

Finger Lakes

The Finger Lakes Region is comprised of nine counties, five of which are part of the Rochester metropolitan statistical area which accounts for 95 percent of the total non-farm jobs in the region.



Demographics

- The Finger Lakes population grew by 3.8% from 1990-2002 compared to 6.5% for the state and nearly 16% for the US. Although the Finger Lakes' growth performance was significantly lower than for the nation on the basis of growth, it ranked 4th among New York's regions.
- While the growth in the working age population (16-64 years) was also below that for the NYS and the US, this group grew by 2.4% in the nineties. In contrast, the working population aged 20-34 declined by 21%, compared to a 12% and 5.4% decrease at the state and national levels.

FINGER LAKES DATA BANK			
	FLK	NYS	US
Population			
2002 Estimate	1,205,245	-	-
% Change 1990-2002	3.8	6.5	15.9
Employment			
2002 Level	542,696	8,116,000	130,376,000
% Change 2000-2002	-3.4	-2.3	-1.1
2000 Level	561,928	8,308,000	131,785,000
% Change 1992-2000	7.5	11.2	20.9
Unemployment			
2003 1st Half (#)	36,969	584,900	8,771,571
2003 1st Half (rate)	5.9	6.3	6.0
%Pt Change 2001-2003 1st Half	1.7	1.8	1.7
2000 (rate)	4.5	4.8	4.0
%Pt Change 1990-2000	0.2	-0.8	-1.6
Labor Force Participation			
2000 (rate)	65.4	61.0	63.7
%Pt Change 1990-2000	-0.9	-2.5	-1.2
Per Capita Income (2002\$)			
2001	24,762	36,449	30,897
% Change 1990-2001	9.1	17.3	18.3
Poverty Rate			
2000	10.3	14.6	12.4
%Pt Change 1990-2000	0.7	1.6	-0.7
Percent of Population Earning less than 200% of Poverty level, 2000	25.5	30.5	29.6
%Pt Change 1990-2000	1.6	2.7	-1.3
Median Family Income			
	2000 (2002\$)	% Change 1990-2000	
USA	54,011	9.5	
New York State	55,786	0.2	
Genesee	51,555	3.8	
Livingston	54,515	6.7	
Monroe	60,328	1.1	
Ontario	56,873	5.7	
Orleans	46,223	1.3	
Seneca	49,045	5.2	
Wayne	55,574	6.3	
Wyoming	48,660	10.5	
Yates	43,904	8.0	

Employment and Labor Force Characteristics

NAICS	Industry	Employment		2000-2002 Change		Avg. Wage 2002
		2000	2002	#	%	
	Total Employment	561,928	542,696	-19,232	-3.4%	\$34,448
92	Government	85,864	89,185	3,321	3.9%	\$34,695
611	Educational Services	17,377	19,977	2,600	15.0%	\$42,725
623	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	14,333	15,683	1,350	9.4%	\$20,674
517	Telecommunications	5,443	6,322	880	16.2%	\$60,196
813	Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Si	7,095	7,820	725	10.2%	\$16,172
713	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	5,292	6,010	719	13.6%	\$13,940
624	Social Assistance	11,409	11,990	581	5.1%	\$19,330
562	Waste Management and Remediation Services	1,223	1,791	568	46.4%	\$42,975
516	Internet Publishing and Broadcasting	91	381	290	319.7%	\$57,613
812	Personal and Laundry Services	4,292	4,581	289	6.7%	\$16,823
	Total of above industries	152,418	163,739	11,321	7.4%	\$32,189

Source: NYS DOL.

- Insured employment in the Finger Lakes region fell by 3.4% or 19,232 jobs from 2000-2002; this was a greater decrease than at the state level where it declined by 2.3%. Over the period 1992-2000, employment grew by 7.5% or 39,393 jobs compared to 11.2% for the state.
- Between 2000 and 2002, the growth industries in the region included: educational services, telecommunications, and waste management and remediation services. In absolute terms, employment at nursing and residential facilities contributed to the employment base, but these jobs paid \$20,674--significantly below the average wage of \$34,448. Wages in the other growth industries were significantly higher than the average wage in the region.
- Declining industries were centered in manufacturing but included among others administrative and support services, hospitals, and accommodations. Many of the jobs lost paid significantly higher wages than the average and seven of the declining industries had wages that were higher than the average.
- Unemployment in the region rose by 1.7 percentage points to 5.9% in the first half of 2003. The labor force participation rate at 65.4% was about one percentage point less than it was a decade ago.

NAICS	Industry	Employment		2000-2002 Change		Avg. Wage 2002
		2000	2002	#	%	
	Total Employment	561,928	542,696	-19,232	-3.4%	\$34,448
561	Administrative and Support Services	25,562	20,238	-5,324	-20.8%	\$24,182
325	Chemical Manufacturing	24,095	18,897	-5,198	-21.6%	\$60,672
622	Hospitals	23,958	21,631	-2,327	-9.7%	\$33,772
332	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	11,100	9,128	-1,973	-17.8%	\$36,817
541	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	23,941	22,477	-1,464	-6.1%	\$44,583
334	Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	9,912	8,532	-1,380	-13.9%	\$56,112
333	Machinery Manufacturing	22,446	21,171	-1,275	-5.7%	\$56,268
721	Accommodation	4,571	3,460	-1,111	-24.3%	\$14,343
326	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	7,346	6,278	-1,068	-14.5%	\$36,170
722	Food Services and Drinking Places	32,571	31,517	-1,054	-3.2%	\$11,065
	Total of above industries	185,501	163,329	-22,173	-12.0%	\$36,736

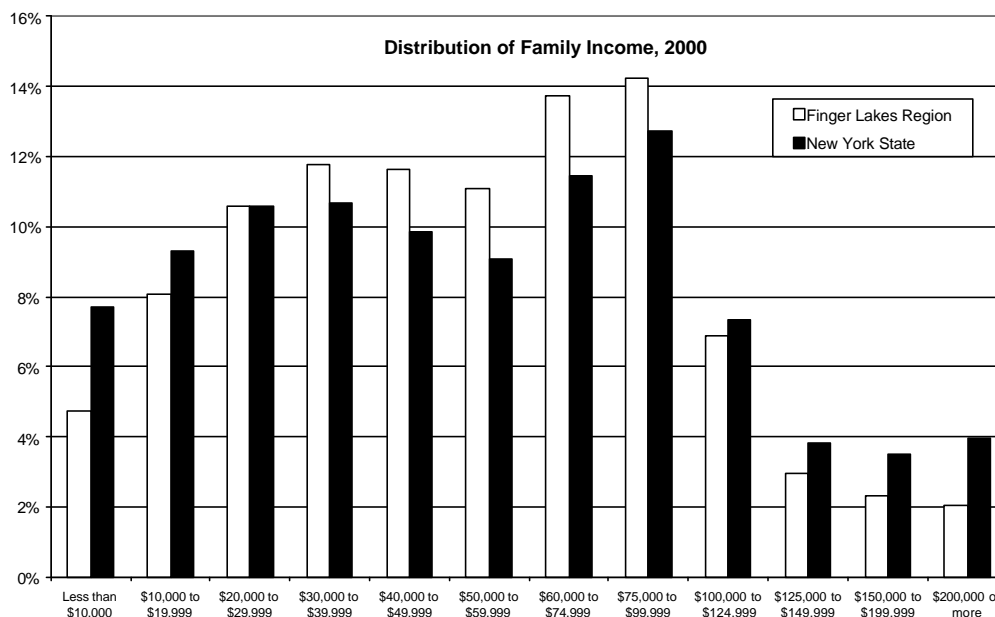
Source: NYS DOL.

Income and Poverty

Finger Lakes - Change in Personal Income and Components, Selected Years (billions, \$2001)						
	Personal Income	Wages & Salaries	Proprietors Income	Dividends, Interest, Rent	Transfer Payments	Residency Adjustment
1980	25.6	15.9	1.6	3.9	3.0	0.0
1990	31.7	18.9	1.8	6.0	4.0	0.0
2000	34.8	19.9	2.3	6.6	5.5	0.0
2001	35.0	19.9	2.3	6.6	5.7	-0.1
1980-1990						
Change	6.2	3.0	0.2	2.2	1.0	-0.1
Ann Avg %	2.2%	1.7%	1.4%	4.5%	3.0%	n/a
1990-2000						
Change	3.1	1.0	0.5	0.5	1.5	0.0
Ann Avg %	0.9%	0.5%	2.3%	0.8%	3.2%	-0.7%
2000-2001						
Change	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
Ann Avg %	0.7%	-0.4%	0.7%	0.0%	3.9%	72.8%

Source: BEA. Deflator applied by Fiscal Policy Institute.

- Between 1990-2000, per capita income in the Finger Lakes Region rose by 9.1%, about half of the state rate. It ranked 10th among the state's regions.
- In the last decade, poverty in the Finger Lakes region increased slightly to 10.3%. In 2000, just over 25% of the families in the region earned less than 200% of the poverty wage, and this was an increase of 1.6% compared to 2.7% for the state.
- Median income in the region ranged from \$43,904 in Yates to \$60,328 in Monroe and every county experienced a gain in family income. Wyoming experienced the largest gain--about 10.5 %.
- In 2000, family income in the region was more equitably distributed than in the state. More families in the region had incomes in the middle range than in the state as a whole.
- Between 1990 and 2000, the region's total personal income increased by \$4.1 billion, slightly over one percent. Wages and salaries grew by less than one percent. Proprietors income (2.7%) and transfer payments (3.5%) contributed the most to the increase in income in the region.



Prospects

The Finger Lakes economy has a high concentration of firms related to the optics and imaging industry and is a leading exporter of manufactured products in the state. Exports from the region are valued at \$12 billion.

Other industry clusters in the Finger Lakes region include: precision manufacturing, MIS/IT business services, telecommunications, materials processing and biotechnology/pharmaceuticals/medical research.

Services account for 40% of the private jobs in the region; the health industry, which is the largest of these industries, employs 51,700 workers. The health industry continues to restructure its work force and hospital facilities in response to an aging population, health costs and a changing approach to health care—for example, the increased emphasis on in-home healthcare.

Manufacturing employment in the Finger Lakes region continues to decline. The loss of nearly 6,200 manufacturing jobs in the last year will slow economic recovery. Eastman Kodak, Bausch and Lomb, and Xerox all face stiff international competition and have continued to lay off workers. Most recently, Kodak announced that it would lay off 3,000 workers in the Rochester area and shift manufacturing operation abroad, bringing down the company's total employment in the region to 18,000—the lowest since the Great Depression. Administrative, R&D and manufacturing related jobs will be affected causing hardship not just for workers being laid off but possibly workers in small firms that have supplier linkages to Kodak. It is going to be difficult for the region to absorb these 3,000 job cuts, and the resulting loss in income will ripple throughout the economy.

The Finger Lakes Region has a large educational infrastructure comprised of 17 colleges and universities. Educational services, which added 2,000 workers over the last year, continues to grow across the sector—colleges, technical institutions, etc.

The region has a highly skilled workforce largely because of the presence of leading firms in the optics and imaging industry. As a result of this talent, the region has the potential for emerging as a leading center of photonic (laser) technology. There is concern for holding on to this talent, particularly workers in their twenties and thirties.

In addition to leading research institutions (University of Rochester and Rochester Institute of Technology) and private R & D facilities, the region will host a new \$300 million Infotonics Technology Center in Ontario county.

The Finger Lakes economy is one of the most innovative areas in the country producing over 13,000 patents in the nineties or 1,233 per 100,000 residents. The three major firms—Kodak, Bausch and Lomb and Xerox—account for the bulk of these patents. Lack of small business access to investment capital may be a barrier to development of small technology firms in the region.

Top Employers in the Finger Lakes, 2002

- Adecco North America Llc
- Bausch & Lomb Inc
- Boces of First Supervisory District
- City of Rochester
- County of Monroe
- Delphi Auto Systems Srvcs Llc
- Eastman Kodak Co
- Fairport Central School District
- Frontier Telephone
- Greece Central School District
- Highland Hospital
- Kelly Services Inc
- Monroe County Community College
- Ortho-Clinical
- Park Ridge Hospital Inc
- Paychex Inc
- Rochester City School District
- Rochester Gas & Electric Corp
- Rochester General Hospital
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- SUNY Brockport
- The Sutherland Group Ltd
- Tops Markets Inc
- University Of Rochester
- US Postal For Rochester New York
- Valeo Electrical Systems Inc
- Wal-Mart Associates Inc
- Webster Central School District
- Wegmans Food Markets Inc
- Xerox Corporation

Source: NYS DOL ES-202 data, compiled by the New York State Data Center. Unranked.