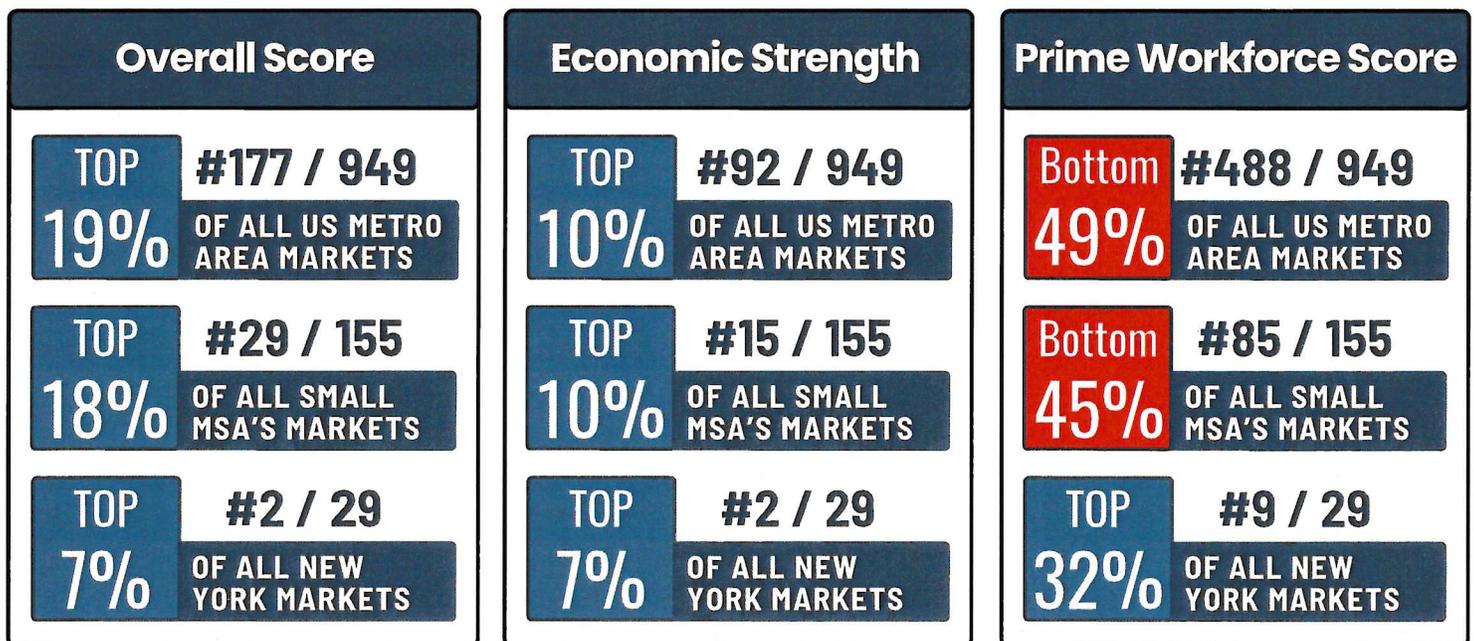


Glens Falls Punching Above its Weight in National Metro Area Ranking

The recent report from Area Development, in partnership with Chmura Economics & Analytics, ranked 949 U.S. Metro/Micropolitan areas nationwide across 24 economic and workforce indicators. Glens Falls emerged as a high performer overall, largely driven by exceptional economic strength that helped to offset weaker workforce performance.

Overall, the report indicates that smaller and mid-sized metro areas are increasingly outperforming larger cities on metrics relevant to business expansion – largely driven by quality of place, faster development timelines, and agile workforces.

The rankings were released in three categories: Overall Rank (Composite Score), Economic Strength Score, and Prime Workforce Score. Glens Falls is classified as a small Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), meaning a self-contained regional economy consisting of one or more counties centered around a core urban area with strong business, workforce, and commuting ties.



The Glens Falls MSA (encompassing Warren and Washington County) and its economy are remarkably strong—in the top 10% of MSA's nationally and top 5% regionally. This is another objective measure that affirms the progress around our three-pillared strategy of 1) growing a year-round tourism economy, 2) supporting our robust services and healthcare economy and 3) adapting our enterprise economy. What's holding us back is workforce, which is a function of demographics and capacity, Capacity in all forms but most especially housing. Economic vitality now follows workforce and we need to continue to accept new workforce to repopulate our cities and towns, reduce our median age and grow our median incomes. Continued work to expand our capacity through strategic infrastructure investments, modern broadband and cell service, expanded public transportation, access to child care, place-making in our hamlets, towns and cities and most of all housing development consistent with approved land use plans is the path for the long-term sustainability and vitality of our high-performing economy.