

MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY

Overview



Brookdale Park Rose Garden - Photo: Brookdale Park Conservancy

Montclair is a suburban town in Essex County with a more urban feel due to a lively downtown and many public amenities. However, with 20 public parks and two nature reserves, Montclair still features ample green space. It also has a significant arts community, with local galleries, a thriving theater scene, and film sites made famous by *The Sopranos*. Montclair is a popular commuter town due to many desirable homes and schools. NJ Transit runs directly from Montclair to New York City and it is often referred to as New York City's sixth borough due to its strong arts and cultural community.



Wellmont Theater - Photo: Wikipedia



Downtown Montclair – Photo: Montclair Local

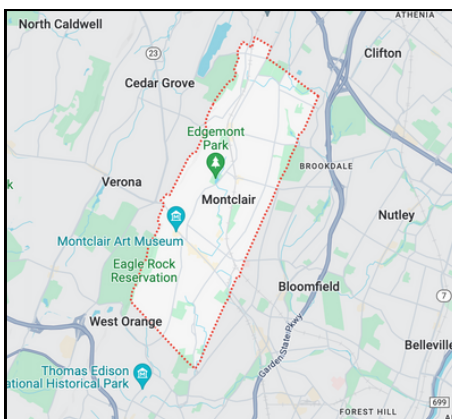


Montclair Town Sign – Photo: Google



Edgemont Park – Photo: Montclair Local

Location



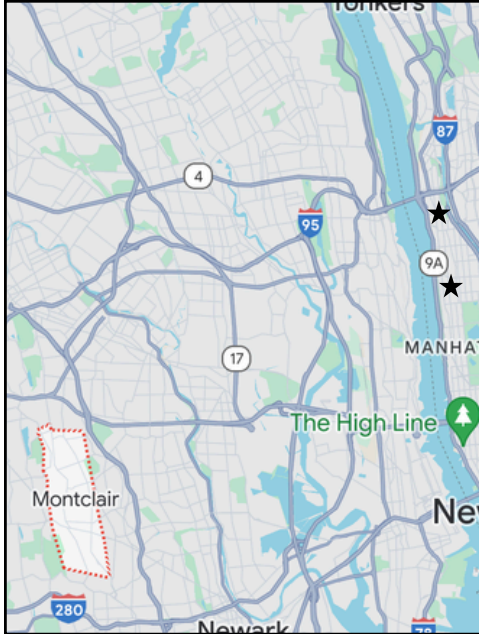
Montclair Map

Montclair is in Essex County, New Jersey, near the towns of West Orange and Bloomfield, and the city of East Orange. It is about half an hour northwest of Newark. It is around six square miles, containing and surrounded by many parks. There are six train stations throughout the town.



Glenfield Park – Photo: Essex County Parks

Living in Montclair and Working at Columbia



Montclair is a great community to live in and commute to Columbia.

Commuting by Car:

- Traffic during rush hour can be heavy on highways in New Jersey and across the George Washington Bridge, but once in Manhattan it is a quick drive to Morningside, Manhattanville or CUIMC campuses.

Commuting by Public Transit:

- New Jersey Transit trains go directly to Penn Station where you can take the #2 or #3 train uptown and transfer to the #1 train at 96th. For CUIMC, you can take the A train from Penn Station.
- For more information refer to: njtransit.com/ and transportation.columbia.edu/

**Commuting to:
Morningside Heights & Manhattanville Campuses**



55-110
mins

via NJ-3 E and Henry
Hudson Pkwy



70
mins

via  NJ Transit & **2**
& **1**

**Commuting to:
CUIMC Campus**



50-100
mins

via Garden State Pkwy
N, GW Bridge



90
mins

via  NJ Transit & **A**

Real Estate and Housing



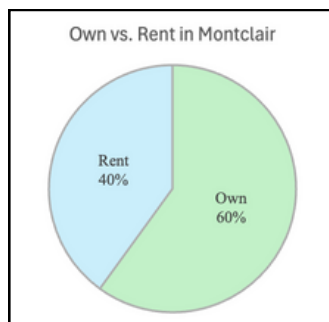
A House in Montclair – Photo: Zillow



An Apartment Building in Montclair – Photo: Zillow



A House in Montclair – Photo: Zillow



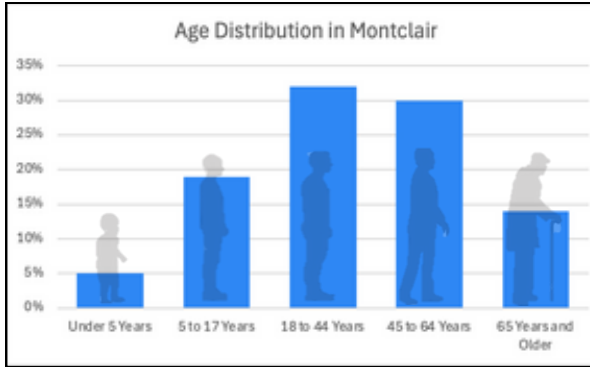
Most Montclair residents own a single-family house. Prices to purchase range from:
\$300,000 - \$1,250,000 for apartments and townhouses
\$500,000 - \$5,600,000 for single-family houses

Median Home Value: \$1,100,000

Median List Price/square foot: \$420

Median Rent: \$2850

Demographics



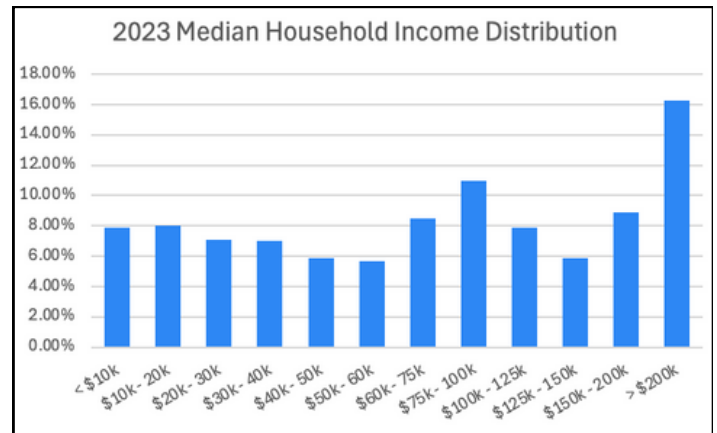
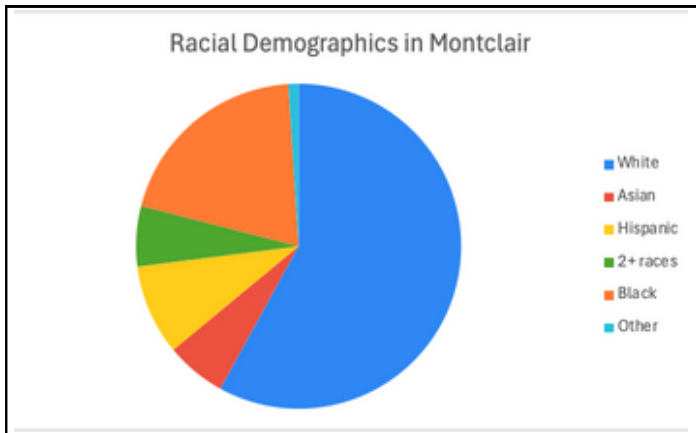
Population: 39,870
Households: 15,120

Population Density: 6,560 per sq. mile

2023 Median Household income: \$166,770



Montclair Jazz Festival - Photo: Jazz House Kids



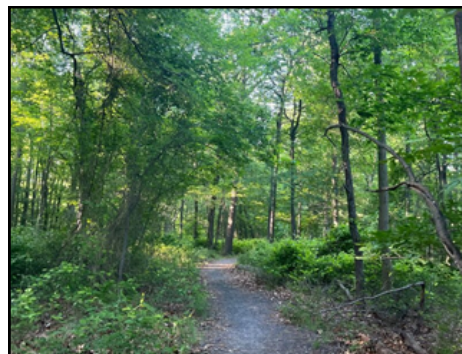
Sources: [census.gov](https://www.census.gov); [censusreporter.org](https://www.censusreporter.org); [city-data.com](https://www.city-data.com); [niche.com](https://www.niche.com)

Points of Interest



Montclair Art Museum – Photo: Wedding Wire

The Montclair Art Museum features many permanent and temporary exhibits primarily of American and Indigenous art. It also offers classes, camps, and workshops for children and families.



Eagle Rock Reservation – Photo: Montclair Girl

Eagle Rock Reservation is a large nature reserve and park featuring hiking trails and public spaces, including a segment of the New Jersey Lenape Trail. It also adjoins the Montclair Golf Club.



Avis Campbell Gardens – Photo: Montclair Girl

The Avis Campbell Gardens are public “secret” (hidden from the outside) flower gardens which are cultivated by the Garden Club of Montclair.

Montclair also features many public recreational spaces such as ice skating rinks, tennis courts, and pools, as well as a film festival, Montclair Film, and the highly-regarded Montclair Jazz Festival.

Schools

Montclair has a highly rated public school district with seven elementary schools, three middle schools, and one high school. Many residents choose this town for the public schools, but there are also several private and parochial options. For more information about public schools see: montclair.k12.nj.us/.



Hillside Elementary School - Photo: Google



Renaissance Middle School - Photo: Montclair Girl



Montclair High School - Photo: LinkedIn

History

The original inhabitants of the Montclair area, the Lenni Lenape, called the land Watchung. In the 1700s, the Dutch colonized the area and called it Speertown. In the 1800s, the area started to develop more, including the building of a wool mill and a post office, and the town was renamed West Bloomfield. In 1856, the railroad was extended into West Bloomfield, spurring the creation of a commuter town. The residents renamed the town Montclair, from the French for “clear mountain,” which gained official township status in 1868. In the late 1800s, the population of NYC commuters grew quickly, and schools, churches, a library, and an art museum were established. In the early 20th century, the population grew and diversified rapidly.



Montclair History Center and 1796 Period House -
Photo: Montclair History Center

During this period of expansion, Montclair State University was founded in 1908. Montclair was also home to several famous figures, such as Buzz Aldrin and Yogi Berra. Montclair State University houses the Yogi Berra Museum and Learning Center. The book turned movie and musical, “Cheaper by the Dozen” also takes place in Montclair.

Learn More About Montclair

[Christie's International Real Estate: Living in Montclair: A Lifestyle and Real Estate Guide to Montclair, New Jersey](#)

[PODS: Is Living in Montclair, NJ, Right for You?](#)

[NYT: Comparing Suburbs: Montclair in New Jersey vs. Dobbs Ferry in New York](#)

[Visit NJ: Montclair](#)

[Township of Montclair Website](#)

[Montclair Public Schools](#)

[Eagle Rock Reservation](#)

[Montclair Art Museum](#)

[The Garden Club of Montclair](#)

[Montclair Film](#)

[Montclair Jazz Festival](#)

[Zillow](#)