



2011 Snapshot Report

About ACT Rochester

ACT Rochester's goal is to change the culture of community problem-solving and associated decision making through the use of credible, independent and timely data. This is accomplished when people LEARN about key issues, CONNECT with others in the community, and ACT to promote change.

The website creates a "one stop shop" for data and analysis on issues like health, children and youth, education and the economy and provides an objective assessment of our community's performance on key indicators of well-being. ACT interprets the information through trend summaries, charts and graphs. And information is provided on current efforts to advance our region; as well as links to more than 300 local community resources.

We plan to increase awareness of ACT Rochester with measurable activities and engagements. Report the status and progress on our community's performance on key indicators of well-being and promote greater collaborative action in the community on critical issues.

ACT Rochester is a regional community indicators program funded in partnership with the Rochester Area Community Foundation and the United Way of Greater Rochester.

LEARN · CONNECT · ACT

The ACT Rochester website contains: detailed information for our region; profiles for seven counties; 100 community indicators organized into 12 topic areas; trend summaries and community resources for each category; hundreds of charts and graphs; and much more!

This report includes a quick overview of the key highlights and trends. For more information on ACT Rochester, visit: www.ACTRochester.org.

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Community Engagement

The ACT Rochester website provides you an opportunity to **network** by submitting and viewing comments; provide **input** by responding to polls; **link** to hundreds of community organizations and initiatives; and conduct your own **research** by downloading the data and customizing your own graphs.

Connect with ACT Rochester on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ACTRochester>

www.ACTRochester.org

Arts, Culture and Leisure

Highlights

- ❖ Attendance at the largest cultural venues in our region reached 4 million in 2008.
- ❖ Attendance at our region's professional sports events was 833,000 in 2009.
- ❖ New facilities have added to our robust arts scene such as the ArtWalk Extension Project on University Avenue.
- ❖ Tourism is big business, contributing \$1.4 billion dollars to the region in 2008, up 5% since 2005.
- ❖ On average, our public schools have 7 teachers of art, music, dance or theater for every 1,000 students. This is higher than the statewide 5.1 figure. Orleans County leads the area (7.2), while Monroe has the lowest number (6.1).

Arts, Culture and Leisure Trends Snapshot				
Indicator	Regional Value*	Year**	Are We Improving?***	How Do We Compare to New York State?
Arts and Culture Attendance	4 million	2008	Yes	N/A
Attendance at Professional Sports Teams' Home Games	833,000	2009	No	N/A
Tourism Revenue Per Resident	\$1,200	2008	Yes	Worse
Recreation Spending Per Resident	\$74	2008	Yes	Worse
Arts Teachers in Public Schools (per 1,000 Students)	7	2008	Yes	Better
New York State Arts Grants Per Resident (in 2009 Dollars)	\$1.96	2009	No	Worse
National Grants for the Arts Monroe County	\$265,000	2009	No	N/A
Residents Involved in an Arts Group (percent)	21%	2006	Yes	N/A

* Regional value may be expressed as a rate, percent, share of total, or other measure. Please see specific indicator sections for exact units of measure.
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Trends - see Snapshot at right.

Children and Youth Trends Snapshot				
Indicator	Regional Value*	Year**	Are We Improving?***	How Do We Compare to New York State?
Early Prenatal Care (Percent of Live Births)	77%	2009	Unchanged	Better
Babies with Low Birth Weights (Percent of Live Births)	7.9%	2009	No	Better
Infant Mortality Rate Deaths (per 1,000 Live Births)	7.4	2009	Yes	Worse
Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels Under Age 6	1.3%	2008	Yes	Worse
Children in Poverty (percent)	16%	2005-09****	No	Better
Child Abuse and Neglect (per 1,000 Children)	15	2009	No	Better
Teen Pregnancies (percent of girls 15-19)	4.6%	2009	Yes	Better
Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS) Petitions	3.2	2009	Yes	Worse
Juvenile Delinquency Intakes (per 10,000 Children)	98	2009	Yes	Worse

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 **** Data were presented as 5-year estimates from the American Community Survey.

Children and Youth

Highlights

- ❖ Though not as high as the state and nation, our childhood poverty rate has increased by 2% since 2000.
- ❖ The greatest concentration of children living in poverty is in the City of Rochester, where more than 41% of children are poor.
- ❖ Teen pregnancies and childhood exposure to lead have both declined.
- ❖ We are doing better than New York state in the incidence of low birth-weight babies.
- ❖ Our infant mortality rate is higher than New York state's rate of 5.3% at 7.4%. Rochester's rate is 14.3%
- ❖ Juvenile delinquency intakes (from police and other sources) decreased 23% since 2008, yet remains 3% higher than NYS.
- ❖ Trends – see Snapshot at left.

Community Engagement

Highlights

- ❖ Our rates for voter registration and participation are higher than NY state.
- ❖ 65% of area adults volunteered their services at least once in the most recent year surveyed (2006). This compares to 59% for the nation.
- ❖ Charitable giving in our area equaled 2.7% of annual income (in 2006), which is lower than the NY state and national averages (both 3.1%). Donations to the Community Foundation and United Way have declined since the year 2000.

Trends – see Snapshot at right.

Community Engagement Trends Snapshot				
Indicator	Regional Value*	Year**	Are We Improving?***	How Do We Compare to New York State?
Voter Registration Rate	82%	2010	Unchanged	Better
Voter Participation Rate	41%	2010	No	Better
Volunteered in the Last Year	65%	2006	Yes	N/A
People Saying Most People Can't Be Trusted	41%	2006	No	N/A
Average Charitable Contribution (In 2009 dollars)	\$3,071	2006	No Change	Worse
Support of United Way and Community Foundation	\$39 million	2009	No	N/A

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Economy Trends Snapshot				
Indicator	Regional Value*	Year**	Are We Improving?***	How Do We Compare to New York State?
Annual Change in Total Jobs	-2.1%	2009	No	Worse
Change in Number of Business Establishments (2000 – 2008)	6.1%	2008	Yes	Worse
Unemployment Rate	8.1%	2010	No	Better
Change in Average Salary (Since 2000)	0.2%	2009	No	Worse
Local Government Spending (Per Resident)	\$1,073	2008	No	Better
Employment-to-Population Ratio	73%	2010	No	Better

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Economy

Highlights

- ❖ Our region's economy is in transition. Job losses in manufacturing 6.9% and information 10.8% from 2000 to 2008 have been somewhat offset by huge increases in education (71.5%) and health (9.8%).
- ❖ Job growth in our region has outperformed the nation the past 2 years.
- ❖ Regional unemployment is one point lower than New York state and one and a half points lower than the nation.
- ❖ Per capita school spending has increased but is lower than New York State as a whole.

Trends – see Snapshot at right.

Education

Highlights

- ❖ The percentage of regional children attending pre-kindergarte increased by 14% 2009-10, but still lags behind the NY state average.
- ❖ Education is a regional asset, with area children outperforming their statewide peers. Some examples include:
 - 78% of area students pass the State Math Regents, compared to 72% statewide.
 - On-time graduation is 79% in the region, no longer above the state average of 74%.
 - 59% of area adults have attended some college, which exceeds both the state and national levels.
- ❖ There are serious disparities in educational achievement, with lower-income students being negatively impacted. As described in the chart below, low-income students struggle at all levels.

Percent of Students Achieving Level Three or Four on State Exam (2009)				
Student Status:	4 th Grade		8 th Grade	
	Math	English	Math	English
Low - Income Students	45%	40%	35%	33%
All Other Students	76%	73%	72%	67%

Level three: "fully meets standards."
Level four: "exceeds standards."

- ❖ This income-achievement disparity at least partially accounts for the gap between the Rochester City School District graduation rate of 46%, and the regional mark of 79%.
- ❖ Overall school attendance in our region is comparable to the statewide level, but out-of-school suspensions (of at least one day) significantly exceed the state average. The local measure of 3.5% is down from 6% influenced by the Rochester City School District rate down from 15% to 2.1%. The New York state average is 5%.

Trends – see Snapshot below.

Education Trends Snapshot				
Indicator	Regional Value*	Year**	Are We Improving?***	How Do We Compare to New York State?
Pre-Kindergarten Participation (Percent of Four Year Olds)	51%	2009-10	Yes	Worse
Grade 8 Math Percent Scoring at Level 3 or Above	58%	2010	Yes	Better
Grade 8 English Percent Scoring at Level 3 or Above	55%	2010	Yes	Better
Regents Math (Percent Passing at 55-100)	89%	2010	Yes	Better
Regents English (Percent Passing at 55-100)	93%	2010	No	Better
Four Year Cohort Graduation Rate (Percent of Ninth Graders)	79%	2006	Yes	Better
Educational Attainment for People 25 and Older (Percent with Some College and Above)	59%	2006-08****	Yes	Better
Elementary Attendance Rate (Percent of Total Enrollment)	95%	2009	Unchanged	Higher
Student Suspensions (Percent Total Enrollment)	3.5%	2009	Yes	Better

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Environment Trends Snapshot				
Indicator	Regional Value*	Year**	Are We Improving?***	How Do We Compare to New York State?
Percent of Days with Unhealthy Air Quality	Monroe 1.2%	2008	No	Not available
Total Emissions (tons per resident)	0.50	2005	Yes	Worse
Waterways Impaired by Pollution (percent of those inspected)	32%	Most Recent Available†	Not available	Not available
Population Density (people per square mile)	282	2009	Unchanged	Better
Pounds of Active Pesticides (per resident)	2.70	2005	No	Worse
Toxic Chemical Releases (pounds per resident)	1.95	2008	Yes	Worse
Status of Hazardous Waste Sites (% remediated or "no current threat")	43%	2010	Not available	Not available

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 † Varies by watershed

Environment

Highlights

- ❖ Total air emissions (tons per square mile) declined 17% between 2002 and 2005. This was helped by a 14% reduction in emissions from vehicles.
- ❖ 32% of our area waterways were judged to be impaired by pollution when most recently tested (dates vary). An additional 38% showed minor impacts.
- ❖ Our region's rate of pesticide application (3 pounds per person) considerably exceeded the statewide mark by almost four times. The highest was 13 pounds per person in Wayne County.
- ❖ 43% of our region's recognized hazardous waste sites have been cleaned up or are judged as "no current treat."

Trends – see Snapshot at left.

Financial Self-Sufficiency

Highlights

- ❖ The region's median household income between 2005 and 2009 (inflation adjusted) was \$52,060, lower than the state and on par with national averages. Incomes in the City of Rochester were \$31,041. City incomes have declined by 13% since 2000.
- ❖ In the most recent year surveyed (2005-2009), 12% of area residents lived in poverty, lower than the state, which is 14%, and the nation which is 13%. For the City of Rochester the rate was 29%.
- ❖ The rates for both total residents and children receiving public assistance have declined since 2001. The most recent rates for children (2009) show 77 youth per 1,000 receiving public assistance.
- ❖ The number of emergency meals served (per resident) increased 42% from 2000 to 2009.

Trends – see Snapshot at right.

Financial Self-Sufficiency Trends Snapshot				
Indicator	Regional Value*	Year**	Are We Improving?***	How Do We Compare to New York State?
Median Household Income (Inflation adjusted)	\$52,060	2005-09****	No	Worse
People Living in Poverty (Percent of Population)	12%	2005-09****	No	Better
Public Assistance Recipients (per 1,000 residents)	31	2010	Lower	Higher
Approval Rate for Public Assistance Applications	25%	2009	Lower	Lower
Rate of Children Receiving Public Assistance (per 1,000 Children)	77	2009	Lower	Higher
Emergency Meals Served (per resident)	4.1	2009	Higher	Lower
SSI Recipients (per 1,000 residents)	26.5	2009	Higher	Lower
Tax Filers Receiving Earned Income Tax Credit	15%	2008	Higher	Lower
Percent of Children in Subsidized Care	4.3%	2009	Lower	Higher

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 *** Trend is determined by comparing most recent data year vs. baseline year. Shaded measures reported as higher or lower relative to baseline year or State figures, rather than yes/no or better/worse, as determining improvement is dependent upon context and interpretation (e.g., a decline in subsidized child care rates or public assistance participation may be a result of decreasing need, a change in policy, or outreach).
 ****2005-09 data is from rolling American Community Survey, which combines 5 years of responses for accurate estimates

Health

Highlights

- ❖ In the most recent year measured (2007), 12% of area residents were without health insurance, which was lower than the state average (15%) and lower than the nation (17%).
- ❖ Our overall annual mortality rate of 816 per 100,000 residents is on par with the state (811).
- ❖ Our rates of certain sexually transmitted diseases (gonorrhea and chlamydia) are higher than NY State averages.
- ❖ A higher percentage of regional residents are living with the HIV virus and with AIDS than in the state as a whole.

Trends – see Snapshot at right.

Health Trends Snapshot				
Indicator	Regional Value*	Year**	Are We Improving?***	How Do We Compare to New York State?
People Without Health Insurance	12%	2007	Yes	Better
People Enrolled in Medicaid	16%	2009	No	Better
Preventable Hospital Admissions (per 100,000 residents)	1,496	2008	Unchanged	Comparable
Mortality (per 100,000 residents)	715	2009	Yes	Better (NYS excluding NYC)
Chlamydia (per 100,000 residents)	485	2008	No	Worse
Gonorrhea (per 100,000 residents)	120	2008	Yes	Worse
People Living with HIV (per 100,000 residents)	86	2007	No	Worse (NYS excluding NYC)
Population that is Overweight/Obese	63% (Monroe County)	2008-09†	Not Available	Worse

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 † 2008-09 data come from rolling CDC BRFSS survey combining two years of responses

Housing Trends Snapshot				
Indicator	Regional Value*	Year**	Are We Improving?***	How Do We Compare to New York State?
Median Home Value	\$121,664	2005-09****	Yes	Worse
Median Rental Prices	\$728	2005-09	Yes	Better
Housing Affordability for Homeowners (ratio of home value to annual income)	1.9	2005-09	No	Better
Homeownership Rate	70%	2005-09	Yes	Better
Mortgage Foreclosures (per 10,000 Residents)	7.3	Q2 2009†	Yes	Worse
Residential Building Permits (per 1,000 Residents)	1.9	2008	No	Worse
Emergency Placements in Homeless Shelters	8,904	2010	No	Not Available

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 **** 2005-09 data are from rolling American Community Survey, which combines 5 years of responses.
 † Data are presented quarterly. Baseline quarter is Q1 2007.

Housing

Highlights

- ❖ Housing is relatively affordable in our region, with both home ownership and rental costs considerably lower than state and national averages.
- ❖ In another measure of affordability, our regional home values equaled 1.9 times annual incomes. This is dramatically lower than the NY state level (4) and considerably lower than the nation (2.9).
- ❖ 70% of regional households own their own home, higher than both the state (56%) and the nation (67%). The homeownership rate varies from a high of 78% in Wyoming County to 43% for the City of Rochester part of Monroe County.
- ❖ There were more than 2,494 emergency shelter placements for families in our region, a 59% increase since 2000.

Trends – see Snapshot at left.

Public Safety

Highlights

- ❖ The rate of serious crimes in our region remained flat from 2000 to 2003, then declined steadily for 2004 to 2007 and has remained flat for 2007-2010. Overall, serious crime is down 18% from 2000. Our crime rate is still higher than New York state. Regional crime has been consistently lower than the national level.
- ❖ Property crimes declined 20% since 2000, but remain 28% higher than NY state.
- ❖ The incidence of fire (both in total and those involving structures) has increased.

Trends – see Snapshot at right.

Public Safety Trends Snapshot				
Indicator	Regional Value*	Year**	Are We Improving?***	How Do We Compare to New York State?
Serious Crimes (per 10,000 residents)	294	2010	Yes	Worse
Violent Crimes (per 10,000 residents)	29	2010	No	Better
Property Crimes (per 10,000 residents)	265	2010	Yes	Worse
Other Reported Crimes (per 10,000 residents)	475	2010	Yes	Not Available
Domestic Violence (per 10,000 residents)	45	2008	No	Not Available
Felony Drug-Related Arrests (per 10,000 residents)	11	2008	Yes	Better
Structure Fires (per 10,000 Residents)	18	2008	No	Not Available

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Technology

Highlights

- ❖ Employment in high-technology jobs is 11% of jobs in our region, this is 3% higher than the New York state level and 1% higher than the nation.
- ❖ Government-supported research and development at regional colleges and universities has grown 48% since 2000 and now tops \$300 million per year.
- ❖ In 2006-07 30% of college degrees were awarded in technical fields, higher than the state's 24%.
- ❖ There are 11.9 teachers of computer science or technology per 10,000 students in our regional public schools (2009). This exceeds the statewide level.

Trends – see Snapshot at left.

Technology Trends Snapshot				
Indicator	Regional Value*	Year**	Are We Improving?***	How Do We Compare to New York State?
Science and Engineering Research (Percent of State Total)	11.2%	2008	Yes	Not Available
Enrollment in Technological Programs (Percent of Total Enrollment)	20%	2008	No	Comparable
Technical Degrees Conferred (Percent of Total Degrees)	30%	2006-07	Yes	Better
Technology Teachers in Public Schools (per 10,000 Students)	11.9	2009	No	Better

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Transportation

Highlights

- ❖ We are highly dependent on the automobile, with 93% using a car to commute to work (2006-08). The state and national rates are 64% and 90%, respectively.
- ❖ 85% of those who commute by car drive alone, while 8% drive in carpools.
- ❖ 3% of regional commuters use public transit. For City of Rochester residents, the public transit rate was 10%.
- ❖ Our average commute time (20 minutes) is considerably lower than the state (35 minutes) and national (20 minutes) averages.
- ❖ 9% of regional residents live in households without a car. For the City of Rochester, that mark is 25%.
- ❖ Average airfares at the Greater Rochester International Airport were higher than the national average in 2000, but were 6% lower than the national benchmark by 2007.

Transportation Trends Snapshot				
Indicator	Regional Value*	Year**	Are We Improving?***	How Do We Compare to New York State?
Households with Vehicles (Percentage)	91%	2006-08****	Unchanged	Better
Public Transit Trips (per resident)	15.8	2009-10	Yes	Not Available
Average Airfares	\$280	2009	Yes	Not Available
Average Commute Time (in minutes)	21	2006-08****	Unchanged	Better
Pavement Conditions (Percent Rated "Poor")	11%	2007	Unchanged	Worse
Personal Injury Crashes (per 10,000 Residents)	67.4	2008	Yes	Better
Crash Fatalities (per 10,000 Residents)	0.7	2008	Yes	Worse
Alcohol-related Crashes (per 10,000 Residents)	7.5	2008	No	Worse

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Trends – see Snapshot at right.

Notes and Explanations

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† The most recent year varies.

Visit the Act Rochester website at: www.ACTRochester.org