



# REGIONAL SNAPSHOT

Industry Cluster Analysis

**Foothills Region, North Carolina**

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# 01 overview

**Foothills Region, NC**

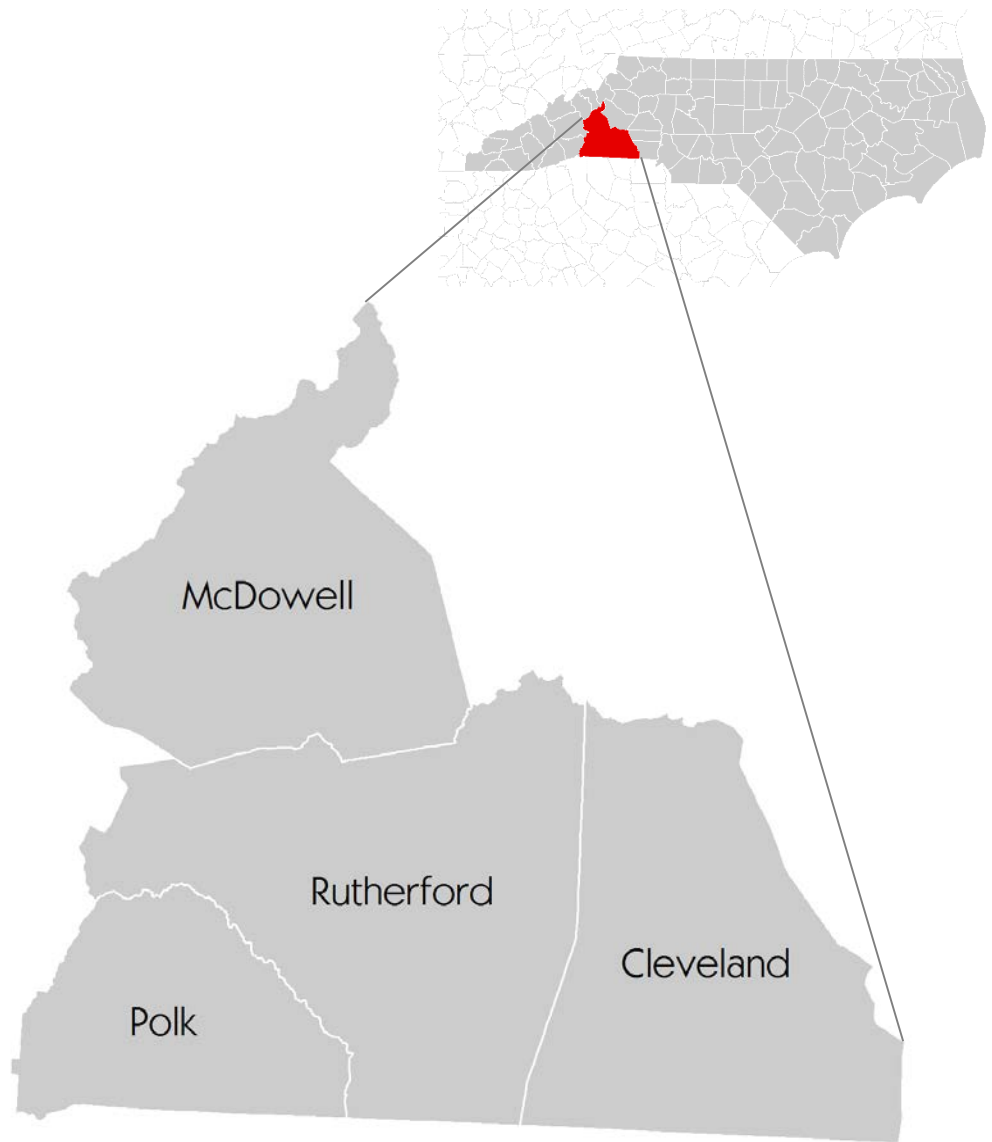
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## Overview

# 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



# 02 Industry cluster analysis

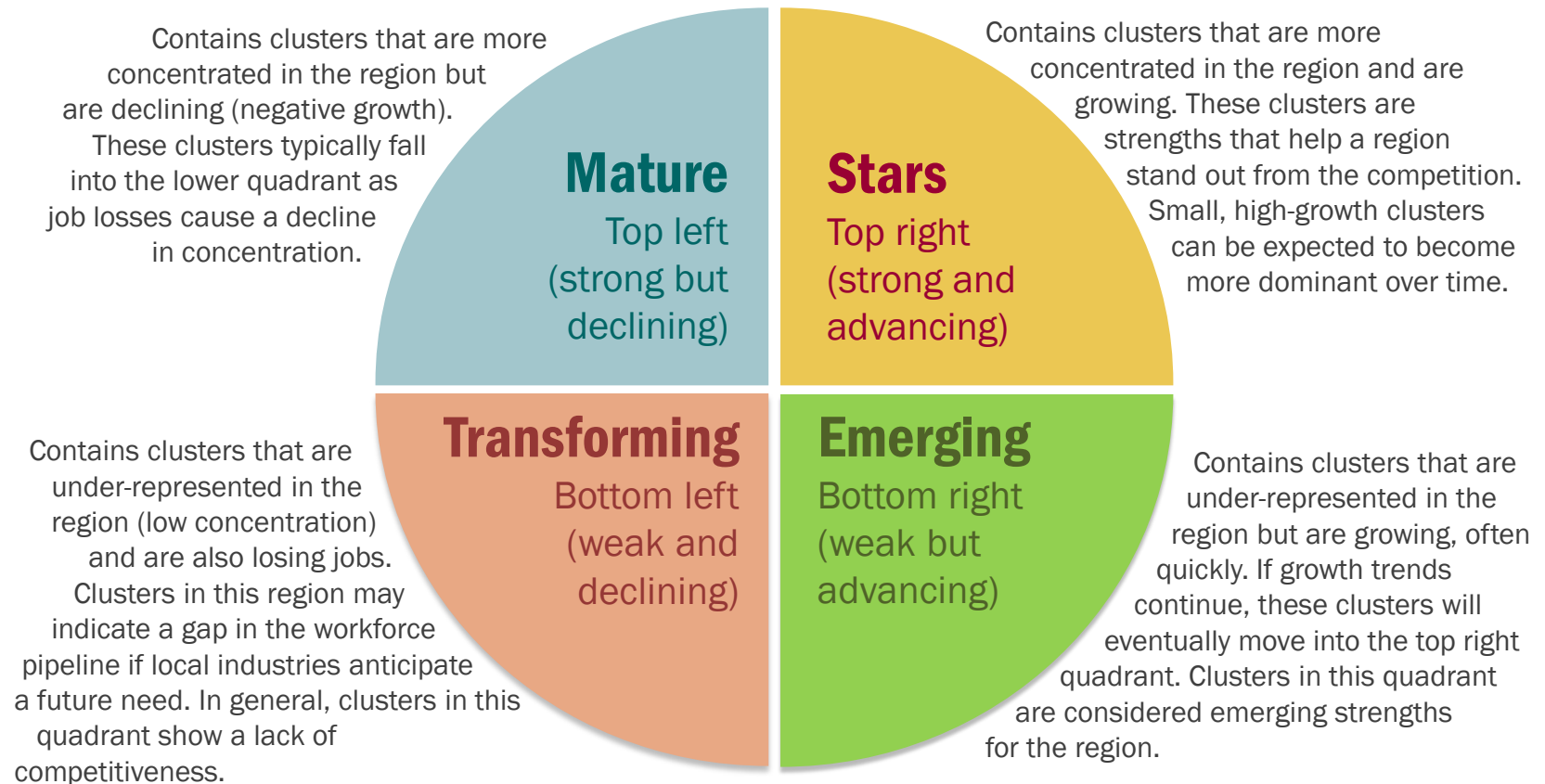
Foothills Region, NC

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## Industry cluster analysis

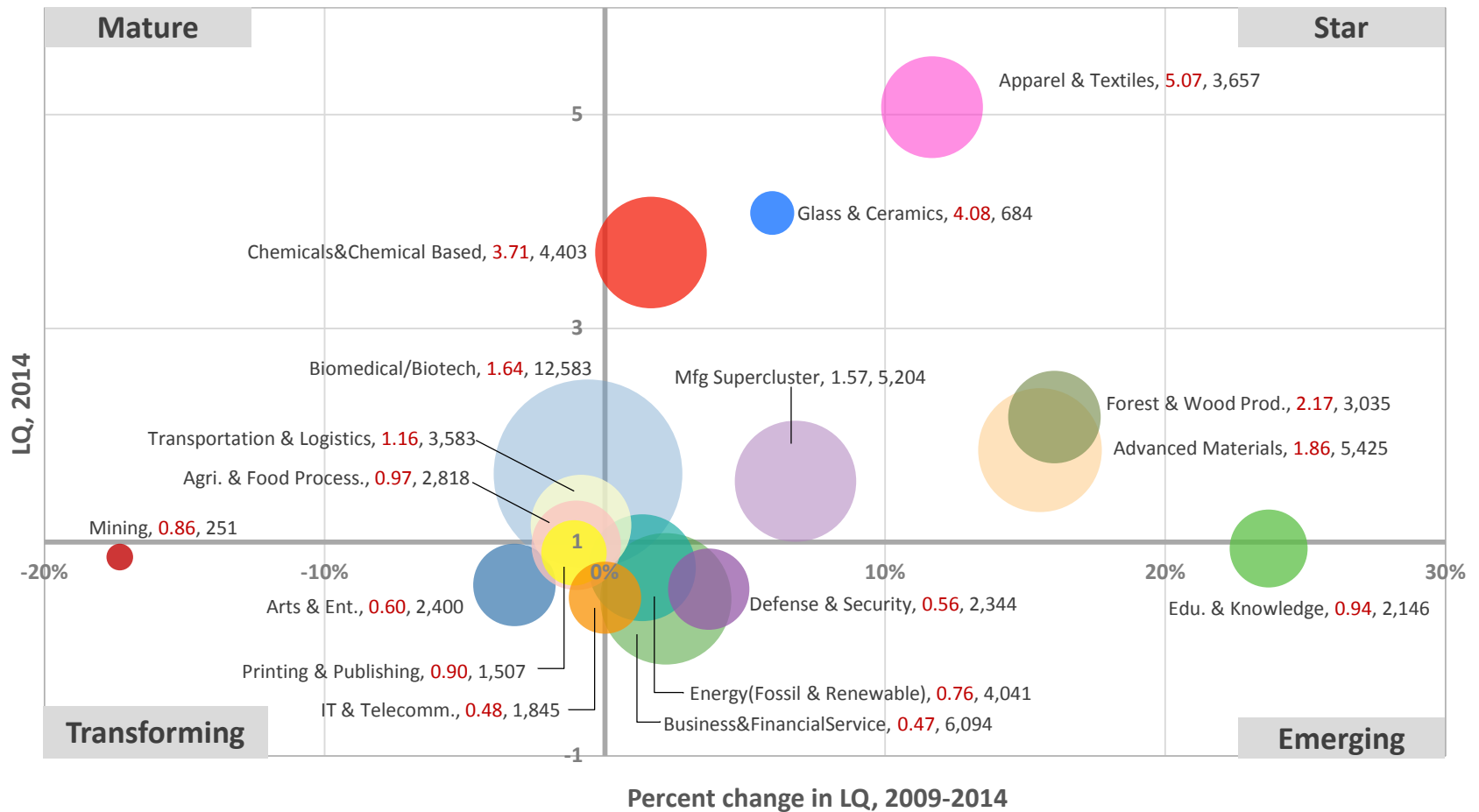
# How to interpret cluster data results

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



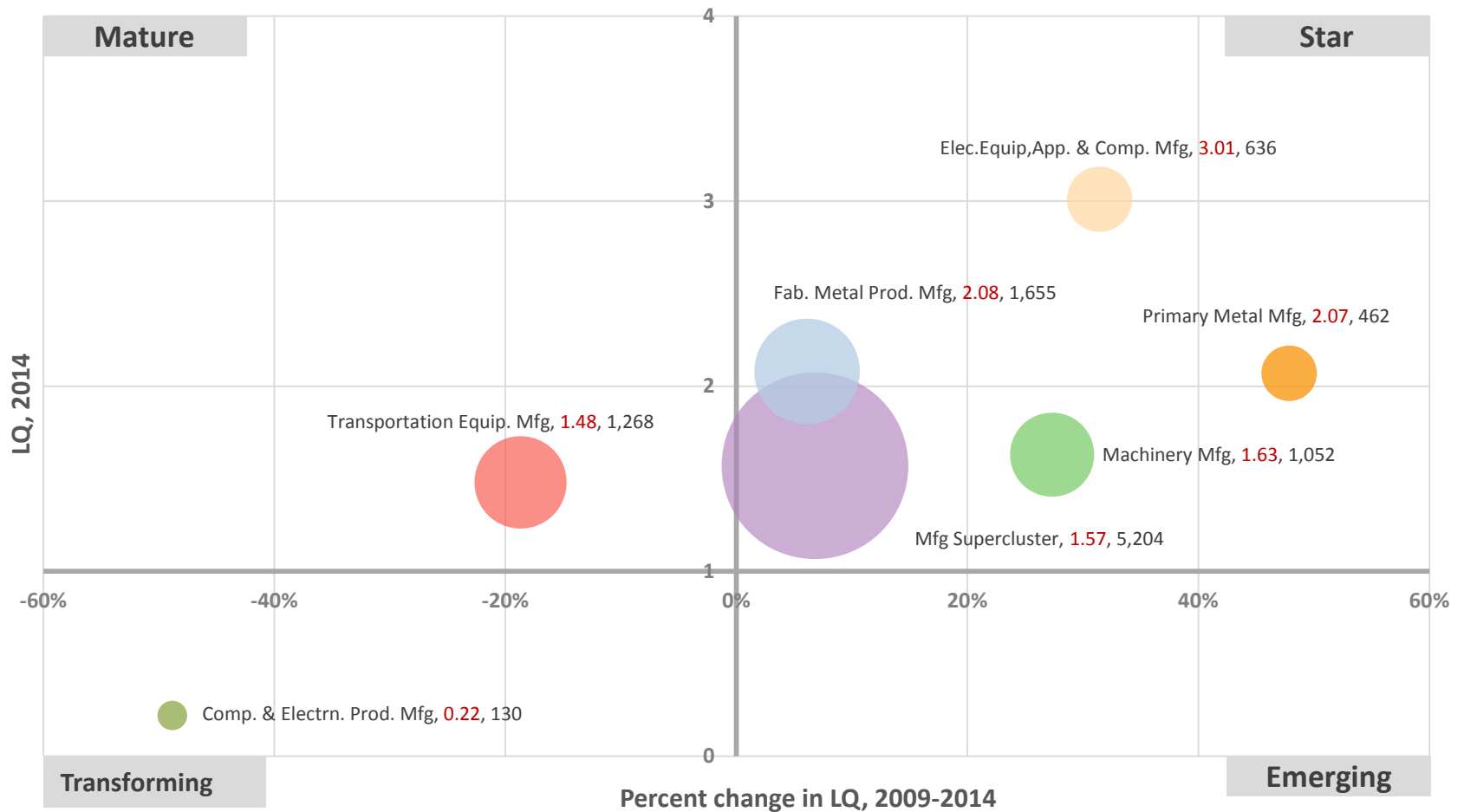
## Industry and occupation

# Industry cluster bubble chart



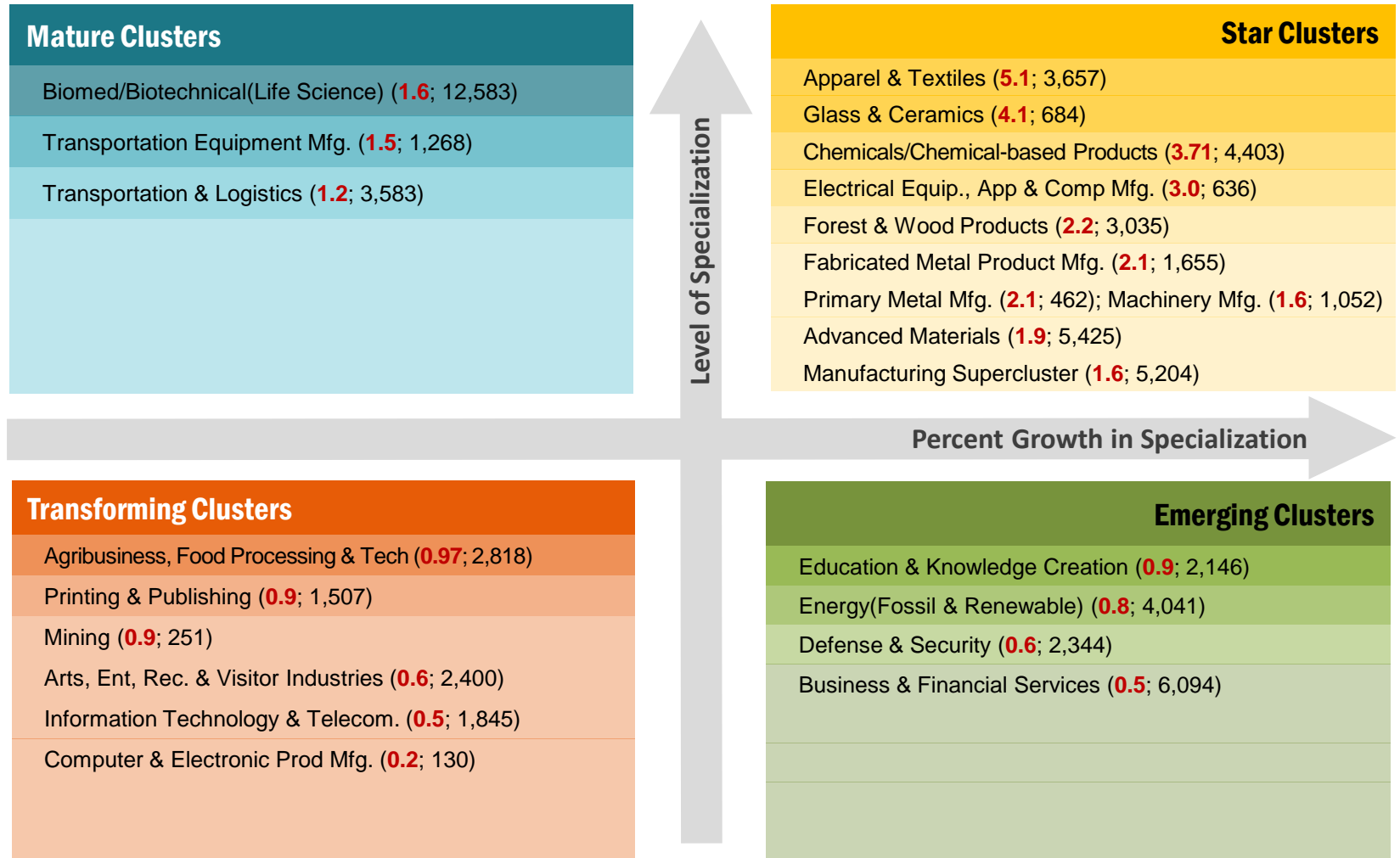
## Industry and occupation

# Manufacturing sub-cluster bubble chart





## Industry cluster analysis



### 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.