



Which Staten Island ZIP code earns the most? Check out our interactive income map

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STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - Economically, Staten Island is a decidedly middle-of-the-road borough.

It doesn't have the pockets of extreme wealth or extreme poverty that typify other city boroughs, and for that reason, actually bests Manhattan -- not to mention Brooklyn, Queens and the Bronx -- in median household income.

But as anyone who has passed through the borough can attest, income levels still vary wildly between neighborhoods.



Southern Staten Island ZIP codes report higher incomes than those up north, according to an analysis of 2012 census data.

Associated Press

Residents of Todt Hill, the wealthiest enclave on Staten Island, make more than seven times more on average than folks who live just a 10-minute ride away in the West Brighton Houses.

Incomes generally increase as you travel north-to-south down the Island -- an historical by-product of the disparate housing stock and walkability of the Island's North and South Shores, according to Dr. Jonathan Peters.

"The South Shore tends to be more single-family homes, larger homes, larger lots and that discourages a range of income classes," explained Peters, a finance professor at the College of Staten Island who studies regional planning.

With little in the way of public housing on the South Shore, cash-strapped residents are forced north, where affordable housing options are more plentiful and the number of renters rivals the number of home owners.

Between 39 and 57 percent of North Shore residents are renters, while fewer than 20 percent of South Shore residents rent on average, according to the most recent census data.

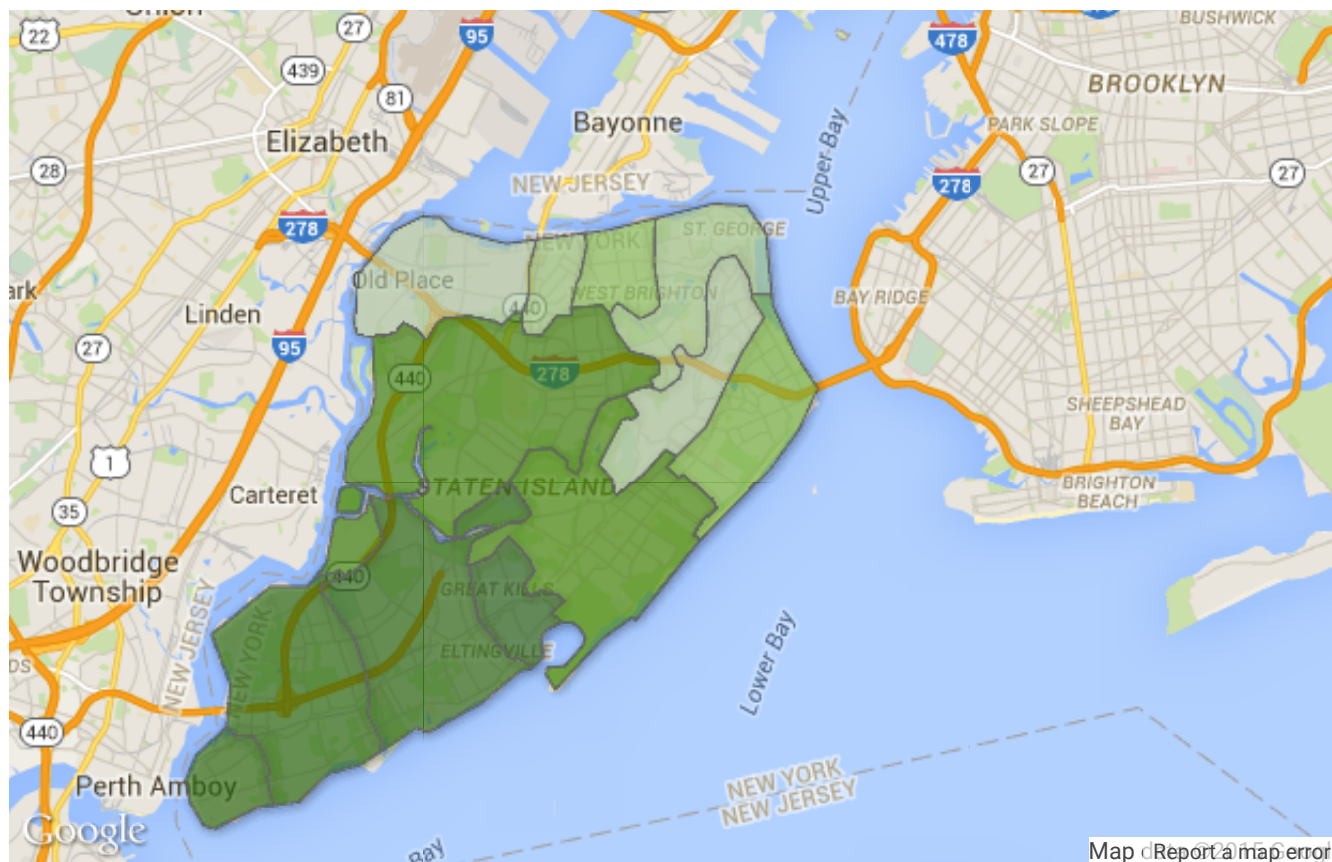
Walkability, while lacking Island-wide in comparison to other boroughs, is another aspect of **the North Shore's denser layout** that draws lower-income individuals who may not be able to afford a car.

"A car is a major income hurdle," Peters said. "If you have a car, you have more options for where you can live."

According to the most recent census data, the Island's wealthiest ZIP code -- as defined by median household income -- is the 10308, which is roughly coterminous with Great Kills.

The 10303 -- which spans Mariners Harbor, Arlington and parts of Bloomfield -- is the most impoverished.

Median household income in the 10308 (\$90,196) is 80 percent greater than median household income in the 10303 (\$50,137).



Click on the outlined ZIP codes in the interactive map above to see more information about your ZIP code. The darker green the area, the higher the median household income of the ZIP code's residents.

JOBS

Unsurprisingly, employment tracks closely with income. The Island's four wealthiest ZIP codes -- 10307, 10308, 10309 and 10312 -- have the lowest unemployment rates while the Island's four poorest ZIP codes -- 10301, 10302, 10303 and 10304 -- have the highest unemployment rates.

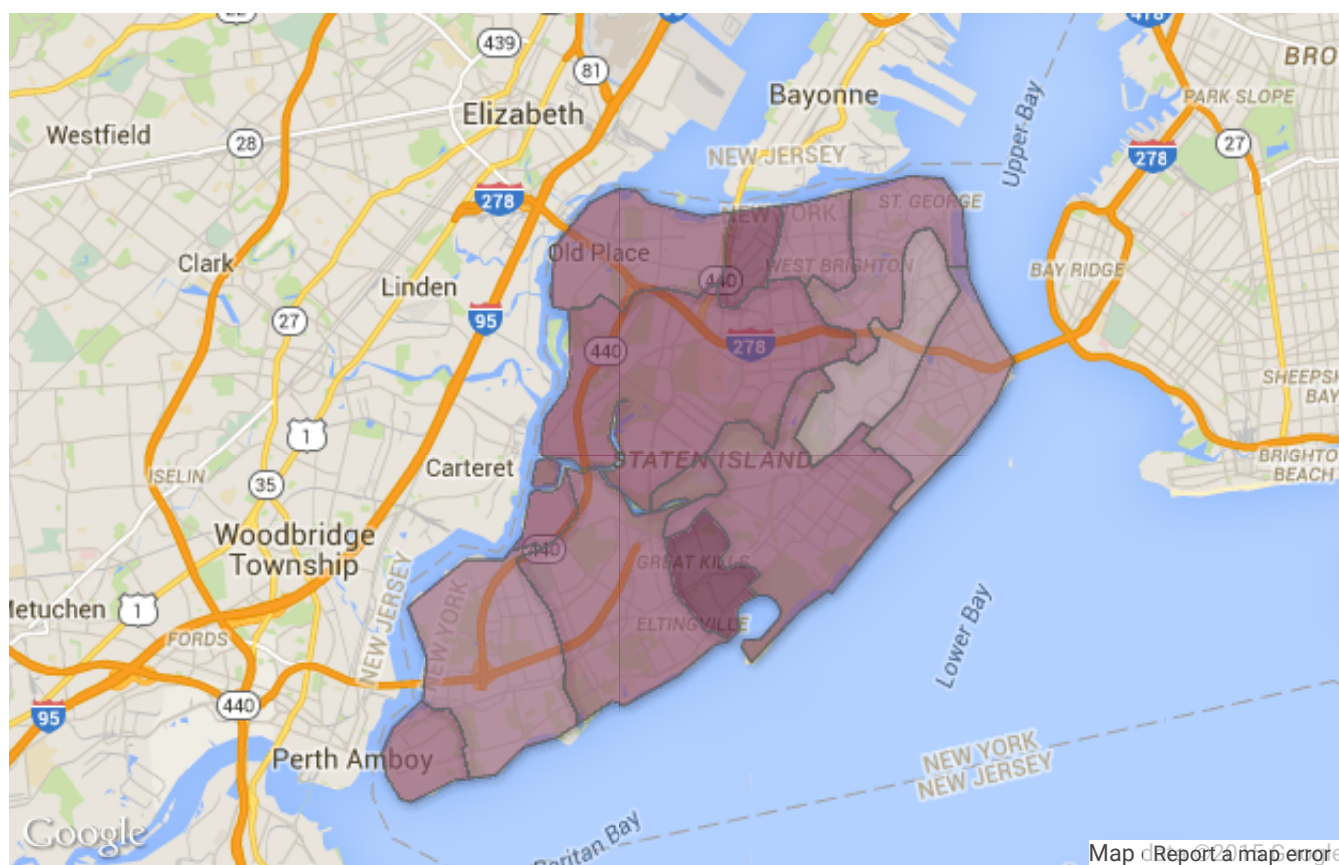
And it's not only whether you're working, but also what kind of work you do.

In wealthier ZIPs, the largest chunk of residents work in management, business, science and arts occupations, followed by sales and office jobs, and finally service occupations.

That trend is diminished, if not outright reversed in the Island's poorer ZIPs. Service jobs make up between 23 and 29 percent of jobs in Staten Island's four poorest ZIP codes, but make up no more than 20 percent of jobs in any other Island ZIP code.

While sales and office jobs are less common among residents in low-income ZIP codes, management, business, science and arts jobs aren't as clear-cut. Few residents in the Island's two poorest ZIP codes work in those professions, but the third and fifth poorest ZIPs -- 10301 and 10310 -- actually have a significant class of management, business, science and arts workers.

In fact the 10310 -- which encompasses West Brighton, Livingston and parts of Port Richmond and Westerleigh -- is the only ZIP code on the Island where more than 40 percent of residents work in management, business, science and arts fields.



Click on the outlined ZIP codes in the interactive map above to see more information about your ZIP code. The darker red the area, the higher the percentage of government workers of the ZIP code's residents.

EDUCATION

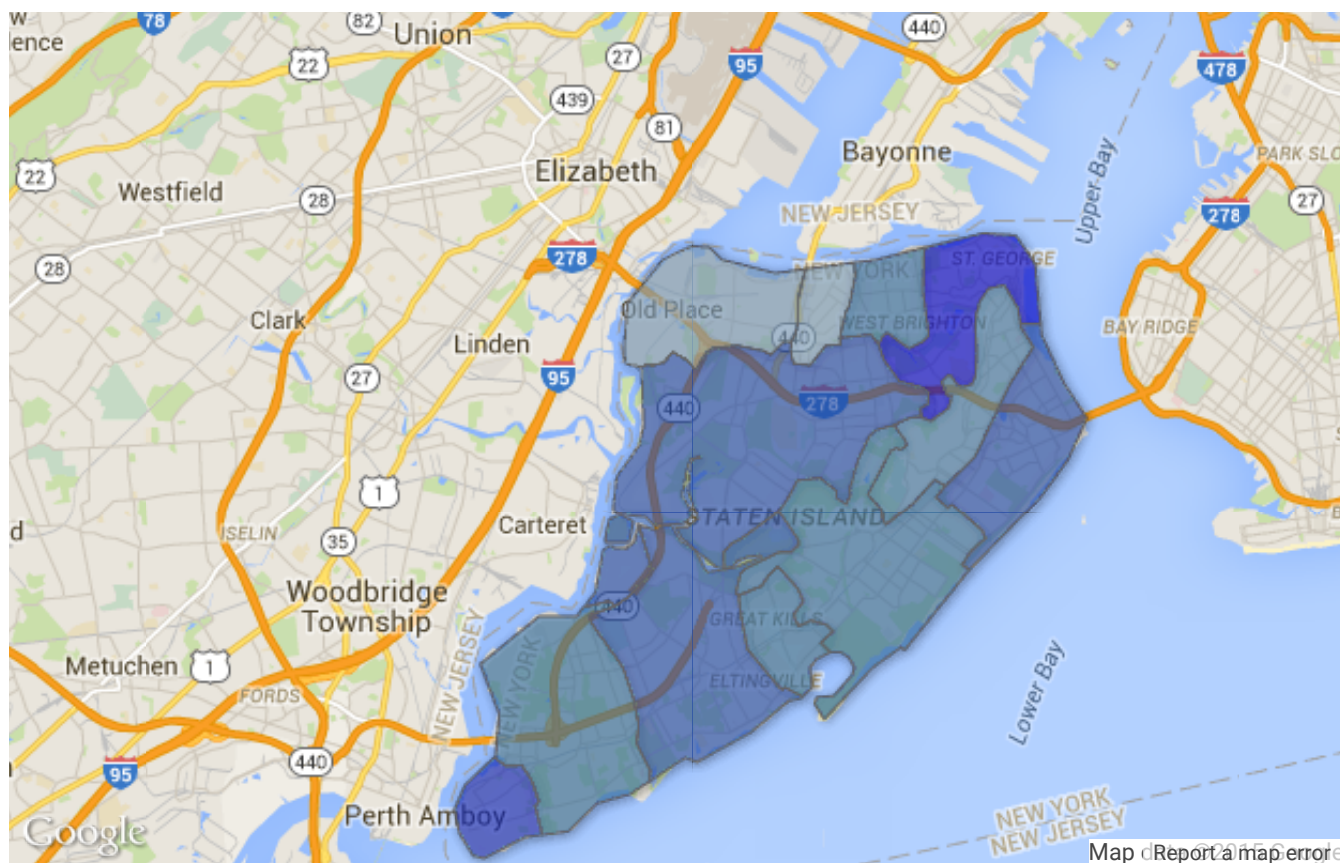
Education level is another major factor that translates into income, but not necessarily as you might think. A bachelor's degree is actually far less predictive of economic success on the Island than is a high school diploma.

The Island's four highest-earning ZIP codes are also the only ones where more than 90 percent of adult residents are high school graduates. Conversely, the three lowest-earning ZIPs on the Island are the ones where the

smallest percentage of adults have earned a high school diploma.

The "education equals income," adage doesn't hold nearly as true for college grads on the Island, where the four highest-earning ZIPs rank sixth, fifth, eighth and second, respectively, in percentage of residents with a bachelor's degree.

It's actually the oddly-shaped 10301, which includes St. George, New Brighton, Randall Manor, Silver Lake, Sunnyside and parts of Grymes Hill, Emerson Hill and Todt Hill, that has the most college graduates despite being the ZIP with the third lowest income.



Click on the outlined ZIP codes in the interactive map above to see more information about your ZIP code. The darker blue the area, the higher the percentage of residents with bachelor's degrees or higher.

Do you think the distribution of income on Staten Island has shifted over the past decade? **Click through to vote in our poll or add your own thoughts about the economic changes you've witnessed on the Island since the turn of the century.**

Zip Code	Median household income	Unemploym
10301	\$54,792	
10302	\$56,883	
10303	\$50,137	
10304	\$51,852	
10305	\$66,478	
10306	\$77,720	
10307	\$86,011	
10308	\$90,196	
10309	\$86,759	
10310	\$62,457	
10312	\$87,426	
10314	\$79,820	



Staten Island census data, 2012



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