Westchester County covers an area of 450 square miles and has a diverse population residing in 45 municipalities. The county shares its northern border with Putnam county and its southern border with New York City. It is connected to the Long Island Sound and Connecticut on the east and the Hudson River on the west. It has retained much of its rural character while adopting the urban and suburban lifestyles reflecting by its proximity to New York City.

Nationally, Westchester is one of the larger counties in the United States and, in fact, has a population greater than 8 of the 50 states. Within New York State the county continues to rank eighth among the state’s 62 counties and seventh among the nineteen counties that comprise the New York metropolitan area.

Westchester County experienced a 5.6% population increase between 1990 and 2000, with Hispanics and other immigrants contributing to most of its growth. During this period, urban areas grew more quickly than suburban areas with the city of Yonkers having the largest population increase. Growth in the northern region continues but at a slower rate. Growth in recent years continues to be contributed to continued immigration trends.

**Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, Census and American Community Survey data