

New York City Land Use

New York City's land uses are divided in eleven broad use categories, derived from data from various New York City agencies. The latest land use data as well as supplemental information is available on the Department of City Planning's [Open Data](#) page.

One- and Two-Family Residences

Low-density one- and two-family residences, the largest use of city land, are found mostly in Staten Island, eastern Queens, southern Brooklyn, and northwest and eastern Bronx.

Multi-Family Walkup Residences

Multi-family walk-up residences are generally older tenement style residential buildings or newer low-rise buildings with three or more dwelling units.

Multi-Family Elevator Residences

Multi-family elevator buildings are usually larger apartment buildings and newer buildings with five or more stories. This housing type is most common in Manhattan, western Brooklyn, western Queens and the south Bronx.

Mixed Residential and Commercial

This use is most often typified by apartment buildings with stores and/or neighborhood services on the ground floor. Mixed-use buildings with both offices and residences are also included, but less common.

Commercial Uses

These uses occupy only a fraction of the city's land, but the space is used intensively. Most of the city's jobs are in commercial areas, ranging from the office towers of Manhattan and the regional business districts of downtown Brooklyn, Long Island City, Jamaica, and the Hub, to the local shopping corridors throughout the city.

Industrial / Manufacturing

Industrial uses, the warehouses and factories occupying a small percentage of the city's total lot area, are found primarily in the South Bronx, on either side of Newtown Creek in Brooklyn and Queens, and on the northern and western shores of Brooklyn and Staten Island waterfronts.

Transportation / Utility

Airports, ferry terminals, train yards, sewage treatment facilities and power plants are among the city's essential infrastructure uses. JFK and LaGuardia airports alone occupy almost half the land devoted to these uses.

Public Facilities and Institutions

Public facilities and institutions include schools, hospitals and nursing homes, museums and performance centers, houses of worship, police stations and fire houses, courts and detention centers, etc, and are spread throughout the city.

Open Space and Recreation

This use category includes public parks, playgrounds and nature preserves, cemeteries, amusement areas, beaches, stadiums and golf courses.

Parking

Parking includes public and private off-street lots and free-standing garages that are not accessory to residential or commercial buildings.

Vacant Land

Vacant land is land that is not used for any of the above uses.

No Data

Lots for which land use information could not be derived.