

## Headlines: Rise in poverty; New Brooklyn Democrat chair

Posted on Sep 20, Posted by [Mike Muller](#) Category [City](#)

Over a fifth of New Yorkers live in poverty, according to new Census numbers. The city's poverty rate jumped from 20.1 percent in 2010 to 20.9 percent in 2011, which equals 74,000 people. That's the [third year](#) in a row the rate increased. The national average is 15.9 percent. The numbers are at odds with [job recovery](#) reports. [Unemployment](#) has also risen, despite job growth. The poverty rate is at its [highest in over 10 years](#), and the income gap between the rich and poor continues to grow. Meanwhile, a new report finds that low-income smokers statewide spend [25 percent](#) of their income on cigarettes.

In the Press...

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Poor smokers spend 25 percent of income on cigarettes

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