Geneva Summary*

Demographics & Income:

From 2000 to 2017, Geneva’s overall population fell by 6.2%, the second smallest decline (after Rochester) of the four cities compared – Rochester, Batavia, Canandaigua and Geneva. Like other cities in the region, this was driven by declines in younger age groups (under 60 population) and increases in its older population. Also like other cities in the region, Geneva saw a 12% decline in its white population and increases among other racial and ethnic groups.

Similar to the other cities compared, Geneva saw its median household income decline from 2000 to 2013-17 at a greater rate (12%) than the state as a whole (2%). Its level in 2013-17 was $40,920, the second lowest of the four cities compared. Like the other regional cities, there were great disparities in median household income between Black or African American households and white households.

In 2013-17, 19% of people in Geneva were living in poverty. Additionally, 31% of its children were living in poverty, the second-highest child poverty rate of the four cities, second only to Rochester (at 52%).

*Please note, the indicator information included in this summary reflects the data available at the time of its composition. Some indicator data may have since been updated on our website. Visit actrochester.org/all-indicators for updates.
Housing:

Homeownership rates in Geneva have declined steadily since 2000 (from 54% to 49% for 2013-17). Additionally, Geneva had large disparities in rates of ownership between whites and people of color.

Geneva’s median rent in 2013-17 was $738, the lowest of the four cities compared, a 6% increase from 2000 while the other regional cities saw decreases over the same period.

However, renters in the city spent an average of 32% of their household income on rent, making Geneva less affordable for renters than any of the four cities except Rochester. Rent is considered affordable if it is less than 30% of income, which was not the case for any city compared.

In contrast, housing affordability for homeowners was as affordable in Geneva (which had a ratio of 2.3) as it was for owners in Batavia (2.1) and Rochester (2.5). A ratio of less than 2 or 3 is considered affordable.

Children & Youth:

Geneva has improved on several early childhood measures. In 2017, 6% of babies in Geneva were born at low birth weights (a leading predictor of neonatal death and higher risks of long-term developmental and neurological disabilities). Geneva’s rate was the lowest of the four cities compared. Geneva saw a substantial decline in this rate from 2006 to 2017 (5 points), whereas the other regional cities have increased in that same period. Geneva also had the lowest rate of infant mortality in 2014-16 at 2 per 1,000.

In Geneva, 50% of families were headed by single parents in 2013-17, a higher rate than any of the comparison cities except for Rochester (at 73%). Geneva’s single-parent family rate has increased by 7 percentage points since 2000.
**Education:**

In 2017, Geneva spent $24,994 per student in its education system, the second highest of any of the cities compared, and slightly above the state rate (excluding NYC) of $23,741. This was a remarkable 68% increase from its spending level of $14,895 per student in 2000.

In 2018, Geneva’s third-grade English proficiency rate, an important measure of early reading skills, was 20%, the second lowest of the four cities compared. Between 2013 and 2018, Geneva saw no change in its rate, even as other cities saw improvements. Geneva also had disparities by ethnicity on this measure, with 24% of white students reaching proficiency, compared to 10% of Hispanic students and 14% of African American students.

Geneva also had a low proficiency rate for 8th grade math, an important predictor of high school success in math. In 2018, 26% of students met proficiency, a 4-percentage point decline from 2015. Geneva’s proficiency rate was above Rochester’s (14%), but below Canandaigua, Batavia and the state (at 54%, 31% and 48%, respectively).

Geneva’s high school graduation rate in 2018 was 82%, lower than every city compared except Rochester, though still similar to the state’s rate (83%). The graduation rate has increased by 15 percentage points since 2008 – the largest increase for the cities compared.

Large differences by race and ethnicity exist, however, with Hispanic and Black or African American students graduating at much lower rates than white and Asian students (57%, 76%, 90% and 100%, respectively).

Geneva had 5.2 library visits per resident in 2017, the lowest of the four cities compared. However, Geneva’s rate for the year saw the highest increase of all the cities since 2000 (18%).
Crime:
Geneva’s rate of serious crimes was 246 per 10,000 residents in 2017, the second lowest of the four cities compared, and a 12% decrease since 2000. Geneva was the only regional city other than Rochester to see a decrease in that period. Geneva was also the only city to see a decline in violent crime over that period (down 21% from 28 per 10,000 residents to 22 per 10,000 residents).

In 2017, Geneva had the lowest rate of domestic violence of the four regional cities at 28 per 10,000 residents. Despite its lower rate, Geneva’s rate of domestic abuse cases have increased significantly since 2000 (600%), a far greater increase than for the other cities.

Geneva had approximately 241 arrests per 10,000 residents in 2017. Arrests in the city decreased 26% from 2000 (324), and was above the region (198) and greater than the state (226). Geneva had lower arrest rates than Ontario County among its black or African American population (66 city, 120 county), and slightly higher arrest rates than the county among its Hispanic or Latino populations (45 city, 39 county). Arrests among whites in the city and county were similar (13 city, 14 county).

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