



Upstate Update

ISSUE NUMBER 4/OCTOBER 2011/SCHOOLS

Building the data capacity of local school and community leaders

“Increasing fiscal stress combined with demographic change has created extraordinary challenges, often full-blown crises, for many communities and school districts across New York State. Issues such as the new property tax cap, cuts in state aid, and declining populations are the new context within which local school and municipal officials must make strategic decisions. Comprehensive and up-to-date data on these issues can help school and community leaders make informed decisions and more effectively plan for their future.

The Integrated Data System links community demographics, school enrollment trends, district financial data, local property tax revenues, and many other measures relevant to school management and leadership. The NYS Center for Rural Schools centralizes and optimizes these data tools for practical use by disaggregating all measures by NYS counties and school districts. Periodic training workshops are offered.”

John W. Sipple, Cornell University

Resources

(titles link to sources on-line)

The NYS Center for Rural Schools - Connections, Knowledge, Capacity & Data for solving systemic problems and improving opportunities, practice, policy for rural schools and the communities they serve. The Center is working with many partners to assist rural communities to (re)create socially and economically vibrant communities across the state of NY

Data and Tools via the Integrated Data System - Maps, enrollment projections, school district demographic profiles, enrollment & financial trends, and school district budget playground – a collaboration between the NYS Center for Rural Schools and Cornell’s Program on Applied Demographics

CaRDI, *Upstate New York in Profile: Trends, Projections, and Community & Economic Development Issues* – pgs. 35-43

See CaRDI’s October New York Minute:

Are rural schools (in)efficient and (un)productive?

by **John W. Sipple**, Cornell University

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The *Upstate Updates* are monthly highlights of one of the nine topic areas covered in the *State of Upstate New York Initiative*, the Community & Regional Development Institute’s (CaRDI) on-going effort to provide up-to-date data, research, and other information to inform dialogue around important community and economic development issues in the Upstate New York region. For access to our statewide network of experts on this month’s topic, please contact the individual listed above. For more information on the *State of Upstate New York Initiative*, access to our publication series, news on upcoming trainings, and other resources, please visit the CaRDI website at: www.cardi.cornell.edu.