

Located just 25 miles north of Manhattan, and 32 minutes by express train, the City of White Plains is a dynamic business, retail and cultural hub. Centrally located in Westchester County, it is one of the top suburban office and retail centers in the nation.

In the last several decades, many major companies have relocated to White Plains and the surrounding area. Today, the economy of the city revolves around such large companies as AllianceBernstein L.P., The Dannon Company Inc., IBM Corporation, March of Dimes, Nokia Inc., and Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.

Downtown White Plains has become a corporate center, attracting high technology firms, major corporations, and three colleges (Pace University, Berkeley College, and Mercy College). During the day, the population of the city swells from just over 50,000 to approximately 250,000.

The White Plains economy benefits from more than \$1.3 billion in annual retail sales. With three major malls and a revitalized downtown featuring fine restaurants and luxury retail stores, White Plains is flourishing.

The newest addition to the city is The Ritz-Carlton, Westchester, a development featuring two residential and hotel towers, each 40 stories tall. The structure is the tallest building between Manhattan and Boston.

White Plains is the county seat of Westchester County. It is also home to one of two Federal courthouses for the Southern District of New York. In 1978, Congress designated White Plains as a “place of holding court.” The U.S. Courthouse in White Plains was so dedicated on November 13, 1995.

The city traces its roots back to colonial times. First settled by non-natives in 1683, the name “White Plains” is said to refer to either the groves of white balsam which covered it or from the heavy mist which hovered over the nearby swamplands.

White Plains played a notable role during the Revolutionary War. The Declaration of Independence was first read in New York in White Plains on July 10, 1776. Later that Fall, troops led by George Washington took up positions in the hills of the village. During the Battle of White Plains, British forces suffered twice as many losses as the Continentals.

Travel to and from White Plains is incredibly convenient. Three major metropolitan airports, LaGuardia, JFK and Newark Liberty, are each within a one-hour drive. In addition, Westchester County Airport is located in neighboring Harrison. Two Metro-North Railroad stations serve the city. The Bronx River Parkway is the main north-south highway and The Cross-Westchester Expressway (I-287) is the main east-west highway through White Plains.