# The Geography of Poverty in Erie and Niagara Counties

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## Where Poverty is Concentrated

Poverty rates are highest in the urban centers of Buffalo, Niagara Falls, and Lockport, and on the Tuscarora and Cattaraugus Reservations. The only major suburb with significant levels of poverty is Lackawanna. But although the *rate* of poverty is highest in the cities, many more people live outside of the cities than in them; thus, the *number* of people living in poverty outside the cities is roughly equal to that inside them.

## POPULATION DENSITY BY CENSUS BLOCK GROUP ACS 2016 (5-YEAR ESTIMATES)



Poverty rates in Buffalo, Niagara Falls, and Lackawanna are significantly higher than in other municipalities, reflecting the high levels of economic segregation in the region.

#### POVERTY RATES BY SELECT CITIES AND TOWNS





#### ERIE AND NIAGARA COUNTY HOUSEHOLDS IN POVERTY ACS 2016 (5-YEAR ESTIMATES)



The poverty rate for the metropolitan region is 13.8 percent. The only municipalities with rates above this average are the cities of Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Lackawanna, and Lockport, as well as the Tuscarora and Cattaraugus Reservations. Nine towns have poverty rates below 5 percent: Orchard Park, Newstead, Eden, Clarence, Pendleton, Cambria, Elma, Marilla, and Boston. See page four for a full list of municipalities.

## CITY OF BUFFALO HOUSEHOLDS IN POVERTY ACS 2016 (5-YEAR ESTIMATES)



In the city of Buffalo itself, poverty is widely distributed. The only areas with low rates are the Elmwood Village, North Buffalo, and the southeastern corner of the city. The highest rates of poverty are found in the east and west quadrants.

#### PERCENTAGE IN POVERTY BY MUNICIPLAITY



## ERIE AND NIAGARA COUNTY HOUSEHOLDS IN EXTREME POVERTY ACS 2016 (5-YEAR ESTIMATES)



Extreme poverty is defined as having an income less than half of the federal poverty rate. The problem of extreme poverty is particularly acute in the urban cores.

#### THE GEOGRAPHY OF POVERTY IN ERIE AND NIAGARA COUNTIES

#### **BUFFALO BRIEF**





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