



Union County, New Jersey



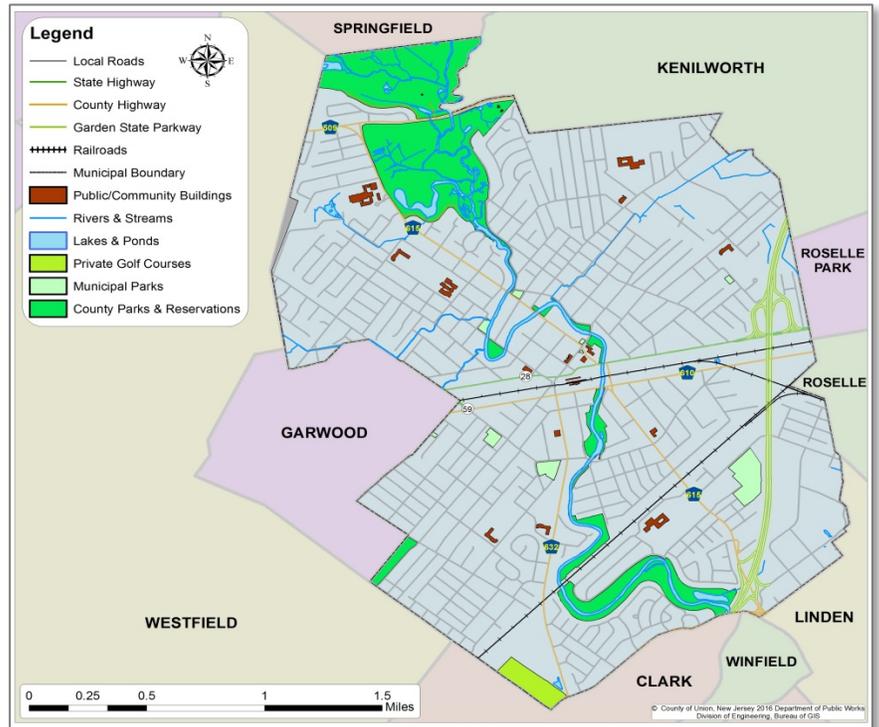
Township of Cranford

www.cranford.com

Demographics

Population	23,972
Land Area	4.83
Per capita income	\$51,157
Percent below poverty	2.3%
Median household income	\$122,848
Median age	42.9
Total housing units	8,942
Median housing value	\$463,800
Average household size	2.8
Mean travel time to work	33
Age 3+ enrolled in school	5,997
Persons per square mile	4,963.5
Unemployment rate	5.1%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2013-2017 (5-Year Estimates)



GIS Website to Access High Detail Interactive Map:

<http://ucgis.ucnj.org/UnionCountyGIS/WebPages/Map/FundyViewer.aspx>

History, Location and Highlights

Situated in the middle of Union County, Cranford is crossed by the meandering Rahway River from north to south, with ample parkland along its banks. The township is served by the NJ Transit Raritan Valley Line, with Cranford Station located on North Avenue. Cranford was originally known as the Venice of New Jersey, and is home to the oldest continuously operated commercial building in New Jersey, the Williams-Droescher Mill on Lincoln Avenue. Incorporated as a township in 1871, Cranford became valuable when the railroad made it accessible to New York City. Today, Cranford boasts a vibrant downtown with interesting independent shops and an acclaimed and growing restaurant scene. Other highlights and projects include:

- Revitalization of the Centennial Avenue business district, spearheaded by The Centennial Village group, a citizen committee
- Riverfront at Cranford Station – A mixed use redevelopment project with 127 residential units
- Woodmont Station – 163 residential units
- Beautiful parks and recreation amenities, including two public pools and a new recreation center on Walnut Avenue.

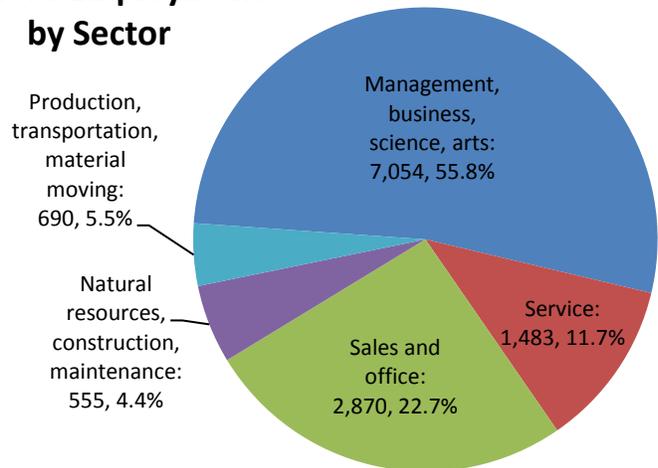


Above: Downtown Cranford near train station. Photo source: Hallmark Realtors

Transportation

In 2003, Cranford was named a Transit Village by New Jersey Department of Transportation. The township is served by the Raritan Valley Rail Line with a station on North Avenue, as well as by NJ Transit Bus # 56, 58, 59 and 113. The Garden State Parkways runs through the eastern portion of the township. According to 2017 US Census Bureau American Community Survey estimate data, 81.4% of Cranford residents drive to work (76.5% drove alone and 4.9% carpoled) and 12.2% use public transit. Approximately 39.8% of Cranford's workforce commutes outside of Union County, and 14.1% commutes out of state.

Cranford Employment by Sector



Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2013-2017 (5-Year Estimates)

Housing

Cranford is a mature, suburban community with Cranford has 8,942 housing units, of which 95.1% are occupied and 73.2% are single-unit, detached style. 78.3% of Cranford's housing is owner-occupied and 12.9% are in three or more unit structures. Consistent with the township's historical character, 75.5% of its housing stock was built prior to 1960. The median housing value is \$463,800. The median gross rent in Cranford is \$1,566.

Community Facilities & Services

Public Schools:

- Bloomingdale Avenue School (K-2)
- Brookside Place School (K-5)
- Cranford High School (9-12)
- Hillside Avenue School (K-8)
- Lincoln School (Cranford Achievement Programs)
- Livingston Avenue School (3-5)
- Orange Avenue School (3-8)
- Walnut Avenue School (K-2)

Private Schools:

- St. Michael School (PK-8)
- Crestview Educational Trust (5-12)
- Jardine Academy-Cranford (ungraded)

College:

- Union County College

Cranford Public Library:

- 224 Walnut Avenue

Fire Department:

- 7 Springfield Avenue Station staffed 24/7
- Paid and volunteer firefighters with state certified Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs)

Police:

- Force of 45 sworn law enforcement officers and 10 civilian communications officers. All patrol officers trained in first aid and emergency lifesaving techniques

First Aid:

- Cranford EMS – run by Police Dept.
- Cranford First Aid Squad – Volunteer staff providing emergency medical services on weeknights and weekends

Utilities:

- Gas – Elizabethtown Gas Company
- Electric – Public Service Energy & Gas
- Water – New Jersey American Water Company
- Phone – Verizon
- Cable – Comcast Cable Company

Web Links:

- Township of Cranford: <https://www.cranfordnj.org/>
- Union County: <http://ucnj.org/>
- Cranford Board of Education: <http://cranfordschools.org/>
- Cranford Chamber of Commerce: <http://www.cranford.com/chamber/>



Above: Downtown Cranford. Photo Source: Wall Street Journal