



Homicide Statistics for 2017

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Introduction and Methods

This is a report of homicides that occurred in the year 2017 in select cities. We examined homicide fluctuations in Rochester over the last ten years. We also described the differences in homicides from 2016 to 2017 for the selected 24 US cities. The homicide levels of US and Canadian cities were also compared.

- The comparisons in this paper illustrate change and stability over time.
- Cross-city comparisons raise issues of similarity and differences that may help understand violence levels across the communities.
- RPD is also developing a list of cities where social conditions show similarities to those in Rochester.

These reports are based on information provided by multiple news outlets and police department data releases.

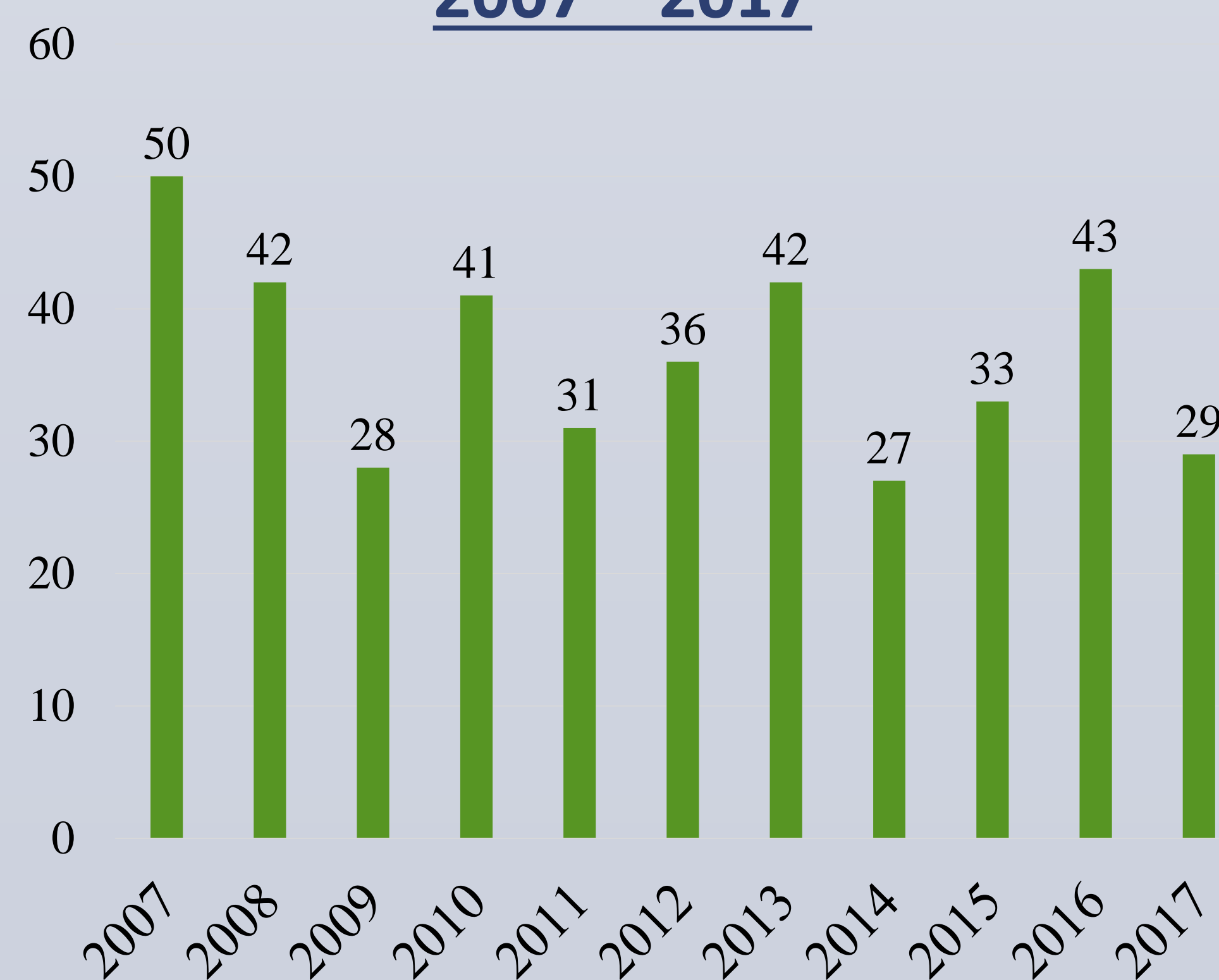
Local Context

- 29 homicides in 2017, down 14 from 2016 (-32%)

The reduction in homicides is an encouraging sign but fluctuations are common, especially with small time periods of comparison. The chart below illustrates the changes in the number of homicides in Rochester from 2007-2017

Number of Homicides in Rochester, NY

2007 – 2017



Change in Homicide Number and Rate in Select US Cities (2016-2017)

City	2016		City Population	2017		2016-2017 % Rate Change
	Homicides	Homicide Rate		Homicides	Homicide Rate	
1. New York City, NY	335	3.9	8,537,673	268	3.1	-18%
2. Seattle, WA	19	2.7	704,358	24	3.4	+26%
3. Los Angeles, CA	293	7.3	3,976,324	271	6.8	-7%
4. Albany, NY	2	2.0	98,106	8	8.2	+302%
5. Colorado Springs, CO	24	5.2	465,084	38	8.2	+58%
6. Denver, CO	57	8.2	693,060	57	8.2	+1%
7. Boston, MA	49	7.3	672,840	56	8.3	+15%
8. Buffalo, NY	44	17.1	256,908	28	10.9	-36%
9. Anchorage, AK	28	9.4	298,192	36	12.1	+29%
10. Dallas, TX	171	13.0	1,317,942	164	12.4	-4%
11. Rochester, NY	43	20.5	208,886	29	13.9	-32%
12. Syracuse, NY	30	20.8	143,378	21	14.6	-30%
13. Atlanta, GA	111	23.5	472,506	75	15.9	-32%
14. Washington, DC	138	20.3	681,170	115	16.9	-17%
15. Oakland, CA	85	20.0	419,987	76	18.1	-10%
16. Pittsburgh, PA	57	18.9	303,624	57	18.8	-0.4%
17. Hartford, CT	14	11.3	123,287	29	23.5	+108%
18. Chicago, IL	765	28.1	2,704,965	664	24.6	-13%
19. Newark, NY	100	35.5	281,770	70	24.8	-30%
20. Richmond, VA	61	27.7	223,170	67	30.0	+8%
21. Cleveland, OH	135	35.0	385,810	130	33.7	-4%
22. Detroit, MI	303	45.3	672,829	267	39.7	-12%
23. New Orleans, LA	174	43.8	391,495	157	40.1	-9%
24. St. Louis, MO	188	59.8	311,404	203	65.2	+9%

Cities with largest percent **increase** in homicide numbers from 2016-2017:

1. Albany, NY
2. Hartford, CT

But, cities with the highest number of homicides may not have the highest homicide rates due to differences in population sizes across cities.

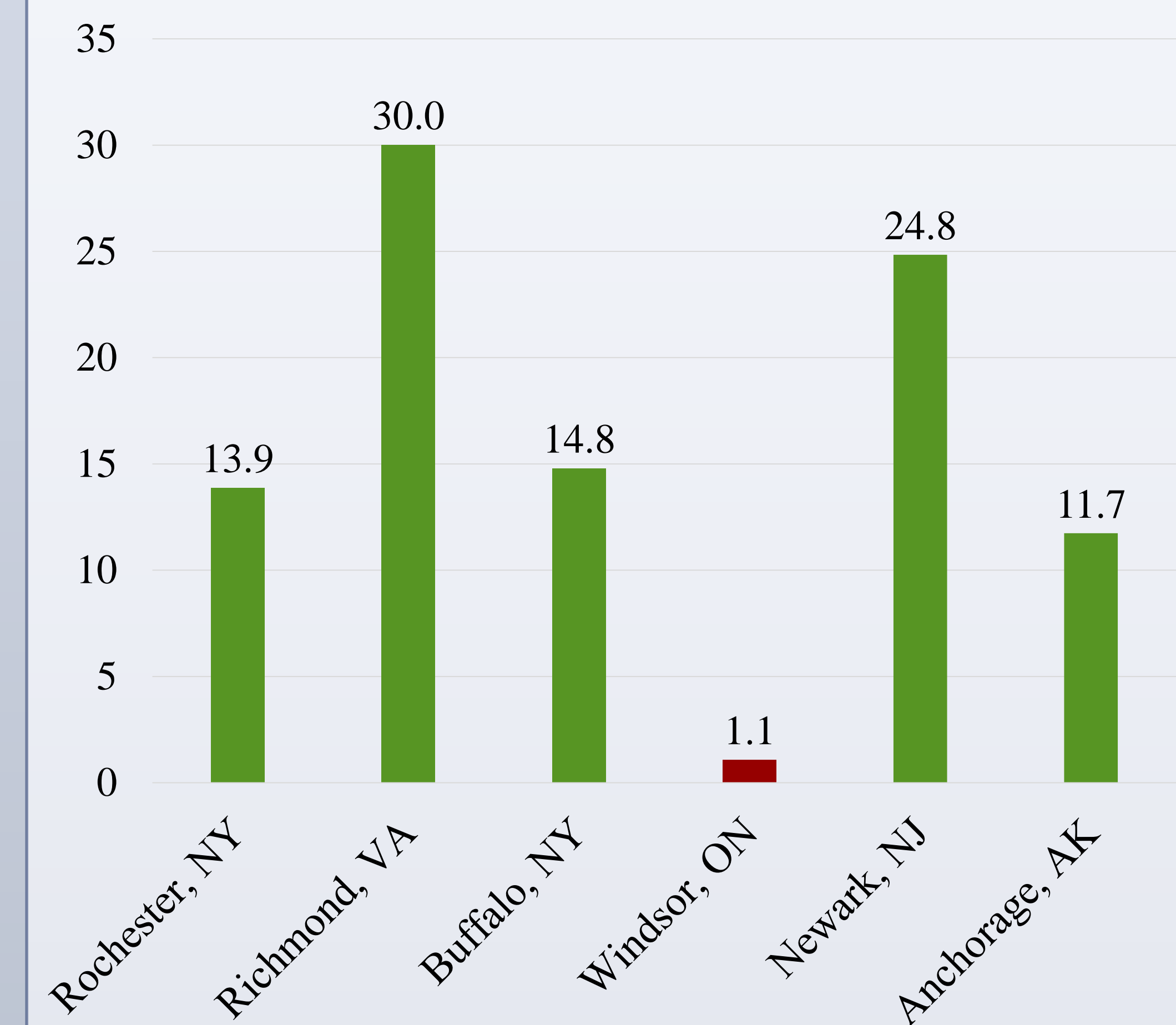
Cities with largest percentage **increase** in homicide rate from 2016-2017:

1. Albany, NY
2. Hartford, CT

Cities with largest percentage **decrease** in homicide rate from 2016-2017:

1. Rochester, NY
2. Atlanta, GA
3. Syracuse, NY
4. Newark, NJ

Rate of Homicides in US and Canadian Cities with Populations Between 200,000-300,000



Discussion and Limitations

Results:

- 14 out of 24 cities saw reductions in homicides
- Rochester had the most significant decreases
- US cities overall had higher homicide numbers and rates than Canadian cities

Limitations:

- Definitions and criteria for homicide counts can differ based on source & state

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