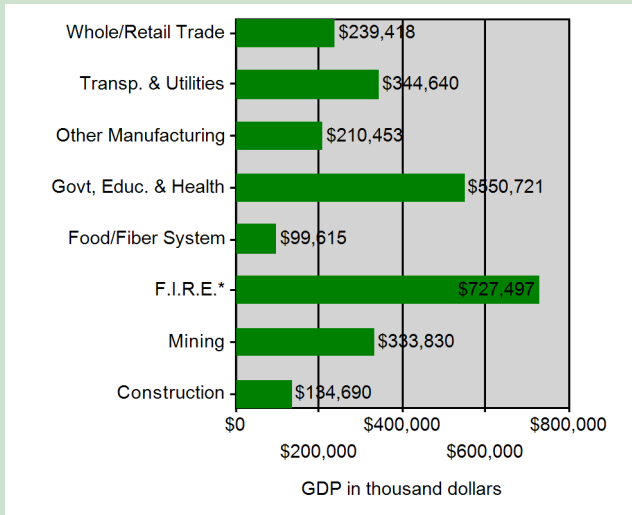


Lafourche Parish generates approximately \$2,641 million in total economic activity in 2005 as measured by Gross Domestic Product (GDP). GDP measures the value-added that is created by the parish. Lafourche Parish ranks 17 out of all 64 parishes in GDP created for the state.

Industrial Structure

The F.I.R.E.* sector contributes more to Lafourche Parish's GDP than any other sector totaling \$727,497 thousand. A breakdown of each major industry's contribution is shown in Figure 1.

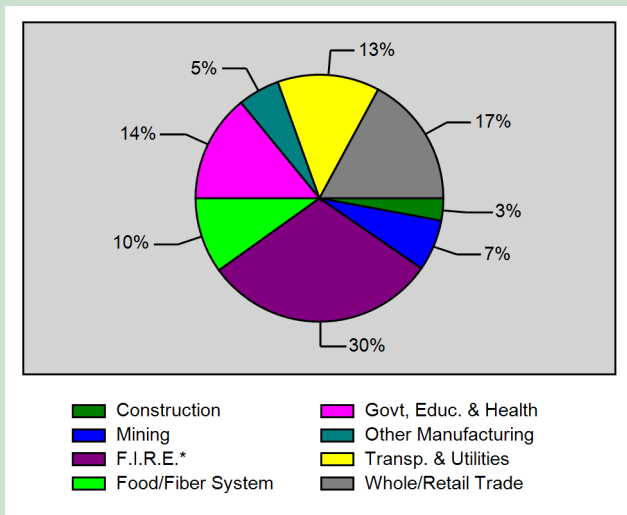
Figure 1: GDP (Value-Added) by major industry in 2005 (thousands of dollars)



* 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 2005 at 8,548 of the total 28,065 jobs in the parish. The distribution of jobs by major sector is presented in Figure 2.

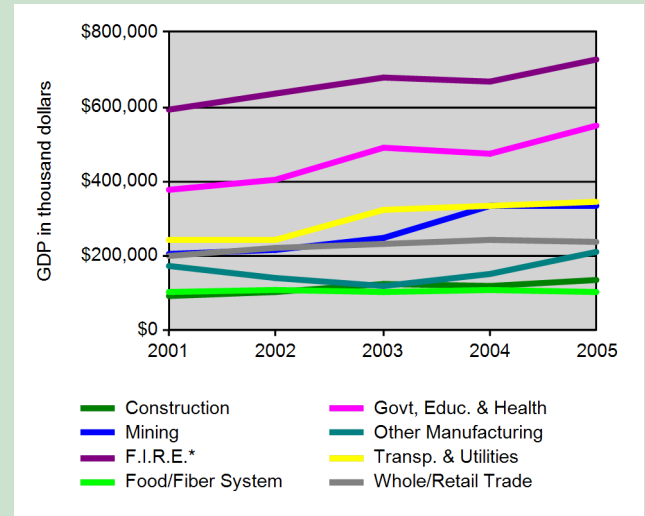
Figure 2: Distribution of Employment by major industry in 2005



Growth Trends

Lafourche Parish has seen its economy grow by 33% as measured by GDP (inflation adjusted) between 2001 and 2005. The fastest growing sector during that period was the Mining sector that grew by 64%. The slowest growing sector was the Food/Fiber System sector that grew by -2%. Lafourche saw total full-time and part-time employment grow by 599 jobs, or 2% of total jobs over the five year period. Detailed growth in parish GDP for the most recent five year period is shown in Figure 3.

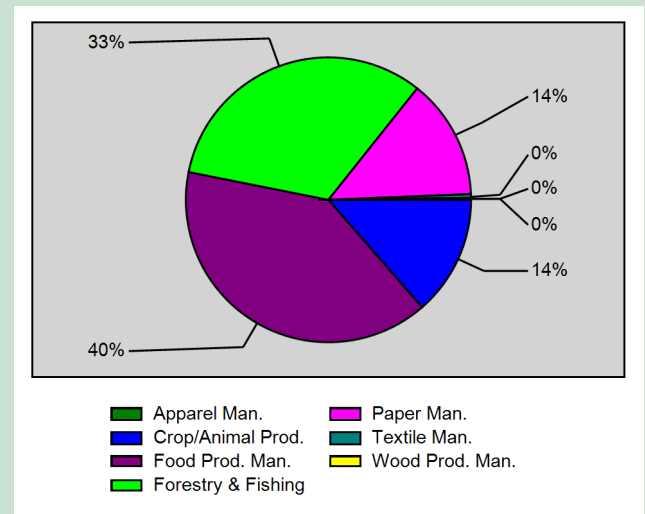
Figure 3: Five year growth in GDP (Value-Added) by major industry between 2001 and 2005



Food and Fiber System

The Food and Fiber System generates \$99,615 thousand for Lafourche 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 \$69,863 thousand and supply 1,078 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 2005



This Food and Fiber System also includes food service and drinking establishments that generate \$29,752 thousand in GDP and supply 1,704 jobs to the parish.