Population Basics

- Population Change since 2000: 9.6%
- Square Miles: 5.1
- Population Density: 5,456 people per sq. mile

Community Snapshot

- Population under age 20: 28%
- Population ages 20-64: 60%
- Population 65 and older: 11%
- Median household income: $50,441
- Residents with a bachelor’s degree or higher: 19%
- Owner-occupied housing: 48%
- Renter-occupied housing: 43%

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

Population & Demographics Analysis

Middletown’s population has grown by nearly 10% since 2000. Over that period, while the Hispanic population grew from 25% to 38% and the Black population grew from 13% to 22%, the White population fell from 57% to 35% of the city’s total. Almost 30% of Middletown’s population is under 20 years old. Most residents were born in the United States, but 18% were born abroad.

Data Notes

Population by Race & Ethnicity – The “Other” category includes Native Americans, Pacific Islanders, those who checked “Other” on the Census, and individuals with two or more races.

Place of Birth – The category of individuals who were born abroad and are not U.S. citizens includes both legal immigrants (with green cards, student visas, etc.) and undocumented immigrants. The U.S. Census does not ask individuals about their immigration status.

Share of Population by Age and Sex

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

Place of Birth

Source: 2015 American Community Survey; 2000 Decennial Census

- Born in United States: 67%
- Born Abroad: 15%
- Born in NY: 67%
- Born Elsewhere in US: 15%
- Naturalized Citizen: 6%
- Not a US Citizen: 12%
Housing Analysis
Middletown’s housing stock is divided relatively evenly between owner-occupied and renter-occupied units. While housing is affordable for 60% of homeowners, 54% of renters are “cost burdened” (paying more than 30% of their income towards housing), including 36% who are severely cost burdened (paying more than 50% of their income towards rent). Inflation-adjusted home values in Middletown have risen by 33% since 2000, exactly the same as in Orange County as a whole. Almost half of all homes are worth between $100,000 - $199,999. Over 60% of housing units are at least 50 years old, while only 15% of housing units were built since 1990.

Data Notes
**Household Income Distribution**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Range</th>
<th>Middletown</th>
<th>Orange County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$200,000 or more</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150,000 - $199,999</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000 - $149,999</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75,000 - $99,999</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 - $74,999</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 - $49,999</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 - $24,999</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than $10,000</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

**Income & Poverty Analysis**

Since 2000, Middletown’s median household income has fallen by 7% when accounting for inflation, while the poverty rate has risen from 15% to 19%. The share of households receiving SNAP benefits has risen from 12% to 18% since 2010. Half of households earn less than $50,000 while only 19% earn over $100,000.

**Data Notes**


Households Below the Poverty Line – The federal poverty line is adjusted on a yearly basis and varies by household size. As of 2015, the poverty line for a family of four was $24,250.

Households Receiving SNAP – SNAP is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly Food Stamps). To qualify for SNAP, a household must have an income below 130% of the poverty line.

**Median Household Income**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Middletown</th>
<th>Orange County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>$54,464</td>
<td>$71,653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$50,441</td>
<td>$70,848</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2015 American Community Survey; 2000 Decennial Census (Inflation Adjusted)

**Households Receiving SNAP**

- 2010 Middletown: 12%, Orange County: 7%
- 2015 Middletown: 18%, Orange County: 11%

Source: 2010 & 2015 American Community Survey

**Households Below the Poverty Line**

- 2000 Middletown: 15%, Orange County: 9%
- 2015 Middletown: 19%, Orange County: 12%

Source: 2015 American Community Survey; 2000 Decennial Census
Economy Analysis
The percent of Middletown residents who are employed has edged up since 2000, although the share who are unemployed doubled. Only 28% of Middletown residents work in the city, but 79% work in Orange County. Almost 85% of residents commute by car, while 5% take public transportation. The “educational services, health care and social assistance” and “public administration” sector employs the most Middletown residents, followed by “retail trade.” In 2016, Middletown became the first winner of the NY State $10 million Downtown Revitalization Initiative award in the mid-Hudson region.

Data Notes
Employment – Data on unemployment comes from American Community Survey, which reports data by municipality. The Bureau of Labor Statistics is a common source for national unemployment rate data but does not report data at the municipal level.

Means of Travel to Work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drove Alone</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpoled</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Transit</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walked</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

Place of Work & Commute Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of residents who work in Middletown</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of residents who work in Orange County</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Commute Time</td>
<td>31 Minutes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

Employment Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, forestry, fishing &amp; hunting</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>1,328</td>
<td>1,252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Trade</td>
<td>1,860</td>
<td>1,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation &amp; warehousing and utilities</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance &amp; insurance, and real estate &amp; rental &amp; leasing</td>
<td>689</td>
<td>675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional, scientific, &amp; management, &amp; administrative &amp; waste mgmt. services</td>
<td>776</td>
<td>804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational services, health care &amp; social assistance</td>
<td>3,253</td>
<td>3,173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, entertainment, and recreation, &amp; accommodation and food services</td>
<td>1,131</td>
<td>1,681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other services, except public administration</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public administration</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>680</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

Employment (Age 16 and Older)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Unemployed</th>
<th>Not in Labor Force</th>
<th>Employed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: American Community Survey, US Decennial Census
Dollars and Cents Analysis
Middletown has kept its municipal budget under the Tax Cap every year since 2012 and its bond rating is above average. City property taxes are 33% of the average tax bill. The city has 211 full time and 30 part time employees.

Data Notes
Municipal Finances – The NY Tax Cap law restricts schools and local governments from raising the property tax levy by more than 2% without a supermajority vote of the local governing body.
Municipal Employees – Employees were counted as part time if they earned less than $30,000 in 2016 and full time if they earned over $30,000. “General” employees are non-police/fire employees.
Municipal Revenues and Expenditures – Categories are determined by the Comptroller’s Office. “Proceeds of Debt” revenue comes from sale of bonds and is not a recurring yearly source of revenue.

Municipal Finances
Did City Budget Stay Under NY State Tax Cap?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bond Rating (Moody’s)
A1 (Upper Medium Grade)
Rating Date: May 10, 2016

Sources: Moody’s; Office of the New York State Comptroller

Municipal Employees

| Part Time | 28 |
| Full Time | 120 |

| Part Time | 2 |
| Full Time | 91 |

General Employees
Median FT Salary: $62,144

Police/Fire Employees
Median FT Salary: $96,207

Source: Office of the New York State Comptroller (2016)
**Education Analysis**

The City School District of Middletown serves just under 7,500 students in the city and parts of two adjacent towns. Enrollment in the district is growing steadily, rising by 28% since 1997. Over the past decade, the graduation rate has also risen, even as per pupil expenditures have stayed nearly flat. The number of students receiving free or reduced lunch (a measure of poverty) has increased significantly since the 06-07 school year, rising from 53% to 79%.

**Data Notes**

- **Expenditures per Pupil** – Adjusted for inflation using CPI inflation tables from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- **Graduation Rate & College/Career Readiness** – College/Career Readiness (CCR), also known as Aspirational Performance Measure, is a statistic created by NY State to track high school graduates’ ability to succeed in college or the workforce. CCR is based on a student’s Regents scores and was introduced in the 09-10 school year. 2015-16 data is not yet available.
- **Student Characteristics** – Students are eligible for free school lunch if their family’s income is below 130% of the poverty line and reduced price lunch if their family’s income is below 185% of the poverty line. English Language Learners are students who have been classified as not proficient in English and require additional instruction.

**Average SAT Scores**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Score (800 max)</th>
<th>Rank Among 23 UAA districts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>T-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: New York State Department of Education (2015-16)

**Education Level of City Residents**

- 7% Graduate or Professional Degree
- 12% Bachelor’s Degree
- 10% Associate’s Degree
- 23% Some College, No Degree
- 31% High School Diploma or GED
- 17% Less than High School Graduate

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

**Expenditures Per Pupil**

Source: New York State Department of Education (Infl. Adjusted)
Post-Graduation Plans of Graduating High School Seniors

- 4-Year College: 26%
- 2-Year College: 13%
- Military: 9%
- Employment: 26%
- Other: 6%

Source: New York State Department of Education (2015-16)

City School District of Middletown Enrollment

Source: New York State Department of Education

Student to Teacher Ratio

14 : 1

Source: New York State Department of Education (2015-16)

Race & Ethnicity of Students

- Hispanic: 55%
- Black: 23%
- White: 16%
- Other: 3%
- Asian: 3%

Source: New York State Department of Education (2015-16)

Graduation Rate & College/Career Readiness

Source: New York State Department of Education

Student Characteristics

Source: New York State Department of Education
**Health Analysis**

The number of births in the city has plunged since 2007. 40% of students in Middletown public schools were overweight or obese. 87% of Middletown residents have health insurance.

**Data Notes**

- **County Health Ranking** – Each year, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation releases a health ranking for every county in the U.S. These rankings are based on dozens of key health metrics.
- **Access to Quality Food** – The US Dept. of Agriculture defines census tracts as food deserts if the tracts have high poverty and low access to food. Pattern analyzed GIS data to find supermarket walktimes.
- **Childhood Obesity** – These categories are mutually exclusive. Obese individuals are not also counted as overweight.

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**Access to Quality Food**

Legend:
- Food Desert
- Supermarket

Travel to a Supermarket
- 5 Minute Walk
- 10 Minute Walk
- 15 Minute Walk

Sources: USDA Food Access Research Atlas (2015); Pattern GIS analysis

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**Childhood Obesity**

Source: New York State Department of Health (2014-16 average)

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**Number of Births**

Source: New York State Department of Health

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**Health Insurance Rate**

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

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**County Health Ranking**

Orange County
Rank out of 62 New York Counties

2015 2016 2017

Source: Robert Wood Johnson County Health Rankings
### Quality of Life Analysis

Middletown has several attractive parks scattered throughout the city. After peaking in the early 1990s and rising again during the 2000s, the property crime rate is down by nearly 50% since 2010. The violent crime rate is low, but has slightly increased since 1990.

#### Data Notes

**Per Capita Crime Rate** – This metric tracks totals for certain types of property and violent crimes. The property crimes tracked are burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft. The violent crimes tracked are murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

### Access to Parks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Open Space &amp; Parks in Municipality</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents per Acre of Parkland</td>
<td>418</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Pattern for Progress Analysis of GIS Data

### Avg. Annual Household Spending

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apparel &amp; Services</td>
<td>$1,989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eating Out</td>
<td>$3,031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groceries</td>
<td>$4,629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care</td>
<td>$4,875</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** ESRI Business Analyst 2017

### ABOUT THIS PROJECT

The Urban Action Agenda (UAA) is a major initiative led by Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress to promote growth and revitalization in urban centers throughout the nine-county Hudson Valley Region. The Valley contains a wide variety of urban centers, large and small, located along the Hudson River and other historic transportation corridors. These cities and villages are where population, social, cultural, civic, and economic activity traditionally clustered. With their existing infrastructure, access to transit, and traditions of denser development, these communities are well positioned to accommodate the region’s growth in the 21st Century.

Pattern began working on the UAA profiles in 2014 thanks to a multi-year grant from the Ford Foundation. To keep the project’s scale manageable, the UAA focuses on a group of 25 higher-need urban areas in the region, selected for reasons including changing demographics and poverty. An initial set of profiles were issued in early 2016 in partnership with the Regional Plan Association. Now, this set of updated and expanded community profiles represent the next step in the UAA’s efforts to provide useful data to policymakers, residents, and business and community groups in the Valley’s urban areas. Current funding for these profiles comes from Empire State Development and the NYS Department of State through the Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council.

**About Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress**

Pattern is a half-century old not-for-profit policy, planning, advocacy, and research organization whose mission is to promote regional, balanced, and sustainable solutions that enhance the growth and vitality of the Hudson Valley. To learn more about Pattern and the UAA, visit our website: www.pattern-for-progress.org.