



## 5 Strengths of Central Upstate New York

### 1. Six Industrial Clusters

- a. Biosciences (172 companies, 6,304 employees, avg. salary \$43,909)
- b. Digital & electronic devices (162 companies, 12,159 employees, avg. salary \$45,024)
- c. Environmental systems (68 companies, 6,758 employees, avg. salary \$50,692)
- d. Packaging (69 companies, 4,242 employees, avg. salary \$33,450)
- e. Precision metalworking (202 companies, 9,854 employees, avg. salary \$51,240)
- f. Information technology (761 companies, 5,311 employees, avg. salary \$55,801)

*Total employment of 45,000 people, over ten percent of the total regional employment*

### 2. Colleges and Universities

- a. 35 regional colleges and universities educate over 130,000 students, including 25,000 graduate students and employ 28,000 “knowledge-industry” workers
- b. Syracuse to Ithaca corridor has the highest concentration of college students (9.7%) in the entire country
- c. The Region’s six largest research institutions: Clarkson, Cornell, SUNY ESF, SUNY Upstate Medical University, SU, and the Air Force Research Lab in Rome; have over \$1.2 billion in annual research and development (10% more per capita than the national average)

### 3. Quality of Life

- a. An average commute time of less than twenty-two minutes
- b. A low crime rates (fewer than two reported violent crimes per 1,000 residents)
- c. Low cost of housing

### 4. Regional Amenities

- a. Over 100 state, county, and city parks and nature centers
- b. Significant water-to-land ratio (exceeding 20 of the 25 benchmarked regions –Catalytix) Water recreation includes the Finger Lakes, Lake Ontario, Oneida Lake and dozens of lakes in the Southwest Adirondacks
- c. Over 100 cultural amenities (theatres, museums and galleries, music venues)
- d. The New York State Fair, the longest running state fair in the nation, annually attracts more than 1 million people from across the Northeast
- e. Collegiate and Professional Sports teams including two minor league baseball teams, one minor league hockey team, and 22 Colleges and Universities competing in over forty sports from the JUCO to Division IA level.

### 5. Educated Workforce

- a. Regional workforce is 20% more educated than the national average.
- b. 29% of workforce are creative sector workers (defined by Catalytix as those who get paid to think for a living), accounting for more than \$4 billion in wages annually, with the average creative sector worker earning more than \$47,000 per year
- c. 13% of workforce are in the Super Creative Core (defined as those employed in education, computer engineering, the sciences and the arts)
- d. The Super Creative Core in the region ranks in the top 15% among all 331 US metropolitan regions, putting the area in the same category as cities like Minneapolis and San Diego

