

Batavia Summary

Demographics & Income:

Between 2000 and 2016, Batavia saw a 10% decrease in its population, the largest decline of any of the four cities compared. Like other cities in the region, this was driven by sizeable declines in younger age groups (below age 85) as the over 85 population increased. Similar to other regional cities, the demographic makeup of the city also changed in this time period as its African American population increased by 29% even as its white population decreased by 11%.

In 2012-16, 21% of people in Batavia lived in poverty, almost double the rate in 2000, and higher than the state rate of 15%. Batavia had a slightly higher child poverty rate (29%). Both poverty and child poverty rates in Batavia had large disparities in terms of race and ethnicity, with people of color living in poverty at higher rates than whites.

Like the other cities in the region, Batavia had a decline in median household income from 2000 to 2012-16 at a greater rate than the state as a whole. Its level in 2012-16 was \$42,800, the second highest of the four cities. Like the other cities in the region, there were great disparities in median household income between Black or African American and white households.

Housing:

Homeownership rates have stayed fairly steady from 2000 to 2012-16, though Batavia had large disparities in rates of ownership between whites and people of color.

Batavia saw its median home value decrease by 16% from 2000 to 2012-16 to \$94,000, a larger decrease than for Rochester (down 13%) and Geneva (down 9%), and in contrast to Canandaigua and the state (which increased by 17% and 35%, respectively).

Batavia's ratio of median home value to median household income, a measure of housing affordability for homeowners decreased by 12% from 2000 to 2012-16, bringing Batavia's affordability to the same level as Geneva and Rochester (all at 1.5). A ratio below two or three is considered affordable.

In 2012-16, the average renter in Batavia spent \$730, or 34% of household income on rent, similar to the share in Canandaigua (33%). That made it one of the more affordable cities for renters out of the cities in the region.



Children & Youth:

In 2015, Batavia's teen pregnancy rate was 2.5%, a decrease of almost 8 points from 2006, the second largest decrease of any of the four cities in the region (Rochester decreased by 8.1 points in the same time period). Batavia had the second lowest teen pregnancy rate among the four cities. Batavia also saw a 5-point decline in low birth-weight babies (a leading predictor of neonatal death and higher risks of long-term developmental and neurological disabilities) from 2006 to 2015, bringing its rate to 4.2%, the second lowest rate of the four cities

Education:

In 2016, Batavia spent \$20,550 per student in its education system, below the state rate of \$23,360. Batavia's spending level has increased by 37% from the \$15,050 it spent in 2000. This was the smallest increase of the four cities in the region. Despite the scale of its increases, Batavia had some of the most demonstrable improvement in education, though disparities by race and ethnicity persist.

In 2017, Batavia's 3rd grade English proficiency rate, an important measure of early reading skills, was 38%, below Canandaigua and the state (at 45% and 43%, respectively), but higher than the other cities compared. The rate increased by 16 percentage points from 2013 to 2017, the largest improvement of any of the four cities. Batavia had tremendous disparities by ethnicity, with only 14% of its Hispanic students achieving proficiency (in comparison to 44% of white students), highlighting that its academic gains are not evenly distributed among students.

In contrast, 8th grade math proficiency, an important predictor of high school success in math, was at only 3%, a 7 percentage point decline from 2013. Batavia's proficiency rate was the same as Geneva's and slightly above Rochester's (1%), but far below Canandaigua and the state (at 28% and 22% respectively).

Its high school graduation rate in 2017 was 91%, slightly below Canandaigua (92%), though much higher than the state rate of 82%. The graduation rate increased by 14 percentage points from 2008, the largest increase for the cities compared. In comparison to 3rd grade reading, these academic gains are more evenly distributed, with Hispanic students' graduation rates falling only 6 percentage points below those of white students (87% and 93% respectively). However, Black and African American students are not served as well by the education system, with only 67% graduating in 2017, the biggest disparity observed across the four cities.

Batavia has the highest rate of library visits per resident, with 8.7 visits in 2016. However, Batavia has also seen the largest decrease in this rate (down 10%) from 2000 while other cities remained constant or increased during the same time period.



Crime:

Batavia's rate of serious crimes was 390 per 10,000 residents in 2016, second only to Rochester at 462. This rate was a 10% increase in the rate from 2000. Rochester, Geneva, and the state all saw serious crime rates decline during this time period. Batavia's rate of violent crimes more than doubled in this time period. In contrast, its rate of property crime (at 343 per 10,000 residents in 2016) remained steady from 2000 to 2016. Batavia had a rate of 134 victims of domestic abuse per 10,000 residents. This was a much higher rate than any of the other cities compared, and was more than six times Geneva's rate of 22 per 10,000 which was the lowest of the four cities. Batavia's rate of domestic violence almost doubled from 2009 to 2016.