

## 4.3 Export Activity

### The Importance

The exports tracked in this indicator are goods and services exported to other countries by an exporting agent, generally the company exporting the product. While it is not a measure of the Region's overall economic base activities, this is an indicator of the Region's production of goods for which there is an international demand.

Exports, international or domestic, bring money in from outside the Region and constitute the Capital District's economic base activities. Exports provide the capital for all the other economic activity in the Region. Two of the Capital District's primary exports, government and educational services, are not covered in this indicator. People from around the State and the Nation purchase these services through taxes and tuition. While the primary exports of the Capital District are not measured by this indicator, the Region does have a significant international export base.

### About this Indicator

All metro area export values in this indicator are from the U.S. Census Bureau's Exporter Location (EL) series. The EL series allocates exports to states and localities based on the location of the exporter of record. The exporter of record is not necessarily the entity that produced the merchandise; hence, the EL series does not furnish complete and reliable data on the production origin of U.S. exports. Typically, the EL data reflect the point of sale, in other words, the marketing origin of exports. For manufacturing establishments that export, the zip code location of the exporter of record is the same as the physical location of the exporter's production about 88 percent of the time (by value). The Origin of Movement series is more commonly used as an indicator of export activity, but it is not compiled at the metro level. Due to changes in exporting procedures, the EL series will be discontinued with the 2002 data.

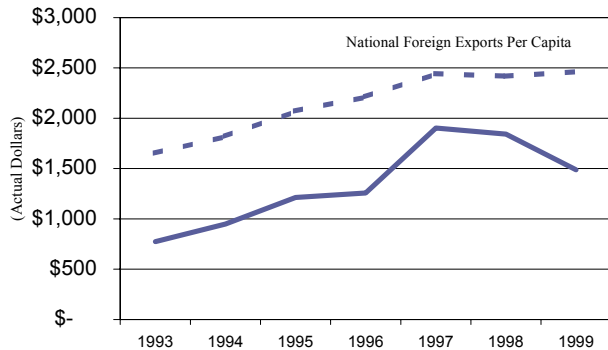
### Sources for this Indicator

This indicator uses U.S. Census Bureau's Exporter Location (EL) series, which the Census Bureau began issuing in 1993. The EL series can be found at: <http://www.ita.doc.gov/td/industry/otea/metro/>

## Foreign Exports from the Albany MSA

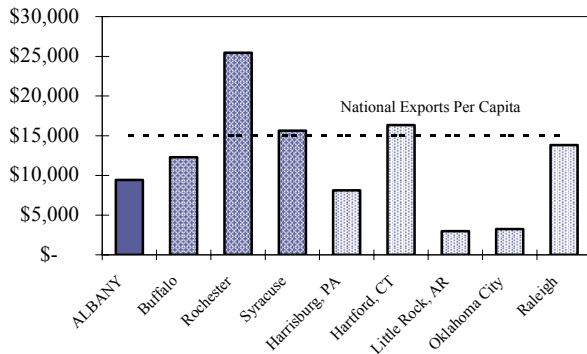
In the five years from 1993 to 1997, the Albany MSA saw foreign exports more than double (in actual dollars) before declining moderately in 1998 and 1999. Over the period between 1993 and 1997, Albany MSA exports increased by 146%, from \$676 million in 1993 to \$1.67 Billion in 1997. Over the same period, the Nation's foreign exports increased by 49%. By 1999, the MSA's exports had declined to \$1.3 billion, still about double the 1993 total.

Foreign Exports Per Capita  
Albany-Schenectady-Troy MSA



Due to the strong government and educational sectors in the local economy, the Albany MSA foreign exports per person are lower than the National rate. However the Region has been increasing its exports at a much higher percentage rate than the Nation.

1993-1999 Total Foreign Exports Per Capita  
by MSA



When compared to the peer MSA's, the Albany MSA is in the middle of the capital MSA's while it trails other upstate cities.

Part of the reason is the strength of the Capital District's government and educational sectors. Of all the peer MSA's, as a percentage of the workforce, the Capital District has the smallest manufacturing

employment, the highest government employment, and the second highest professional, scientific, and technical employment of the group.

High employment in the government sector is expected when the size of the State is compared to the size of the Capital District. When the strong government and educational sectors are taken into consideration, the Albany MSA produces reasonably strong levels of foreign exports.

1993-1999 % Change in Foreign Exports  
by MSA

