



A New Vision for the
North Country's
Economy

Regional Economic
Development Councils

Putting New York Back to Work



Governor Andrew M. Cuomo
Lieutenant Governor Robert J. Duffy

Environmental Overview

Water

Lakes abound here, including the Saranac Chain, Tupper, Clear, Meacham and Loon. The St. Regis canoe area is a magnet for paddler. DEC has 19 boat ramps in the county.

Fishing

The St. Regis, Chateaugay and Salmon Rivers are notable trout fisheries. Other species include salmon, bass and walleye.

Open Space

The northern part of the county, bordering Canada, is largely agricultural. DEC manages over 286,000 acres, including 6 State Forests.

Water

Water attractions include the Black and Cranberry Lakes and these rivers: St. Lawrence, Grass, Raquette and Oswegatchie. DEC has 14 boat launch sites.

Fishing

DEC stocks the Oswegatchie, the St. Regis and Plumb Brook. The county has over 30 miles of catch and release fishing available on wild brown and brook trout streams.

Open Space

In this largest county in NYS, DEC manages over a quarter million acres, including 43 State Forests.

Water

Borders Lake Ontario with barrier dune beaches and the Thousand Islands area of the St. Lawrence River. DEC has 18 boat ramps.

Fishing

DEC provides public fishing rights on sections of many of the streams such as Black River, Stony, North Sandy, South Sandy, Skinner, and Lindsey creeks, giving anglers access for wading or bank fishing. The salmon and trout fishing is renowned.

Open Space

DEC oversees some 40,000 acres and has a cooperative agreement with Ft. Drum that opens nearly 90,000 acres to the public for recreation.

Water

The Black River Valley divides the Adirondack Forest Preserve from the Tug Hill Plateau. It offers much water recreation. DEC has 10 boat ramps in the county.

Fishing

DEC stocks trout in Black, Alder, Crystal and Point Rock creeks. For native brook trout try the East Branch of Fish Creek, upper Mad River and Otter Creek, and the Sugar River.

Open Space

The Otter Creek Horse Trails system offers 65 miles of riding access. DEC manages over 150,000 acres, including land in the Tug Hill State Forest.

Water

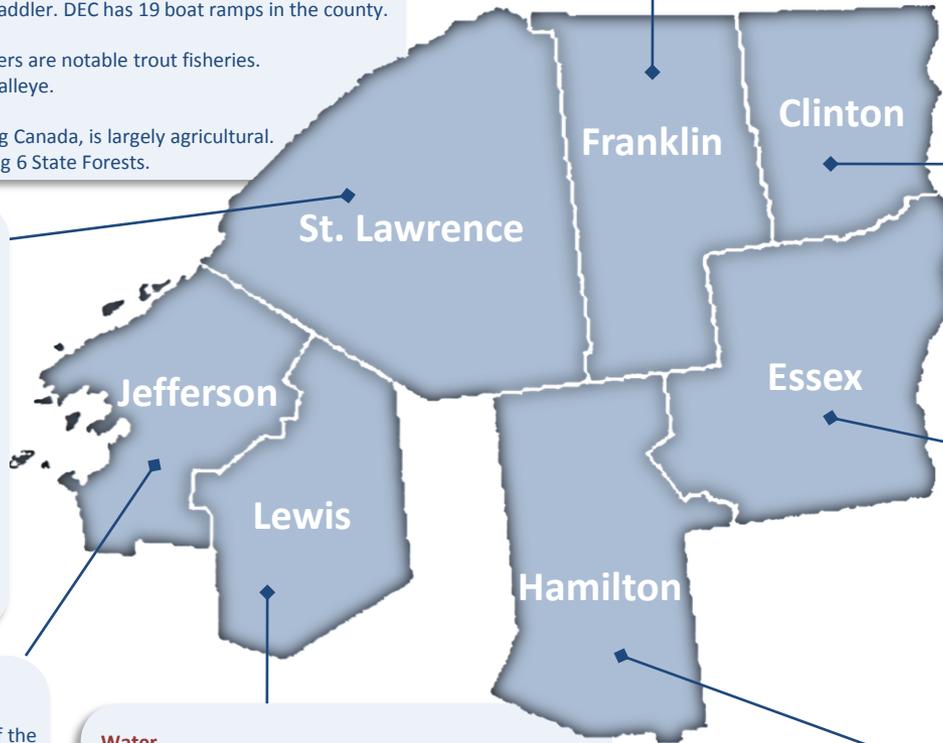
Many important water bodies include these lakes: Lila, Raquette, Eaton, Long, Blue Mountain, Indian, Sacandaga and Piseco. DEC has 16 boat ramps.

Fishing

The Moose River Plains Wild Forest and West Canada Lakes Wilderness Area have many trout waters. Other lakes, ponds and streams offer bass, walleye and salmon.

Open Space

The county offers a growing moose population and some of the most remote backcountry in the state. DEC manages over 800,000 acres, including 7 wilderness areas and much wild forest.



Water

Lake Champlain forms the eastern border of the county. Other major lakes are Upper Chateaugay, Chazy and Silver. The rivers include the Great Chazy, Saranac, Salmon and the Ausables. DEC operates four of the seven public boat ramps.

Fishing

There are many miles of public fishing rights. Species include trout, bass, pike, muskellunge, salmon and walleye.

Open Space

DEC oversees nearly 78,000 acres of land, including 8 State Forests, 5 Wilderness Areas and many Wild Forests.

Water

Borders Lake Champlain, with Lake Placid and the tip of Lake George as important waters. Many other lakes include Paradox, Schroon and Eagle. The area has 17 DEC-owned boat ramps.

Fishing

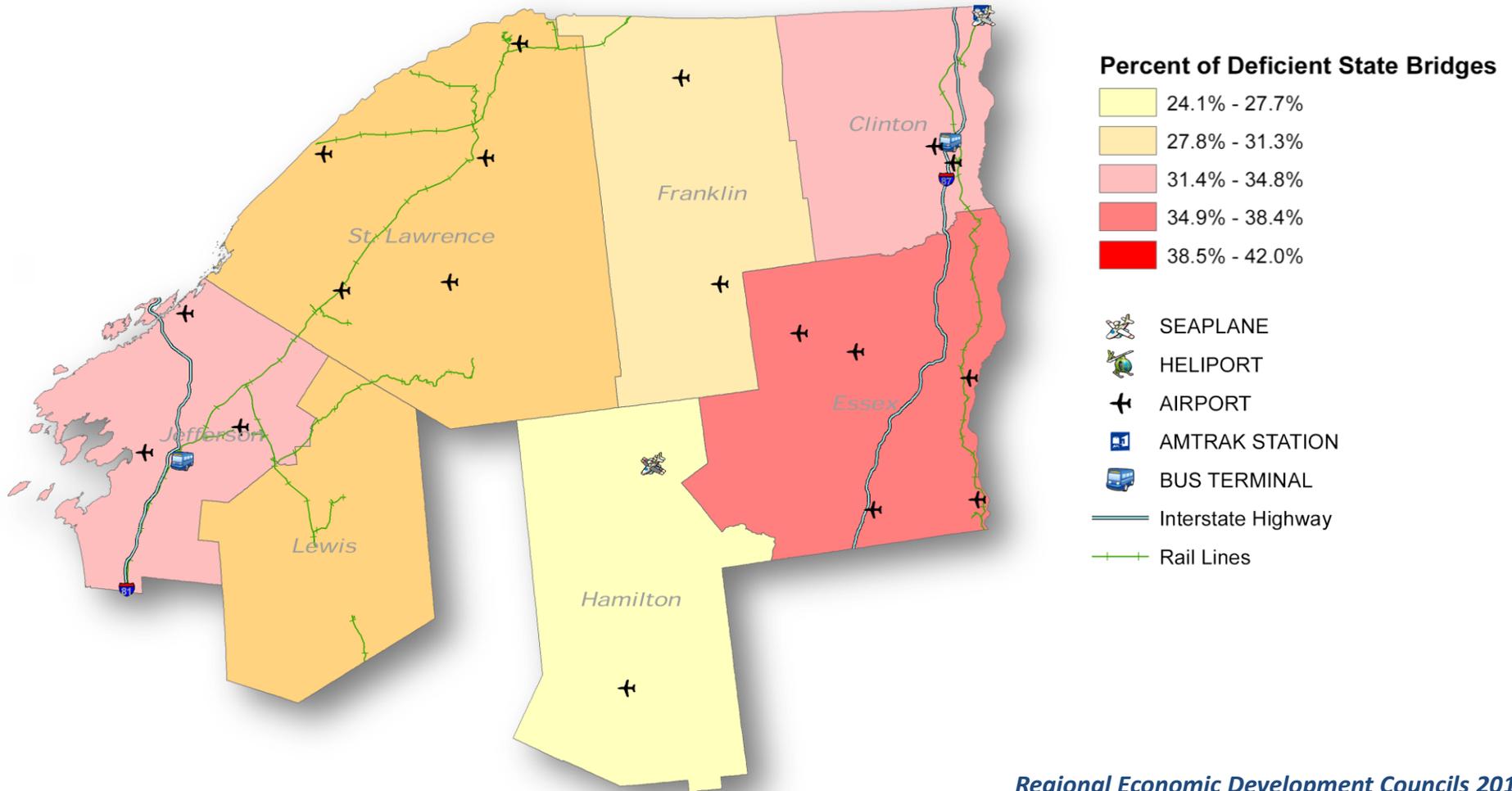
The Ausable River and its West Branch is one of the most heavily fished trout streams in NY. Species available elsewhere include perch, walleye, bass, pike, pickerel and salmon.

Open Space

Some of the most rugged and wild terrain in NY lies in this county, where DEC manages over a half million acres. It also contains the Olympic Village and Whiteface Mt. Ski Area.

Infrastructure

Transportation Indicators



Infrastructure



North Country 2008 Clean Water and Sewer Infrastructure Needs Survey

County	Amount
Clinton	\$146,496,148
Essex	\$221,967,739
Franklin	\$90,060,295
Hamilton	\$4,652,635
Jefferson	\$151,578,130
Lewis	\$12,936,130
St. Lawrence	\$244,983,431
Total	\$872,674,508

Source: NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation; Community-reported data.

Affordable Housing Coverage Rate

County	# of Renters at 50% or Below of AMI	Renter Coverage Rate	# of Owners at 50% or Below of AMI	Homeowner Coverage Rate
Clinton	3,940	7.9%	3,680	20.6%
Essex	1,665	11.1%	1,705	41.0%
Franklin	2,840	10.0%	2,290	30.0%
Hamilton	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Jefferson	7,145	23.1%	3,620	23.6%
Lewis	1,275	10.2%	1,285	36.9%
St. Lawrence	5,640	9.3%	4,485	33.4%
Total	22,505	13.7%	17,065	29.1%

2009 HUD Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) Data Book.

Notes: The HCR Affordable Housing Renter and Homeowner Coverage Rate is a way of measuring the proportion of low- income residents in a county impacted by HCR programs funded 2006-2010.

AMI – Area Median Income is the midpoint family income for a metropolitan area or a non-metropolitan county calculated each year by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development for use in determining eligibility for housing programs.

Real Estate

American Community Survey (2005 – 2009)

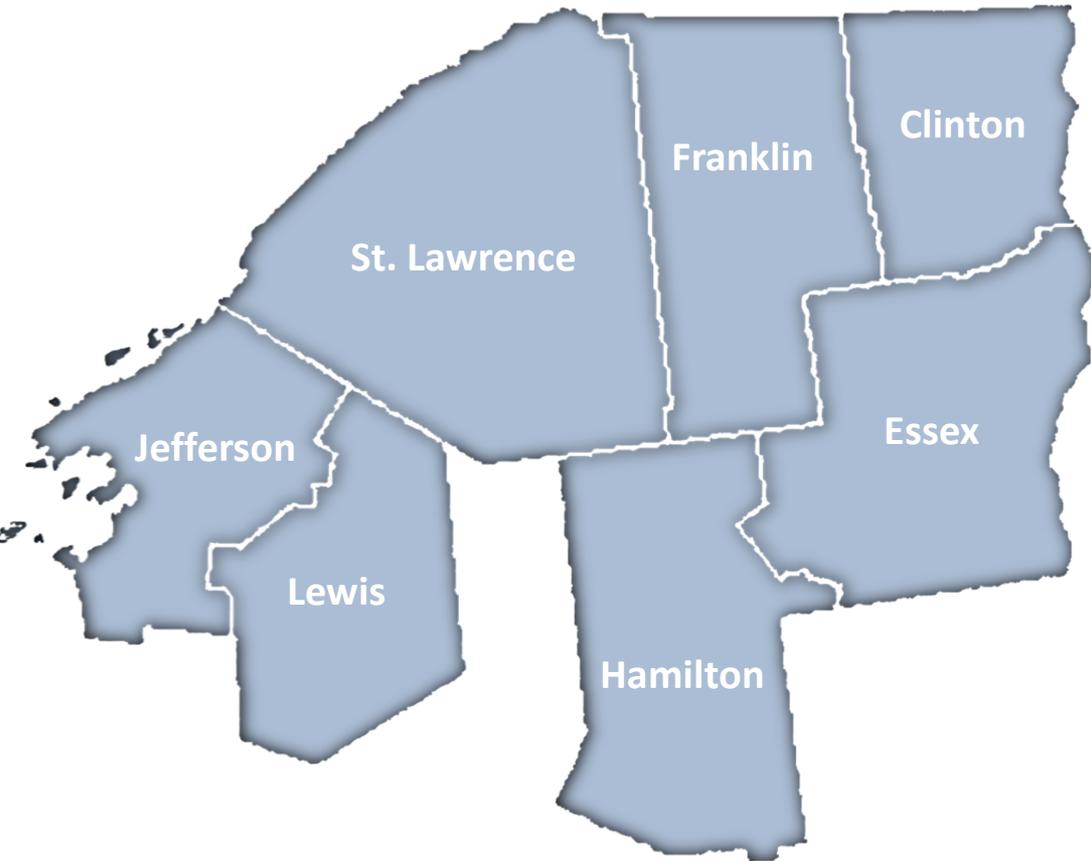
County	Median Household Income	% of Individuals Below Poverty Level	% of Population 62 Years and Over	% of Units that are Renter Occupied	% of Housing Units Built Before 1940	% of Renters Severe Cost Burdened	% of Owners Severe Cost Burdened	% of Vacant Residential Addresses
Clinton	\$47,800	13.1%	15.9%	28.8%	27.0%	21.0%	7.6%	3.7%
Essex	\$44,900	12.7%	20.0%	28.4%	40.3%	16.1%	7.4%	6.2%
Franklin	\$40,600	15.2%	16.3%	27.1%	36.7%	24.2%	7.2%	5.4%
Hamilton	\$45,200	12.7%	28.0%	14.7%	26.7%	N/A	N/A	3.1%
Jefferson	\$43,400	14.6%	14.4%	39.9%	37.9%	12.3%	8.9%	6.9%
Lewis	\$41,700	16.0%	17.3%	23.8%	38.7%	14.4%	7.8%	4.5%
St. Lawrence	\$41,700	16.6%	15.9%	28.1%	35.6%	24.9%	8.3%	5.6%

Severe cost burdened represents households spending more than 50% of their gross income on housing costs - 2009 HUD CHAS Data Book.

Quarter 3 2010 HUD Aggregated United States Postal Service Data on Address Vacancies.

Note: American Community Survey (ACS) data is survey-based and subject to sampling error.

Changing Demographics

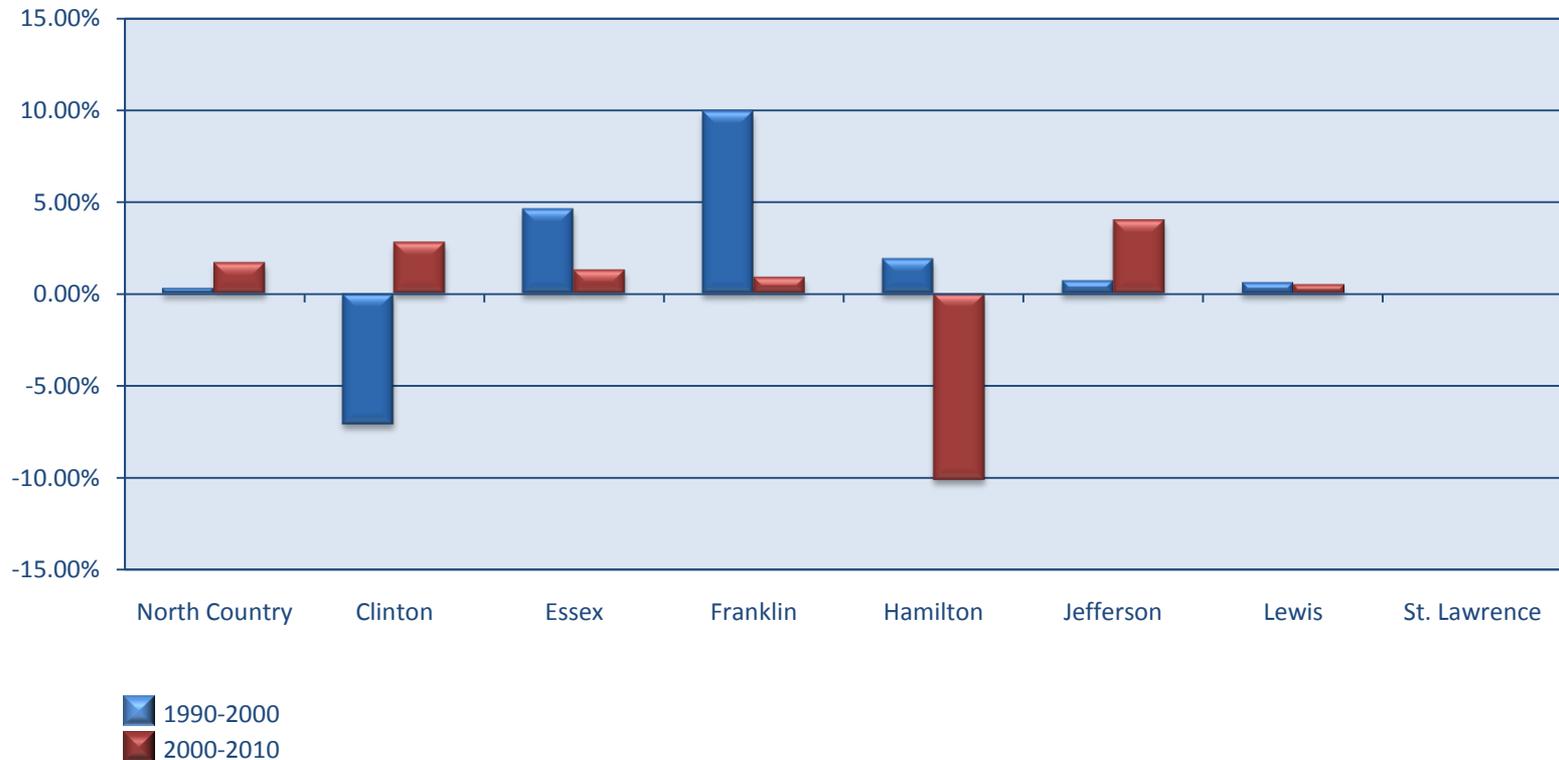


- The seven-county North Country Region grew 1.7% from 2000 to 2010, the 5th highest rate of growth of New York State's 10 regions.
- Hamilton County is not only the state's smallest by population (4836 residents in 2010), it is the county with the greatest loss since 2000 (10.1% decline).
- All other counties increased in population. Three barely grew, less than 1% (St. Lawrence, Franklin, Lewis). The others grew moderately: Jefferson 4.0%, Clinton 2.8%, Essex 1.3%.
- The North Country has three cities. Plattsburgh had the 7th highest city growth rate, 6.2%; Watertown grew 1.2%; Ogdensburg lost the fourth highest percent of its population, 10.0%.
- The North Country has the largest share of population that is white: 89.7%. The Hispanic share of the population is 3.1%, the black share is 3.4%, and the Asian share is 0.9%.

Changing Demographics

Percentage Change 1990-2000 Compared to Percentage Change 2000-2010

North Country, by County



Changing Demographics

2008 Population with Some College Education

Area	Population	% of 25+ Cohort
North Country	132,800	47.23%
State	7,376,498	56.25%
Nation	111,816,181	55.95%

Source: EMSI Complete Employment - 1st Quarter 20110

2008 Population with a Postgraduate Education

Area	Population	% of 25+ Cohort
North Country	24,466	8.70%
State	1,810,354	13.81%
Nation	20,459,730	10.24%

Source: EMSI Complete Employment - 1st Quarter 2011

Workforce and Education



The State University
of New York

SUNY's Impact on North Country Region

Campuses: 6

Enrollment: 21,830

Employees: 3,289

SUNY Alumni: 151,412

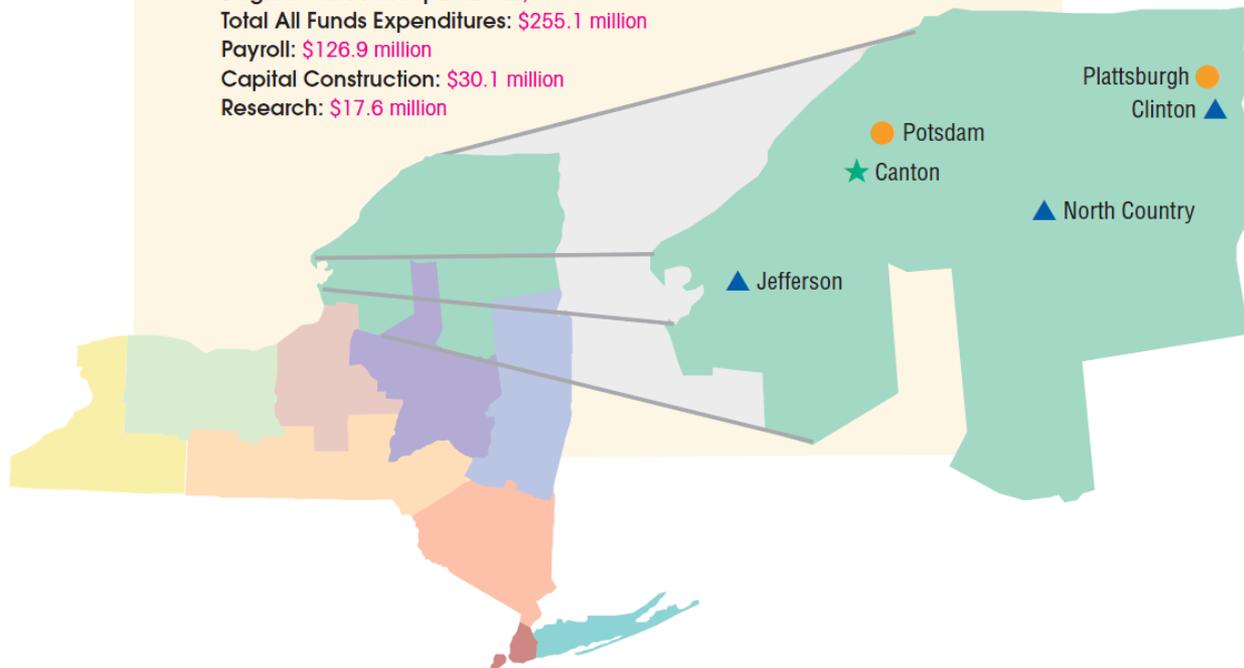
Degrees Since Inception: 163,979

Total All Funds Expenditures: \$255.1 million

Payroll: \$126.9 million

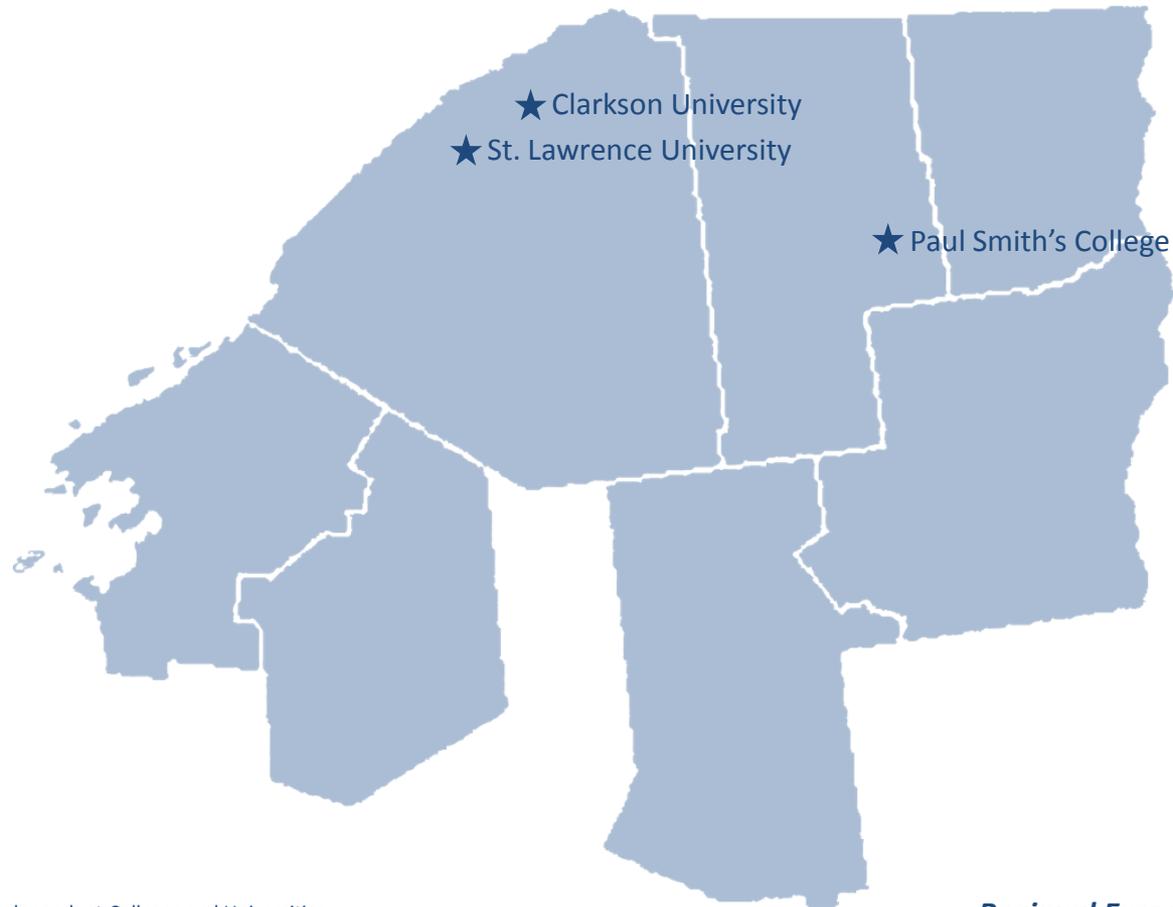
Capital Construction: \$30.1 million

Research: \$17.6 million



Workforce and Education

North Country Private, Not-for-Profit Colleges and Universities



Workforce and Education

North Country Labor Market

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

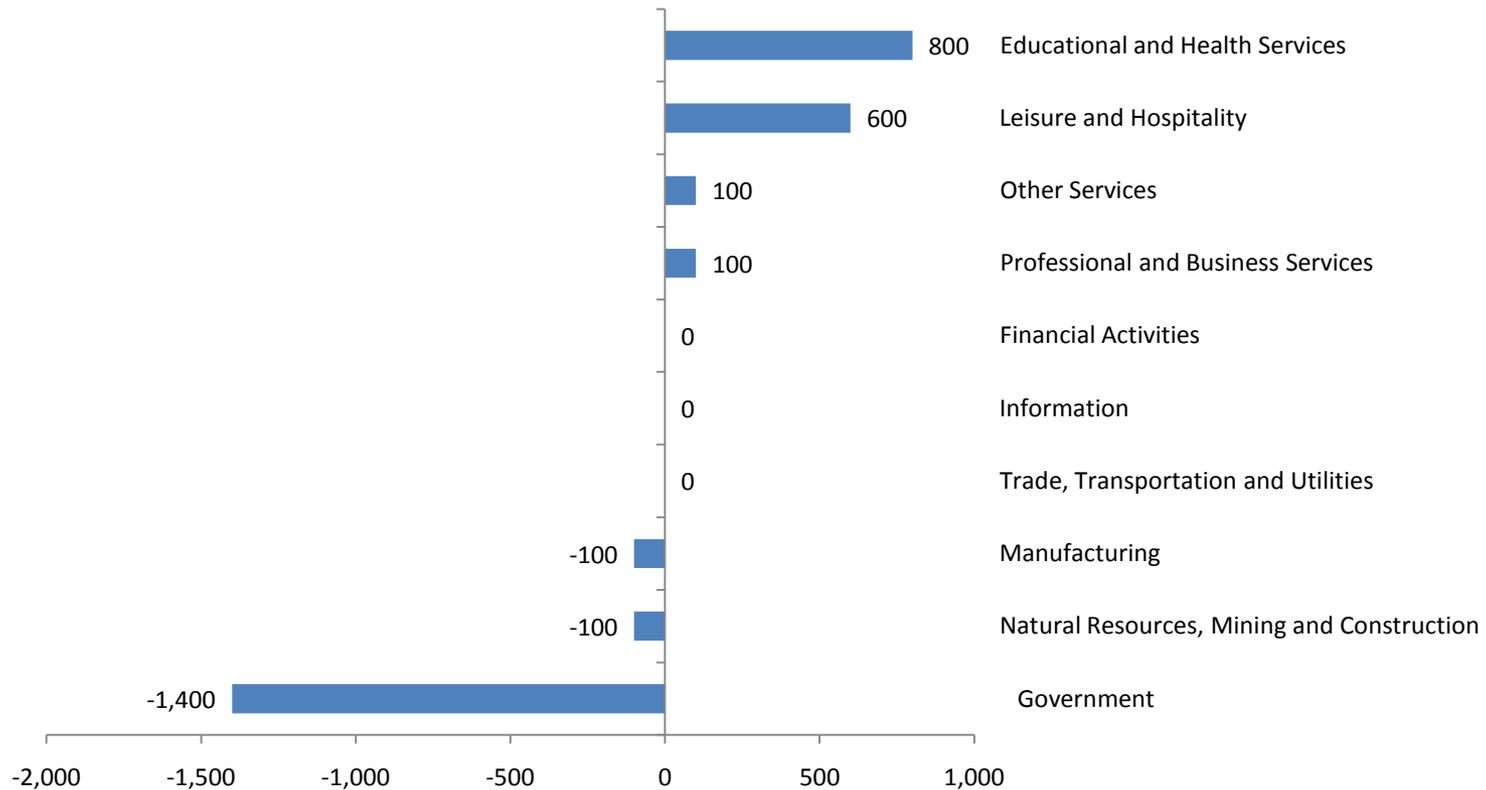
North Country	May 2011	April 2011	May 2010
Labor Force	193,300	190,200	194,600
Unemployment	17,900	18,900	18,100
Local Unemployment Rate	9.2%	9.9%	9.3%
NY State Unemployment Rate	7.8%	7.6%	8.3%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	8.7%	8.7%	9.3%

Note: All data not seasonally adjusted.

Workforce and Education

North Country Labor Market

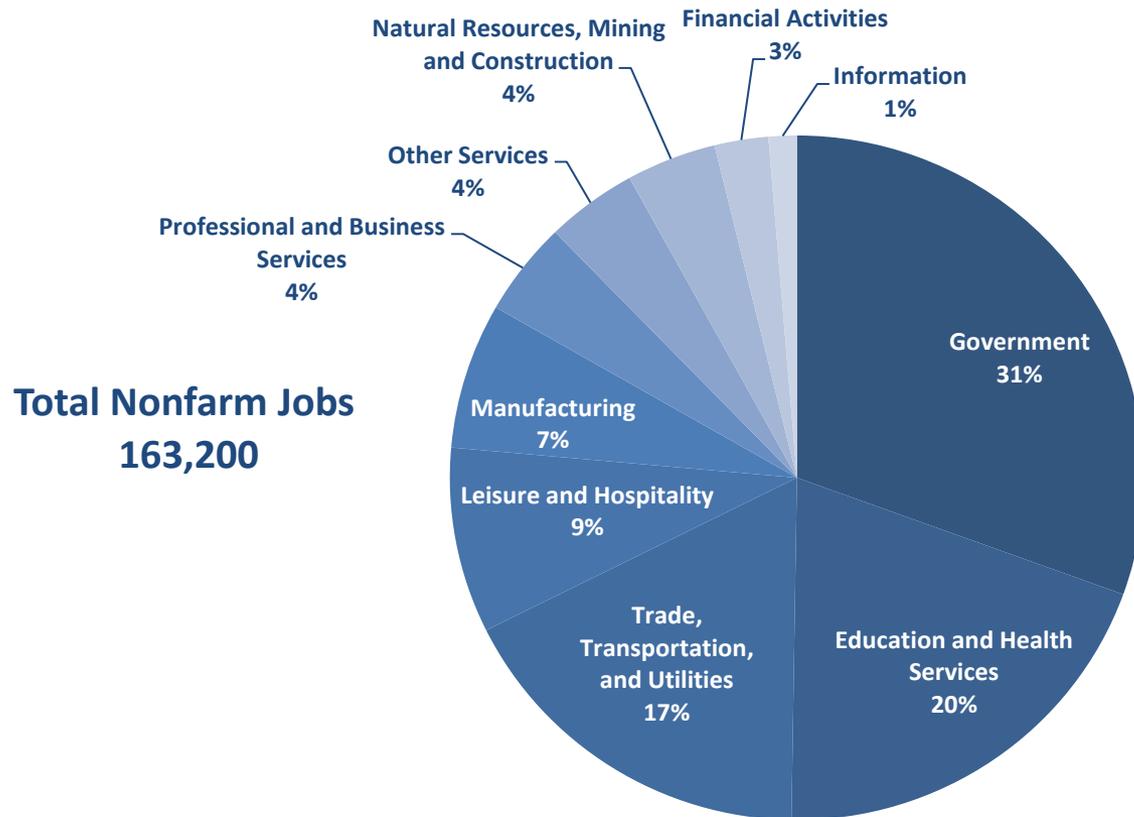
Change in Jobs, May 2010 to May 2011



Workforce and Education

North Country Labor Market

Distribution of Nonfarm Jobs, May 2011



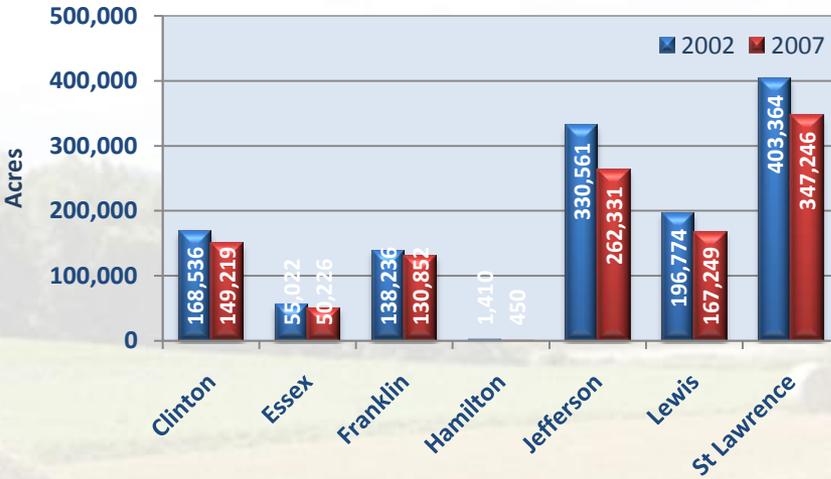
Industry Structure and Concentration

Growth in North Country Industry Sectors

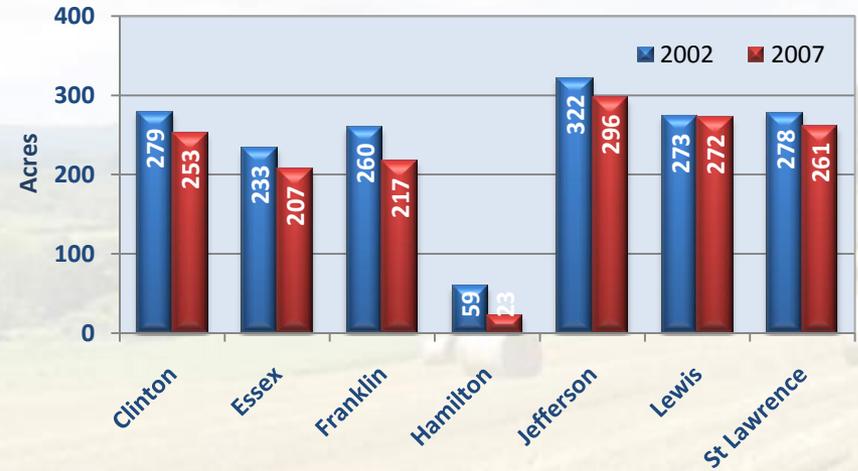
	Jobs in 2010	Growth since 2006	Average weekly wage 2010	Projected growth, 2008 to 2018
Public Administration	20,843	1.4%	\$937	0.3%
General Merchandise Stores	5,100	18.4%	\$375	11.7%
Support Activities for Transportation	1,329	-5.4%	\$857	-23.4%
Educational Services	19,152	-0.9%	\$778	8.0%
Hospitals	8,991	6.1%	\$958	3.6%
Food Services and Drinking Places	10,518	4.8%	\$258	8.7%

Industry Structure and Concentration

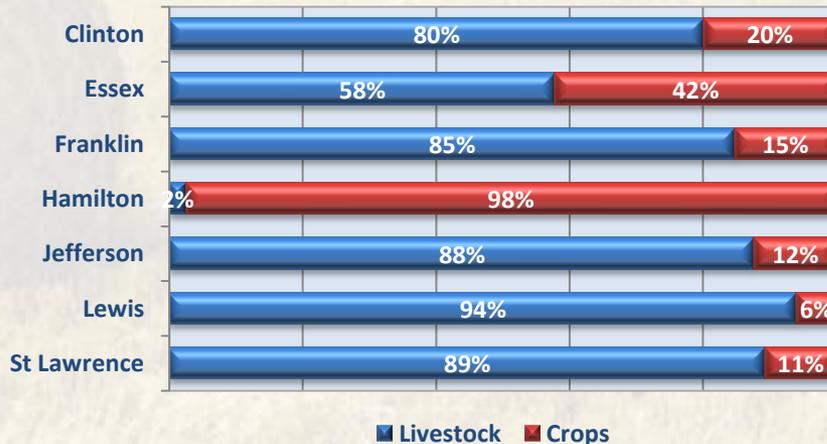
Acres of Farmland 2002/2007



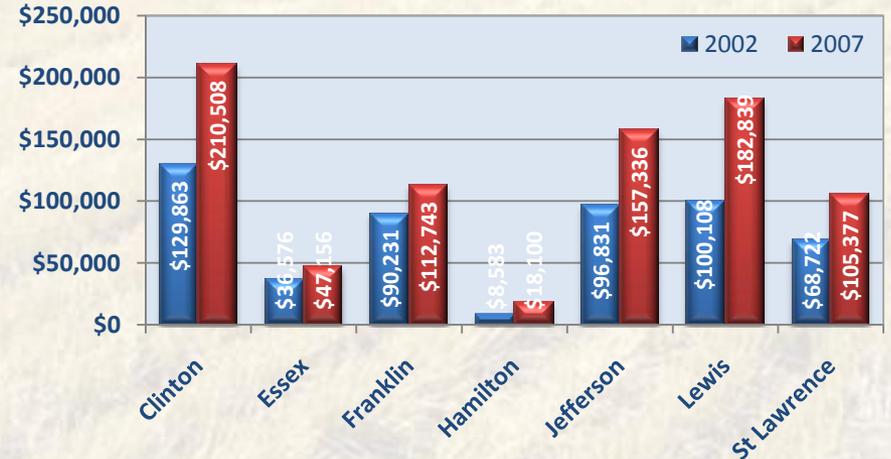
Average Farm Size 2002/2007



Distribution of Farm Sales 2007



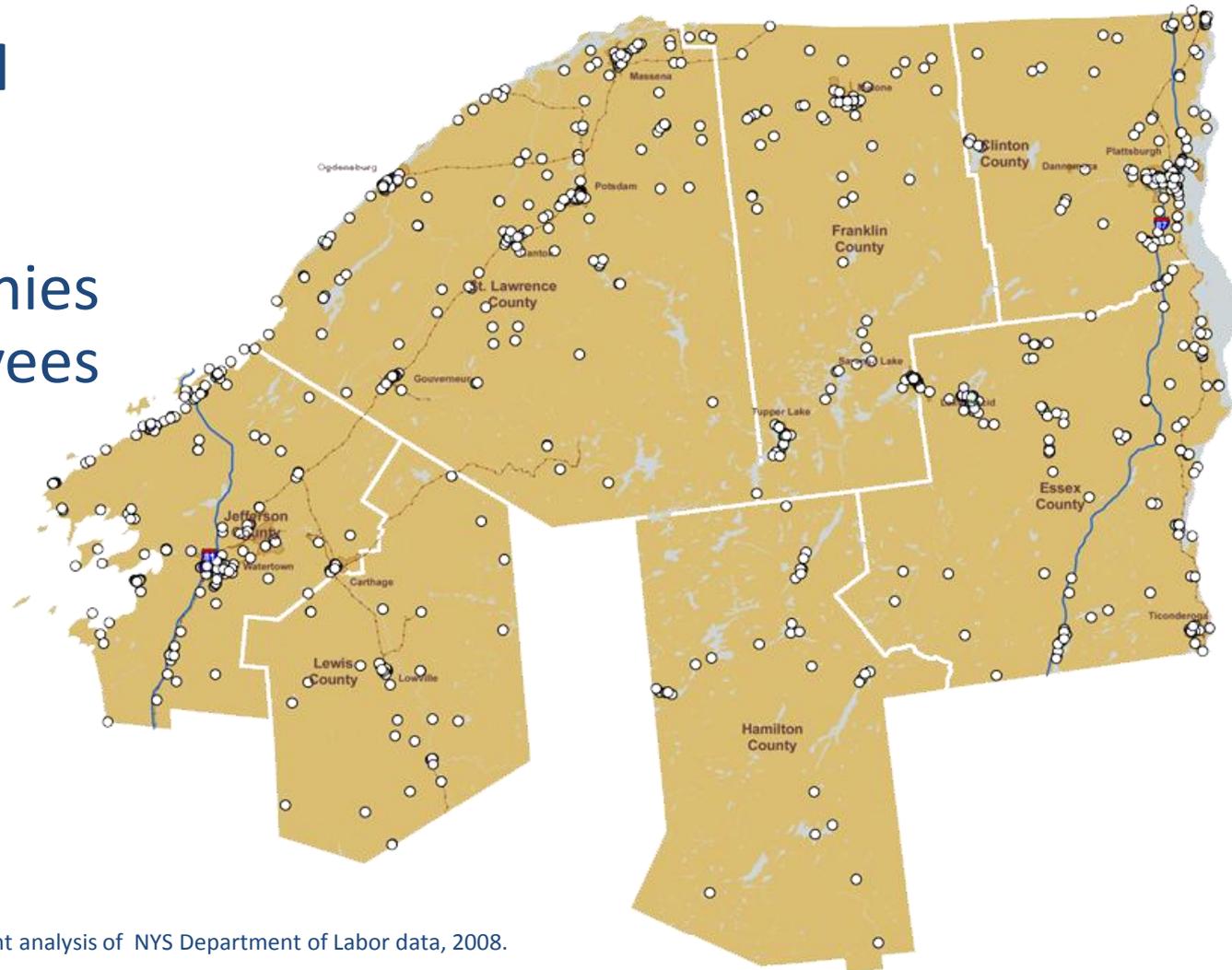
Average Farm Sales 2002/2007



Industry Structure and Concentration

Travel and Tourism Cluster:

1,370 companies
4,800 employees



Source: Empire State Development analysis of NYS Department of Labor data, 2008.

Culture, Tourism and Quality of Life



North Country State Parks and Historic Sites

Economic Impact

An economic impact study* estimates that in 2008-09, 880 jobs were created and \$63 million in local economic activity was generated by State Parks in the area.

Quality of Life

The recreational and natural resources created by the area's parks and historic sites benefit this region by:

- Maintaining the state's ecosystem and biodiversity
- Providing opportunities for recreation
- Reducing the negative effects from pollution
- Improving health outcomes
- Preserving areas of historic importance
- Influencing business location decisions by making the community a better place to live.

Culture, Tourism and Quality of Life

North Country Economic Impact of Visitor Spending

County	Amount in Millions
Clinton	\$ 107.4
Essex	\$ 306.4
Franklin	\$ 96.7
Hamilton	\$ 96.7
Jefferson	\$ 208.4
Lewis	\$ 3.4
St. Lawrence	\$ 101.5

Source: Tourism Economics, 2009

Regional Overview



Major Economic Development Projects

■ Clinton County

Laurentian Aerospace Project

A \$175 million transformational project that will result in construction of 234,000 square foot wide-body jet maintenance, repair and overhaul facility at former Plattsburgh Air Force Base and create 960 jobs. ESD has awarded \$20.1 million in a series of grants and a loan to the company and Clinton County for this project.

■ Hamilton County

Outdoor recreation

Hamilton County is the center of outdoor recreation in the Adirondacks with over one million acres of public parks, forests and streams. It is the birthplace of rustic Great Camp architecture and home to the Adirondack Museum, the Smithsonian of the Adirondacks. Winter is directed at snowmobiling with over 750 miles of groomed, free trails. Year round, the target is family vacations.

Regional Overview

Major Economic Development Projects

■ Essex County

International Paper

This is the largest private manufacturer in the Adirondack Park, employing more than 600 direct and 700 indirect logging jobs. IP's Ticonderoga mill is a fully integrated paper manufacturer.

■ Essex County

ORDA Convention Center

The \$17 million, 90,000 square foot conference center opened the week of May 9th. Six events are booked with signed contracts, and three more are in the works, representing 7,000 people coming into the village. The overall economic impact is just under \$2 million. This offers Lake Placid, the North Country's key destination that drives North Country tourism industry, facilities that have not existed previously.

■ Franklin County

St. Lawrence Natural Gas Pipeline

A \$23.5 million natural gas pipeline from Massena in St. Lawrence Co to Chateaugay in Franklin County, covering a distance of approximately 48 miles. There is limited natural gas service in this part of the Region and none in Franklin County at this time.

■ Jefferson County

Fort Drum

The military base is our nation's most deployed military command. It is the largest single component of the local economy and pumps hundreds of millions of dollars annually into the economy.

■ Lewis County

Milk Production

Lewis County has the largest concentration of milk production in all of New York State, 500,000,000 pounds of milk per year. Kraft, Inc., processes about 65% of the milk that is produced in Lewis County.

■ St. Lawrence County

Alcoa

Alcoa is an aluminum smelting facility, employment is expected to reach 385 by midsummer, and the total Alcoa Massena employment is expected to be 1135 for both Alcoa plants in Massena. Alcoa is also making plans for a proposed \$600 million expansion and modernization of the Massena East plant.