

86 percent of Rochester-area companies plan pay raises in 2011

Matthew Daneman • Staff writer • September 16, 2010

The percentage of Rochester-area employers planning to give **pay** raises in 2011 soared from this year's level, according to an annual survey by the Rochester Business Alliance released today.

According to the of RBA members, 86 percent of **businesses** are planning to hand out raises next year, up from 62 percent who said last fall that they planned raises in 2010.

Only 11 percent of respondents are planning wage freezes or cuts next year, compared with 38 percent who planned to do so in 2010.

The results are based on the responses of 161 companies with a combined **work force** of 67,400.

On average, employers giving out raises are projecting increases 3.2 percent in 2011. Companies that actually did give raises in the **Rochester** area between August 2009 and July 2010 also gave raises averaging 3.2 percent.

“As the recovery continues, businesses are shifting focus toward retaining employees and attracting new talent.” said Sandy Parker, president and CEO of the Rochester Business Alliance. “Companies are planning pay adjustments that help ensure they remain competitive in attracting and retaining talent, and also benefit employees by helping offset the cost of living, including ever-increasing **health insurance** premiums.”

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