

Hard Facts 2020

WDN Meeting
November 19, 2020

ACT Rochester

 THE
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



Race and Ethnicity
in the Nine-County
Greater Rochester Area

AUGUST 2020

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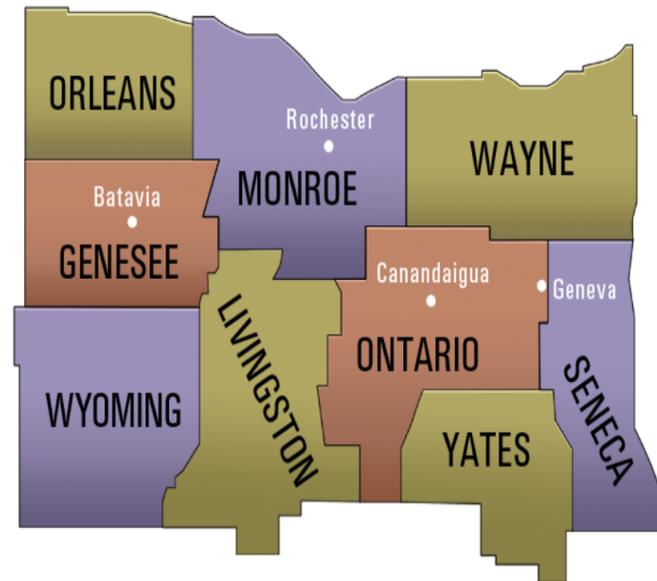
 THE
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



ACT Rochester

An Initiative of Rochester Area
Community Foundation

ACT Rochester's purpose 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. ACT Rochester is more than a warehouse for data. Staff is engaged in local initiatives to encourage the development of goals, targets and accountability so that our community can better identify and measure progress.



Click on a geography for community-specific data

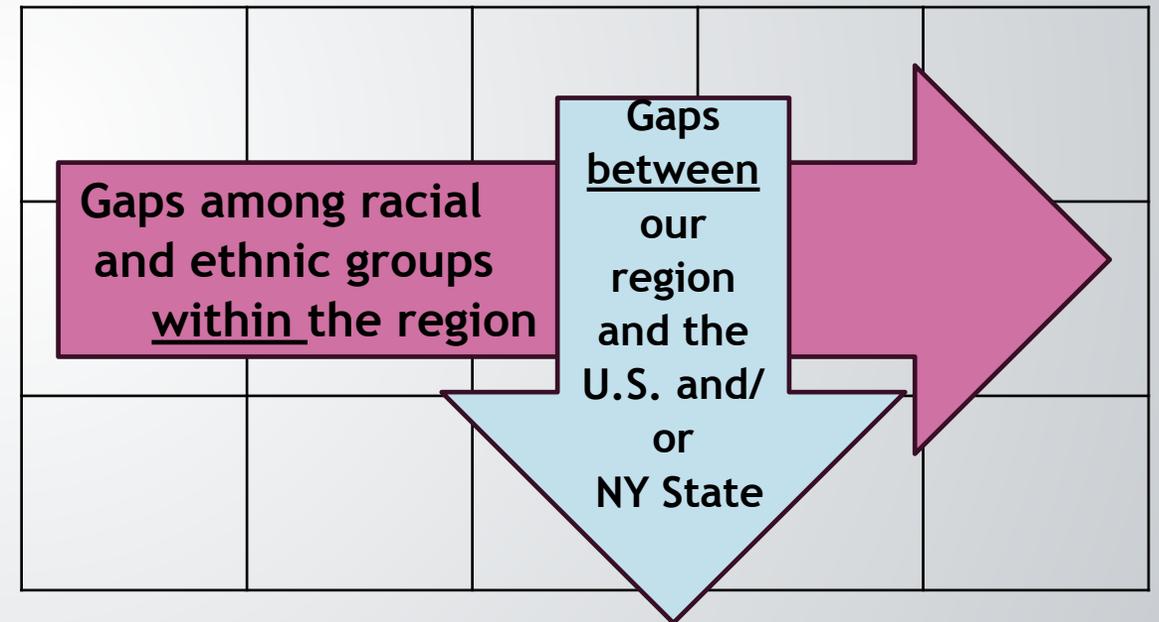
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Method: Two Basic Questions

- How do the outcomes for African Americans and Latinos compare with Whites **within the nine-county Rochester region**?
- How do the outcomes for African Americans and Latinos in the nine-county Rochester region compare with those for People of Color nationwide and in New York State?



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Why the emphasis on African Americans and Latinos?

- The nine-county regional population is more than **82% White**.
- The **128,400 African Americans in the region** account for 10.8% of the population, and are, by far, the largest minority group.
- The region's **81,600 Latina/Latino residents** account for 6.8% of the total population.
- The disparities experienced by these two groups are very **similar and are dramatic**.
- While there are **other minority groups**, they are relatively small in number. Asians, the next largest group, account for 2.6% of the regional population.

Note: For those interested in greater detail, Appendices A & B contain full breakdowns by groups for each County.

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Key Findings of the report:

- Disparities impact individuals and families **throughout their lives**, and even into future generations. Wide gaps exist in *all measures*.
- The gaps **between racial and ethnic groups** are *greater in the Rochester region* than in the United States or New York State as a whole.
- These results have a **demonstrable impact on the well-being of the Rochester region**.

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Some Conclusions to Ponder: We pay a great cost.

- If People of Color regionally had the same poverty rate as Whites, the region would have nearly **50,000 fewer people in poverty** (that's about the total population of the Town of Irondequoit).
- If People of Color here had the same poverty rate as People of Color nationwide this study estimates that there would be nearly **22,000 fewer people in poverty** (that's nearly half the population of the Town of Webster).
- The bonus in terms of **lower costs and higher local tax revenues** would be enormous.

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Inequalities within the region - Child Health and Well-being:

- African American children are nearly 4 times more likely to experience **child poverty** than Whites, while for Latino children the likelihood is slightly more than 3 times.

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Comparing the nine-county region to the nation - African Americans are:

- More likely to be in poverty (34% compared with 24%);
- Have children who are more likely to be in poverty (49%, versus 35%);
- More likely to experience unemployment (13.8% compared with 10.6%);
- Have lower incomes (75 cents on the dollar compared with the nationwide level).

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Comparing the nine-county region to the nation - *Latinos*:

- More likely to be in poverty (32% compared with 21%);
- Their children are more likely to be in poverty (40%, versus 28%);
- More likely to experience unemployment (10.8% compared with 6.8%);
- Have lower incomes (66 cents on the dollar compared with the nation);

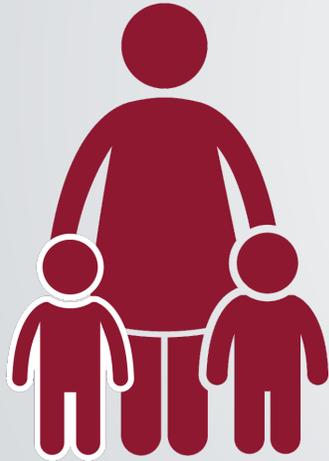
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Inequalities within the region - Housing and Intergenerational Wealth:

Children Living in Poverty by Race/Ethnicity



	ROC	Region	NYS	US
Asian	51%	17%	21%	13%
Black or African American	53%	48%	32%	37%
Hispanic	54%	41%	33%	31%
White	45%	14%	16%	17%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau
2012 - 16 Statistics

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Inequalities within the region - Education:

- For the foundational **Grade 3 English Language Arts**, the African American passing rate is slightly less than half (48%) that of Whites, while for Latino students it is slightly more than half (52%).

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Comparing the nine-county region to NY State - *African Americans* students:

- Had a lower passing rates for:
 - Grade 3 English Language Arts (25% compared with 45%);
 - Grade 3 Math (28% versus 43%);
 - Grade 8 English (17% compared with 37%).
- Had a slightly lower graduation rate (72% versus 75%).

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Comparing the nine-county region to NY State - *Latino* students:

- Had a lower passing rates for:
 - Grade 3 English Language Arts (27% versus 43%);
 - Grade 3 Math (31% versus 43%);
 - Grade 8 English (20% compared with 39%).

- Had the same graduation rate (75%).

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The racial and ethnic disparities within the nine-county region are profound.

In many ways, the disparities between our region and the national and statewide measures are even more disturbing. Since the region is a microcosm of the nation, outcomes for African Americans and Latinos should reflect their counterparts.

The conclusion is inescapable:

Racial and Ethnic inequalities are a reflection of societal injustice, and that injustice is stronger in the Rochester region than in the nation as a whole, or NY State as whole.

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- More information, or to download the report:

ACTRochester.org