



Union County, New Jersey



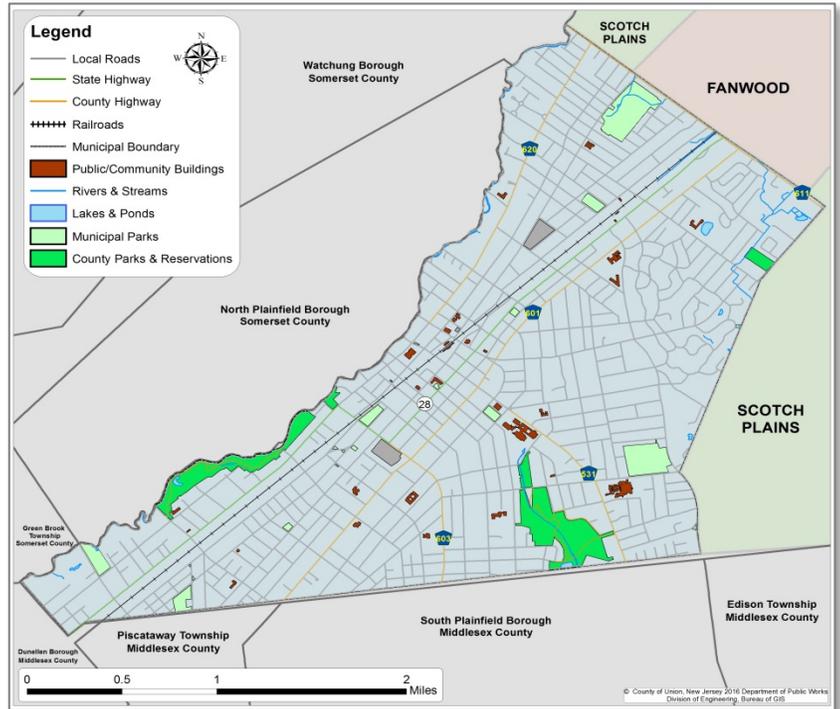
City of Plainfield
<http://plainfield.com>

Demographics

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Population | 51,097 |
| Land Area (sq. miles) | 6.02 |
| Per capita income | \$24,411 |
| Percent below poverty | 20.9% |
| Median household income | \$56,425 |
| Median age | 34.2 |
| Total housing units | 16,365 |
| Median housing value | \$236,400 |
| Average household size | 3.4 |
| Mean travel time to work | 31 |
| Age 3+ enrolled in school | 12,233 |
| Persons per square mile | 8,484.2 |
| Unemployment rate | 8.6%* |

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

*USDOL Bureau of Labor Statistics – December 2018



GIS Website to Access High Detail Interactive Map :

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

History, Location & Highlights

The City of Plainfield is located in southwestern Union County, and is bordered by Somerset County to the northwest, Middlesex County to the south, Scotch Plains to the east and north, and Fanwood to the east. Plainfield became a township in 1847, a village in 1867 and finally a city in 1869. The City grew significantly following the completion of the railroad between Elizabethtown and Plainfield, and is still served by the Raritan Valley Line, which connects it to other destinations in the State and New York City. In 2014, Plainfield was named #40 on *Business Insider's* list of the top 50 most exciting small cities in America. The City of Plainfield is the recipient of the NJ Future 2015 Smart Growth Award for a project to rezone both train station areas, including designation of a new high-density residential zone and of the Gateway Redevelopment Area, to encourage transit-oriented development. The Plainfield train station received Transit Village designation from the New Jersey Department of Transportation in 2014, and now has 15 projects either completed or under construction that have begun revitalizing the city's core. There are numerous sites, including homes, parks, and districts in the City that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

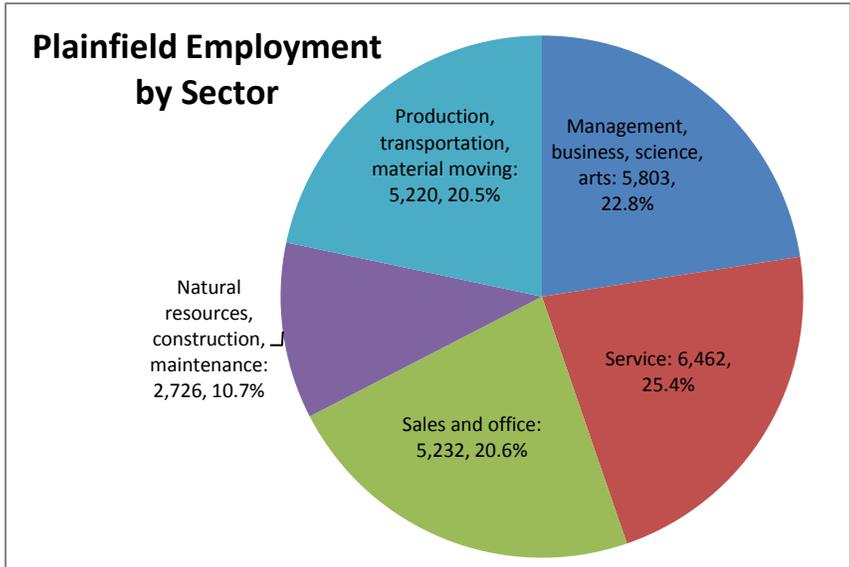
Transportation

In 2014, Plainfield was designated a Transit Village by the New Jersey Department of Transportation. Plainfield is traversed by the Raritan Valley Line and is served by two NJ Transit train



Historic Netherlands Train Station. Photo Source: Amanda Brown, Star Ledger.

stations: Netherwood and Plainfield. In March 2014, NJ Transit began offering a “one-seat ride” service from Plainfield to New York Penn Station on off-peak weekdays. Route 28 also runs through the City and is the major commercial artery. The City is served by NJ Transit bus lines 59, 65, 66, 113, 114, 819, 822, and 986. For working Plainfield residents, 68% use a private automobile to commute to work, either alone (59.4%) or in a carpool (8.6%). 8.8% use public transportation, 3.8% walk or ride a bicycle, and over 18.2% report commuting to work via taxicab, motorcycle, or by other means.



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

Housing

The City of Plainfield contains 16,365 housing units, of which 91.2% are occupied (46.1% by owners and 53.9% by renters). 43.8% of Plainfield’s housing stock is single-unit detached. 17.2% of the units are in two-unit structures and 33.1% are in structures with three or more units. 64.6% of Plainfield’s housing stock was built prior to 1960, and Plainfield has a significant stock of historic homes and districts that have been designated at the local, state or national levels. The median housing value in Plainfield is \$236,400 and the median gross rent is \$1,170 per month.

Community Facilities & Services

Public Schools:

- Nine K-5 elementary schools
- One K-8 school
- Two 6-8 middle schools
- Three high schools: Plainfield High School, Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies, and Barack Obama Academy for Academic and Civic Development Alternative High School

Private Schools:

- Messiah Lutheran School (PreK-2)
- Koinonia Academy (PreK-12)
- Harvest Learning Center (PreK-7, alternative school)

Public Library:

- 800 Park Avenue

Fire Department:

- Operates three stations, with headquarters at 315 Central Avenue

Police Department:

- NON-EMERGENCY number (908)753-3131

Community Emergency Response Team:

- Trains community members in disaster response

Parks & Recreation:

- Eleven community parks and playgrounds



1893 Queen Anne house in the Van Wyck Brooks Historic District; Source: www.njmonthly.com

Web Links:

- City website: <http://plainfield.com>
- Union County: <http://ucnj.org/>
- Public Schools: <http://www.plainfieldnj12.org/>
- Public Library: <http://www.plainfieldlibrary.info/>