

REGIONAL SNAPSHOT

Industry Cluster Analysis

Foothills Region, North Carolina





Center for Regional Development Advancing Collaboration : Energizing Regions

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Industry Cluster Analysis

Overview

01 overview

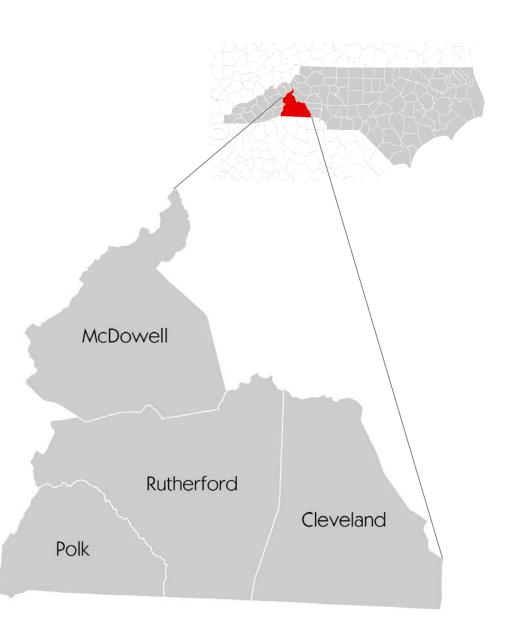
Foothills Region, NC

Overview

Foothills Region

The Foothills Region is comprised of three North Carolina counties. Interstate I-40 passes through the northern part of the region connecting to I-77 to the east and I-26 to the west.

- Cleveland
- McDowell
- Polk
- Rutherford



section 01

02 Industry cluster analysis

Foothills Region, NC

Industry cluster analysis

How to interpret cluster data results

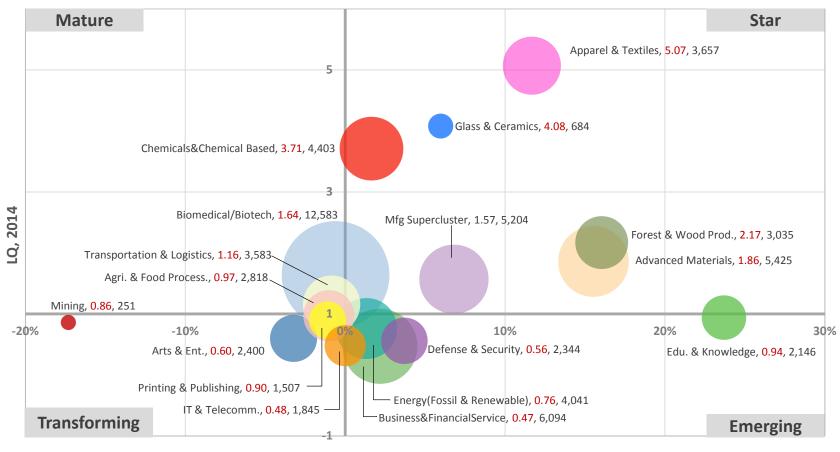
The graph's four quadrants tell a different story for each cluster.

Contains clusters to concentrated in the re- are declining (negative gro- These clusters typically into the lower quadrant a job losses cause a decline in concentration.	gion but owth). fall	concent grow st	usters that are more crated in the region and are ving. These clusters are rengths that help a region stand out from the competition. Small, high-growth clusters can be expected to become more dominant over time.
Contains clusters that are under-represented in the region (low concentration) and are also losing jobs Clusters in this region ma indicate a gap in the workf pipeline if local industries an a future need. In general, clus quadrant show a lack of competitiveness.	ay declining) orce ticipate	quad	Contains clusters that are under-represented in the region but are growing, often quickly. If growth trends continue, these clusters will ventually move into the top right rant. Clusters in this quadrant idered emerging strengths on.

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Industry and occupation

Industry cluster bubble chart



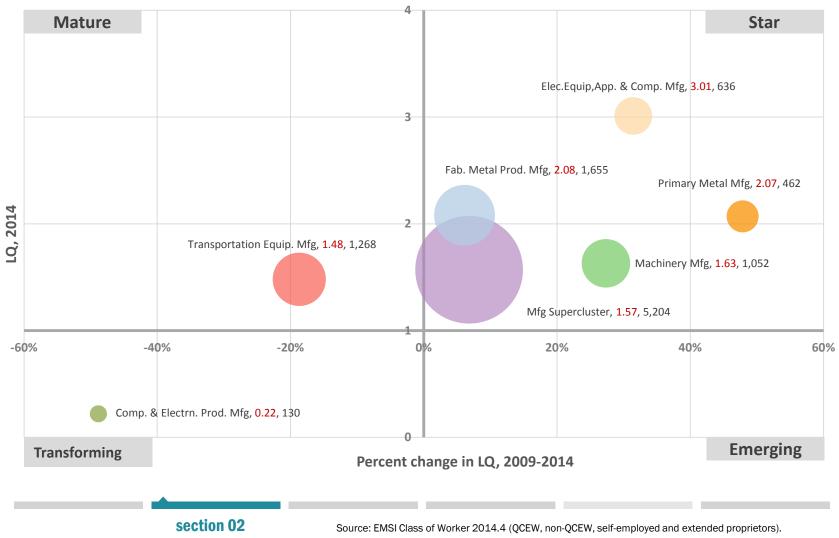
Percent change in LQ, 2009-2014

section 02

Source: EMSI Class of Worker 2014.4 (QCEW, non-QCEW, self-employed and extended proprietors). Note: Label includes cluster name, LQ 2014, and Employment 2014; NAICS 2012 definitions

Industry and occupation

Manufacturing sub-cluster bubble chart



Note: Label includes cluster name, LQ 2014, and Employment 2014; NAICS 2012 definition

Industry cluster analysis

Mature Clusters

Biomed/Biotechnical(Life Science) (1.6; 12,583)

Transportation Equipment Mfg. (1.5; 1,268)

Transportation & Logistics (1.2; 3,583)

Level of Specialization

Star Clusters

Apparel & Textiles (5.1; 3,657) Glass & Ceramics (4.1; 684) Chemicals/Chemical-based Products (3.71; 4,403) Electrical Equip., App & Comp Mfg. (3.0; 636) Forest & Wood Products (2.2; 3,035) Fabricated Metal Product Mfg. (2.1; 1,655) Primary Metal Mfg. (2.1; 462); Machinery Mfg. (1.6; 1,052) Advanced Materials (1.9; 5,425) Manufacturing Supercluster (1.6; 5,204)

Percent Growth in Specialization

Transforming Clusters

Agribusiness, Food Processing & Tech (0.97; 2,818)

Printing & Publishing (0.9; 1,507)

Mining (**0.9**; 251)

Arts, Ent, Rec. & Visitor Industries (0.6; 2,400)

Information Technology & Telecom. (0.5; 1,845)

Computer & Electronic Prod Mfg. (0.2; 130)

Emerging Clusters

Education & Knowledge Creation (0.9; 2,146)

Energy(Fossil & Renewable) (0.8; 4,041)

Defense & Security (0.6; 2,344)

Business & Financial Services (0.5; 6,094)

section 02

NOTE: The first number after each cluster represents its location quotient while the second number represents the number of total jobs (full and part time jobs by place of work) in that cluster in the region in 2014. The clusters are sorted in decreasing order by location quotient.

Industry and occupation Bubble chart interpretation

Mature Industries

Three industry clusters in the Foothills Region are in the Maturing stage: Biomed/Biotechnical(Life Science); Transportation Equipment Mfg.; and Transportation & Logistics. These industries are relatively concentrated, but their growth is trending downward. It is worth noting, however, that the Foothills Region may find it worthwhile to invest in efforts to shore up the concentration of these industries.

Transforming Industries

Transforming clusters capture the mix of industries that are experiencing relative decline and limited export capability. In the Foothills Region, Agribusiness, Food Processing & Technology; Printing & Publishing; Mining; Arts, Entertainment, Recreation & Visitor Industries; Information Technology & Telecommunications; and Computer & Electronic Product Mfg. are all Transforming clusters. Any amount of growth in these industries would require relatively large investments.

Star Industries

Star industry clusters are highly concentrated, exporting and still experiencing growth in the region. The most highly concentrated of the Star industry clusters in the Foothills Region is Apparel & Textiles. Its location quotient is 5.1, indicating that the cluster is 5 times more concentrated in the region compared to the U.S. The other strong clusters in the region are Glass & Ceramics; Chemicals/Chemical-based Products; Electrical Equipment, Appliance & Component Mfg.; Forest & Wood Products; Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.; Primary Metal Mfg.; Machinery Mfg.; Advanced Materials; and Manufacturing supercluster

Emerging Industries

Industry clusters that may be poised for future growth are classified as "Emerging." There are four Emerging clusters in the Foothills Region: Education & Knowledge Creation; Energy (Fossil & Renewable); Defense & Security; and Business & Financial Services.