

Economic Development

- [Amazon HQ2 – A Good Deal for New York?](#) - It is not surprising that the decision by Governor Cuomo to give Amazon \$1.8 billion in grants and refundable tax credits to come to New York City for half of their second headquarters generated controversy. Some have questioned the need to subsidize Amazon given New York's labor pool advantages[1], and
- [The Finger Lakes – Economic Challenges and Strategic Response: An Assessment](#) - This research is a case study of employment challenges facing the Rochester Metropolitan area and the Finger Lakes region, and an analysis of the region's strategic economic development plans and reports, developed in response to Governor Cuomo's challenge to regions seeking economic development funding. While the report finds reasons why
- [Reconsidering “Lost Manufacturing Jobs – The Effects of Imports and Increased Productivity”](#) - In a post examining the causes of the decline in manufacturing employment over the past fifty years, I concluded, like other analysts, that although increases in imported manufactured products had caused part of the decrease, most of the drop resulted from productivity increases from automation and process improvements. See for
- [Upstate's Uneven Metropolitan Economies – Implications for Policy Makers](#) - The story of New York's job market since the 1990's has been a tale of two regions. The New York City metropolitan area, where two-thirds of the state's population lives, has seen private sector employment growth (42.4%) that is near the national rate (48.3%). Albany-Schenectady-Troy's employment growth – 27.5% - is higher
- [Traded Employment Losses Since 2001 in Upstate New York](#) - Metropolitan areas in Central and Western New York,

like others in the Rust Belt that had high concentrations of manufacturing employment, have been hit hard by the loss of manufacturing jobs. Ninety-one thousand net manufacturing jobs were lost in the 2001-2010 decade in five upstate metropolitan areas – Utica-Rome, Syracuse,

- [Nexgen in Syracuse – Throwing Good Money after Bad?](#) - Update: Note that the Syracuse Post Standard carried the following article on January 4th: http://www.syracuse.com/business-news/index.ssf/2018/01/ny_taxpayers_built_90m_factory_in_dewitt_for_firm_that_walked_away_didnt_create.html The article quotes ESD spokesman Jason Conwell. "Conwall said the grant will be contingent on the company meeting its job commitments. Details of the grant's terms will not be available until the grant disbursement agreement is executed
- [Data, Key Punches, Blogging and the Upstate Economy](#) - Fifty years ago, as a research assistant in graduate school at Syracuse University, I did some quantitative research for a professor on the effect of various factors on state policy outputs. Doing the work required me find data in books in the university library and to go to a room in
- [Left Behind: Characteristics of Low Labor Participation Counties](#) - In my last post, I examined labor market participation in New York State counties. I found that most New Yorkers, both upstate and downstate, live in counties where labor market participation differs only slightly from national levels, but upstate counties with small populations in many cases have labor participation rates
- [Left Behind: Missing from the Labor Market in New York State](#) - A reader of this blog recently wrote, "We know that labor force participation rates across the country have declined noticeably for a number of years, and many economists have warned of the troubling implications of

this. Such rates across Upstate NY have declined as well, and in most cases are significantly below the national average

- [President Trump to Upstate Residents: Move to Wisconsin](#) - Recently, in an interview with the Wall Street Journal, President Trump suggested that upstate New York residents should leave the state for Wisconsin, where a new Foxconn LCD display panel manufacturing plant will be located, creating at least 3,000 jobs. President Trump said, "I said, you know, Gary, you go to
- [The Income Gap between Men and Women: 2015 vs. 1970](#) - Since 1970, inflation adjusted wage income growth has been almost nonexistent - only five percent over the 45 year period ending in 2015. Income change in metropolitan areas in New York State has differed little from the nation. Rochester and Buffalo were two exceptions - both had lower median real wage
- [Education, Age and Declines in Real Income Since 1970](#) - The economic malaise that has affected small and medium sized rust belt cities since 2000 has been widely noted. Most have seen little or no real household income growth since then. Much of the weak performance has been associated with the long-term decline of manufacturing employment in the region -
- [Response to Lost Manufacturing Jobs – The Effects of Imports and Increased Productivity](#) - I'd like to thank Kay Wilkie, who serves on the United States Trade Representative's Intergovernmental Policy Advisory Committee for offering useful comments concerning my post, "Lost Manufacturing Jobs – The Effects of Imports and Increased Productivity" Kay points out that "It would be worthwhile to carefully examine and review the aspects
- [Lost Manufacturing Jobs – The Effects of Imports and Increased Productivity](#) - The decline in manufacturing employment in the United States has caused a wrenching economic adjustment, as one path to relatively well

paying jobs has narrowed, particularly for workers without college educations. As the percentage of workers in our society who work in manufacturing industries decreases, and lower paying service employment

- [As Private Sector Employee Incomes Stagnate, Local Government Workers Prosper](#) - The slow growth of worker incomes since 2000 has been the subject of intense policy and political debates. One of the clear messages of the 2012 Presidential campaign was the call to remedy perceived distortions in world trade that have disadvantaged American workers, particularly those had in the past held
- [Economic Stagnation and Electoral Discontent in the Rust Belt](#) - Readers of this blog know that I have been describing changes in employment in New York State and the rust belt associated with the loss of manufacturing employment in the nation. The loss of 5,500,000 manufacturing jobs since 1970 has slowed employment growth in the region as a whole. As
- [The Decline of Manufacturing in New York and the Rust Belt](#) - In a recent post I looked at employment changes in New York's metropolitan areas and compared their performance with other metropolitan areas in the rust belt. I found that change was inconsistent between cities in each state, and over different time periods. I argued that industry mix probably was the
- [Government Policies and Job Growth in New York State and the Rust Belt](#) - A recent Washington Post article, "As senator, Clinton promised 200,000 jobs in Upstate New York. Her efforts fell flat." [1] points out that during Senator Clinton's tenure between 2001 and 2009, Upstate New York saw job growth of only 0.2%, far from what Clinton claimed could be achieved. While the article
- [Syracuse's Empty Film Hub](#) - The New York Times carried an article, "Cuomo's \$15 Million High-Tech Film Studio? It's a Flop," [1] on August 22nd. The article points out

that the Central New York Hub for Emerging Nano Industries, owned by the Fort Schuyler Management Corporation (FSMC), a non-profit subsidiary of the SUNY Research Foundation, is

- [Rex Smith's Albany Times-Union Column, "Development Dollars Draw on Politics"](#) - The Albany Times-Union carried a column by its Editor, Rex Smith on August 6th, concerning decision making by NewYork's Regional Economic Development Councils, questioning whether their efforts are directed at areas of the state with greatest need. His column may be found here. The column draws on research that I recently