

# Tall Buildings in Numbers

## New York City Scrapers

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New York's dramatic skyline, over a century in the making, has for years been the envy of cities around the world. From the very birth of the tall building typology, New York has been at the forefront of the scene. Even as recently as the 1970s, New York City alone contained over 50% of the world's 150 m+ buildings. The city's accomplishments, including both historic and under construction buildings, are impressive when examined in isolation as well as a part of the global whole. The study below examines the make-up and historical development of the New York City skyscraper.

By the end of 2011, 221 buildings 150 meters or taller will exist in New York City. This number, more than any other city save Hong Kong, makes up nearly 9% of the global total and 34% of the buildings in the United States.

In addition to these impressive figures, New York City has enjoyed a large number of records, including being the location of the first 150 meter building and the first supertall.

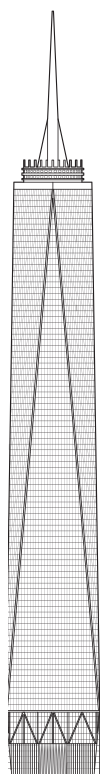
### Map: Location of New York City Skyscrapers

Including all buildings 150m+

- Office
- Hotel
- Other
- Residential
- Mixed-use

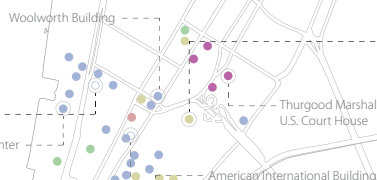
#### Notes:

1. Three of New York's 150 m+ buildings are not located in Manhattan and therefore not included in this map: The Brooklyn, Brooklyn; One Hanson Place, Brooklyn; and the Citicorp Building, Queens.
2. 150 meters was chosen as the minimum height threshold for this study to ensure accuracy of information.



New York's **One World Trade Center**, developed by the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, is set to become North America's tallest building when it completes in 2013, surpassing Chicago's Willis Tower by 99 meters (325 feet).

**Completion Date:** 2013 (est.)  
**Architectural Height:** 541 m (1,776 ft)  
**Stories:** 104  
**Primary Use:** Office  
**Structural Material:** Composite



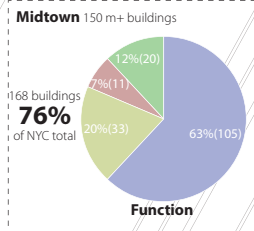
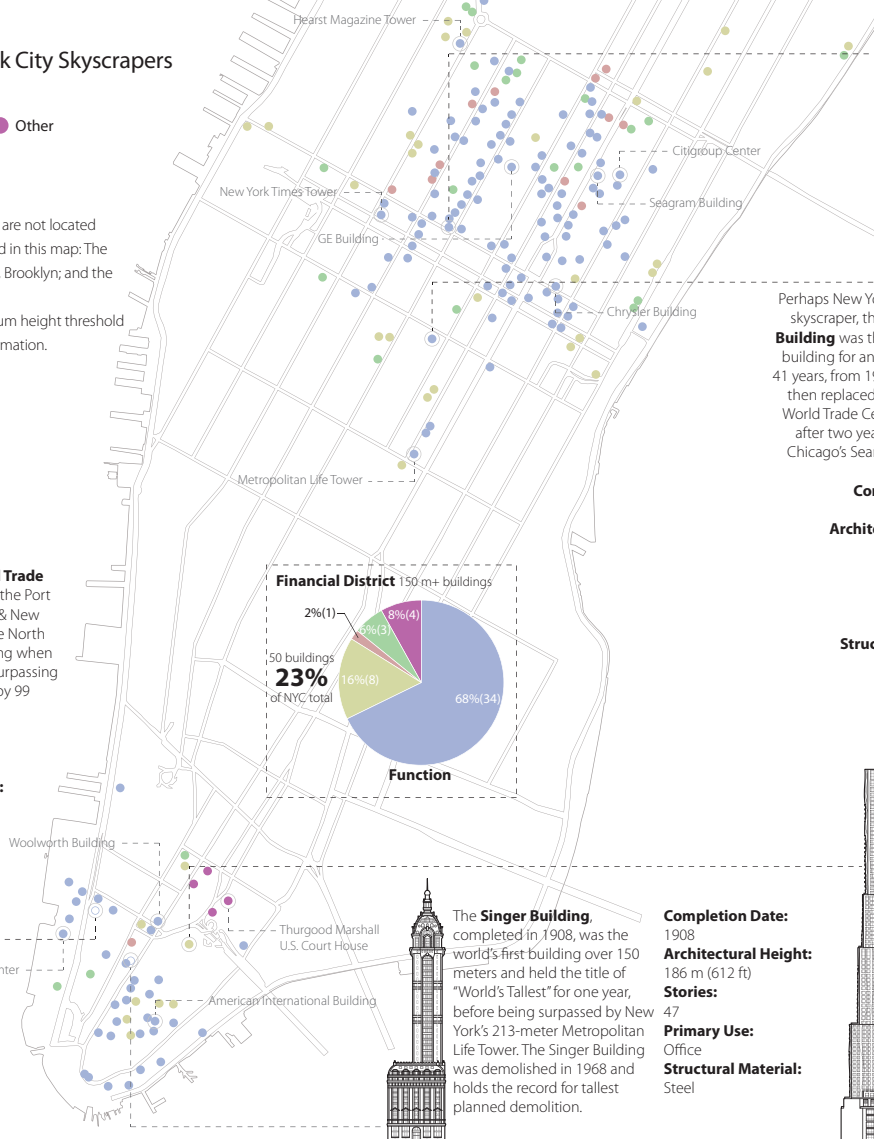
The **Singer Building**, completed in 1908, was the world's first building over 150 meters and held the title of "World's Tallest" for one year, before being surpassed by New York's 213-meter Metropolitan Life Tower. The Singer Building was demolished in 1968 and holds the record for tallest planned demolition.

**Completion Date:** 1908  
**Architectural Height:** 186 m (612 ft)  
**Stories:** 47  
**Primary Use:** Office  
**Structural Material:** Steel



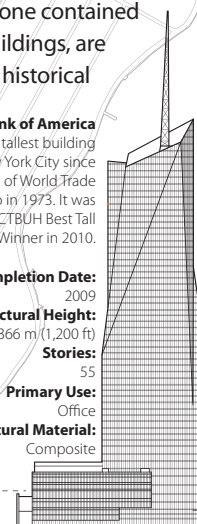
**Eight Spruce Street**, completed in 2011, is North America's tallest residential building and is being recognized as the CTBUH Best Tall Building Americas Winner in 2011.

**Completion Date:** 2011  
**Architectural Height:** 265 m (870 ft)  
**Stories:** 76  
**Primary Use:** Residential  
**Structural Material:** Concrete



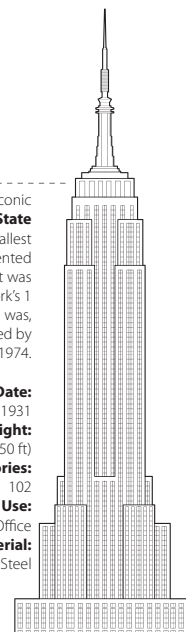
In 2010, **The Bank of America Tower** became the tallest building completed in New York City since the completion of World Trade Center Two in 1973. It was recognized as the CTBUH Best Tall Building Americas Winner in 2010.

**Completion Date:** 2009  
**Architectural Height:** 366 m (1,200 ft)  
**Stories:** 55  
**Primary Use:** Office  
**Structural Material:** Composite



Perhaps New York's most iconic skyscraper, the **Empire State Building** was the world's tallest building for an unprecedented 41 years, from 1931-1972. It was then replaced by New York's 1 World Trade Center which was, after two years, surpassed by Chicago's Sears Tower in 1974.

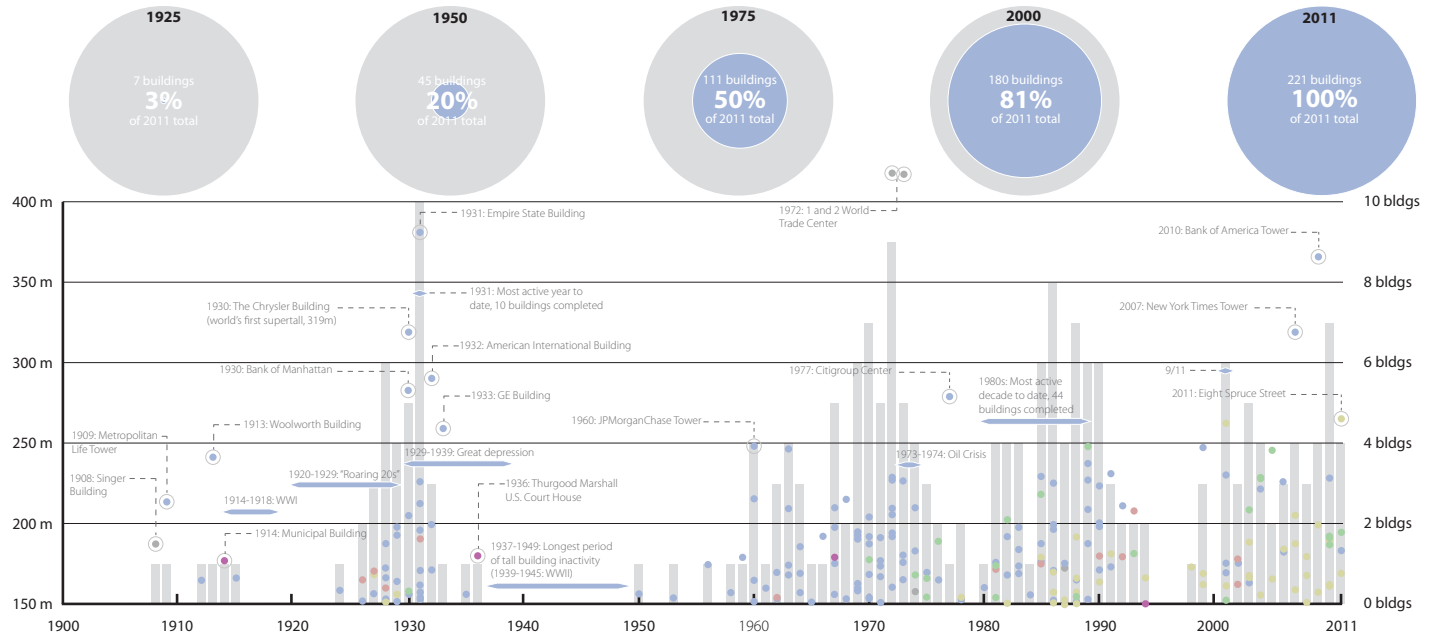
**Completion Date:** 1931  
**Architectural Height:** 381 m (1,250 ft)  
**Stories:** 102  
**Primary Use:** Office  
**Structural Material:** Steel



## Timeline of New York City Skyscraper Completion

Dots represent buildings: completion year and height; bars represent total number of buildings completed each year

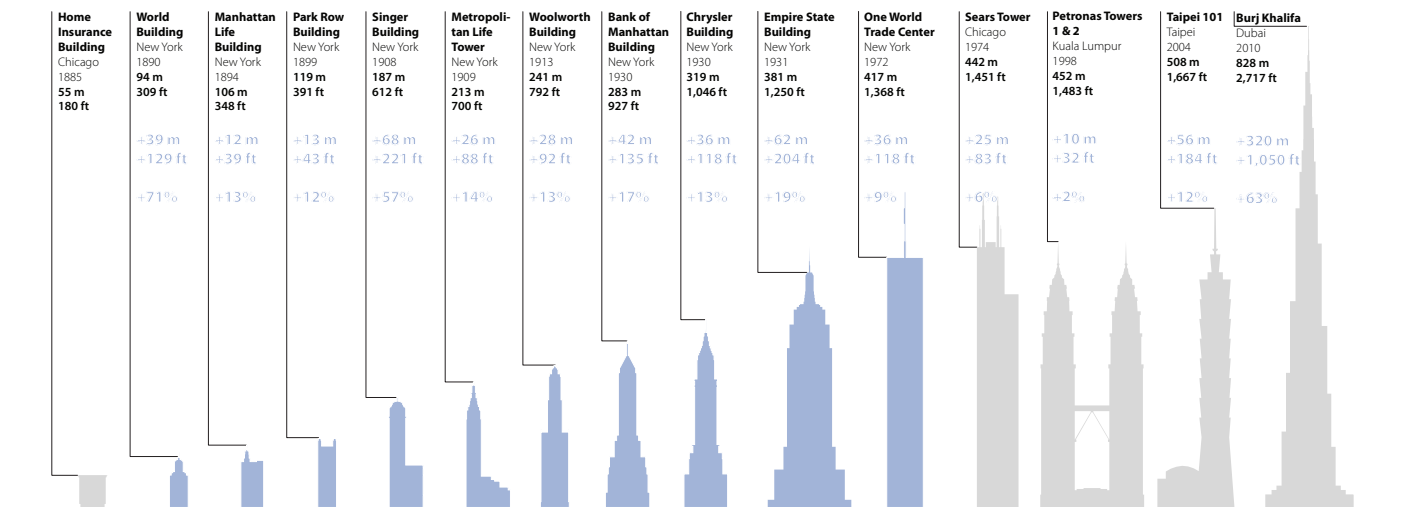
- Office
- Hotel
- Other
- Residential
- Mixed-use
- Demolished



## History of the "World's Tallest Building"

According to CTBUH Height Criteria: Height to Architectural Top

- NYC Buildings
- Non-NYC Buildings



A remarkable 10 of the 16 skyscrapers which have enjoyed the title of the world's tallest were located in New York, giving the city the title for a combined total of 84 out of 126 years.

As late as 1970, New York City contained 52% of the world's 150 m+ buildings and 59% of USA buildings. These numbers are now at 9% and 34% respectively.

Far from slowing after the events of 9/11, 39 buildings 150 m+ have completed in NYC from 2002–2011, 18% of the city's current total.