



WNY WOMEN'S FOUNDATION FACT SHEET



POVERTY

Compiled in June 2019

Women and girls in poverty

- 70% of people living in extreme poverty are women and girls¹
- The average woman in the United States with two children, if she works full time at minimum wage, she is living at or below the poverty line.¹
- On average, women are paid 23% less than men worldwide¹
- One in four Hispanic women (24.2 percent) and close to one in five Black women (18.1 percent) work full-time and earn less than \$400 per week.²
- Women are 83 percent of workers in middle-skill occupations that pay less than \$30,000 per year but they are just 36 percent in growing middle-skill occupations that pay at least \$35,000 per year.²
- women in the U.S. are 30% more likely than men to find themselves below the poverty line.³

Buffalo

- 47.3 percent of children in Buffalo grew up in poverty in 2014⁴
- Buffalo's children remain the third-poorest in the nation among cities with populations greater than 245,000.⁴
- In Erie County, the poverty rate in 2014 was 15.2 percent, census data showed, unchanged since 2013.⁴
- The overall poverty rate for Buffalo in 2014 reached 31.3 percent – a number largely unchanged from the year before, but up since five years before that.⁴
- The poverty picture in the city can be different depending on how old you are. While Buffalo children in poverty decreased in 2014, poverty rates among those over age 18 went up slightly, including among senior citizens.⁴
- In Buffalo, the poverty rate for those ages 18 to 64 was 28.3 percent, an increase from the 27.2 percent rate in 2013.⁴
- Among those 65 and older, the rate was 17.3 percent in 2014, up from 16.2 in 2013.⁴
- The numbers of men and women living in poverty in Erie County were largely unchanged in 2014 from the year before. The rate of men living in poverty in the county was 14 percent. Among women in the county, the poverty rate in 2014 was 16.3 percent.⁴
- The disparity was larger in Buffalo – 34 percent of women were living in poverty in 2014, compared with 29 percent of men.⁴
- Rural poverty varied. In counties surrounding Buffalo, poverty rates for 2014 included an overall poverty rate of 13.2 percent in Niagara County, where the child poverty rate was 15.4 percent.⁴
- In Chautauqua County, 28.7 percent of those younger than 18 were living in poverty in 2014, while the overall poverty rate was 19.8 percent.⁴
- in Buffalo, 20 percent of whites are living in poverty.⁴

¹ The bad, the ugly, and the good

² Pathways to equity

³ Thank Salesforce for paying women equally.

⁴ Small decrease shown for child poverty in Buffalo



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- That's compared to 36 percent of blacks who are considered poor, 38 percent of Asians and 56 percent of Hispanics.⁴
- The contrast is even more stark across Erie County, where 9 percent of whites are poor.⁴
- Compare that with 31 percent of Asians, 43 percent of Hispanics and 33 percent of blacks.⁴
- In Cattaraugus County, the poverty rate for all ages in 2014 was 15.8 percent. The rate of children in Cattaraugus living in poverty in 2014 was 20.6 percent.⁴
- A greater percentage of high school graduates were living in poverty in 2014. In Erie County, slightly more people with high school degrees or some college education were living in poverty in 2014 compared with 2013.⁴
- The poverty rate for high school graduates in the county went from 12.7 percent in 2013 to 13.9 percent in 2014. Among those with some college, it went from 10.8 percent in 2013 to 11.7 percent in 2014.⁴
- For college graduates in Erie County, the rate dropped a bit in 2014, to 4.3 percent, from the year before.⁴
- For those in Erie County with an education less than a high school diploma, the poverty rate in 2014 was 30.2 percent, down from 31.8 percent in 2013.⁴
- In 2014, 27 percent of those who experienced homelessness were children younger than 18⁴