lettered avenues (like Avenue M) run east and west, and numbered streets have the prefix "East". South of Avenue O, related numbered streets west of Dahill Road use the "West" designation. This set of numbered streets ranges from West 37th Street to East 108 Street, and the avenues range from A-Z with names substituted for some of them in some neighborhoods (notably Albemarle, Beverley, Cortelyou, Dorchester, Ditmas, Foster, Farragut, Glenwood, Quentin). Numbered streets prefixed by "North" and "South" in Williamsburg, and "Bay", "Beach", "Brighton", "Plumb", "Paerdegat" or "Flatlands" along the southern and southwestern waterfront are loosely based on the old grids of the original towns of Kings County that eventually consolidated to form Brooklyn. These names often reflect the bodies of water or beaches around them, such as [Plumb Beach](/wiki/Plumb_Beach) or [Paerdegat Basin](/wiki/Paerdegat_Basin).

Brooklyn is connected to Manhattan by three bridges, the [Brooklyn](/wiki/Brooklyn_Bridge), [Manhattan](/wiki/Manhattan_Bridge), and [Williamsburg](/wiki/Williamsburg_Bridge) bridges; a vehicular tunnel, the [Hugh L. Carey Tunnel](/wiki/Hugh_L._Carey_Tunnel) (formerly the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel); and several subway tunnels. The [Verrazano-Narrows Bridge](/wiki/Verrazano-Narrows_Bridge) links Brooklyn with the more suburban borough of [Staten Island](/wiki/Staten_Island). Though much of its border is on land, Brooklyn shares several water crossings with [Queens](/wiki/Queens), including the [Kosciuszko Bridge](/wiki/Kosciuszko_Bridge_(New_York_City)) (part of the [Brooklyn-Queens Expressway](/wiki/Brooklyn-Queens_Expressway)), the [Pulaski Bridge](/wiki/Pulaski_Bridge), and the JJ Byrne Memorial Bridge, all of which carry traffic over [Newtown Creek](/wiki/Newtown_Creek), and the [Marine Parkway Bridge](/wiki/Marine_Parkway_Bridge) connecting Brooklyn to the [Rockaway Peninsula](/wiki/Rockaway_Peninsula).

### Waterways[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=34)]

Brooklyn was long a major shipping port, especially at the [Brooklyn Army Terminal](/wiki/Brooklyn_Army_Terminal) in [Sunset Park](/wiki/Sunset_Park,_Brooklyn). Most container ship cargo operations have shifted to the New Jersey side of New York Harbor, while the [Brooklyn Cruise Terminal](/wiki/Brooklyn_Cruise_Terminal) in [Red Hook](/wiki/Red_Hook,_Brooklyn) is a focal point for New York's growing cruise industry. The [*Queen Mary 2*](/wiki/Queen_Mary_2), one of the [world's largest ocean liners](/wiki/List_of_the_world's_largest_cruise_ships), was designed specifically to fit under the [Verrazano-Narrows Bridge](/wiki/Verrazano-Narrows_Bridge), the longest suspension bridge in the United States. She makes regular ports of call at the Red Hook terminal on her transatlantic crossings from [Southampton, England](/wiki/Southampton,_England).

[NY Waterway](/wiki/NY_Waterway) offers commuter services from the western shore of Brooklyn to points in [Lower Manhattan](/wiki/Lower_Manhattan), [Midtown](/wiki/Midtown_Manhattan), and [Long Island City](/wiki/Long_Island_City), as well as tours and charters. [SeaStreak](/wiki/SeaStreak) also offers weekday ferry service between the [Brooklyn Army Terminal](/wiki/Brooklyn_Army_Terminal) and the Manhattan ferry slips at [Pier 11](/wiki/Pier_11) downtown and [East 34th Street](/wiki/East_34th_Street) in midtown. A [Cross-Harbor Rail Tunnel](/wiki/Cross-Harbor_Rail_Tunnel), originally proposed in the 1920s as a core project for the then new [Port Authority of New York](/wiki/Port_Authority_of_New_York) is again being studied and discussed as a way to ease freight movements across a large swath of the metropolitan area.

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## Education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=35)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

Education in Brooklyn is provided by a vast number of public and private institutions. Public schools in the borough are managed by the [New York City Department of Education](/wiki/New_York_City_Department_of_Education), the largest public school system.

[Brooklyn Technical High School](/wiki/Brooklyn_Technical_High_School) (commonly called Brooklyn Tech), a New York City public high school, is the largest specialized high school for science, mathematics, and technology in the United States.[[74]](#cite_note-74) Brooklyn Tech opened in 1922. Brooklyn Tech is located across the street from [Fort Greene Park](/wiki/Fort_Greene_Park). This high school was built from 1930 to 1933 at a cost of about $6,000,000 and is 12 stories high. It covers about half of a city block.[[75]](#cite_note-75) Brooklyn Tech is noted for its famous alumni[[76]](#cite_note-76) (including two Nobel Laureates), its academics, and the large number of graduates attending prestigious universities.

### Higher education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=36)]

#### Public colleges[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=37)]

[Brooklyn College](/wiki/Brooklyn_College) is a senior college of the [City University of New York](/wiki/City_University_of_New_York), and was the first public coeducational [liberal arts college](/wiki/Liberal_arts_college) in New York City. The College ranked in the top 10 nationally for the second consecutive year in [Princeton Review](/wiki/Princeton_Review)’s 2006 guidebook, *America’s Best Value Colleges*. Many of its students are first and second generation Americans.

Founded in 1970, [Medgar Evers College](/wiki/Medgar_Evers_College) is a senior college of the [City University of New York](/wiki/City_University_of_New_York), with a mission to develop and maintain high quality, professional, career-oriented undergraduate degree programs in the context of a liberal arts education. The College offers programs both at the baccalaureate and associate degree levels, as well as Adult and Continuing Education classes for Central Brooklyn residents, corporations, government agencies, and community organizations. Medgar Evers College is a few blocks east of [Prospect Park](/wiki/Prospect_Park_(Brooklyn)) in [Crown Heights](/wiki/Crown_Heights,_Brooklyn).

CUNY's [New York City College of Technology](/wiki/New_York_City_College_of_Technology) (City Tech) of The City University of New York (CUNY) (Downtown Brooklyn/Brooklyn Heights) is the largest public college of technology in New York State and a national model for technological education. Established in 1946, City Tech can trace its roots to 1881 when the Technical Schools of the Metropolitan Museum of Art were renamed the New York Trade School. That institution—which became the Voorhees Technical Institute many decades later—was soon a model for the development of technical and vocational schools worldwide. In 1971, Voorhees was incorporated into City Tech.

[SUNY Downstate College of Medicine](/wiki/SUNY_Downstate_College_of_Medicine), originally founded as the Long Island College Hospital in 1860, is the oldest hospital-based medical school in the United States. The Medical Center comprises the College of Medicine, College of Health Related Professions, College of Nursing, School of Public Health, School of Graduate Studies, and University Hospital of Brooklyn. The Nobel Prize winner [Robert F. Furchgott](/wiki/Robert_F._Furchgott) was a member of its faculty. Half of the Medical Center's students are minorities or immigrants. The College of Medicine has the highest percentage of minority students of any medical school in New York State.

#### Private colleges[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=38)]

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Brooklyn_Law_School_Fell_Hall.jpg)[Brooklyn Law School's](/wiki/Brooklyn_Law_School) 1994 [new classical](/wiki/New_Classical_Architecture) "Fell Hall" tower, by architect [Robert A. M. Stern](/wiki/Robert_A._M._Stern) [Brooklyn Law School](/wiki/Brooklyn_Law_School) was founded in 1901 and is notable for its diverse student body. Women and African Americans were enrolled in 1909. According to the Leiter Report, a compendium of law school rankings published by [Brian Leiter](/wiki/Brian_Leiter), Brooklyn Law School places 31st nationally for quality of students.[[77]](#cite_note-77) [Long Island University](/wiki/Long_Island_University) is a private university headquartered in [Brookville](/wiki/Brookville,_New_York) on [Long Island](/wiki/Long_Island), with a campus in [Downtown Brooklyn](/wiki/Downtown_Brooklyn) with 6,417 undergraduate students. The Brooklyn campus has strong science and medical technology programs, at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

[thumb|Higgins Hall at the](/wiki/File:Pratt_Institute_Higgins_Hall_rebuilt_center_section.jpg) [Pratt Institute](/wiki/Pratt_Institute) [Pratt Institute](/wiki/Pratt_Institute), in [Clinton Hill](/wiki/Clinton_Hill,_Brooklyn), is a private college founded in 1887 with programs in engineering, architecture, and the arts. Some buildings in the school's Brooklyn campus are [official landmarks](/wiki/New_York_City_Landmarks_Preservation_Commission). Pratt has over 4700 students, with most at its Brooklyn campus. Graduate programs include library and information science, architecture, and urban planning. Undergraduate programs include architecture, construction management, writing, critical and visual studies, industrial design and fine arts, totaling over 25 programs in all.

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Wunsch_building_among_MetroTech.jpg)[NYU Tandon](/wiki/New_York_University_Tandon_School_of_Engineering) Wunsch Building The [New York University Tandon School of Engineering](/wiki/New_York_University_Tandon_School_of_Engineering), the United States' second oldest private [institute of technology](/wiki/Institute_of_technology), founded in 1854, has its main campus in Downtown's [MetroTech Center](/wiki/MetroTech_Center), a commercial, civic and educational redevelopment project of which it was a key sponsor. NYU-Tandon is one of the 18 schools and colleges that comprise [New York University](/wiki/New_York_University) (NYU).[[78]](#cite_note-78)[[79]](#cite_note-79)[[80]](#cite_note-80)[[81]](#cite_note-81) [St. Francis College](/wiki/St._Francis_College) is a Catholic college located in [Brooklyn Heights](/wiki/Brooklyn_Heights) and was founded in 1859 by Franciscan friars. Today, there are over 2,400 students attending the small liberal arts college. St. Francis is considered by the [*New York Times*](/wiki/New_York_Times) as one of the more diverse colleges, and was ranked one of the best baccalaureate colleges by both [*Forbes*](/wiki/Forbes) magazine and *U.S. News & World Report*.[[82]](#cite_note-82)[[83]](#cite_note-83)[[84]](#cite_note-84) Brooklyn also has smaller liberal arts institutions, such as [Saint Joseph's College](/wiki/St._Joseph's_College_(New_York)) in Clinton Hill and [Boricua College](/wiki/Boricua_College) in [Williamsburg](/wiki/Williamsburg,_Brooklyn).

#### Community colleges[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=39)]

[Kingsborough Community College](/wiki/Kingsborough_Community_College) is a junior college in the [City University of New York](/wiki/City_University_of_New_York) system, located in [Manhattan Beach](/wiki/Manhattan_Beach,_Brooklyn).

## Brooklyn Public Library[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=40)]

[thumb|left|The Central Library at](/wiki/File:Brooklyn_Public_Library_by_DS.JPG) [Grand Army Plaza](/wiki/Grand_Army_Plaza).

As an independent system, separate from the New York and Queens public library systems, the [Brooklyn Public Library](/wiki/Brooklyn_Public_Library)[[85]](#cite_note-85) offers thousands of public programs, millions of books, and use of more than 850 free Internet-accessible computers. It also has books and periodicals in all the major languages spoken in Brooklyn, including English, Russian, Chinese, Spanish, Hebrew, and [Haitian Kreyòl](/wiki/Haitian Kreyòl), as well as French, Yiddish, Hindi, Bengali, Polish, Italian, and Arabic. The Central Library is a landmarked building facing [Grand Army Plaza](/wiki/Grand_Army_Plaza).

There are 58 library branches, placing one within a half mile of each Brooklyn resident. In addition to its specialized Business Library in Brooklyn Heights, the Library is preparing to construct its new Visual & Performing Arts Library (VPA) in the BAM Cultural District, which will focus on the link between new and emerging arts and technology and house traditional and digital collections. It will provide access and training to arts applications and technologies not widely available to the public. The collections will include the subjects of art, theater, dance, music, film, photography and architecture. A special archive will house the records and history of Brooklyn's arts communities. [Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## Partnerships with districts of foreign cities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=41)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

* [Anzio, Lazio](/wiki/Anzio), [Italy](/wiki/Italy) (since 1990)
* [Gdynia](/wiki/Gdynia), [Poland](/wiki/Poland) (since 1991)[[86]](#cite_note-86)\* [Beşiktaş, Istanbul Province](/wiki/Beşiktaş), [Turkey](/wiki/Turkey) (since 2005)[[87]](#cite_note-87)\* [Leopoldstadt, Vienna](/wiki/Leopoldstadt), [Austria](/wiki/Austria) (since 2007)[[88]](#cite_note-88)[[89]](#cite_note-89)[[90]](#cite_note-90)\* [London Borough of Lambeth](/wiki/London_Borough_of_Lambeth), [United Kingdom](/wiki/United_Kingdom)
* [Bnei Brak](/wiki/Bnei_Brak), [Israel](/wiki/Israel)

## Hospitals and healthcare[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=42)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main)

* [Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center](/wiki/Brookdale_University_Hospital_and_Medical_Center) [[91]](#cite_note-91)\* The [Medical Society of the County of Kings](/wiki/Medical_Society_of_the_County_of_Kings), Inc. (founded 1822): its mission is "to foster progress in the science and art of medicine and to promote, preserve and enforce the highest of standards of ethical and proficient medical care".[[92]](#cite_note-92)[Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## See also[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=43)]

[Template:Col-begin](/wiki/Template:Col-begin)[Template:Col-break](/wiki/Template:Col-break) **General links:**

* [NHRP listings in Kings County](/wiki/National_Register_of_Historic_Places_listings_in_Kings_County,_New_York)
* [List of people from Brooklyn](/wiki/List_of_people_from_Brooklyn)
* [List of counties in New York](/wiki/List_of_counties_in_New_York)
* [List of tallest buildings in Brooklyn](/wiki/List_of_tallest_buildings_in_Brooklyn)

[Template:Col-break](/wiki/Template:Col-break) **History of neighborhoods:**

* [Bedford–Stuyvesant](/wiki/Bedford–Stuyvesant,_Brooklyn#History)
* [Bushwick](/wiki/Bushwick,_Brooklyn#History)
* [Canarsie](/wiki/Canarsie#History)
* [Coney Island](/wiki/Coney_Island#History)
* [Crown Heights](/wiki/Crown_Heights,_Brooklyn#History)

[Template:Col-break](/wiki/Template:Col-break)

* [East Williamsburg](/wiki/East_Williamsburg,_Brooklyn#History)
* [Gravesend](/wiki/Gravesend,_Brooklyn#History)
* [Greenpoint](/wiki/Greenpoint,_Brooklyn#History)
* [New Utrecht](/wiki/New_Utrecht,_Brooklyn#History)
* [Park Slope](/wiki/Park_Slope#History)
* [Williamsburg](/wiki/Williamsburg,_Brooklyn#History)

[Template:Col-break](/wiki/Template:Col-break) **General history:**

* [Brooklyn Visual Heritage](/wiki/Brooklyn_Visual_Heritage)
* [History of New York City](/wiki/History_of_New_York_City)
* [List of former municipalities in New York City](/wiki/List_of_former_municipalities_in_New_York_City)
* [Timeline of Brooklyn history](/wiki/Timeline_of_Brooklyn_history)

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## References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=44)]

### Notes[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=45)]

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## Further reading[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=46)]

### Published 1950–present[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=47)]

[Template:Refbegin](/wiki/Template:Refbegin)

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* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
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* [Template:Cite EB1911](/wiki/Template:Cite_EB1911)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)

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## External links[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=49)]

[Template:Wikisource](/wiki/Template:Wikisource) [Template:Commons category](/wiki/Template:Commons_category) [Template:Wikivoyage](/wiki/Template:Wikivoyage)

* [Official website of the Brooklyn Borough President](http://www.brooklyn-usa.org/)
* [Brooklyn Tourism](http://www.visitbrooklyn.org/)
* [Brooklyn Neighborhoods](http://www.brooklyn101.com/)
* [All About Brooklyn](http://www.brooklyn.com/)
* [Kings County HVAC](http://www.kingscountyhvac.com/)

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* Brooklyn Historical Society. [Timeline](http://brooklynhistory.org/default/timeline.html)
* Digital Public Library of America. [Items related to Brooklyn](http://dp.la/search?utf8=✓&page_size=100&q=brooklyn), various dates.
* [The Brooklyn Daily Eagle Online, 1841-1902](http://www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/eagle/) (from the Brooklyn Public Library)
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* [Historic Maps of Brooklyn](http://www.davidrumsey.com/directory/where/Brooklyn++New+York++N+Y++/) hosted by the [David Rumsey Historical Map Collection](/wiki/David_Rumsey_Historical_Map_Collection)
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