Gender gap is smaller in Buffalo than in most metros, but it's still wide

The gender gap is substantial and persistent in the Buffalo metropolitan area, but the local disparity is not as large as those in most major U.S. metros.

The typical woman in the two-county Buffalo area earned $29,838 in 2017, compared to $40,285 for the typical man, according to new figures from the U.S. Census Bureau.

That translates to a ratio of 74.07 cents earned by a local woman for every $1 earned by a local man, a gap of almost 26 percent.

from the largest gender gap to the smallest.

Gender gap in major U.S. metropolitan areas

Each slide shows the median earnings for women and men in 2017, the latest year for which official statistics are available. Business First calculated the pay ratios between the genders.
Women and men come closest to equality in Tampa-St. Petersburg, where women earned 81.80 cents for every dollar that men earned last year. Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami and Phoenix round out the top five.

Buffalo’s ratio of 74.07 cents is 22nd among the 53 major metros, indicating that the local gender gap is smaller than those for 31 other markets. The Buffalo metropolitan area includes Erie and Niagara counties.

Grand Rapids, Michigan, is saddled with the widest gender disparity on the list. Women in Grand Rapids earned 63.76 cents for every dollar earned by men in 2017.