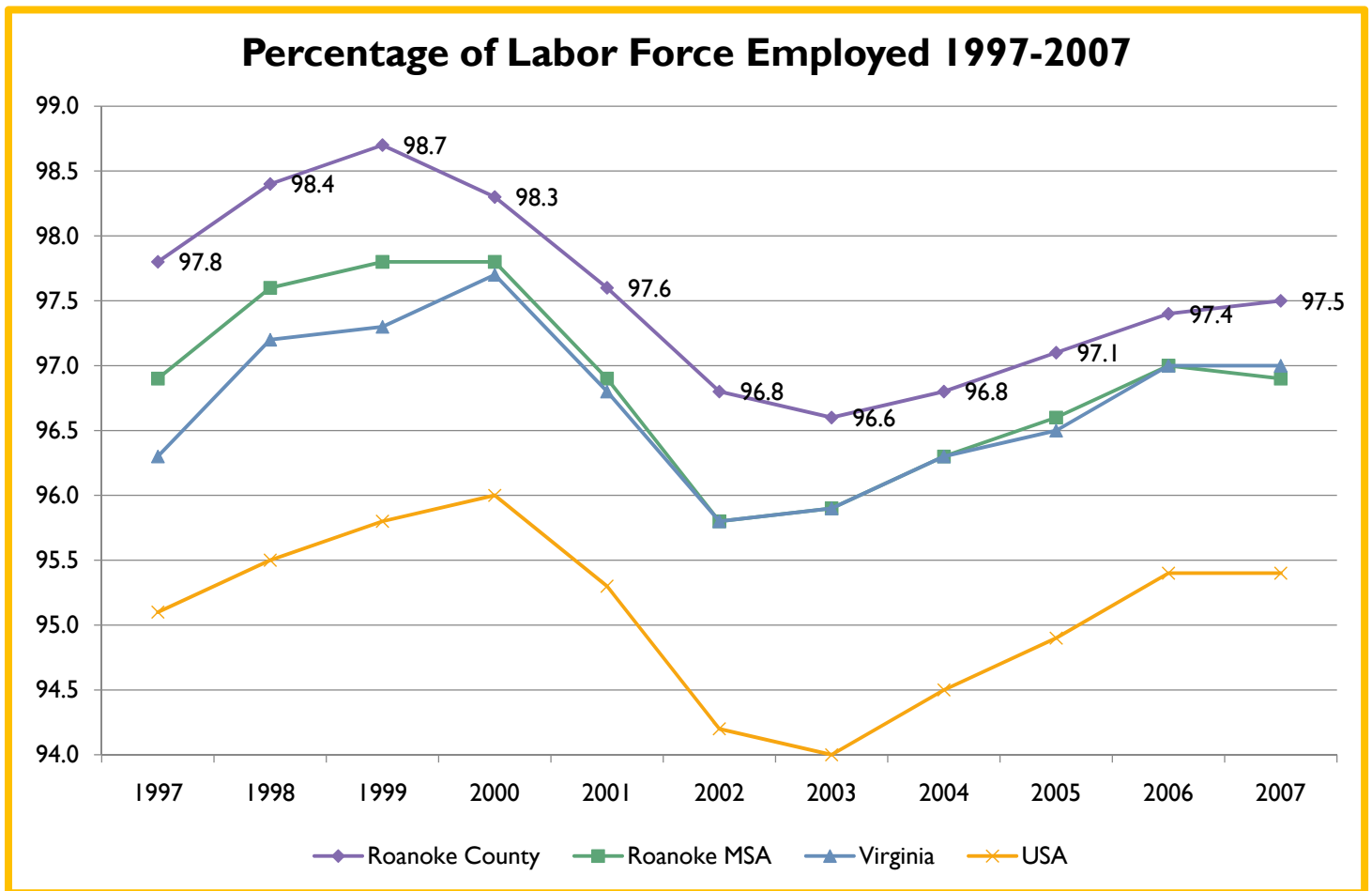


The overall percentage of the civilian labor force employed within Roanoke County is greater than regional, state and national employment rates.



Source: Virginia Employment Commission: Labor Force, Employment & Unemployment

Between 1997 and 2007, Roanoke County has seen the overall percentage of the civilian labor force actually employed fulfilled at a greater rate than that of the regional, state and national levels. Although higher, the trends over the last ten years within the County are reflective of a general trend. In the late 1990s, employment increased to a high of 98.7% in 1999. Between 2000 and 2003, rates dropped to a low of 96.6% in 2003. Since then employment rates have increased to 97.5% by 2007.