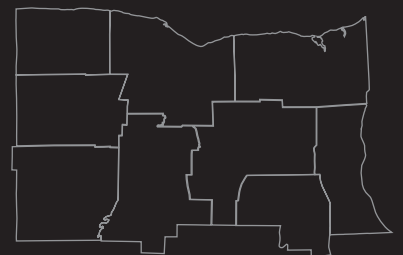




Hard Facts

Race and Ethnicity in the Nine-County Greater Rochester Area

AUGUST 2017



PREFACE

This report, “Hard Facts,” could have easily been titled “Race Matters.” Its tables, charts and narrative show the hard realities of race for those of us living in our nine-county region. It paints a sobering, discouraging, sad and challenging picture that we can no longer ignore.

Our racial gaps are stark and striking. Just think...

* While discrimination and racism have played and are continuing to play significant roles in American history and culture, “Hard Facts” documents that for almost every indicator, our Rochester region is performing even more poorly than New York State and the country.

* Throughout our region, there are substantial disparities in childhood poverty, overall poverty, academic achievement, earnings and homeownership rates between African Americans and Latinos and white populations.

* The racial disparities are wide and impact individuals and families throughout their lives and even into future generations.

* Nationally, leaders and others ponder the question of why African American incomes are only 62% those of white residents. Our challenge is even greater: In our nine-county region, the corresponding number is dramatically lower at 48%.

These “Hard Facts” should make it impossible for anyone to ignore the profound entrenchment of structural racism throughout our region.

So what do we do about this massive challenge? If we are serious about creating a vibrant, positive, hopeful and prosperous community for ourselves and future generations, then we absolutely must find ways of dealing directly and dramatically with the difficult disparities which “Hard Facts” presents us.

We hope this report will compel all people of good will to become personally and systemically involved *now* with changing the racial disparities facing us. If we want a vibrant community that not only survives but also flourishes, it is in our best interest, individually and collectively, to discover and develop ways to face and address the disparities that undermine our community’s equity and quality of life.

And now to the Hard Facts....

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**The cover design is intended to provide a visualization of the ethnic composition that makes up the nine-county region.*

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report looks at the hard facts surrounding substantial gaps in social and economic outcomes among people of different racial and ethnic backgrounds in the nine-county Greater Rochester area.¹ It has not used words such as “racism” to describe the outcomes documented, instead opting for sterile terms like “disparities” or “gaps.” The role of current and past racism by individuals and institutions in fostering these patterns cannot be addressed with simple data. But these hard facts clearly point to the profound entrenchment of structural racism, which can be defined as:

“A system in which public policies, institutional practices, cultural representations, and other norms work in various, often reinforcing, ways to perpetuate racial group inequity”²

The first finding is that the gaps are wide and impact individuals and families throughout their lives; even into future generations.

- Disparities begin at birth and continue through childhood. This report documents substantial outcome gaps in infant mortality and low birth weights. African American children in our region are more than 4 times as likely as whites to be in poverty, and Latino children experience poverty at a rate of more than 3 ½ times that of non-Latino white children.
- Success in school in the nine-county region is highly correlated with race and ethnicity. Very dramatic academic achievement gaps among racial and ethnic groups are evident at every grade level.
- Median household incomes of African Americans in our region are less than half that of whites. For Latinos, salaries are only slightly more than half the level of non-Latino whites. On the other end of the economic well-being scale, both African Americans and Latinos experience poverty at rates that are more than 3 times that of white residents.
- Both African Americans and Latinos are less than half as likely to own their home as their white counterparts. Homeownership contributes to family quality of life, and is also one of the most significant means of transferring assets between generations.

These gaps are striking. However, the report’s second finding is even more troubling. Social and economic outcomes for African Americans and Latinos in the greater Rochester region are demonstrably worse than those of the same groups in New York State and the nation as a whole.

The nine-county Greater Rochester area contain urban, suburban, and rural areas. In many respects, the region mirrors the nation and the state. Yet, as detailed in Table A (next page), the social and economic well-being of African Americans and Latinos in the nine-county region lags the experience of these groups in the state and nation as a whole. The table shows substantial disparities between the Rochester region and the larger communities in childhood poverty, overall poverty, academic achievement, earnings, and homeownership rates.

Table A: Outcomes for African Americans and Latinos: the Region, State and Nation			
Indicator:	Nine-county Region	New York State	United States
Child Poverty Rate: African Americans ¹	50%	33%	38%
Child Poverty Rate: Latinos ¹	42%	34%	32%
Grade 3 ELA Proficiency: African Americans ²	13%	31%	NA
Grade 3 ELA Proficiency: Latinos ²	19%	30%	NA
Grade 8 Math Proficiency: African Americans ²	4%	14%	NA
Grade 8 Math Proficiency: Latinos ²	5%	16%	NA
Median Household Income: African Americans ¹	\$27,078	\$41,615	\$35,695
Median Household Income: Latinos ¹	\$29,991	\$40,824	\$42,651
Poverty Rate: African Americans ¹	36%	23%	27%
Poverty Rate: Latinos ¹	34%	26%	24%
Homeownership Rates: African Americans ¹	33%	31%	42%
Homeownership Rates: Latinos ¹	35%	24%	46%
Sources: 1. U.S. Census – American Community Survey for 2011-15. 2. NY State Department of Education, student assessments for 2016. ELA = English Language Arts (sometimes referred to simply as “reading”)			

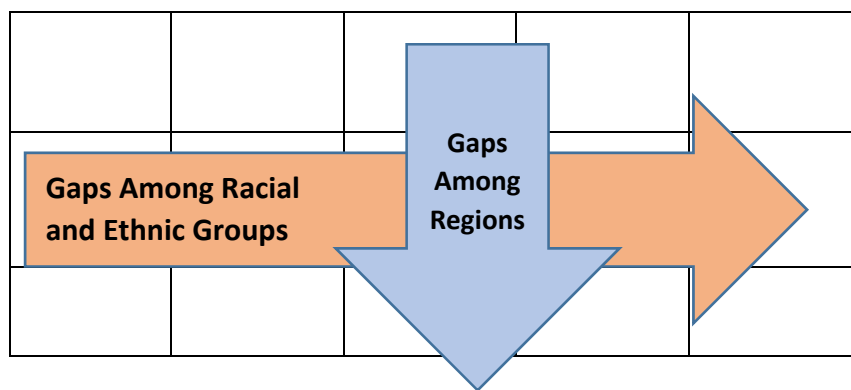
Section 1: INTRODUCTION

A. Summary of Findings

These are indeed hard facts. They are hard to face; they are hard to fully understand. But, they describe the status-quo in Greater Rochester and present an urgent challenge to us all.

This study uses the most up-to-date data from authoritative sources to document and analyze the differences in social and economic outcomes experienced by individuals and families in the nine-county Greater Rochester area.¹ This report looks at the region as a whole and provides comparisons in two directions:

- Outcomes for different racial and ethnic groups within the region; and
- Outcome comparisons for African Americans and Latinos between the Rochester region and the United States and New York State.



Beginning in 2012, ACT Rochester³ has been tracking and reporting most of this data in tabular form (see Appendix D).

There are three inescapable findings of this report:

1. Disparities impact individuals and families throughout their lives, and even into future generations. Wide gaps exist in child health and well-being; they continue through a child’s academic experience; they persist through the working years; and they impact one of the largest sources of intergenerational wealth transfer – home ownership.
2. 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. This is not a city-suburb comparison. The nine-county area includes four cities, expansive suburban areas, numerous villages, and significant rural areas. As such, the region should be expected to closely mirror statewide and national demographics. But for African Americans and Latinos, the disparities locally outpace those in the state and nation, and by a meaningful margin.
3. These results have a demonstrable impact on the well-being of the Rochester region. The reduced level to which African Americans and Latinos share in our region’s wealth contributes significantly to our overall lower median incomes and higher poverty. If local African American and Latino poverty rates mirrored the rates of these same groups in New York State as a whole, our region’s poverty rate would be considerably lower. For the City of Rochester, the poverty rate would be nearly 7 percentage points lower. Instead of its current rank as the 4th poorest city in the nation, Rochester would rank at approximately 17th.⁴

B. Understanding Race and Ethnicity

Our understanding of the concept of race continues to evolve. Instead of a fixed biological concept, we now know that human variation results from complex patterns of evolution and adaptation. Observed genetic variations are far outweighed by similarities among all humans. Race is increasingly seen as a social concept, not a biological one.⁵

Ethnicity is also an evolving concept. Ethnicity generally refers to the culture of people from a specific area. That culture may be defined by language, heritage, religion and customs. But this concept can also be blurry. The son of an Irish father and a German mother may call himself Irish because his name is easily found on an Irish map of such names. But he is no less German than Irish. So, like race, ethnicity also can be seen as a social construct.

As detailed on Appendix A, the racial demographics of the nine-county area are complex and include people from all of the racial categories included in the Census data collection system. However, this data also shows that nearly 96% of regional residents identify themselves as being of one race, as follows: white (82.4%); African American (10.7%) or Asian (2.5%).

More than 76,400 regional residents, or 6.3% of our entire regional population, identify themselves as being of Hispanic or Latino ethnic background. Latino is not a racial group, and those who identify themselves as Latinos are members of various racial groups. Due to the significant disparity in economic and social outcomes, the Census Bureau tracks detailed demographic data for Latinos.

This report will focus on the three largest racial groups and the Latino ethnic group, with special attention to the clear disparities experienced by African Americans and Latinos. As “minorities” in a larger society, it is remarkable how similar the outcomes are for African Americans and Latinos, and how disparate these outcomes are when compared with whites.

See Appendix A and Appendix B for detailed descriptions of the region’s racial and ethnic demographics.

C. The Gaps Are Wide

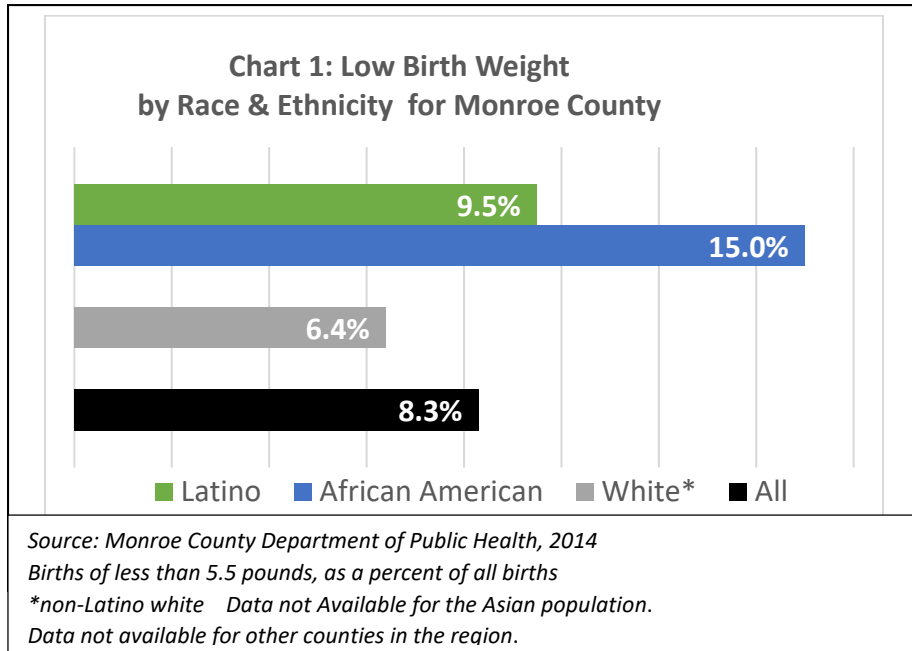
The outcome gaps among our region’s racial and ethnic groups are troubling. As described above, these gaps are experienced throughout the lifespan of individuals and families. More vexing is the finding that the disparities are greater in our region than in the state and nation as a whole. This report will focus on four major issues: Child Health and Well-being, Academic Achievement, Economic Well-being and Housing and Wealth Legacy. For each issue, this report will present data about the fairly well-known disparities among racial and ethnic groups, as well as some seldom-discussed disparities in the Rochester area in comparison to the state and nation as a whole.

Section 2: CHILD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

A. Low Birth Weight

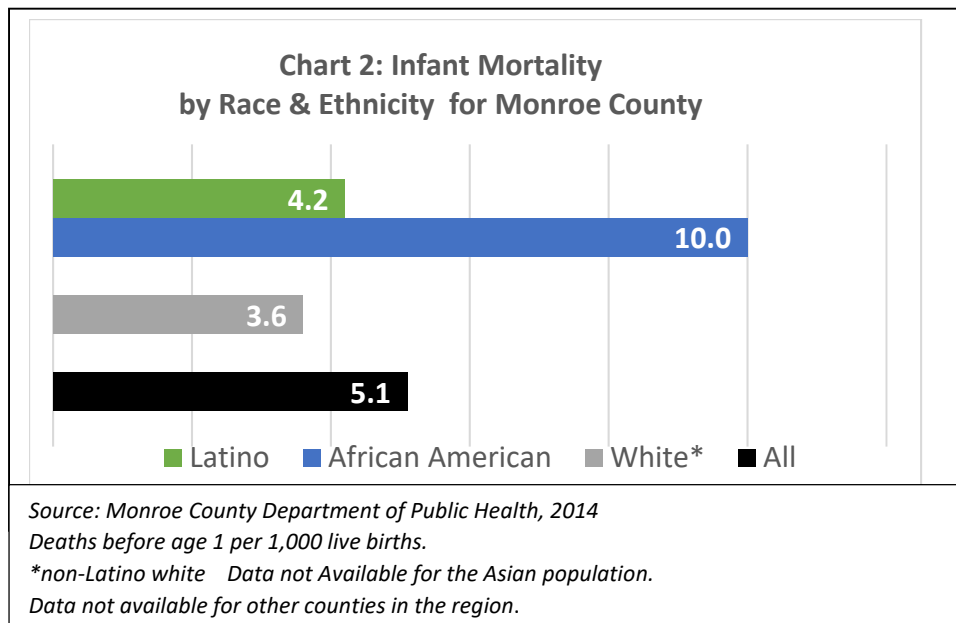
Births of less than 5 ½ pounds are a leading indicator of developmental and neurological problems. In Monroe County (we have this data for Monroe only), African Americans are nearly 2 ½ times as likely to experience low-weight births as are non-Latino whites. The low-weight birth rate for Latinos is about 1 ½ times the level of non-Latino whites (see Chart 1).

A matter of great concern is the most recent data from 2014 where the percentage of low-weight births among African Americans rose to 15% - the highest it has been since the year 2000. Among Latinos, 2014 was the 4th highest reading in the past 15 years.



B. Infant Mortality

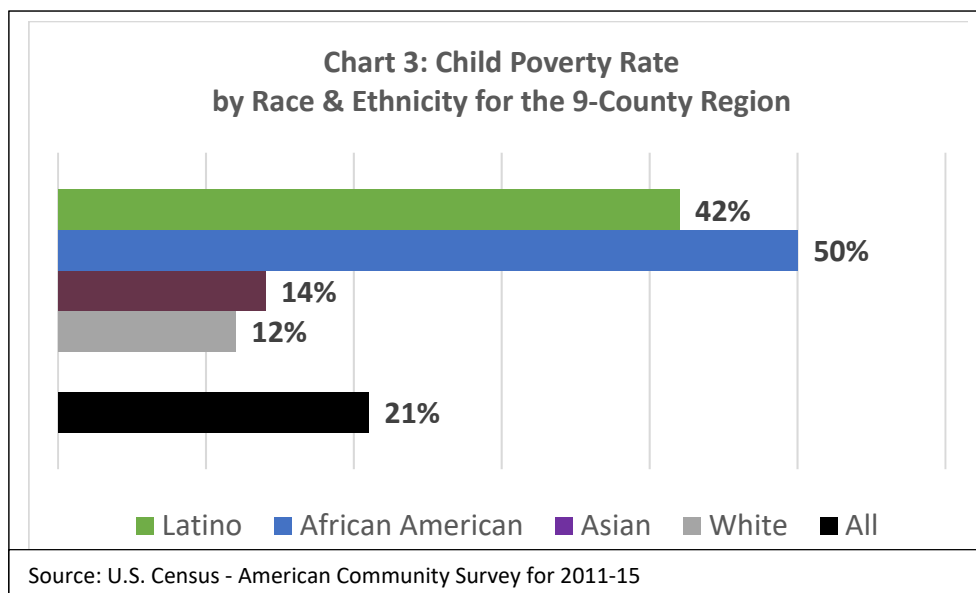
Infant mortality rates measure child deaths before age 1 (as a rate per 1,000 live births). This indicator shows meaningful gaps among the racial and ethnic groups. In 2014, the African American rate was more than 2 ½ times that of non-Latino whites. For Latinos, the 2014 gap was much narrower (see Chart 2).



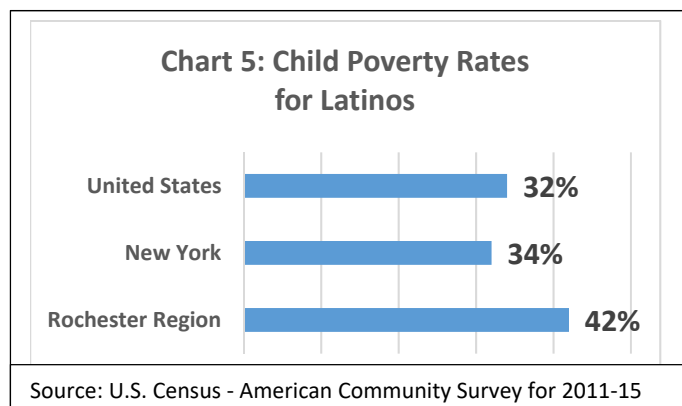
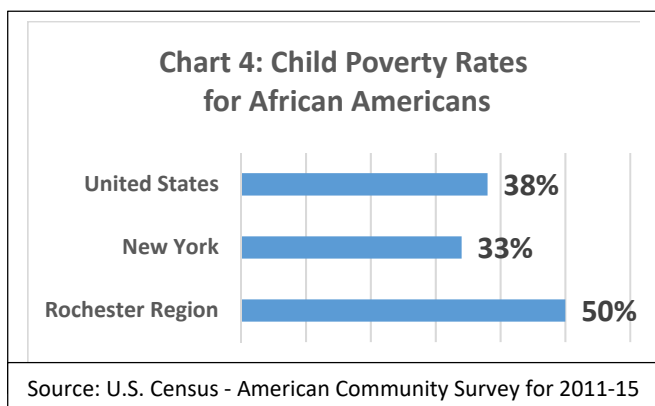
Encouragingly, these gaps have been gradually narrowing, with the 2014 rates for African Americans at their lowest since the year 2000 and since 2007 for Latinos (when the Latino data was initiated).

C. Childhood Poverty

Child poverty rates in the nine-county region show stark differences among racial and ethnic groups and concerning numbers for our region compared with both New York State and the United States. For the nine-county region as a whole, African American children have a 50% poverty rate, while the rate for Latino children is 42%. The rates for whites (12%) and Asians (14%) are considerably lower (see Chart 3).



For both African Americans and Latinos, the regional child poverty rates outpace both those for New York State and United States for the same groups (see Charts 4 and 5).

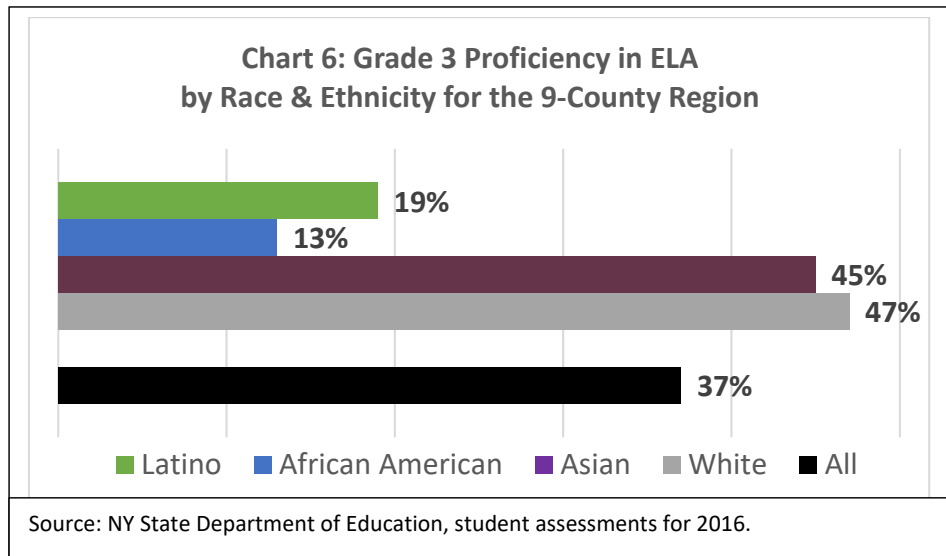


Section 3: ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

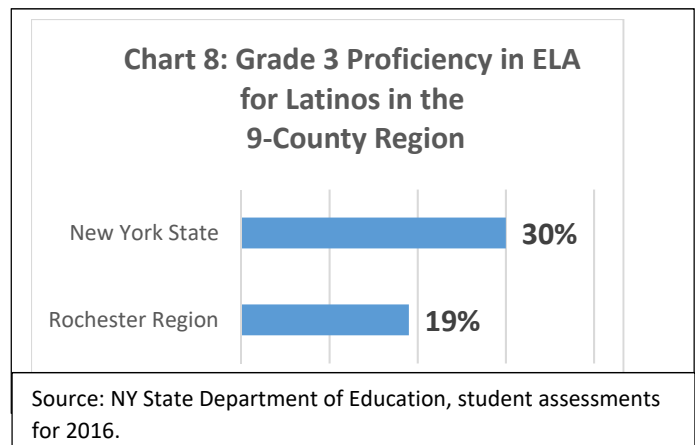
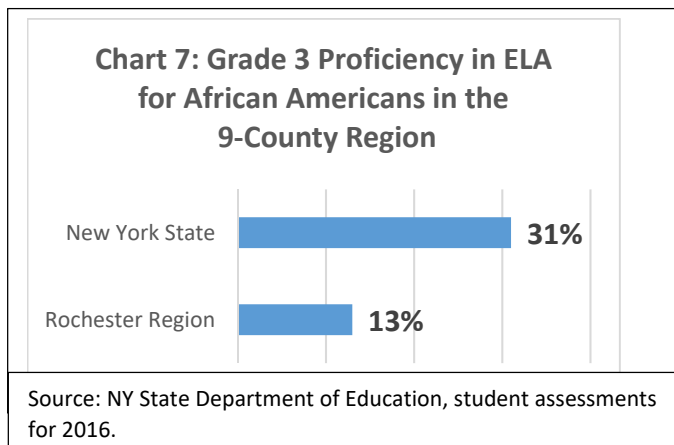
When comparing the academic results of our region’s schools to statewide results, the region has generally outpaced New York State over the long term. However, recent trends suggest this is no longer the case.⁶

A. Grade 3 Proficiency in English Language Arts (ELA)

Grade 3 reading level is often cited as a critical milestone in a child’s education. The observation is that if a child can “learn to read” by this point, he or she will be able to “read to learn” in later grades. As shown in Chart 6, only 19% of Latino students and 13% of African American students in the nine-county region achieve this milestone, compared with 47% of white students and 45% for Asians.



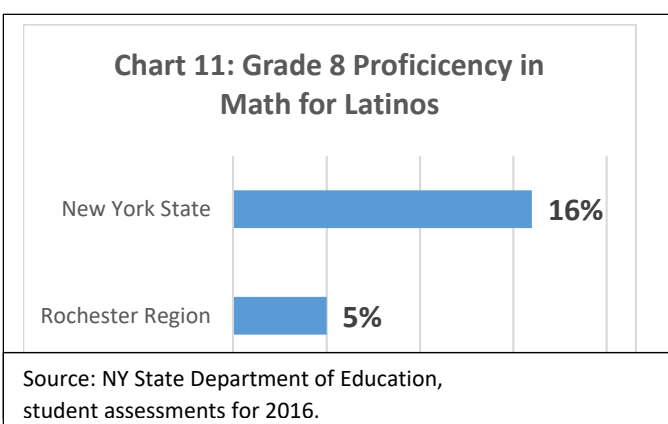
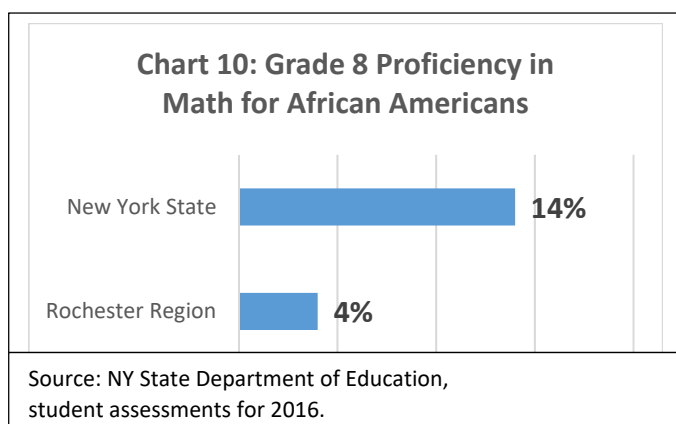
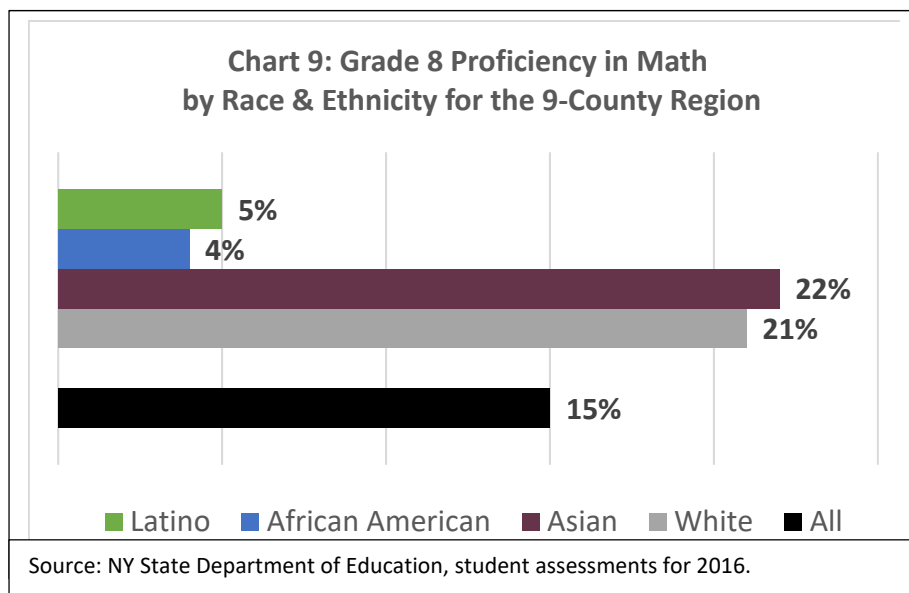
Of crucial concern, Latino and African American students in our region lag behind students of the same groups in New York State as a whole, and by a very large margin (Charts 7 and 8). Why would African American students in our region (urban, suburban and rural) succeed at less than half the rate of African American students throughout New York State (urban, suburban and rural)? The Latino disparity is somewhat lower, but also dramatic and without a ready explanation.



NOTE: See APPENDIX C for Results of Additional Assessments

B. Grade 8 Proficiency in Math

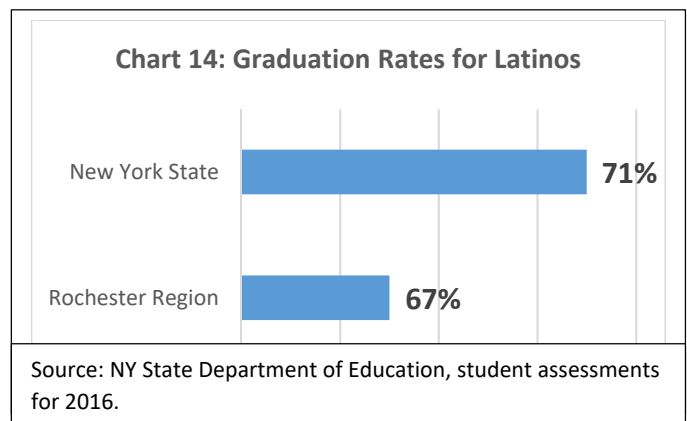
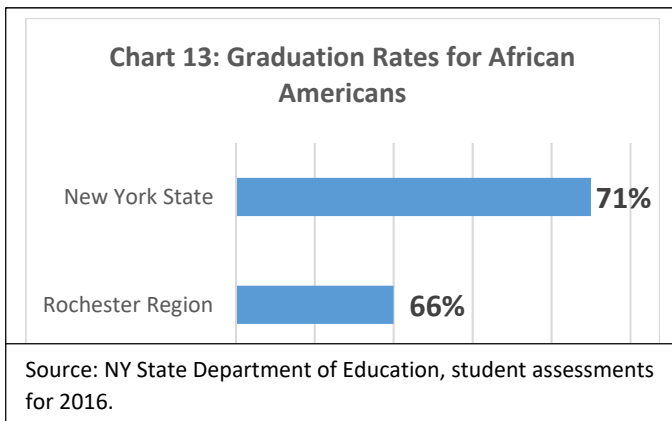
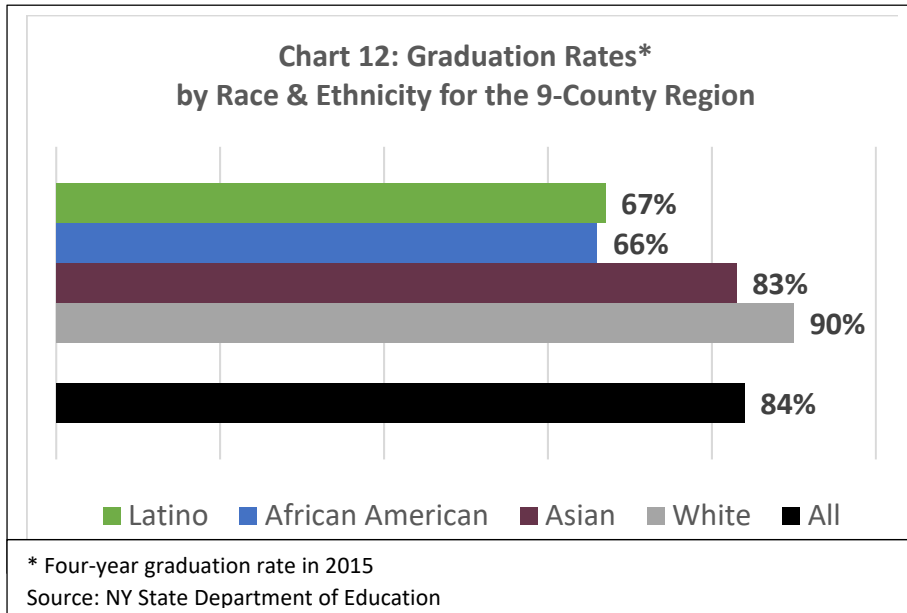
Looking at a later point on the age spectrum, Grade 8 Math, we find even more dramatic gaps among racial and ethnic groups, and between our region and the state as a whole (Charts 9, 10, and 11). For this assessment, we find that all students struggle⁷, but the disparities among groups are stunning. The statewide success for both African American and Latino students is more than three times higher than for the same groups in our region. These are groups of students from similar demographics taking the same test and achieving dramatically different results.



Appendix C details the 2016 outcomes for regional students on four NY State assessments: Grade 3 English Language Arts (ELA), often referred to as reading; Grade 4 Math; Grade 8 ELA; and Grade 8 Math. All show similar disparities among racial and ethnic groups and between our region and New York State as a whole.

C. Graduation Rates

In the area of education, much attention is focused on graduation rates. As shown in Charts 12, 13 and 14, graduation rates also reveal meaningful disparities. The gaps in graduation rates are somewhat less stark than those for academic achievement. This could indicate that future graduation rates may be lower, or that graduation rates are less meaningful as a measure than data on academic achievement.

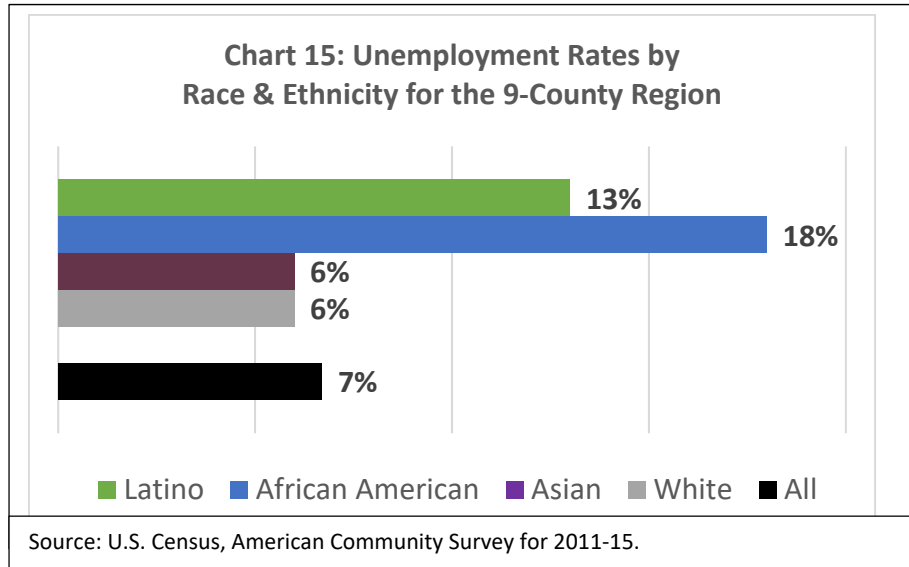


Section 4: ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

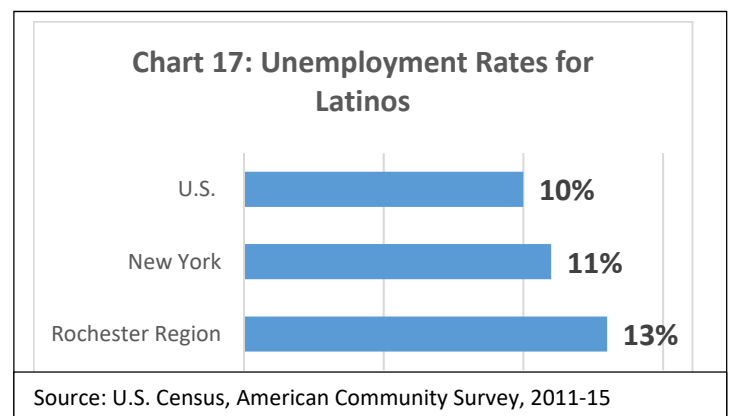
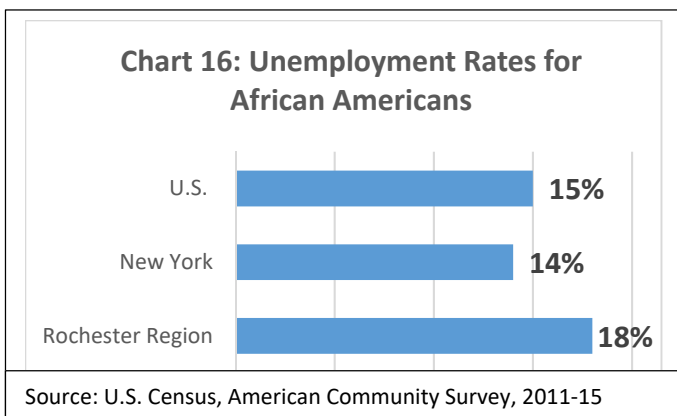
Disparate economic outcomes in our region parallel the gaps seen in earlier life.

A. UNEMPLOYMENT

African Americans and Latinos are 2-3 times more likely to be unemployed compared with whites in the region (Chart 15).

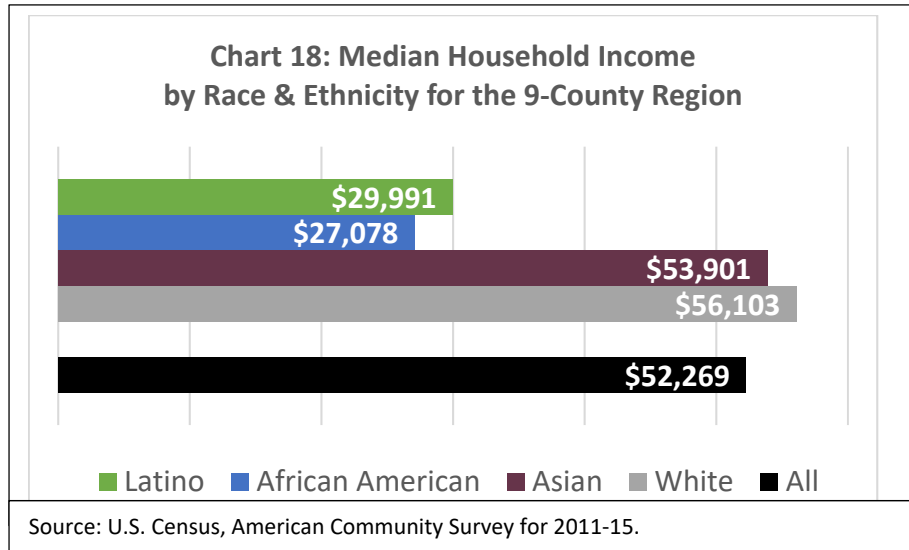


As described above, unequal economic outcomes among racial and ethnic groups are very pronounced in our region. More concerning is the variance between outcomes here and the state and nation for the same racial and ethnic groups. As shown in Charts 16 and 17, local African Americans and Latinos are more likely to be unemployed than their U.S. and New York State counterparts. However, these differences are less dramatic than other disparities, especially median household income and poverty rates.



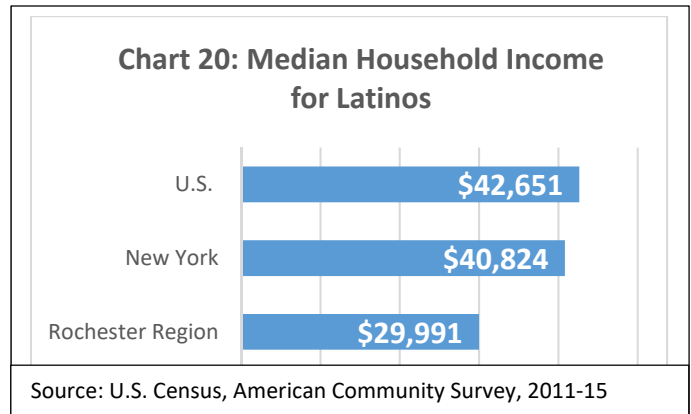
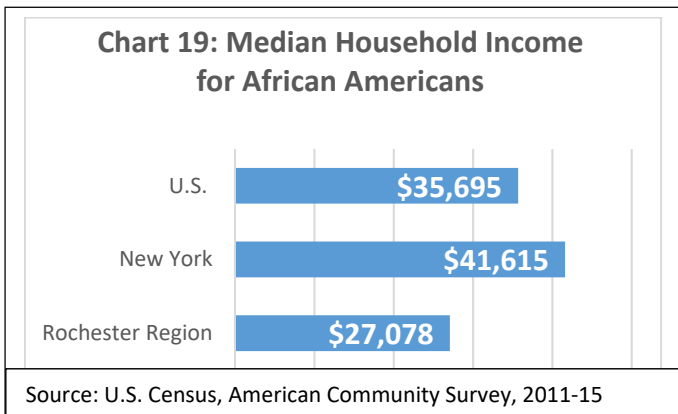
B. MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Annual household incomes for African Americans in the region are less than one-half those of whites. For Latinos, median incomes are slightly higher than one-half those of whites (Chart 18).



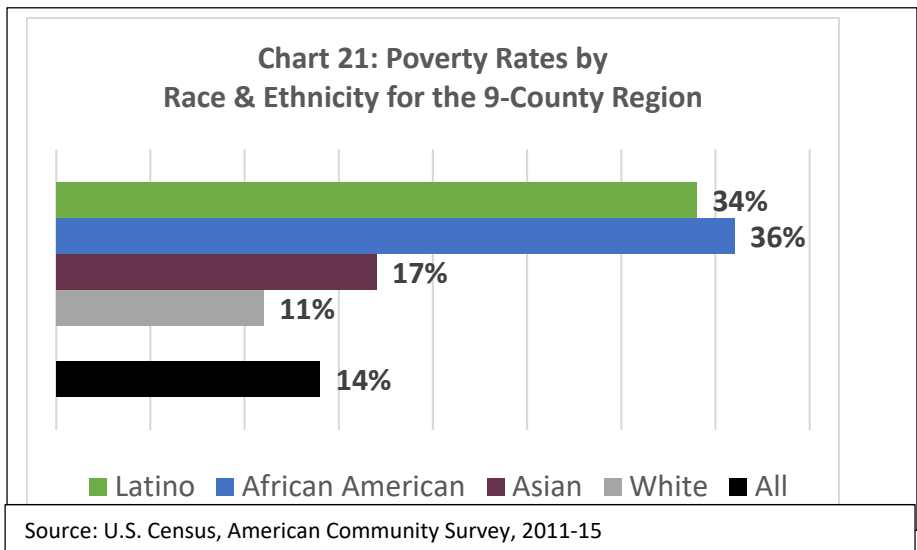
The income gap for African Americans and Latinos described above is startling. The full degree of this disparity comes into focus when we compare earnings for African Americans and Latinos to the same groups in the nation and state.

African American families in our region earn 76% of what African Americans earn nationwide, and only 65% of the New York State level (Chart 19). The situation is similar for Latinos in our region. Latino family incomes here are at 70% of the national level and 73% of the statewide numbers (Chart 20).

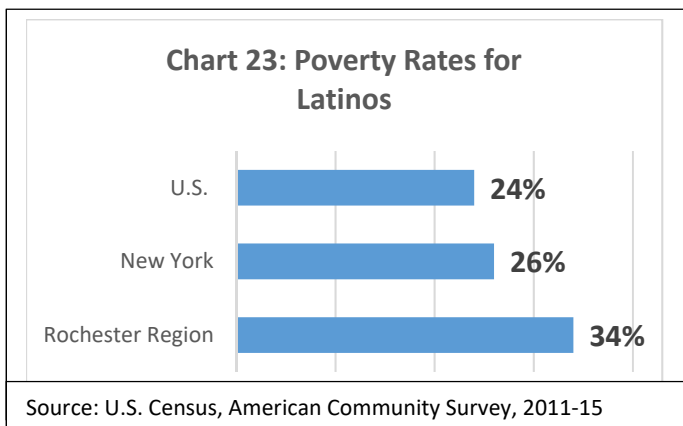
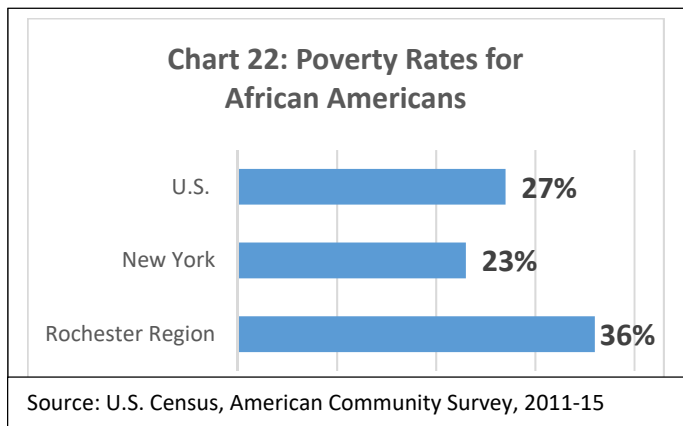


C. POVERTY

For both African Americans and Latinos in the region there is a three times greater likelihood of being in poverty than for whites (Chart 21).

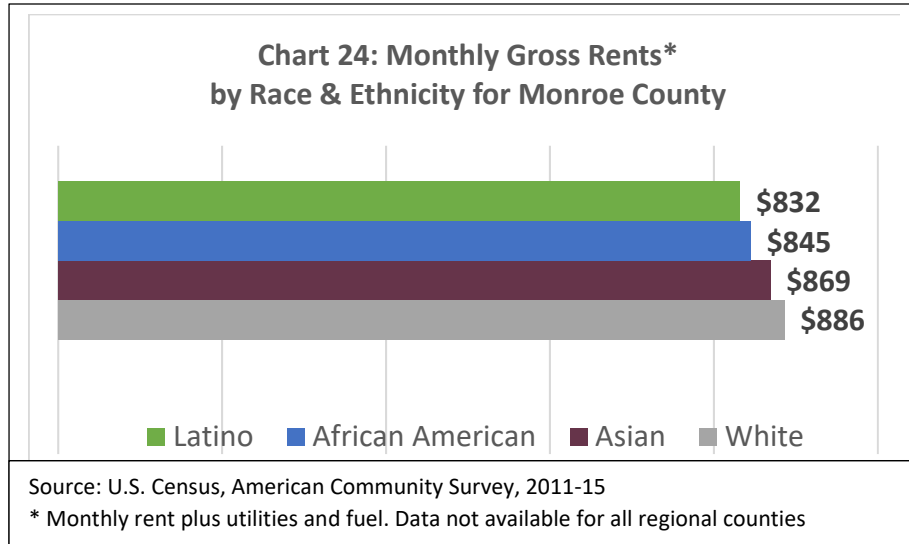


Charts 22 and 23 show poverty rates for the region’s African Americans and Latinos in comparison with New York State and the United States. The substantially higher poverty rates experienced by these groups in the nine-county region go a long way to explaining the significant overall poverty condition in our community.

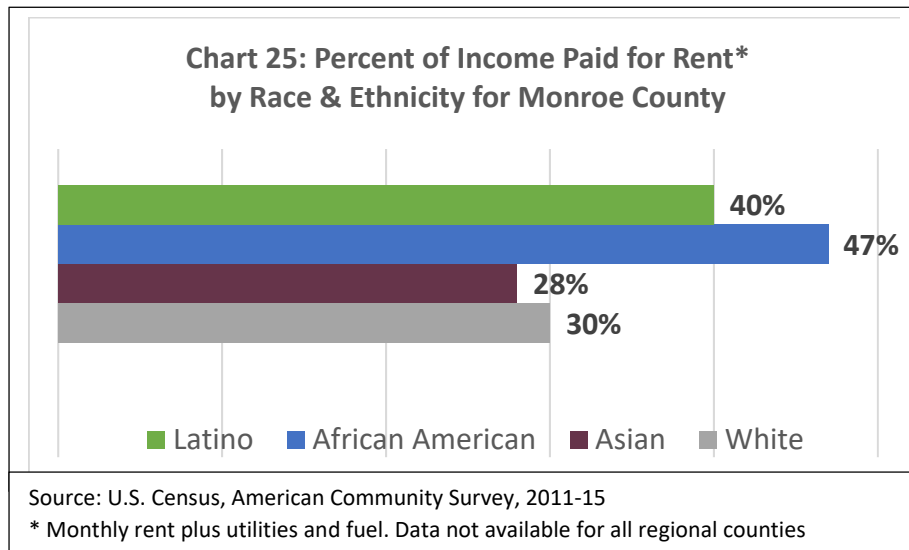


Section 5: HOUSING AND INTERGENERATIONAL WEALTH

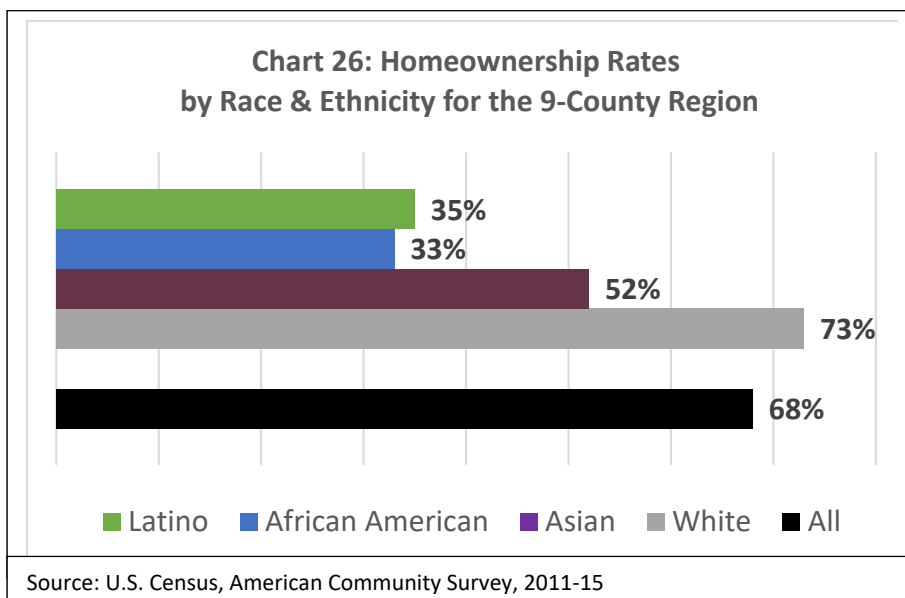
In the area of housing, we find a measure where the gap between groups is quite narrow. But this is not a good thing. For Monroe County (this data is not available for all counties), Latinos and African Americans pay monthly gross rents that are between 94% and 95% the level of white renters (Chart 24).



Given the narrow difference in this expense item, and the wide gap in incomes noted in Chart 18, it is not surprising that African Americans and Latinos spend a significantly higher portion of their income on rent (Chart 25). African Americans in Monroe County who rent are spending nearly half their income on rent and utilities. In Monroe County, about two-thirds of Latinos and African Americans are renters.

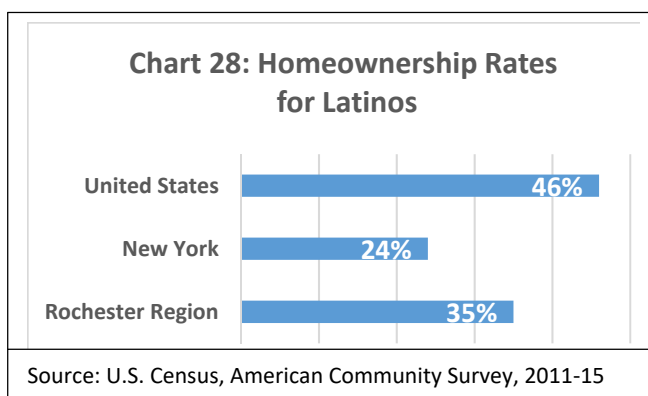
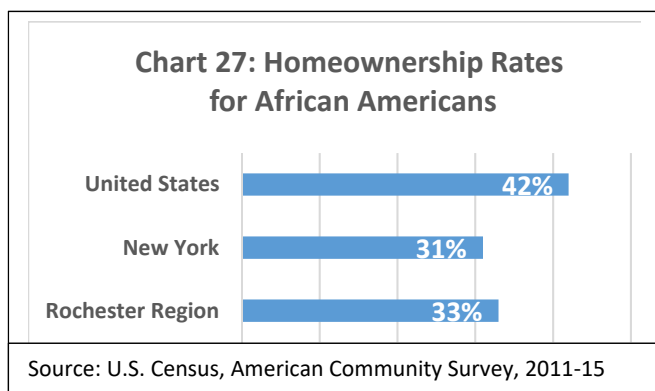


Homeownership is often seen as the signature of the American Dream. Owning one’s home generally represents an important step on the economic ladder. It also can bring a meaningful improvement in quality of life. The equity in one’s home is one of the most common means by which families and individuals pass assets to younger generations. In the nine-county region, nearly three-fourths of whites live in homes they own, as compared to one-third for African Americans and slightly more than one-third for Latinos (Chart 26).



As with other indicators in this report, outcomes for both African Americans and Latinos in our region lag those nationally (Charts 27 and 28). Regional outcomes do surpass those of New York State as a whole. However, this is undoubtedly a result of much lower homeownership rates in New York City for all groups. In this instance, the national comparison is probably the most valid. In fact, data for New York State excluding New York City closely mirrors the national data.⁸

Overall homeownership rates (for all groups) in the nine-county region outpace the nation (68% versus 64%), reflecting our area’s housing affordability. Yet, even where the region has a relative advantage over other parts of the nation, outcomes for African Americans and Latinos lag their counterparts nationally.



Section 6: OBSERVATIONS

More than 50 years after the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, it is hard to understand how such wide gaps can still exist among America's racial and ethnic groups. It is clear that America's social and economic institutions have not evolved as much as its laws.

While discrimination and racism have played significant roles in American society in general, this report documents that in almost every indicator, the Rochester region is performing more poorly than New York State and the nation.

- It is a matter of national concern that the child poverty rate for the entire nation is nearly 22%, and for African Americans 38%. But how can that rate be 50% in the nine-county Rochester region?
- How can it be that the Latino child poverty rate in our region is similarly out of step with the nation?
- What could account for the region's African American and Latino children being able to score at only half the level of their statewide counterparts on the all-important grade 3 reading assessment? And, at only one-third the level for grade 8 math?
- National leaders ponder the question of why African American incomes are only 62% those of white residents. But what explanation can there be for the fact that in the nine-county Rochester region the corresponding number is dramatically lower at 48%?

These issues are presented here as questions because the answers are not readily available. But there are some possible explanations that call for further understanding.

- The Rochester area's extraordinary concentration of poverty certainly plays a role.⁹ The nine-county Rochester region includes urban, suburban, and rural communities. It would be expected to mirror national and statewide demographic profiles. But the concentration of poverty, and the corresponding overburden that places on the City of Rochester, plays a role in creating a demographic profile that is not typical when compared to other places. This may be particularly important to the academic achievement gap.
- Metropolitan Rochester has a greater-than-normal degree of residential segregation.¹⁰ This may contribute to a non-typical demographic profile, and it also contributes to a greater-than-typical ability for disparities to be out of sight, and thus not discussed, understood, and confronted.
- It may be that the nine-county region does not have proportionate representation of upper income African Americans and Latinos. This report does not contain data to support or discredit this possibility. Certainly as compared to major metropolitan areas, the Rochester region may not be as able to attract and retain upper income individuals and families of color. Additional research would be needed to substantiate and quantify this hypothesis, or to refute it.
- It may well be that local employers are hiring and promoting African Americans and Latinos at a lower rate than their white counterparts.
- Rochester has seldom taken a regional perspective on the issues of race and ethnicity.

Section 7: CONCLUSION:

Why has it taken so long for “Hard Facts” to connect the dots for us? After all, the data presented here has been available for years on the ACT Rochester website. Possibly we have chosen not to look into our community mirror. Maybe it has been easier to ignore the truth.

As residents of our nine county region, what do we do now about this sad situation? How do we get ourselves out of this state of depressing race disparities? Are we really ready to jeopardize our future as a vibrant, hope-filled, productive and competitive area of the state and nation?

Whether as an individual citizen, a government official, leaders in the business or non-profit sectors, dealing with these obvious racial challenges is our collective calling. We can't hide from it. We can't think that this is someone else's responsibility. If we do, if we continue to escape into our segregated lives, then a future generation will have to deal with our legacy of denial.

So now what? First, we must face the hard facts presented here. Second, we should recognize the threat to our region by the racial status quo. Third, people of all races and backgrounds must work together to gain the understanding necessary to create needed change. Specifically, white people of good will must engage, in a positive way, in addressing what our institutional structures are doing to people of color... and to our future as a community. Fourth, we have to begin creating, both individually and collectively, strategies and commitments to confront our prejudices and our systems.

Michael Kinsley, former editor of the New Republic wrote, “The real test of leadership is getting people to go where they don't want to go.” Let's all become the leaders that our community so desperately needs at this time for our own sake and for the sake of our future.

END NOTES:

1. These counties form the coverage area for ACT Rochester, as well as for other regional programs, such as the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council. Six of the counties form the Census Bureau's Rochester Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA): Monroe; Livingston; Ontario; Orleans; Wayne; and Yates. The other counties are: Genesee; Seneca; and Wyoming.
2. The Aspen Institute, Roundtable on Community Change
(<http://www.aspeninstitute.org/sites/default/files/content/docs/rcc/RCC-Structural-Racism-Glossary.pdf>)
See also: United Way of Greater Rochester, Rochester Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative, Guiding Principles, Structural Racism, pp.11-16.
(<https://www.uwrochester.org/Connect/Rochester-Monroe-Anti-Poverty-Initiative>)
3. ACT Rochester is a community indicators initiative of Rochester Area Community Foundation.
(www.actrochester.org).
4. If poverty rates in the nine-county region were at the statewide level for African Americans and Latinos, there would be approximately 21,000 fewer poor people in the region. If that reduction was uniform throughout the region, the City of Rochester's poverty rate would be about 26.8% instead of its actual current level or 33.5%. For a listing of the poverty rates for cities in the top 75 U.S. metropolitan areas, see: *Poverty and Self-Sufficiency in the Nine-County Greater Rochester Area*, ACT Rochester and Rochester Area Community Foundation, September 2016. (<http://www.actrochester.org/poverty>)
5. American Anthropological Association, *Race: Are We So Different?* (<http://www.understandingrace.org/>)
6. Looking at a selection of four assessments (Grade 3 ELA, Grade 4 Math, Grade 8 ELA, and Grade 8 Math), the region as a whole outpaced the state as a whole on all assessments between 2000 and 2006. Beginning in 2007, Grade 4 Math results dipped and remained below the state mark for 8 of the next 10 years. Grade 3 ELA results dipped below the state level in 2009 and remained below for 6 of the next 8 years. Grade 8 Math results fell below the state level in 2014 and remained below in 2015 and 2016, while Grade 8 ELA scores first fell below in 2015 and remained below for 2016.
(<http://www.actrochester.org/education/academic-achievement>)
7. The statewide proficiency level on this test for all students was only 24%.
(<http://www.actrochester.org/education/academic-achievement/student-performance-grade-8-math/data-tables>)

8. Homeownership rates for New York State and the United States:

	<u>Asian</u>	<u>African American</u>	<u>Latino</u>	<u>White</u>
New York State	46%	31%	24%	63%
NY State Excluding NYC	64%	41%	46%	74%
United States	58%	42%	46%	69%

(<http://www.actrochester.org/housing/healthy-neighborhoods/homeownership-%20%09%20%20%09%20rate/homeownership-rate-by-race-ethnicity>)

9. *Poverty and the Concentration of Poverty in the Nine-County Greater Rochester Area*, ACT Rochester and Rochester Area Community Foundation, 2013.

(<http://www.actrochester.org/sites/default/files/Poverty%20Report%20for%20Web.pdf>)

10. *Poverty and the Concentration of Poverty in the Nine-County Greater Rochester Area*, ACT Rochester and Rochester Area Community Foundation, 2013, Section 5.

(<http://www.actrochester.org/sites/default/files/Poverty%20Report%20for%20Web.pdf>)

Nine-county Region - Population by Race and Ethnicity						
County →	Monroe		Livingston		Genesee	
Race/Ethnic Group	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
White	569,193	76.0%	60,451	93.3%	54,819	92.2%
African American	115,007	15.3%	1,587	2.4%	1,650	2.8%
American Indian ¹	2,780	0.4%	92	0.1%	608	1.0%
Asian	26,474	3.5%	881	1.4%	413	0.7%
Native Hawaiian ²	139	0.0%	9	0.0%	0	0.0%
Some Other Race	15,697	2.1%	473	0.7%	846	1.4%
2 or More Races	20,066	2.7%	1,308	2.0%	1,122	1.9%
Total – All Races	749,356	100%	64,801	100%	59,458	100%
Latino ³	59,540	7.9%	2,157	3.3%	1,764	3.0%

County →	Orleans		Wyoming		Wayne	
Race/Ethnic Group	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
White	37,776	89.5%	38,038	91.8%	86,083	93.1%
African American	2,555	6.1%	2,372	5.7%	3,164	3.4%
American Indian ¹	242	0.6%	118	0.3%	221	0.2%
Asian	239	0.6%	175	0.4%	586	0.6%
Native Hawaiian ²	25	0.1%	0	0.0%	77	0.1%
Some Other Race	601	1.4%	209	0.5%	776	0.8%
2 or More Races	766	1.8%	534	1.3%	1,509	1.6%
Total – All Races	42,204	100%	41,446	100%	92,416	100%
Latino ³	1,892	4.5%	1,313	3.2%	3,724	4.0%

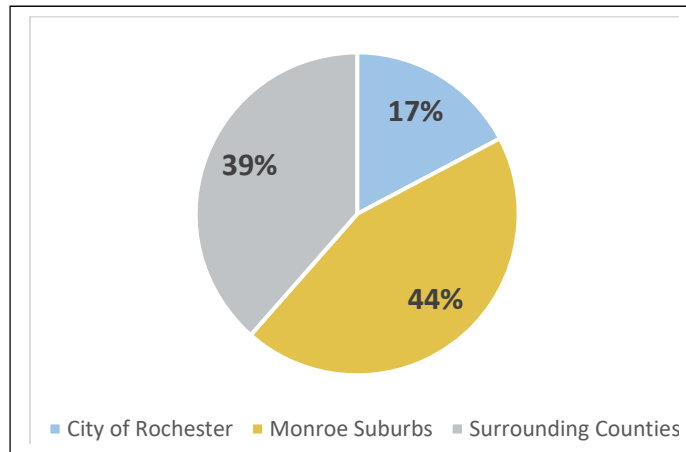
County →	Ontario		Seneca		Yates		Nine-county Total	
Race/Ethnic Group	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
White	101,946	93.4%	32,358	92.1%	24,474	97.2%	1,005,138	82.4%
African American	2,737	2.5%	1,576	4.5%	260	1.0%	130,908	10.7%
American Indian ¹	301	0.3%	109	0.3%	28	0.1%	4,499	0.4%
Asian	1,310	1.2%	254	0.7%	135	0.5%	30,467	2.5%
Native Hawaiian ²	25	0.0%	12	0.0%	5	0.0%	292	0.0%
Some Other Race	1,060	1.0%	93	0.3%	50	0.2%	19,805	1.6%
2 or More Races	1,813	1.7%	742	2.1%	235	0.9%	28,095	2.3%
Total – All Races	109,192	100%	35,144	100%	25,187	100%	1,219,204	100%
Latino ³	4,445	4.1%	1,087	3.1%	511	2.0%	76,433	6.3%

Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey for 2011-15

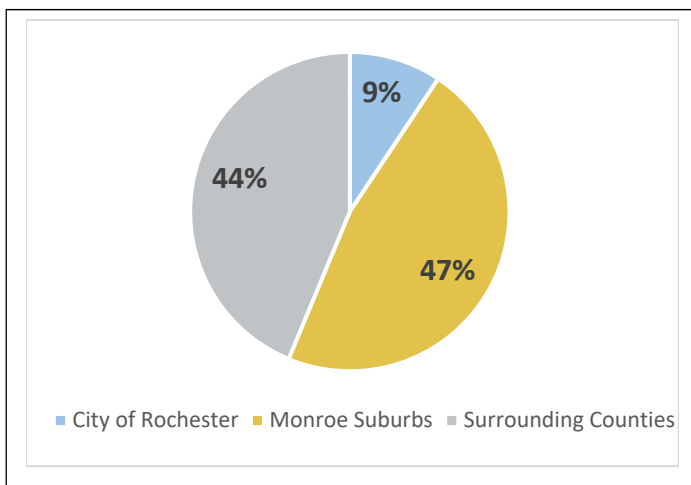
Notes: 1. American Indian and Alaska Native; 2. Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; 3. Latino of any Race

WHERE WE LIVE

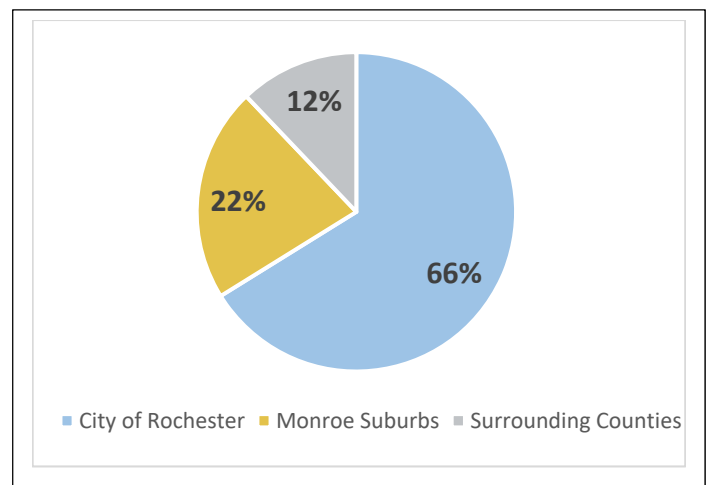
Total Population



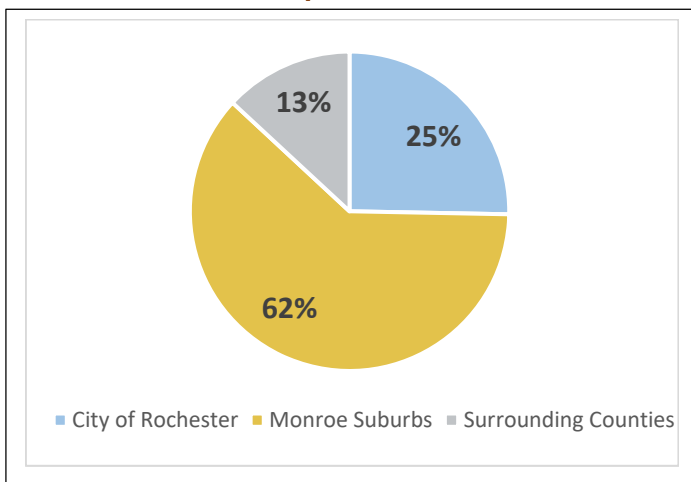
White Population



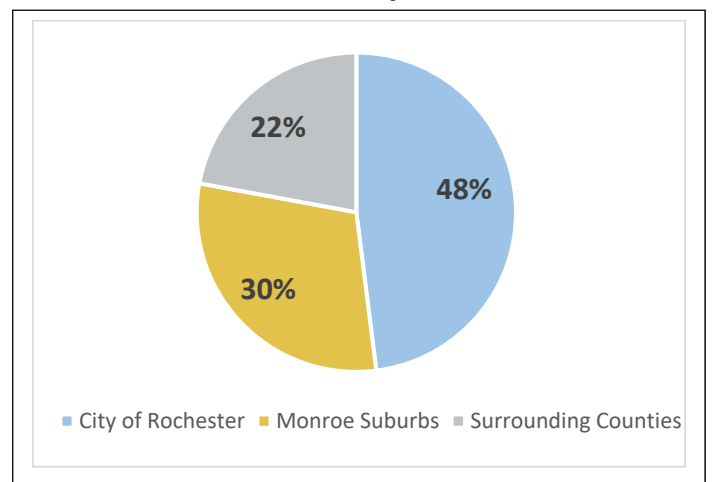
African American Population



Asian Population

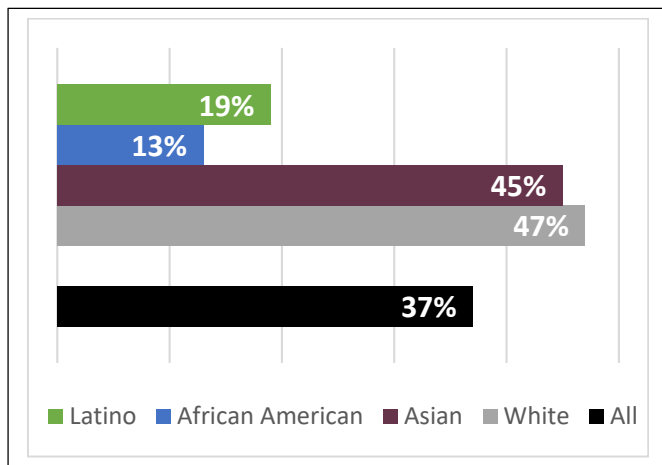


Latino Population

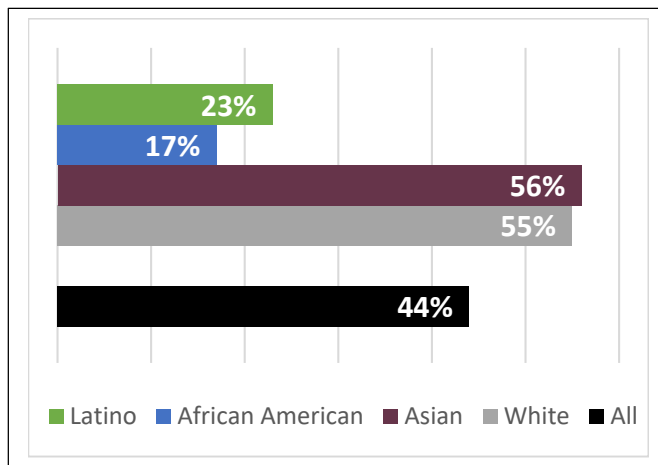


ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT – DETAIL

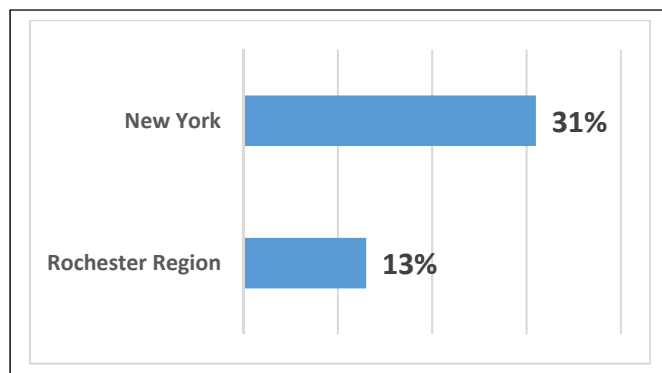
Grade 3 Proficiency in English Language Arts
by Race and Ethnicity



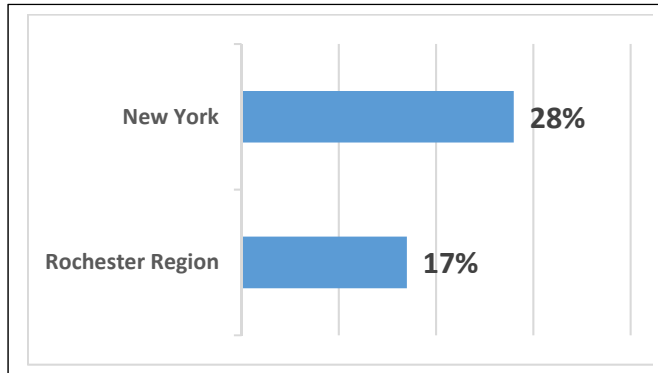
Grade 4 Proficiency in Math
by Race and Ethnicity



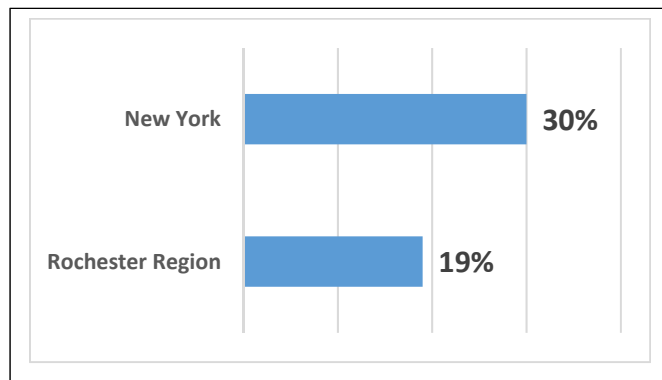
Grade 3 Proficiency in English Language Arts
for African Americans



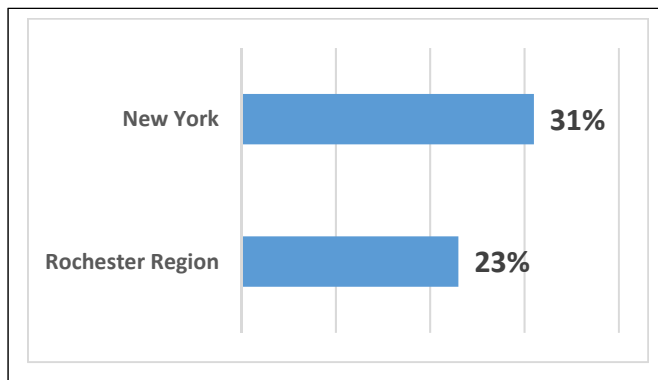
Grade 4 Proficiency in Math
for African Americans



Grade 3 Proficiency in English Language Arts
for Latinos



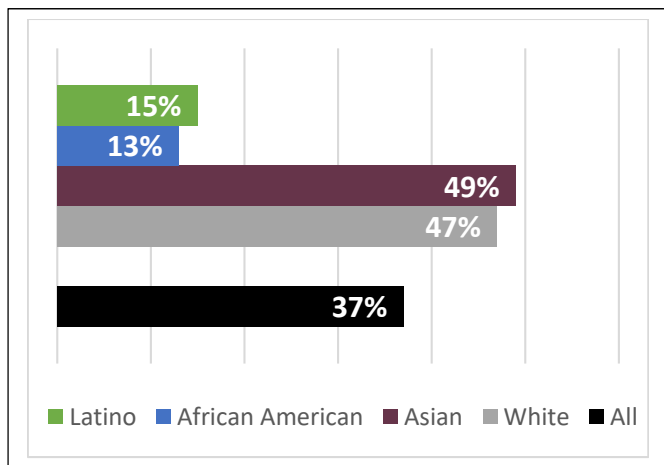
Grade 4 Proficiency in Math
for Latinos



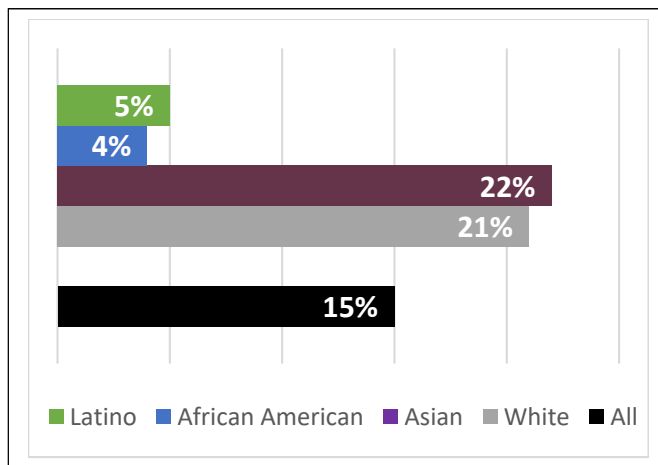
Source: ACT Rochester – Education – Student Performance on Grade 3 English and Grade 4 Math by race/ethnicity, NY State Department of Education, 2016. Note: “passing” is defined as students achieving level 3 or higher on standardized exams.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT – DETAIL

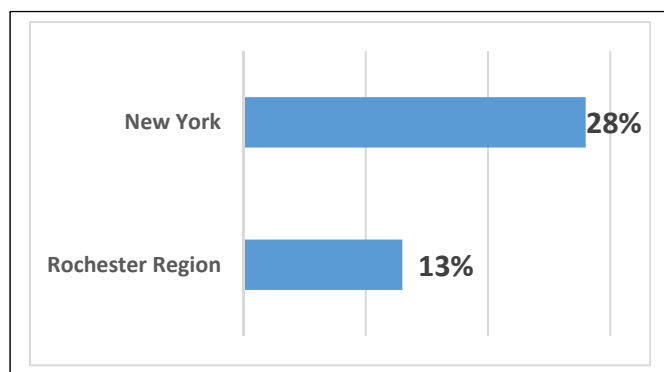
Grade 8 Proficiency in English Language Arts
by Race and Ethnicity



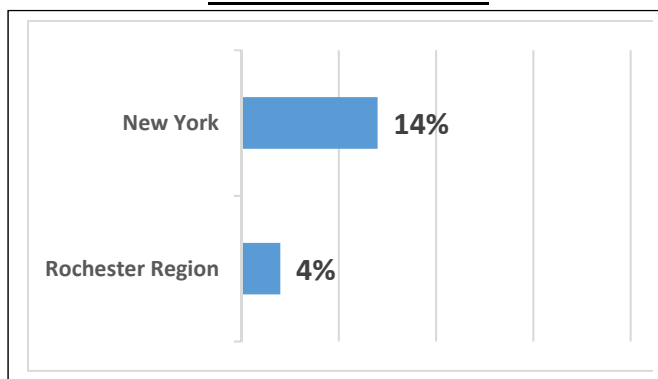
Grade 8 Proficiency in Math
by Race and Ethnicity



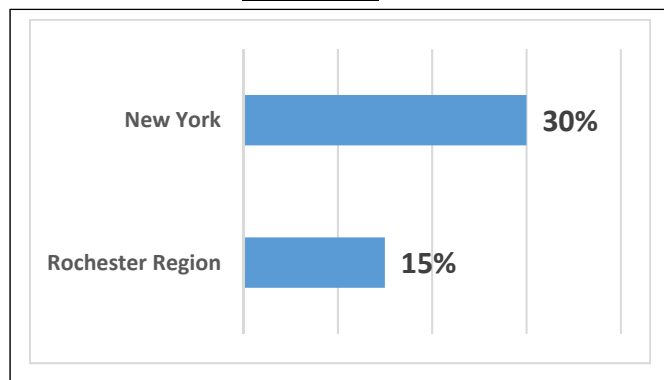
Grade 8 Proficiency in English Language Arts
for African Americans



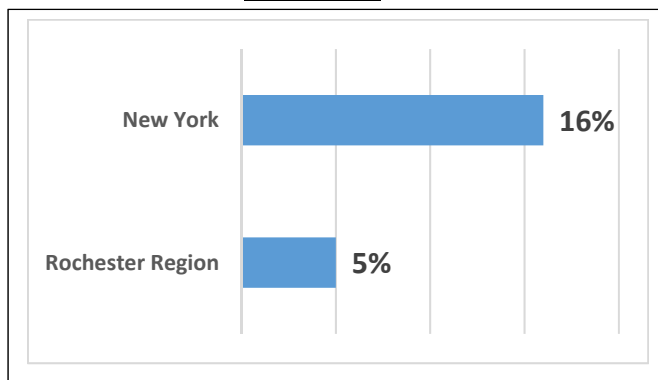
Grade 8 Proficiency in Math
for African Americans



Grade 8 Proficiency in English Language Arts
for Latinos



Grade 8 Proficiency in Math
for Latinos



Source: ACT Rochester – Education – Student Performance on Grade 8 English and Grade 8 Math by race/ethnicity, NY State Department of Education, 2016. Note: “passing” is defined as students achieving level 3 or higher on standardized exams.



www.ACTRochester.org

Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Greater Rochester Region

Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates counties

Indicator	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Source Notes
Infant mortality: number of infant deaths prior to age one for each 1,000 live births					
Total rate per group - Monroe County	3.6	10.0	4.2	NA	1
Rate as a percent of white	NA	+277%	+117%	NA	
Children in Poverty: percent of children age 18 or younger living below federal poverty level					
Percent per group - US	17%	38%	32%	13%	2
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+21 pts	+15 pts	-4 pts	
Percent per group - NYS	16%	33%	34%	21%	2
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+17 pts	+18 pts	+5 pts	
Percent per group - region	14%	50%	42%	14%	2
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+36 pts	+28 pts	+0 pts	
Percent per group - Monroe County	12%	50%	45%	14%	2
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+38 pts	+33 pts	+2 pts	
Percent per group - Rochester	42%	55%	56%	46%	2
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+13 pts	+14 pts	+4 pts	

1. ACT Rochester – Children and Youth – Infant mortality rate by race/ethnicity for Monroe County, Monroe County Department of Public Health, 2014.
2. ACT Rochester – Children and Youth – Children in Poverty by race/ethnicity, US Census American Communities Survey, data averaged for 2010 to 2015.

Indicator	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Source Notes
Student Performance: 3rd Grade Reading: Percent “passing” [see note] NY State exam					
Percent passing per group - NYS	51%	31%	30%	61%	3
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-20 pts	- 21pts	+10 pts	
Percent passing per group - our region	47%	13%	19%	45%	3
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-34 pts	-28 pts	-2 pts	
Percent passing per group - Monroe County	54%	13%	20%	47%	3
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-41 pts	-34 pts	-7 pts	
Percent passing per group - Rochester	27%	5%	7%	13%	3
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-22 pts	-20 pts	-14 pts	

Student Performance: 4th Grade Math: Percent “passing” [see note] NY State exam					
Percent passing per group - NYS	56%	28%	31%	70%	4
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-28 pts	-25 pts	+14 pts	
Percent passing per group - our region	55%	17%	23%	56%	4
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-38 pts	-32 pts	+1 pt	
Percent passing per group - Monroe County	63%	17%	24%	58%	4
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-46 pts	-39 pts	-5 pts	
Percent passing per group - Rochester	21%	9%	10%	15%	4
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-12 pts	-11 pts	-6 pts	

3. ACT Rochester – Education – Student Performance on Grade 3 English by race/ethnicity, NY State Department of Education, 2016. Note: “passing” is defined as students achieving level 3 or higher on standardized exams.

4. ACT Rochester – Education – Student Performance on Grade 4 Math by race/ethnicity, NY State Department of Education, 2016. Note: “passing” is defined as students achieving level 3 or higher on standardized exams.

Indicator	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Source Notes
Student Performance: 4th Grade English: Percent “passing” [see note] NY State exam					
Percent passing per group - NYS	49%	30%	30%	62%	5
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-19 pts	-19 pts	+13 pts	
Percent passing per group - our region	45%	15%	19%	48%	5
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-30 pts	-26 pts	+3 pts	
Percent passing per group - Monroe County	55%	15%	20%	50%	5
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-40 pts	-35 pts	-5 pts	
Percent passing per group - Rochester	18%	7%	7%	13%	5
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-11 pts	-11 pts	-5 pts	

Student Performance: 8th Grade Math: Percent “passing” [see note] NY State exam					
Percent passing per group – NYS	29%	14%	16%	54%	6
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-15 pts	-13 pts	+25 pts	
Percent passing per group - our region	21%	4%	5%	22%	6
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-17 pts	-16 pts	+1 pt	
Percent passing per group - Monroe County	26%	4%	4%	24%	6
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-22 pts	-22 pts	-2 pts	
Percent passing per group - Rochester	2%	1%	0%	2%	6
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-1 pts	-2 pts	+0 pts	

5. ACT Rochester – Education – Student Performance on Grade 4 English by race/ethnicity, NY State Department of Education, 2016. Note: “passing” is defined as students achieving level 3 or higher on standardized exams.

6. ACT Rochester – Education – Student Performance on Grade 8 Math by race/ethnicity, NY State Department of Education, 2016. Note: “passing” is defined as students achieving level 3 or higher on standardized exams.

Indicator	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Source Notes
Student Performance: 8th Grade English: Percent “passing” [see note] NY State exam					
Percent passing per group - NYS	50%	28%	30%	63%	7
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-22 pts	-20 pts	+13 pts	
Percent passing per group - our region	47%	13%	15%	49%	7
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-34 pts	-32 pts	+2 pts	
Percent passing per group - Monroe County	54%	13%	15%	55%	7
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-41 pts	-39 pts	+1 pt	
Percent passing per group - Rochester	16%	5%	5%	18%	7
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-11 pts	-11 pts	+2 pts	

Graduation Rate: High School Cohort Graduation Rate					
Rate per group - NYS	89%	71%	71%	87%	8
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-18 pts	-18 pts	-2 pts	
Rate per group - our region	90%	66%	67%	83%	8
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-24 pts	-23 pts	-7 pts	
Rate per group - Monroe County	92%	65%	66%	83%	8
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-27 pts	-26 pts	-9 pts	
Rate per group - Rochester	55%	55%	49%	45%	8
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+0 pts	-6 pts	-10 pts	

7. ACT Rochester – Education – Student Performance on Grade 8 English by race/ethnicity, NY State Department of Education, 2016. Note: “passing” is defined as students achieving level 3 or higher on standardized exams.

8. ACT Rochester – Education - The number of students graduating on time (after four years of high school), as a percentage of their cohort. The cohort is the class of ninth-graders beginning high school together from 2011-2015.

Indicator	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Source Notes
Education Attainment: Percent of population 25 or older with four year degrees					
Percent per group - US	31%	19%	14%	51%	9
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-12 pts	-17 pts	+20 pts	
Percent per group - NYS	38%	22%	17%	46%	9
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-16 pts	-21 pts	+8 pts	
Percent per group - our region	33%	13%	15%	53%	9
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-20 pts	-18 pts	+20 pts	
Percent per group - Monroe County	40%	14%	15%	54%	9
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-26 pts	-25 pts	+14 pts	
Percent per group - Rochester	35%	9%	8%	32%	9
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-26 pts	-27 pts	-3 pts	

Housing: Home ownership rates: Percent of owner occupied housing units					
Percent per group - US	69%	42%	46%	58%	10
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-27 pts	-23 pts	-11 pts	
Percent per group - NYS	63%	31%	24%	46%	10
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-32 pts	-39 pts	-17 pts	
Percent per group - our region	73%	33%	35%	52%	10
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-40 pts	-38 pts	-21 pts	
Percent per group - Monroe County	71%	32%	34%	51%	10
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-39 pts	-37 pts	-20 pts	
Percent per group - Rochester	44%	29%	27%	35%	10
Percentage point difference from white	NA	-15 pts	-17 pts	-9 pts	

9. ACT Rochester – Education – Education Attainment by race/ethnicity, US Census American Communities Survey, data averaged for 2011-2015.

10. ACT Rochester – Housing – Home Ownership Rate by race/ethnicity, US Census American Communities Survey, data averaged for 2011-2015.

Indicator	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Source Notes
Housing Affordability: percent of annual income spent on rent					
Percent per group - US	29%	38%	33%	29%	11
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+9 pts	+4 pts	+0 pts	
Percent per group - NYS	31%	36%	37%	37%	11
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+5 pts	+6 pts	+6 pts	
Percent per group - Monroe County	30%	47%	40%	28%	11
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+17 pts	+10 pts	-2 pts	
Percent per group - Rochester	35%	51%	44%	38%	11
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+16 pts	+9 pts	+3 pts	
Median household income: US Census median income					
Annual income per group - US	\$57,407	\$35,695	\$42,651	\$74,245	12
Income as percent of white	NA	62%	74%	129%	
Annual income per group - NYS	\$66,256	\$41,615	\$40,824	\$63,018	12
Percentage point difference from white	NA	63%	62%	95%	
Annual income per group - our region	\$56,103	\$27,078	\$29,991	\$53,901	12
Income as a percent of white	NA	48%	53%	96%	
Annual income per group - Monroe County	\$59,131	\$26,950	\$29,340	\$54,429	12
Percentage point difference from white	NA	46%	50%	92%	
Annual income per group - Rochester	\$38,768	\$23,199	\$22,562	\$31,203	12
Percentage point difference from white	NA	60%	58%	80%	

11. ACT Rochester – Housing – Affordable Housing: Median Gross Rent by race/ethnicity, US Census American Communities Survey, data averaged for 2011 to 2015.

12. ACT Rochester – Financial Self Sufficiency – Median Household Income by race/ethnicity, US Census American Communities Survey, data averaged for 2011 to 2015 and stated in 2015 dollars.

Indicator	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Source Notes
Economy: Unemployment Rate					
Percent per group - US	7%	15%	10%	6%	13
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+8 pts	+3 pts	-1 pt	
Percent per group - NYS	7%	14%	11%	7%	13
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+7 pts	+4 pts	+0 pts	
Percent per group - our region	6%	18%	13%	6%	13
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+12 pts	+7 pts	+0 pts	
Percent per group - Monroe County	6%	18%	13%	6%	13
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+12 pts	+7 pts	+0 pts	
Percent per group - Rochester	8%	21%	17%	9%	13
Percentage point difference from white	NA	+13 pts	+9 pts	+1 pt	