

**APPENDIX C**  
POPULATION TRENDS

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### **Reference: Inner Loop North Transformation Study**

This memo describes population growth trends in the Rochester region between 1990 and 2022. The purpose is to provide context for the traffic analysis conducted on behalf of the Inner Loop North Transformation Project. Historic population growth data suggest that the annual growth rate for the region over the last 30 years is less than 0.25%/year for the Metropolitan Statistical Area and Monroe County. The City of Rochester experienced a population decline over that same time period.

### **Sources & Geographies**

This memo analyzes population change for the City of Rochester, Monroe County, and the Rochester Metropolitan Statistical Area. The Rochester MSA includes Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, and Wayne counties. It is noted that the GTC region includes additional counties not reflected in MSA (Genesee, Seneca, Wyoming, and Yates)

Data sources for this memo include US Census Bureau's ACS 5-Year Estimates Selected Population Detailed Tables. ACS 1-Year Estimates were used for the year 2022. The population for the City of Rochester in 2022 is from the Census Population Estimate Program (PEP).

It is noted that a Post-Enumeration Survey and Demographic Analysis Estimate of the 2020 Census completed by the US Census Bureau found continued [undercounts and overcounts](#) in 14 states and among historically undercounted demographic groups, particularly children and minorities. For this reason, total population estimates for 2022 may represent a correction from 2020, rather than a growth trend.

This memo also uses data generated by the [Cornell Population Center Program on Applied Demographics](#) (PAD) which prepares long-term population projections for all counties in New York. PAD uses a cohort component model, which accounts for births, deaths, and migration.

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## Past Population Change

In 2022, the population for the Rochester Metropolitan Statistical Area was 1,086,859. Approximately 70 percent of the region’s population lived in Monroe County (756,406) and 19 percent of the region’s population lived in the City of Rochester (210,992).

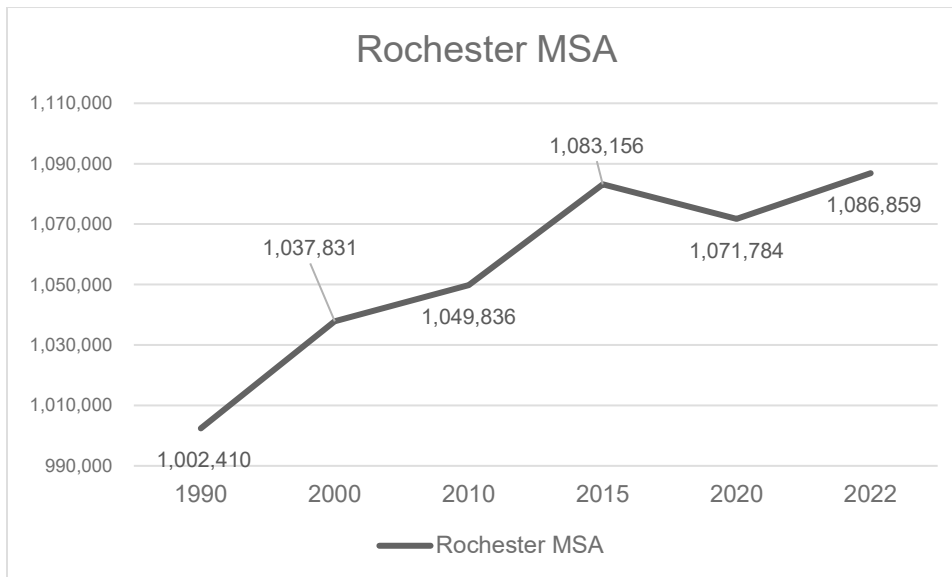
Table 1 shows total population change for each geography over the 32-year period from 1990 to 2022. Population data points at intervening years of 2000, 2010, 2015, 2020, and 2022 are also included, as those were years in which US Census ACS 5-Year Estimates were available for these geographies.

Between 1990 and 2020, the population of the region increased by 6.92% (69,374 people), representing 0.23% annual growth. Monroe County grew by 2.82% (20,116 people), representing 0.09% annual growth. The City of Rochester declined by 10.62% (-24,515 people), representing an average 0.35% annual decline.

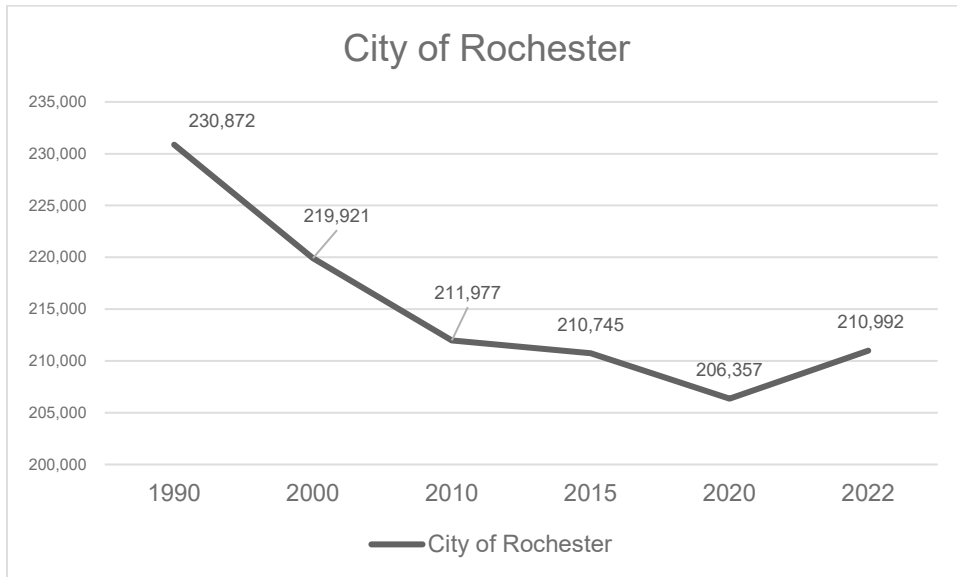
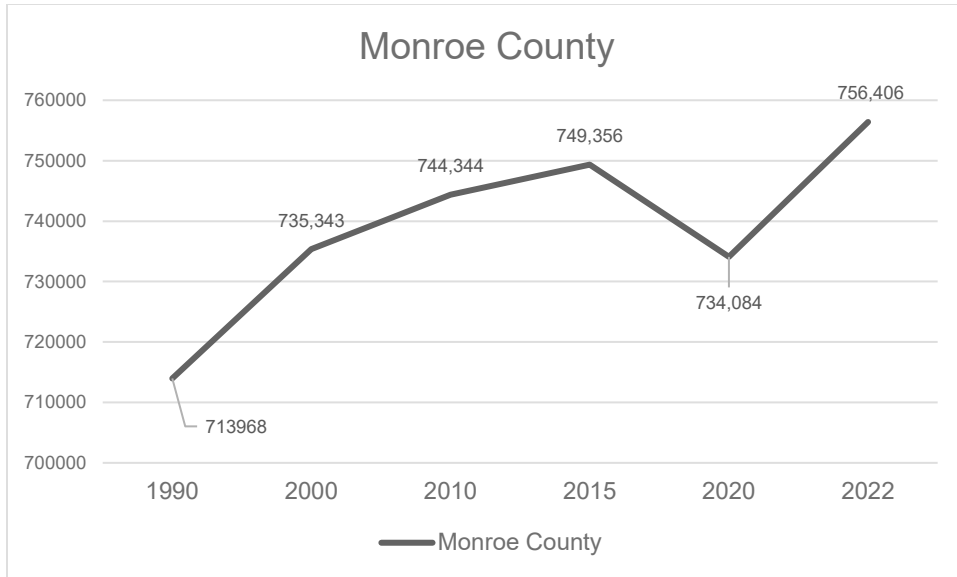
*Table 1 Population 1990 – 2022*

	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2022
<b>City of Rochester</b>	230,872	219,921	211,977	210,745	206,357	210,992
<b>Monroe County</b>	713,968	735,343	744,344	749,356	734,084	756,406
<b>Rochester MSA</b>	1,002,410	1,037,831	1,049,836	1,083,156	1,071,784	1,086,859

*Figure 1 Population 1990 – 2022 (Rochester MSA, Monroe County, City of Rochester)*



**Reference: Inner Loop North Transformation Study**



To better understand the ups and downs in population change during this 32-year period, this memo explores the growth rate during different time intervals. Figure 2 shows the absolute population change by decade since 1990. Figure 3 shows the average annual change in population by decade since 1990.

Reference: Inner Loop North Transformation Study

Figure 2 Population Change by Decade

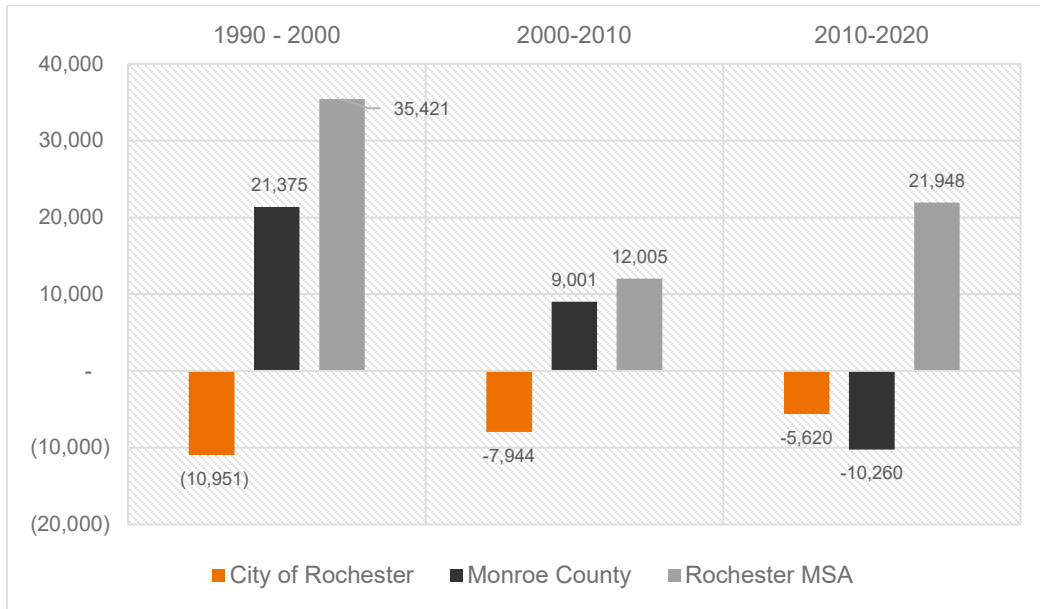
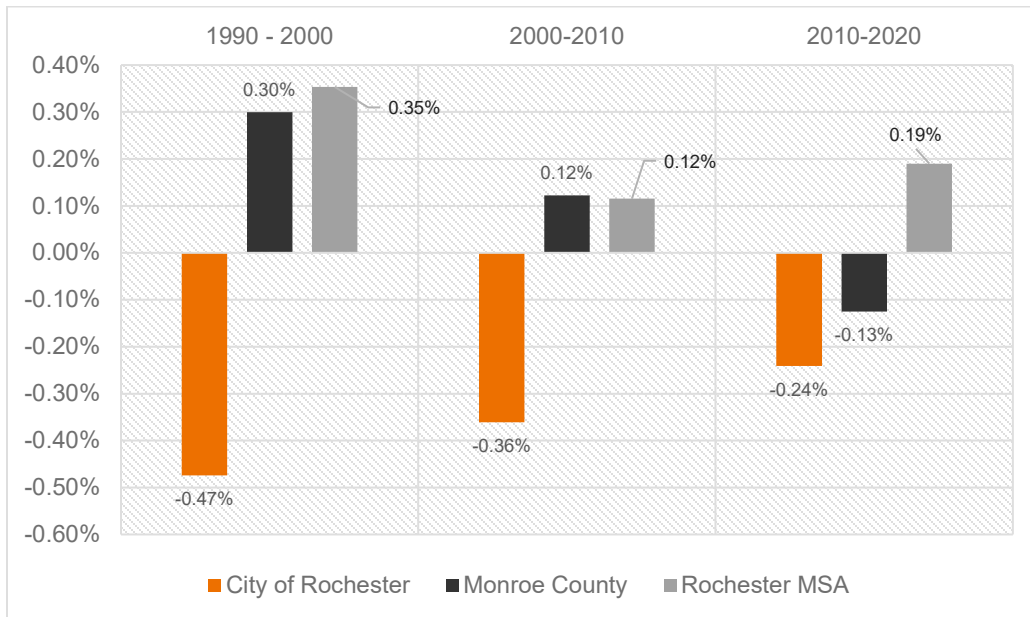


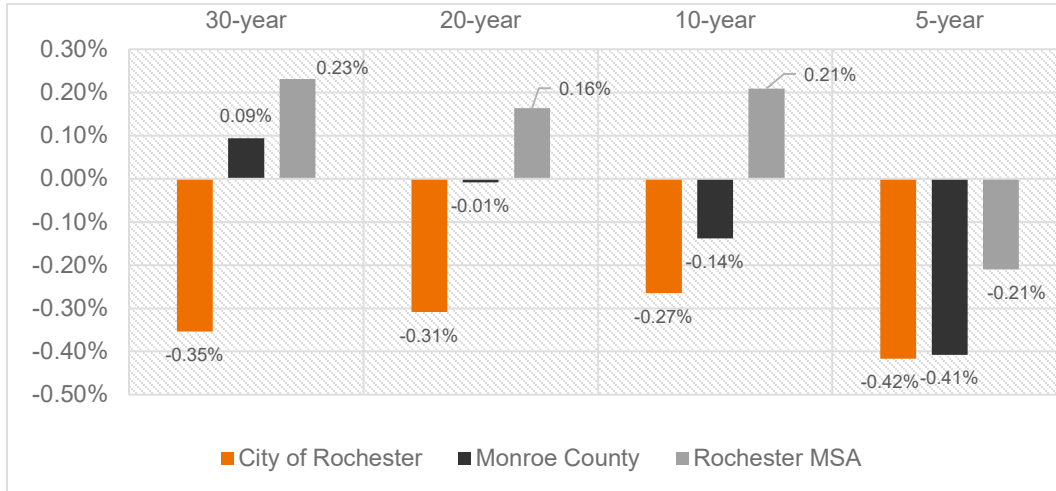
Figure 3 Population Change – Annual Average Percent Change by Decade



Reference: Inner Loop North Transformation Study

Figure 4 shows the cumulative annual population change since 1990.

Figure 4 Population Change – Cumulative Average Annual Percent (1990 – 2020)

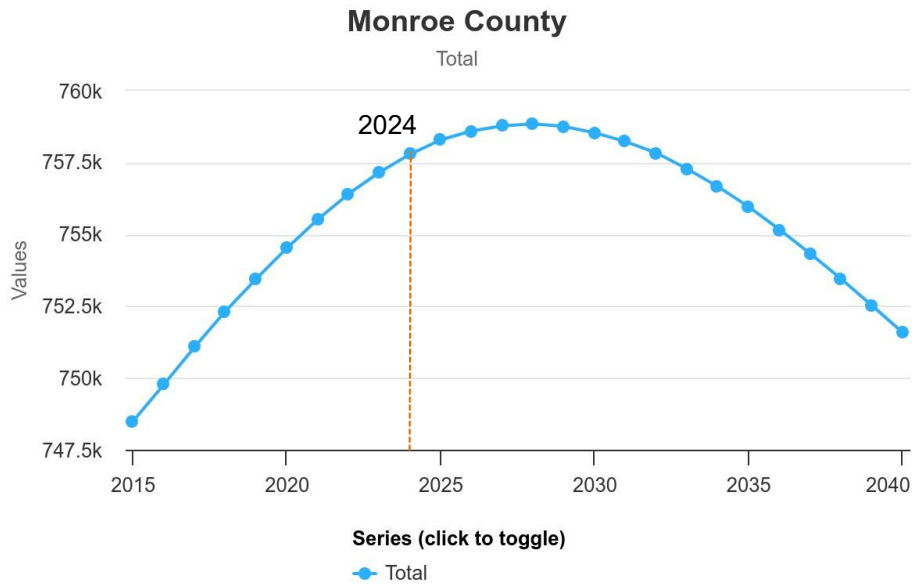


## Future Forecasts

The [Cornell Population Center Program on Applied Demographics](#) (PAD) prepares long-term population projections for all counties in New York. PAD uses a cohort component model, which accounts for births, deaths, and migration. Forecasts for Monroe County and the Finger Lakes economic region show continued population declines through 2040.

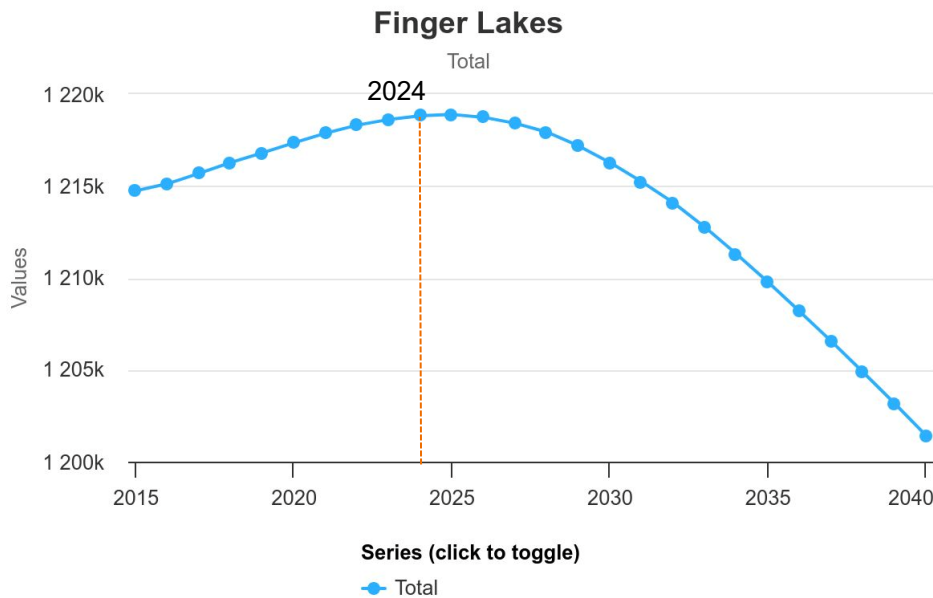
It is noted that the Cornell PAD definition of the Finger Lakes economic region cannot be directly compared to the Rochester MSA boundary, as it includes additional counties not included in the MSA. The Finger Lakes population projections are included here to illustrate overall context of population trends.

**Reference: Inner Loop North Transformation Study**



Based on Cornell PAD projections, 2018

Source: Cornell PAD, 2024



Based on Cornell PAD projections, 2018

Source: Cornell PAD, 2024

Note: The Finger Lakes region includes Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Orleans, Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates.



# Memo

Reference Table: Cumulative Change since 1990 by decade

	30 year (1990 - 2020)			20 year (2000 - 2020)			10 year (2010 - 2020)			5 year (2015 -2020)			2 year (2020 - 2022)		
	#	%	Av Annual	#	%	Av. Annual	#	%	Av. Annual	#	%	Av. Annual	#	%	Av Annual
<b>City of Rochester</b>	(24,515)	-10.62%	-0.35%	(13,564)	-6.17%	-0.31%	(5,620)	-2.65%	-0.27%	(4,388)	-2.08%	-0.42%	4,635	2.25%	1.12%
<b>Monroe County</b>	20,116	2.82%	0.09%	(1,259)	-0.17%	-0.01%	(10,260)	-1.38%	-0.14%	(15,272)	-2.04%	-0.41%	22,322	3.04%	1.52%
<b>Rochester MSA</b>	69,374	6.92%	0.23%	33,953	3.27%	0.16%	21,948	2.09%	0.21%	(11,372)	-1.05%	-0.21%	15,075	1.41%	0.70%