

## RBA survey finds drop in manufacturing wages

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The average hourly wage for local manufacturing jobs fell from one year ago but wages for unskilled hourly jobs rose, a survey from the Rochester Business Alliance found.

The RBA's 2011 Annual Wage and Salary Survey found that wages for manufacturing jobs fell to \$15.17 an hour, down from \$15.29 a year ago, while the average paid locally for unskilled hourly jobs was \$9.89, up from \$9.71 in 2010.

The RBA conducted four separate surveys for manufacturing, nonexempt, professional/managerial and health care wage and salaries, asking about pay and other compensation.

"While the recession was difficult on both employers and employees, as business conditions continue to improve, it will be even more important for employers to be able to attract new employees and retain existing employees through the use of competitive benchmarking practices," said Barbara Cutrona, vice president of operations at the Rochester Business Alliance.

The surveys are sent to RBA corporate and partner member companies. A total of 213 companies, employing more than 94,000 workers in all, responded to one or more of those surveys, RBA officials said.