

LOUISIANA FACTBOOK

for the 2003 Election Year

How do we
measure up?

How far do
we have to go?

COUNCIL FOR A BETTER LOUISIANA



The Council for A Better Louisiana

Founded in 1962, CABL works to improve the quality of life for Louisiana citizens by raising awareness of critical issues, promoting sound public policy, fostering civic leadership, and championing government accountability.

The People's Agenda

is an ongoing voter education and legislative watchdog initiative sponsored by CABL. It is a multifaceted, nonpartisan effort established to ensure that the common concerns of Louisiana citizens become the focus of political debate during state elections, and that elected officials address those concerns after the elections.



Louisiana Fact Book for the 2003 Election Year

How Do We Measure Up...How Far Do We Have to Go

A recent U.S. president once said, "information is the oxygen of the modern age." What he meant is that information, like oxygen, is everywhere, and it has become vital to virtually everything we do.

Because we have so much information available to us, we find ourselves using it more to make decisions or come to understandings about things. Like anything else, the better the information we have, the better outcomes we can expect. That's the point of this little book in this all-important election year.

Information Please

This is a book full of data - about our state and our communities. It's geared toward the candidates who seek to lead Louisiana, and the voters who will elect them. Why? Because if we are to make decisions about how we will move forward as a state, we need information about where we stand now.

This book is more than just a collection of statistics. It is a picture of our state. Many of the individual data points are interesting by themselves, but follow them through from beginning to end and something much larger emerges - a snapshot of where Louisiana really stands. The information in this book points to the areas where we need to focus as a state, and the foundations upon which we can build. It suggests to candidates the things they should be talking about in this election, and to voters the kinds of questions they should be asking. It's information we all should have.

A Critical Election

CABL hopes to make this year's gubernatorial election one about substance. Through our nonpartisan *People's Agenda* election project, we will work to connect voters and candidates on the issues that are most important to Louisiana - through statewide voter surveys, candidate questionnaires, issues briefings and gubernatorial debates. For the information you need throughout this election year, we hope you'll look to *The People's Agenda* and visit our website at www.cabl.org.

Today, Louisiana is approaching a fork in the road. It is important that we ask ourselves which direction we want to go. Are we committed to doing the things we must to progress, or are we satisfied with where we are? This year we will decide.

It is CABL's hope that the information in this book will help candidates and voters develop an objective and accurate view of Louisiana's condition. Our larger goal, and that of *The People's Agenda*, is to encourage a substantive debate on what all the information shows are our state's most pressing issues.



















Louisiana Snapshot

Who We Are, Where We Live, Where We're Going

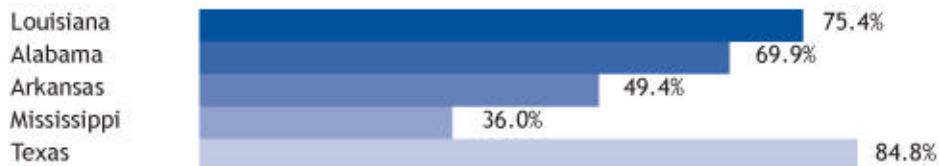
Population

		National Rank
Population, 2001	4,465,430	22nd
Population change, 1990-2000	5.9%	40th






















Where We Live

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)	Population	Population Change (1990 - 2000)
New Orleans      	1,337,726	4.1%
Baton Rouge   	602,894	14.1%
Shreveport - Bossier City  	392,302	4.2%
Lafayette  	385,647	11.8%
Houma  	194,477	6.4%
Lake Charles 	183,577	9.2%
Monroe 	147,250	3.6%
Alexandria 	126,337	-4.0%

Urban vs. Rural: Population in Metropolitan Areas




By the Numbers









White	                    
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We're Leaving, but Who's Coming?

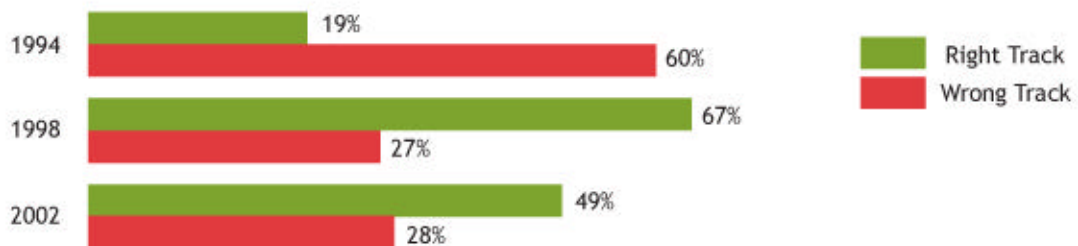
Population born in LA	79.4%
Net Out Migration 1990 - 2000	139,704
Net Out Migration 2000 - 2002	47,039

 During the decade of the '90s, Louisiana was the only southern state where more people moved out than in.

At the Ballot Box

Percentage of eligible population registered to vote		86%
Female		55%
Male		45%
Democrat		58%
Republican		23%
Independent		19%
Voted in '02 Senate Election		44%
Voted in '00 Presidential Election		64%

Louisiana's Moving, but Which Direction?



Source: CABL Voter Surveys



How Much Do We Spend?

Louisiana's total State General Fund budget for FY '03 is \$6.6 billion.

Our Economy

Where Do We Really Stand?

What We Earn, 2001

	LA	National Rank	Southern Rank
Per Capita Income	\$24, 535	44th	10th
Average Annual Pay	\$29,134	38th	10th

Earnings of Louisiana's Households, 2001

<\$25,000	\$ \$ \$ \$	38.6%	✦ Only ten states have a higher percentage than Louisiana of the "working poor" - those who earn less than one-and-a-half times the poverty level.
\$25,000 - \$49,999	\$ \$ \$	29.2%	
\$50,000 - \$74,999	\$ \$	16.9%	✦ According to the Corporation for Enterprise Development, only two states have a wider gap than Louisiana between those at the lowest end of the income ladder and those at the top.
\$75,000 - \$99,999	\$	7.8%	
\$100,000 +	\$	7.5%	

Income Distribution Within Louisiana

MSA	Per Capita Income, 2000
New Orleans	\$26,056
Baton Rouge	\$25,117
Shreveport - Bossier City	\$23,972
Alexandria	\$23,777
Monroe	\$23,061
Lake Charles	\$22,701
Lafayette	\$22,210
Houma	\$21,519

Poverty

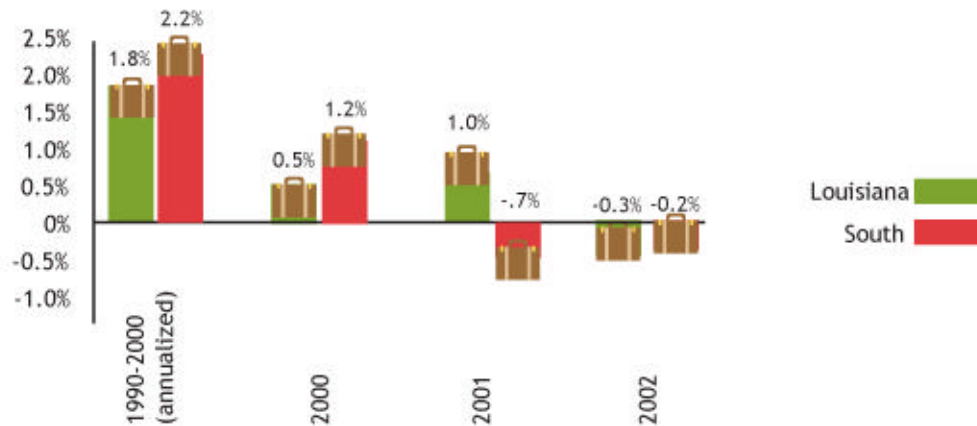
What is poverty? Income of less than \$18,400 a year for a family of four.

	LA, 2002	U.S., 2002
Poverty Rate	16.2%	11.7%
Children in Poverty	23.1%	16.3%

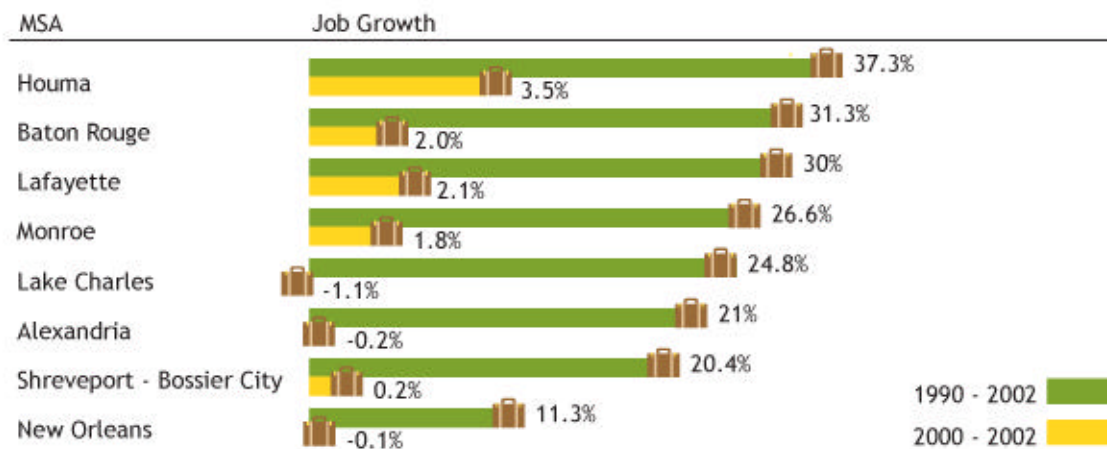
✦ Louisiana ranked fifth highest in the nation and fourth highest in the south in both our overall poverty rate and our rate of children in poverty.

✦ Louisiana's homeownership rate of 67.1% is the second lowest in the south.

Job Growth: What Are the State's Trends?



Job Growth Inside Louisiana



Business Vitality: How Competitive is Louisiana?

Number of:	2000/2001 National Rank
Businesses	24th
People Self-Employed	28th
New Firms Created	25th
Firms Closed	21st
Rate of:	
Federal Investment in R & D	46th
Private Investment in R & D	47th
Patents Issued	41st
University Developed Royalties and Licenses	17th
Technology Jobs	46th

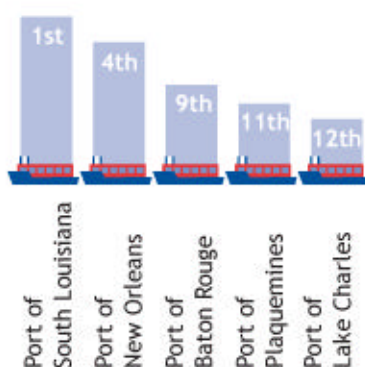
✿ In 2002, Louisiana had a total of 26,960 personal and business bankruptcies.

✿ Louisiana ranks 47th in the nation in percentage of people who get their health insurance through an employer. Besides being a health indicator, this also speaks to the quality of jobs in our state and the vitality of the economy.

How Busy Are Our Ports?

	2000 National Rank
Total "port calls" to New Orleans	2nd
"Dry bulk" port calls to New Orleans	1st
Total tonnage handled at Louisiana ports	1st

In terms of tonnage handled, Louisiana has five of the top twelve ports in the U.S.



In 2000, Louisiana led the nation in terms of the tonnage of exports leaving our ports. Louisiana was third in the nation in terms of export value. This translated into 326.7 billion pounds of goods exported through Louisiana worth more than \$24 billion.

Running the Roads

Percent of state roads in poor condition	27%
Percent of deficient bridges	34%
Projected backlog in capital funding for roads and bridges over the next 5 years	\$2 billion

It is estimated that it costs Louisiana drivers \$439 extra per year for driving on roads that are deficient and in need of repair and improvement. That is almost twice the national average.



Did You Know?



The buying income of the population reachable via overnight truck delivery from LA is \$250 billion.



The Latin American Trade and Transportation Study conducted by the Southeastern Transportation Alliance projects world cargo through Louisiana ports will nearly double between 2000 and 2020.

Louisiana on the Information Superhighway?

	2001 Louisiana	National Rank
Households with Computers	45.7%	48th
Households with Internet Access	40.2%	47th



Pre-K - 12 Education

Will Our Kids Be Ready For the Future?

Who Attends Our Public Schools?

	'01-'02 School Year
Number of students in public schools	725,027
Percent of public school children who are minority	51.2%□
Percent of public school children who are white	48.8%

✿ At 16.6%, Louisiana has the highest rate in the country of school children in non-public schools.

✿ Approximately 7,800 at-risk four-year olds in 2002 were not enrolled in any type of early childhood education program.

Are Our Students Making the Grade?

Percent of Students At or Above "Basic" Level on LEAP Test, 2002

4th Grade English Language Arts		57%
4th Grade Math		50%
8th Grade Language Arts		48%
8th Grade Math		42%

✿ Since Louisiana's school accountability program began in 1998-99, student scores on the LEAP test have shown improvement, with the exception of Spring 2002 when there was a leveling off. The challenge for Louisiana is to continue to show growth and improvement over the long term.











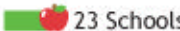

Percent Passing Grade 10 Graduate Exit Exam, 2002

English Language Arts		81%
Math		70%
ACT Composite Score, 2002 (U.S. Average 20.8, out of 36)	19.6	

✿ During the 2000-2001 school year 19,813 students in grades 7-12 dropped out of Louisiana public schools.

Are Our Schools Making the Grade?

School Performance Scores for the 2000 & 2001 Cycle

	Elementary / Middle	High School
Academic Excellence	 1 School	 3 Schools
Academic Distinction	 14 Schools	 1 School
Academic Achievement	 164 Schools	 39 Schools
Above State Average	 325 Schools	 130 Schools
Academically Below the State Average	 527 Schools	 138 Schools
Academically Unacceptable	 23 Schools	 16 Schools

Update!

Schools are rated on a two-year cycle. In the 2000-2001 cycle, 69.6% of K-8 schools met or exceeded their two-year growth target for performance. Today, halfway through the current rating cycle, only 42% of K-8 schools and 38% of high schools have met at least half of their two-year growth target. This means that many of our already low-performing schools are in danger of serious failure.


! Red Alert on Louisiana Schools !

Failed Schools	23
In danger of becoming failed schools	80

Where are They?

Bienville Parish	1 School
Caddo Parish	7 Schools
Calcasieu Parish	2 Schools
Concordia Parish	1 School
East Baton Rouge Parish	6 Schools
East Feliciana Parish	1 School
Franklin Parish	2 Schools
Jefferson Parish	5 Schools
Lafayette Parish	1 School
Madison Parish	4 Schools
Orleans Parish	63 Schools
Ouachita Parish	1 School
Pointe Coupee Parish	2 Schools
St. Helena Parish	1 School
Tangipahoa Parish	2 Schools
Monroe City	2 Schools
Other	2 Schools

Our Teachers

Average teacher salary '01 - '02	\$36,328	 The Southern average for teacher pay is \$39,521. When adjusted for cost of living, years of service, etc. the average is \$37,973.
Percentage of uncertified teachers	15.6% ^a	
Percentage of new teachers in public schools leaving their position within three years	43%	



How Much Do We Spend?

During the 2002-2003 school year, Louisiana spent more than \$2.5 billion of State General Funds on elementary and secondary education.

Post-Secondary Education



Are We Building a Knowledge-based Workforce?

From Start to Finish

Number of first-time freshmen, Fall 2001	20,787
First-time college freshmen who graduated from public high schools enrolled in remedial courses, Fall 2001	39%□
Six-year graduation rate for Louisiana public colleges and universities, 2002	39%
Southeast region graduation rate, 2001	48%

- ✿ Graduation rates at our universities vary considerably. The highest rates are at LSU Baton Rouge with 62% and Louisiana Tech with 57%. Eight regional universities have rates in the 30 - 36% range, and three colleges range between 12 - 29%.

Four-Year vs. Two-Year: Where Do We Go?

2000 enrollment rate of four-year universities, per 1,000 adults	 44.2
2000 enrollment rate of two-year colleges, per 1,000 adults	 8.7□

- ✿ In 2000, Louisiana had the lowest percentage of its population in the nation with a two-year associate degree.

- ✿ But enrollment in Louisiana two-year colleges grew from 28,229 in 2000 to 36,470 in 2002.

Louisiana's Institutions of Higher Education

Number of four-year universities	 14
Number of two-year universities	 2
Number of community colleges	 7
Number of technical college campuses	 42

Diplomas = Jobs: 2020 U.S. Workforce Projection

Jobs requiring a four-year college degree	 20%
Jobs requiring a two-year associate degree or advanced training	 65%
Jobs requiring minimal skills	 15%



How Much Do We Spend?

Louisiana currently spends more than \$960 million of State General Funds on higher education.

Altogether, Louisiana spends 53% of its State General Funds on Pre-K-12 public education and post-secondary education.

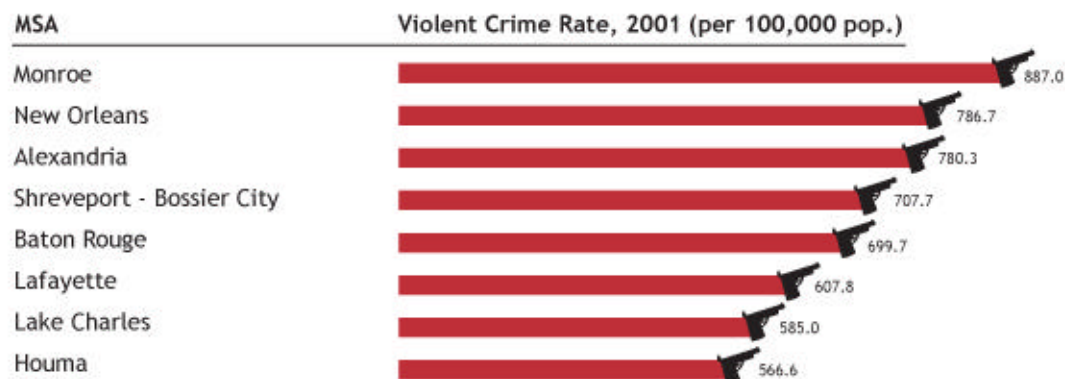
Public Safety

The Costs of High Poverty and Low Education

Crime: The Hard Numbers

	2001 National Rank
Murder rate per 100,000 habitants	1st
Violent crime rate per 100,000 habitants	6th
State prisoner incarceration rate	1st

Where Is the Crime?



State Prisoners: By the Numbers

Adult state prison population, 2002	36,328
Percent of state prisoners with sentences over 10 years	37.6%
Percent of state prisoners serving life sentences	10.2%
Percent of state prisoners 50 years and older	8.6%
Number of state prisoners on death row	92

✿ Louisiana spends \$33.65 per day for a total of \$12,282.25 per year for each prisoner in a state institution.

What Are They in For?



How Much Do We Spend?

During 2002-2003, Louisiana spent \$594 million of State General Funds on corrections.

Crime and Our Kids








✿ In 1999, Louisiana had the second-highest juvenile incarceration rate in the nation. Of those imprisoned, 27% had committed violent crimes, while 73% were there for other types of offenses.

✿ For each youthful offender in a juvenile jail, the state of Louisiana spends \$157 per day for a total of \$57,305 per year.

Health

Costly Programs, Disappointing Outcomes

Births: By the Numbers

	Louisiana	2001 National Rank
Birth Rate (per 1,000 inhabitants)	 14.9	14th
Percent of births to unmarried mothers	 46.3%	1st
Birth rates for teenage mothers (per 1,000 teenage women)	 57.8	9th
Percent of low birthweight births	 10.4%	2nd
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	 9.0	5th

Insurance: Are We Covered?

	LA	2001 National Rank	2001 Southern Rank
Percent of population without health insurance	19.3%	47th	12th
Percent of children without health insurance	12.7%	41st	10th

✿ Since 1999, 207,535 children have received health coverage under the LaCHIP program, which helps provide health insurance coverage for children in low-income families.

Where We Go for Healthcare

Louisiana ranks seventh in the nation in terms of money spent per capita at hospitals, but we're only 30th when it comes to money spent on physicians and other professional services. Why? One reason may be that we have one of the highest percentages in the nation of citizens who lack access to primary care.

Health Report

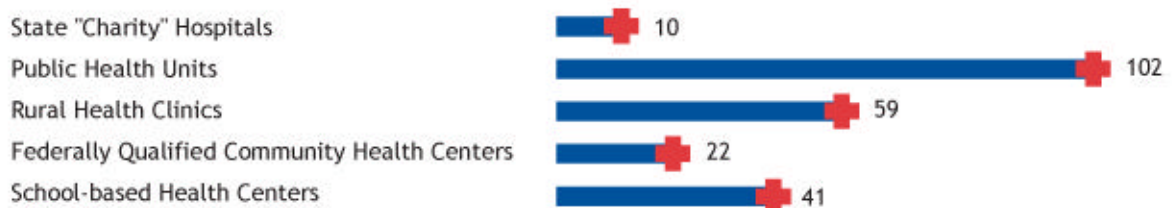
	2001 National Rank	
	Rate of Cases	Age-Adjusted Death Rate
Diabetes	10th	1st
HIV / AIDS	10th	5th
Cancer	17th	1st

✦ Louisiana had an overall, age-adjusted death rate in 2001 of 1,020.1 per 100,000 residents. This is the second highest in the nation, meaning our citizens die much more prematurely than those in other states.

The State of Medicaid

Percent of LA population receiving Medicaid, 2000	16.2%
Percent of U.S. population receiving Medicaid, 2000	11.9%
Percent of births in Louisiana financed by Medicaid, 1999	63%
Medicaid enrollees, State Fiscal Year '00-'01	781,073
Total Medicaid budget, State Fiscal Year '03	\$4.4 billion
Total Medicaid budget from State General Funds, State Fiscal Year '03	\$864.9 million

Number of Publicly Funded Health Facilities



How Much Do We Spend?

During 2002-2003, Louisiana will spend \$1.2 billion in State General Funds on public health and hospitals, including Medicaid. Overall, 18% of Louisiana's State General Funds will be spent in this area.

Environment

Louisiana, Worth Protecting

Louisiana's Wetlands Are America's Wetlands

Forty percent of U.S. wetlands are in Louisiana.



Eighty percent of the coastal wetland loss in the entire U.S. occurs in Louisiana.

Louisiana's 6.5 million acres of wetlands are the largest in the nation.

Louisiana loses 25-35 square miles of wetlands per year. Since 1930, the amount of wetlands lost in Louisiana is greater than the size of Rhode Island.

Wetlands and Wildlife

Ninety-five percent of marine species in the Gulf of Mexico spend all or part of their lifecycle in Louisiana wetlands.



Fifteen percent of the North American waterfowl population depend on Louisiana wetlands.



Wetlands and Economics

Over 30% percent of the nation's fisheries catch comes from Louisiana wetlands.



Over 25% percent of oil and gas consumed in the U.S. travels through Louisiana wetlands.

The Coast 2050 plan for restoring coastal Louisiana is estimated to cost \$14 billion.



Environmental Quality

Toxic Releases in Millions of Pounds, 2001

154.5



National
Rank



Southern
Rank

The Qualities of Our Life

Louisiana Lagniappe

Clearly, Louisiana faces many challenges and has many serious issues to address. But the statistical data doesn't reveal the many other attributes about Louisiana, our people and culture that are also important. These qualities are often hard to quantify, but some do have measurable impacts, and they help complete the picture of life in Louisiana.

We Are Generous.

According to the Catalogue for Philanthropy, Louisiana citizens are fifth in the nation in the percentage of their earnings given to charity.



We Care About Our History.

In 2000, Louisiana led the nation in money spent for historic preservation.

We Support the Arts.

Louisiana citizens and businesses contribute nearly \$90 million annually to the arts.



We Have a Literary Tradition.

Twelve writers with ties to Louisiana have won the Pulitzer Prize for literature.

We Have a Musical Tradition.

A total of 35 artists with ties to Louisiana have won Grammy awards in the categories of jazz, blues, folk, country and gospel.



We Have a Culinary Tradition.

We spend more than \$4 billion a year at restaurants.



We Corner the Market on Crawfish.

More than 90% of the crawfish harvested in the U.S. comes from Louisiana.

And Shrimp.

More than 100 million pounds of shrimp are caught each year in Louisiana's fisheries.



And Crabs.

More than 40 million pounds come from Louisiana.

We Pass a Good Time.

Louisiana hosts more than 600 festivals every year.



And Others Come to Join Us.

About 16 million people a year come to visit Louisiana.

People, 2000

Parish	Population	Under 18	Over 65	White	Black	Female-Head House	Born in LA
Acadia	58,861	29.8%	12.3%	80.7%	18.2%	14.9%	91.1%
Allen	25,440	24.6%	11.8%	71.9%	24.6%	15.2%	80.8%
Ascension	76,627	30.1%	7.7%	77.4%	20.3%	13.3%	82.2%
Assumption	23,388	28.5%	10.9%	67.2%	31.5%	14.9%	95.0%
Avoyelles	41,481	26.8%	13.7%	68.5%	29.5%	15.7%	91.0%
Beauregard	32,986	27.5%	11.9%	84.2%	12.9%	10.9%	72.6%
Bienville	15,752	27.3%	17.6%	54.9%	43.8%	17.7%	87.1%
Bossier	98,310	28%	10.4%	74.7%	20.8%	14.1%	59.0%
Caddo	252,161	26.8%	13.7%	52.9%	44.6%	19.8%	74.7%
Calcasieu	183,577	27.4%	11.9%	73.6%	24.0%	14.7%	78.5%
Caldwell	10,560	24.7%	13.9%	80.4%	17.9%	12.6%	84.0%
Cameron	9,991	28.4%	10.6%	93.7%	3.9%	9.0%	83.0%
Catahoula	10,920	25.8%	14.4%	71.8%	27.1%	14.5%	79.1%
Claiborne	16,851	25.6%	17.3%	51.8%	47.4%	17.6%	81.9%
Concordia	20,247	27.8%	14.7%	60.7%	37.7%	19.0%	57.5%
DeSoto	25,494	28.4%	14.1%	56.0%	42.2%	18.6%	81.0%
E. Baton Rouge	412,852	26.2%	9.9%	56.2%	40.1%	16.8%	76.0%
E. Carroll	9,421	30.3%	12.5%	31.6%	67.3%	27.7%	72.7%
E. Feliciana	21,360	25.7%	10.6%	51.8%	47.1%	18.0%	83.7%
Evangeline	35,434	29.6%	12.8%	70.4%	28.6%	15.5%	93.7%
Franklin	21,263	27.9%	15.3%	67.2%	31.6%	16.5%	85.2%
Grant	18,698	28.9%	12.7%	85.4%	11.9%	12.9%	83.0%
Iberia	73,266	30%	11.4%	65.1%	30.8%	17.2%	89.3%
Iberville	33,320	26.2%	10.7%	49.3%	49.7%	20.4%	92.1%
Jackson	15,397	25.3%	16.2%	71.0%	27.9%	14.4%	87.6%
Jefferson	455,466	25.3%	11.9%	69.8%	22.9%	15.4%	75.9%
Jefferson Davis	31,435	29.3%	13.3%	80.6%	17.8%	13.7%	90.2%
Lafayette	190,503	27.4%	9.5%	73.4%	23.8%	14.0%	80.9%
Lafourche	89,974	27.3%	11.3%	82.9%	12.6%	12.4%	90.7%
LaSalle	14,282	26.1%	14.8%	86.1%	12.2%	9.8%	85.8%
Lincoln	42,509	22.1%	11.3%	57.4%	39.8%	15.3%	75.1%
Livingston	91,814	29.5%	8.5%	94.3%	4.2%	10.7%	79.2%
Madison	13,728	32.6%	11.6%	37.9%	60.3%	24.2%	65.6%
Morehouse	31,021	27.5%	15.1%	55.8%	43.4%	19.8%	82.1%
Natchitoches	39,080	26%	12.1%	57.9%	38.4%	17.7%	82.5%
Orleans	484,674	26.7%	11.7%	28.1%	67.3%	24.5%	77.4%
Ouachita	147,250	27.9%	11.8%	64.5%	33.6%	17.9%	79.7%
Plaquemines	26,757	29.2%	9.8%	69.8%	23.4%	14.6%	80.8%
Pointe Coupee	22,763	27.3%	13.9%	60.9%	37.8%	15.3%	92.0%
Rapides	126,337	27.2%	13.1%	66.5%	30.4%	16.8%	80.6%
Red River	9,622	30.1%	14.4%	57.9%	40.9%	18.6%	89.5%
Richland	20,981	27.3%	15.0%	61.0%	38.0%	18.8%	86.3%
Sabine	23,459	26.2%	16.5%	72.7%	16.9%	12.0%	80.2%
St. Bernard	67,229	25.2%	13.8%	88.3%	7.6%	14.6%	86.1%
St. Charles	48,072	30.3%	9.0%	72.4%	25.2%	14.7%	81.9%
St. Helena	10,525	29%	12.5%	46.5%	52.4%	18.4%	87.8%
St. James	21,216	29.5%	11.1%	50.0%	49.4%	19.3%	96.5%
St. John	43,044	31.2%	7.8%	52.6%	44.8%	18.1%	84.2%
St. Landry	87,700	29.5%	13.4%	56.5%	42.1%	17.9%	92.6%
St. Martin	48,583	29.5%	10.1%	65.9%	32.0%	15.9%	92.8%
St. Mary	53,500	29.7%	11.0%	62.8%	31.8%	16.5%	85.7%
St. Tammany	191,268	28.4%	10.0%	87.0%	9.9%	11.0%	67.7%
Tangipahoa	100,588	27.7%	10.6%	69.8%	28.4%	16.2%	82.1%
Tensas	6,618	26.5%	15.5%	43.4%	55.4%	20.2%	73.3%
Terrebonne	104,503	29.2%	9.7%	74.1%	17.8%	14.1%	87.6%
Union	22,803	25.7%	14.9%	69.8%	27.9%	13.7%	78.1%
Vermillion	53,807	28.1%	13.5%	82.7%	14.2%	13.0%	90.5%
Vernon	52,531	29.1%	7.9%	73.7%	17.1%	10.7%	47.9%
Washington	43,926	26.8%	14.3%	67.4%	31.5%	17.1%	80.9%
Webster	41,831	25.6%	16.3%	65.5%	32.8%	16.3%	77.0%
W. Baton Rouge	21,601	28.1%	9.7%	62.8%	35.5%	18.2%	89.8%
W. Carroll	12,314	25.6%	15.5%	79.9%	18.9%	12.3%	76.2%
W. Feliciana	15,111	20.3%	7.2%	48.6%	50.5%	15.6%	84.2%
Winn	16,894	24.8%	14.0%	66.3%	32.0%	15.3%	85.5%

Income, 2000

Parish	Household Income Less than \$25,000	Per Capita Income	Individuals in Poverty	Children in Poverty
Acadia	47.2%	\$13,424	24.5%	30.3%
Allen	46.3%	\$13,101	19.9%	22.6%
Ascension	26.6%	\$17,858	12.9%	16.3%
Assumption	41.5%	\$14,008	21.8%	28.4%
Avoyelles	51.7%	\$12,146	25.9%	32.5%
Beauregard	37.8%	\$15,514	15.6%	19.5%
Bienville	51.8%	\$12,471	26.1%	34.0%
Bossier	31.4%	\$18,119	13.7%	19.0%
Caddo	40.6%	\$17,839	21.1%	30.8%
Calcasieu	36.0%	\$17,710	15.4%	19.9%
Caldwell	46.3%	\$13,884	21.2%	27.1%
Cameron	38.0%	\$15,348	12.3%	13.1%
Catahoula	54.3%	\$12,607	28.1%	41.8%
Claiborne	49.5%	\$13,825	26.5%	36.3%
Concordia	53.6%	\$11,966	29.1%	42.0%
DeSoto	46.2%	\$13,606	25.1%	33.8%
E. Baton Rouge	34.6%	\$19,790	17.9%	22.7%
E. Carroll	57.8%	\$9,629	40.5%	56.8%
E. Feliciana	41.8%	\$15,428	23.0%	28.7%
Evangeline	56.2%	\$11,432	32.2%	39.1%
Franklin	53.3%	\$12,675	28.4%	41.4%
Grant	43.6%	\$14,410	21.5%	27.3%
Iberia	42.3%	\$14,145	23.6%	31.5%
Iberville	44.5%	\$13,272	23.1%	30.1%
Jackson	44.4%	\$15,354	19.8%	26.3%
Jefferson	31.2%	\$19,953	13.7%	20.0%
Jefferson Davis	46.0%	\$13,398	20.9%	25.4%
Lafayette	34.7%	\$19,371	15.7%	18.2%
Lafourche	36.4%	\$15,809	16.5%	21.9%
LaSalle	44.3%	\$14,033	18.7%	23.7%
Lincoln	47.2%	\$14,313	26.5%	30.1%
Livingston	30.3%	\$16,282	11.4%	11.7%
Madison	56.9%	\$10,114	36.7%	51.6%
Morehouse	49.8%	\$13,197	26.8%	35.9%
Natchitoches	48.8%	\$13,743	26.5%	32.7%
Orleans	46.4%	\$17,258	27.9%	40.3%
Ouachita	39.4%	\$17,084	20.7%	29.7%
Plaquemines	33.9%	\$15,937	18.0%	20.7%
Pointe Coupee	41.8%	\$15,387	23.1%	30.2%
Rapides	42.6%	\$16,088	20.5%	26.3%
Red River	52.4%	\$12,119	29.9%	40.1%
Richland	51.7%	\$12,479	27.9%	39.5%
Sabine	47.2%	\$15,199	21.5%	29.0%
St. Bernard	33.8%	\$16,718	13.1%	16.5%
St. Charles	26.3%	\$19,054	11.4%	14.2%
St. Helena	50.0%	\$12,318	26.8%	35.5%
St. James	37.4%	\$14,381	20.7%	27.7%
St. John	32.3%	\$15,445	16.7%	21.7%
St. Landry	52.9%	\$12,042	29.3%	37.7%
St. Martin	42.6%	\$13,619	21.5%	27.7%
St. Mary	45.4%	\$13,399	23.6%	31.3%
St. Tammany	24.9%	\$22,514	9.7%	11.8%
Tangipahoa	43.7%	\$14,461	22.7%	28.6%
Tensas	57.7%	\$12,622	36.3%	48.2%
Terrebonne	36.4%	\$16,051	19.1%	25.9%
Union	42.3%	\$14,819	18.6%	25.6%
Vermillion	44.0%	\$14,201	22.1%	30.0%
Vernon	38.2%	\$14,036	15.3%	18.6%
Washington	51.2%	\$12,915	24.7%	32.2%
Webster	44.6%	\$15,203	20.2%	29.6%
W. Baton Rouge	33.6%	\$15,773	17.0%	22.2%
W. Carroll	50.5%	\$12,302	23.4%	30.8%
W. Feliciana	33.0%	\$16,201	19.9%	25.3%
Winn	49.1%	\$11,794	21.5%	28.4%

Education

Parish	9th Grade or Less	No H.S. Diploma	H.S. or Higher	Associate Degree	Bachelor's or Higher
Acadia	17.5%	35.3%	64.7%	3.4%	9.4%
Allen	14.4%	36.7%	63.2%	2.7%	9.3%
Ascension	7.1%	20.4%	79.6%	3.2%	14.5%
Assumption	21.1%	40.7%	59.4%	2.5%	7.4%
Avoyelles	16.1%	40.3%	59.8%	2.5%	8.3%
Beauregard	9.1%	25.0%	75.0%	2.8%	13.8%
Bienville	10.6%	28.2%	71.9%	2.1%	11.5%
Bossier	4.6%	17.0%	83.0%	6.1%	18.1%
Caddo	6.0%	21.3%	78.7%	3.7%	20.6%
Calcasieu	8.6%	23.0%	77.0%	4.1%	16.9%
Caldwell	12.4%	34.6%	65.4%	1.5%	8.8%
Cameron	12.9%	31.8%	68.1%	2.0%	7.9%
Catahoula	15.5%	38.5%	61.4%	1.8%	9.4%
Claiborne	14.0%	34.2%	65.7%	3.3%	12.4%
Concordia	14.5%	35.4%	64.6%	2.7%	9.6%
DeSoto	10.3%	29.7%	70.3%	2.8%	10.2%
E. Baton Rouge	4.5%	16.1%	83.9%	2.9%	30.8%
E. Carroll	16.5%	42.1%	57.9%	1.9%	12.3%
E. Feliciana	9.8%	29.2%	70.7%	2.2%	11.3%
Evangeline	21.8%	44.5%	55.5%	3.6%	9.5%
Franklin	17.4%	38.6%	61.4%	1.2%	9.8%
Grant	8.1%	26.9%	73.1%	3.1%	9.8%
Iberia	15.2%	33.1%	66.9%	2.8%	11.2%
Iberville	13.3%	34.4%	65.7%	1.6%	9.6%
Jackson	9.9%	26.3%	73.6%	2.5%	12.9%
Jefferson	7.1%	20.8%	79.3%	4.4%	21.5%
Jefferson Davis	14.0%	30.7%	69.4%	2.9%	9.9%
Lafayette	8.2%	20.2%	79.8%	3.7%	25.5%
Lafourche	17.6%	33.6%	66.3%	2.7%	12.4%
LaSalle	10.1%	31.5%	68.5%	2.8%	11.2%
Lincoln	6.4%	19.6%	80.4%	3.4%	31.8%
Livingston	6.8%	22.8%	77.2%	2.9%	11.4%
Madison	13.8%	36.7%	63.4%	2.2%	11.0%
Morehouse	13.7%	33.4%	66.6%	2.3%	9.7%
Natchitoches	10.4%	27.3%	72.7%	2.3%	18.4%
Orleans	8.0%	25.3%	74.7%	3.6%	25.8%
Ouachita	6.5%	21.4%	78.6%	2.8%	22.7%
Plaquemines	14.7%	31.3%	68.7%	3.9%	10.8%
Pointe Coupee	14.2%	30.8%	69.1%	2.7%	12.8%
Rapides	9.1%	25.4%	74.6%	3.7%	16.5%
Red River	10.9%	32.7%	67.4%	3.0%	8.7%
Richland	14.6%	38.1%	61.9%	2.1%	12.8%
Sabine	10.6%	29.1%	70.8%	2.5%	11.1%
St. Bernard	10.0%	26.9%	73.1%	4.5%	8.9%
St. Charles	7.0%	20.0%	80.0%	4.7%	17.5%
St. Helena	11.4%	32.5%	67.5%	2.0%	11.2%
St. James	9.2%	26.0%	73.9%	2.9%	10.1%
St. John	7.4%	23.1%	76.9%	4.0%	12.9%
St. Landry	20.1%	38.0%	62.0%	3.2%	10.7%
St. Martin	19.0%	37.1%	62.9%	2.6%	8.5%
St. Mary	14.0%	34.1%	65.9%	2.5%	9.4%
St. Tammany	4.8%	16.2%	83.9%	4.8%	28.3%
Tangipahoa	9.8%	28.5%	71.5%	2.4%	16.3%
Tensas	15.3%	36.8%	63.2%	1.4%	14.8%
Terrebonne	15.2%	33.0%	67.1%	3.0%	12.3%
Union	9.5%	28.3%	71.7%	2.2%	11.8%
Vermillion	15.9%	34.4%	65.6%	2.8%	10.7%
Vernon	6.0%	19.9%	80.1%	4.9%	13.5%
Washington	10.8%	31.8%	68.2%	2.1%	10.9%
Webster	9.8%	29.2%	70.8%	3.9%	12.6%
W. Baton Rouge	9.2%	26.6%	73.4%	2.6%	11.1%
W. Carroll	14.1%	40.4%	59.5%	1.6%	9.5%
W. Feliciana	11.4%	46.7%	53.3%	1.0%	10.6%
Winn	11.6%	34.6%	65.4%	2.4%	9.4%

Education

School District	Drop Out Rate (7-12) ¹	Grade 4 "Basic" LEAP ^{†††}	Grade 8 "Basic" LEAP ^{†††}	ACT Score ^{††}	Need College Remedial Class Fresh Yr. ^{††}	Avg. Teacher Salary ^{†††}	Uncertified Teachers ^{††}
Acadia	5.5%	44%	38%	19.0	51%	\$32,284	16.4%
Allen	2.6%	53%	37%	19.3	39%	\$30,242	27.8%
Ascension	4.5%	54%	52%	19.9	25%	\$36,858	6.6%
Assumption	7.1%	33%	37%	19.0	38%	\$33,459	29.3%
Avoyelles	6.1%	47%	32%	19.1	40%	\$31,230	13.5%
Beauregard	2.6%	55%	47%	19.7	29%	\$32,822	15.0%
Bienville	5.5%	42%	20%	17.9	57%	\$33,055	18.0%
Bossier	4.3%	57%	43%	19.9	35%	\$34,610	9.5%
Caddo	6.7%	42%	28%	19.8	37%	\$38,545	11.8%
Calcasieu	4.0%	57%	45%	20.0	26%	\$35,255	8.0%
Caldwell	4.2%	60%	37%	19.8	53%	\$30,316	10.5%
Cameron	2.3%	47%	56%	19.5	30%	\$37,309	10.7%
Catahoula	5.7%	60%	43%	18.8	28%	\$27,265	26.4%
Claborn	2.6%	25%	28%	17.9	48%	\$30,489	29.6%
Concordia	5.2%	41%	44%	18.1	53%	\$31,696	17.8%
DeSoto	6.2%	34%	36%	18.5	46%	\$37,282	19.1%
E. Baton Rouge	6.9%	43%	26%	19.5	31%	\$36,116	22.6%
E. Carroll	6.2%	40%	7%	15.3	90%	\$29,588	36.9%
E. Feliciana	4.3%	34%	13%	15.9	59%	\$29,334	53.2%
Evangeline	6.4%	39%	45%	18.5	54%	\$34,214	12.1%
Franklin	8.3%	32%	26%	18.7	49%	\$27,833	25.4%
Grant	12.9%	43%	41%	19.2	42%	\$30,819	19.4%
Iberia	4.0%	46%	33%	19.1	36%	\$36,483	12.0%
Iberville	6.0%	33%	29%	17.2	46%	\$37,525	15.6%
Jackson	4.4%	50%	38%	19.1	48%	\$26,910	19.8%
Jefferson	7.5%	46%	32%	18.9	54%	\$36,182	14.1%
Jefferson Davis	3.6%	60%	47%	19.7	38%	\$36,747	5.6%
Lafayette	5.9%	51%	48%	20.6	32%	\$35,159	7.1%
Lafourche	3.6%	40%	31%	19.4	36%	\$32,907	13.5%
LaSalle	2.6%	50%	52%	19.0	36%	\$31,374	8.5%
Lincoln	4.8%	61%	45%	20.0	27%	\$35,077	11.5%
Livingston	0.7%	63%	51%	20.3	18%	\$36,060	5.0%
Madison	8.9%	37%	10%	16.3	66%	\$28,897	39.8%
Morehouse	8.4%	41%	32%	18.1	55%	\$29,577	30.8%
Natchitoches	8.2%	36%	34%	19.1	42%	\$32,072	14.6%
Orleans	7.8%	20%	13%	17.2	66%	\$35,103	25.8%
Ouachita	5.5%	62%	45%	20.2	35%	\$37,056	12.8%
Plaquemines	2.5%	68%	44%	18.8	43%	\$37,351	19.7%
Pointe Coupee	9.9%	47%	20%	17.0	39%	\$33,485	24.2%
Rapides	4.6%	49%	34%	19.7	33%	\$33,976	11.9%
Red River	9.8%	17%	23%	17.9	61%	\$28,915	55.0%
Richland	4.9%	36%	34%	18.2	40%	\$29,497	25.9%
Sabine	4.7%	38%	30%	18.7	38%	\$31,194	23.3%
St. Bernard	5.3%	57%	40%	19.5	55%	\$35,465	13.7%
St. Charles	3.6%	63%	51%	20.2	34%	\$37,390	8.0%
St. Helena	7.1%	15%	16%	15.3	71%	\$30,751	38.2%
St. James	4.1%	34%	18%	18.0	43%	\$36,989	14.4%
St. John	5.3%	34%	24%	17.0	61%	\$36,564	23.3%
St. Landry	4.5%	44%	36%	18.9	46%	\$36,796	16.8%
St. Martin	5.4%	34%	28%	18.1	42%	\$34,963	26.7%
St. Mary	5.0%	36%	35%	19.6	47%	\$34,840	24.9%
St. Tammany	5.2%	68%	61%	21.1	27%	\$38,455	5.6%
Tangipahoa	5.5%	37%	38%	18.9	36%	\$37,945	7.9%
Tensas	6.2%	14%	10%	15.6	56%	\$26,550	36.5%
Terrebonne	7.0%	46%	30%	18.7	40%	\$34,265	17.1%
Union	3.0%	40%	38%	17.9	48%	\$32,892	32.5%
Vermillion	3.8%	56%	33%	20.0	28%	\$35,719	4.0%
Vernon	5.6%	64%	51%	20.0	31%	\$31,915	20.5%
Washington	3.1%	48%	34%	17.5	38%	\$33,734	12.0%
Webster	4.1%	45%	29%	18.6	43%	\$35,944	14.1%
W. Baton Rouge	5.3%	42%	37%	18.3	40%	\$34,810	13.7%
W. Carroll	6.8%	62%	47%	19.5	32%	\$28,627	15.2%
W. Feliciana	2.8%	52%	62%	19.2	28%	\$36,448	12.6%
Winn	3.6%	40%	44%	18.8	43%	\$28,922	6.4%
City of Monroe	6.8%	38%	20%	17.8	52%	\$32,504	20.9%
City of Bogalusa	4.6%	39%	16%	17.4	48%	\$32,174	24.5%

* Students scoring "basic" or higher on both the English/Language Arts and Math sections of LEAP test.

2003

¹ 2000

^{††} 2001

^{†††} 2002

19

Health, 2000

Parish	Births to Teens	Births to Unwed Mothers	Low Birthweight Babies	Infant Mortality Rate *	Covered by Medicaid
Acadia	19.8%	44.8%	9.6%	8.7	22.5%
Allen	19.0%	39.7%	10.5%	4.8	18.7%
Ascension	12.0%	35.3%	8.1%	8.3	12.6%
Assumption	17.5%	49.2%	9.1%	13.3	19.8%
Avoyelles	22.9%	50.0%	11.1%	9.2	26.5%
Beauregard	17.9%	33.2%	8.0%	7.0	16.2%
Bienville	21.4%	48.9%	12.3%	9.0	22.8%
Bossier	14.1%	36.2%	9.2%	8.9	12.4%
Caddo	18.8%	54.2%	11.9%	12.7	18.7%
Calcasieu	17.7%	42.0%	10.4%	9.0	15.6%
Caldwell	17.5%	33.1%	7.4%	7.5	20.5%
Cameron	22.7%	21.9%	10.0%	9.1	9.8%
Catahoula	17.0%	48.8%	13.4%	10.9	24.3%
Claiborne	18.0%	48.2%	10.7%	10.6	22.0%
Concordia	26.5%	60.5%	15.8%	7.3	26.3%
DeSoto	19.3%	48.7%	10.8%	10.1	20.0%
E. Baton Rouge	14.6%	45.4%	10.6%	10.6	14.2%
E. Carroll	24.7%	74.0%	11.4%	8.9	41.1%
E. Feliciana	20.4%	50.5%	9.2%	9.4	18.1%
Evangeline	19.2%	45.3%	13.0%	8.8	29.5%
Franklin	20.8%	56.6%	11.8%	13.6	29.2%
Grant	17.0%	32.6%	8.6%	9.9	19.2%
Iberia	17.5%	54.9%	9.3%	9.8	21.7%
Iberville	18.8%	56.8%	11.1%	8.9	21.2%
Jackson	16.9%	39.0%	10.1%	2.0	19.0%
Jefferson	14.3%	43.2%	9.0%	7.6	14.2%
Jefferson Davis	17.9%	42.3%	9.3%	7.4	19.7%
Lafayette	13.3%	40.0%	9.4%	9.7	14.1%
Lafourche	15.8%	40.8%	9.1%	9.6	15.7%
LaSalle	17.9%	27.5%	7.7%	2.1	17.9%
Lincoln	16.6%	43.5%	8.9%	7.4	16.0%
Livingston	13.7%	29.2%	7.8%	5.4	12.5%
Madison	27.9%	68.4%	13.2%	10.3	30.8%
Morehouse	23.6%	55.5%	12.0%	14.6	27.0%
Natchitoches	20.0%	56.4%	10.5%	10.8	20.6%
Orleans	19.6%	64.9%	12.8%	8.9	27.3%
Ouachita	16.0%	47.8%	9.8%	10.4	17.9%
Plaquemines	15.2%	41.0%	9.3%	7.1	16.8%
Pointe Coupee	17.5%	51.1%	10.5%	9.2	21.4%
Rapides	18.2%	46.5%	10.7%	10.5	21.1%
Red River	18.0%	56.1%	9.7%	8.8	23.7%
Richland	19.7%	51.0%	11.5%	12.7	27.5%
Sabine	23.3%	40.5%	9.3%	11.4	18.5%
St. Bernard	13.3%	41.4%	8.8%	5.2	13.3%
St. Charles	14.2%	37.7%	8.0%	4.7	12.1%
St. Helena	14.3%	49.2%	8.4%	9.1	23.7%
St. James	17.1%	55.0%	12.0%	10.8	18.8%
St. John	16.8%	48.3%	9.5%	8.3	18.0%
St. Landry	20.4%	51.9%	11.6%	10.7	26.6%
St. Martin	19.0%	49.0%	10.4%	9.8	20.4%
St. Mary	18.2%	50.3%	9.4%	7.5	23.7%
St. Tammany	13.1%	27.7%	7.5%	6.4	10.3%
Tangipahoa	19.4%	48.8%	10.3%	7.9	24.8%
Tensas	27.0%	68.2%	9.5%	8.2	32.7%
Terrebonne	17.8%	44.5%	9.8%	11.2	17.7%
Union	19.0%	36.3%	11.1%	11.9	17.8%
Vermillion	17.5%	41.5%	8.2%	7.8	17.5%
Vernon	13.9%	19.3%	7.0%	7.7	13.2%
Washington	20.6%	53.2%	11.2%	11.0	27.3%
Webster	22.6%	45.5%	11.3%	9.5	19.5%
W. Baton Rouge	13.0%	45.0%	8.8%	9.2	15.6%
W. Carroll	19.1%	35.3%	10.5%	2.7	25.3%
W. Feliciana	14.1%	43.3%	7.7%	4.8	10.5%
Winn	22.3%	46.7%	9.5%	10.9	21.7%



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