



PEOPLE GROUPS DIARIES TAGS LABOR COMICS ELECTIONS ECON RADIO

Search GO



Daily Kos Economics [RSS](#)
Daily Kos group
[Profile](#) [Diaries \(list\)](#) [Stream](#)

[Subscribe](#) or [Donate](#) to support Daily Kos.

WED SEP 11, 2013 AT 11:13 AM PDT

Three graphs that show why inequality matters in the New York City mayoral race

[Roosevelt Institute](#) [Daily Kos Economics](#)

[Like](#) 0 [Tweet](#) 2 [Email](#) 12 Comments / 0 New

DIARY RECOMMENDED BY

RECOMMENDED BY ROOSEVELT INSTITUTE

No current results.

ROOSEVELT INSTITUTE'S TAGS

No current results.

ROOSEVELT INSTITUTE'S BLOGROLL

No current results.

By Nell Abernathy, originally published on [Next New Deal](#)

The New York City primary results show that the issue of rising inequality is striking a chord with voters. Here's why.

The results are in and two (**or three**) candidates are one step closer to Gracie Mansion. What we know for certain is that along with winning international attention and prime seats at Yankee Stadium, New York's next mayor will inherit a city that is **more unequal** in terms of income than any other major city in America.

The increasing polarization of wealth in New York has been a **hot topic** and served as the campaign centerpiece for one of yesterday's big winners, **Bill de Blasio**. We are **trying to resist** pointing out that experts like our own **Jeff Madrick** were talking about this problem even before the drum circles of Zuccotti Park, but we're happy that the city's Sierra Leone-like inequality is at last making headlines.

Because we know that we can do better, and we hope our next mayor will at least try, the Roosevelt Institute's Bernard L. Schwartz Rediscovering Government Initiative is taking a look back at some of the most compelling charts and graphs to surface on the long road to Election Day.

From James Parrott, at the [Fiscal Policy Institute](#):

The top 1 percent are capturing a growing portion of the nation's economy, and nowhere is that trend more pronounced than in New York.

Recent Activity



Daily Kos: Dog alerts family to child abuse
10,906 people recommend this.



Daily Kos: Colorado Flooding Worse Overnight
One person recommends this.

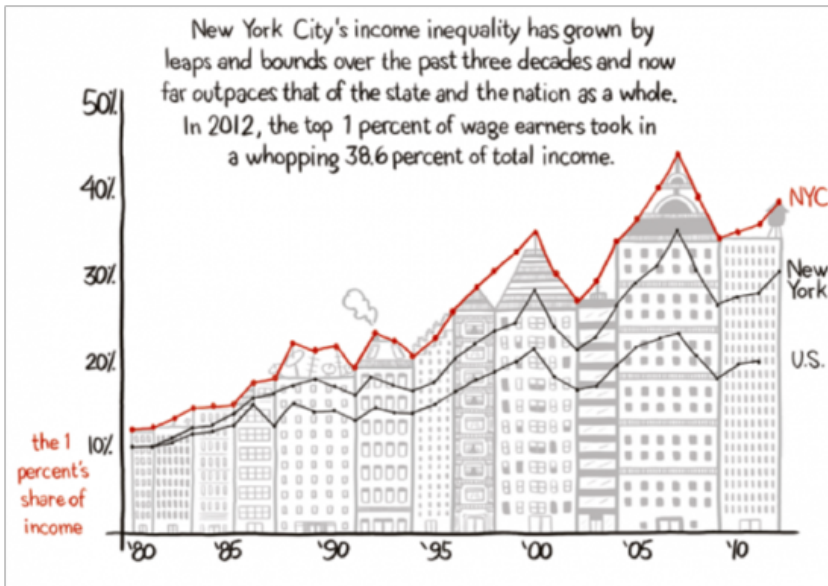


Daily Kos: BREAKING: Indiana Judge Rules Right-To-Work Unconstitutional
18,459 people recommend this.

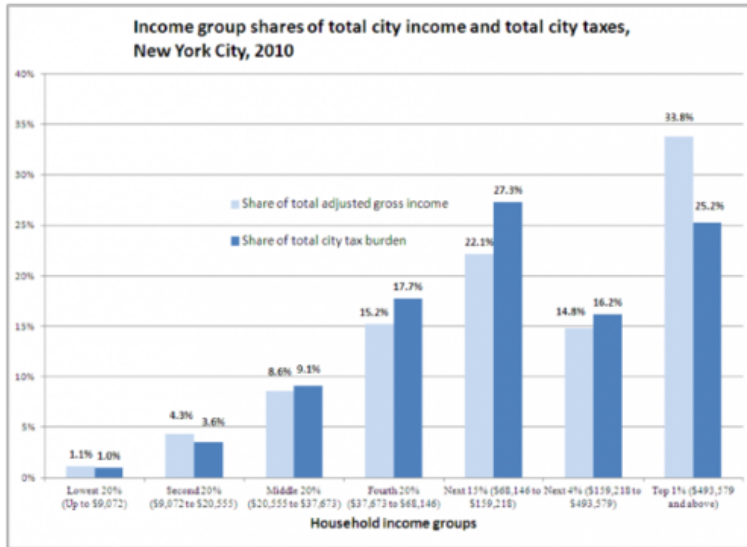


Daily Kos: Florida health department chief bans navigators from community health centers
845 people recommend this.

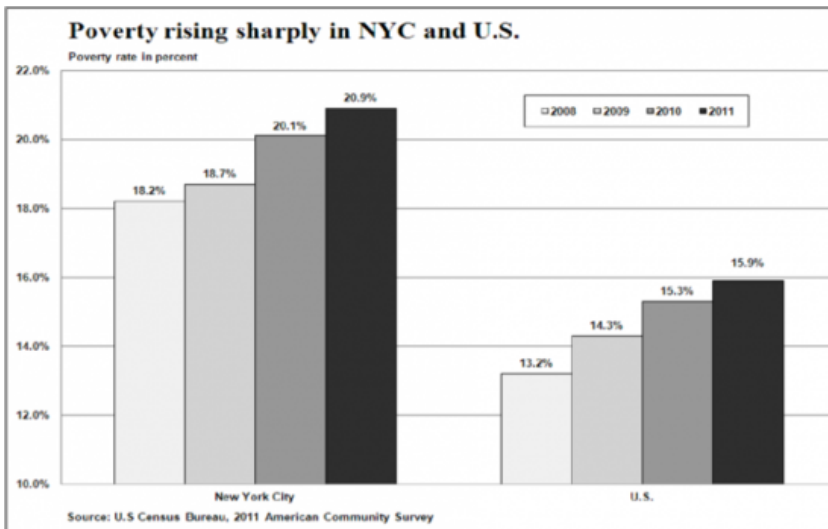
Facebook social plugin



The top 1 percent, in fact, pay less than their fair share of the tax burden:



Meanwhile, the poverty rate in New York City continues to rise:



We will be back tomorrow with more infographics. To learn more about potential solutions to our growing wealth gap, [join us for our panel discussion](#) on Tuesday, September 24:

Inequality in New York: The Next Mayor's Challenge

September 24, 2013

6:00 p.m. cocktail reception

6:30 – 8:00 p.m. panel discussion

Roosevelt House, Public Policy Institute at Hunter College

49 East 65th Street

New York, NY 10065

Nell Abernathy is the Program Manager for the Roosevelt Institute's Bernard L. Schwartz Rediscovering Government Initiative.

[Elections](#) [Jobs](#) [Politics](#) [Progressivism](#) [Social Safety Net](#)

FROM THE WEB

by Taboola

COMMENT PREFERENCES EXPAND SHRINK HIDE AUTO REFRESH?

12 COMMENTS | [PERMALINK](#)

Tip Jar (9+ / 0-)

by [Roosevelt Institute](#) on [Wed Sep 11, 2013 at 11:13:15 AM PDT](#)

whenever i see these (0+ / 0-)

i wonder what the 'correct' amount for the 1% is.

by [3ofspades](#) on [Wed Sep 11, 2013 at 11:42:36 AM PDT](#)

Good Question (1+ / 0-)

Perhaps you can suggest a number?

The current percentage is ripping our society apart. I don't think that a coherent argument can be formed that society is being served by such outrageous wealth inequality.

Do you feel that the number should be greater?

I'm actually in favor of some wealth inequality. But where it starts to tear us apart at the seams, it should be reigned in.

Note also that the super-rich typically get their money, not by earning it, but by lobbying government to change the rules, thereby legislating ever larger income streams into their pockets.

There is no question that working people should compete for their piece of the pie through similar political pressure.

"I'll believe that corporations are people when I see Rick Perry execute one."

by [bink](#) on [Wed Sep 11, 2013 at 11:52:28 AM PDT](#)

[[Parent](#)]

Typo (0+ / 0-)

Reined in ... jeez.

"I'll believe that corporations are people when I see Rick Perry execute one."

by [bink](#) on [Wed Sep 11, 2013 at 11:52:59 AM PDT](#)

[[Parent](#)]

certainly higher than 1% (1+ / 0-)

obviously.

It occurs to me that if Bill Gates and Warren Buffet were to both move to NYC, then the percentage for the 1% would increase. But i don't see that it would in any way be a bad thing for the city.

So by itself i don't think the metric tells enough of the story. If you have 2 towns

Town A: 1% earns a billion each, 99% earns a million each

Town B: 1% earns a 100K each, 99% earns a \$100 each

they'd both have the same share owned by the 1%. But they would be very different towns to live in.

I also wonder what counts as income. Probably not medical benefits and i wonder about government subsidies. Can you tell i'm a statistician.

Maybe if the government had less power to control the rules, there would be less lobbying.

by [3ofspades](#) on [Wed Sep 11, 2013 at 12:00:30 PM PDT](#)

[[Parent](#)]

How About If the Bin Ladens All Moved (0+ / 0-)

To New York, or Russian oligarchs? How about Bashir Assad? He's probably got a couple of billion tucked away in Switzerland.

Would that be good or bad?

Sure -- there are doubtless positive social contributions that someone like Warren Buffett could make in New York. He probably already makes some. George Soros certainly makes many. But this is not simply a product of their affluence. Stuffing a city full of rich people is no guarantee of positive outcomes.

"I'll believe that corporations are people when I see Rick Perry execute one."

by [bink](#) on [Wed Sep 11, 2013 at 12:04:08 PM PDT](#)

[[Parent](#)]

the point is that if they did then the stat (1+ / 0-)

cited by the diarist would make it look like more income in the city is being redirected from the 99% to the 1%.

ie, there's a whole lot of noise in the stat, and it's not clear it tells us anything useful.

by [johnny wurster](#) on [Wed Sep 11, 2013 at 12:09:36 PM PDT](#)

[[Parent](#)]

good for the tax base (0+ / 0-)

good for the amount of money ejected into the local economy. This seems self-evident.

might be bad for the murder rate...

by [3ofspades](#) on [Wed Sep 11, 2013 at 12:14:06 PM PDT](#)

[[Parent](#)]

i meant injected (0+ / 0-)

but maybe ejected also works.

by [3ofspades](#) on **Wed Sep 11, 2013 at 12:15:37 PM PDT**

[[Parent](#)]

A better question from my perspective... (0+ / 0-)

...is what the "correct" amount is for the **bottom** 40% or 60%.

Once you set some *minimum subsistence boundary for the significantly vulnerable* in society and stick to it, then you can talk about what is "fair compensation" for the more empowered segments of our or any population.

When you are right you cannot be too radical; when you are wrong, you cannot be too conservative. --Martin Luther King Jr.

by [Egalitare](#) on **Wed Sep 11, 2013 at 01:52:24 PM PDT**

[[Parent](#)]

I Also Suspect Class Issues (0+ / 0-)

Were largely why Democratic primary voters rejected Bloomberg's annointed successor and instead went for the guy who seemed like he's on the side of regular people.

This race had very curious results, mainly that voters crossed every known tribal line -- race, gender, sexual orientation, etc. -- to vote for Bill de Blasio. (Among a few narrow exceptions were black men, who voted for the male African-American candidate, and Asian voters, who voted for the Asian-American candidate.)

Voters largely abandoned their tribal affinities and instead went for the candidate who ran as the anti-Bloomberg.

"I'll believe that corporations are people when I see Rick Perry execute one."

by [bink](#) on **Wed Sep 11, 2013 at 11:48:28 AM PDT**

And Wallstreet, the Upper West Side/East side (0+ / 0-)

(Midtown - where all the Wallstreet offices have moved) - voted predominately for Quinn. Everyone else, not so much.

As a native New Yorker who currently has income of less then 10k a year now I would say the bottom wage in NYC should be 15\$ an hour. That translates to roughly 30k per year and is still not enough to afford a studio apartment in Queens/Brooklyn unless you go the room mate route in which 6 people will share 1 room in a Brooklyn flat.

It does not matter how many rich people move or live in NYC as it was commented above. What matters is how many people who live in NYC & work in Manhattan actually live in Manhattan?

There are definitely two cites in NYC and I experience it on a daiy basis when deciding between a metro card or food.

"The further a society drifts from the truth, the more it will hate those that speak it." George Orwell

by [Tool](#) on **Wed Sep 11, 2013 at 03:09:32 PM PDT**

[[Parent](#)]

[PERMALINK](#)

© **Kos Media, LLC**

*Site content may be used for any
purpose without explicit permission
unless otherwise specified*

*“Kos” and “Daily Kos” are registered
trademarks of Kos Media, LLC*

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Daily Kos](#) [Comics](#) [Elections](#) [DKTV](#) [RSS](#)
[Mother Talkers](#) [Street Prophets](#) [Congress Matters](#)

[Masthead](#) [History](#) [Writers](#) [Frequently Asked Questions](#) [Endorsements](#)

[Advertising Overview](#) [Visits and Other Stats for Advertisers](#)

[Shirts](#)

[Media Inquiries](#) [General Inquiries](#) [Jobs](#)