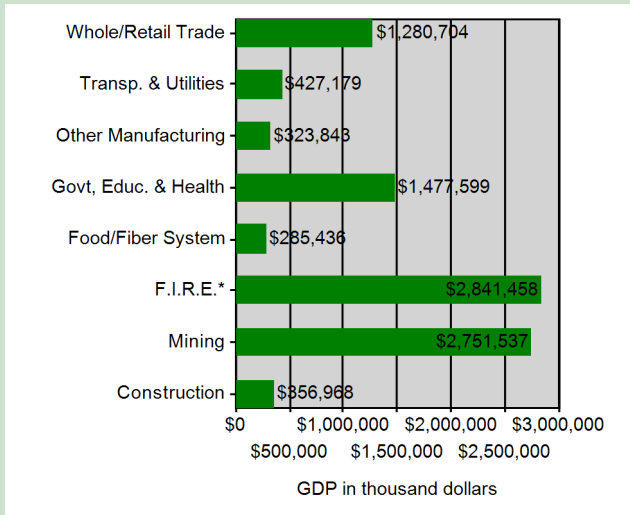


Lafayette Parish generates approximately \$9,745 million in total economic activity in 2003 as measured by Gross Domestic Product (GDP). GDP measures the value-added that is created by the parish. Lafayette Parish ranks 5 out of all 64 parishes in GDP created for the state.

Industrial Structure

The F.I.R.E.* sector contributes more to Lafayette Parish's GDP than any other sector totaling \$2,841,458 thousand. A breakdown of each major industry's contribution is shown in Figure 1.

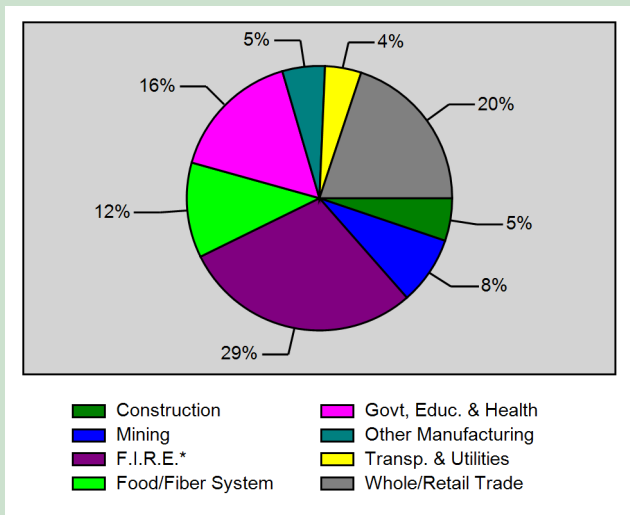
Figure 1: GDP (Value-Added) by major industry in 2003 (thousands of dollars)



* F.I.R.E. includes Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Other Services sectors.

The F.I.R.E.* sector supplied the most full-time and part-time jobs to the parish in 2003 at 32,045 of the total 109,899 jobs in the parish. The distribution of jobs by major sector is presented in Figure 2.

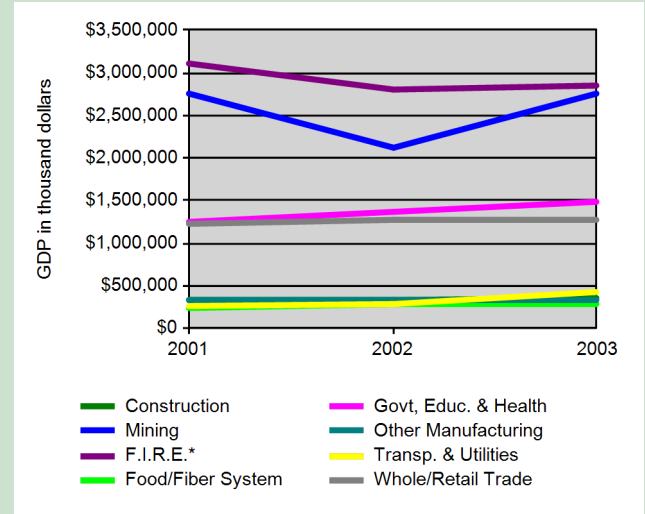
Figure 2: Distribution of Employment by major industry in 2003



Growth Trends

Lafayette Parish has seen its economy grow by 2% as measured by GDP (inflation adjusted) between 2001 and 2003. The fastest growing sector during that period was the Transp. & Utilities sector that grew by 66%. The slowest growing sector was the F.I.R.E.* sector that grew by -8%. Lafayette saw total full-time and part-time employment grow by -434 jobs, or 0% of total jobs over the three year period. Detailed growth in parish GDP for the most recent three year period is shown in Figure 3.

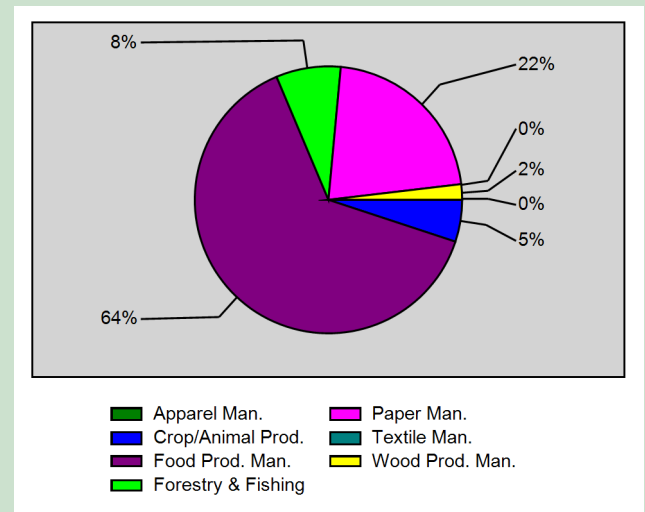
Figure 3: Three year growth in GDP (Value-Added) by major industry between 2001 and 2003



Food and Fiber System

The Food and Fiber System generates \$285,436 thousand for Lafayette Parish's economy and ranks 8 in GDP among the parish's major industrial sectors. The system includes production agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors as well as food and fiber manufacturing (processing) sectors. These food and fiber product sectors generate \$94,978 thousand and supply 2,435 jobs. The distribution of GDP by each food and fiber product sector is presented in Figure 4.

Figure 4: Distribution of Food Fiber Product GDP (Value-Added) by major industry in 2003



This Food and Fiber System also includes food service and drinking establishments that generate \$190,458 thousand in GDP and supply 10,345 jobs to the parish.