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Onondaga County Community Indicators

2011 Report



Purpose

Onondaga County strives to be a sustainable community where every decision is determined on the interdependence and integration of economic vitality, social equity, and environmental stewardship. We are a community of many colors, ethnicities, ages, religious affiliations, and economic levels. We take pride in the place where we live, work, play, and raise a family. Our basic creed is Be+ (be positive).

The Onondaga County Community Indicators Report is a snapshot of Greater Syracuse, portraying trends of the time and opportunities for the future. Community Indicators 2011 measures where we are advancing as a community and where we are not. This report is intended to stimulate public discussion to find solutions to critical challenges while celebrating our accomplishments. Members of the Community Benchmarks Program at Syracuse University's Maxwell School collected the data over a period of one semester. Carol Dwyer, Director of the Community Benchmarks Program, supervised the data compilation. FOCUS Greater Syracuse, CNY Community Foundation and the Community Benchmarks Program are partners for this report.

The goals of the Community Indicators report are to:

1. Inform the people of Onondaga County of trends and issues facing our community;
2. Generate discussion, debate and action around aspects of our community's sustainability and quality of life;
3. Celebrate areas where we are excelling or are working hard to improve;
4. Stimulate interest in collecting and reporting data to inform community change.

It is with enthusiasm and pride that we present the 2011 Onondaga County Community Indicators Report. We hope you will find it useful to build a sustainable community for this and future generations.

Charlotte (Chuckie) Holstein
FOCUS Greater Syracuse, Inc.

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Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the trends and issues facing county residents to generate discussion, celebrate success and stimulate interest in collecting and reporting data. The information is not exhaustive and is anticipated to grow over time as more data become available.

Community Indicator Report

Background

The report was first created in 2000 by FOCUS Greater Syracuse, Central New York Technology Development Organization, United Way of Central New York, and the Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce to educate and inform individuals about how the community was doing in various important areas.

Indicators were selected because they met the following criteria:

1. The indicator measures something that can be changed by community effort;
2. The information comes from a reliable source;
3. The indicator is clear and understandable;
4. Most people would agree whether the indicator should move up or down.

In 2005, FOCUS partnered with the Community Benchmarks Program (CBP)¹ at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University to update and expand the report. The current report is the result of the same alliance and is supported by the Central New York Community Foundation, which is partnering with the CBP, FOCUS and other area organizations to continue the work by posting information on a website so the information can be fluid and updated regularly.

FOCUS Greater Syracuse

FOCUS Greater Syracuse, which stands for Forging Our Community's United Strength, is a citizen-driven organization that uses a visioning process to make Syracuse a better place to live and work. Founded in 1998, FOCUS seeks to engender a feeling of pride and a future of promise. It engages in research, public policy advocacy, public education and public outreach to promote intelligent, inclusive and sustainable decision making.²

Central New York Community Foundation, Inc.

Founded in 1927, the Community Foundation of Central New York connects the generosity of donors with community needs. The goal of the foundation is to enhance the quality of life of area residents in various ways:

- Encouraging the growth of permanent charitable endowments to meet the community's changing opportunities and needs;
- Providing vehicles for donors with diverse philanthropic interests;
- Serving as a catalyst, neutral convener and facilitator and promoting collaborations among various organization to accomplish common objectives;
- Carrying out a strategic grant making program that is flexible, visionary and inclusive.

Annually, the foundation endows more than \$5 million in grants while also providing leadership support in the fields of arts and culture, community and economic development, education, environment, health and human services.³

¹ www.maxwell.syr.edu/benchmarks/

² www.focusyracuse.org

³ www.cnycf.org/cnycf

Starting with the original Community Indicators project created in 2000 and updated in 2005, and again in 2010, researchers with the Community Benchmarks Program (CBP) added and removed sections and indicators to create a more comprehensive report. They conducted research through the Internet and by looking at other metropolitan areas that post community indicators to determine what to include in the report. Eleven critical areas have been identified as the most important data to assess:

- Aging
- Crime
- Culture & Recreation
- Economy
- Education
- Environment
- Health
- Housing
- People
- Transportation
- Youth

Various indicators were then selected in each of these categories to convey a snapshot of Onondaga County.

In compiling the indicators from public and private-sector sources, CBP has made every effort to present reliable data that informs readers. The CBP researchers contacted experts, community organizations, and government agencies through online databases, websites, e-mail messages, and phone calls to retrieve critical data.

The goal was to gather statistical information for Onondaga County dating back to 2000, and use comparative data for the city of Syracuse, New York State and the United States, when available. In some cases, data for other metropolitan areas were included.

Indicators were then selected in each of these categories, using the following criteria:

1. The indicator measures something that can be changed by community effort;
2. The information comes from a reliable source;
3. The indicator is clear and understandable;
4. Most people would agree on whether the indicator should move up or down.

The 2011 Community Indicators Report is a snapshot that highlights how Onondaga County measures up when compared to the past and/or other geographic areas. Where metrics are not available, a descriptive overview is provided.

Onondaga County has a land area of 793.5 square miles and is comprised of multiple municipalities, the largest of which is the city of Syracuse. The county is also comprised of 19 towns, 15 villages and the Onondaga Indian Nation.

Onondaga County is located in the heart of Central New York, with Oswego County to the North, Madison County to the East, Cortland County to the South, and Cayuga County to the West. County residents live within a 350-mile radius of all major cities in the Northeast, including Boston, New York City, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Toronto, and Montreal

In addition to the city of Syracuse, Onondaga County has 19 towns, 15 villages and 18 school districts. There is an estimated population of 454,753⁴ that includes people of many colors, ethnicities, ages, religious affiliations and economic status.

One of the main economic engines supporting the county is the abundance of “*Eds & Meds*,” the county is home to Syracuse University, State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Le Moyne College, State University of New York Upstate Medical University, and Onondaga Community College. In addition, the State University of New York at Oswego has a Metro center in downtown Syracuse, Bryant and Stratton College offers certification and licensing in professional skill areas and the Onondaga ♦Cayuga♦ Madison Board of Cooperative Extension

provides vocational training for high school students and adults in the tri-county area. Nursing schools are housed in both St. Joseph and Crouse hospitals. Their combined annual enrollments serve over 41,000 students from around the world. There are another 35 schools of higher learning within a 100-mile radius of Onondaga County.

There are close to 1,500 physicians in the county, approximately three for every 1,000 residents. A number of these doctors have been recognized nationally and globally. Most are affiliated with one of five hospitals: Community General, Crouse, St. Joseph’s SUNY Upstate, and the Syracuse VA Medical Center

The county is rich in recreational and cultural activities with events, venues and performing arts companies. The Syracuse Symphony, New York State Fair, Carousel Center Mall, the Rosamond Gifford Zoo, Syracuse Stage, and Alliance Bank Stadium along with a number of other cultural and recreational venues are located in Onondaga County. The Oncenter Complex is an integrated convention center that includes a 207,000-square-foot convention hall, a 6,200-seat arena, performing arts theaters, and a 1,000-car parking garage. Since its opening in 1993, the complex has attracted nearly 10 million visitors.

Throughout the county there are a number of golf courses, skating rinks, community centers, and over 50 local, county and state parks. Almost every weekend in the summer, entertainment, arts and crafts, and ethnic festivals are free in downtown Syracuse and throughout the county. This report allows viewers to see how the county has changed and to identify where improvement needs to occur.

⁴ <http://factfinder.census.gov/>, Population Estimate, Jan. 9, 2011

Introduction

Understanding a community starts with knowing the essential demographics of the population including age, sex, marital status, level of education, religion, income and other key characteristics. This section offers an introduction to the general population of Onondaga County and serves as a point of reference when considering the indicators included in the 10 other sections of this report.

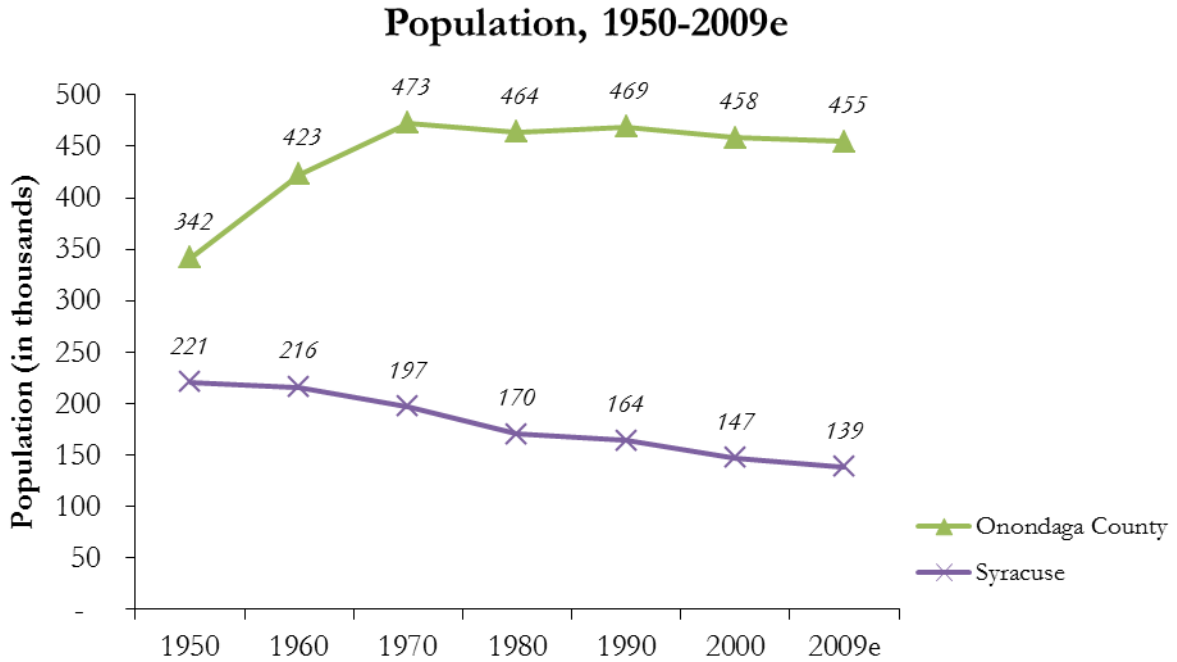
This section includes mostly demographic information about the people of Onondaga County, but also includes indicators that span most of the other sections of the report. Indicators such as median family income, the percentage of individuals below the poverty line and average educational attainment all serve to better characterize the people of Onondaga County.

The population of Onondaga County is diverse and spans a wide range of incomes, educations and occupations. These factors should be considered in reading the rest of the report.

Population

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the total population.



Source: US Census Bureau 1950-2009e

Percentage Change in Population of Onondaga County, 1950-2009e

	1950-60	1960-70	1970-80	1980-90	1990-00	2000-09e
Onondaga County	24%	12%	-2%	1%	-2%	-1%
Syracuse	-2%	-9%	-14%	-4%	-10%	-6%

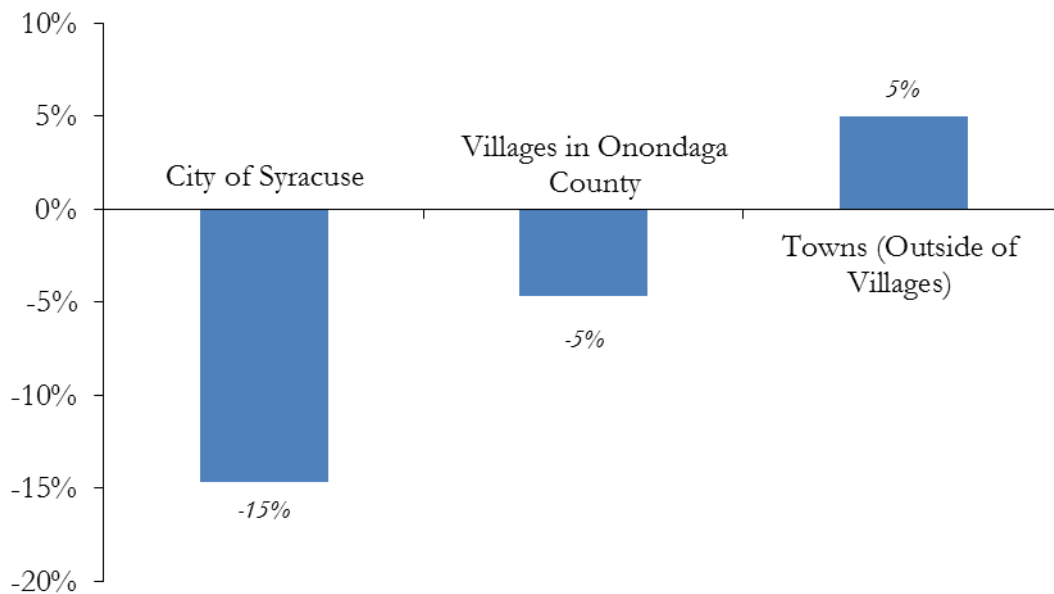
Source: US Census Bureau, 1950-2009e

Sprawl

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the trend of individuals moving away from urban centers and purchasing larger properties in more suburban areas.

Percentage Change in Population, 1990-2009e



Source: US Census Bureau, 1990, 2000, 2009e

Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Population Change 1990-2009e

	1990	2000	2009	Change 1990-2009	% Change 1990-2009e
City of Syracuse	163,860	147,306	139,796	-24,064	-15%
Villages in Onondaga County	48,874	48,187	46,598	-2,276	-5%
Towns (Outside of Villages)	255,468	261,370	267,316	11,848	5%

Source: US Census Bureau, 1990, 2000, 2009e

Race & Ethnicity

Onondaga County

	2000	2006-08e
White	84.8%	83.7%
Black or African American	9.4%	9.9%
Hispanic or Latino	2.4%	3.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.9%	0.7%
Asian	2.1%	2.5%
Native Hawaiian	0.0%	0.1%
Some other race	0.9%	0.6%
Two or more races	2.0%	2.5%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 & 2006-08e

Syracuse

	2006-08e
White	61.0%
Black or African American	27.5%
Hispanic or Latino	6.2%
American Indian or Alaska Native	10.0%
Asian	4.2%
Native Hawaiian	0.1%
Some other race	1.0%
Two or more races	5.1%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 & 2006-08e

Comment: No data were available for Syracuse for 2000.

Race & Ethnicity in Schools

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of enrolled students by ethnicity.

Onondaga County School Districts and Syracuse City High Schools, 2008-09

	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian or Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaska Native
Baldwinsville	95%	2%	1%	1%	0%
East Syracuse-Minoa	91%	4%	1%	2%	2%
Fabius-Pompey	97%	1%	1%	1%	0%
Fayetteville-Manlius	89%	2%	1%	7%	0%
Jamesville-Dewitt	79%	10%	2%	7%	1%
Jordan-Elbridge	97%	1%	1%	1%	1%
La Fayette	69%	1%	0%	1%	28%
Liverpool	84%	8%	3%	4%	1%
Marcellus	98%	0%	1%	1%	0%
North Syracuse	91%	5%	2%	2%	1%
Onondaga	88%	6%	1%	1%	3%
Skaneateles	97%	0%	1%	1%	0%
Solvay	91%	3%	4%	1%	1%
Syracuse City School District	30%	54%	11%	4%	1%
Corcoran HS (SCSD)	21%	72%	5%	0%	1%
George Fowler HS (SCSD)	28%	40%	23%	7%	2%
Henninger HS (SCSD)	44%	45%	6%	3%	2%
Nottingham HS (SCSD)	23%	61%	8%	6%	1%
Tully	96%	2%	0%	1%	0%
West Genesee	92%	3%	2%	2%	1%
Westhill	93%	3%	1%	2%	0%

Source: New York State Testing and Accountability Reporting Tool, 2008-09

Comment: SCSD stands for Syracuse City School District

Comment: All percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Sex

	Male	Female
US	49%	51%
New York State	49%	52%
Onondaga County	48%	60%
Syracuse	48%	52%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-08e

Age

Onondaga County		
	2000	2006-08
Under 5 years	6%	6%
18 years and older	74%	77%
65 years and older	13%	13%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 & 2006-08e

Syracuse		
	2000	2006-08
Under 5 years	7%	6%
18 years and older	74%	74%
65 years and older	14%	17%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 & 2006-08e

Marital Status

	US	New York State	Onondaga County	Syracuse
Male, Never Married	34%	39%	37%	54%
Male, Married except Separated	52%	49%	50%	31%
Male, Separated	2%	2%	2%	2%
Male, Widowed	3%	3%	3%	3%
Male, Divorced	9%	7%	8%	10%
Female, Never Married	28%	33%	32%	49%
Female, Married except Separated	48%	43%	44%	26%
Female, Separated	3%	4%	2%	3%
Female, Widowed	10%	10%	10%	10%
Female, Divorced	12%	10%	11%	12%

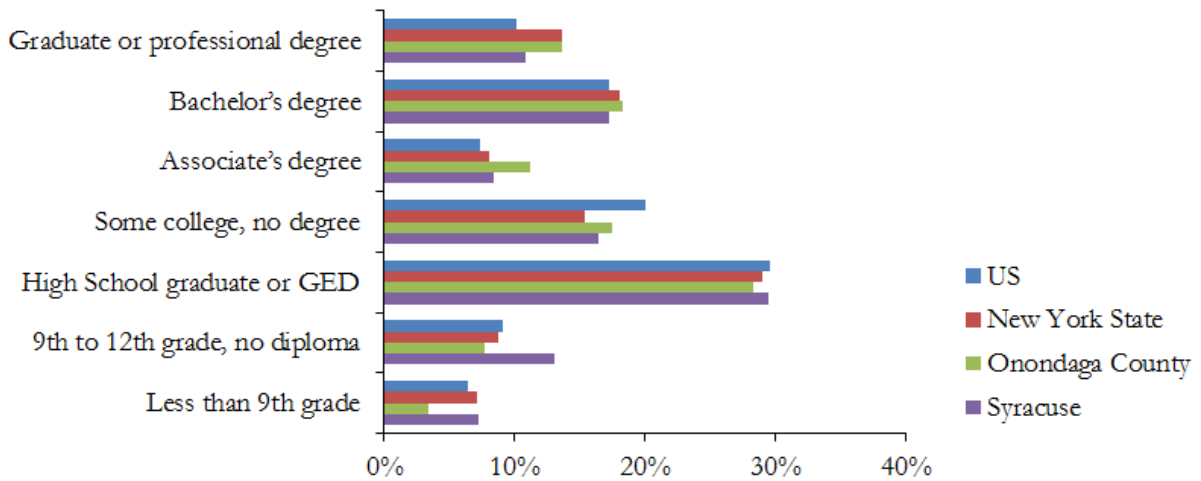
Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-08e

Educational Attainment

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the highest degree or the highest level of education completed by residents 25 years and older.

Educational Attainment, 2006-08e



Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-08e

Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Educational Attainment, 2006-08e

	US	New York State	Onondaga County	Syracuse
Less than 9 th grade	6%	7%	3%	7%
9 th to 12 th grade, no diploma	9%	9%	8%	13%
High School graduate or GED	30%	29%	28%	30%
Some college, no degree	20%	15%	18%	16%
Associate's degree	7%	8%	11%	8%
Bachelor's degree	17%	18%	18%	17%
Graduate or professional degree	10%	14%	14%	11%

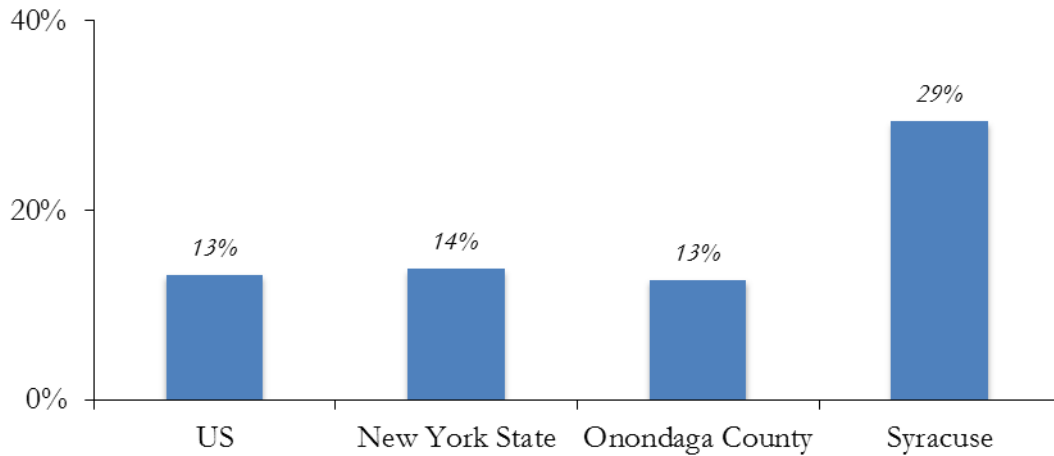
Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-08e

Poverty

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of individuals whose total income falls below the poverty threshold.

Individuals Below Poverty Line, 2006-08e



Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-08e

Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Percentage Change in Individuals Below Poverty Line, 2000-08

	2000-08
US	7%
New York State	-6%
Onondaga County	4%
Syracuse	8%

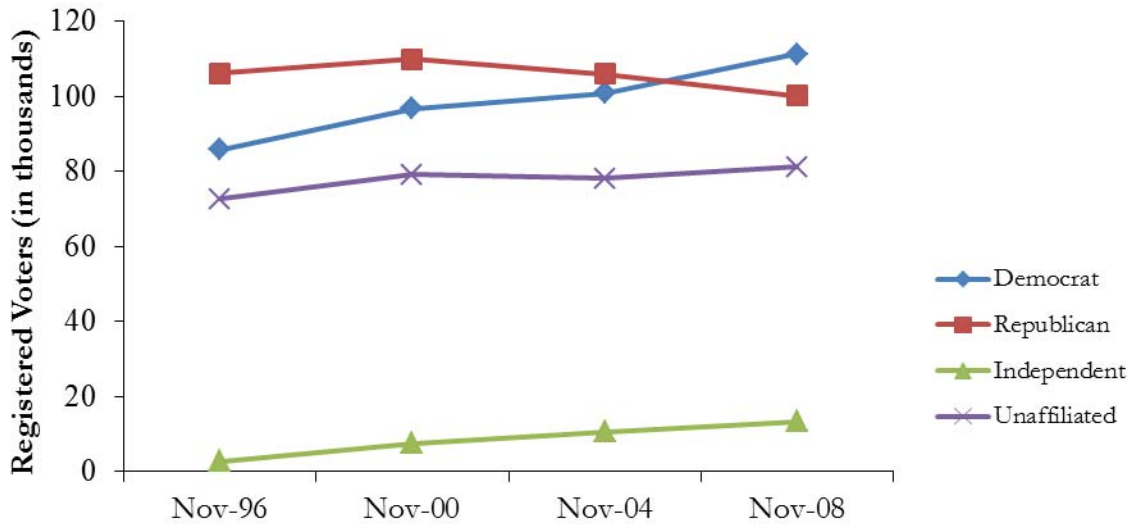
Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 & 2006-08e

Registered Voters

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of registered voters by political party.

Registered Voters in Onondaga County by Political Party, 1996-2008



Source: New York State Board of Elections, 1996-2008

Percentage Change in Voter Enrollment by Political Party, 1996-2008

	1996-2000	2000-04	2004-08
Democrat	13%	4%	10%
Republican	4%	-4%	-6%
Independent	170%	41%	26%
Unaffiliated	9%	-1%	4%
Total	10%	1%	2%

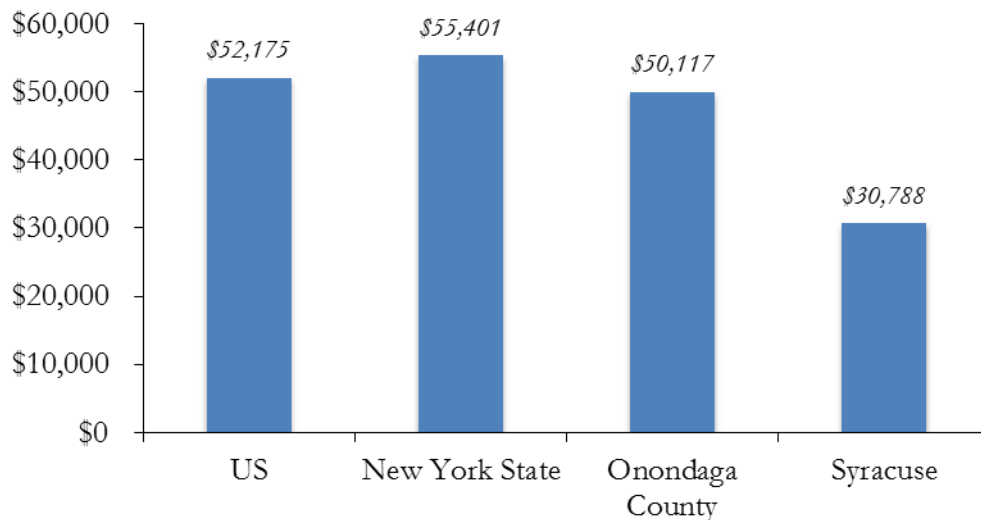
Source: New York State Board of Elections, 1996-2008

Median Household Income

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the annual income of all household members ages 15 years and older.

Median Household Income, 2006-08e



Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-08e

Distribution of Household Income and Benefits (In 2008 inflation-adjusted dollars)

	US	New York State	Onondaga County	Syracuse
Less than \$10,000	7%	8%	8%	17%
\$10,000-\$14,999	6%	5%	6%	10%
\$15,000-\$24,999	11%	10%	11%	16%
\$25,000-\$34,999	11%	9%	11%	13%
\$35,000-\$49,999	14%	13%	15%	17%
\$50,000-\$74,999	19%	18%	19%	15%
\$75,000-\$99,999	13%	12%	12%	7%
\$100,000-\$149,999	12%	13%	12%	5%
\$150,000-\$199,999	4%	5%	4%	1%
\$200,000 or more	4%	6%	3%	1%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-08e

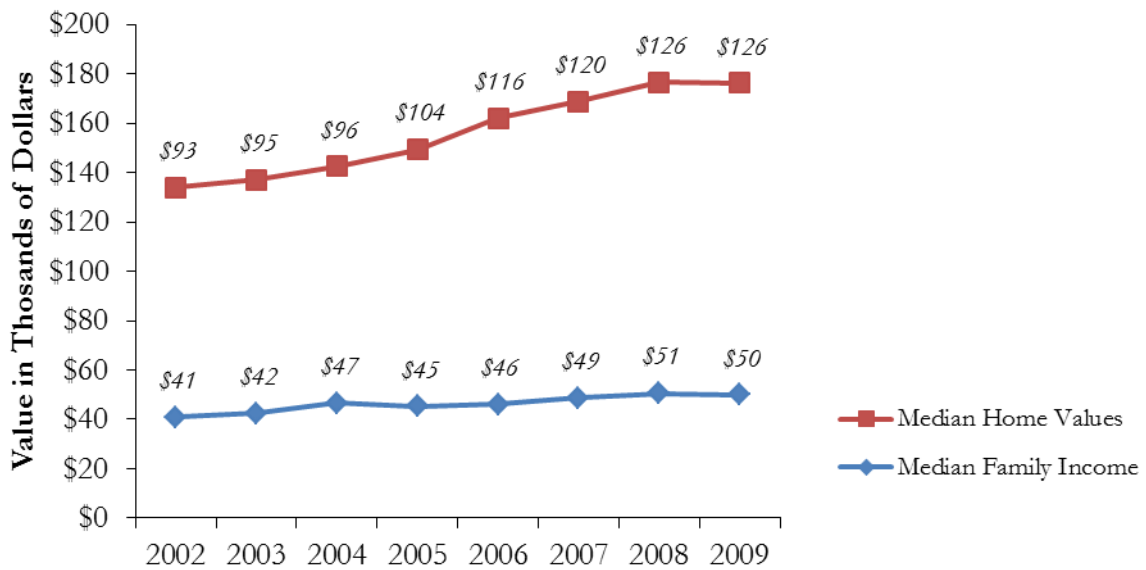
Comment: Income and benefits are calculated in 2008 inflation-adjusted dollars

Median Home Value and Median Family Income

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the difference between median home value and median family income.

Median Home Value and Median Family Income in Onondaga County, 2002-09



Source: US Census Bureau, 2002-09

Percentage of Family Income Spent on Housing, 2002-09

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Onondaga County	44%	45%	49%	43%	40%	41%	40%	40%
Syracuse	-	-	-	34%	35%	36%	37%	36%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2002-09

Comment: Data on Median Home Values for Syracuse are not available for 2002-04

Introduction

While Onondaga County wants to attract more young families and new investment, it is also viewed as a place that is comfortable for its long-time residents. Senior citizens value their community for continuing to offer them a high quality of life after retirement.

Having worked in and contributed to a region for much of their lives, the elderly desire certain amenities upon retirement and/or when they have physical limitations. Seniors living in poverty require appropriate housing. Health care options are also important to their well-being and quality of life.

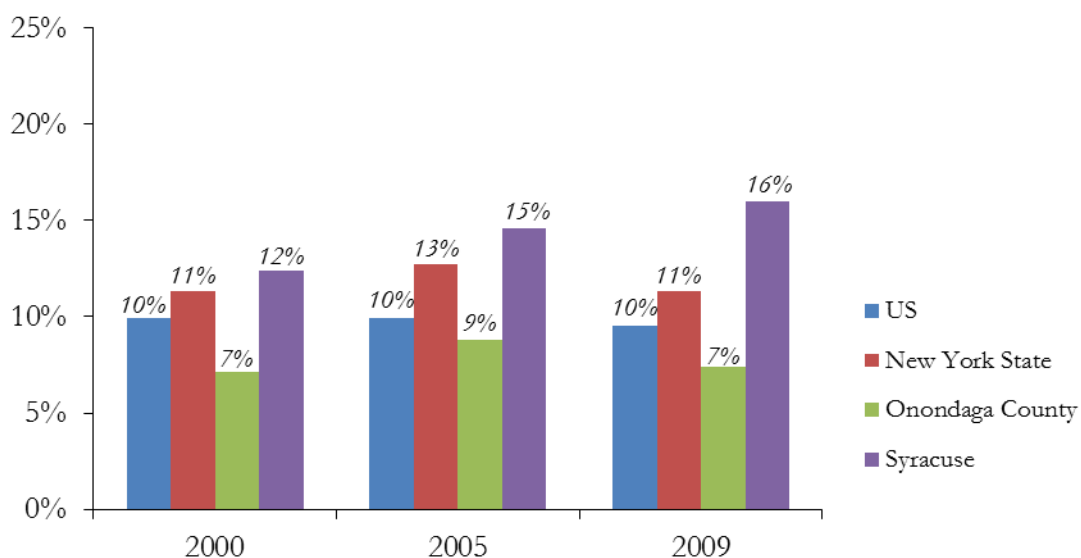
There is an abundance of housing options in Onondaga County for seniors and many nursing home beds are available for those who need them. There are also programs such as the Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage in place to help seniors pay for medication.

Population Age 65+ In Poverty

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of individuals aged 65 and over whose total income falls below the poverty threshold.

Percentage of Population Age 65+ Living in Poverty, 2000, 2005 & 2009



Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 & 2005-09 est.

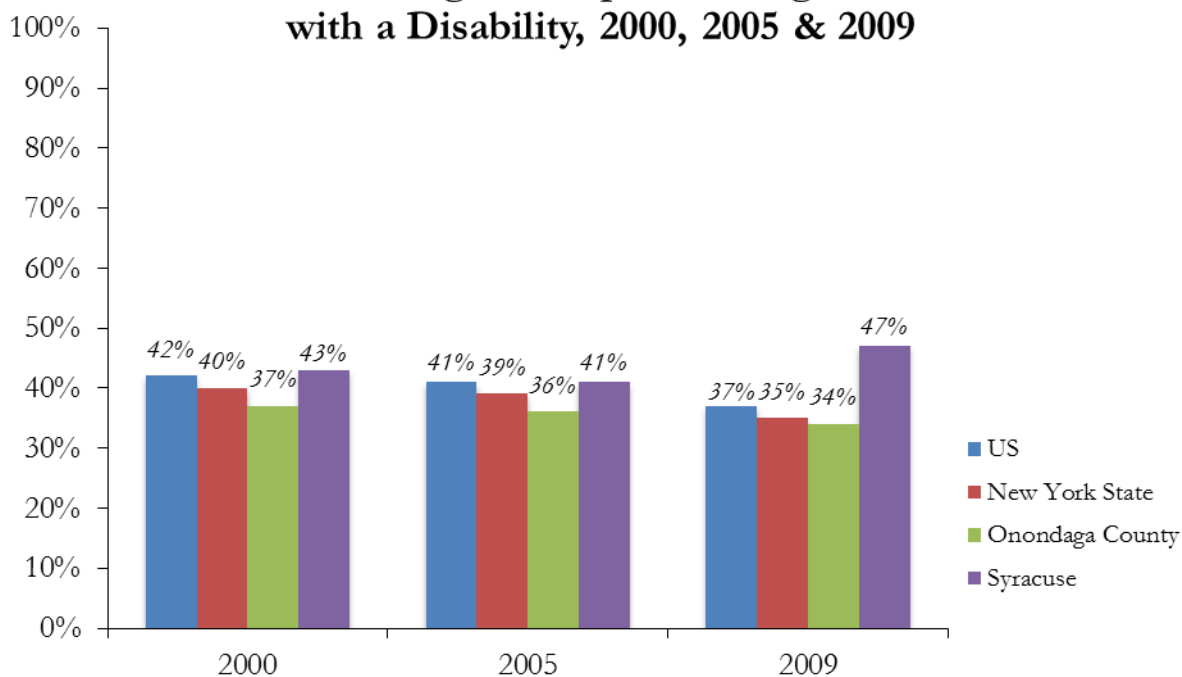
Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Population Age 65+ with A Disability

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percent of elderly individuals who have difficulties in one or more of the four basic areas of functioning which include, vision, hearing, ambulation (the ability to walk), and cognition.

Percentage of Population Age 65+ with a Disability, 2000, 2005 & 2009



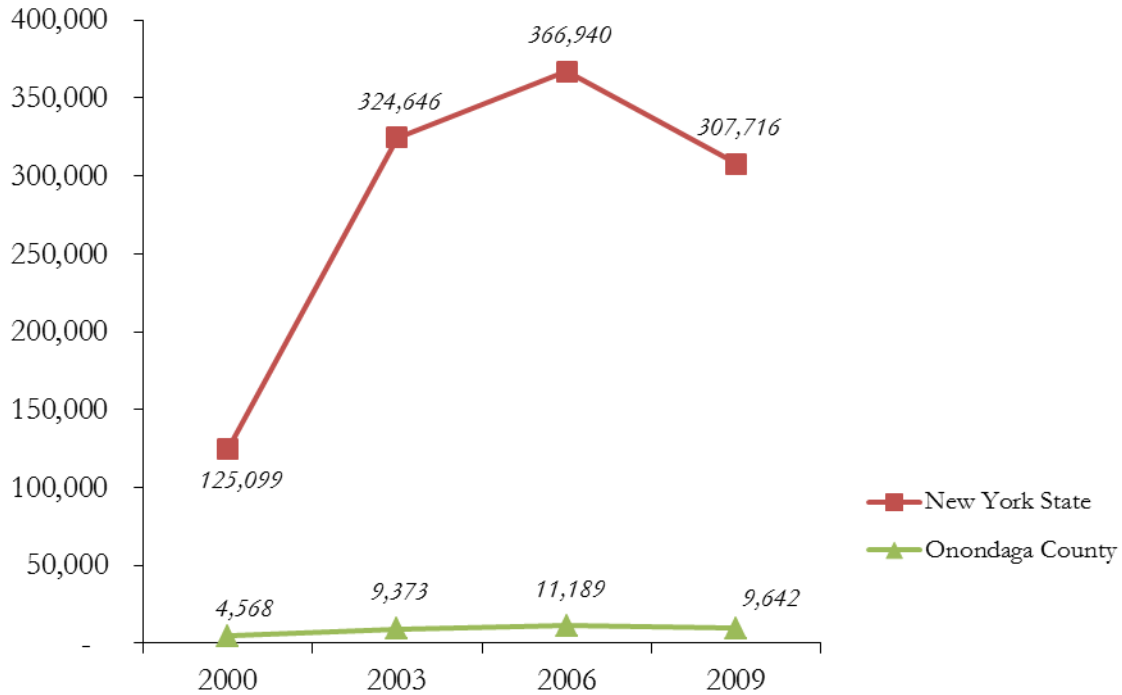
Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 & 2005-09 est.

EPIC Enrollment

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percent change of membership in Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC), a program that helps seniors pay for prescription drugs.

EPIC Enrollment, 2000, 2003, 2006 & 2009



Source: NYS Dept. of Health, EPIC Annual Report, 2000, 2003 & 2009

EPIC Enrollment, 2000-09

	2000	2003	2006	2009
New York State	123,099	324,646	366,940	307,716
Onondaga County	4,568	9,373	11,189	9,642

Source: NYS Dept. of Health, EPIC Annual Report, 2000, 2003 & 2009

Percentage Change in EPIC Enrollment, 2000-09

	2000-03	2003-06	2006-09
New York State	164%	13%	-16%
Onondaga County	105%	19%	-14%

Source: NYS Dept. of Health, EPIC Annual Report, 2000, 2003 & 2009

Medicare Enrollees

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the enrollment trends in the two classes of the Medicare program, which provides health insurance for people age 64 and older.

Medicare Enrollees and Health Insurance and/or Supplementary Medical Insurance, 2004-07

	2004	2005	2006	2007
US	35,407,060	35,817,558	36,316,768	36,843,251
New York State	2,359,435	2,330,513	2,538,995	N/A
Onondaga County	58,518	60,631	61,710	62,160

Source: US Department of Health and Human Services, 2004-07

Percentage Change in Medicare Enrollees, 2004-07

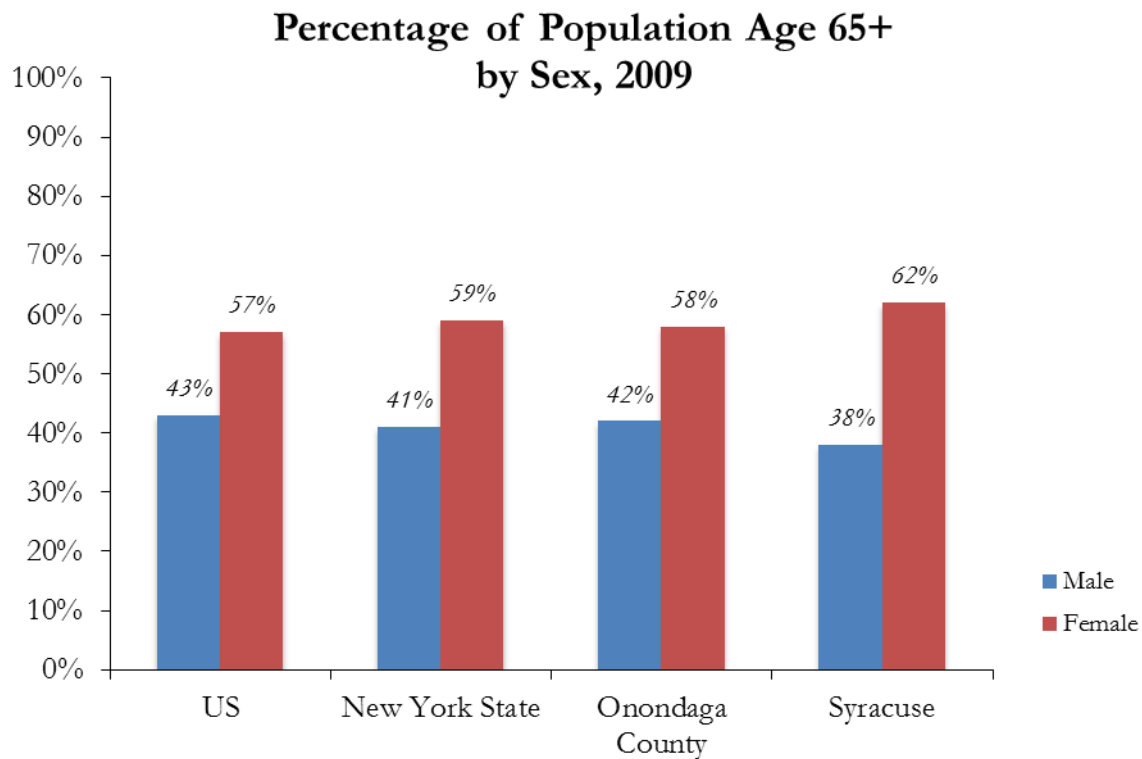
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
US	1.2%	1.4%	1.4%
New York State	-1.2%	1.2%	1.7%
Onondaga County	1.4%	1.3%	1.4%

Source: US Department of Health and Human Services, 2004-07

Population Age 65+ by Sex

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the distribution by gender of the population age 65 and over.

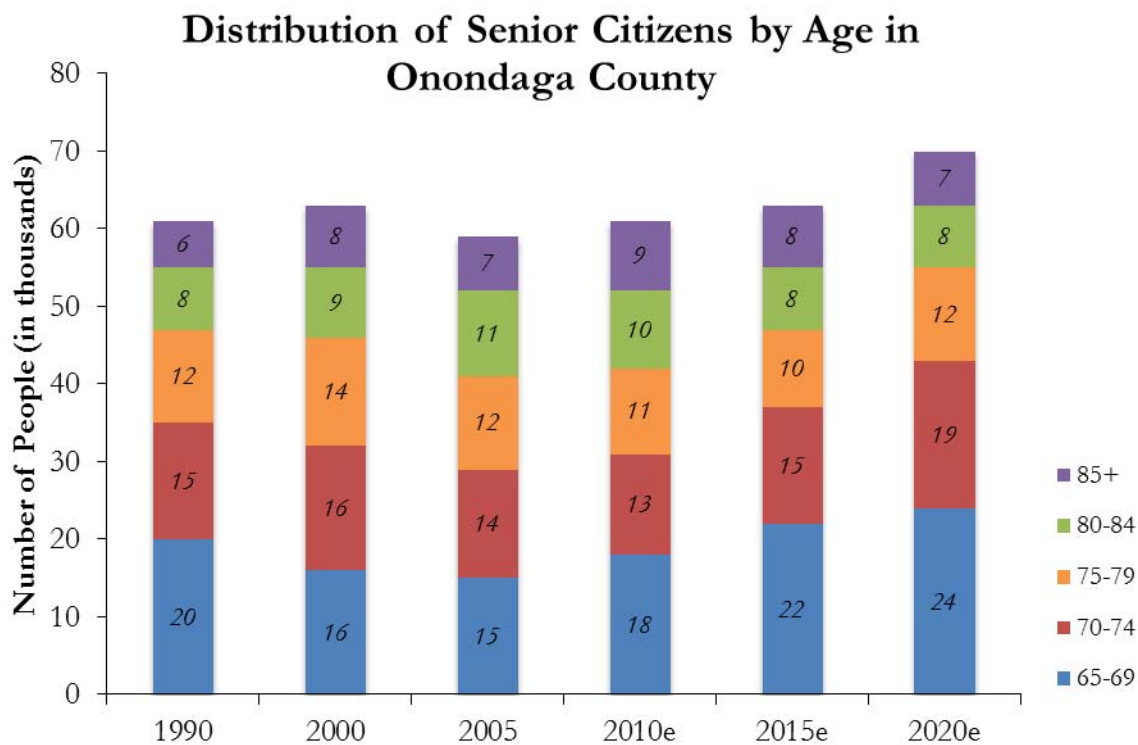


Source: US Census Bureau, 2005-09 est.

Actual & Estimated Age Categories by Year

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the actual and estimated number of seniors by age category from 1990 to 2020.

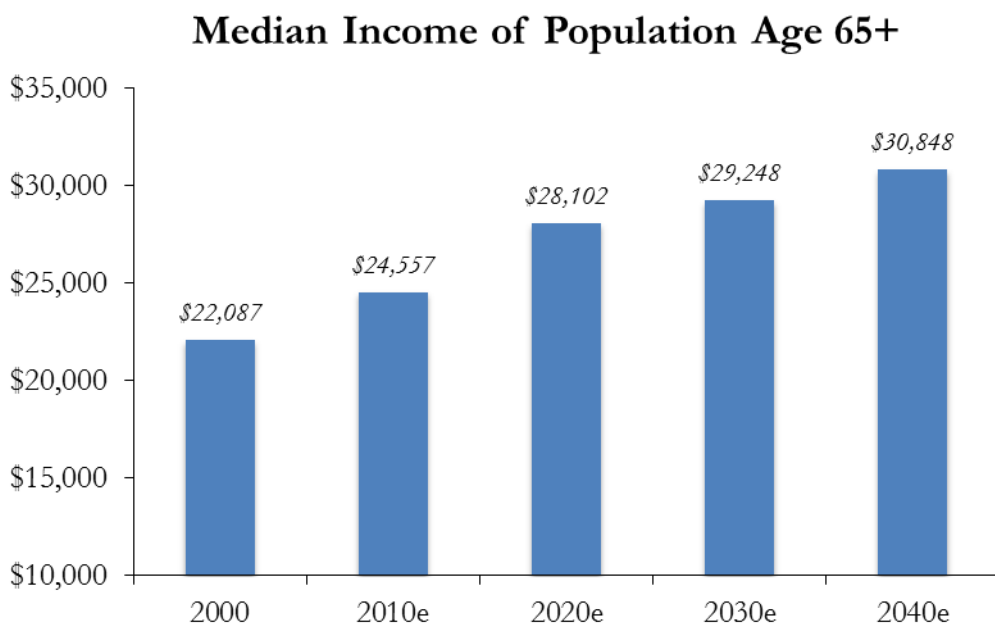


Source: Loretto "A look at 2020 and beyond" 2010

Median Income for Population Age 65+

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the actual and estimated median income for people age 65+.

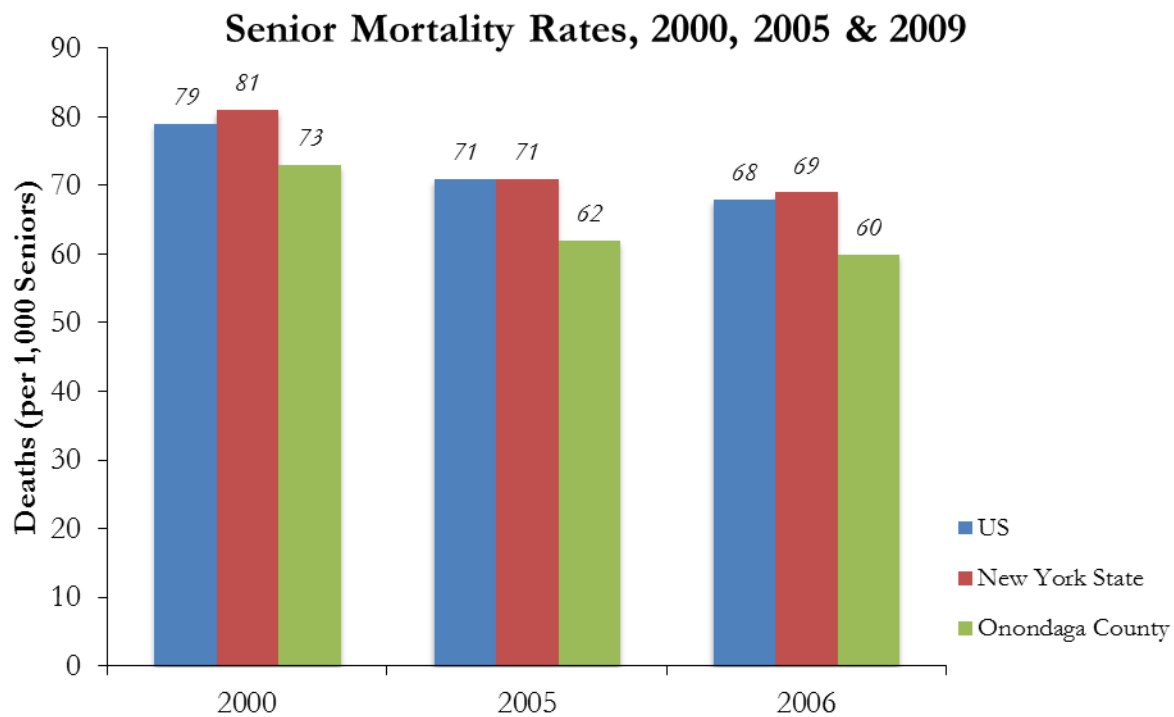


Source: Loretto "A look at 2020 and beyond" 2010

Senior Mortality

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the annual deaths per 1,000 seniors.



Source: New York State Department of Health, *Death Statistics (New York)* and The Centers for Disease Control National *Vital Statistics Report (US)*

Introduction

Crime, real and perceived, is a top concern for Onondaga County residents. Crime affects not only the victims but also the perception of how secure area residents and businesses believe they are. The amount and type of crime prevalent in a community is a concern for potential homebuyers and business owners. It is vitally important that an accurate picture of public safety is available to the community.

By monitoring public safety indicators, the community can track areas that need improvement. Community organizations like Neighborhood Watch are provided with up-to-date information. Relevant data on crime can aid policymakers' decisions and dispel misconceptions throughout the community.

Property Crimes

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures crimes involving people's personal possessions, which are separated into four different categories including burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft and arson per 10,000 people.



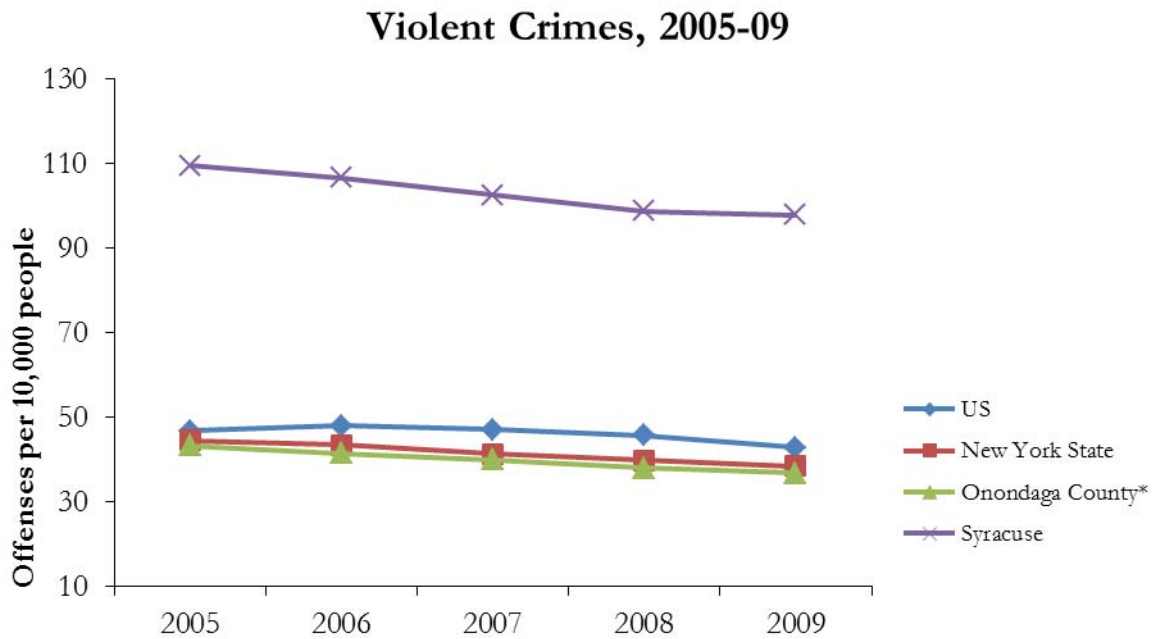
Source: *NYS DCJS Crime in New York State: 2009
 FBI Crime in the US Reports 2005-09

Comment: Data for Onondaga County were taken from NYS DCJS Crime in the New York State: 2009 report. All other data came from the FBI Crime in the US Reports, 2005-09

Violent Crimes

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures violent crimes which include murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault per 10,000 people.



Source: *NYS DCJS Crime in New York State, 2009
 FBI Crime in the US Reports, 2005-09

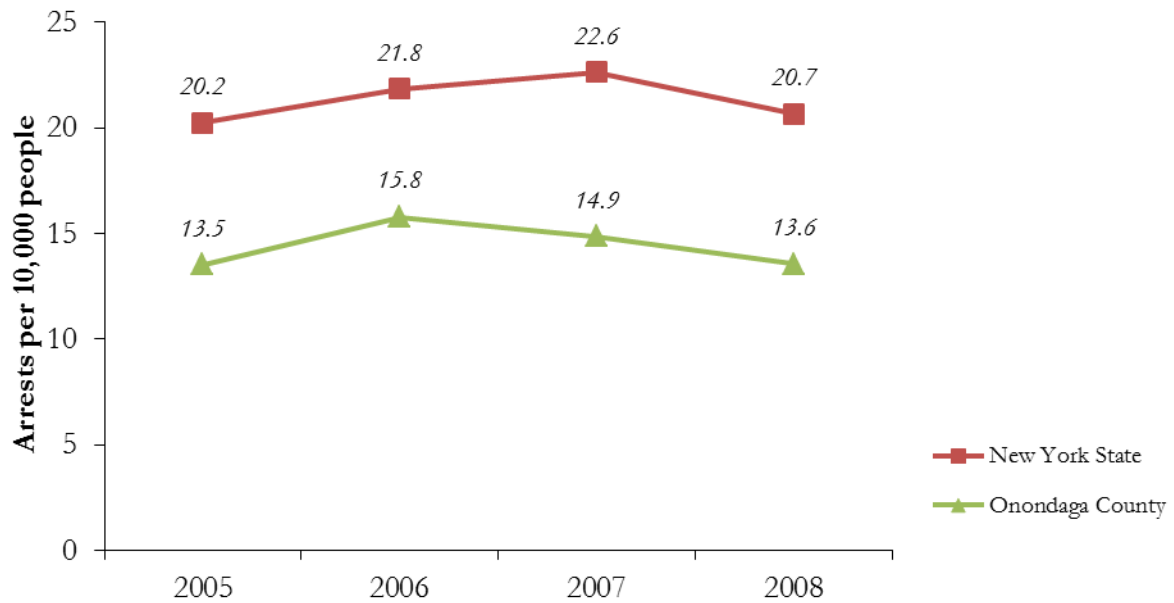
Comment: Data for Onondaga County were taken from NYS DCJS Crime in the New York State: 2009 report. All other data came from the FBI Crime in the US Reports, 2005-09.

Drug Crimes

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of felony drug arrests per 10,000 people, which fall into three categories including contraband substance sale, contraband substance possession, and marijuana possession and sale over 25 grams.

Felony Drug Arrests, 2005-08



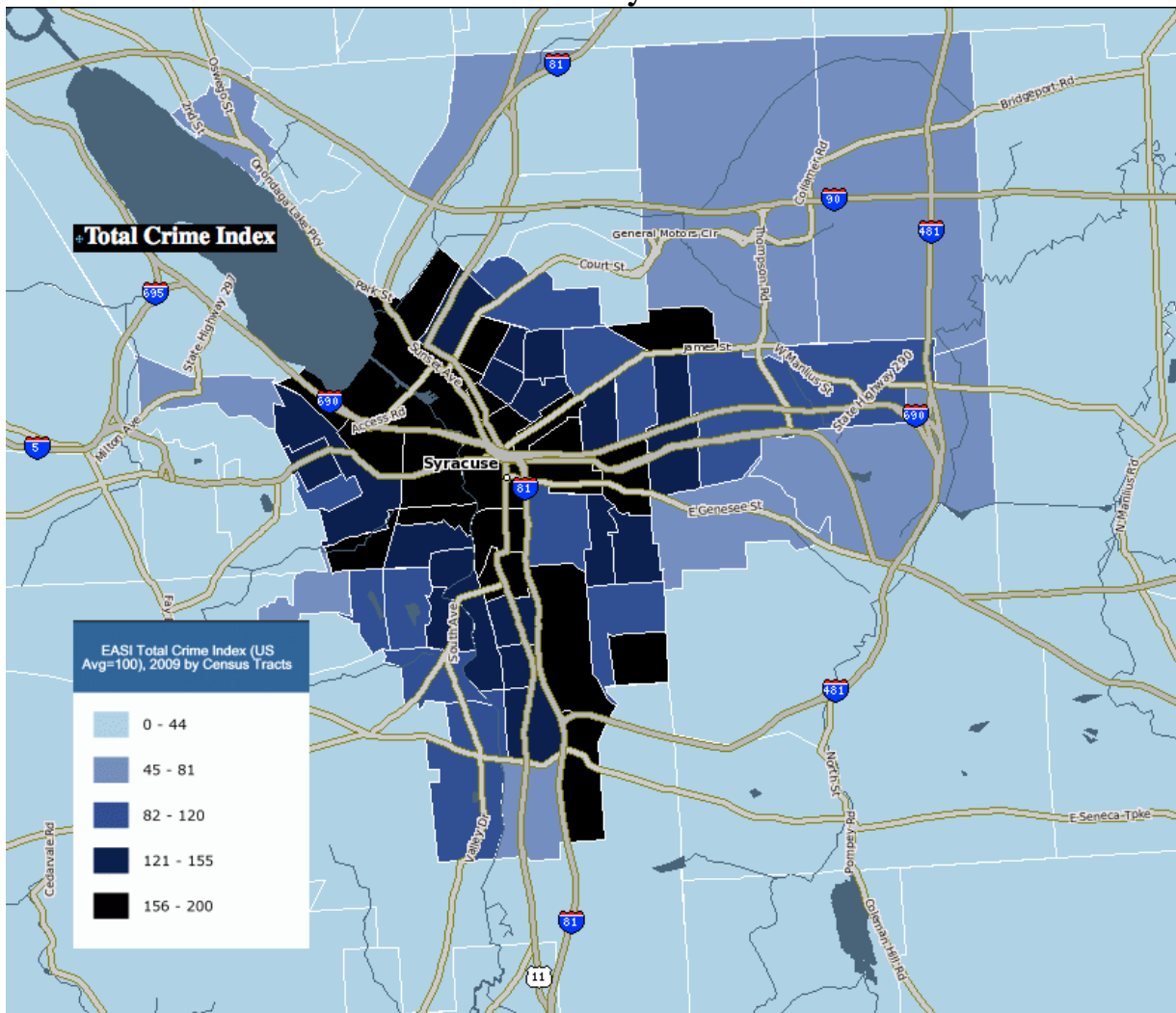
Source: *New York State Felony Drug Arrest, Indictment, and Commitment Trends, 1973-2008*

Total Crime

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the following crimes using one inclusive index including murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft by census tract in 2009.

Total Number of Crimes by Census Tract in 2009



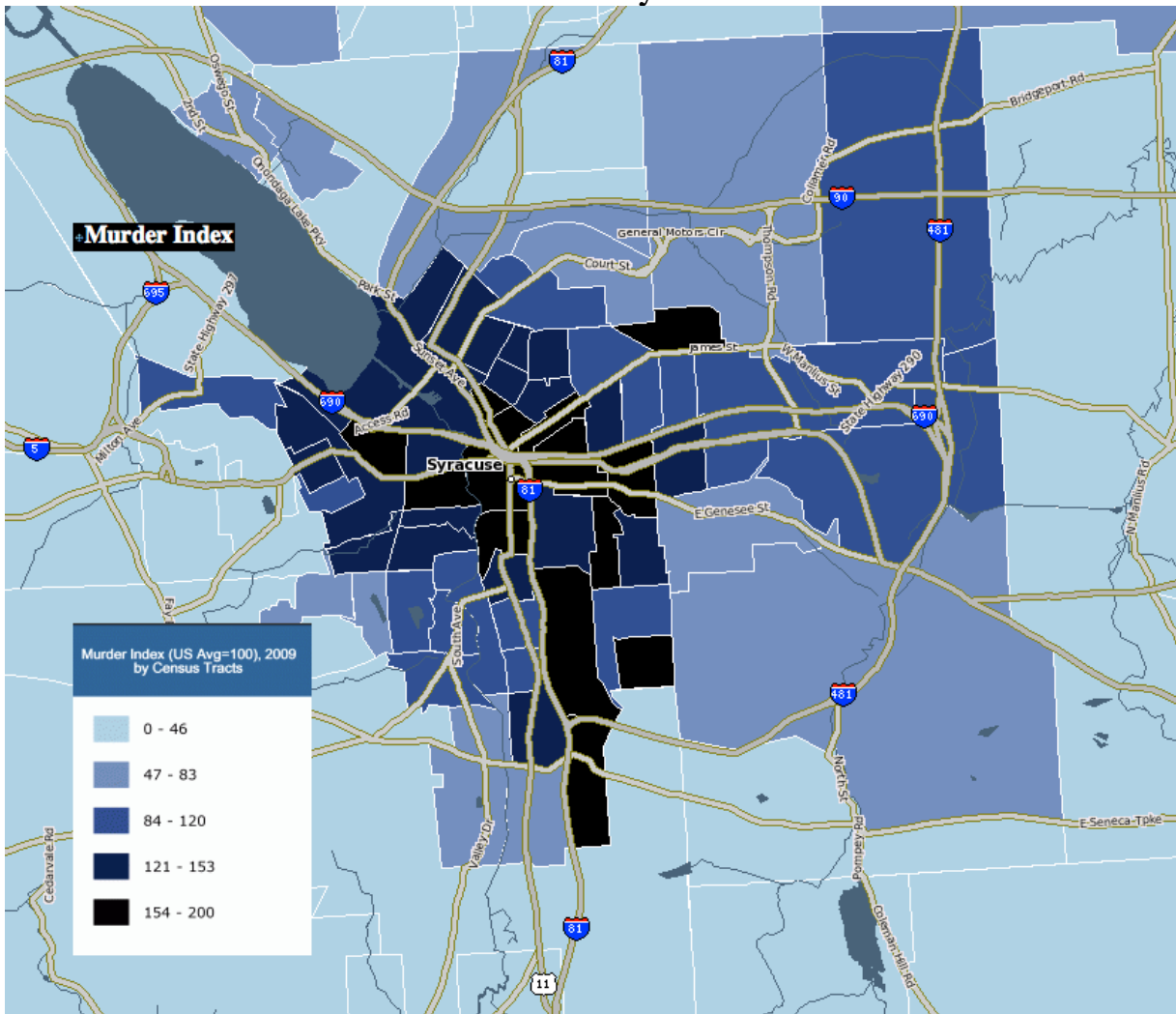
Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services, 2009

Murder

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the total number of murders by census tract in 2009.

Total Number of Murders by Census Tract in 2009



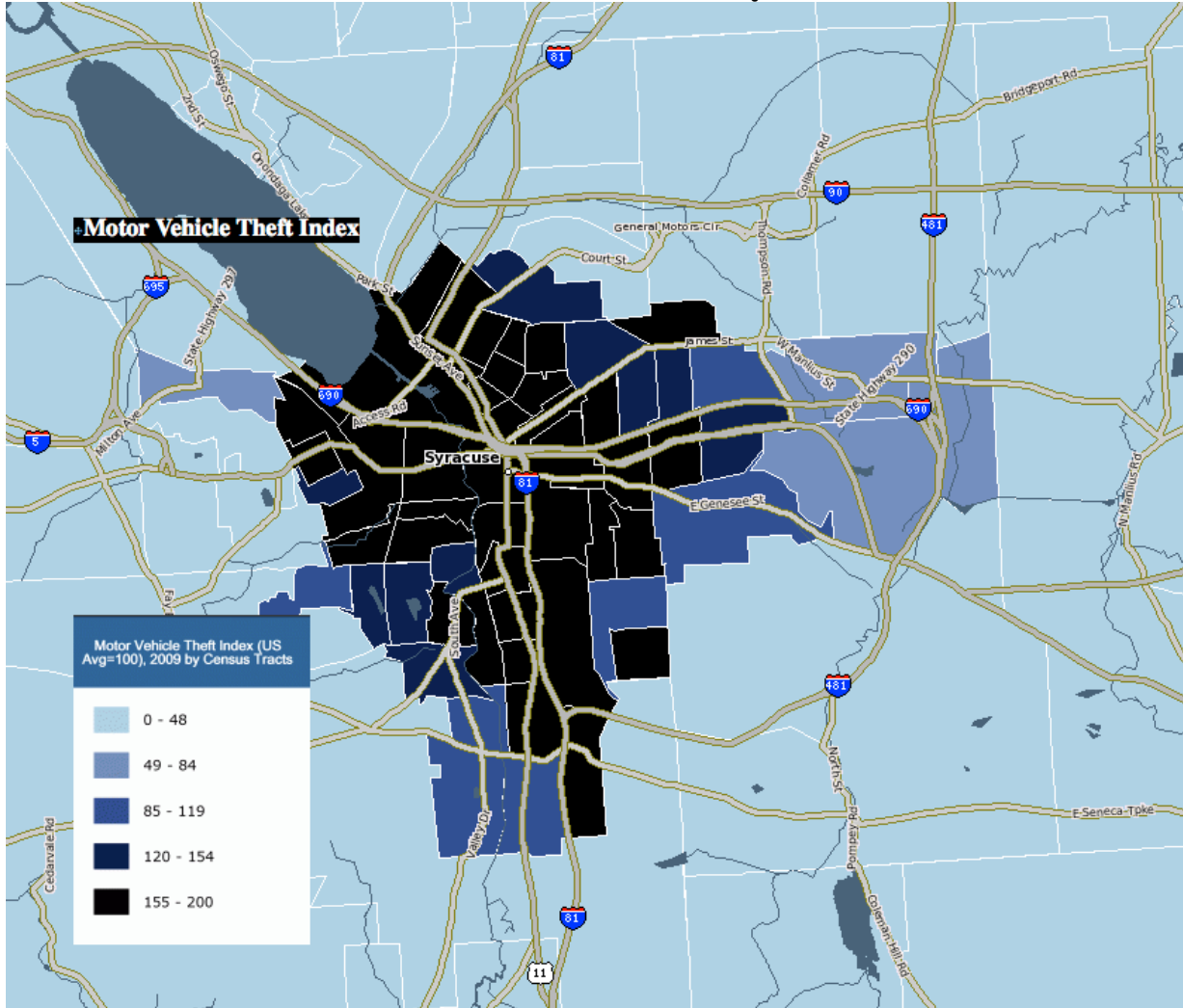
Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services, 2009

Motor Vehicle Theft

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the total number of motor vehicle thefts by census tract in 2009.

Total Number of Motor Vehicle Thefts by Census Tract in 2009



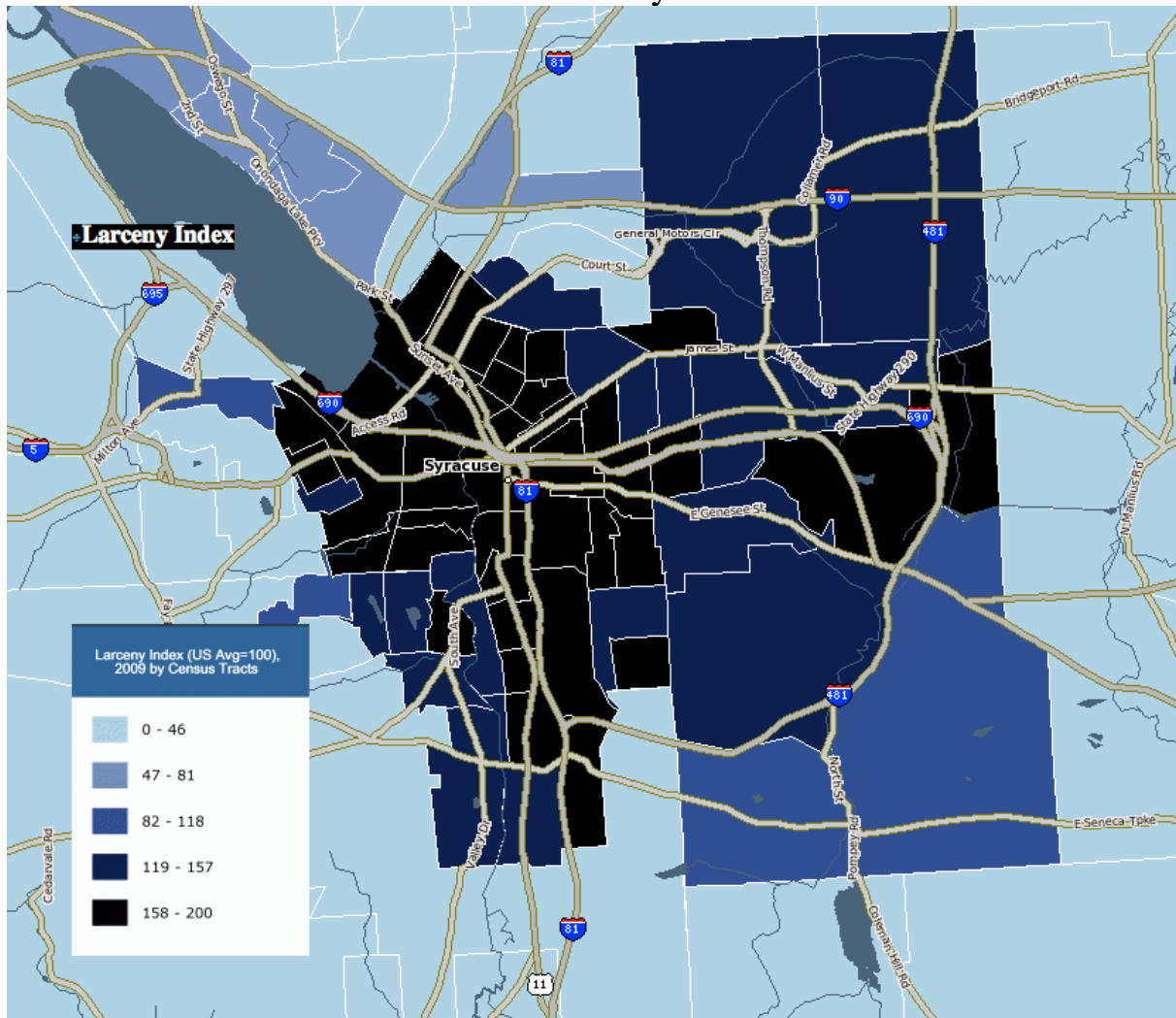
Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services, 2009

Larceny

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the total number of larceny incidents by census tract in 2009.

Total Number of Larcenies by Census Tract in 2009



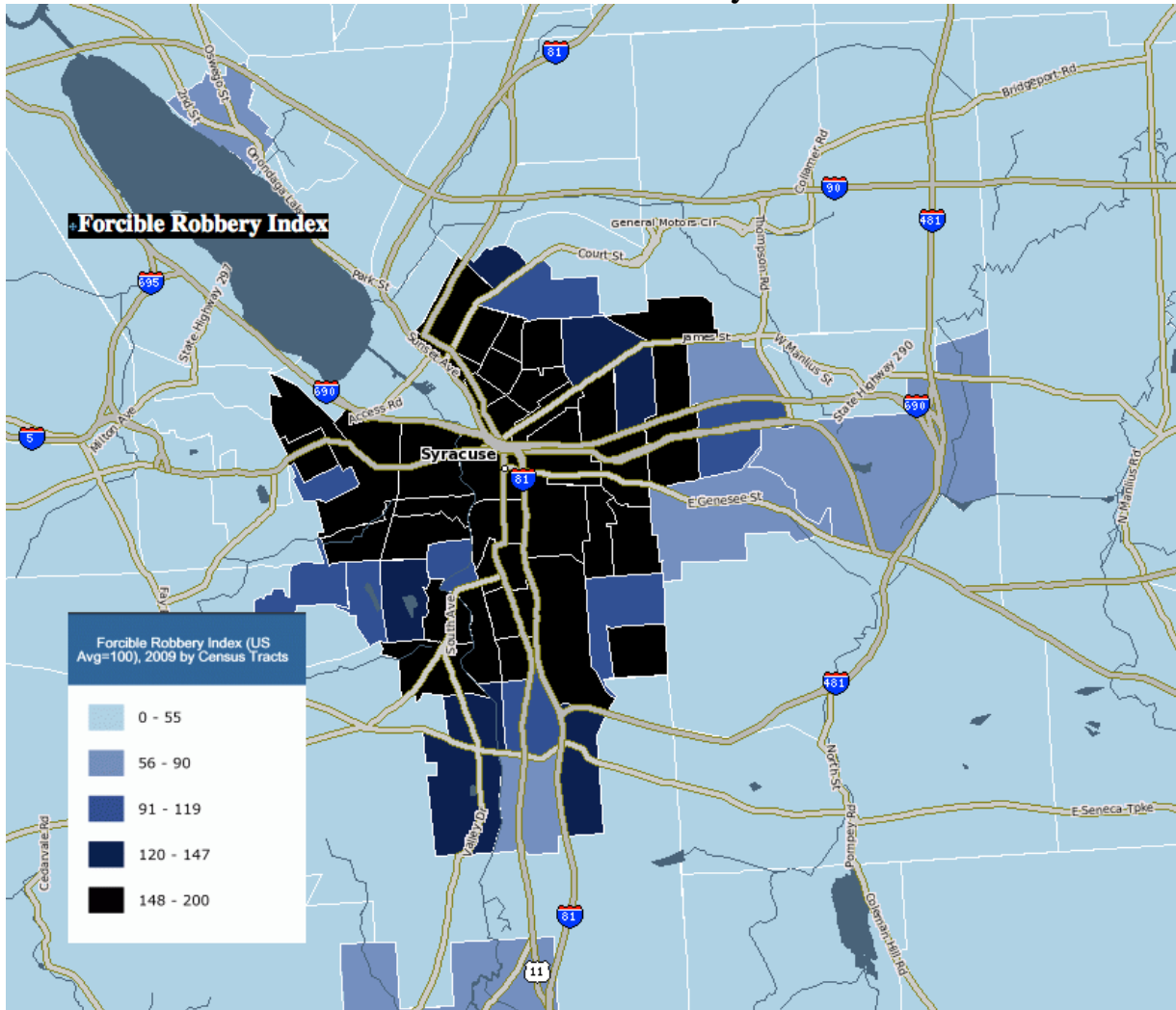
Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services

Forcible Robbery

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the total number of forcible robberies by census tract in 2009.

Total Number of Forcible Robberies by Census Tract in 2009



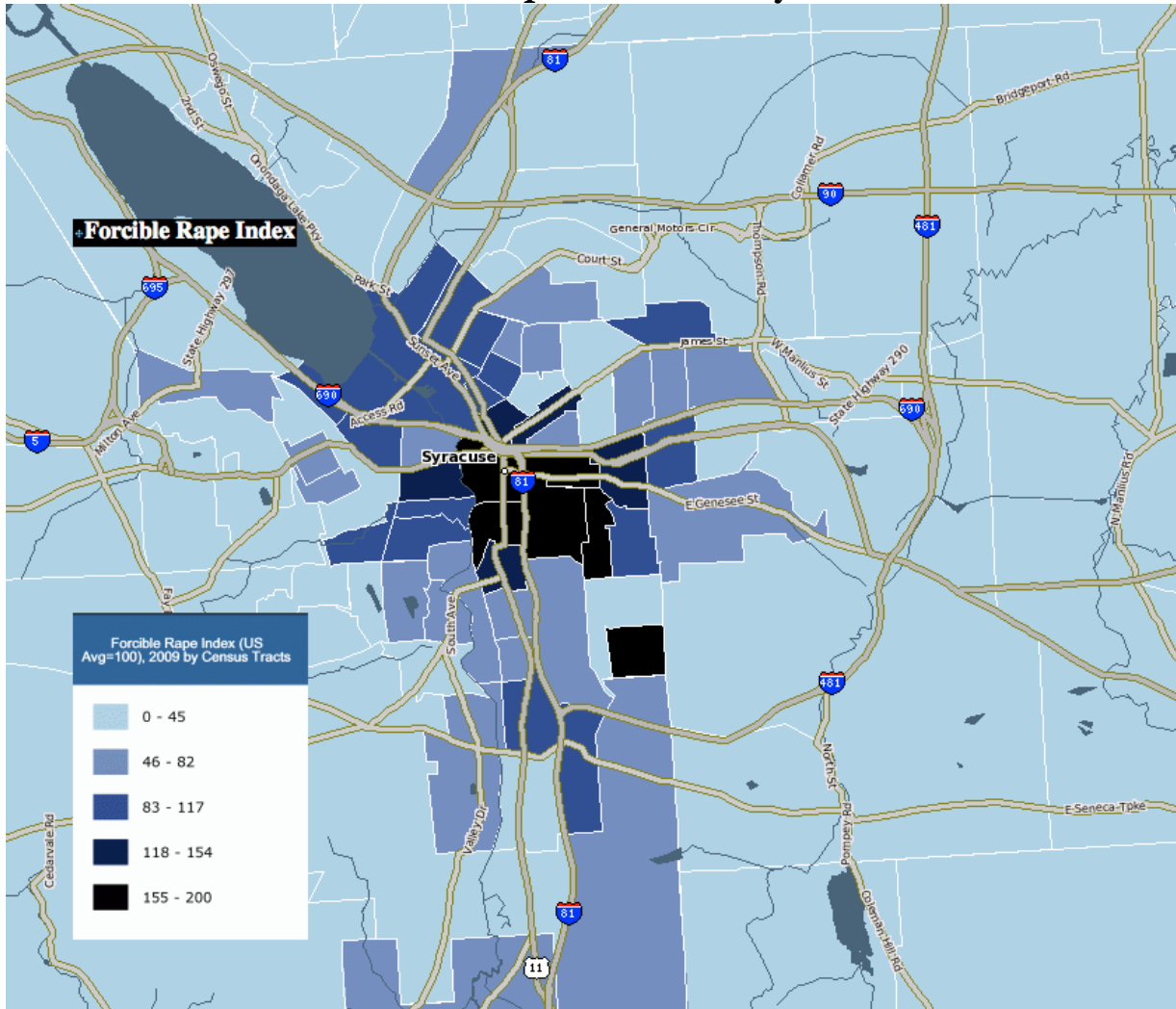
Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services, 2009

Forcible Rape

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the total number of forcible rape incidents by census tract in 2009.

Total Number of Forcible Rape Incidents by Census Tract in 2009



Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services in 2009

Introduction

Arts and cultural activities encourage tourism, foster economic growth and provide sources of enjoyment for residents, making them important indicators of a community's quality of life.

Syracuse has the artistic and cultural luxuries of a much larger city. The Syracuse Symphony Orchestra,⁵ Everson Museum of Art,⁶ Rosamond Gifford Zoo⁷ and The Great New York State Fair⁸ are just some of the attractions that bring visitors from across New York State and the country. The following pages include some of the many arts and cultural activities available.

Onondaga County also provides many recreational opportunities for residents and visitors. Professional sports teams, including the Syracuse Chiefs⁹ and Syracuse Crunch,¹⁰ as well as local collegiate teams, bring exciting competitive entertainment to the area. Attendance at the Syracuse Chiefs, Syracuse Crunch, and Syracuse University sporting events was approximately 1.4 million in 2009 alone.

The many parks in Onondaga County provide opportunities for camping, miles of hiking trails, and seasonal sports. These options allow people in Onondaga County to be active year-round. The following sections list some of the cultural and recreational facilities and information about the area's parks.

⁵ www.syracusesymphonyorchestra.org

⁶ www.everson.org

⁷ www.rosamondgiffordzoo.org

⁸ www.nysfair.org

⁹ www.minorleaguebaseball.com

¹⁰ www.syracusecrunch.com

Art Galleries

There are many diverse art galleries in Onondaga County, highlighting work from a range of local and international artists. The Community Folk Art Center, Inc.¹¹ collects, exhibits, and interprets the arts. The Center's public programming includes exhibitions, film screenings, lectures, workshops and courses. Punto de Contacto/Point of Contact, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to publishing, producing, and documenting international scale projects in contemporary verbal and visual arts.

Art galleries in Onondaga County include:

- Armory Art Associates
- ArtRage
- The Norton Putter Gallery
- Caldwell Gallery
- Clayscapes Pottery Inc.
- Company Gallery
- Contemporary Gallery
- Dobb's Glassworks
- Edgewood Galleries
- Eureka Crafts
- Everson Museum of Art
- Gallery One Fourteen Art & Framing
- Genet Gallery
- Gernhardt Gallery
- Joan Lukas Rothenberg Art Gallery
- John D. Barrow Art Gallery
- Light Work, Limestone Art & Framing Gallery
- Long Lake Gallery
- Lowery Art Gallery
- Lucas Gallery
- Museum of Young Art
- Oneida Lake Artisans & Brick House Café
- Orange Line Gallery
- Red House Arts Center
- Robert B. Menschel Media Center
- Skaneateles Artisans
- Snake Oil Glassworks
- Spark Contemporary Art Space
- Stone Harp Studios
- SUArt Galleries
- Tav-Designs Art Gallery
- The Warehouse Gallery
- Westcott Community Center
- Wilson Art Gallery

¹¹ www.communityfolkartcenter.org

Festivals

Onondaga County hosts many festivals throughout the year. The Skaneateles Festival¹² provides world-class music on the shore of Skaneateles Lake each summer.

The Syracuse International Film Festival¹³ presents contemporary, international films for special events. This annual festival concludes by airing films throughout the community for four days, attracting 4,804 people in 2009.

The Syracuse Jazz Fest¹⁴ is the largest of its kind in the northeast, and provides free entertainment from world-renowned musicians such as Natalie Cole, Kenny G, Chaka Khan and Aretha Franklin.

There are also many ethnic celebrations that take place, including Greek, Irish, Italian and Polish festivals.

Additional festivals in Onondaga County include:

- Bavarian Fest
- CNY Pride Parade Festival
- CNY Scottish Games & Celtic Festival
- Empire Brewfest
- Middle Eastern Cultural Festival
- NYS Blues Festival
- Syracuse Arts & Crafts Festival
- Taste of Syracuse

¹² www.skaneatelesfest.org

¹³ www.syrfilmfest.com

¹⁴ www.syracusejazzfest.com

Zoo

The Rosamond Gifford Zoo is ranked among the top ten percent of zoos nationwide and is an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. It is situated on 43 acres of land and is home to more than 900 animals, including Asian elephants, Humboldt penguins and Amur tigers. Each year the zoo welcomes approximately 350,000 visitors.¹⁵

¹⁵ <http://rosamondgiffordzoo.org/about-the-zoo>

Museums

The museums in Onondaga County emphasize the cultural, historical, and scientific highlights of the area. The Erie Canal Museum¹⁶ is located in the 1850 Syracuse Weighlock Building, which is on the National Historic Register and is chartered by the New York State Education Department and visited by thousands of people each year.¹⁷

The Everson Museum of Art, an international landmark and the first museum designed by I.M. Pei, features acclaimed collections of ceramics and American art. In 2009, the museum welcomed 80,000 visitors, many of whom came to view the Turner to Cézanne exhibit of nationally acclaimed Impressionist masterpieces from the 19th and 20th centuries.¹⁸

The Milton J. Rubenstein Museum of Science and Technology (MOST) provides a range of hands-on experiences for all ages, with over 200 exhibits and displays and also houses an IMAX theater.¹⁹

The Onondaga Historical Association Museum & Research Center (OHA) is Onondaga County's only comprehensive general history museum. It houses over 200 years of local history in exhibit galleries, a research library, and a museum store.²⁰

Additional museums in Onondaga County include:

- The Creamery
- Skaneateles Historical Society
- International Mask and Puppet Museum
- Jamesville Community Museum
- Liverpool Willow Museum
- Manlius Historical Museum
- Ner-A-Car Museum of Syracuse
- Sainte Marie Among the Iroquois
- Shacksboro School House Museum
- Stone Arabia Schoolhouse Museum & Block House Museum
- Town of Cicero Historical Society
- Tully Historical Society Museum
- Wilcox Octagon House

¹⁶ www.eriecanalmuseum.org

¹⁷ www.eriecanalmuseum.org

¹⁸ www.everson.org

¹⁹ www.most.org

²⁰ www.cnyhistory.org

Theater & Music

There are extensive opportunities to experience music and theater in Onondaga County. The CNY Jazz Arts Foundation²¹ is the region's primary provider of jazz programming in concert, cabaret, academic, and festival settings. It operates downtown Syracuse's Jazz Central Theater, serving an audience of 80,000.

The Open Hand²² Theater located on the Northside of Syracuse has entertained youth and adult audiences since 1980 through the use of masks, puppets, music, and actors.

Parents Promoting Dance²³ at One Village Dance Centre is a place for the study, creation, and performance of dance and drum in Central New York. It is dedicated to nurturing and developing cultural dance traditions and providing space for artists to create new work.

Syracuse City Ballet,²⁴ formerly Upstate New York Ballet, has brought classical ballet to Central New York since 1997. Syracuse Friends of Chamber Music²⁵ presents a seven-concert series of the world's finest chamber music groups.

Syracuse Stage,²⁶ Central New York's leading nonprofit professional theater, offers a six-play season. Red House,²⁷ a nonprofit cultural center located in Armory Square of Syracuse, presents and produces new works in theatre, film, visual art and music.

Other performing arts venues include the Landmark Theatre,²⁸ Syracuse Opera,²⁹ Syracuse Symphony Orchestra,³⁰ and The Arts Branch—YMCA of Greater Syracuse.³¹

²¹ www.cnyjazz.org

²² www.openhandtheater.org

²³ www.parentspromotingdance.org

²⁴ www.syracusecityballet.com

²⁵ www.syracusefriendsofchambermusic.org

²⁶ www.syracusestage.org

²⁷ www.theredhouse.org

²⁸ www.landmarktheatre.org

²⁹ www.syracuseopera.com

³⁰ www.syracusesymphony.org

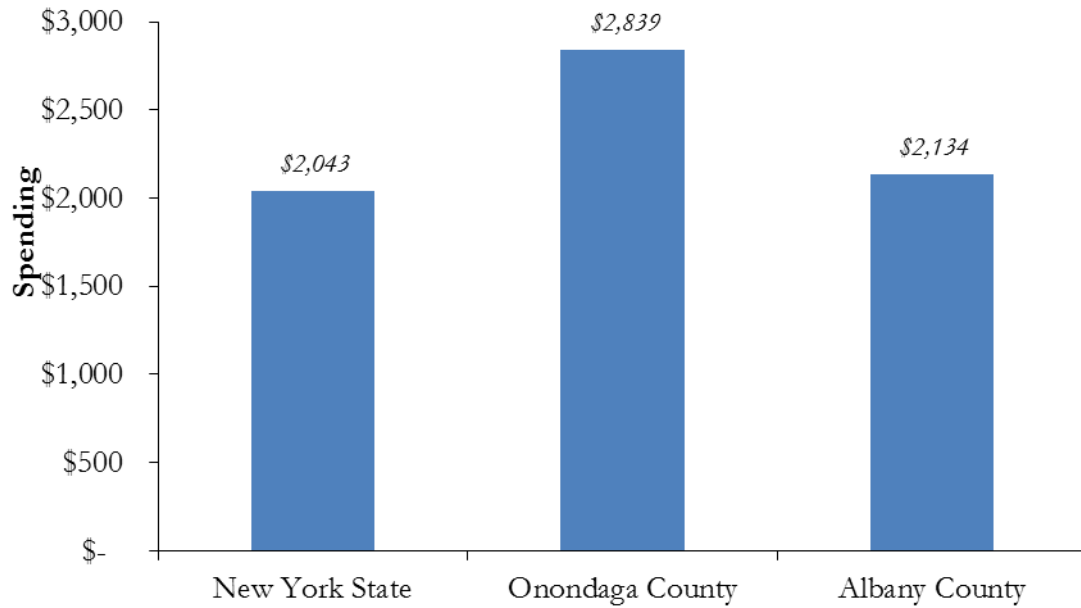
³¹ www.ymcaofgreatersyracuse.org/arts

Arts Grant Spending

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the amount of grant spending allocated toward the arts in New York State, Onondaga County, and Albany County.

New York State Arts Grant Spending Per 1,000 Residents, 2009

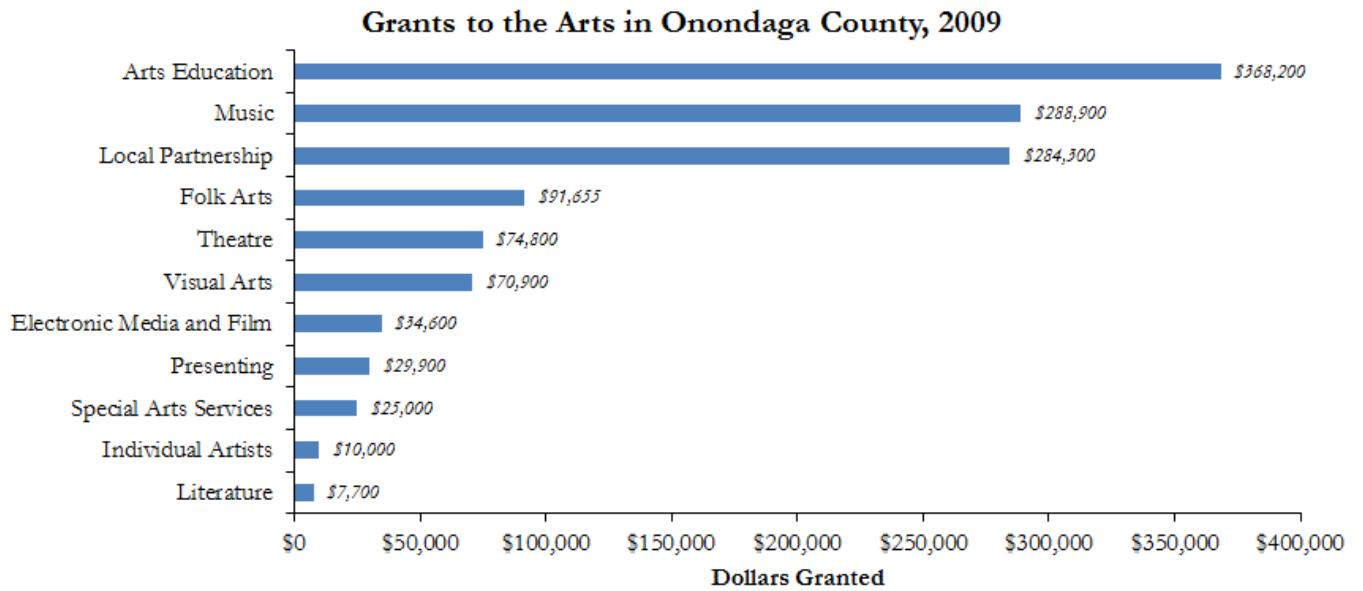


Source: New York State Council on the Arts, 2010, nysca.org

Grants to the Arts

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the amount of grant spending allocated different areas of the arts within Onondaga County.



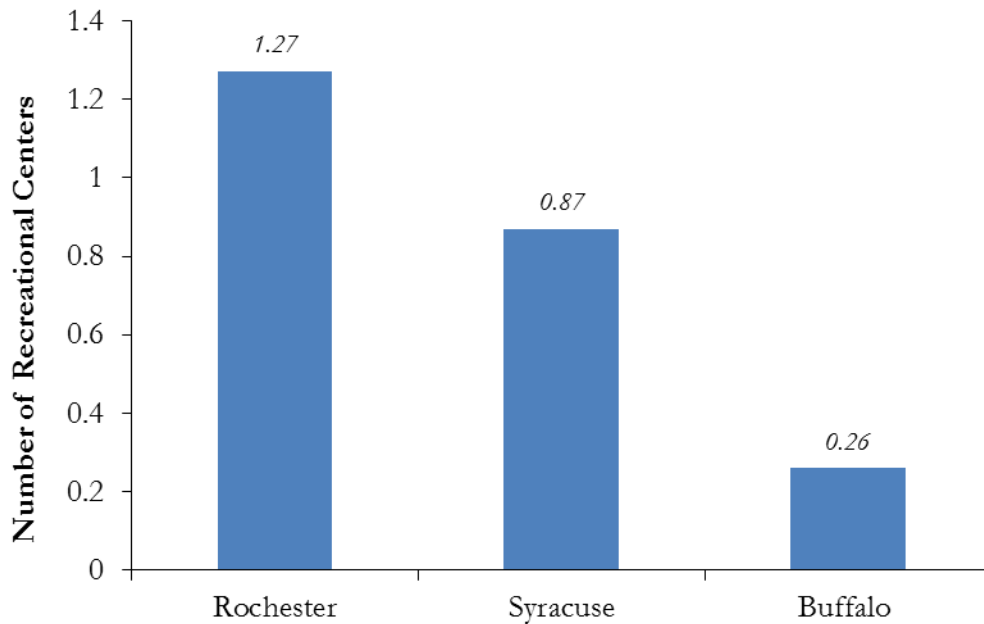
Source: New York State Council on the Arts, 2010, nysca.org

Recreation

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of public recreational centers per 10,000 people in the cities of Buffalo, Rochester, and Syracuse.

Number of "Public Recreational Centers" per 10,000 People, 2009



Source: 2009 Census; The City of Syracuse Department of Parks, Recreation and Youth Programs; The City of Buffalo Division of Paks and Recreation; The City of Rochester Department of Recreation and Youth Services

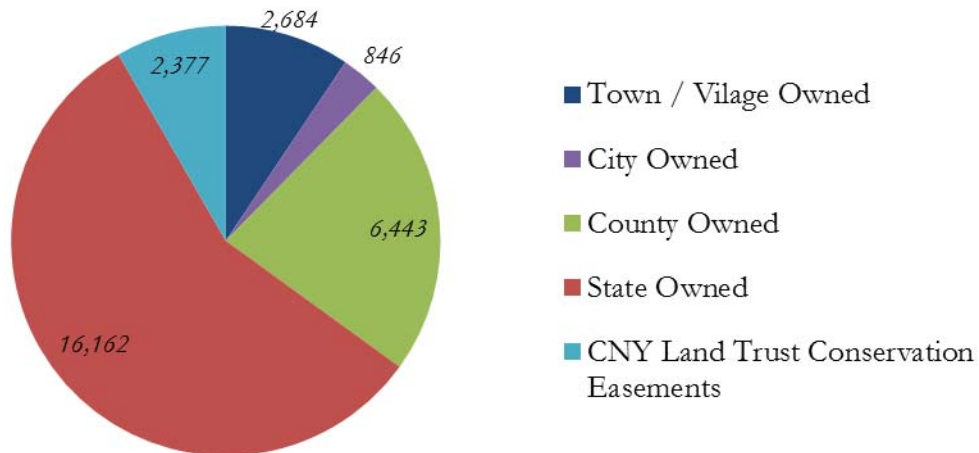
Comment: For a complete list of recreation centers in Central New York, please visit www.visitsyracuse.org

Parks in Onondaga County

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the acreage of protected parkland and open spaces in Onondaga County for 2010. Open space may be defined as an area of land or water that either remains in its natural state or is free from intensive development for residential, commercial, industrial or institutional use.

Acreage of Protected Parkland & Open Spaces in Onondaga County, 2010



Source: Syracuse Onondaga County Planning Agency, 2010

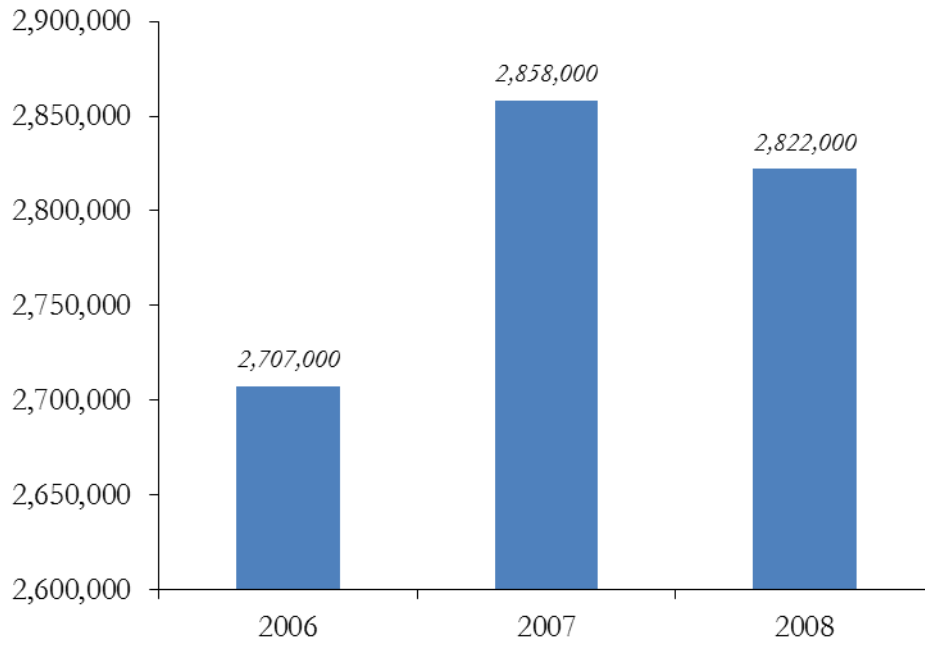
Comment: For a complete list of parks in Onondaga County, please visit www.onondagacountyparks.com

Park Attendance

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of people who visited all the Onondaga County Parks from 2006-08.

Onondaga County Annual Park Attendance, 2006-08



Source: Onondaga County Parks Annual Report 2006-08

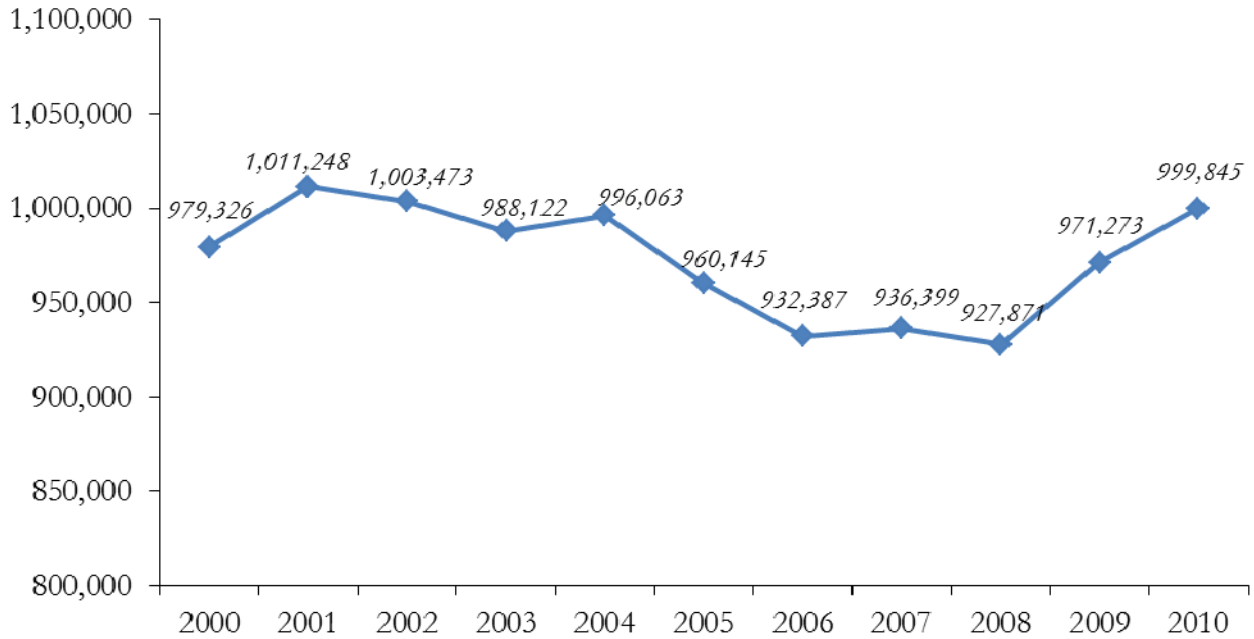
Comment: Graph is not to scale.

The New York State Fair

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the attendance of The Great New York State Fair from 2000 to 2010.

New York State Fair Attendance, 2000-10



Source: The Great New York State Fair: www.nysfair.org

Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Introduction

The indicators in this section highlight the economic status of the greater Syracuse area.

Sector employment data show that in the Syracuse Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), the manufacturing, construction, and information sectors have shown some of the largest annual declines in employment. However, the health care, management, and accommodation sectors have experienced consistent increases in employment throughout the time period.

Wages have grown steadily across the region, although the Syracuse MSA, New York State, and the United States' wage growth slowed in 2008-09, the most recent data point available. All locations, however, showed positive wage growth even though the Consumer Price Index (the government's measure of inflation) decreased slightly in 2009 from 2008 index.

In comparison to the other 61 counties in New York, 41 of 61 NYS counties reported a median household income lower than Onondaga County, while 20 reported a higher median income.

Business growth within Syracuse has been relatively stagnant since 2004. The number of firms with more than 500 employees is the largest type of employer, followed by firms with less than 500 employees, then organizations with fewer than 20 employees. The Small Business Administration reports that an increase in small businesses has a significant impact on the gross product of a state or county.

Note: A Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as a geographic entity that contains a core urban area population of 50,000 or more and includes the county where the core area is located and may include adjacent counties that have a high degree of societal and economic integration with that urban core.

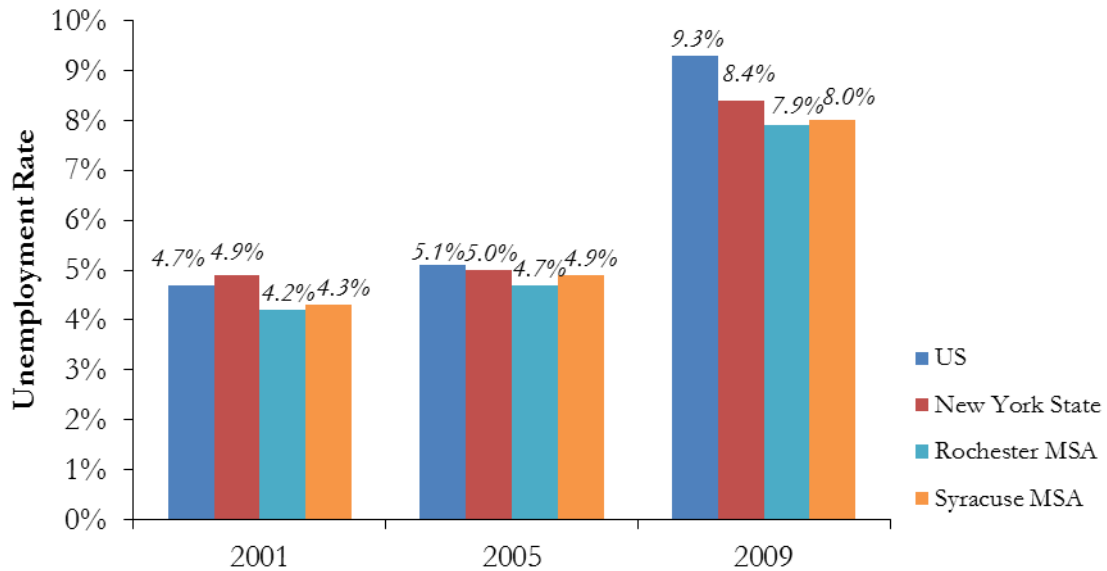
The Syracuse MSA is a 3,083 square-mile area consisting of Cayuga, Madison, Onondaga and Oswego counties.

Unemployment Rate

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of people in the labor force who do not have jobs, are eligible to work and still looking for employment.

Unemployment Rate, 2001, 2005 & 2009



Source: New York State Department of Labor, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2001, 2005 & 2009

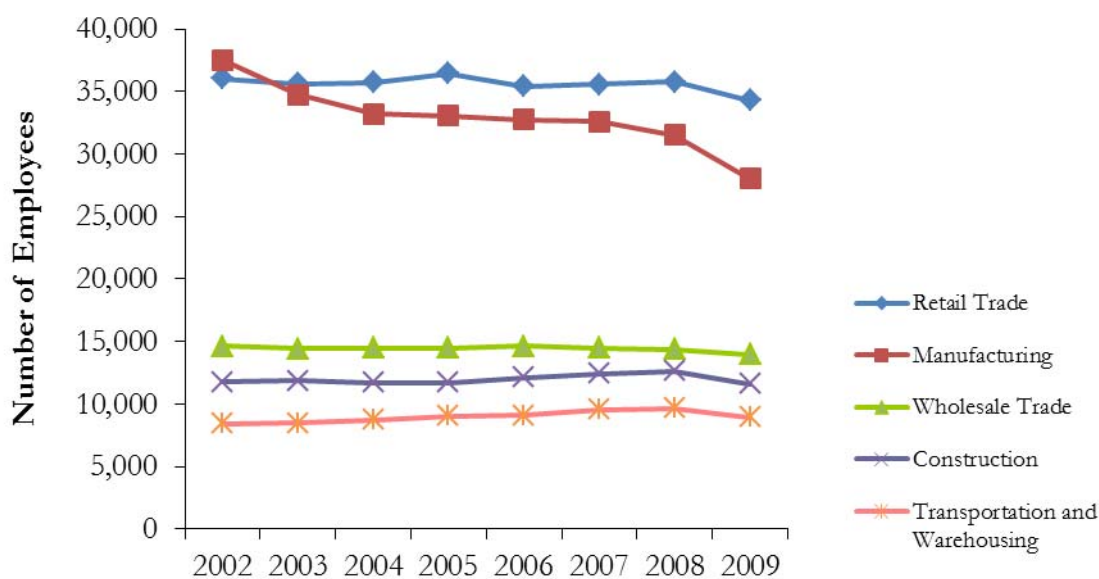
Comment: National unemployment data were aggregated into an arithmetic mean from data spanning a 12-month period. Graph is not to scale.

Employment in Trade Industries

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the change in the number of people employed in 5 trade industries.

Employment in Trade Industries in the Syracuse MSA, 2002-09



Source: New York State Department of Labor, 2002-09

Percentage Change in Employment in Trade Industries in Syracuse MSA, 2002-09

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Construction	0.9%	-1.6%	0.1%	3.5%	2.8%	1.3%	-7.8%
Manufacturing	-7.4%	-4.4%	-0.5%	-1.0%	-0.5%	-3.2%	-11.2%
Wholesale Trade	-1.2%	0.2%	0.0%	1.0%	-0.8%	-0.8%	-2.7%
Retail Trade	-1.2%	0.3%	2.1%	-2.9%	0.5%	0.6%	-4.2%
Transportation and Warehousing	0.8%	3.0%	3.1%	1.0%	4.8%	1.0%	-7.2%

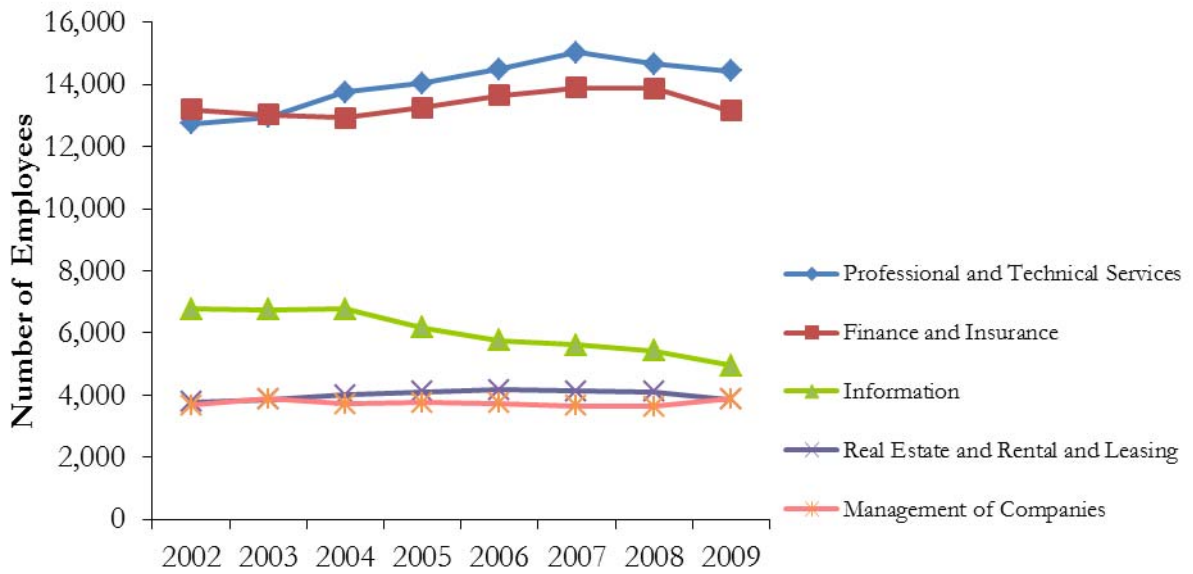
Source: New York State Department of Labor, 2002-09

Employment in Professional Industries

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the change in the number of people employed in 5 professional industries.

Employment in Professional Industries in the Syracuse MSA, 2002-09



Source: New York State Department of Labor, 2002-09

Percentage Change Employment in Professional Industries in Syracuse MSA, 2002-09

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Information	-0.3%	0.2%	-8.8%	-6.8%	-2.3%	-3.4%	-8.7%
Finance and Insurance	-1.2%	-0.8%	2.5%	3.1%	1.8%	-0.2%	-5.3%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	2.1%	3.9%	2.7%	1.5%	-1.4%	-0.4%	-6.0%
Professional and Technical Services	1.6%	6.3%	2.1%	3.3%	3.7%	-2.6%	-1.4%
Management of Companies	5.3%	-4.3%	1.6%	-0.6%	-2.2%	-0.7%	6.5%

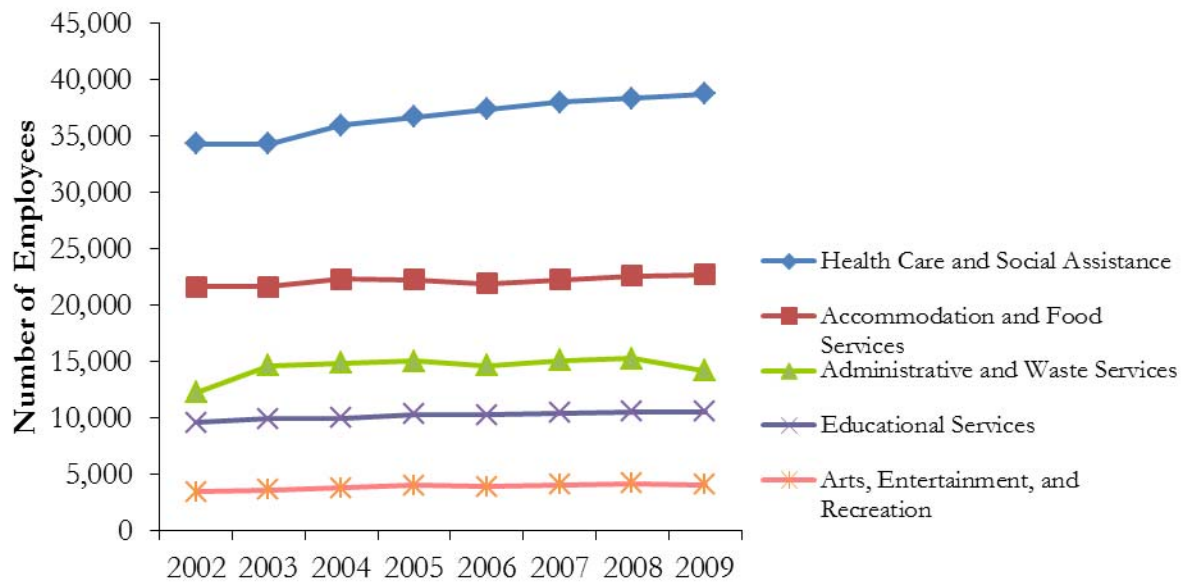
Source: New York State Department of Labor, 2002-09

Employment in Public Works Industries

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the change in the number of people employed in 5 public works industries.

Employment for Public Works Industries for Syracuse MSA, 2002-09



Source: New York State Department of Labor, 2002-09

Percentage Change in Employment in Public Works Industries in Syracuse MSA, 2002-09

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Administrative and Waste Services	19.3%	1.6%	1.2%	-2.8%	3.4%	1.2%	-7.1%
Educational Services	3.3%	0.4%	3.6%	-0.6%	1.9%	0.9%	-0.2%
Health Care and Social Assistance	-0.1%	4.8%	2.0%	1.8%	1.8%	0.9%	1.1%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	4.6%	5.8%	5.2%	-2.7%	4.5%	2.6%	-1.9%
Accommodation and Food Services	0.1%	2.9%	-0.1%	-1.7%	1.6%	1.5%	0.6%

Source: New York State Department of Labor, 2002-09

Employment by Sector

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures total employment in three sectors: private, government, and self-employed.

Syracuse MSA Employment by Sector, 2003, 2006 & 2009



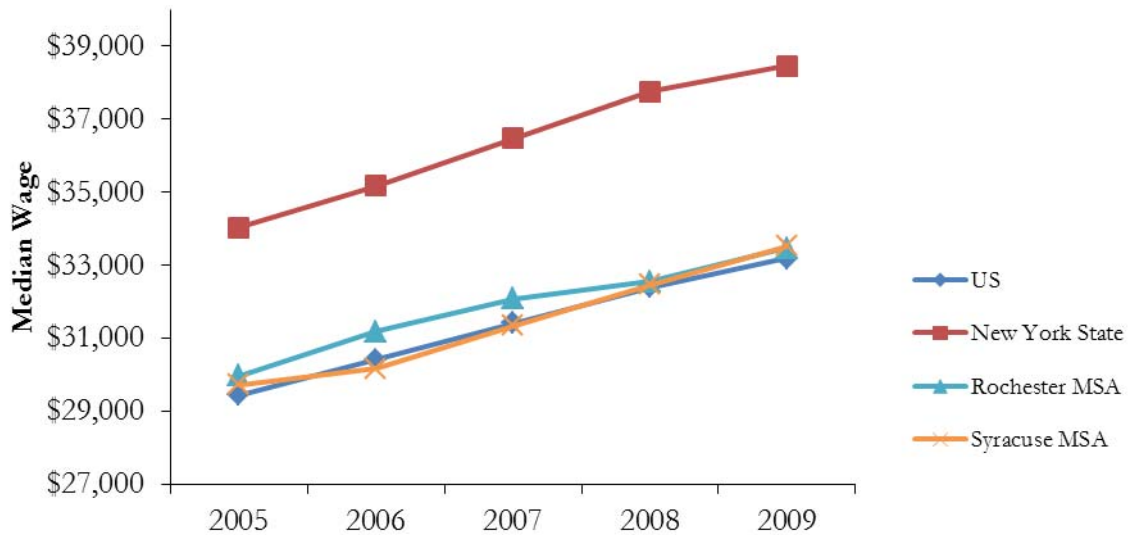
Source: US Census Bureau: American Community Survey, 2003, 2006 & 2009

Annual Median Wage

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the 50th percentile wage for all full-time workers: 50 percent of workers in an occupation earn wages below the median wage, and 50 percent earn wages above. (Source: New York State Department of Labor).

Annual Median Wage, 2005-09



Source: New York State Department of Labor

Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Annual Median Wage, 2005-09

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
US	\$29,430	\$30,400	\$31,410	\$32,390	\$33,190
New York State	\$34,020	\$35,170	\$36,470	\$37,750	\$38,450
Syracuse MSA	\$29,720	\$30,150	\$31,340	\$32,460	\$33,510
Rochester MSA	\$29,960	\$31,170	\$32,080	\$32,550	\$33,470

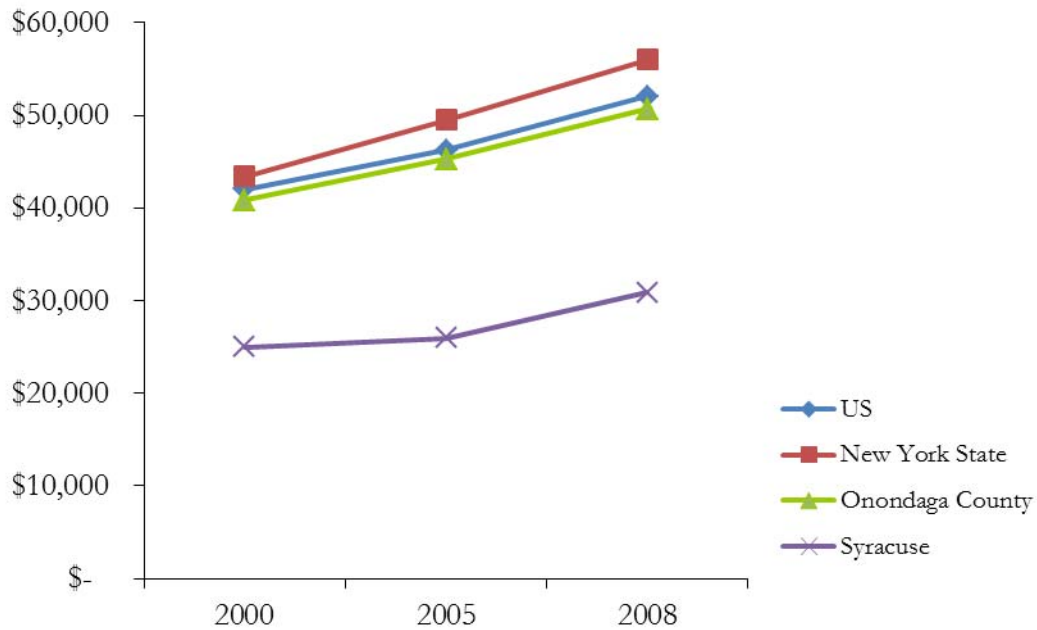
Source: New York State Department of Labor, 2005-09

Median Household Income

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the income of all people 15 years and older in a household, whether or not they are related to the householder; the median is based on the income distribution of all households including those with no income.

Median Household Income, 2000, 2005 & 2008



Source: US Census Bureau, 2000, 2005 & 2008

Median Household Income, 2002-08

	2000	2005	2008
US	\$ 41,994	\$ 46,242	\$ 52,029
New York State	\$ 43,393	\$ 49,480	\$ 56,033
Onondaga County	\$ 40,847	\$ 45,239	\$ 50,640
Syracuse	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,935	\$ 30,879

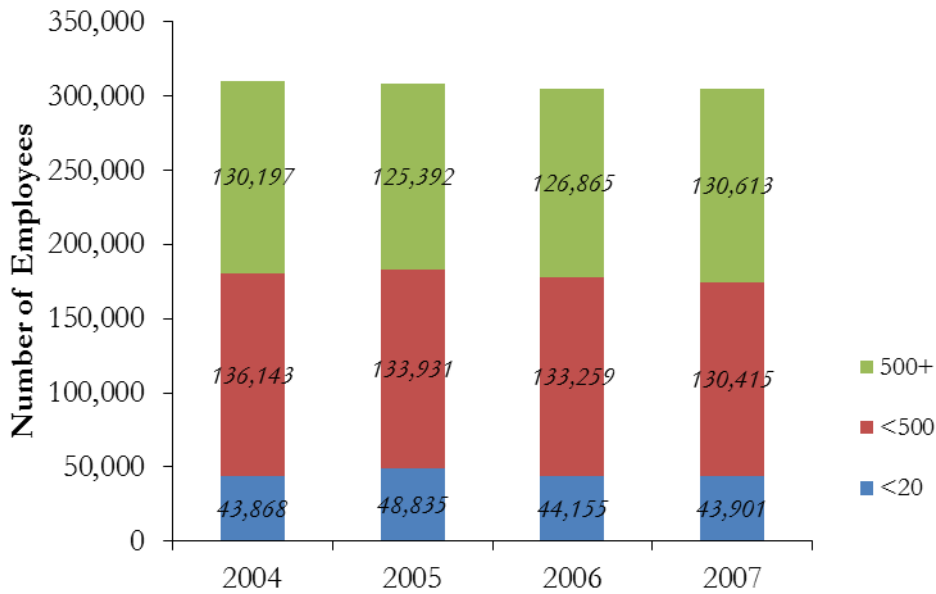
Source: US Census Bureau, 2000, 2005 & 2008

Business Growth

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of employees by business size in Syracuse.

Syracuse Business Growth by Number of Employees, 2004-07



Source: Small Business Administration, 2004-07

Percentage Change in Business Growth by Number of Employees, 2004-07

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
<20	11%	-10%	-1%
<500	-2%	-1%	-2%
500+	-4%	1%	3%

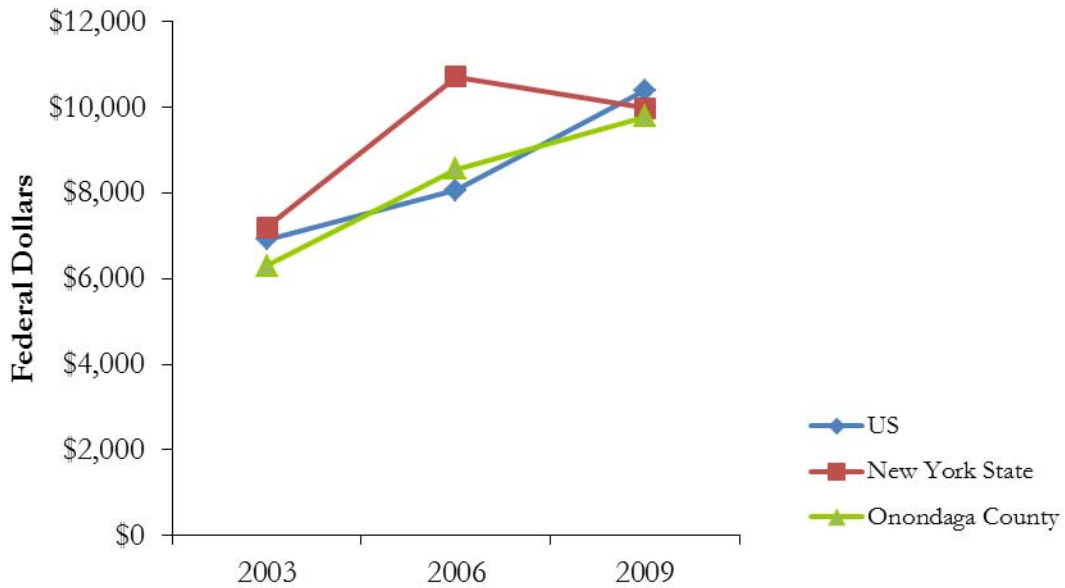
Source: Small Business Administration, 2004-07

Per Capita Federal Spending

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures government expenditures or obligations for a number of categories including retirement and disability, other direct payments, grants, procurement contracts, salaries and wages, direct loans, guaranteed or insured loans and insurance.

**Per Capita Federal Expenditures,
2003, 2006 & 2009**



Source: US Census Bureau, 2003, 2006 & 2009

Per Capita Federal Expenditures, 2003, 2006 & 2009

	2003	2006	2009
US	\$6,910	\$8,058	\$10,396
New York State	\$7,186	\$10,712	\$9,978
Onondaga County	\$6,297	\$8,548	\$9,778

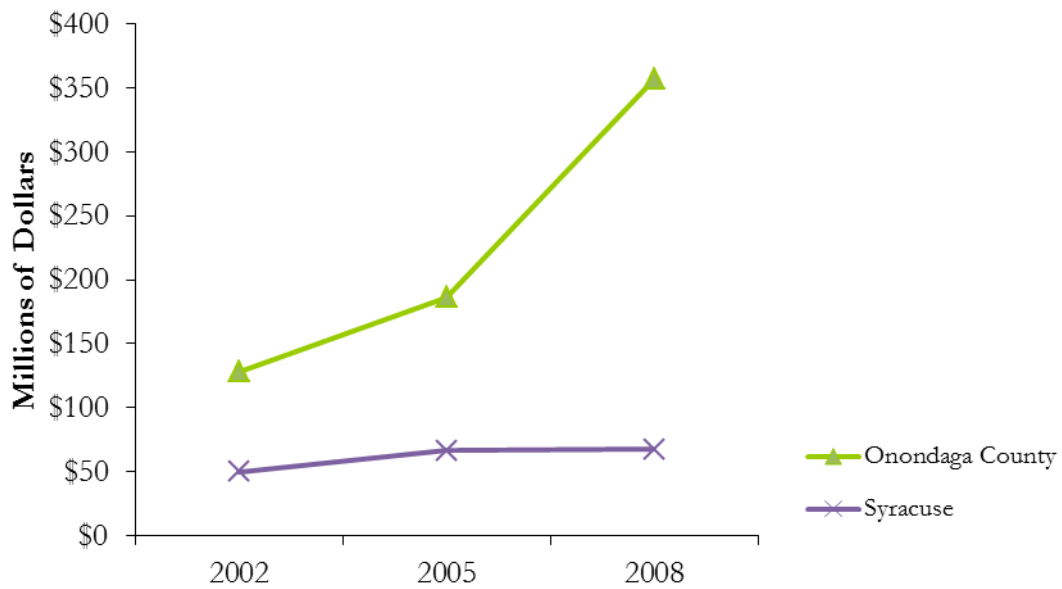
Source: US Census Bureau, 2003, 2006 & 2009

State Revenue from Sales Tax

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the revenue generated for the state by levying a sales tax for certain goods and services.

Revenue Collected from Sales Tax for New York State, 2002, 2005 & 2008



Source: New York State Office of the Comptroller, 2002, 2005 & 2008

Revenue Collected from Sales Tax for New York State, 2002, 2005 & 2008

	2002	2005	2008
Onondaga County	127,968,008	186,322,480	356,631,300
Syracuse	50,079,459	66,373,610	67,278,655

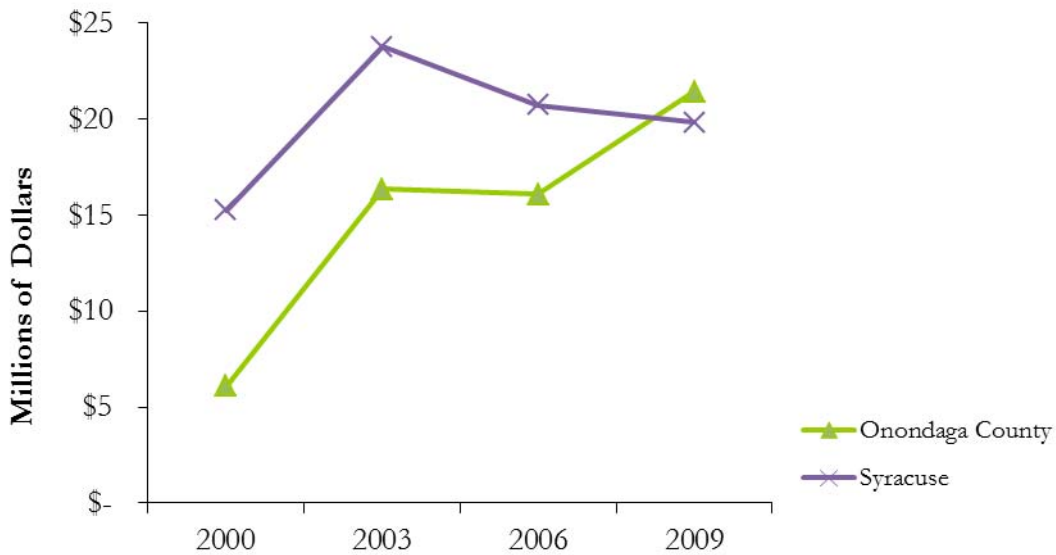
Source: New York State Office of the Comptroller, 2002, 2005 & 2008

Economic Development Expenditures

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the total expenditures for economic development administration, development infrastructure, promotion, economic development grants, and miscellaneous economic development.

Economic Development Expenditures, 2000, 2003, 2006 & 2009



Source: New York State Office of the Comptroller, 2000, 2003, 2006 & 2009

Economic Development Expenditures, 2000, 2003, 2006 & 2009

	2000	2003	2006	2009
Onondaga County	\$ 6,080,709	\$ 16,331,493	\$ 16,088,101	\$ 21,410,708
Syracuse	\$ 15,236,629	\$ 23,747,338	\$ 20,717,037	\$ 19,812,726

Source: New York State Office of the Comptroller, 2000, 2003, 2006 & 2009

Introduction

Education is a vital part of every community. Every day children and adults attend academic and vocational institutions to gain knowledge and skills that they will use in the future. Say Yes to Education is a program that promises a free college education to all students who graduate embedded with the Syracuse City School District (SCSD).³²

The Literacy Coalition of Onondaga County is another community partnership dedicated to helping raise education levels in Onondaga County. The goal of the organization is to achieve *100% Literacy through 100% Community Engagement*. Over 200 community organizations have become coalition members since the Literacy Coalition was founded in the fall of 2008.³³

The Central New York region houses the third largest concentration of colleges and universities in the nation. According to the Onondaga County website, over 38,000 students are enrolled in Onondaga County colleges and universities. The centers of higher education include Syracuse University, State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF), LeMoyne College, SUNY Upstate Medical University, and Onondaga Community College. St. Joseph's and Crouse hospitals each have schools of nursing, Bryant and Stratton offers certification and licensing in professional skills programs and SUNY Oswego has a Metro Center in the City of Syracuse. There are another 35 institutions of higher education within 100 miles of Onondaga County.

This section of the report focuses on test scores of elementary and secondary education in the region. In Onondaga County, elementary school scores on English Language Arts and Math exams have risen slightly. Onondaga County school districts have seen the most improvement, while the SCSD is still below county and statewide averages. While Onondaga County high school Regents exam scores are consistently above state averages, overall passing rates are decreasing. The city of Syracuse lags further behind county passing rates by at least 15 percent.

³² www.sayyessyracuse.org

³³ www.onliteracy.org

Enrollment

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of matriculated students in a school district.

Enrollment in Onondaga County School Districts, 2008-09

School District	Number of Students
New York State	2,691,267
Baldwinsville	5,894
East Syracuse-Minoa	3,436
Fabius-Pompey	831
Fayetteville-Manlius	4,714
Jamesville-Dewitt	2,896
Jordan-Elbridge	1,571
LaFayette	857
Liverpool	7,661
Lyncourt	320
Marcellus	2,028
North Syracuse	9,600
Onondaga	966
Skaneateles	1,707
Solvay	1,603
Syracuse	19,693
Tully	1,125
West Genesee	5,152
Westhill	1,954

Source: nySTART, 2008-09

Comment: Lyncourt School has only grades K-8, whereas every other school district has grades K-12.

Attendance

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the annual attendance rate, determined by dividing a school district's total actual attendance by the total number of students enrolled who should have been in attendance on each school day, for one academic year.

2007-08 Annual Attendance Rate

School District	Students
New York State	93%
Baldwinsville	96%
East Syracuse-Minoa	95%
Fabius-Pompey	96%
Fayetteville-Manlius	96%
Jamesville-Dewitt	96%
Jordan-Elbridge	94%
LaFayette	95%
Liverpool	95%
Lyncourt	96%
Marcellus	96%
North Syracuse	95%
Onondaga	95%
Skaneateles	95%
Solvay	94%
Syracuse	91%
Tully	96%
West Genesee	96%
Westhill	94%

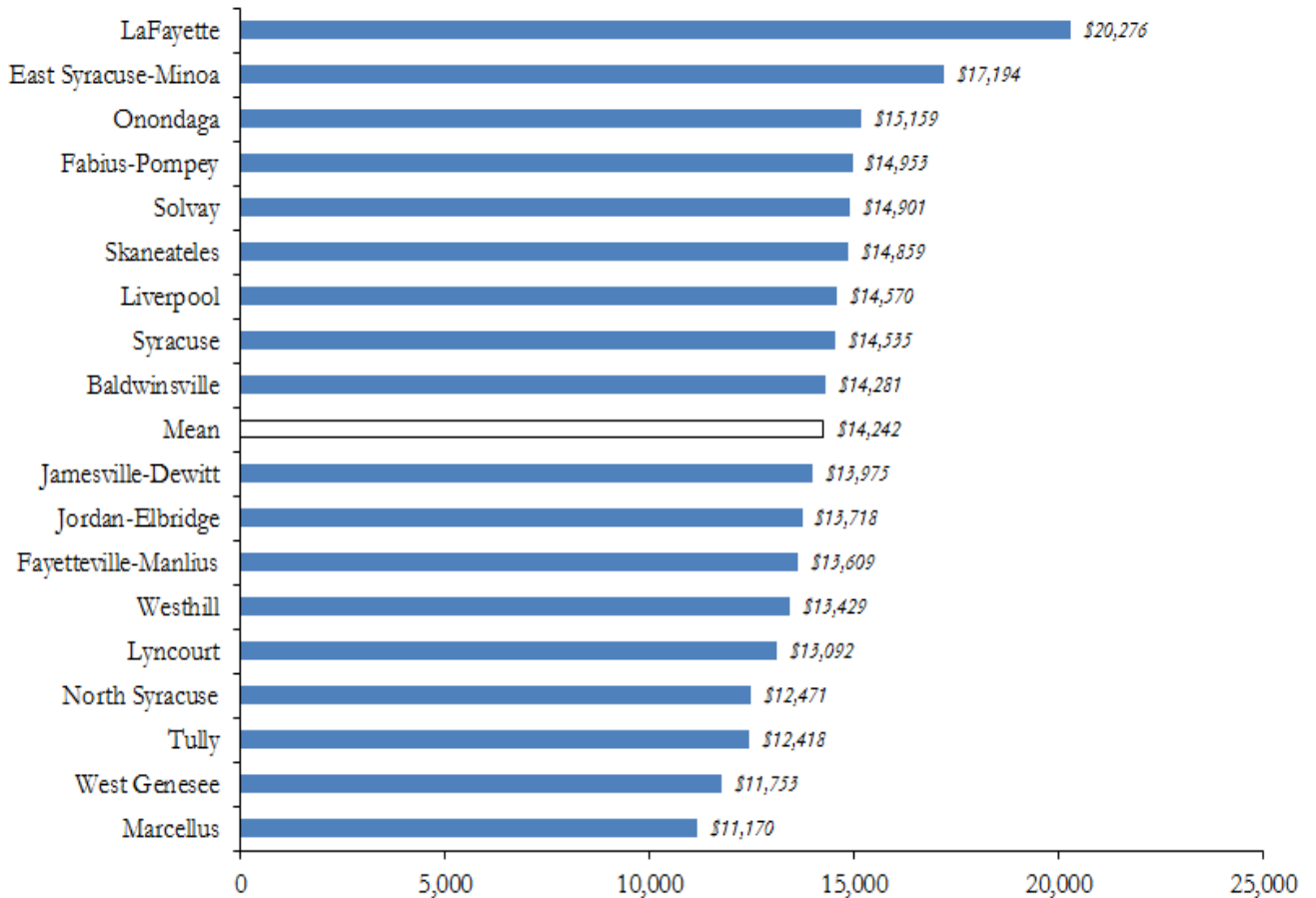
Source: *nySTART, 2008-09*

Spending per Pupil

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the amount of money each school spends per pupil on services, programming, administrative costs, and other resources.

Spending Per Pupil, 2008-09



Source: *NewYorkSchools.com*, 2009

Comment: LaFayette spends \$3,000 more than the next-highest school. The district was unavailable for comment on this large difference.

Limited English Proficient (LEP) Learners

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of students who by reason of foreign birth or ancestry, do not speak English as their primary language and have a limited ability to understand or speak English.

Limited English Proficiency, 2008-09

Region	Percentage
New York State (N= 202,220)	8%
Onondaga County (N= 383)	0.65%
Syracuse (N= 1,728)	9%

Source: nySTART, 2008-09

New York State Assessments

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the performance of students, schools, school districts and the state as whole on the NYS Learning Standards, as determined by the New York State Education Department. English Language Arts tests assess listening, reading, and writing standards. Mathematics tests assess number sense and operations, algebra, geometry, measurement, and probability and statistics.

Level 1

Not Meeting Learning Standards

Student performance does not demonstrate an understanding of the content expected in the subject and grade level.

Level 2

Partially Meeting Learning Standards

Student performance demonstrates an understanding of the content expected in the subject and grade level.

Level 3

Meeting Learning Standards

Student performance demonstrates an understanding of the content expected in the subject and grade level.

Level 4

Meeting Learning Standards with Distinction

Student performance demonstrates a thorough understanding of the content expected in the subject and grade level.

Comment: Students must earn a 3 or higher to be considered proficient.

Grade 4 English Language Arts Scores

Grade 4 English Language Arts Scores,
2007-08 and 2008-09



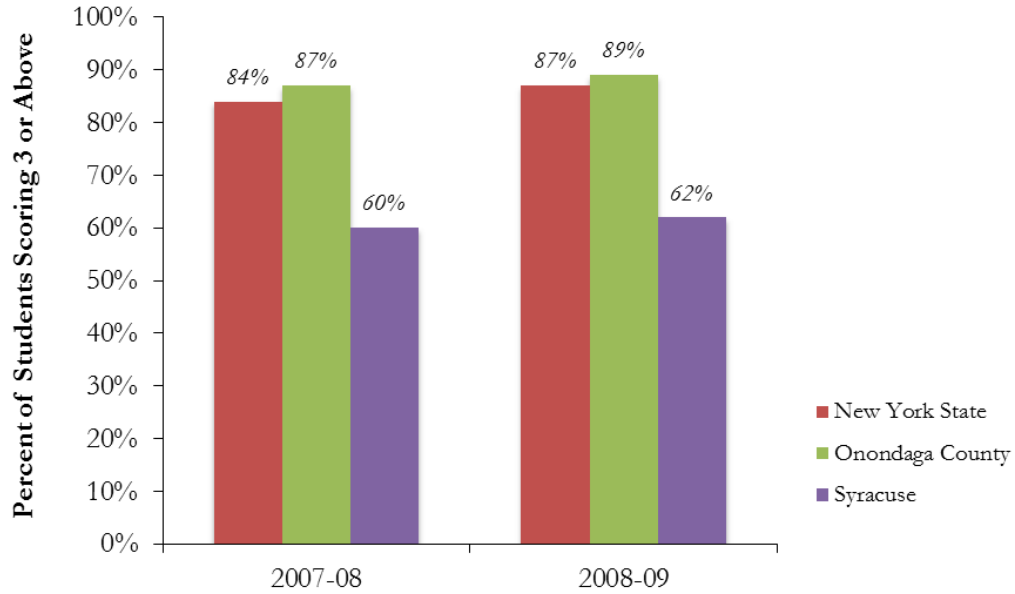
Source: *nySTART, 2007-08, 2008-09*

Grade 4 Students Scoring 3 or above on ELA Exams

School District	2007-08		2008-09	
	%	N	%	N
Baldwinsville	82%	434	86%	479
East Syracuse-Minoa	70%	233	79%	232
Fabius-Pompey	75%	65	84%	69
Fayetteville-Manlius	89%	342	92%	338
Jamesville-Dewitt	87%	191	89%	216
Jordan-Elbridge	65%	115	75%	106
LaFayette	73%	62	74%	72
Liverpool	72%	563	78%	588
Lyncourt	45%	31	70%	30
Marcellus	90%	154	91%	150
North Syracuse	74%	672	80%	716
Onondaga	69%	68	74%	66
Skaneateles	92%	134	90%	123
Solvay	63%	104	82%	114
Syracuse	45%	1435	50%	1525
Tully	79%	94	89%	73
West Genesee	81%	373	88%	369
Westhill	81%	151	89%	132
Onondaga County	76%	3786	83%	3873
New York State	71%	196,834	77%	195,827

Grade 4 Mathematics Scores

Grade 4 Mathematics Scores,
2007-08 and 2008-09



Source: nySTART, 2007-08, 2008-09

Grade 4 Students Scoring 3 or above on Mathematics Exams

School District	2007-08		2008-09	
	%	N	%	N
Baldwinsville	90%	437	93%	475
East Syracuse-Minoa	80%	235	85%	233
Fabius-Pompey	88%	65	96%	69
Fayetteville-Manlius	95%	342	95%	340
Jamesville-Dewitt	91%	193	96%	216
Jordan-Elbridge	79%	116	90%	105
LaFayette	89%	62	81%	72
Liverpool	88%	564	87%	587
Lyncourt	90%	30	62%	29
Marcellus	92%	155	93%	149
North Syracuse	87%	674	88%	714
Onondaga	84%	69	88%	66
Skaneateles	94%	135	94%	126
Solvay	71%	105	83%	115
Syracuse	60%	1453	62%	1534
Tully	85%	94	97%	73
West Genesee	91%	375	93%	372
Westhill	88%	152	93%	135
Onondaga County	87%	3803	89%	3876
New York State	84%	198,505	87%	197,561

Grade 8 English Language Arts Scores

Grade 8 English Language Arts Scores, 2007-08 and 2008-09



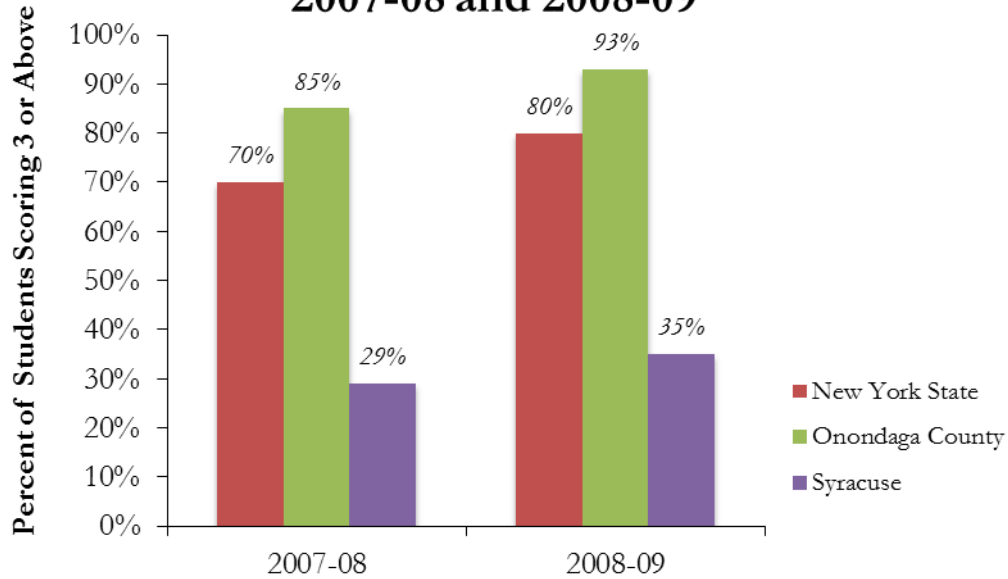
Source: nySTART, 2007-08, 2008-09

Grade 8 Students Scoring 3 or above on ELA Exams

School District	2007-08		2008-09	
	%	N	%	N
Baldwinsville	67%	516	80%	483
East Syracuse-Minoa	66%	305	75%	244
Fabius-Pompey	67%	78	85%	66
Fayetteville-Manlius	90%	416	91%	370
Jamesville-Dewitt	76%	229	86%	221
Jordan-Elbridge	66%	139	76%	109
LaFayette	62%	77	72%	74
Liverpool	66%	603	72%	618
Lyncourt	58%	38	63%	43
Marcellus	75%	159	84%	177
North Syracuse	62%	811	76%	800
Onondaga	65%	74	67%	84
Skaneateles	84%	135	89%	149
Solvay	63%	116	80%	123
Syracuse	31%	1479	41%	1483
Tully	75%	106	72%	106
West Genesee	73%	411	81%	412
Westhill	73%	155	84%	166
Onondaga County	70%	4368	78%	4245
New York State	56%	209,146	69%	207,409

Grade 8 Mathematics Scores

Grade 8 Mathematics Scores,
2007-08 and 2008-09



Source: nySTART, 2007-08, 2008-09

Grade 8 Students Scoring 3 or above on Mathematics Exams

School District	2007-08		2008-09	
	%	N	%	N
Baldwinsville	85%	514	92%	486
East Syracuse-Minoa	77%	307	90%	248
Fabius-Pompey	92%	77	94%	66
Fayetteville-Manlius	95%	415	96%	370
Jamesville-Dewitt	89%	227	91%	221
Jordan-Elbridge	77%	137	85%	109
LaFayette	95%	76	97%	73
Liverpool	87%	603	91%	618
Lyncourt	67%	39	88%	42
Marcellus	90%	160	94%	176
North Syracuse	79%	811	83%	796
Onondaga	70%	73	79%	86
Skaneateles	96%	134	97%	149
Solvay	81%	116	89%	122
Syracuse	29%	1479	35%	1484
Tully	78%	103	92%	105
West Genesee	87%	406	93%	411
Westhill	92%	156	97%	165
Onondaga County	85%	4354	93%	4243
New York State	70%	210,589	80%	209,215

New York State Regents Examinations

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the performance of students, schools, and school districts for secondary education, as determined by the New York State Department of Education.

Requirements for Regents Diploma

Math A

English Language Arts

One (1) Science Exam

Two (2) Social Studies Exams

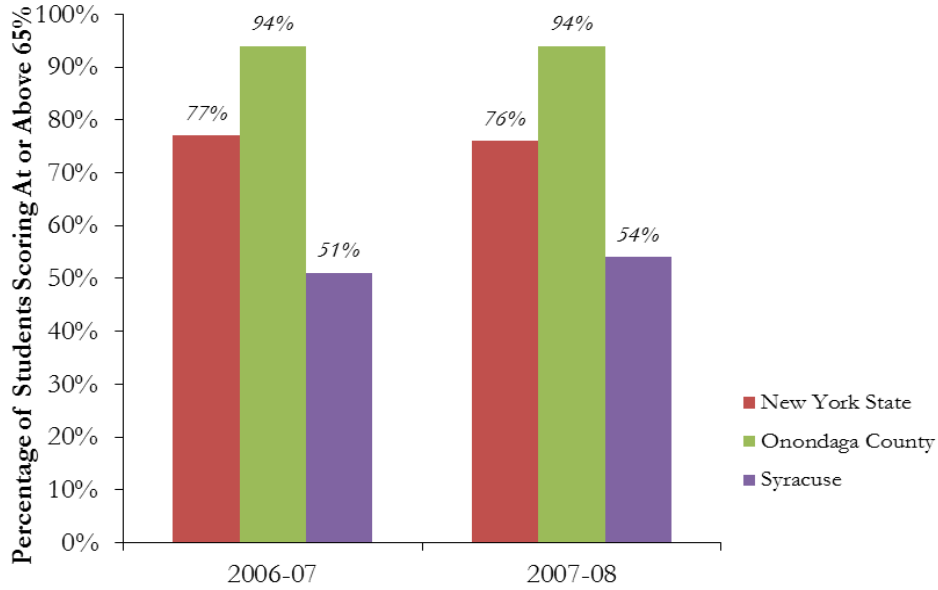
Comment: Students must earn a score of 65 or better on each exam.

Comment: The Living Environment Regents is the most commonly administered science exam and the results for 2006-09 are included in this report.

Comment: The Global History and Geography Regents and the US History and Government Regents are the most commonly administered social studies exams and the results for 2006-09 are included in this report.

Math A Regents Scores

Mathematics A Regents Scores,
2006-07 - 2007-08



Source: nySTART, 2006-07, 2007-08

Comment: Onondaga County data for 2008-09 are not available.

Students Scoring 65% or Higher on Mathematics A Regents Exams

School District	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
	%	N	%	N	%	N
Baldwinsville	95%	495	96%	494	62%	13
East Syracuse-Minoa	96%	272	96%	262	88%	225
Fabius-Pompey	96%	81	99%	81	-	0
Fayetteville-Manlius	99%	400	98%	468	-	4
Jamesville-Dewitt	94%	229	97%	240	80%	5
Jordan-Elbridge	80%	182	92%	159	81%	83
LaFayette	98%	59	85%	73	-	2
Liverpool	93%	603	87%	1,255	69%	89
Marcellus	97%	193	100%	150	-	2
North Syracuse	91%	904	90%	879	63%	52
Onondaga	94%	98	91%	89	70%	10
Skaneateles	99%	150	99%	159	-	0
Solvay	80%	148	90%	117	-	2
Syracuse	51%	1,562	54%	1,538	36%	616
Tully	92%	91	96%	112	43%	7
West Genesee	96%	457	93%	410	73%	26
Westhill	97%	180	97%	145	88%	8
Onondaga County	94%	4,542	94%	5,093	N/A	528
New York State	77%	252,576	76%	224,675	60%	63,434

Comment: Data are not available for 2008-09 for some school districts.

Comprehensive English Regents Scores

**English Regents Scores,
2006-07 - 2008-09**



Source: nySTART, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09

Students Scoring 65% or Higher on the English Regents Exams

School District	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
	%	N	%	N	%	N
Baldwinsville	94%	530	97%	480	93%	487
East Syracuse-Minoa	95%	270	93%	282	93%	279
Fabius-Pompey	91%	75	91%	75	93%	86
Fayetteville-Manlius	98%	403	95%	396	97%	395
Jamesville-Dewitt	93%	245	95%	235	95%	232
Jordan-Elbridge	83%	115	93%	132	95%	124
LaFayette	81%	63	78%	78	84%	68
Liverpool	90%	667	94%	596	94%	583
Marcellus	98%	166	97%	170	96%	171
North Syracuse	93%	779	92%	807	94%	749
Onondaga	97%	79	99%	75	99%	70
Skaneateles	95%	147	99%	137	96%	152
Solvay	88%	163	88%	136	92%	161
Syracuse	70%	1,281	63%	1,590	65%	1,121
Tully	98%	102	92%	102	89%	94
West Genesee	95%	402	94%	467	93%	411
Westhill	99%	169	99%	170	96%	148
Onondaga County	93%	4,375	94%	4,338	94%	4,210
New York State	78%	219,223	81%	221,860	82%	220,355

Global History and Geography Regents Scores

Global History and Geography Regents Scores, 2006-07 - 2008-09



Source: nySTART, 2006-07, 2008-09

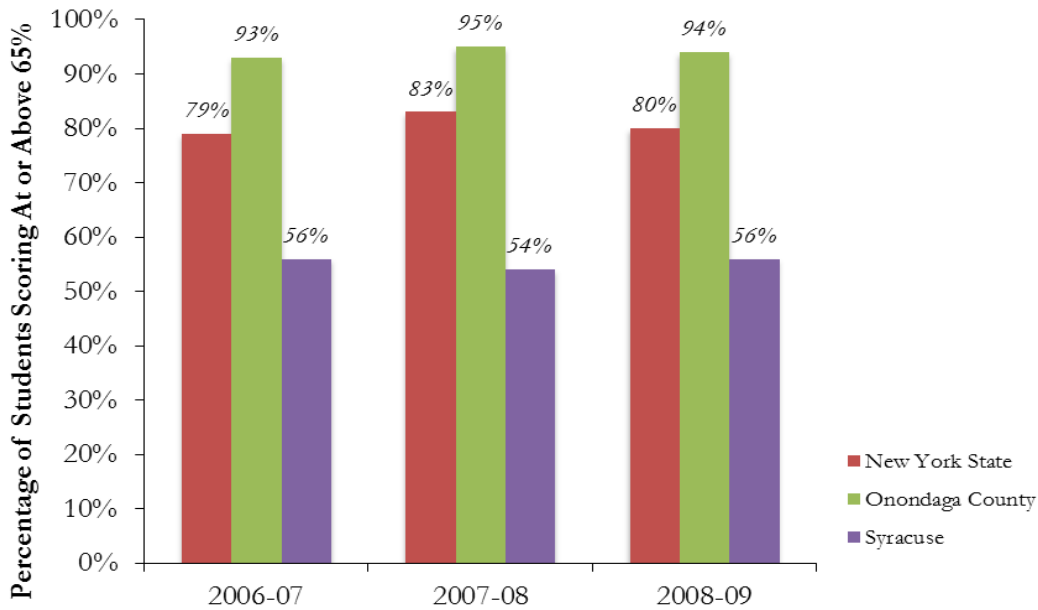
Students Scoring 65% or Higher on Global History & Geography Regents Exams

School District	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
	%	N	%	N	%	N
Baldwinsville	78%	551	84%	560	92%	526
East Syracuse-Minoa	77%	313	77%	319	78%	316
Fabius-Pompey	88%	76	78%	93	88%	74
Fayetteville-Manlius	93%	403	92%	416	94%	427
Jamesville-Dewitt	93%	227	80%	250	91%	263
Jordan-Elbridge	68%	155	81%	139	87%	139
LaFayette	67%	89	65%	83	86%	72
Liverpool	82%	654	85%	675	85%	653
Marcellus	84%	179	88%	196	96%	189
North Syracuse	79%	956	85%	919	89%	846
Onondaga	87%	97	83%	81	84%	85
Skaneateles	-	1	98%	155	93%	103
Solvay	66%	153	71%	211	67%	172
Syracuse	35%	1,727	41%	1,632	46%	1,774
Tully	84%	106	87%	119	85%	97
West Genesee	85%	517	90%	476	90%	461
Westhill	92%	194	88%	156	93%	174
Onondaga County	82%	4,671	83%	4,848	87%	4,597
New York State	63%	243,244	67%	253,116	70%	243,244

Comment: Skaneateles only had one student take the Global History and Geography Regents Examination during the 2006-07 academic year, so a percentage was not calculated.

US History and Government Regents Scores

**US History and Government Regents Scores,
2006-07 - 2008-09**

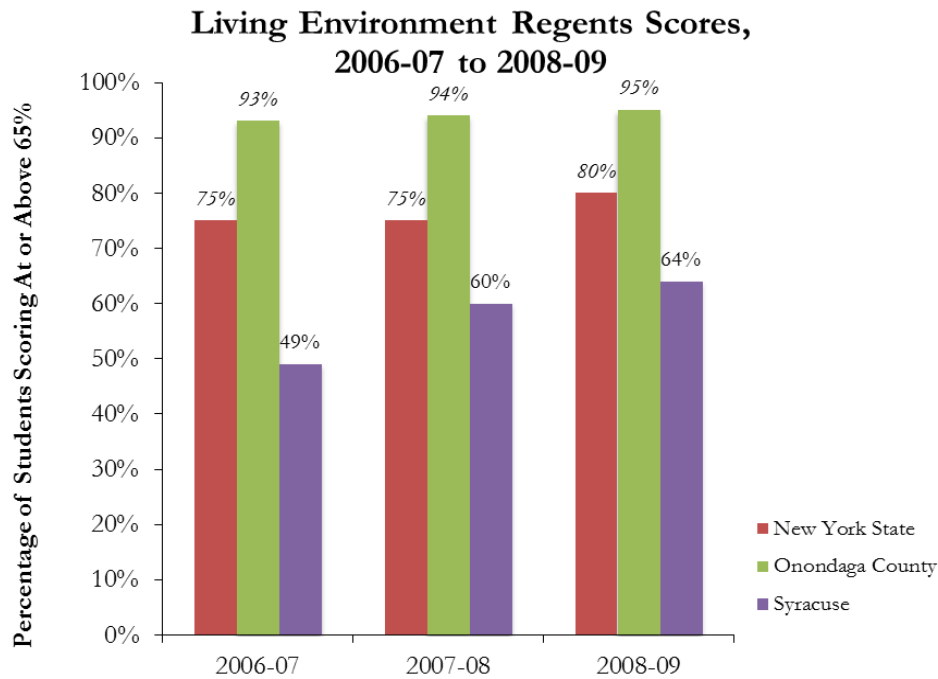


Source: nyST.ART, 2006-07, 2008-09

Students Scoring 65% or Higher on Regents US History and Government Regents Exams

School District	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
	%	N	%	N	%	N
Baldwinsville	93%	473	96%	483	96%	494
East Syracuse-Minoa	88%	285	93%	276	87%	261
Fabius-Pompey	93%	74	95%	73	94%	86
Fayetteville-Manlius	98%	402	98%	391	98%	390
Jamesville-Dewitt	94%	247	97%	224	97%	224
Jordan-Elbridge	88%	117	98%	132	98%	121
LaFayette	86%	65	86%	73	85%	61
Liverpool	92%	635	95%	504	95%	606
Marcellus	97%	176	98%	169	94%	173
North Syracuse	89%	825	92%	852	93%	783
Onondaga	96%	75	95%	84	95%	73
Skaneateles	98%	140	100%	136	97%	155
Solvay	88%	155	85%	131	87%	174
Syracuse	56%	1,201	54%	1,427	56%	1,594
Tully	91%	101	93%	101	95%	103
West Genesee	94%	398	96%	477	92%	411
Westhill	98%	171	99%	172	98%	150
Onondaga County	93%	4,339	95%	4,278	94%	4,265
New York State	79%	208,900	83%	211,171	80%	214,653

Living Environment Regents Scores



Source: nySTART, 2006-07, 2008-09

Students Scoring 65% or Higher on Living Environment Regents Exams

School District	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
	%	N	%	N	%	N
Baldwinsville	98%	443	95%	520	97%	482
East Syracuse-Minoa	91%	254	90%	282	92%	297
Fabius-Pompey	93%	90	91%	76	92%	78
Fayetteville-Manlius	97%	395	97%	417	99%	404
Jamesville-Dewitt	94%	230	93%	242	94%	240
Jordan-Elbridge	85%	158	91%	139	92%	143
LaFayette	92%	71	93%	55	99%	77
Liverpool	92%	573	96%	575	94%	607
Marcellus	94%	171	98%	173	99%	235
North Syracuse	91%	838	89%	931	92%	822
Onondaga	92%	88	90%	81	94%	82
Skaneateles	99%	140	100%	150	100%	138
Solvay	78%	168	90%	182	91%	148
Syracuse	49%	1,522	60%	1,441	64%	1,653
Tully	92%	99	94%	109	95%	191
West Genesee	95%	484	91%	444	95%	455
Westhill	97%	183	99%	146	98%	177
Onondaga County	93%	4,385	94%	4,522	95%	4,576
New York State	75%	226,449	75%	232,125	80%	241,842

High School Graduation Rates

What does this indicator measure?

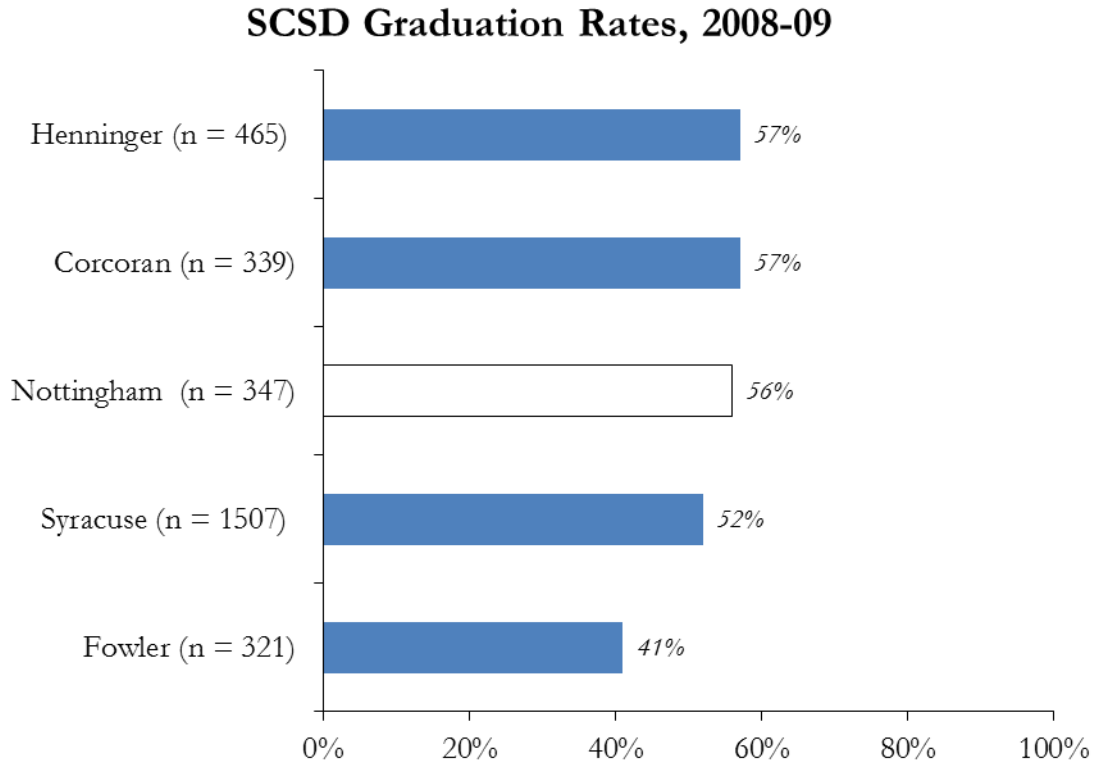
This indicator measures graduation rates in New York State, Onondaga County, and the Syracuse City School District (SCSD). New York State currently defines its graduation rate as the percentage of students who earned a local or Regents diploma in four years, although students who entered high school in 2008 (current juniors) or later will no longer have the option of earning a local diploma.

This indicator measures graduation rates for Onondaga County schools as is defined by New York State. For 2008-09, the graduation rate is the percentage of students from the 2004 cohort that earned a local or Regents diploma by Aug. 31, 2008. The NYS “Graduation Rate Standard is the criterion value that represents a minimally satisfactory percentage of cohort members earning a local diploma.”³⁴

For 2008-09, the NYS Graduation Rate Standard was 55 percent. For a school or district to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in graduation rates, the graduation rate must equal or exceed the Graduation Rate Standard for that year.

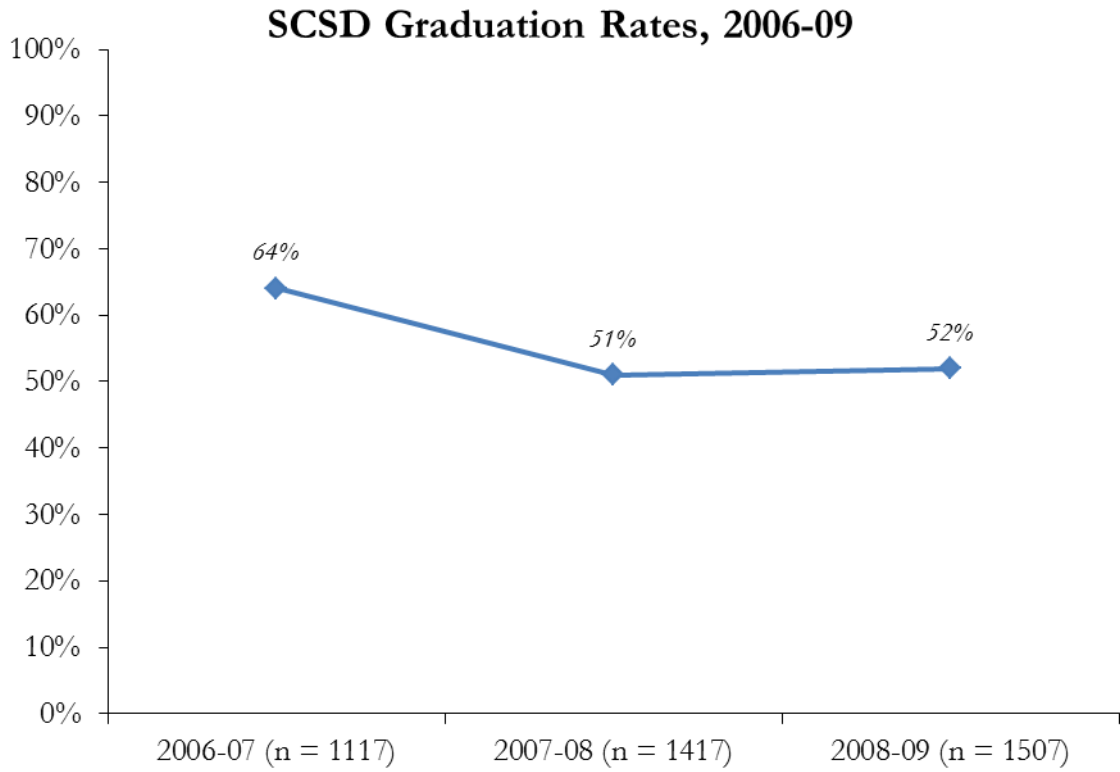
³⁴ *nySTART, 2008-09*

Syracuse City School District
Graduation Rates, 2008-09



Source: *nySTART, 2008-09*

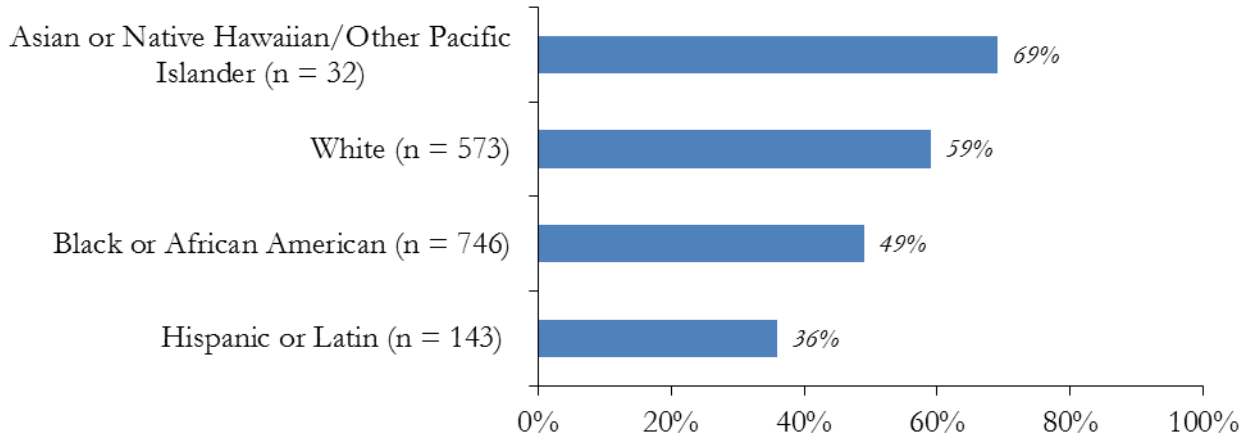
Syracuse City School District Graduation Rates, 2006-09



Source: nySTART, 2006-09

Syracuse City School District Graduation Rates by Ethnicity

SCSD Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity, 2008-09
(N=1507)

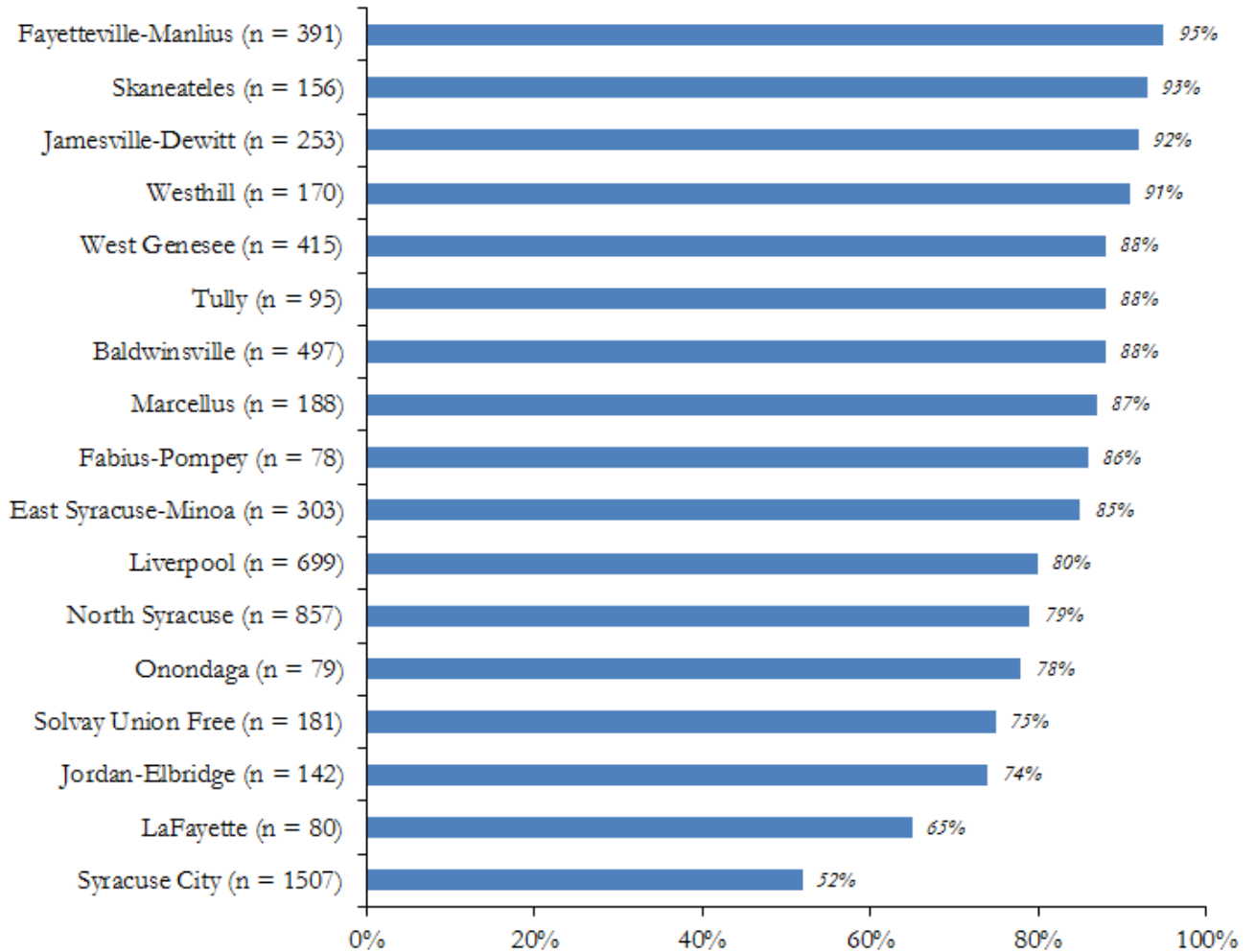


Source: *nySTART, 2008-09*

Comment: Please note the number of graduating students in each race category.

Onondaga County School District Graduation Rates

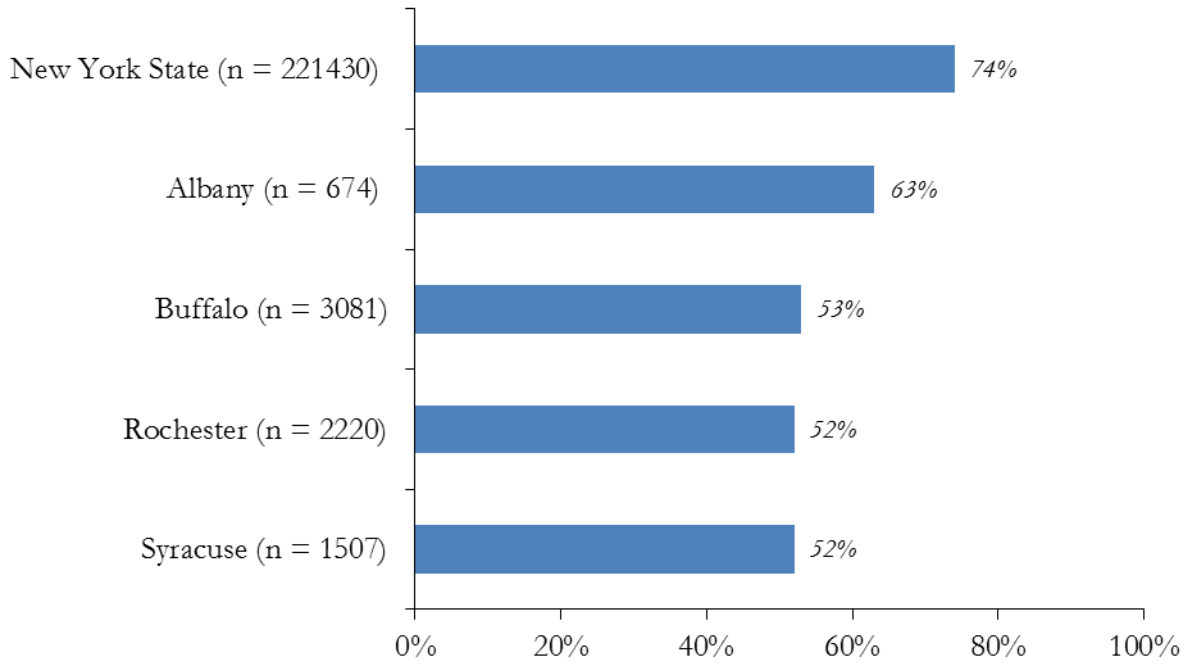
Onondaga County School District Graduation Rates, 2008-09



Source: *NYSTART, 2008-09*

New York State Graduation Rates

New York State Graduation Rates, 2008-09



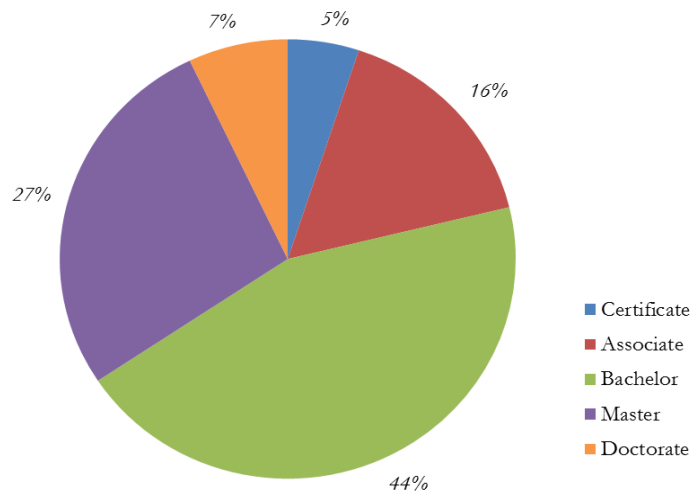
Source: nySTART, 2008-09

Degrees Granted by Post-Secondary Institutions

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percent and number of various types of degrees, ranging from certificates to doctorate degrees, awarded by higher institutions within 50 miles of the city of Syracuse.

Degrees Granted by Post-Secondary Institutions within 50 Miles of Syracuse, 2008-09



Source: IPEDS College Data, 2009-10

2008-09 Degrees/Certifications Awarded by Post-Secondary Schools within 50 Miles of Syracuse

College	Certificate	Associate	Bachelor	Masters	Doctorate	All
Bryant and Stratton College - Syracuse	0	155	0	0	0	155
Crouse Hospital School of Nursing	0	89	0	0	0	89
Le Moyne College	15	0	593	273	0	881
Onondaga Community College	52	895	0	0	0	947
Phillips Hairstyling Institute	69	0	0	0	0	69
Simmons Institute of Funeral Service Inc.	0	21	0	0	0	21
St. Joseph's College of Nursing	0	126	0	0	0	126
SUNY Health Science Center at Syracuse	9	0	107	42	240	398
Syracuse Central Technical Vocational Center	40	0	0	0	0	40
SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry	12	33	311	93	17	466
Total	402	1,326	3,681	2,254	620	8,283

Source: IPEDS College Data, 2009-10

Introduction

Syracuse has become known as an environmentally conscious city through efforts towards the increasing use of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) buildings, innovations from Syracuse University and SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry and area environmental firms.

Not only is the *Emerald City* going green by incorporating more environmentally-friendly projects into policy and everyday life, but also by celebrating decades of environmental innovation in the city.

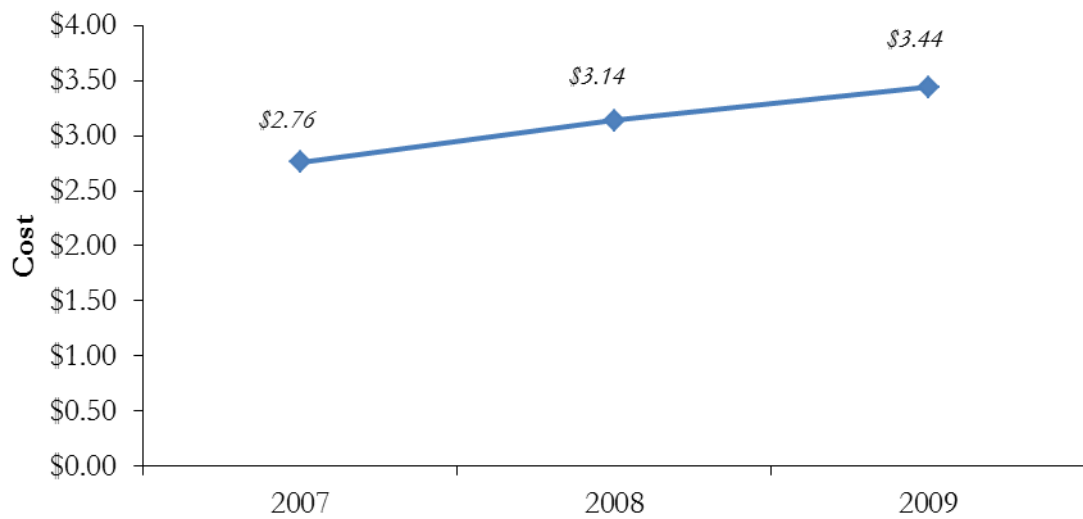
This section of the report attempts to portray an accurate image of environmental awareness and quality as well as our community's progress towards promoting environmentally friendly practices.

Price of Water

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the average cost of water per 1,000 gallons for residents.

Average Cost of Water in Onondaga County, 2007-09



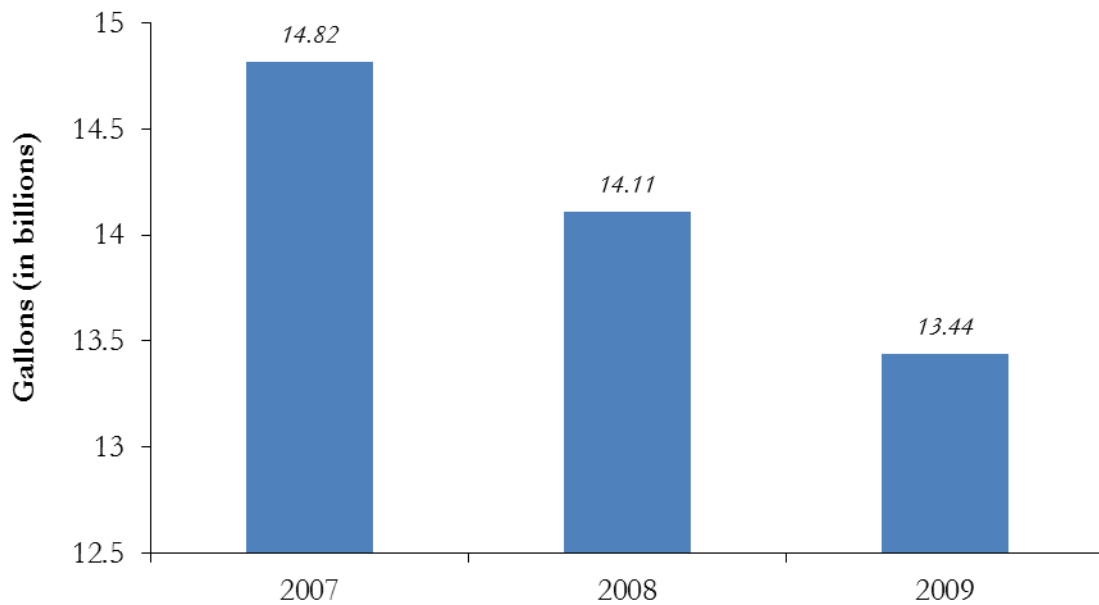
Source: Onondaga County Water Authority (OCWA), Consumer Confidence Report & Annual Water Supply Statement, 2007-09

Water Delivered

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures total water delivered between 2007 and 2009.

Total Water Delivered by Onondaga County Water Authority (OCWA) in Onondaga County, 2007-09



Source: Onondaga County Water Authority (OCWA), Consumer Confidence Report & Annual Water Supply Statement, 2007-09

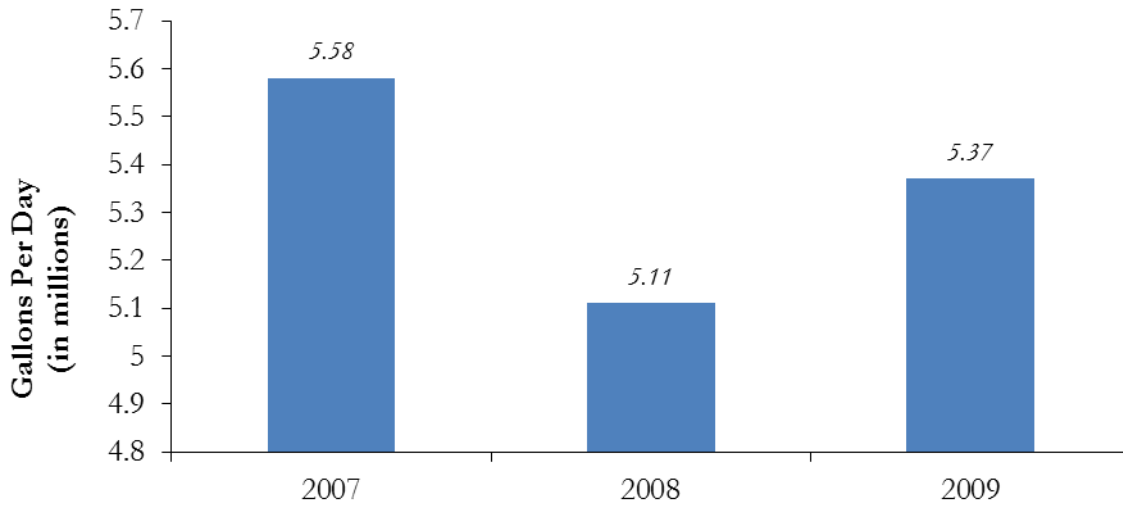
Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Water Usage

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the amount of un-metered water used in Onondaga County.

Average Daily Water Use in Onondaga County, 2007-09



Source: Onondaga County Water Authority (OCWA), Consumer Confidence Report & Annual Water Supply Statement, 2007-09

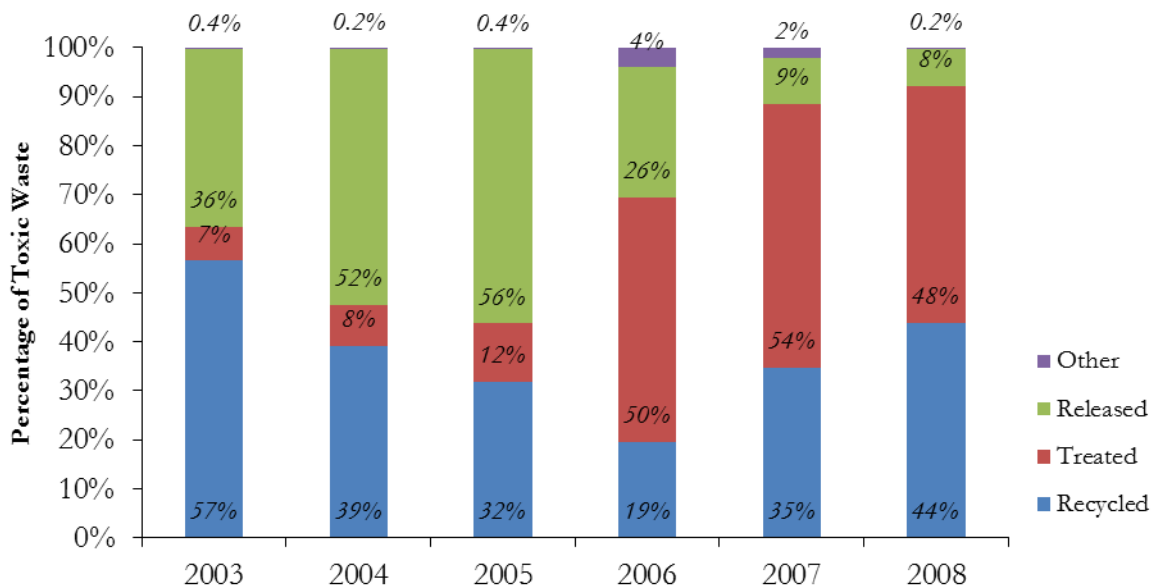
Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Toxic Waste Distribution

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the distributions of toxic waste and the disposal method.

Distribution of Generated Toxic Waste in Syracuse, 2003-08



Source: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Report, 2003-08

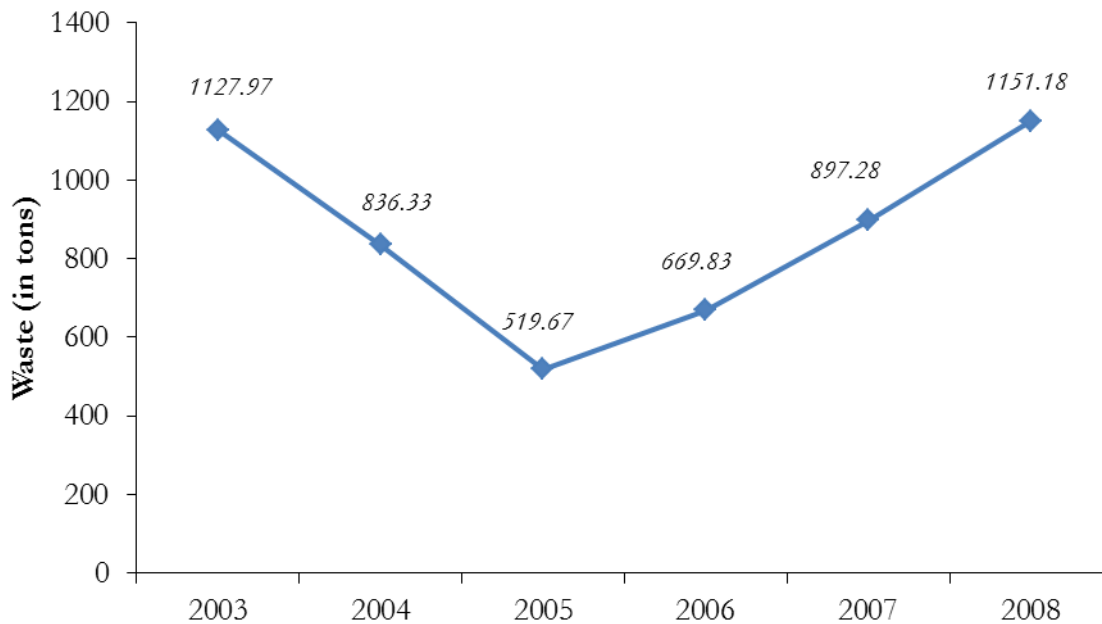
Comment: TRI data reflect the quantities of TRI chemicals that are disposed of, released to the environment, or managed (for example, treated on site, or recycled). TRI data do not include information about public exposure to chemicals (Source: Toxic Report Inventory (TRI) Program).

Toxic Waste Generated

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the amount of toxic waste generated from industrial facilities.

Syracuse Toxic Waste Generated, 2003-08



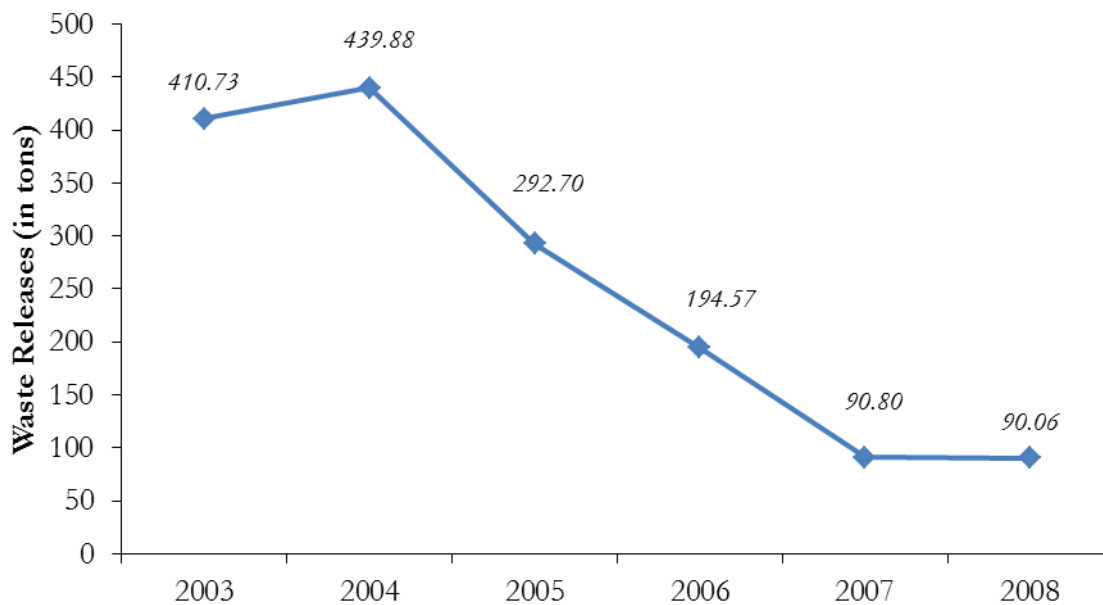
Source: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Report, 2003-08

Toxic Waste Released

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the amount of toxic wastes released into landfills and other dumping sites.

Syracuse Toxic Waste Releases, 2003-08



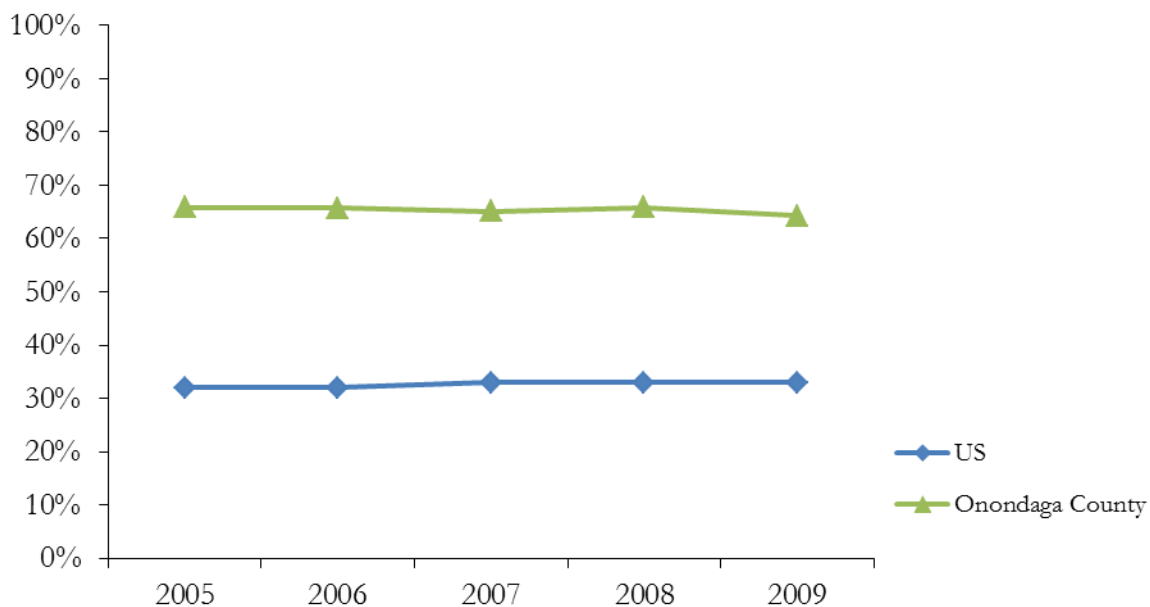
Source: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Report, 2003-08

Recycling

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the rate of recycling (calculated as the percentage of goods that can be recycled compared to the amount of goods actually recycled).

Recycling Rates, Onondaga County, 2005-09



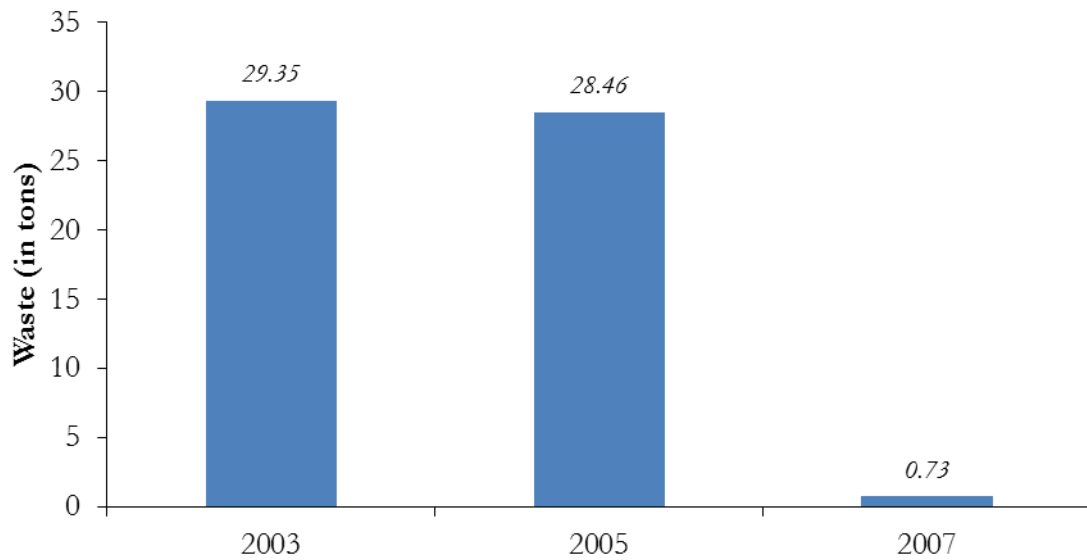
Source: Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency, Recycling Reports: 2005-09

Hazardous Waste

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the amount of hazardous wastes created.

**Generated Hazardous Waste in Syracuse,
2003, 2005 & 2007**



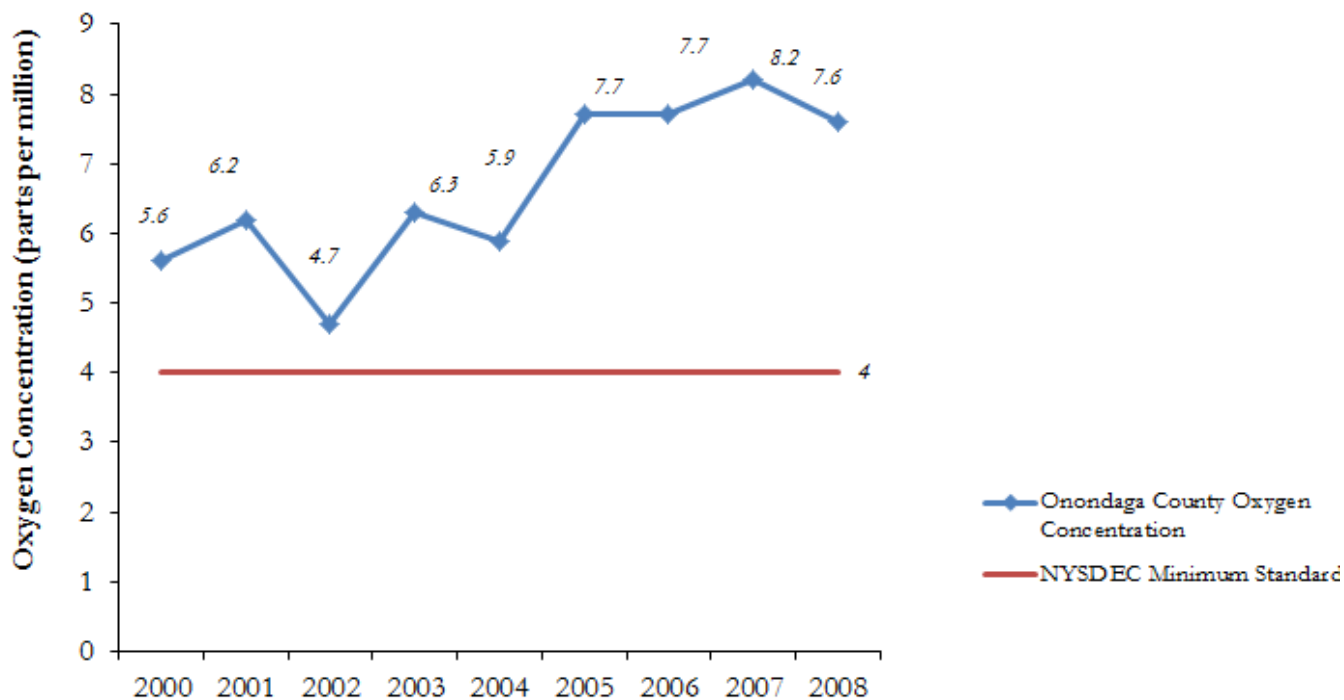
Source: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Hazardous Waste (BRS) database, 2003, 2005 & 2007

Onondaga Lake Oxygen Concentration

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the minimum oxygen concentration of the water in Onondaga Lake.

Minimum Oxygen Concentration in Onondaga Lake, 2000-08



Source: Onondaga Lake Progress Report 2008

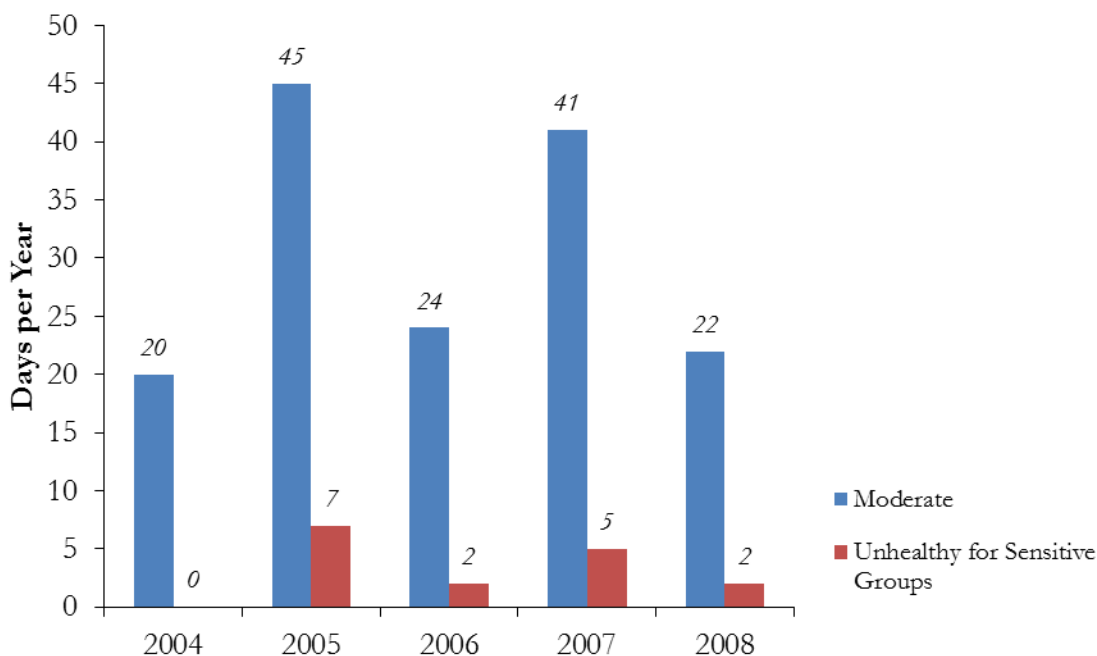
Comment: Higher oxygen concentration levels mean better habitat for aquatic life. The NYSDEC Ambient Water Quality minimum standard is 4 ppm.

Air Quality

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the average air quality every day of the year.

Air Quality Index in Onondaga County, 2004-08



Source: EPA Air Quality Index (AQI) Report 2004-08

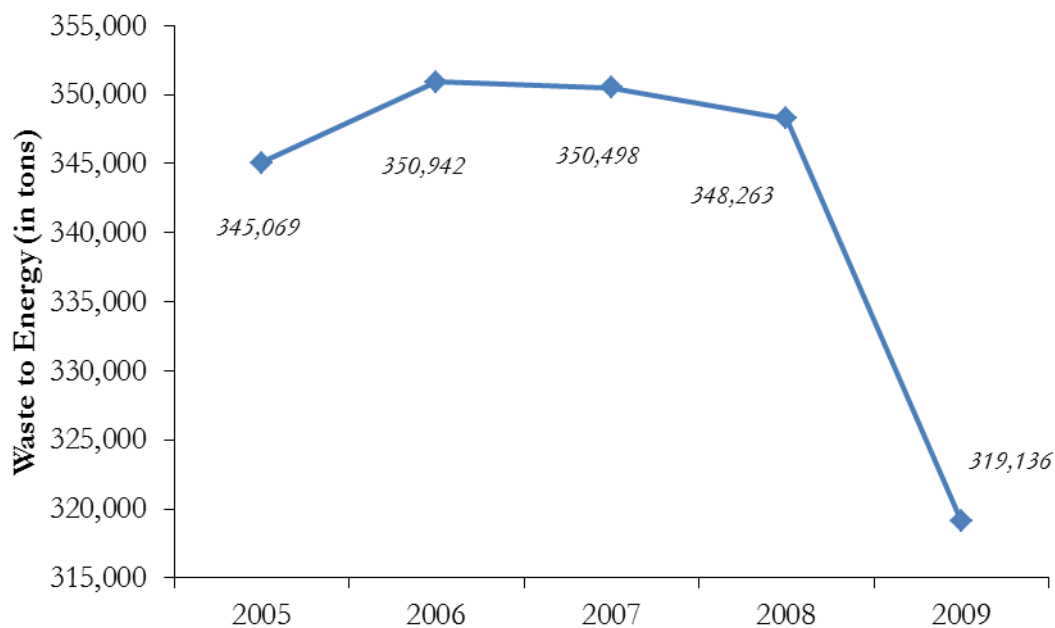
Comment: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) measures air quality 365 days a year. Onondaga County only had "good," "moderate," and "unhealthy for sensitive groups" levels. Poorer air quality levels "unhealthy," "very unhealthy" and "hazardous" are for AQI values above 150. "Moderate" air quality conditions are labeled as those where the Air Quality Index (AQI) value is in the range 51-100. "Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups" air quality conditions are labeled as those where the AQI is in the range 101-150.

Waste to Energy

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the amount of waste processed by the Waste to Energy Facility in Syracuse.

Tons of Processed Waste at the Waste to Energy Facility in Onondaga County, 2005-09



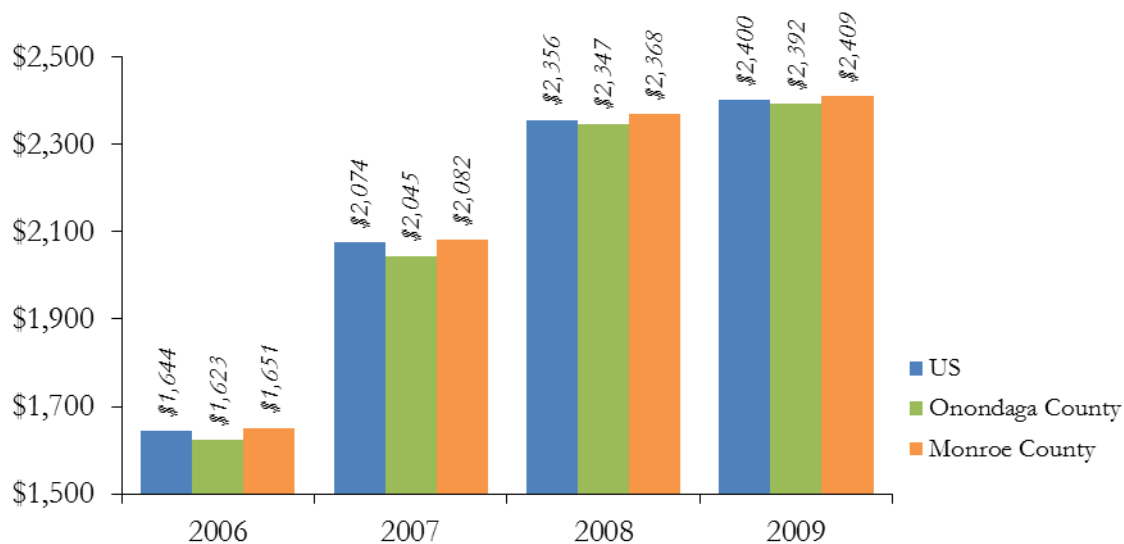
Source: Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency (OCRRA) Annual Report 2009

Household Expenditure on Oil and Gasoline

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the average expenditure on oil and gasoline for household fuels.

Annual Average Household Expenditure on Oil and Gasoline, 2006-09



Source: United States Consumer Index Report, 2006-09

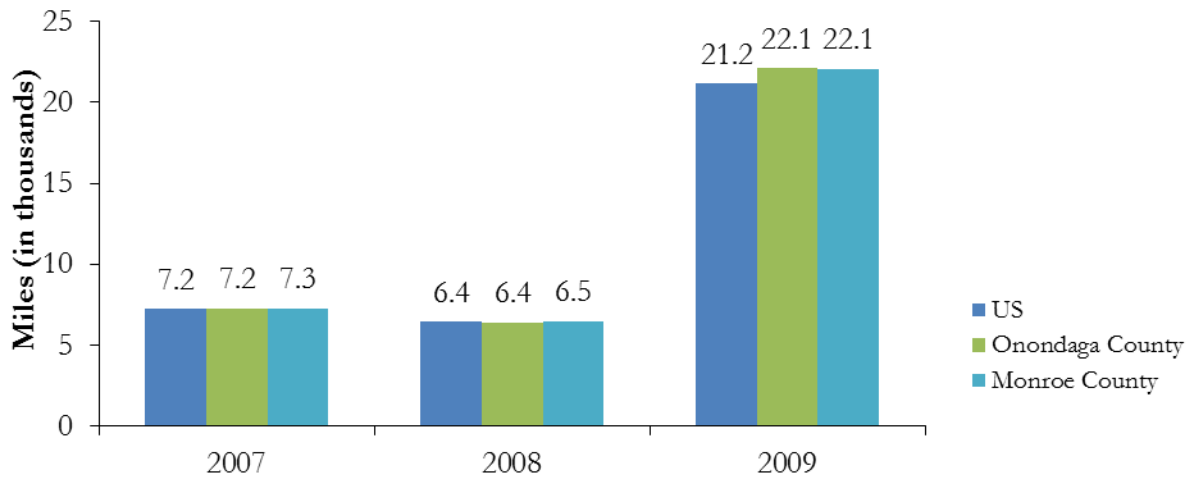
Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Average Miles Driven

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the amount of combined miles driven by all the members of a household.

**Annual Average Miles Driven
by Household, 2007-09**



Source: United States Consumer Index Report, 2006-2009

Introduction

The overall health of a community is indicative of the quality and accessibility of health care and services, lifestyle choices and environmental influences.

When choosing neighborhoods and communities, new residents may consider the proximity of health services and the options available. Syracuse and Onondaga County are rich in healthcare facilities offering all levels of care. The recent addition of the Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital ensures that families have access to care at facilities that will meet present and future needs.

Syracuse and Onondaga County struggle with many of the same challenges facing other regions, such as access to health insurance and increasing rates of diabetes, obesity and asthma. For most indicators Onondaga County is on par with New York State and the United States.

Note: A Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as a geographic entity that contains a core urban area population of 50,000 or more and includes the county where the core area is located and may include adjacent counties that have a high degree of societal and economic integration with that urban core.

The Syracuse MSA is a 3,083 square-mile area consisting of Cayuga, Madison, Onondaga and Oswego counties.

The Central New York area includes the following counties: Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, Tompkins and Herkimer.

Access to Physician Care

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the presence and availability of physicians for specific populations.

Access to Physician Care, 2007



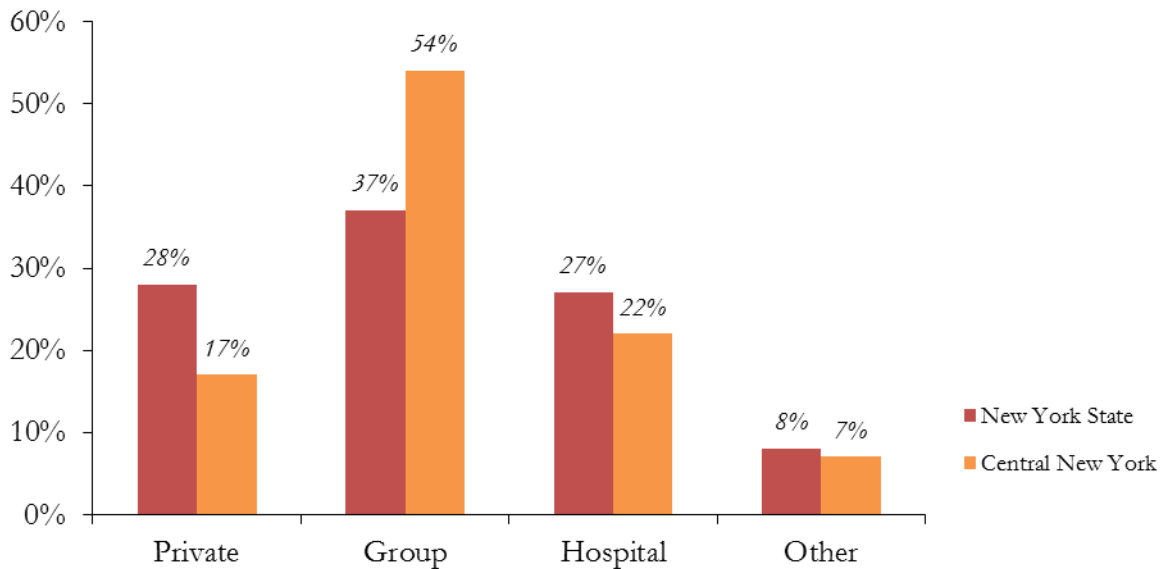
Source: Annual New York Physician Workforce, The New York Health Workforce Data System, The Center for Health Workforce Studies at the University at Albany, State University of New York, 2007

Practice Settings of Active Patient Care Physicians

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the availability of places of practice for physicians to care for their patients. These places include private physician practices, hospital care, group physician partnerships or practices, and other free standing health centers or clinics.

Practice Settings of Active Patient Care Physicians, 2007



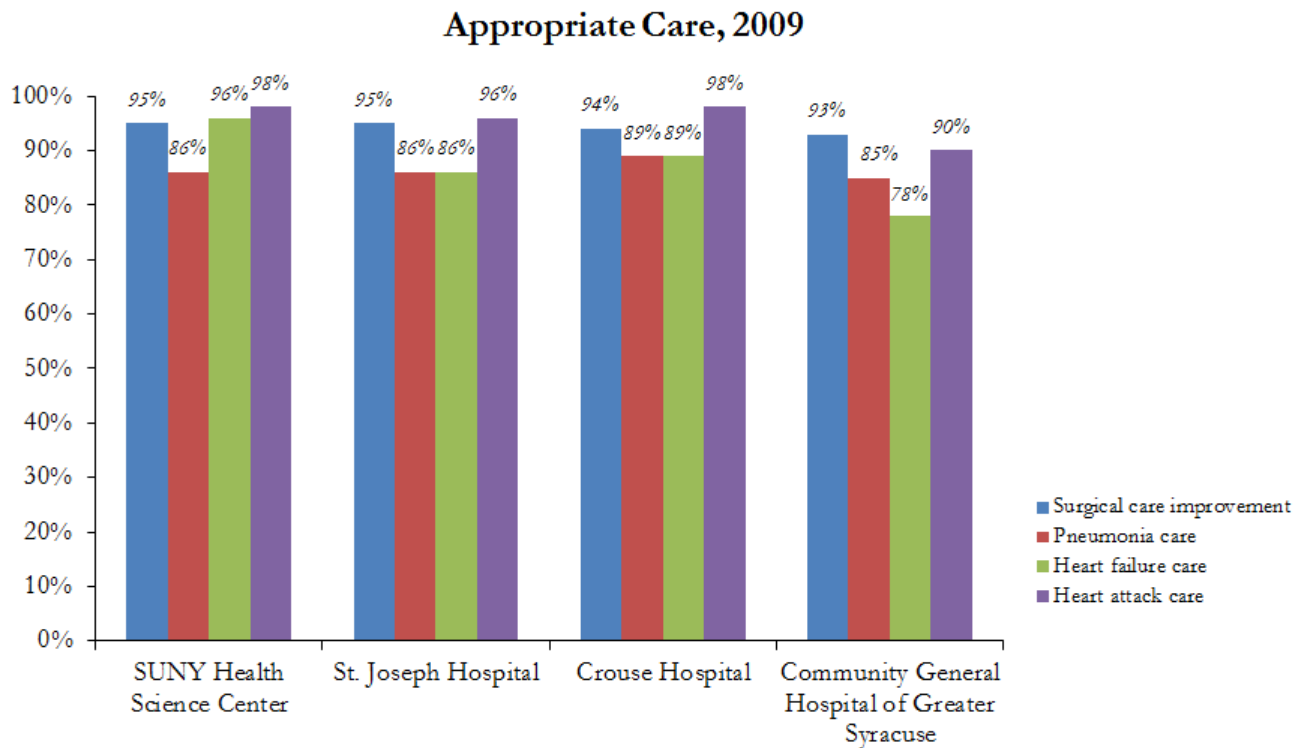
Source: Annual New York Physician Workforce, The New York Health Workforce Data System, The Center for Health Workforce Studies at the University at Albany, State University of New York, 2007

Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Appropriate Care

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the four medical care facilities in Syracuse for performance in the four appropriate care categories which include surgical care improvement, pneumonia care, heart failure care, and heart attack care.



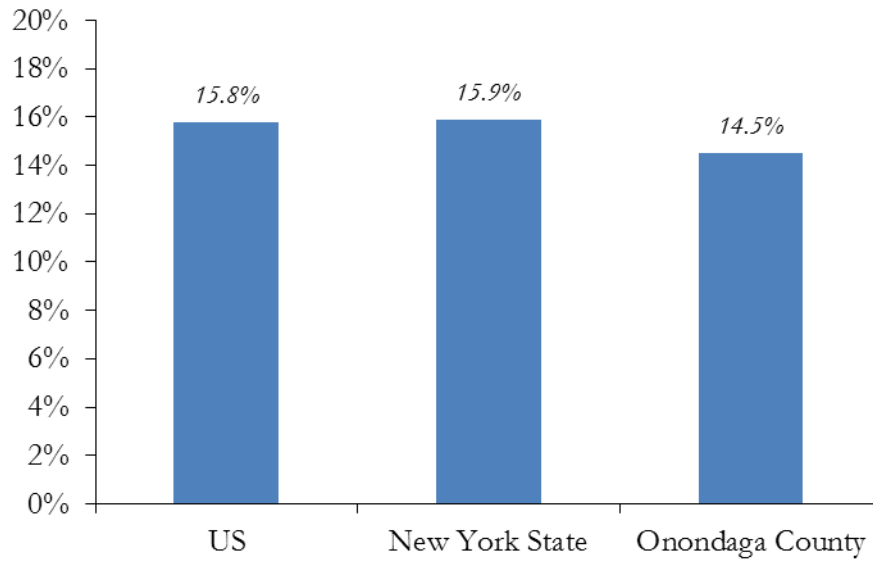
Source: New York State Department of Health: Hospital Profiles, 2009

Uninsured Individuals

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of the population who are uninsured, defined as residents who have limited or no access to medical care.

Percentage of Population Uninsured, 2009



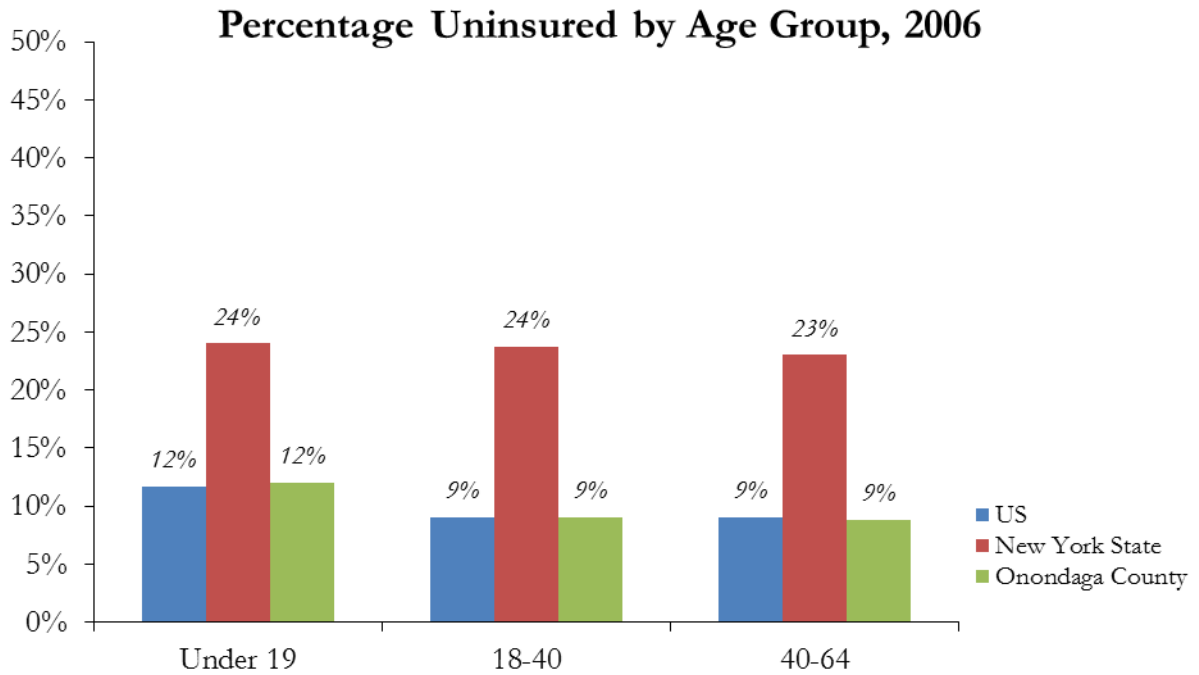
Source: US Census Bureau's Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE), 2009

Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Uninsured Individuals by Age

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of the population by age who do not have health insurance.



Source: US Census Bureau's Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE), 2003

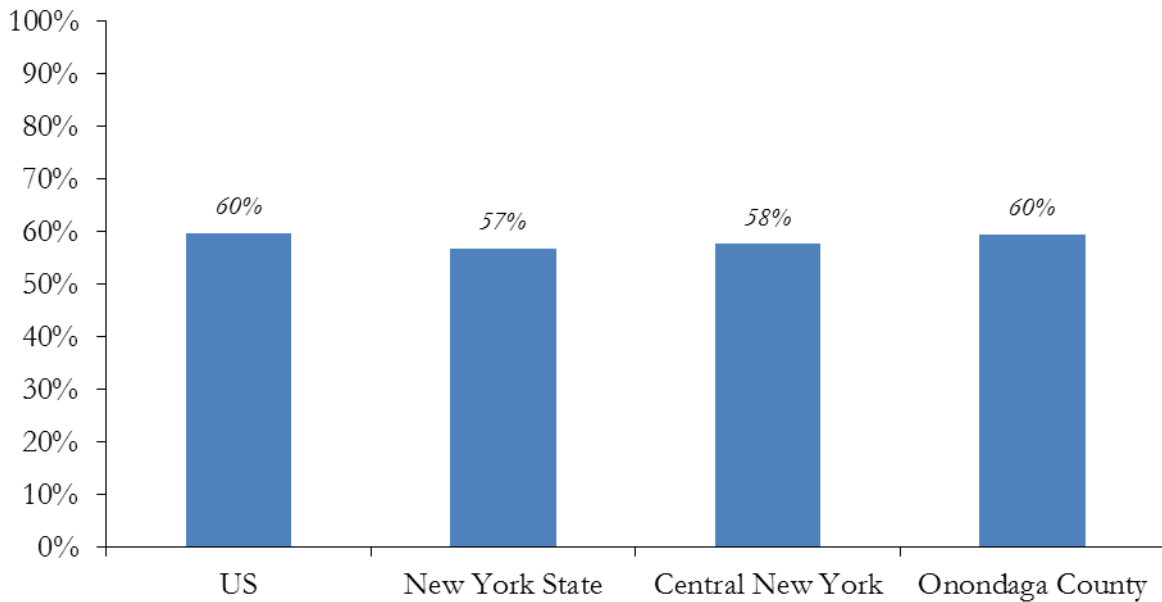
Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Overweight Adults (BMI +25)

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of adults whose Body Mass Indexes (BMIs) are 25 or higher, and are considered to be overweight.

Overweight or Obese Adults (BMI 25+), 2003



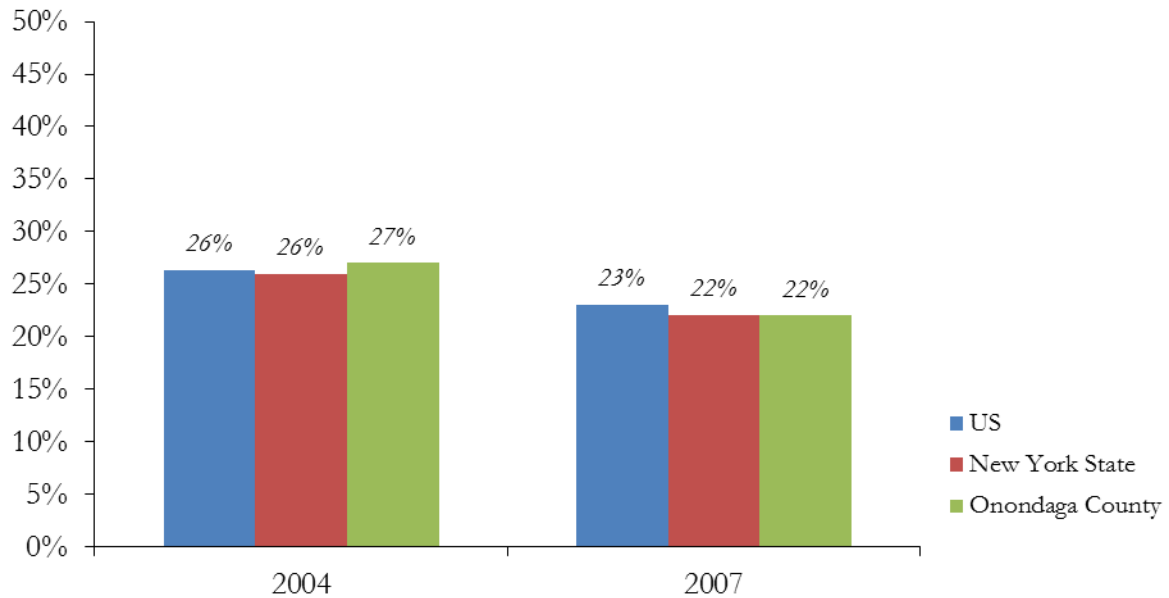
Source: New York State Department of Health Assessment Indicators, 2003, Center for Disease Control Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2003

Obese Adults (BMI +30)

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of adults with Body Mass Indexes (BMIs) of 30 or higher. They are classified as obese.

Obese Adults (BMI 30+), 2004 & 2007



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: National Diabetes Surveillance System, 2004-07, Centers for Disease Control Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2004-07

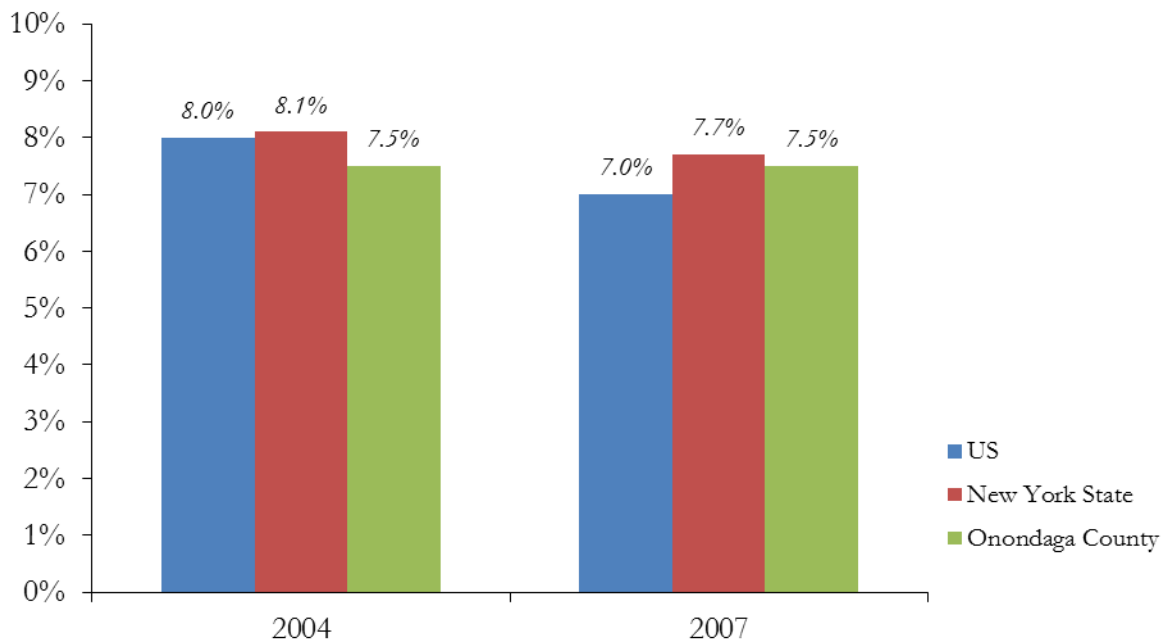
Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Adult Diabetes

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of chronic cases of diabetes, which according to the American Diabetes Association is characterized by the pancreas failing to produce enough insulin or the body being unable to use insulin effectively.

Adults Diagnosed with Diabetes, 2004 & 2007



Source: American Diabetes Association, 2007

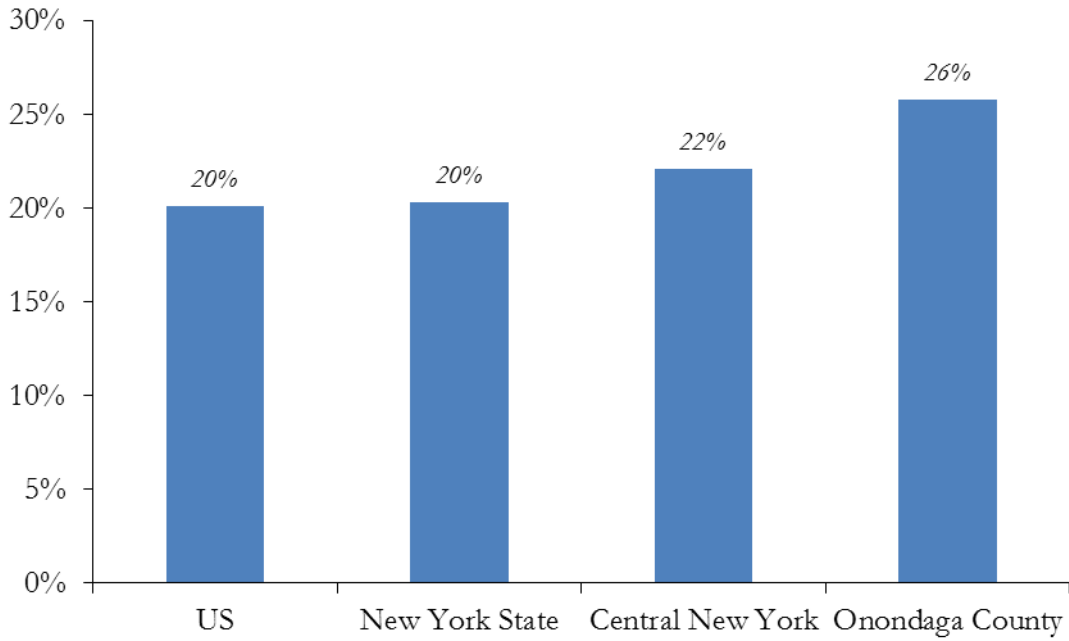
Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Adult Smokers

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of adults who smoke.

Adult Smokers, 2003



Source: New York State Department of Health County Health Assessment Indicators, 2003

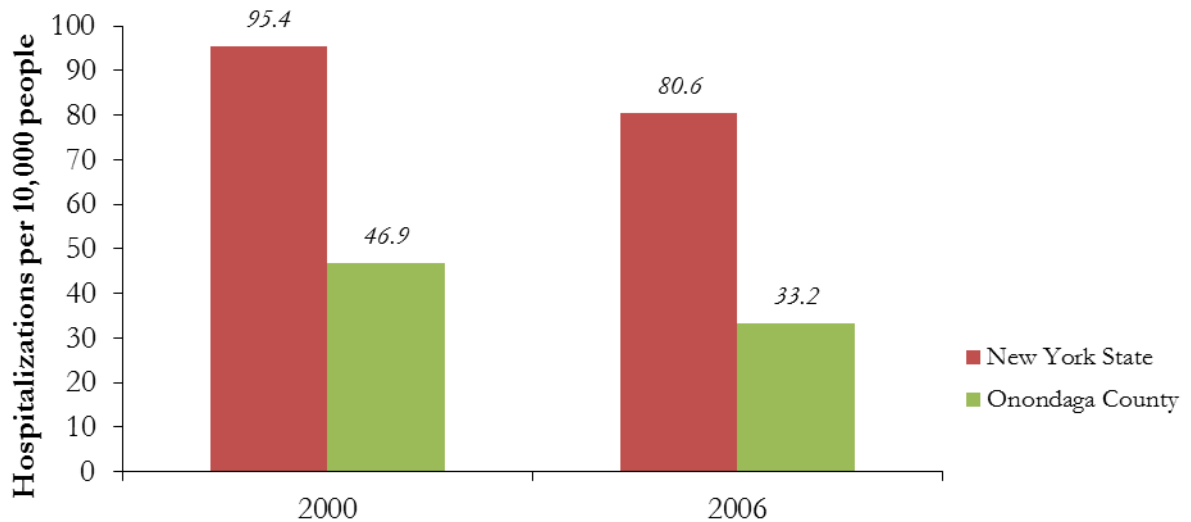
Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Asthma Hospitalizations (Population Age 0-14 years)

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of asthma hospitalizations per 10,000 youth. According to the US Department of Health & Human Services, asthma is defined as a long-term, chronic inflammatory disease that blocks the free flow of oxygen to and from the lungs.

**Asthma Hospitalizations (Population Age 0-14 Years),
2000 & 2006**



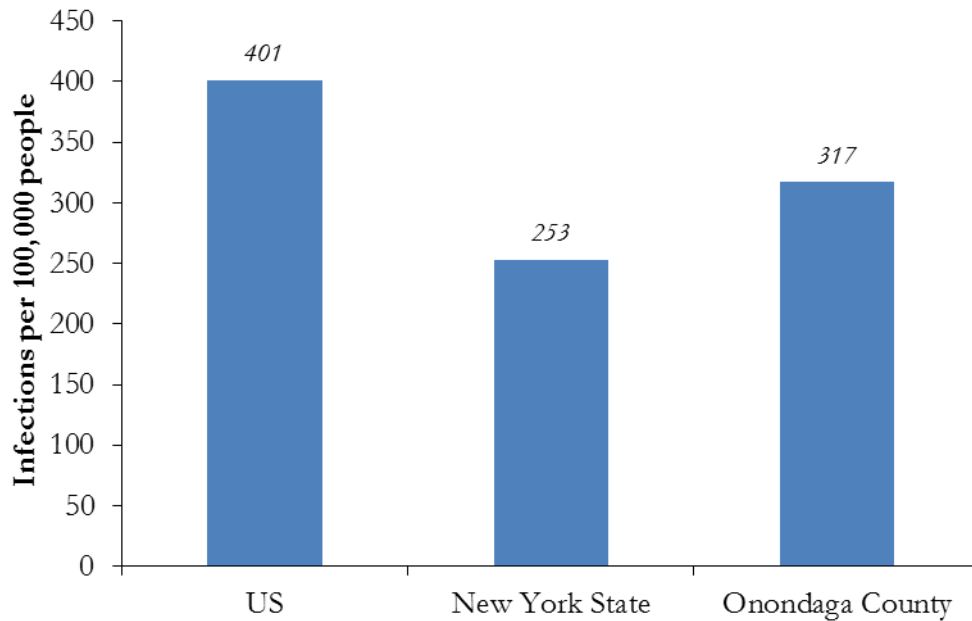
Source: New York State Department of Health: Public Health Information Group, Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS), 2000 & 2006

Chlamydia Rates

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the population infected with Chlamydia, which is defined by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as a sexually transmitted disease (STD) caused by the bacterium *Chlamydia trachomatis*.

Chlamydia Rates, 2008

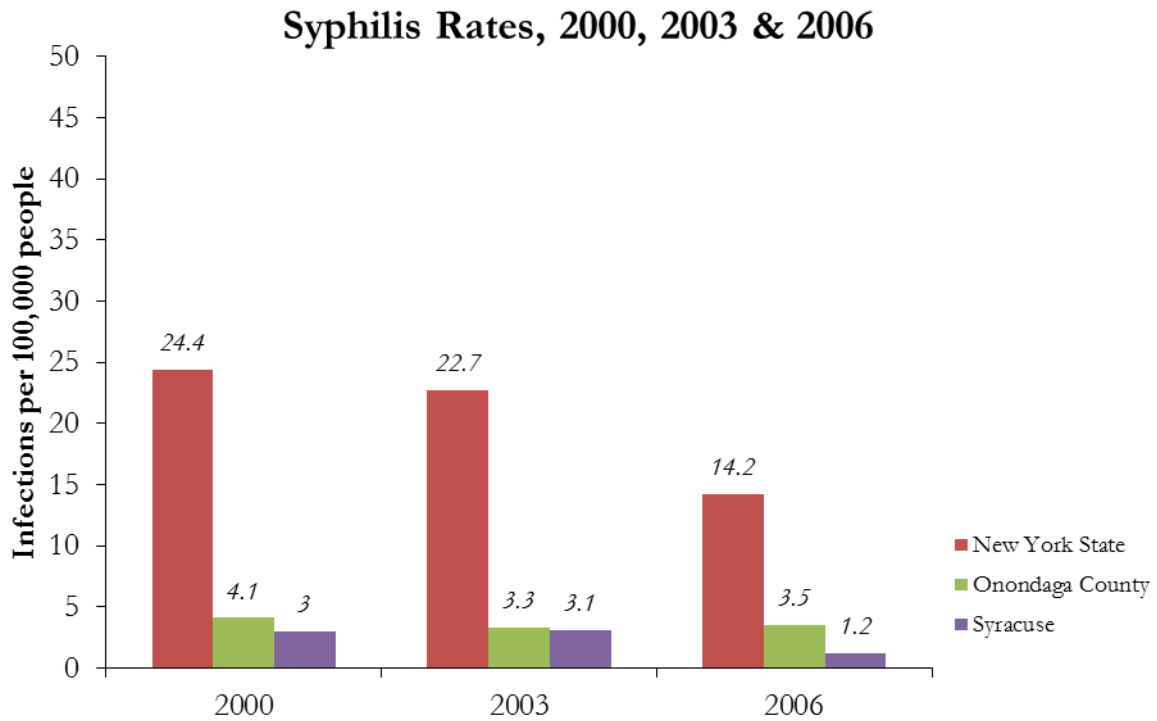


Source: New York State Department of Health County Health Assessment Indicators, 2008

Syphilis Rates

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the population infected with Syphilis, defined by the CDC as an STD caused by the bacterium *treponoma pallidum*.



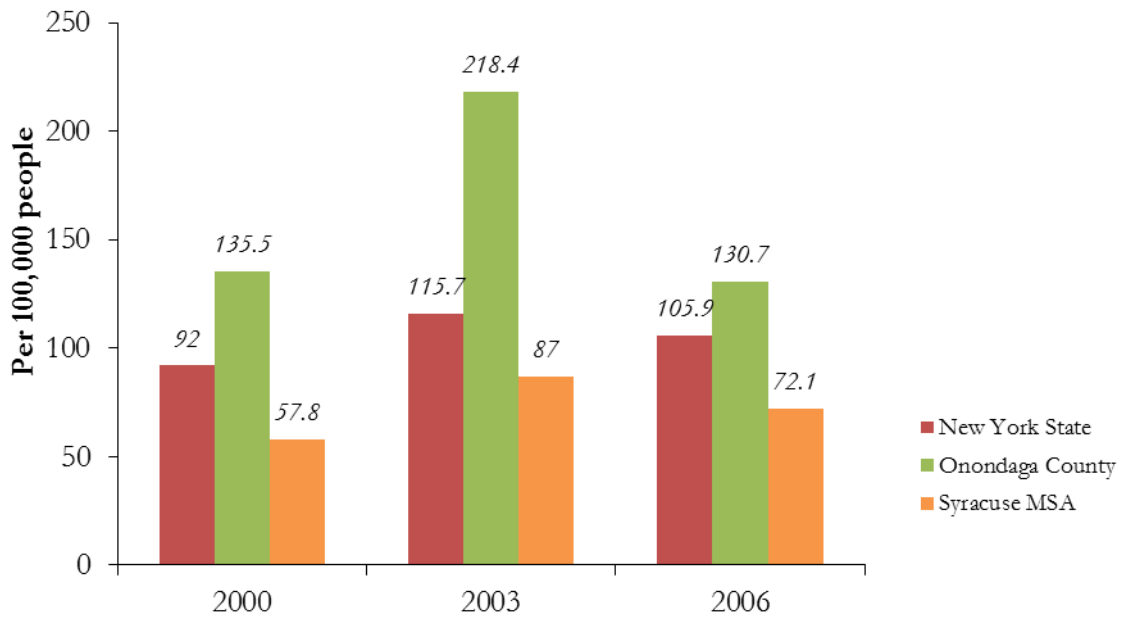
Source: New York State Department of Health, Sexually Transmitted Disease Data and Statistics, 2000, 2003 & 2006

Gonorrhea Rates

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the population infected with Gonorrhea, defined by the CDC as an STD caused by *Neisseria gonorrhoea*, a bacterium that grows in warm, moist areas of the reproductive tract.

Gonorrhea Rates, 2000, 2003 & 2006

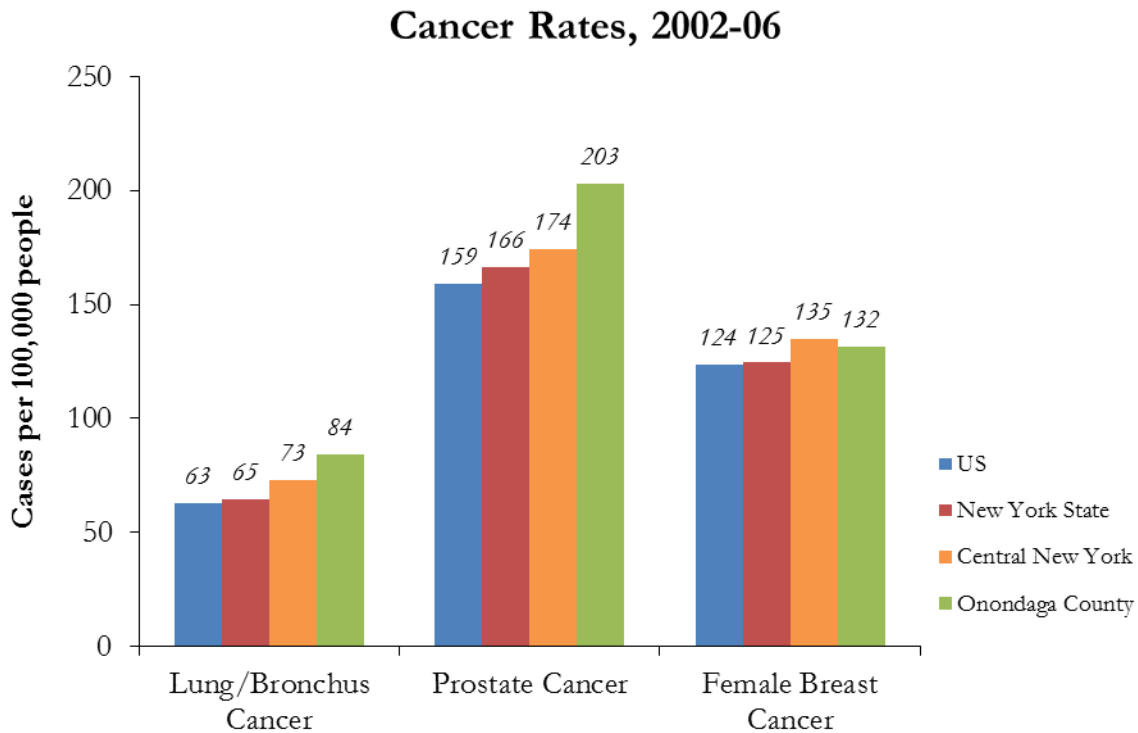


Source: New York State Department of Health, Sexually Transmitted Disease Data and Statistics

Cancer Rates, 2002-06

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures rates for various types of cancer incidences. Cancer is defined by the National Cancer Institute as diseases in which abnormal cells divide uncontrollably and have the ability to invade other tissues and only invasive, malignant tumors are counted.



Source: New York State Department of Health County Assessment Indicators, 2002-06, National Cancer Institute Surveillance Epidemiology and End Results, 2002-06

Introduction

Housing indicators illustrate an area's economic health, desirability, quality of life, and affordability. The city of Syracuse and Onondaga County offer a variety of housing options in urban, suburban, and rural locales. Purchase and rental prices are well below state and national averages.

Understanding the factors that characterize an area's housing market enables policymakers to design policies and programs that will enhance the area's quality of life.

The Greater Syracuse area was not as severely affected by the recent nationwide housing market crisis and for many in this area, the dream of homeownership can still be a reality. Although foreclosure rates have increased in the Greater Syracuse area, they are still among the lowest in the nation.

Revitalization efforts continue throughout Syracuse. Christopher Community³⁵ builds low-income housing on the Near West Side. The Syracuse Housing Authority (SHA)³⁶ has applied for federal tax credits to build single family rent-to-own homes on the city's South Side. Private developers plan to bring market-rate units to Syracuse's downtown. Home HeadQuarters³⁷ continues to renovate and build homes, while Housing Visions³⁸ completes units on the North Side, in the Prospect Hill neighborhood.

Nevertheless, the Greater Syracuse area still faces significant challenges. Over half of housing units in the city of Syracuse were built before 1940. The city suffers from an overabundance of vacant and abandoned rental properties, low rates of homeownership, and a high incidence of code violations and tax delinquencies.

Understanding these challenges is essential to revitalizing distressed neighborhoods and stabilizing the housing market.

³⁵ <http://www.christopher-community.org/>

³⁶ <http://syracusehousing.org/>

³⁷ <http://www.homehq.org/>

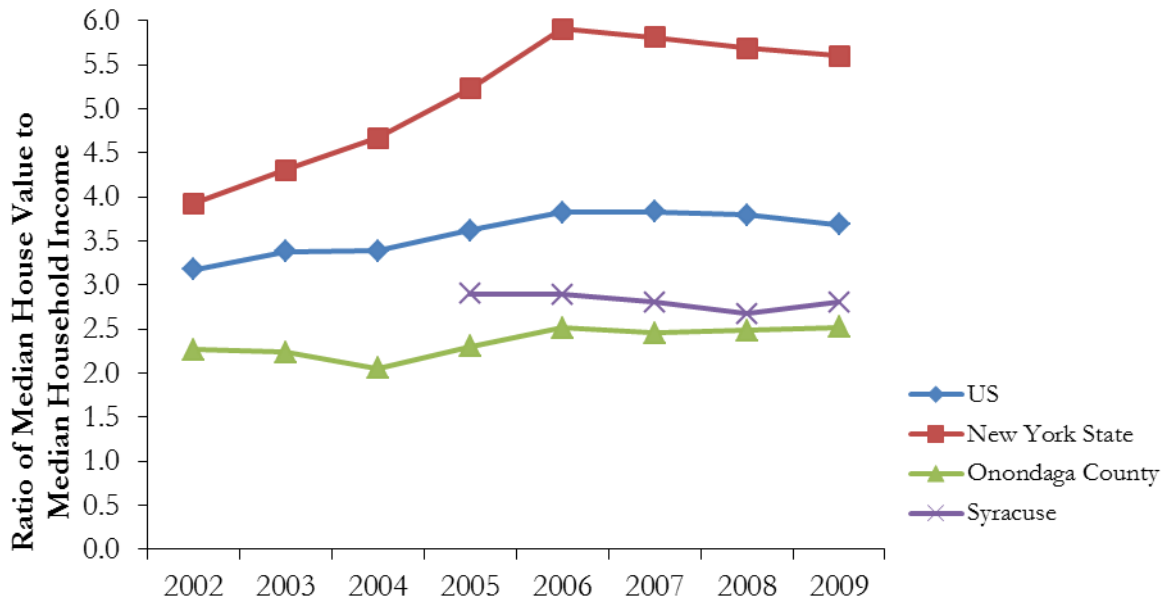
³⁸ <http://www.housingvisions.org/>

Housing Affordability

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the ratio of median home value divided by the median household income of the occupants.

Housing Affordability, 2002-09



Source: American Community Survey, 2002-09

Comment: Data were not available for Syracuse from 2002-004

Comment: A ratio between 2 and 3 is considered affordable.

Housing Affordability, 2002-09

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
US	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7
New York State	3.9	4.3	4.7	5.2	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.6
Onondaga County	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Syracuse				2.9	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.8

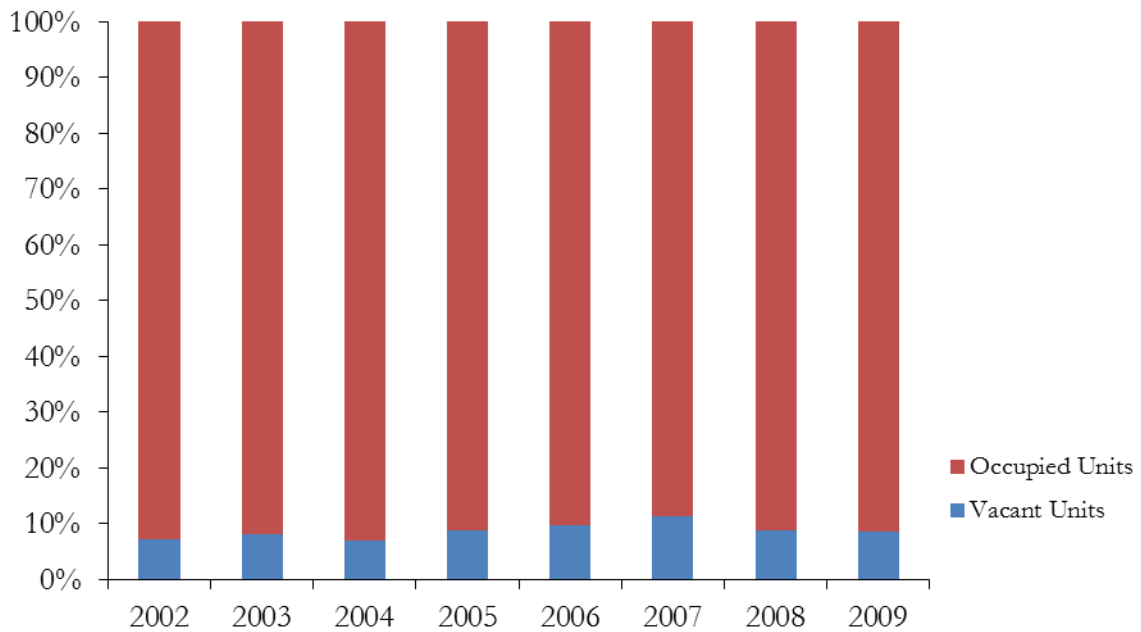
Source: American Community Survey, 2002-09

Occupancy Status

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures whether a housing unit is occupied by homeowners, renters/tenants or is vacant.

Onondaga County Occupancy, 2002-09



Source: American Community Survey, 2002-09

Onondaga County Distribution of Housing Units, 2002-09

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Vacant Units	7%	8%	7%	9%	10%	11%	9%	9%
Occupied Units	93%	92%	93%	91%	90%	89%	91%	91%

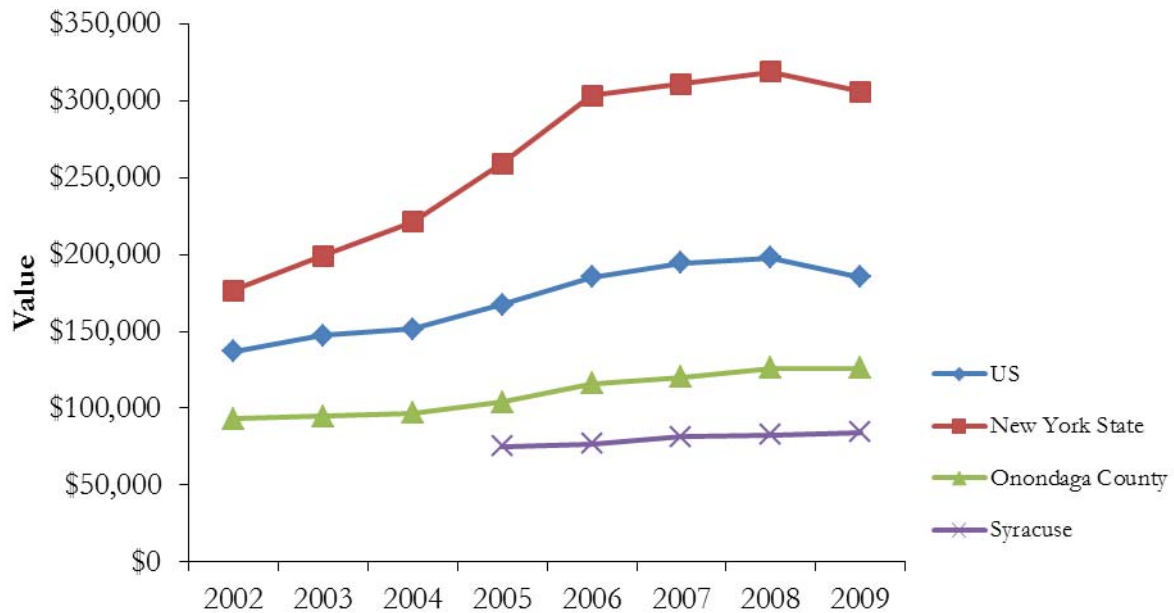
Source: American Community Survey, 2002-09

Median Home Value

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the median value of a home reported to the US Census Bureau by the homeowners.

Median Home Value, 2002-09



Source: American Community Survey, 2002-09

Comment: Data were not available for Syracuse from 2002-04.

Median Home Value, 2002-09

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
US	\$ 136,929	\$ 147,275	\$ 151,366	\$ 167,500	\$ 185,200	\$ 194,300	\$ 197,600	\$ 185,200
New York State	\$ 176,438	\$ 198,883	\$ 220,981	\$ 258,900	\$ 303,400	\$ 311,000	\$ 318,900	\$ 306,000
Onondaga County	\$ 92,916	\$ 94,691	\$ 96,797	\$ 104,100	\$ 115,900	\$ 120,000	\$ 125,900	\$ 126,100
Syracuse				\$ 75,200	\$ 76,600	\$ 81,300	\$ 82,500	\$ 84,400

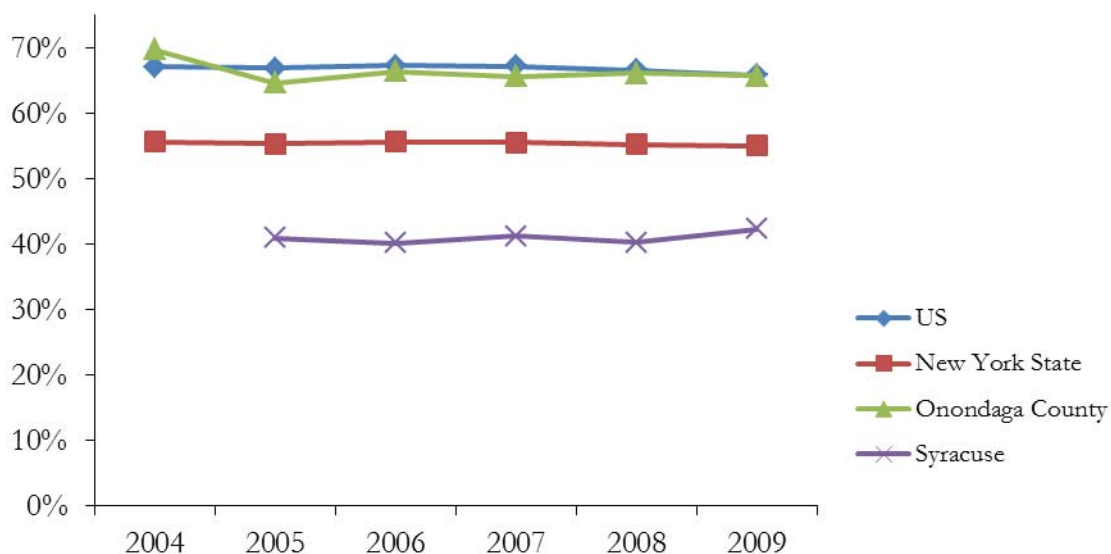
Source: American Community Survey, 2002-09

Owner Occupied Units

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of occupied housing units that are owner-occupied.

Owner Occupied Units, 2002-09



Source: American Community Survey, 2002-09

Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Comment: Data were not available for Syracuse from 2002-04

Owner Occupied Units, 2002-09

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
US	67%	67%	67%	67%	67%	66%
New York State	56%	55%	56%	56%	55%	55%
Onondaga County	70%	65%	66%	66%	66%	66%
Syracuse	-	41%	40%	41%	40%	42%

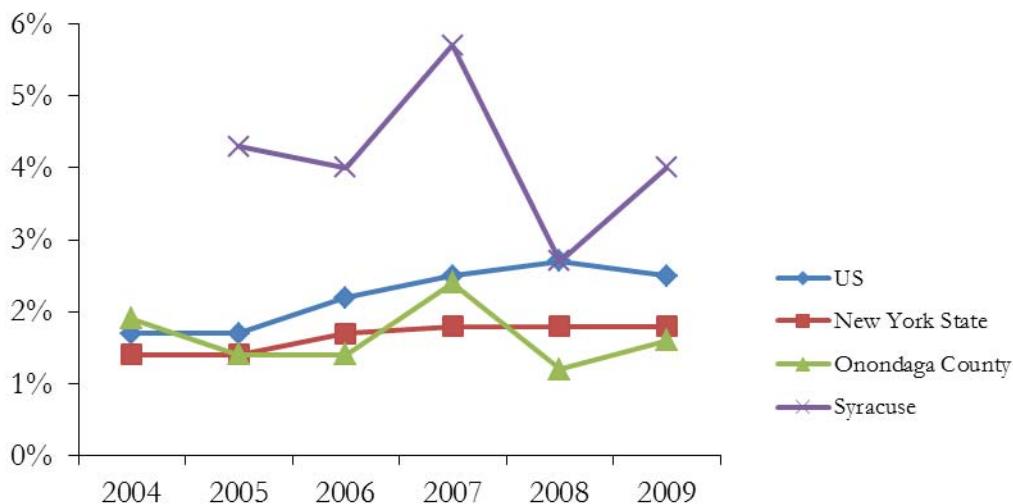
Source: American Community Survey, 2002-09

Homeowner Vacancy Rates

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of homeowner housing units that are vacant.

Homeowner Vacancy Rate, 2004-09



Source: American Community Survey, 2004-09

Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Comment: Data were not available for Syracuse in 2004

Homeowner Vacancy Rate, 2004-09

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
US	1.7%	1.7%	2.2%	2.5%	2.7%	2.5%
New York State	1.4%	1.4%	1.7%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%
Onondaga County	1.9%	1.4%	1.4%	2.4%	1.2%	1.6%
Syracuse	-	4.3%	4.0%	5.7%	2.7%	4.0%

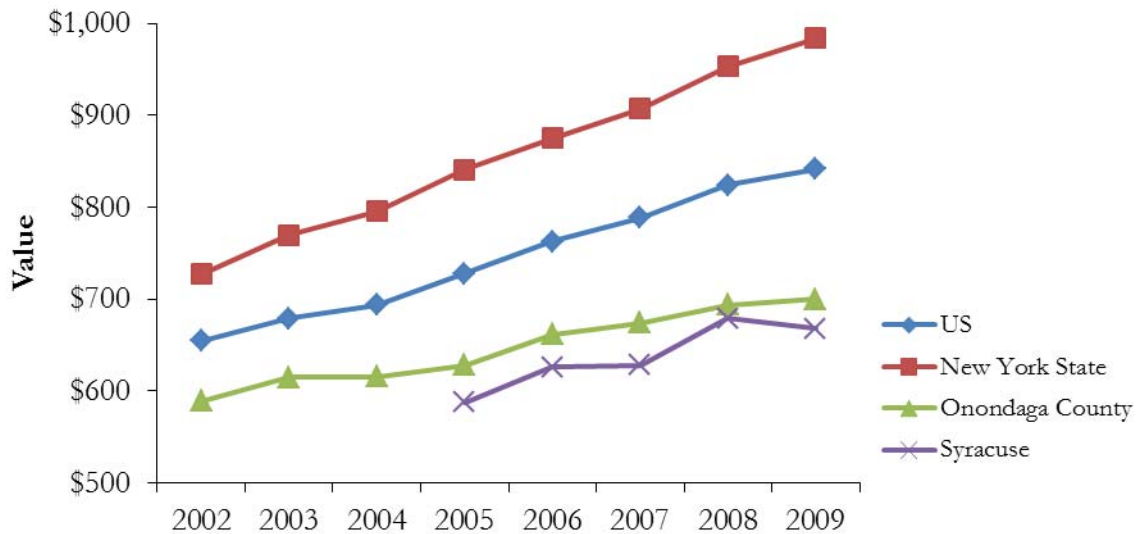
Source: American Community Survey, 2004-09

Median Rent Value

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the monthly rent of a housing unit plus the associated additional costs including utilities.

Median Rent Values, 2002-09



Source: American Community Survey, 2002-09

Comment: Data were not available for Syracuse from 2002-04

Median Rent Values, 2002-09

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
US	\$ 655	\$ 679	\$ 694	\$ 728	\$ 763	\$ 789	\$ 824	\$ 842
New York State	\$ 727	\$ 770	\$ 796	\$ 841	\$ 875	\$ 907	\$ 953	\$ 984
Onondaga County	\$ 589	\$ 615	\$ 616	\$ 628	\$ 662	\$ 674	\$ 694	\$ 700
Syracuse				\$ 588	\$ 626	\$ 628	\$ 679	\$ 668

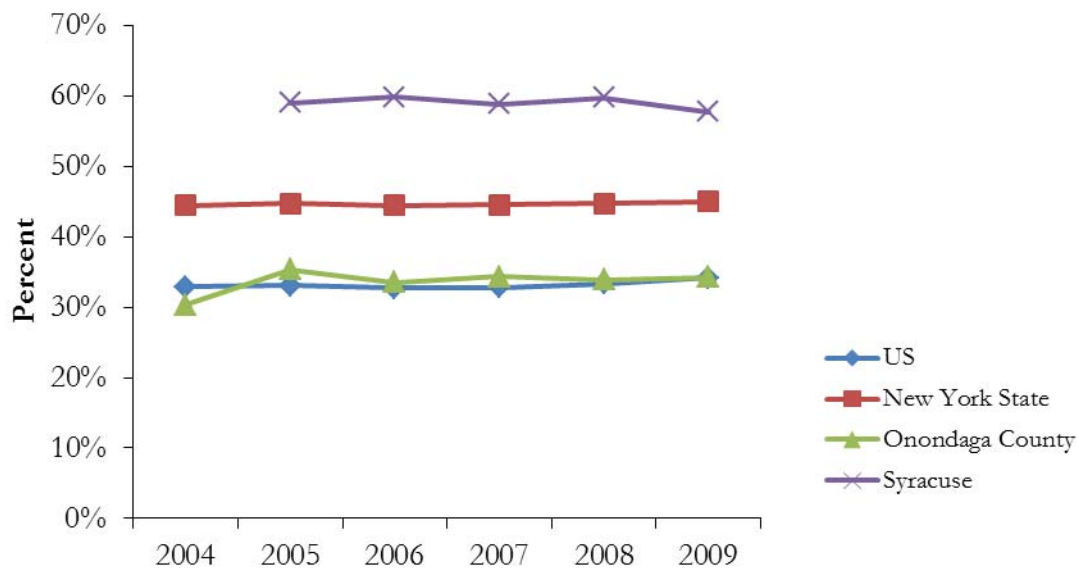
Source: American Community Survey, 2002-09

Renter Occupied Units

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of occupied housing units that are renter-occupied.

Renter Occupied Units, 2002-09



Source: American Community Survey, 2002-09

Comment: Data were not available for Syracuse from 2002-04

Renter Occupied Units, 2002-09

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
US	33%	33%	33%	33%	33%	34%
New York State	44%	45%	44%	44%	45%	45%
Onondaga County	30%	35%	34%	34%	34%	34%
Syracuse		59%	60%	59%	60%	58%

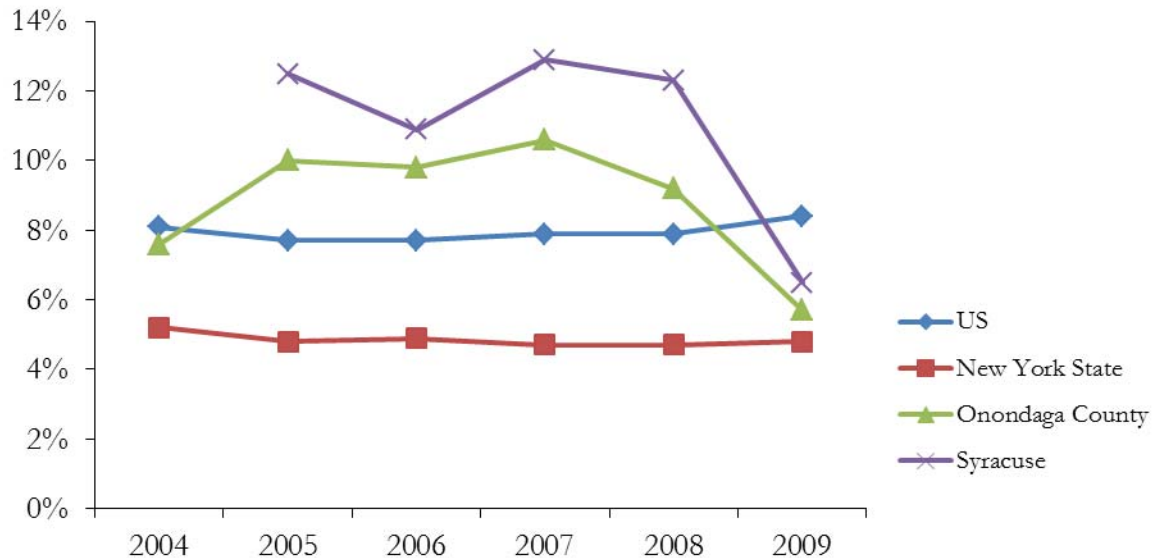
Source: American Community Survey, 2002-09

Rental Vacancy Rates

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of rental housing units that are vacant.

Rental Vacancy Rate, 2004-09



Source: American Community Survey, 2004-09

Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Comment: Data were not available for Syracuse in 2004

Rental Vacancy Rate, 2004-09

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
US	8.1%	7.7%	7.7%	7.9%	7.9%	8.4%
New York State	5.2%	4.8%	4.9%	4.7%	4.7%	4.8%
Onondaga County	7.6%	10.0%	9.8%	10.6%	9.2%	5.7%
Syracuse	-	12.5%	10.9%	12.9%	12.3%	6.5%

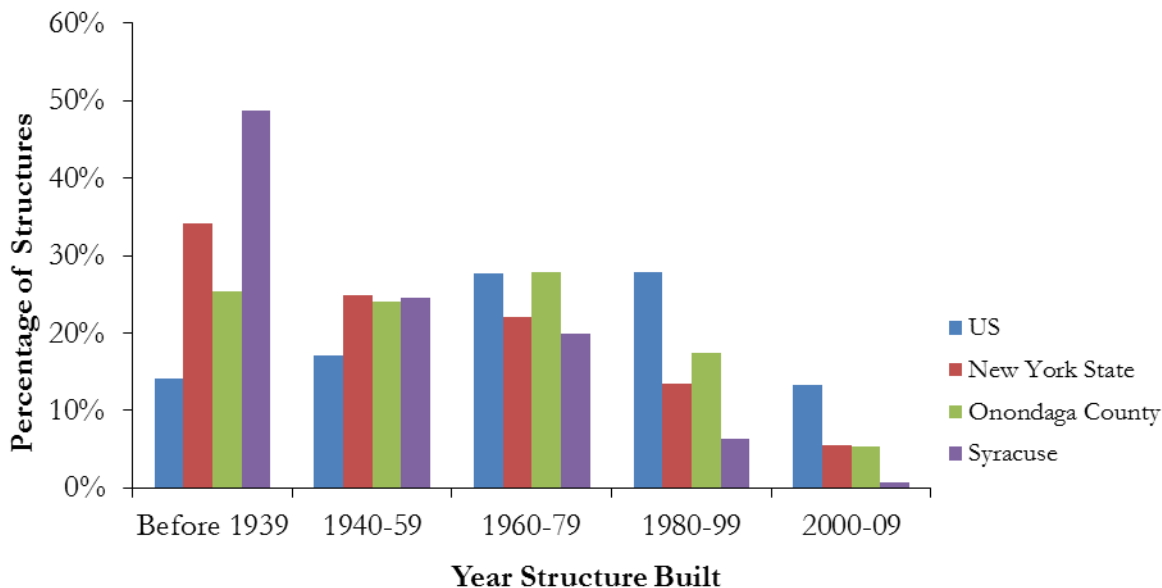
Source: American Community Survey, 2004-09

Age of Structure

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of the total housing stock built during a specific time period.

Age of Housing Structure



Source: American Community Survey, 2002-09

Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Age of Housing Structure

	Before 1939	1940-59	1960-79	1980-99	2000-09
US	14%	17%	28%	28%	13%
New York State	34%	25%	22%	13%	5%
Onondaga County	25%	24%	28%	17%	5%
Syracuse	49%	25%	20%	6%	1%

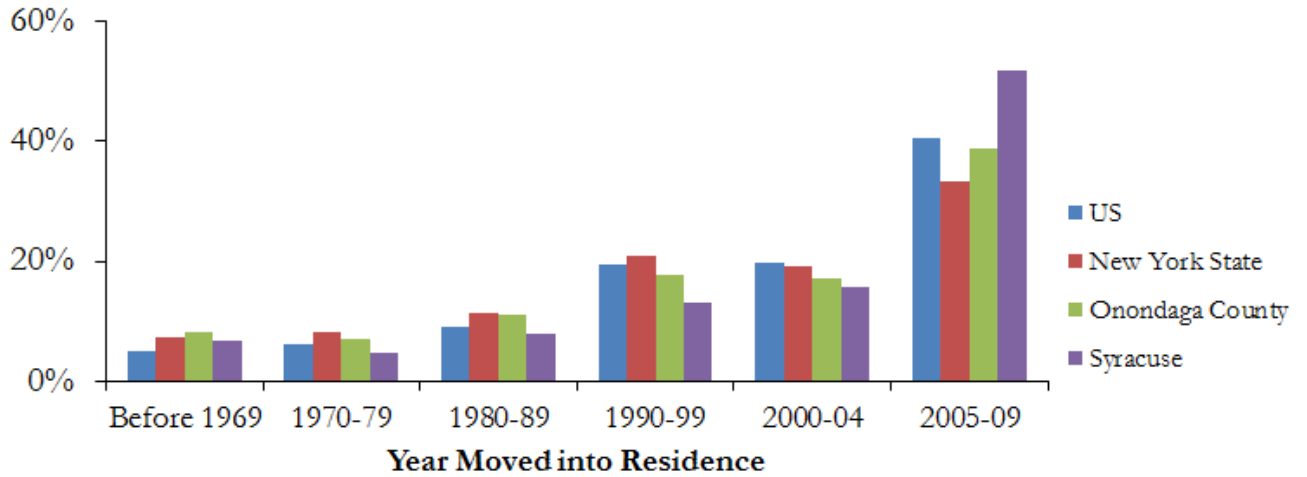
Source: American Community Survey, 2002-09

Tenancy

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the length of time current homeowners of owner occupied units have resided in their dwellings.

Length of Tenancy



Source: American Community Survey, 2004-09

Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Length of Tenancy

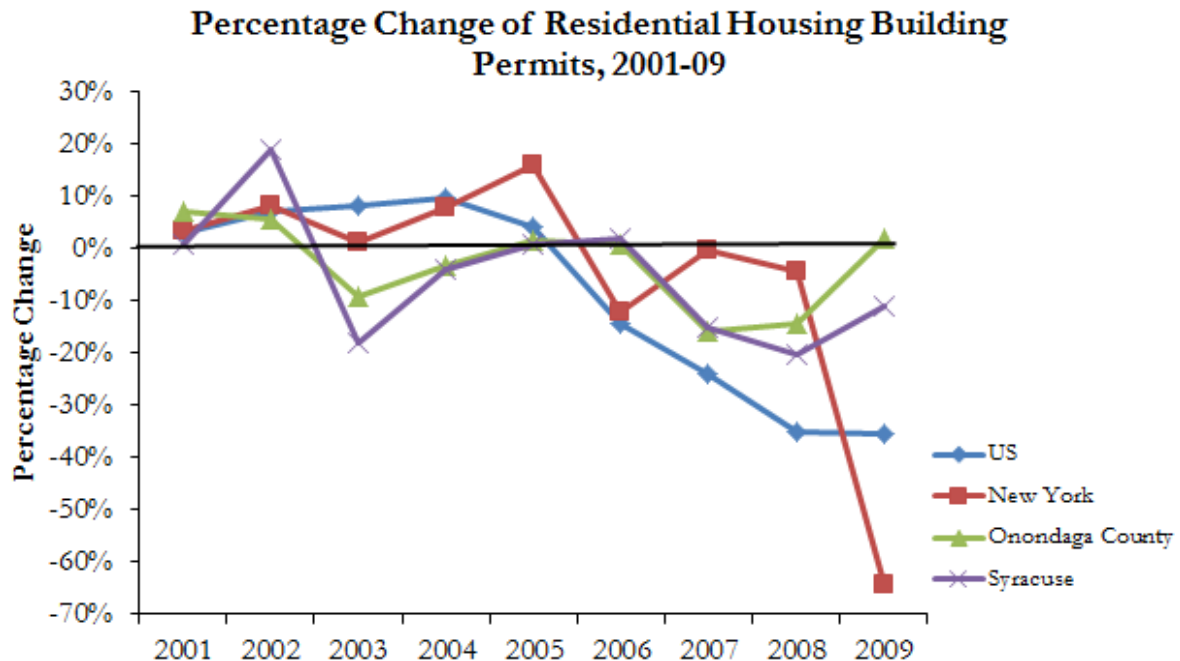
	Before 1969	1970-79	1980-89	1990-99	2000-04	2005-09
US	5%	6%	9%	19%	20%	41%
New York State	7%	8%	11%	21%	19%	33%
Onondaga County	8%	7%	11%	18%	17%	39%
Syracuse	7%	5%	8%	13%	16%	52%

Source: American Community Survey, 2004-09

Residential Building Permits

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage change in the number of residential building permits issued from one year to the next.



Source: American Community Survey, 2000-09

Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Percentage Change of Residential Housing Building Permits

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
US	3%	7%	8%	10%	4%	-15%	-24%	-35%	-36%
New York	3%	8%	1%	8%	16%	-12%	-1%	-4%	-64%
Onondaga County	7%	5%	-9%	-3%	1%	1%	-16%	-15%	2%
Syracuse	1%	19%	-18%	-4%	1%	2%	-15%	-20%	-11%

Source: American Community Survey, 2000-09

Introduction

This section examines several indicators of mobility and transportation services found in Onondaga County and Syracuse compared to the same services found in New York State and the United States.

Onondaga County is conveniently located at the intersection of Interstate 81 and the NYS Thruway. The Hancock International Airport and the William F. Walk Regional Transportation Center are also important transportation hubs. Though an important mode of transportation, the average round-trip and one way domestic airfares at Hancock International Airport are significantly more expensive than nearby airports such as Buffalo and Rochester, which may cause fewer travel options for customers.

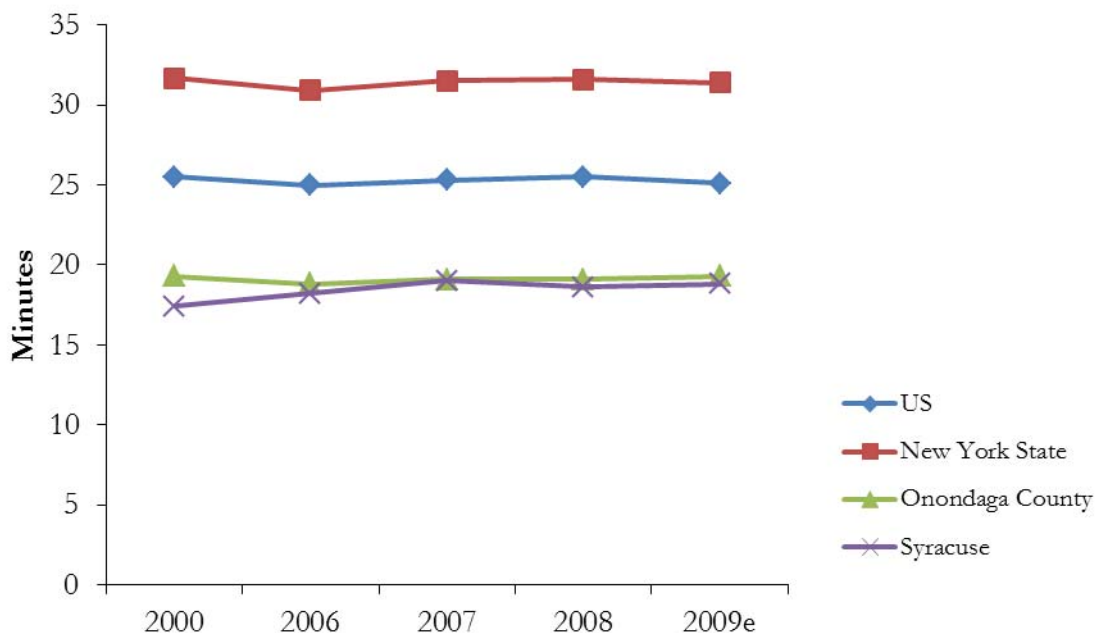
The Central New York Regional Transportation Authority's CENTRO bus system is a widely used source of public transportation for county residents. One of the prominent initiatives in Onondaga County is the introduction of diesel-electric buses into the CENTRO fleet. Over the next several years, CENTRO plans to switch the entire fleet over to hybrid clean air technology. The number of CENTRO passenger trips has increased 35% from 2005 to 2008 compared to a slight 1% increase in registered and licensed drivers in Onondaga County.

Average Travel Time to Work

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures and compares the average travel time to work for workers 16 years of age and older who do not work at home.

**Average Daily Travel Time to Work,
2000 & 2006-09e**



Source: US Census Bureau, 2000, 2006-08e, 2009e

Average Daily Travel Time to Work in Minutes, 2000 & 2006-09e

	2000	2006	2007	2008	2009e
US	26	25	25	26	25
New York State	32	31	32	32	31
Onondaga County	19	19	19	19	19
Syracuse	17	18	19	19	19

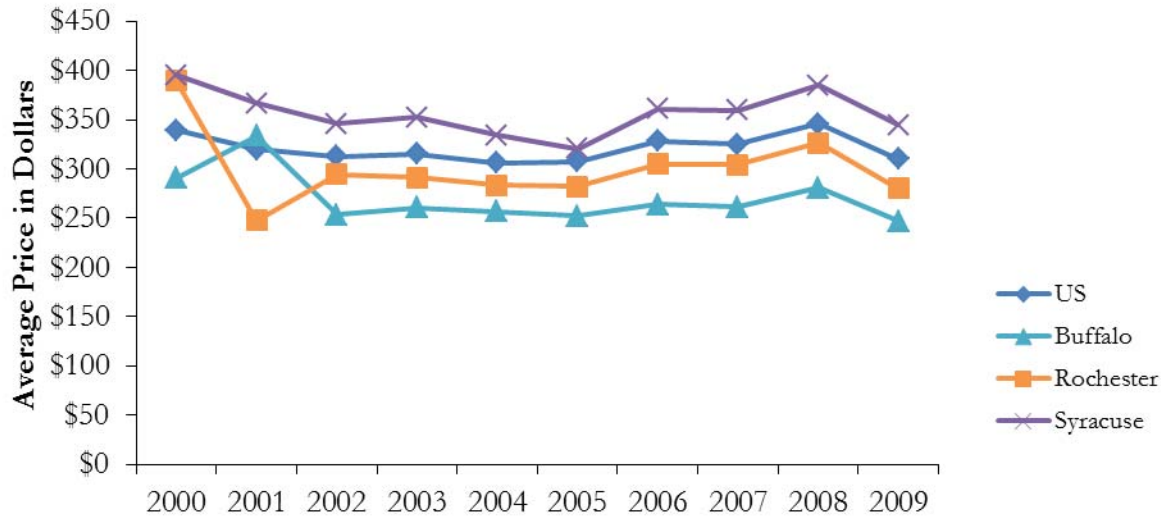
Source: US Census Bureau, 2000, 2006-08e, 2009e

Air Travel

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures average round-trip and one-way domestic itinerary fares.

Average Price of Domestic Airfare, 2000-09



Source: US Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Airline Origin & Destination Survey, 2000-09

Comment: Average prices are based on a 10% sample where bulk fare equals zero, itinerary fare is greater than or equal to fifty dollars (\$50) and itinerary yield is less than or equal to three dollars (\$3). Itinerary Fare: Average fares are based on domestic itinerary fares, round-trip or one-way for which no return is purchased. Fares are based on the total ticket value which consists of the price charged by the airlines plus any additional taxes and fees levied by an outside entity at the time of purchase. Fares include only the price paid at the time of the ticket purchase and do not include other fees, such as baggage fees, paid at the airport or

Average Price of Domestic Airfare, 2000-09

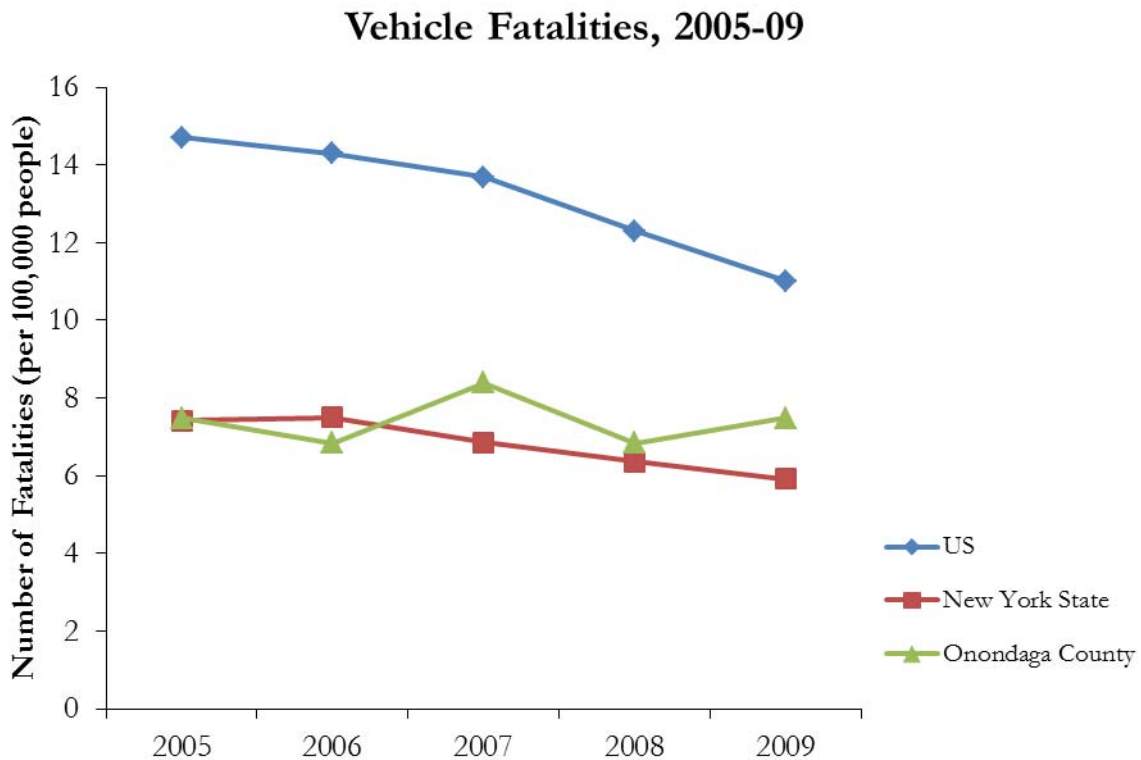
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
US	\$339	\$320	\$313	\$315	\$306	\$307	\$328	\$325	\$346	\$310
Syracuse	\$395	\$367	\$346	\$353	\$334	\$321	\$361	\$359	\$385	\$344
Buffalo	\$291	\$334	\$253	\$261	\$257	\$252	\$264	\$261	\$281	\$247
Rochester	\$390	\$247	\$294	\$291	\$283	\$282	\$305	\$305	\$327	\$280

Source: US Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Airline Origin & Destination Survey, 2000-09

Vehicle Fatalities per 100,000 People

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of fatalities caused by motor vehicles per 100,000 people.



Source: Federal Highway Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System, 2005-09

Fatalities Per 100,000 Population

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Onondaga County	7.48	6.84	8.39	6.84	7.48
New York State	7.42	7.51	6.86	6.36	5.92
US	14.71	14.3	13.68	12.3	11.01

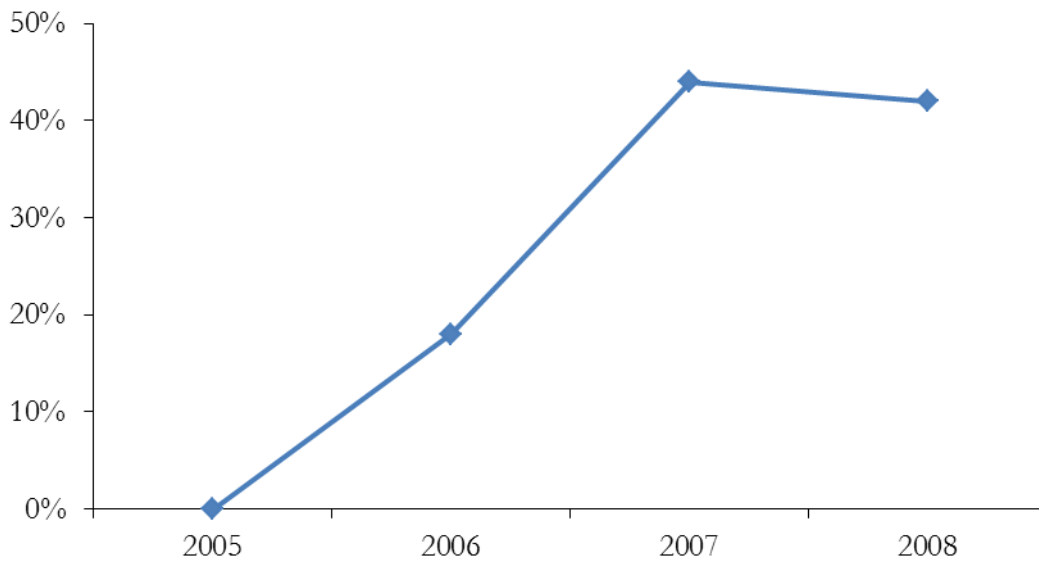
Source: Federal Highway Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System

CENTRO Ridership

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percent change in Central New York Regional Transportation Authority (CENTRO) ridership. Unlinked trips are defined as the total number of trips taken on CENTRO busses with no correlation with the number of patrons.

Percentage Change in Unlinked CENTRO trips in Onondaga County, 2005-08



Source: New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, National Transit Administration, 2005-08

Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Introduction

According to the Census Bureau's 2006-08 estimates, in Onondaga County about 25 percent of the population is under the age of 18, and 5.9% of the population is under the age of five.

The youth of our community are not only an obvious link to our future, but a snapshot of the present. Their quality of life paints a picture of our community, including the quality of education and economic wellbeing of families. This section will focus on their living conditions, safety and health.

In Onondaga County, youth face a lower risk of living in poverty than young people in the US and New York State. Young girls are less likely to become pregnant in Onondaga County, though not the city of Syracuse, than the rest of the state and children born in the county are more likely to have been born to mothers who received prenatal care than those statewide or nationwide.

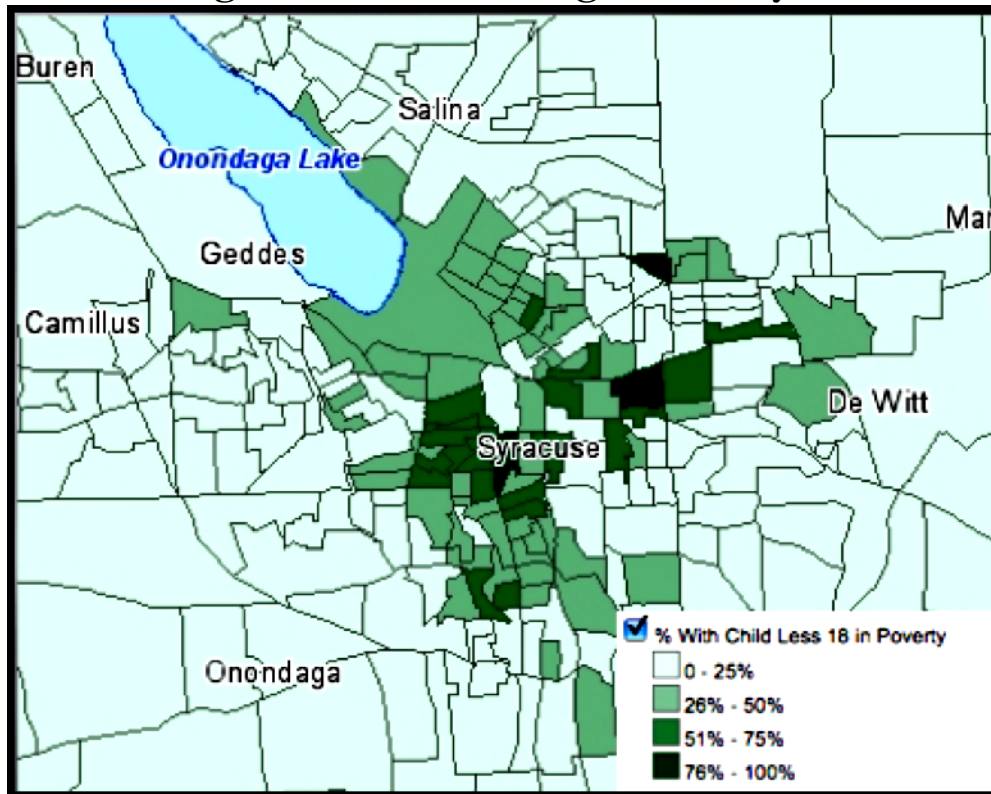
In other areas, Onondaga children are not doing as well. Youth suffer from a high rate of child abuse. Maltreatment reports and youth arrests in the city of Syracuse and Onondaga County are not decreasing at the same rate as the state. It is not known whether this means there is a more widespread problem locally, or if detection is higher.

Children Living in Poverty

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of children living in households whose total income falls below the poverty line.

Percentage of Children Living in Poverty, 2006-08e



Source: Syracuse Community Geography, Syracuse Maps Online

Families with Children Under the age of 18 Living with an Annual Income Below Poverty Level, 2006-08e

US	15%
New York State	16%
Onondaga County	14%
Syracuse	36%

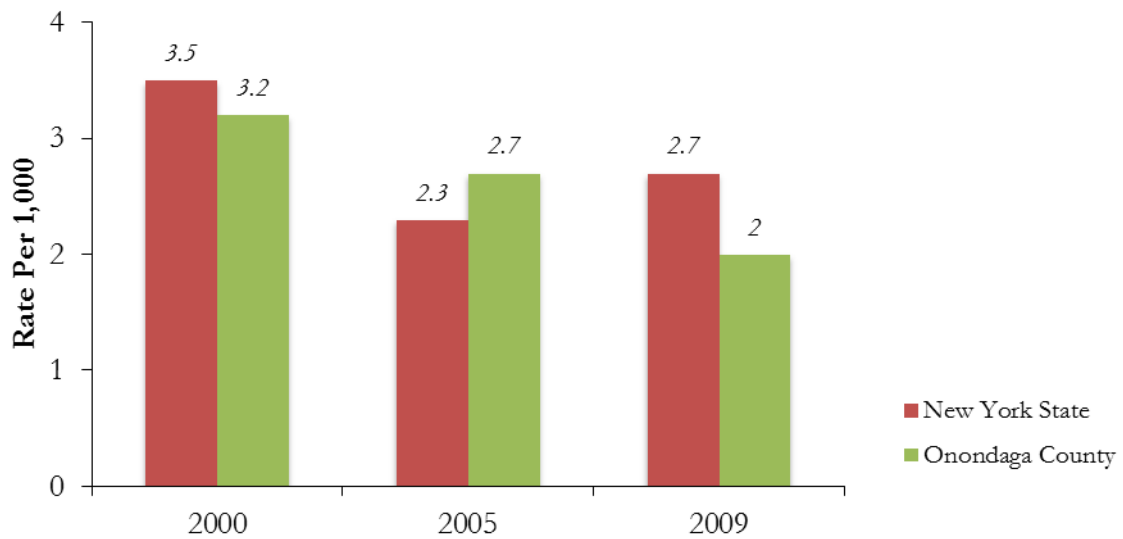
Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2006-08e

Children Admitted to Foster Care

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of children admitted to foster care, which occurs as a result of a order of a court or when parents place them there temporarily.

Children Admitted to Foster Care, 2000-09



Source: NYS Office of Children and Family Services; Child Care Review Service

Children Receiving Public Assistance

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage of children receiving public assistance from various state and federal programs.

Percent of Children Receiving Public Assistance, 2000, 2005 & 2008

	2000	2005	2008
New York State	7%	6%	6%
Onondaga County	9%	6%	6%

Source: New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

Child Abuse and Maltreatment at Childcare Centers

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the quality of care a child is receiving in registered child day care centers.

Percent of Children Abused and Maltreated at Registered Childcare Centers, 2000, 2005, 2007 & 2008



Source: New York State Office of Children and Family Services - National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS), 2000, 2005, 2007 & 2008

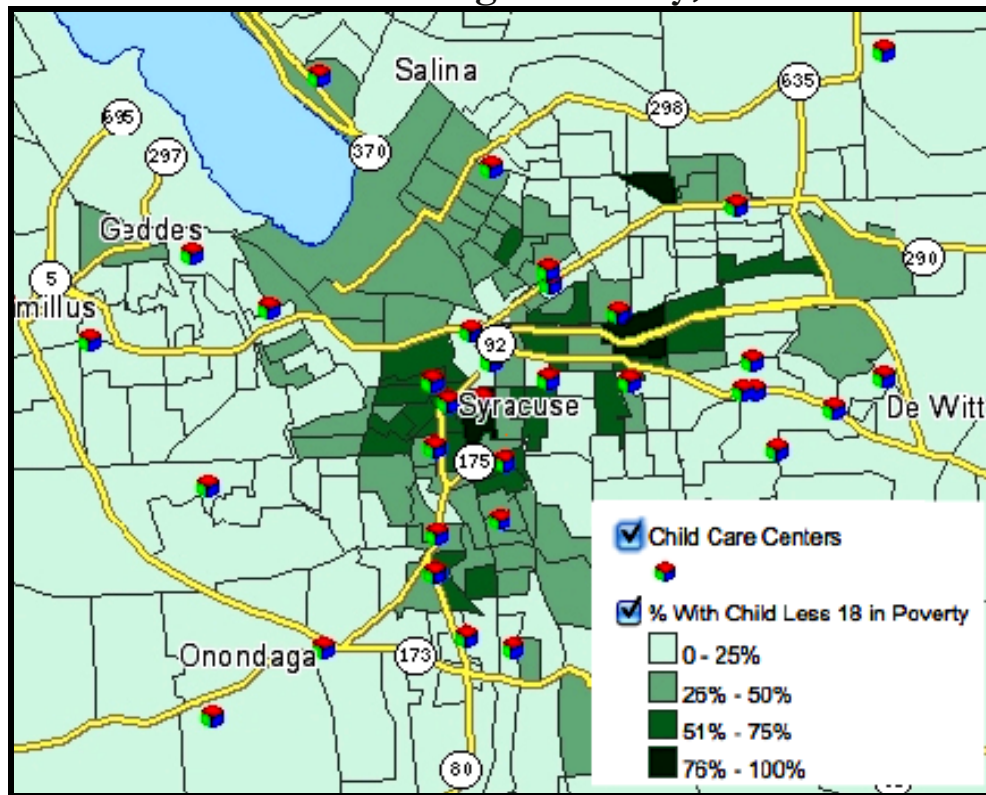
Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Registered Childcare Centers

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of the childcare facilities found in Onondaga County.

Location of Child Care Centers and Percentage of Children Living in Poverty, 2009



Source: Syracuse Community Geography, Syracuse Maps Online

Number of Childcare Centers in Onondaga County, 2006-07

	2006	2007
Onondaga County	407	361

Source: Onondaga County Department of Social Sciences, 2007

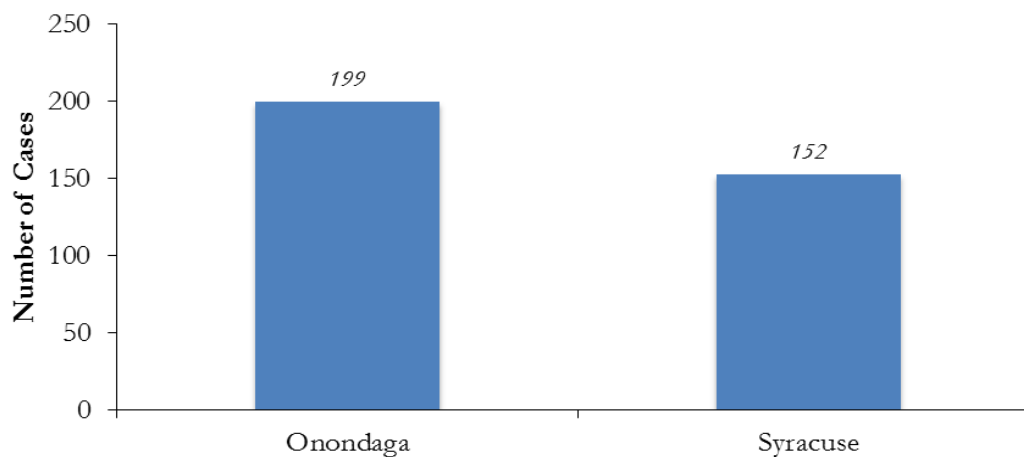
Serious Childcare Violations in Childcare Centers

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of serious childcare violations in registered childcare centers, a violation being considered serious if it harms a child or places a child in danger of physical or emotional harm. Some of the violations fall into the following categories:

- Providing care for more than the maximum number of children permitted by the license or registration
- Inadequate or incompetent supervision
- Presence of a fire, safety or health risk
- Inadequate light, ventilation, sanitation, food, water or heat
- Use of corporal punishment or frightening, humiliating methods of discipline
- Refusal to admit or cooperate with inspectors, including representatives of OCFS or its agents

Serious Childcare Violations in Childcare Centers, 2005



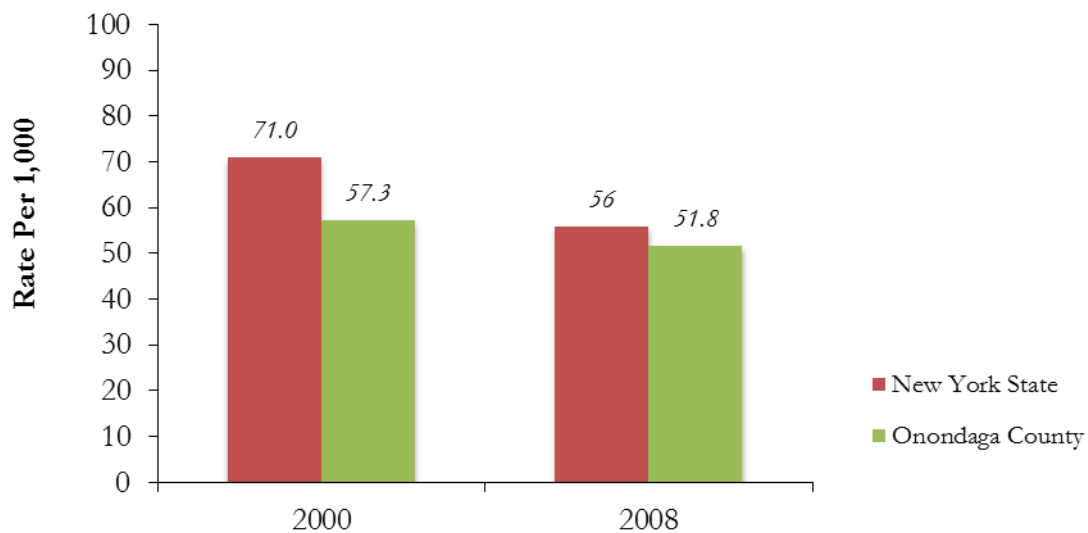
Source: NYS Department of Health; Bureau of Statistics, 2005

Adolescent Pregnancies

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the number of adolescent pregnancies, defined as a pregnancy of a 15- to 19-year old female.

Pregnancies Among Adolescents Ages 15-19 Years, 2000 & 2008



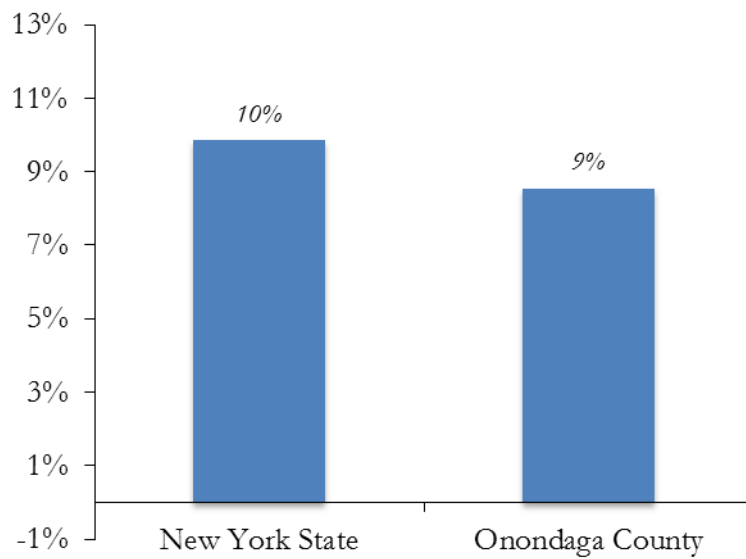
Source: NYS Department of Health; Bureau of Biometrics, 2000 & 2008

Low Birth Weights

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures percent of low birth weight in babies, defined as weighing less than 2500 grams at the time of birth out of all live births to mothers ages 10 to 19 years.

Percent of Low Birth Weight Births to Mothers Ages 10-19 Years, 2007



Source: NYS Department of Health; Bureau of Biometrics, 2007

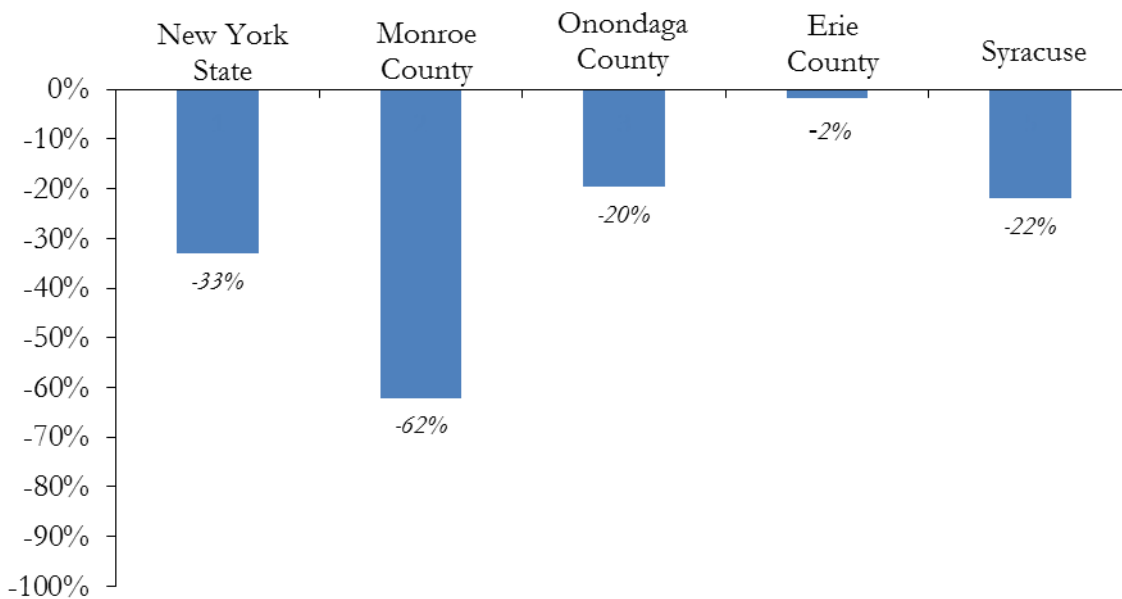
Comment: Graph is not to scale.

Youth Arrests

What does this indicator measure?

This indicator measures the percentage change in arrests and police contracts with juveniles under the age of 18, where there was probable cause that an offense was committed but no formal charges were filed. The types of crime relating to the arrests include murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft.

Percentage Change in Youth Arrests, 2005-09



Source: New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, 2009

Total Number of Youth Arrests, 2005-09

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
New York State	21,347	18,979	16,490	15,854	14,292
Monroe County	1,662	986	1,054	991	628
Onondaga County	1,192	1,133	1,062	1,007	958
Erie County	1,206	1,385	1,002	1,181	1,184
Syracuse	668	634	592	580	521

Source: New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, 2009

Comment: New York State data does not include New York City.

People

1. *Population*
2. *Sprawl*
3. *Race & Ethnicity*
4. *Race & Ethnicity in Schools*
5. *Sex*
6. *Age*
7. *Marital Status*
8. *Educational Attainment*
9. *Poverty*
10. *Registered Voters*
11. *Median Household Income*
12. *Median Home Values and Family Incomes*

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2. *Population Age 65+ With a Disability*
3. *EPIC Enrollment*
4. *Medicare Enrollees*
5. *Population Age 65+ by Gender*
6. *Actual & Estimated Age Categories by Year*
7. *Median Income for Population Age 65+*
8. *Senior Mortality*

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2. *Violent Crimes*
3. *Drug Crimes*
4. *Total Crime*
5. *Murder*
6. *Motor Vehicle Theft*
7. *Larceny*
8. *Forcible Robbery*
9. *Forcible Rape*

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2. *Festivals*
3. *Zoo*
4. *Museums*
5. *Theater and Music*
6. *Arts Grants Spending*
7. *Grants to the Arts*
8. *Recreation*
9. *Parks in Onondaga County*
10. *Park Attendance*
11. *The New York State Fair*

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3. *Employment in Professional Industries*
4. *Employment in Public Works Industries*
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12. *State Revenue from Sales Tax*
13. *Economic Development Expenditures*

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6. *Grade 4 Mathematics Scores*
7. *Grade 8 English Language Arts Scores*
8. *Grade 8 Mathematics Scores*
9. *Math A Regents Scores*
10. *Comprehensive English Regents Scores*
11. *Global History and Geography Regents Scores*
12. *US History and Government Regents Scores*
13. *Living Environment Regents Scores*
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15. *Syracuse City School District Graduation Rates*
16. *Syracuse City School District Graduation Rates by Ethnicity*
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18. *New York State Graduation Rates*
19. *Degrees Granted by Post-Secondary Institutions*

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3. *Water Usage*
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5. *Toxic Waste Generated*
6. *Toxic Waste Released*
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9. *Onondaga Lake Oxygen Concentration*
10. *Air Quality*

11. *Waste to Energy*
12. *Household Expenditure on Oil and Gasoline*
13. *Average Miles Driven*

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2. *Practice Settings of Active Patient Care Physicians*
3. *Appropriate Care*
4. *Uninsured Individuals*
5. *Uninsured Individuals by Age*
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10. *Asthma Hospitalizations (0-14 Years Old)*
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7. *Renter Occupied Units*
8. *Rental Vacancy Rates*
9. *Age of Structure*
10. *Tenancy*
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1. *Average Travel Time to Work*
2. *Air Travel*
3. *Vehicle Fatalities per 100,000 People*
4. *CENTRO Ridership*

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1. *Children Living in Poverty*
2. *Children Admitted to Foster Care*
3. *Children Receiving Public Assistance*
4. *Child Abuse and Maltreatment at Registered Childcare Centers*

5. *Registered Childcare Centers*
6. *Serious Childcare Violations in Childcare Centers*
7. *Adolescent Pregnancies*
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