The median income in 1997 across the region was $46,684 making Megalopolis one the more affluent parts of the US. In reality of course there is substantial variation within the region. A belt of affluence can be discerned that stretches through the suburban counties from Virginia, into Maryland and New Jersey to New York and into New England. Counties within this belt, include Fairfax VA ($71,057), Howard MD ($68,024), Somerset NJ ($74,586) Rockland NY ($58,362), Fairfield CT ($56,872) and Norfolk MA ($54,528), have median household incomes well above the regional and national figures. Within this suburban band of affluence there are the pockets of relative poverty in central cities such Baltimore ($27,7130), Philadelphia ($28,897) and the Bronx ($24,031). Lower median incomes are also found in the declining industrial regions of Pennsylvania and New England, where counties such as Lackawanna PA ($32,536) and Providence RI ($34,311) have household income levels below the regional and national level. Surrounding the belt of affluence are the more rural counties of the region, such as Caroline MD ($32,902) and Perry PA ($39,305) that fall just either side of the national average.

There is substantial variation to median income across Megalopolis, resulting in a world of difference between suburban affluence on the one hand and on the other urban poverty and rural decline.