

Poverty

- [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"
- [School Segregation is Increasing in New York's Cities and Suburbs](#) - Recent articles in the New York Times and The Nation have focused on efforts to resegregate schools in the South, by carving new predominantly white school districts out of larger county-wide school districts that are predominantly black and Hispanic. The articles examined a recent federal court decision that permitted the creation
- [More Regional Diversity but a Larger Racial/Ethnic Divide in New York Schools](#) - This post examines changes in the ethnic and racial compositions of kindergarten through twelfth grade schools in New York State metropolitan areas over the past 25 years. During that period, the student population, like the general population has become more diverse, with the percentage of students identified as white decreasing,
- [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
- [The Persistent Gap Between White and Black Incomes in New York](#) - There has long been a substantial gap between

the incomes of white Americans and those who describe themselves as African/American or black. As early as 1964, with the enactment of the Civil Rights Act, the Federal and state Governments began passing laws aimed at preventing discrimination in the workplace. Has New York seen

- [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 –
- [New York's Dysfunctional School Spending Patterns](#) - For many years, government spending in New York State has far exceeded the national average. State and local governments in New York had the second highest per capita spending in the nation in 2013.[1] Local government spending contributes significantly to New York's high spending levels. Local government spending in New
- [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
- [Poverty in Upstate Metropolitan Areas – Characteristics and Change: 1999-2013](#) - A paper, based, in part, on data previously presented on this blog site. This paper examines the incidence of poverty in upstate New York cities, compared to the surrounding suburbs. The data shows that while residents of upstate suburbs enjoy incomes that are substantially higher than the national average, and

- [New York's Ineffective Business Tax Incentives](#) - In 1987, New York State enacted legislation to create an Economic Development Zones Program, modelled after the enterprise zones concept, championed by Congressman Jack Kemp. Proponents argued that by reducing taxes in specific geographic areas with high concentrations of poverty and unemployment, existing firms would be more likely to create
- [SolarCity: The Risk Embedded in Buffalo's Billion](#) - .pdf version here: Note: This post is also published on The Empire Center website. The decision by the nation's largest solar panel provider to locate a state-of-the-art manufacturing plant in Buffalo, and to create other jobs in Western New York, could be a needed shot in the arm for a
- [The Shrinking Middle Class in New York State – Cities and Suburbs](#) - Pew Research has been releasing a series of studies showing that the percentage of Americans who have middle class incomes has been declining. The most recent of these is America's Shrinking Middle Class: A Close Look at Changes Within Metropolitan Areas. The report received extensive coverage in many newspapers, including the New
- [More on Race, Income and Student Achievement](#) - A few months ago, I wrote about the link between economic disadvantage and poor student performance. I looked at the performance of students on the State's annual student assessment for grades 3 to 8, and found that the percentage of economically disadvantaged students in schools and school districts accounted for
- [Racial Divisions in Upstate Metropolitan Neighborhoods](#) - In my last posting I described income differences in 800 upstate metropolitan neighborhoods in Albany, Erie, Monroe, Oneida, Onondaga, Rensselaer and Schenectady Counties. The data comes from the United States Census Bureau which divides the nation into census tracts, the most detailed level publically tabulated. Overall, there

are 73,000 census tracts

- [Income Divisions in Upstate Metropolitan Neighborhoods](#) - In earlier posts, I wrote about income and racial separation between the residents of upstate cities and suburbs. The data showed that residents of upstate cities saw sharp increases in poverty levels between 2000 and 2013, while city populations became increasingly diverse, primarily because of the loss of white residents.
- [The Minimum Wage Debate – Part II](#) - The Albany Times Union carried an article on March 24 detailing the connections between researchers who produced the reports for and against a minimum wage increase that I discussed in my post "A \$15 Minimum Wage for New York - Benefits and Risks." The article points out that one of
- [A \\$15 Minimum Wage for New York: Benefits and Risks](#) - Recently, a friend and colleague from the time when I worked at Empire State Development suggested that I take a look at Governor Cuomo's proposal to raise New York's minimum wage to \$15 from \$9.00. Like others, I'm sure that he wanted to cut through the competing claims about the
- [Failing Schools – Bill Hammond's follow up discussion](#) - Bill Hammond's piece may be found here: <https://www.the74million.org/article/bill-hammond-why-new-yorks-failing-schools-fail-and-how-we-can-turn-the-tide>
- [Income Inequality and Minority Group Status in Upstate Metropolitan Areas](#) - In an earlier post, I pointed out that residents of upstate metropolitan areas actually have incomes that are somewhat higher than the average for other cities in the so called "rust belt" – cities located in the old manufacturing regions of the Northeast and Midwest. But, the largest upstate cities
- [Single Parents and Child and Family Poverty in Upstate Cities](#) - In an earlier post, I showed that very high percentages of people with children under 18 lived in

poverty in upstate cities, and that the percentage increased significantly between 1999 and 2013. While a few rust belt cities, like Flint and Detroit, Michigan had higher levels of poverty among people