

# LSUA CENLA ECONOMIC DASHBOARD

*August 20, 2021*

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# KEY FINDINGS

*August 20, 2021 CENLA Economic Dashboard*

## COVID-19

Region 6 (central Louisiana) continues to rank as the second lowest vaccinated region in the state with just 30% of the population fully vaccinated, up from 27% in July. Last month we saw the beginning of new upward trend in Covid cases. We are now fully engulfed in the fourth wave which has already exceeded the third wave in the number of cases. Young adults are leading the 4<sup>th</sup> wave with 18-29 year olds reporting the highest case numbers, followed by 30-39 year olds. Elderly (60+) have been the least impacted. Every parish is considered in the highest risk. Hospitalizations for Covid for Region 6 have already exceeded the third wave, but not deaths. Available ICU beds are almost nonexistent in this region.

## EMPLOYMENT

The unemployment rate in Cenla rose to 6.3% in June compared to 7.4% for the state. Rapides reported a 5.2% unemployment rate, up from 4.6% in May and well below the state rate.

Hiring pressures have eased slightly in the Alexandria MSA and statewide, but remain challenging. Currently, there are three job openings for every two unemployed in Alexandria, while the state average is three unemployed for every two openings. For over a year, the Alexandria MSA has had the lowest unemployment rate in the state among metro areas. In June it stood at 5.1% with New Orleans reporting the highest rate at 8.9%.

Statewide initial unemployment claims fell -16% in July while continued claims fell only -3%.

# KEY FINDINGS

*August 20, 2021 CENLA Economic Dashboard*

## CONSUMER SPENDING

Changes in consumer spending are measured by changes in sales tax revenue. Sales taxes collected in July reflect activity in June. Spending in June was mixed compared to May, with five of the nine jurisdictions reporting increases for the month. Year-to-date comparisons remain very positive with consumer spending up between 11% to 55% so far this year. Vehicle sales were mixed for the month ranging from -9% in Avoyelles to +8% in St. Landry. However, year-to-date vehicle sales are up 25% or more in the region.

## TRAVEL

Any adverse impact from the 4<sup>th</sup> wave is not yet evident in travel data, except for a leveling off of passenger traffic after the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday. Travelers have been taking to the road and sky again since the Spring. Statewide air passenger traffic increased month-over-month in July from 74% to 84% of the 2019 level, outpacing the nationwide increase from 74% to 80%. AEX continues to lead recovery of the air transportation sector statewide, with passenger traffic in July at 110% of the 2019 level.

Hotel occupancy was up double digits across the board in Rapides and Avoyelles. Rapides had increases of 11% in June over May while Avoyelles had a 17% in the same period. Both parishes are seeing occupancy rates of more than 30% higher for the year.

Gasoline sales in May, the latest available data, remained level with April and were 17% above May 2020.

# KEY FINDINGS

*August 20, 2021 CENLA Economic Dashboard*

## PERMITS

On a monthly basis, permit data sends a mixed signal on construction. However, year-to-date data paints a clearer picture. Commercial permits in Alexandria are up 33% for the year while the value residential permits are up 71%. So far this year permit valuations issued in Allen parish are up 38%, Avoyelles 58%, Evangeline 162%, and Rapides parish 1330%! Most of the increase results from commercial permits.

## HOUSING

Lumber prices have fallen 21% in July from the previous month, perhaps because residential construction fell -7% in June. Active listing continue to be low. The short supply of houses on the market means houses are still selling fast. The number of days a listing stays on the market eased some from 38 to 41 days, but homes are selling in half the time as a year ago. The median listing price remained unchanged from June at \$180,000, while the average listing price fell 4% to \$242,000.

## NEW BUSINESSES

New business growth continues strong in central Louisiana. The number of new businesses established in Rapides in July 2021 rose 19% from June and was 6% higher than the same month last year. Year-to-date new businesses in Rapides are up 36% over 2020. Occupational licenses tell a similar story. So far in 2021, licenses are up 4% for the year in Rapides with rural areas of the parish growing the fastest at 9%.

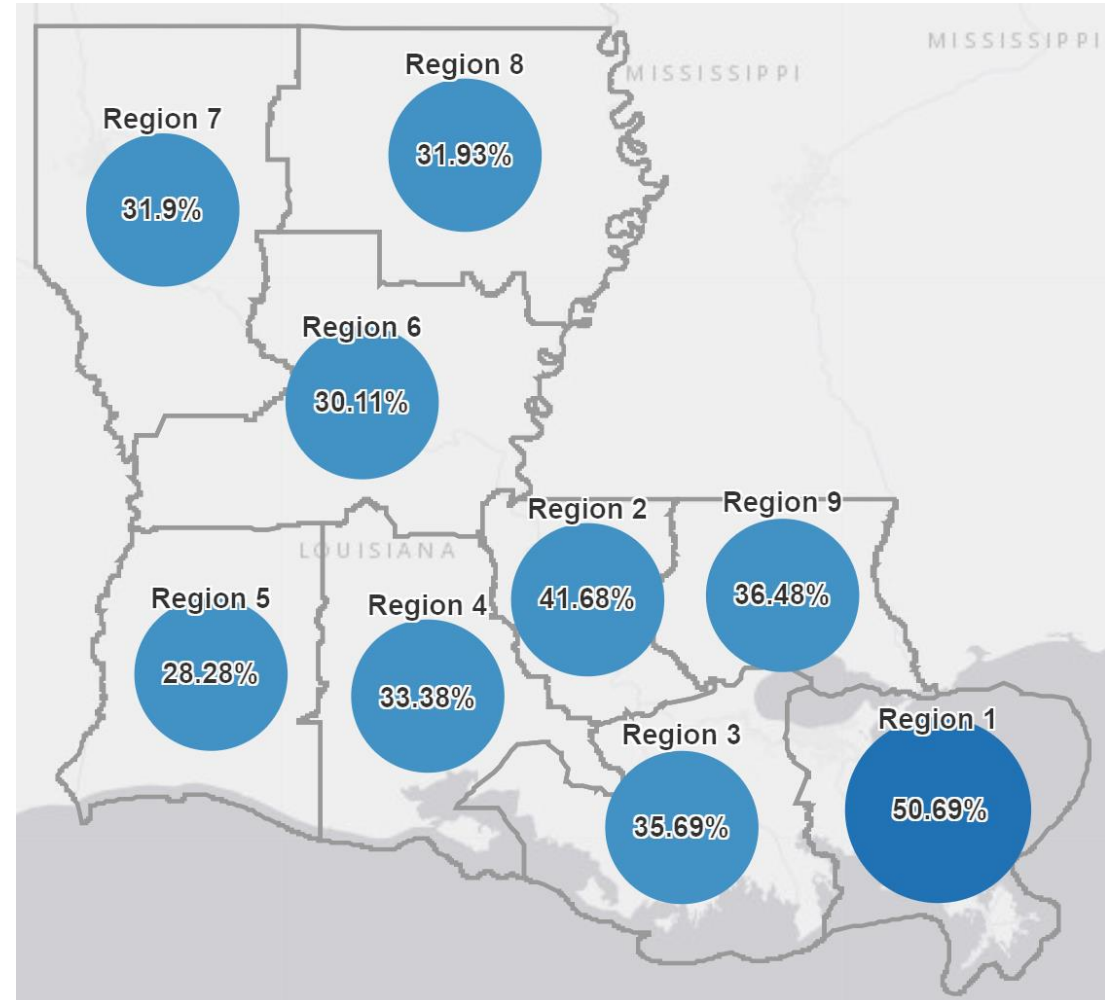
# COVID-19

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# COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

*COVID-19 vaccinations as a percent of region population as of August 18, 2021.*

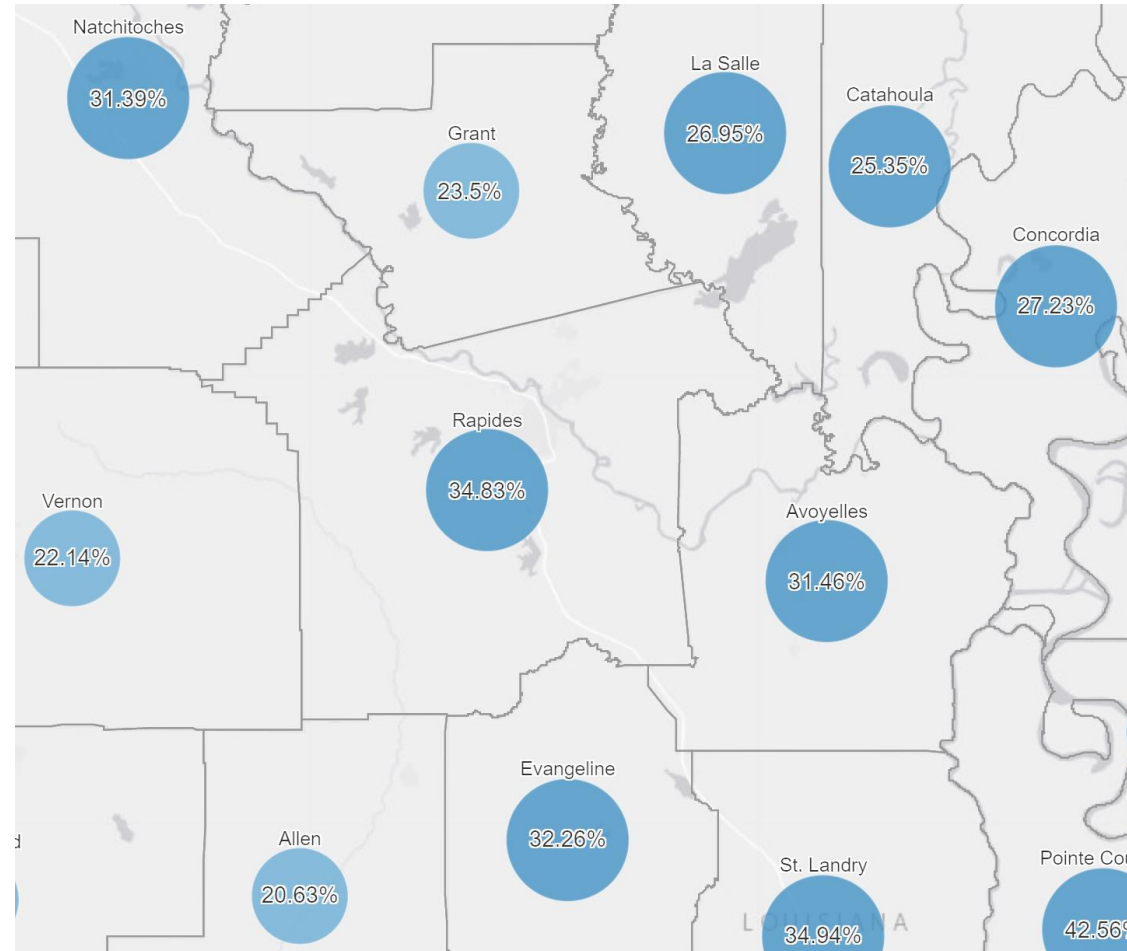
- ✓ Region 6 continues to have the second lowest vaccination rate in the state with 30% of the population vaccinated, up from 27% in July.
- ✓ Region 1 (New Orleans) and Region 2 (Baton Rouge) have the highest rates of vaccination at 51% and 42%, respectively.



# COVID-19 VACCINATIONS BY PARISH

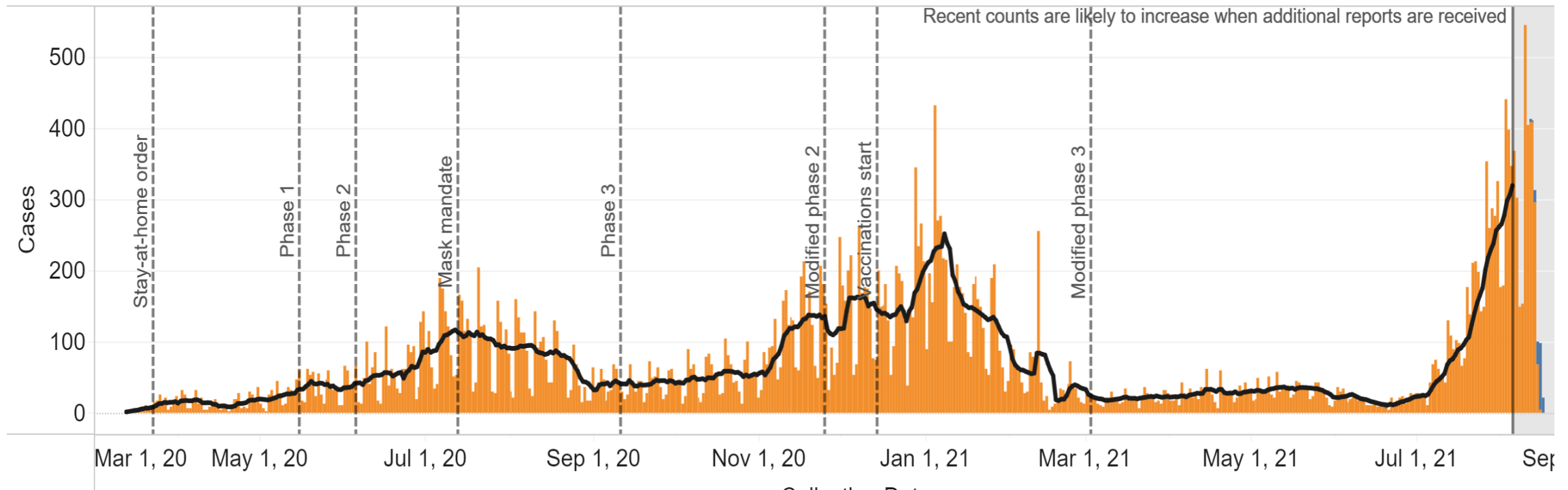
*COVID-19 vaccinations as a percent of parish population as of August 15, 2021.*

- ✓ Rapides and Evangeline have the highest percentage of completed vaccinations in Region 6 at 35% and 32% respectively, up from 31% and 29% a month ago.
- ✓ Since the last report, Avoyelles increased from 28.7% to 31.5%, Natchitoches from 29.4% to 31.4%, Vernon from 18.8% to 22.1%, and LaSalle from 23.4% to 27.0%.



# COVID-19 CASES BY COLLECTION DATE

*COVID-19 cases by collection date as of August 18, 2021 in Region 6 with a 7-day moving average.*

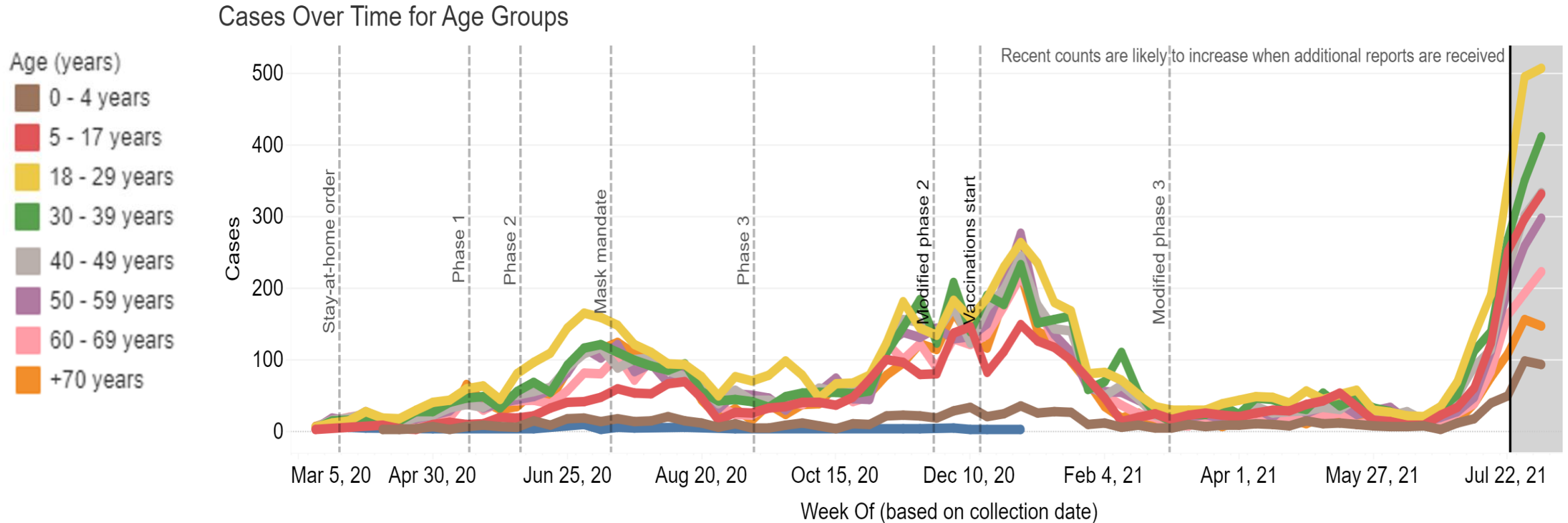


Source: Louisiana Office of Public Health, Region 6 (Central Louisiana), August 18, 2021.



# COVID-19 REGION 6 CASES BY AGE GROUP

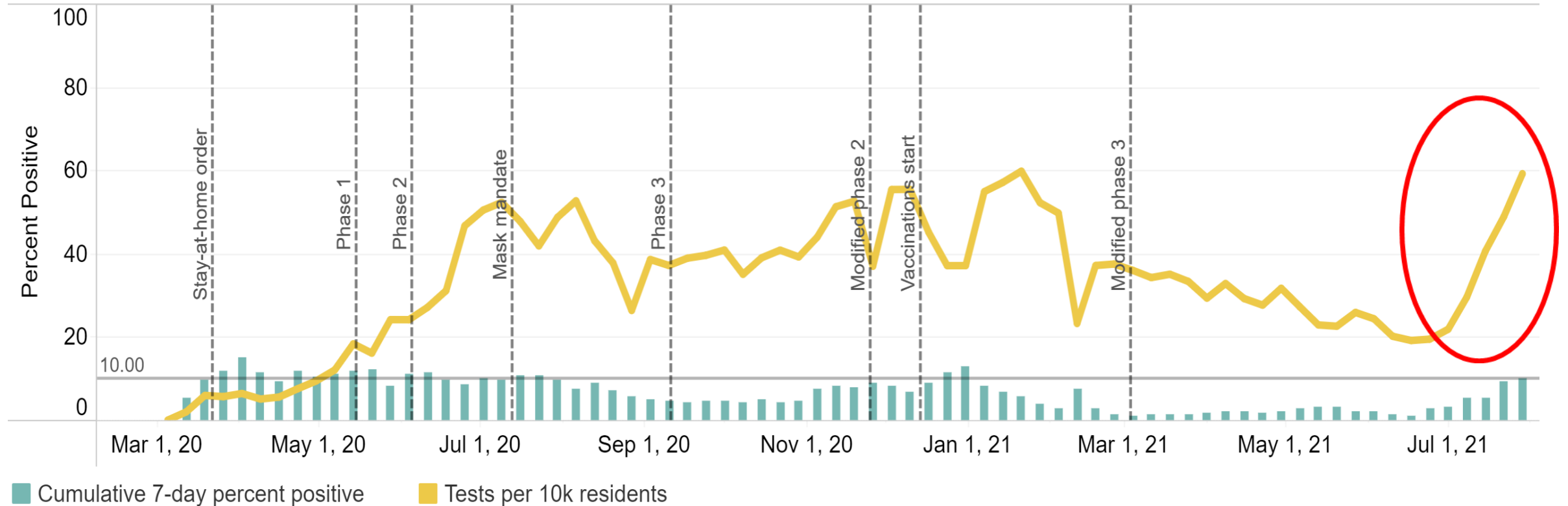
*Cases over time by age group in Region 6 through August 18, 2021.*



Source: Louisiana Office of Public Health, Region 6 (Central Louisiana), August 18, 2021.

# COVID-19 PERCENT POSITIVE AND TEST VOLUME

*COVID-19 percent positive and test volume in Region 6 as of August 18, 2021.*

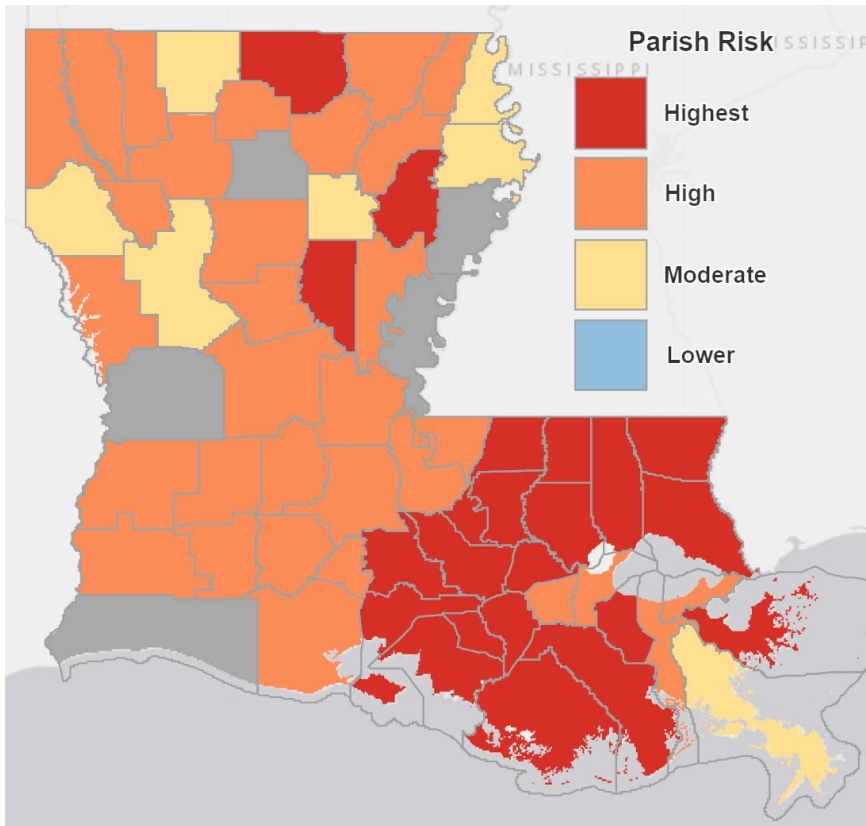


Source: Louisiana Office of Public Health, Region 6 (Central Louisiana), August 18, 2021..

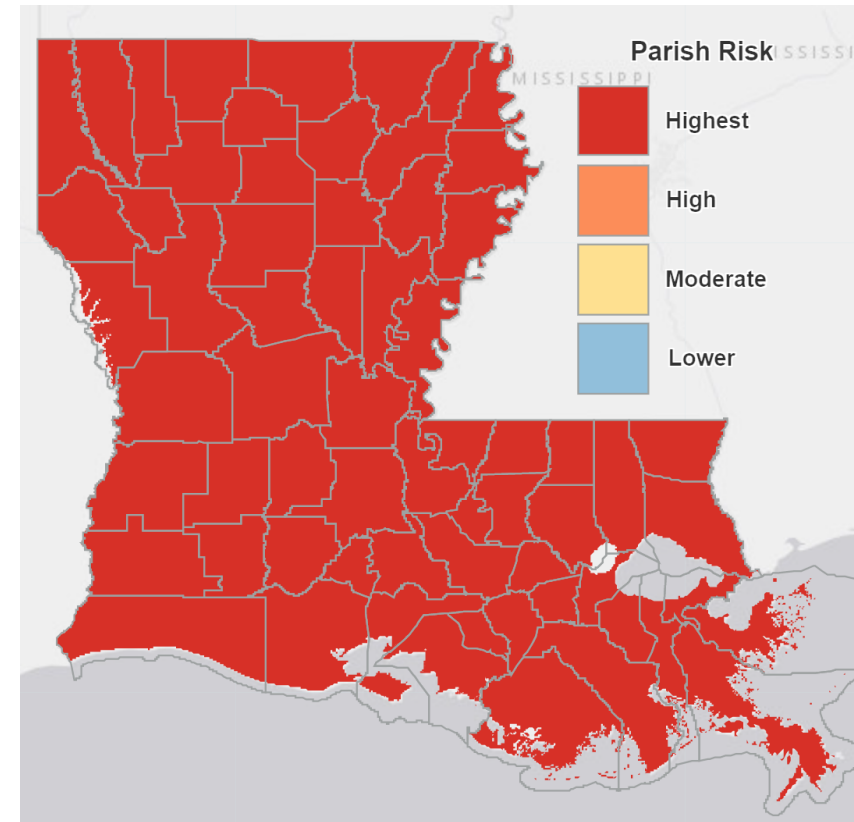
# COVID-19 STATEWIDE PARISH RISK

*COVID-19 statewide risk by parish.*

*July 15, 2021*



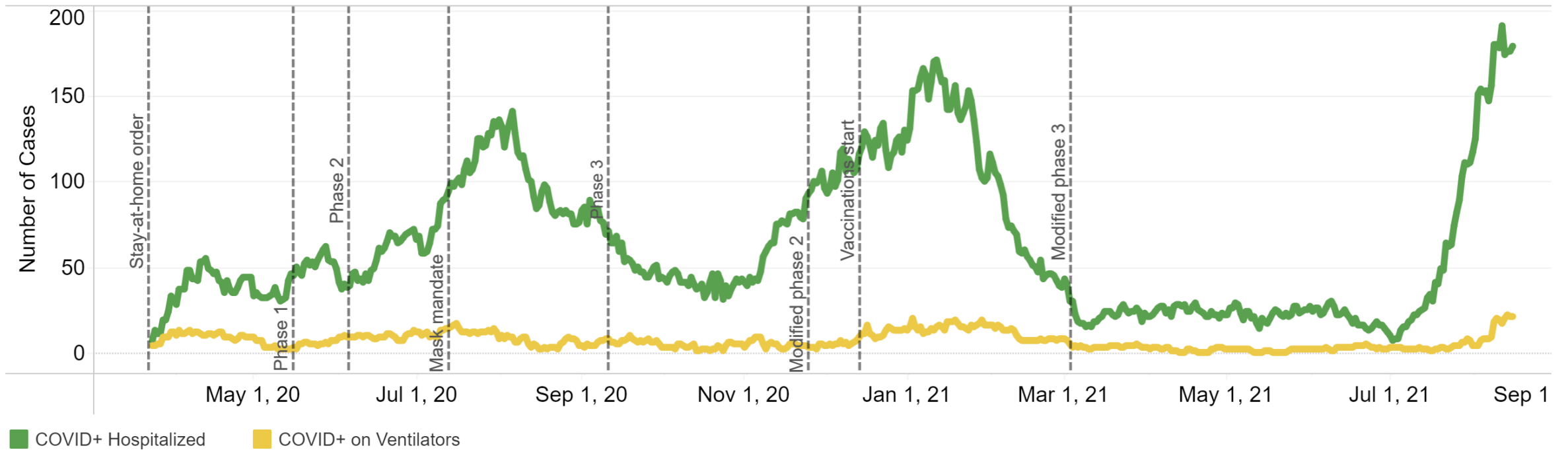
*August 18, 2021*



Source: Louisiana Office of Public Health, Region 6 (Central Louisiana), August 18, 2021.

# COVID-19 HOSPITALIZED & VENTILATED

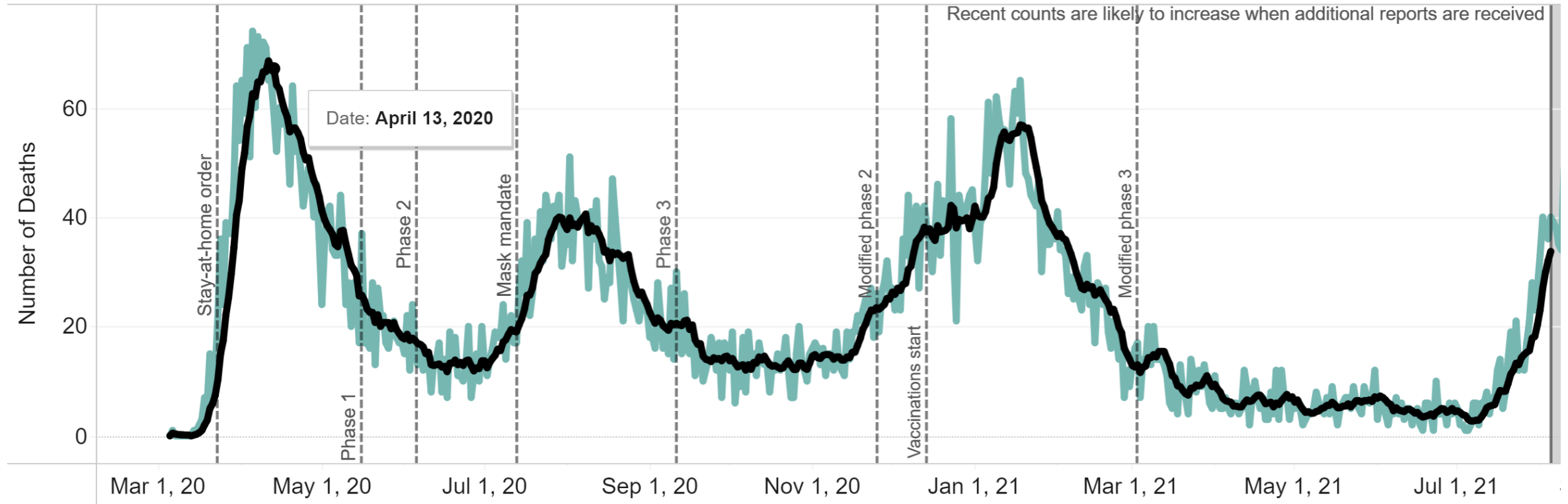
Number of cases hospitalized (green line) and ventilated (yellow line) in Region 6 as of August 18, 2021.



Source: Louisiana Office of Public Health, Region 6 (Central Louisiana), August 18, 2021.

# COVID-19 DEATHS STATEWIDE BY DATE

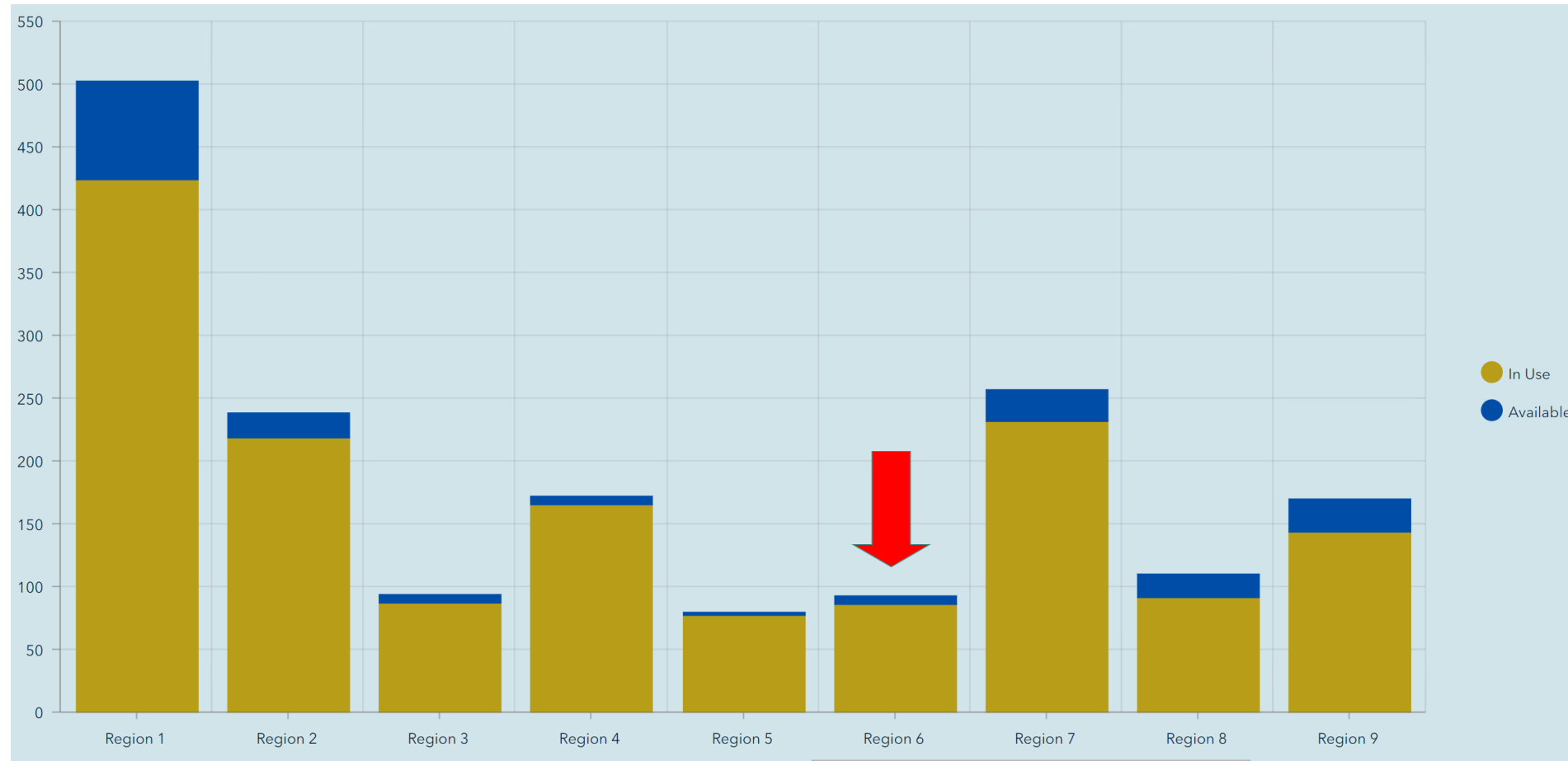
*COVID-19 deaths by date of death statewide as of August 18, 2021.*



Source: Louisiana Office of Public Health, Region 6 (Central Louisiana), August 18, 2021.

# ICU BEDS AVAILABLE & IN USE BY LDH REGION

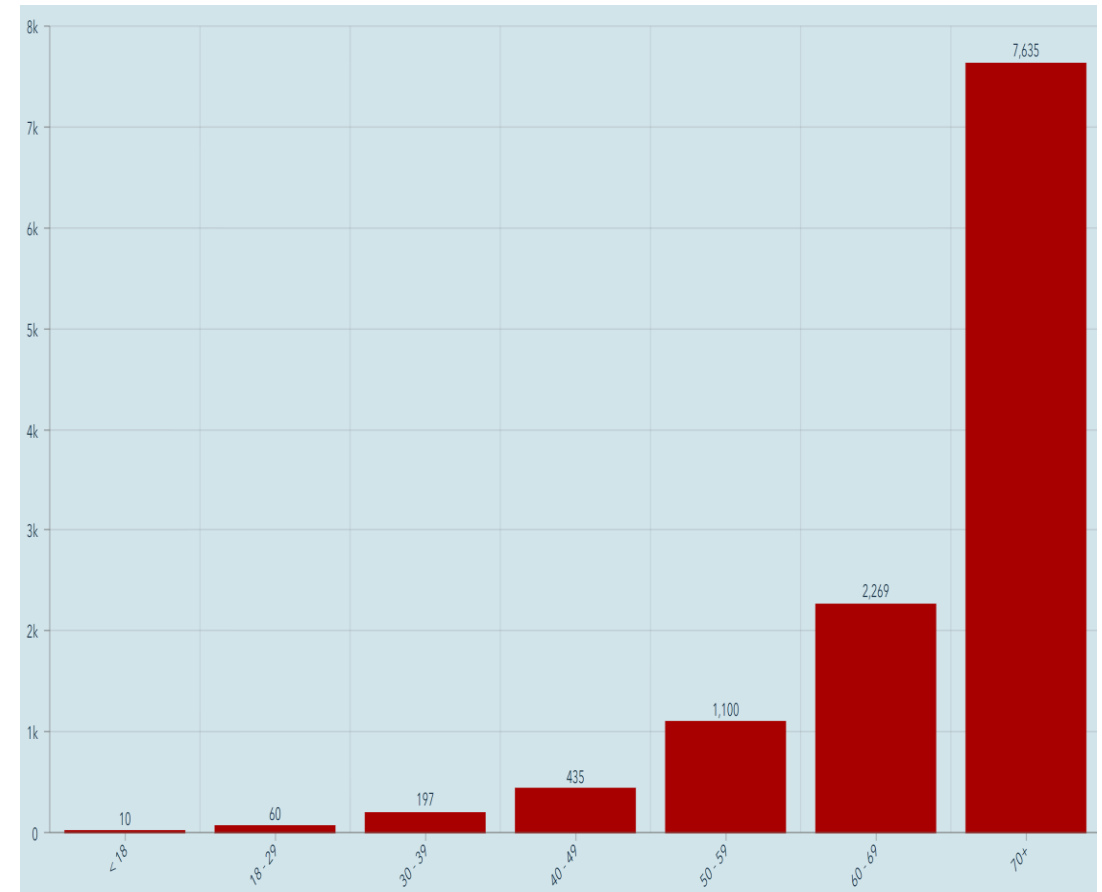
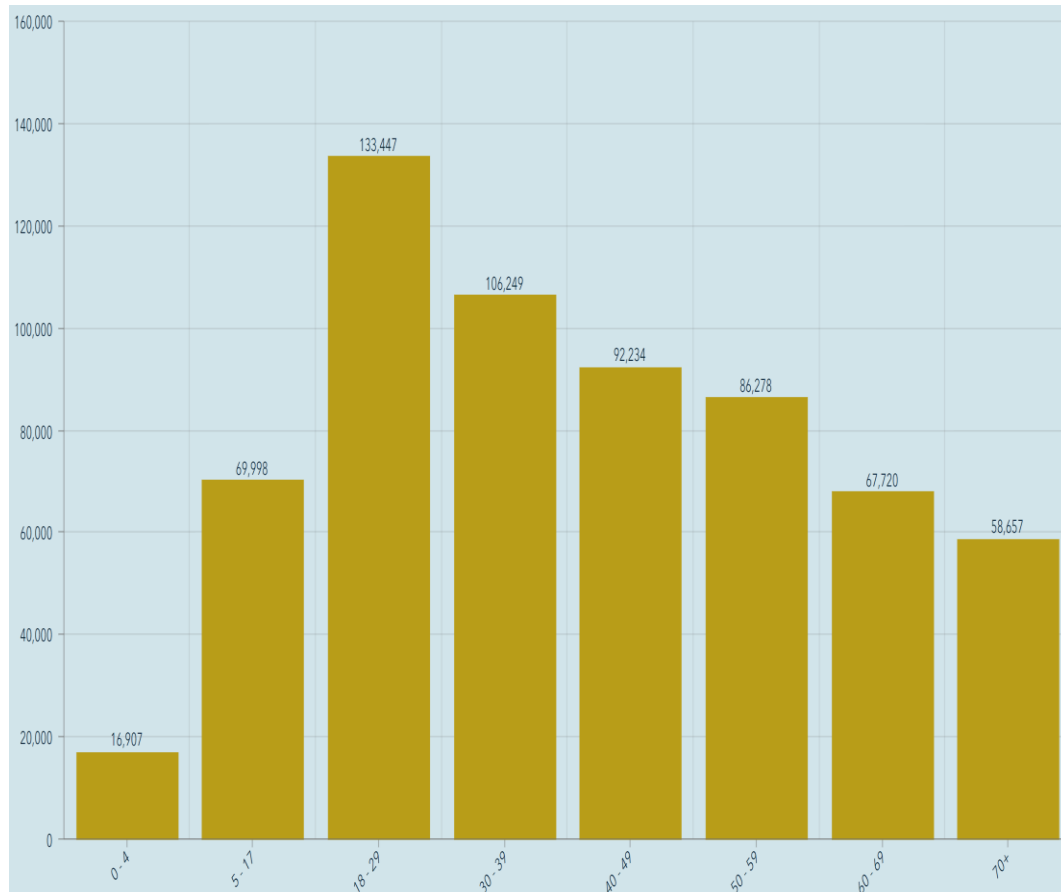
*Available beds by Louisiana Department of Health region as of August 18, 2021.*



Source: Louisiana Office of Public Health, Region 6 (Central Louisiana), August 18, 2021.

# COVID-19 CASES & DEATHS BY AGE GROUP

*COVID-19 cases (left) and deaths (right) statewide by age group as of August 18, 2021.*



Source: Louisiana Office of Public Health, Region 6 (Central Louisiana), August 18 2021.

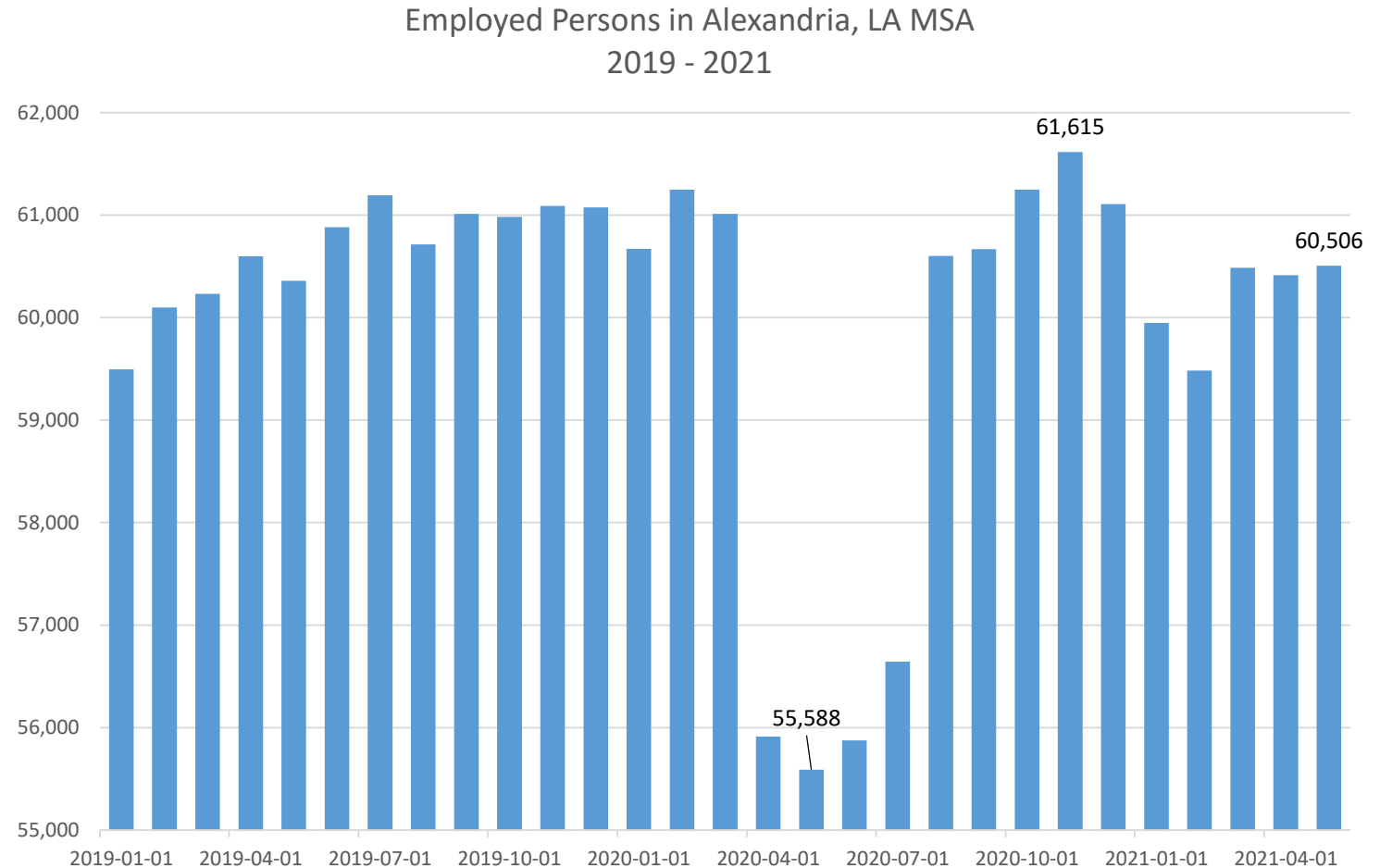
# EMPLOYMENT

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# EMPLOYMENT IN ALEXANDRIA MSA

*Employed persons in the Alexandria MSA from 2019 – 2021.*

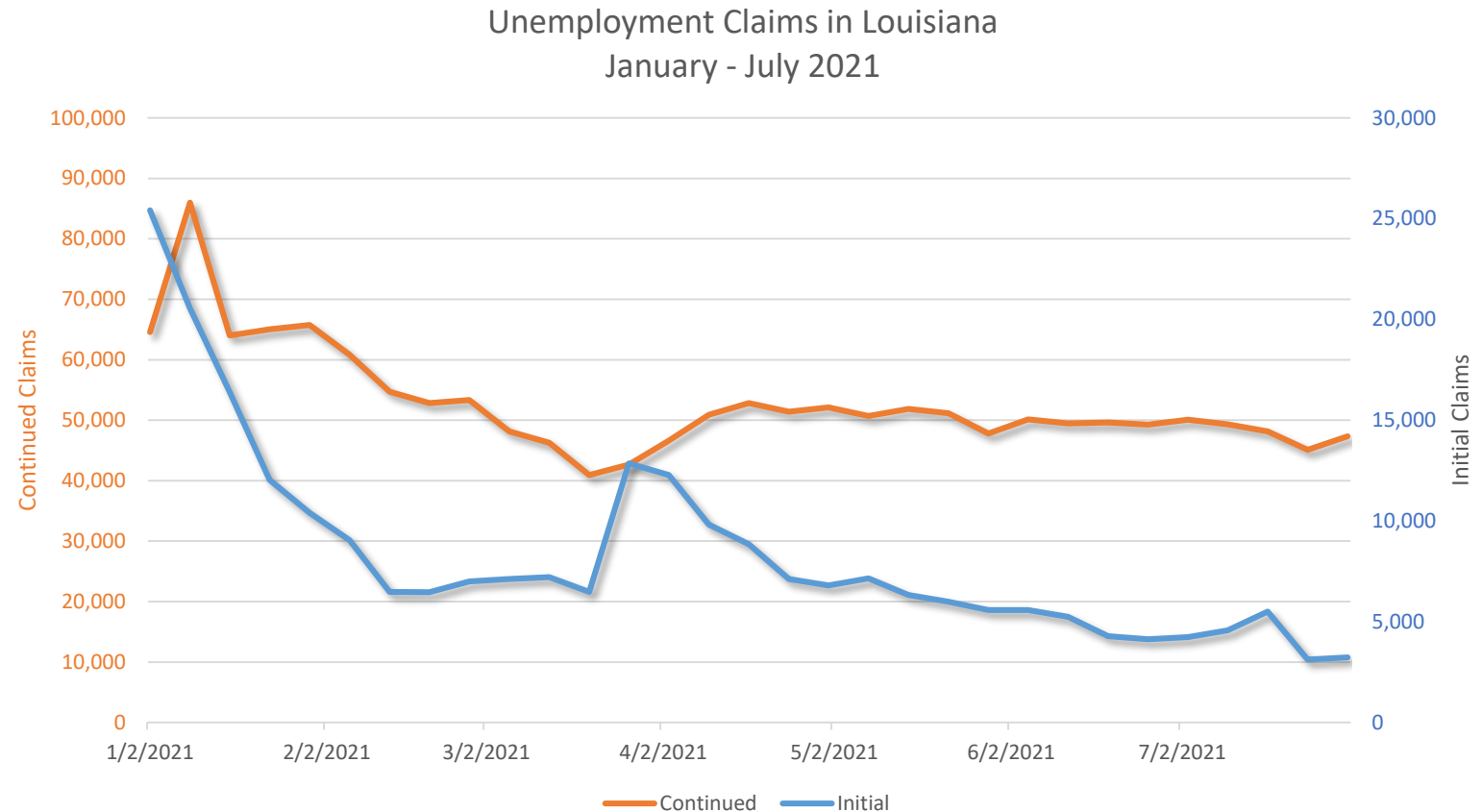


✓ In June 2021, 60,655 were employed in the Alexandria metro area, which is an increase of 149 from May.

# UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS IN LOUISIANA

*Initial and continued unemployment claims in Louisiana from January to July 2021.*

- ✓ Statewide average weekly initial unemployment claims filed in July fell to 4,134 from 4,813 in June, a -16% decrease.
- ✓ Statewide average weekly continued unemployment claims filed in July fell to 47,997 from 49,631 in June, a -3% decrease.



# UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY CENLA PARISH

*The table below shows June 2021 preliminary unemployment rate, labor force, and employment data for central Louisiana parishes.*

✓ In June, parishes in central Louisiana had an average unemployment rate of 6.3% compared to 7.4% statewide.

✓ At 4.0%, La Salle Parish had the lowest unemployment rate in the state, a record it has held for over a year.

Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate June 2021	Unemployment Rate May 2021
Allen	7,953	7,336	617	7.8%	6.9%
Avoyelles	14,924	13,919	1,005	6.7%	6.0%
Catahoula	3,612	3,387	225	6.2%	5.6%
Concordia	7,046	6,533	513	7.3%	6.4%
Evangeline	11,903	11,068	835	7.0%	6.1%
Grant	8,228	7,821	407	4.9%	4.2%
La Salle	7,013	6,733	280	4.0%	3.5%
Natchitoches	15,867	14,847	1,020	6.4%	5.3%
<b>Rapides</b>	<b>55,714</b>	<b>52,834</b>	<b>2,880</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>
St. Landry	32,815	30,129	2,686	8.2%	7.3%
Vernon	16,067	15,201	866	5.4%	5.2%

# UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AMONG LA METROS

*The table below shows June 2021 preliminary unemployment rate, labor force, and employment data for Metropolitan Statistical Areas in Louisiana.*

✓ At 5.1%, the Alexandria MSA had the lowest unemployment rate among the state's major metro areas for the fourteenth straight month, up 0.5% from the previous month.

✓ Louisiana's unemployment rate increased 0.7% in June to 7.4% from 6.7% in May.

Area	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
Louisiana	7.4%	2,091,397	1,936,239	155,158
<b>Alexandria</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>63,942</b>	<b>60,655</b>	<b>3,287</b>
Baton Rouge	6.8%	419,708	391,275	28,433
Hammond	8.4%	56,960	52,149	4,811
Houma-Thibodaux	6.2%	89,255	83,703	5,552
Lafayette	6.6%	214,251	200,052	14,199
Lake Charles	7.5%	98,483	91,106	7,377
Monroe	6.5%	79,426	74,242	5,184
New Orleans-Metairie	8.9%	595,685	542,760	52,925
Shreveport-Bossier City	7.2%	188,030	174,574	13,456

# UNEMPLOYED PER JOB OPENING

*The table below shows the number of unemployed, number of advertised jobs online, and the ratio of unemployed to advertised job openings online for Metropolitan Statistical Areas in Louisiana in June 2021.*

✓ In June, the Alexandria metro area continues to have the tightest labor market in the state with only 0.62 unemployed persons per job opening.

✓ In June, Louisiana had an unemployed to job openings ratio of 1.41.

Rank	Metro Area	Unemployed	Job Openings	Unemployed per Job Opening
1	Alexandria	3,287	5,326	0.62
2	Shreveport-Bossier City	12,452	13,389	0.93
3	Lafayette	8,504	7,621	1.12
4	Monroe	5,184	4,629	1.12
5	Lake Charles	7,377	6,198	1.19
6	New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner	52,026	36,893	1.41
7	Baton Rouge	28,433	19,804	1.44
8	Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	5,552	2,687	2.07

# TAX REVENUE

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# TAX REVENUE OVERVIEW

*An overview of sales, vehicle sales, and hotel occupancy taxes collected in the July 2021 reflecting sales activity in June 2021.*

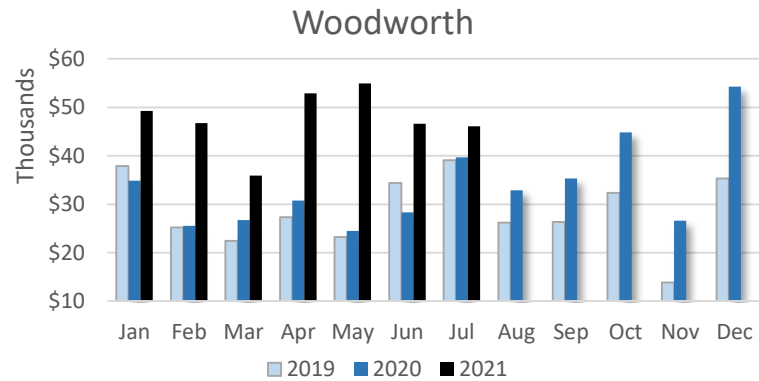
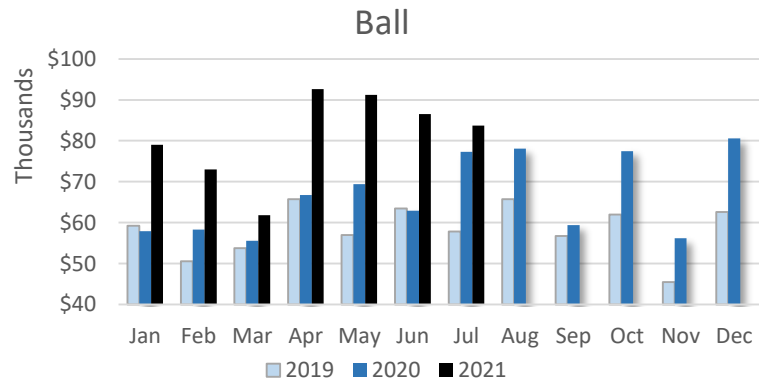
*July 2021*

<b>Sales Tax</b>	<b>M/M</b>	<b>Y/Y</b>	<b>YTD</b>		<b>Vehicle Sales Tax</b>	<b>M/M</b>	<b>Y/Y</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Alexandria	1%	7%	19%		Avoyelles	-9%	11%	25%
Avoyelles	18%	24%	30%		Evangeline	3%	14%	31%
Catahoula	-16%	-8%	55%		Rapides	n/a	n/a	n/a
Concordia	-1%	-10%	11%		St. Landry	8%	25%	25%
Evangeline	10%	16%	29%					
La Salle	-7%	10%	16%		<b>Hotel Occupancy Tax</b>			
Pineville	2%	-2%	11%		Avoyelles	17%	33%	36%
Rapides	-4%	.3%	20%		Rapides	11%	60%	34%
St. Landry	13%	1%	12%					

Note: July tax revenue reflects sales activity in June. N/a = Not available  
Data Source noted in detailed reports.

# RAPIDES PARISH TOWNS & CITIES

*An overview of sales tax revenue in Rapides Parish other towns and cities in July 2021 (excluding Alexandria and Pineville).*



*July*

	Jul-20	Jun-21	Jul-21	% M/M	% Y/Y	%YTD
Ball	\$77,336	\$86,524	\$83,729	-3.2%	8.3%	27%
Boyce	\$41,664	\$44,697	\$45,304	1.4%	8.7%	83%
Cheneyville	\$2,724	\$3,178	\$2,507	-21.1%	-8.0%	8%
Glenmora	\$21,104	\$23,102	\$16,173	-30.0%	-23.4%	16%
Lecompte	\$30,186	\$23,674	\$25,097	6.0%	-16.9%	9%
Woodworth	\$39,672	\$46,620	\$46,064	-1.2%	16.1%	58%

Note: Current tax revenue reflects sales activity in prior month.

Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, August 2021.



# ALEXANDRIA SALES TAX

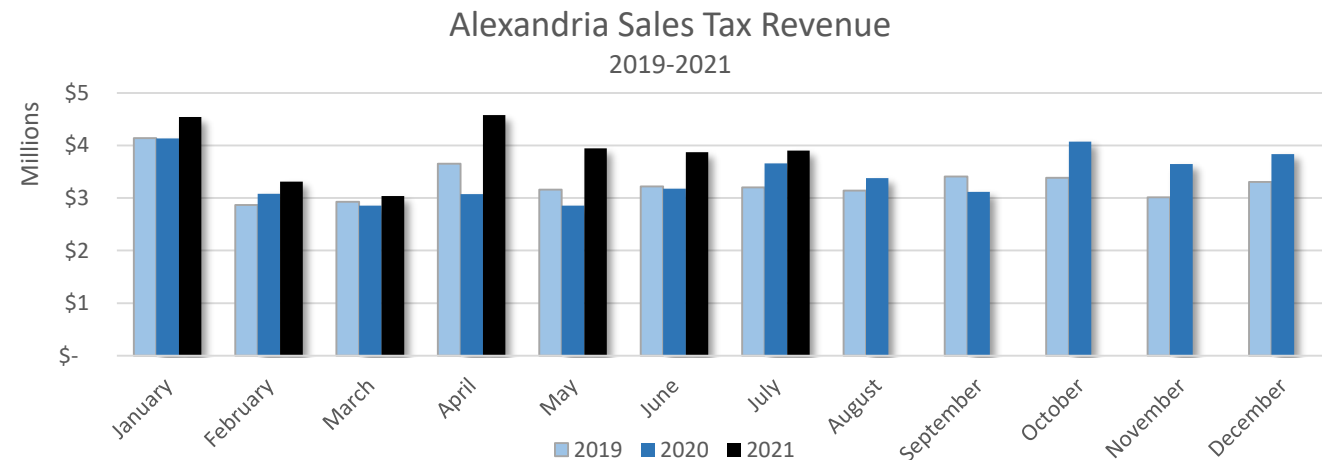
*(TR) Alexandria total sales tax revenue for July with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

*(BR) Alexandria total monthly sales tax revenue from 2019 to present.*



*July*

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 3,413,163	\$ 3,200,300	\$ 3,655,288	\$ 3,903,243
June	\$ 3,147,898	\$ 3,221,795	\$ 3,179,215	\$ 3,873,988
% Chg over Prev Month	8.4%	-0.7%	15.0%	0.8%
% Chg over Prev Year		-6.2%	14.2%	6.8%
YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$ 23,315,038	\$ 23,169,203	\$ 22,828,855	\$ 27,196,333
% Chg over Prev YTD		-0.6%	-1.5%	19.1%






Note: July sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in June.

Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, August 2021.

# AVOYELLES SALES TAX




*Avoyelles Parish total sales tax revenue for July with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons. Vehicle and hotel tax revenues are excluded.*

		<i>July</i>				
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	 18%	\$ 1,479,817	\$ 1,528,239	\$ 1,428,461	\$ 1,604,074	\$ 1,995,289
Jul YoY	 24%	\$ 1,379,994	\$ 1,413,173	\$ 1,408,574	\$ 1,415,776	\$ 1,689,583
		% Chg over Prev Month	7.2%	8.1%	1.4%	13.3%
		% Chg over Prev Year		3.3%	-6.5%	12.3%
Jul YTD	 30%	\$ 10,000,603	\$ 9,916,403	\$ 10,230,798	\$ 10,145,945	\$ 13,231,525
		% Chg over Prev YTD		-0.8%	3.2%	-0.8%

Note: July sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in June.  
Data Source: Avoyelles Parish School Board. August 2021.

# AVOYELLES VEHICLE SALES TAX

*Avoyelles Parish vehicle sales tax revenue for July with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.*


		<i>July</i>					
		<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	
July	 -9%	\$ 292,871	\$ 267,010	\$ 262,096	\$ 375,528	\$ 415,951	
Jul YoY	 11%	\$ 299,970	\$ 308,781	\$ 337,189	\$ 290,412	\$ 457,416	
		% Chg over Prev Month	-2.4%	-13.5%	-22.3%	29.3%	-9.1%
		% Chg over Prev Year		-8.8%	-1.8%	43.3%	10.8%
Jul YTD	 25%						
		YTD (Jan - July)	\$ 2,020,768	\$ 1,887,229	\$ 1,929,666	\$ 1,950,775	\$ 2,436,705
		% Chg over Prev YTD		-6.6%	2.2%	1.1%	24.9%


Note: July sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in June.  
Data Source: Avoyelles Parish School Board. August 2021


# CATAHOULA SALES TAX

*Catahoula Parish total sales tax revenue for July with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

## July

July   
-16%

Jul YoY   
-8%

Jul YTD   
55%

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 520,954	\$ 470,891	\$ 575,103	\$ 526,875
June	\$ 496,795	\$ 497,454	\$ 435,382	\$ 628,095
% Chg over Prev Month	4.9%	-5.3%	32.1%	-16.1%
% Chg over Prev Year		-9.6%	22.1%	-8.4%
YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$ 3,433,832	\$ 3,329,056	\$ 3,370,392	\$ 5,241,918
% Chg over Prev YTD		-3.1%	1.2%	55.5%


Note: July sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in June.


Data Source: Catahoula Parish Tax Administrator August 2021


# CONCORDIA SALES TAX

*Concordia Parish total sales tax revenue for July with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

*July*

July   
-1%

Jul YoY   
-10%

Jul YTD   
11%

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 1,080,013	\$ 1,100,733	\$ 1,282,109	\$ 1,159,623
June	\$ 1,002,337	\$ 1,151,868	\$ 1,098,299	\$ 1,169,143
% Chg over Prev Month	7.7%	-4.4%	16.7%	-0.8%
% Chg over Prev Year		1.9%	16.5%	-9.6%
YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$ 6,979,874	\$ 7,721,402	\$ 7,755,103	\$ 8,638,681
% Chg over Prev YTD		10.6%	0.4%	11.4%


Note: July sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in June.


Data Source: Concordia Parish Tax Administrator. August 2021


# EVANGELINE SALES TAX

*Evangeline Parish total sales tax revenue for July with previous month, year and YTD comparisons.*

## July

July   
10%

Jul YoY   
16%

Jul YTD   
29%


	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 1,610,268	\$ 1,695,844	\$ 1,635,230	\$ 1,800,168	\$ 2,087,819
June	\$ 1,628,382	\$ 1,786,760	\$ 1,552,490	\$ 1,603,239	\$ 1,891,888
% Chg over Prev Month	-1.1%	-5.1%	5.3%	12.3%	10.4%
% Chg over Prev Year		5.3%	-3.6%	10.1%	16.0%
YTD	\$ 9,313,675	\$ 9,161,924	\$ 9,368,033	\$ 9,434,033	\$ 12,124,394
% Chg over Prev YTD		-1.6%	2.2%	0.7%	28.5%


Note: July sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in June.


Data Source: Evangeline Parish Sales Tax Commissioner. August 2021

# EVANGELINE VEHICLE SALES TAX

*Evangeline Parish vehicle sales tax revenue for July with previous month, year and YTD comparisons.*

July   
3%

Jul YoY   
14%

Jul YTD   
31%

*July*

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 316,792	\$ 325,194	\$ 285,501	\$ 410,144	\$ 467,473
June	\$ 313,030	\$ 368,424	\$ 332,890	\$ 312,664	\$ 455,177
% Chg over Prev Month	1.2%	-11.7%	-14.2%	31.2%	2.7%
% Chg over Prev Year		2.7%	-12.2%	43.7%	14.0%
YTD	\$1,870,710	\$ 1,809,967	\$1,887,355	\$1,856,939	\$2,423,314
% Chg over Prev YTD		-3.2%	4.3%	-1.6%	30.5%


Note: July sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in June.


Data Source: Evangeline Parish Sales Tax Commissioner. August 2021


# LA SALLE SALES TAX

*La Salle Parish total sales tax revenue for July with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

*July*

July  -7%

Jul YoY  10%

Jul YTD  16%

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 896,159	\$ 810,314	\$ 899,235	\$ 988,410
June	\$ 784,804	\$ 989,241	\$ 741,245	\$ 1,066,770
% Chg over Prev Month	14.2%	-18.1%	21.3%	-7.3%
% Chg over Prev Year		-9.6%	11.0%	9.9%
YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$ 5,206,583	\$ 6,371,765	\$ 6,133,755	\$ 7,100,148
% Chg over Prev YTD		22.4%	-3.7%	15.8%

Note: July sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in June.

Data Source: La Salle Parish Tax Administrator, August 2021




# PINEVILLE SALES TAX


*(TR) Pineville sales tax revenue for July with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*


*(BR) Pineville monthly sales tax revenue from 2019 to present.*

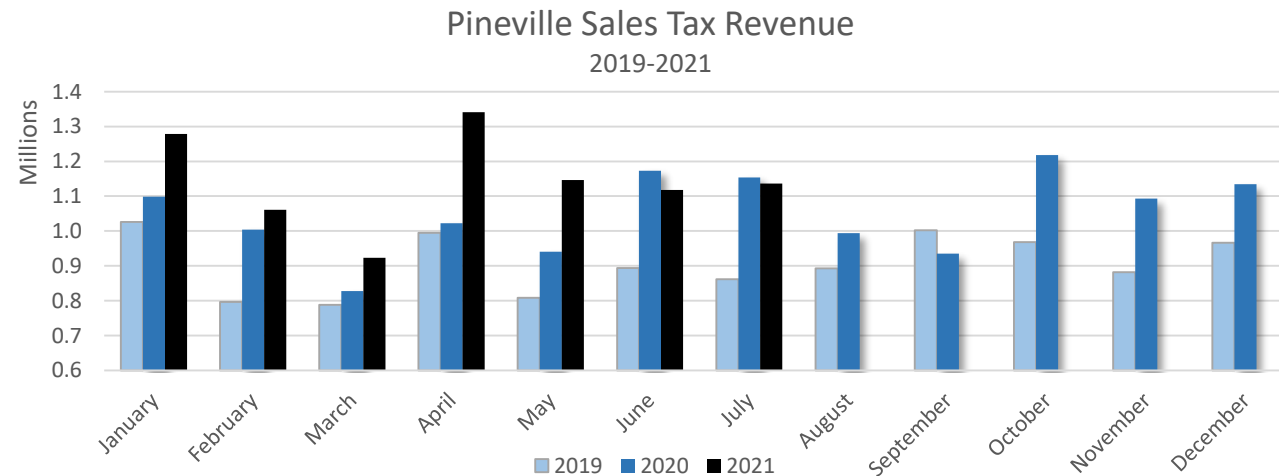
*July*

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 932,318	\$ 861,470	\$ 1,153,483	\$ 1,136,530
June	\$ 834,135	\$ 893,673	\$ 1,173,245	\$ 1,118,128
% Chg over Prev Month	11.8%	-3.6%	-1.7%	1.6%
% Chg over Prev Year		-7.6%	33.9%	-1.5%
YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$ 6,380,123	\$ 6,169,280	\$ 7,219,881	\$ 8,004,910
% Chg over Prev YTD		-3.3%	17.0%	10.9%

July  2%

Jul YoY  -2%






Jul YTD  11%



Note: Current sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in the prior month.  
Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, August 2021.

# RAPIDES OCCUPATIONAL LICENSES

*Rapides Parish occupational license revenue YTD with previous YTD comparisons.*

Rapides Parish (rural)		9%
Alexandria		3%
Pineville		-0.5%
Other		4%
Total		4%

## *July Year-to-Date*

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Parish	\$ 588,612	\$ 621,360	\$ 581,341	\$ 631,774
% Chg over Prev YTD		5.6%	-6.4%	8.7%
Alexandria	\$ 1,839,742	\$ 1,836,728	\$ 1,827,699	\$ 1,878,392
% Chg over Prev YTD		-0.2%	-0.5%	2.8%
Pineville	\$ 370,841	\$ 385,226	\$ 423,906	\$ 421,838
% Chg over Prev YTD		3.9%	10.0%	-0.5%
Other	\$ 132,575	\$ 136,916	\$ 138,650	\$ 144,260
% Chg over Prev YTD		3.3%	1.3%	4.0%
Total	\$ 2,931,770	\$ 2,980,230	\$ 2,971,596	\$ 3,076,264
% Chg over Prev YTD		1.7%	-0.3%	3.5%

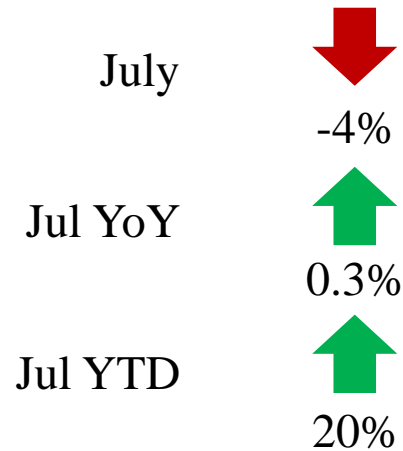
Note: Rapides Parish reflects unincorporated areas.

Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, August 2021.

# RAPIDES SALES TAX

*(TR) Rapides Parish sales tax revenue for July with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

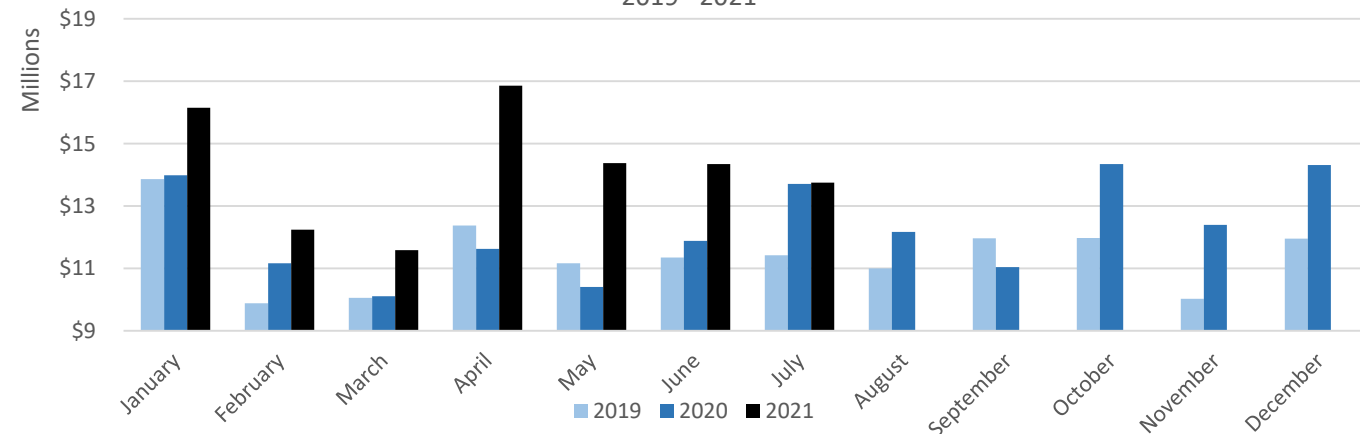
*(BR) Rapides monthly sales tax revenue from 2019 to present.*



## July

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 11,938,467	\$ 11,420,981	\$ 13,709,468	\$ 13,752,280
June	\$ 10,938,143	\$ 11,350,035	\$ 11,881,114	\$ 14,341,720
% Chg over Prev Month	9.1%	0.6%	15.4%	-4.1%
% Chg over Prev Year		-4.3%	20.0%	0.3%
YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$ 79,370,387	\$ 80,095,360	\$ 82,860,124	\$ 99,291,147
% Chg over Prev YTD		0.9%	3.5%	19.8%


Rapides Parish Total Sales Tax Revenue  
2019 - 2021





Note: Current sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in the prior month.  
Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, August 2021.

# ST. LANDRY SALES TAX

*St. Landry Parish sales tax revenue for July with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

July  13%

Jul YoY  1%

Jul YTD  12%

## July

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 6,396,248	\$ 5,892,715	\$ 7,878,371	\$ 7,990,274
June	\$ 6,251,498	\$ 6,130,613	\$ 6,588,567	\$ 7,060,457
% Chg over Prev Month	2.3%	-3.9%	19.6%	13.2%
% Chg over Prev Year		-7.9%	33.7%	1.4%
YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$40,954,187	\$41,296,833	\$45,171,099	\$50,582,282
% Chg over Prev YTD		0.8%	9.4%	12.0%


Note: July sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in June.


Data Source: Tax revenue data from St. Landry Parish School Board. August 2021


# ST. LANDRY VEHICLE SALES TAX

*St. Landry Parish vehicle sales tax revenue for July with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

*July*

July   
8%

Jul YoY   
25%

Jul YTD   
25%

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 779,553	\$ 817,484	\$ 939,225	\$ 1,177,511
June	\$ 945,332	\$ 943,728	\$ 757,901	\$ 1,092,232
% Chg over Prev Month	-17.5%	-13.4%	23.9%	7.8%
% Chg over Prev Year		4.9%	14.9%	25.4%
YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$ 5,523,141	\$ 5,699,487	\$ 5,692,383	\$ 7,101,305
% Chg over Prev YTD		3.2%	-0.1%	24.8%

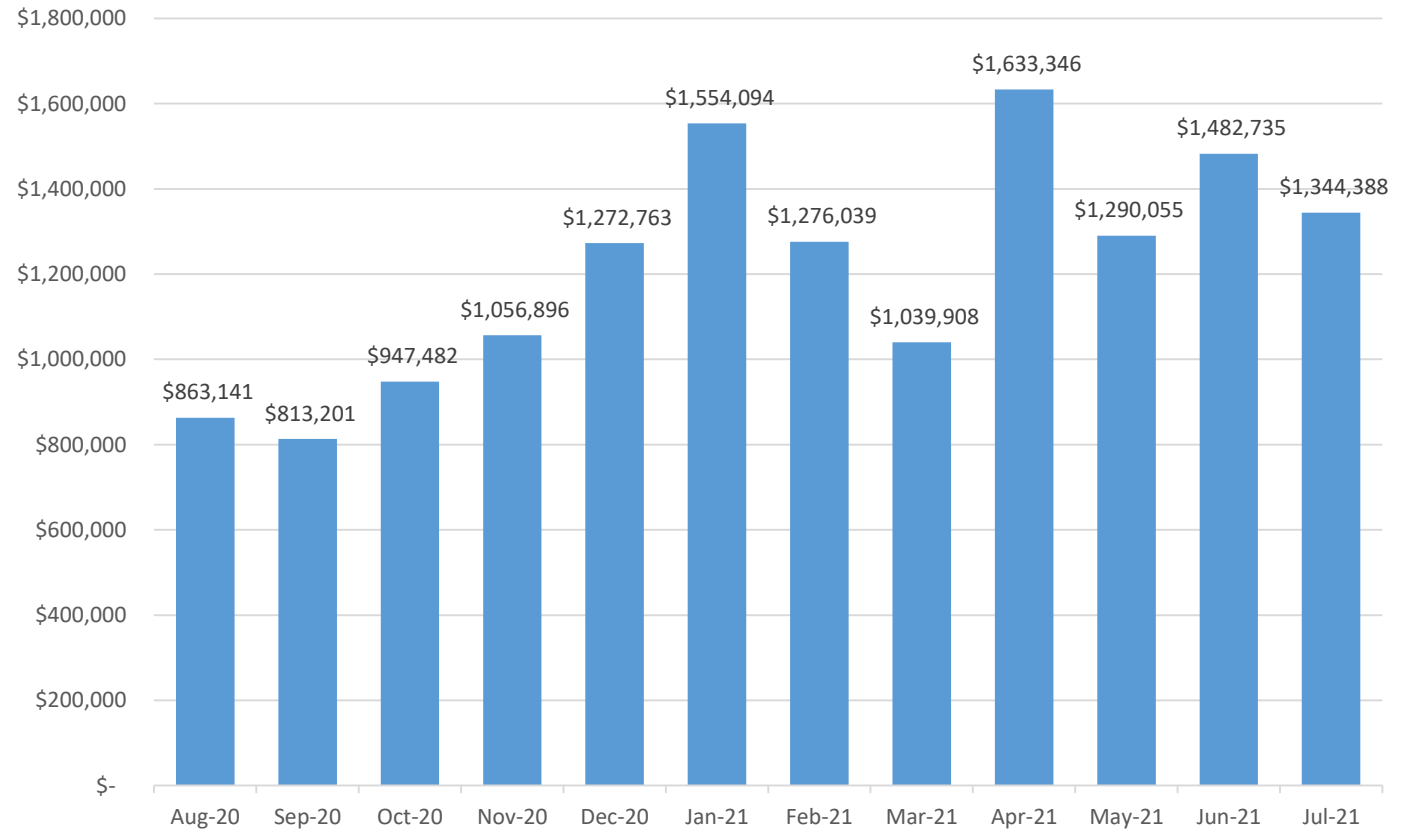
Note: July sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in June.

Data Source: Tax revenue data from St. Landry Parish School Board. August 2021

# REMOTE SELLERS TAX REVENUE IN CENLA

*Remote seller tax revenue is tax revenue from online sales by location of the seller at the time of purchase.*

Total Remote Sellers Sales Tax Collection in Cenla  
August 2020 - July 2021



✓ Since August 2020, \$14.6 million in sales tax revenue have been collected from online sales in central Louisiana.

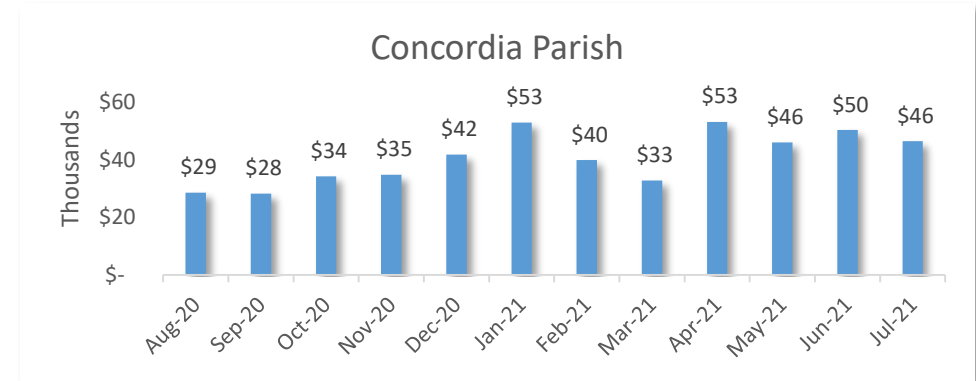
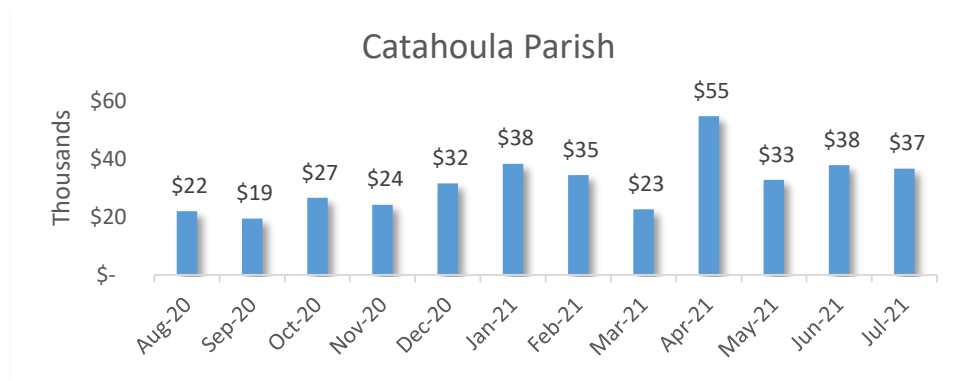
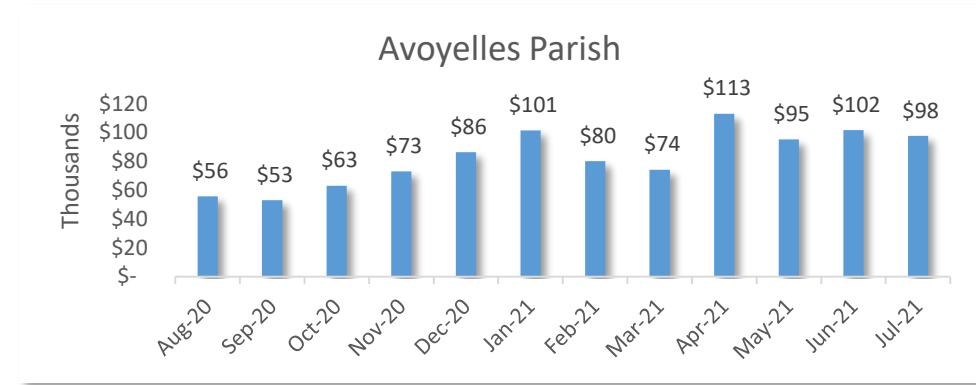
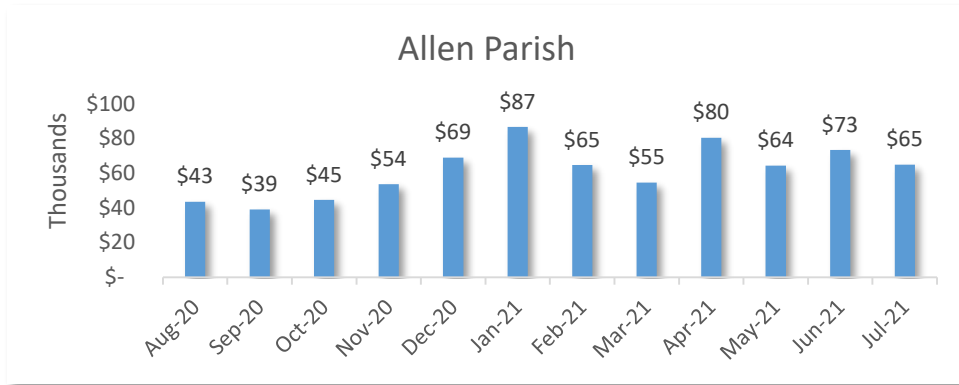
✓ Online sales tax revenue in July decreased 9% from June.

Note: Sales tax revenue collected in July reflects sales activity in June.

Data Source: Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. August 2020 – August 2021

# REMOTE SELLERS TAX REVENUE IN CENLA - 1

*Remote sellers tax revenue is tax revenue from online sales by location of the seller at the time of purchase.*

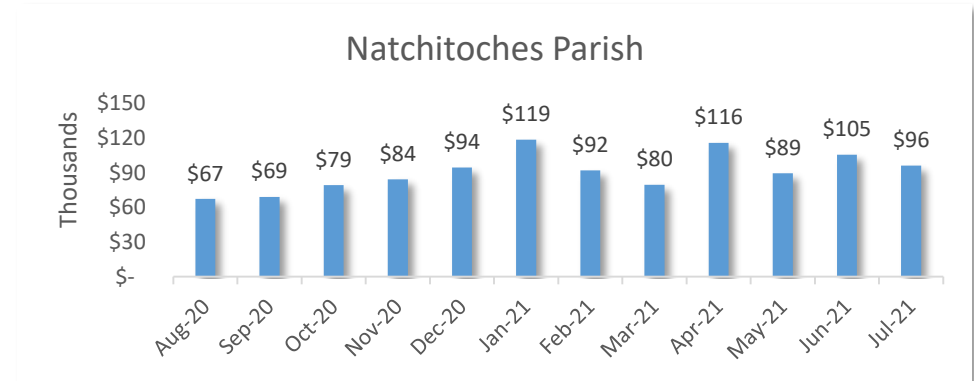
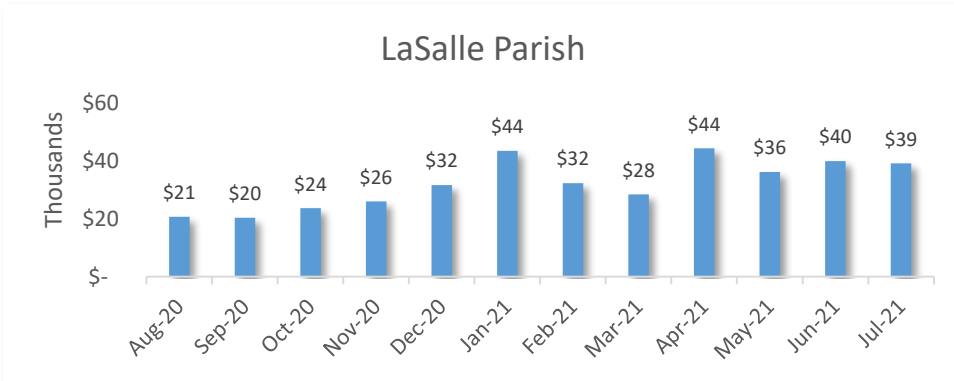
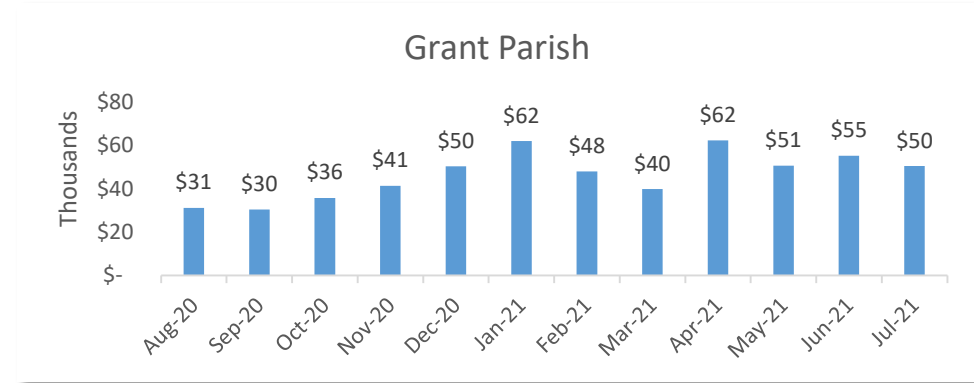
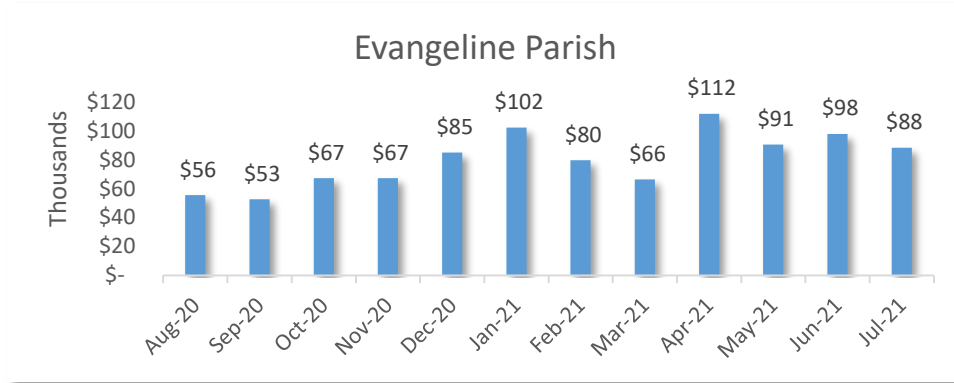


Note: Sales tax revenue collected in one month reflects sales activity in the prior month.

Data Source: Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. August 2020 – August 2021

# REMOTE SELLERS TAX REVENUE IN CENLA - 2

*Remote sellers tax revenue is tax revenue from online sales by location of the seller at the time of purchase.*



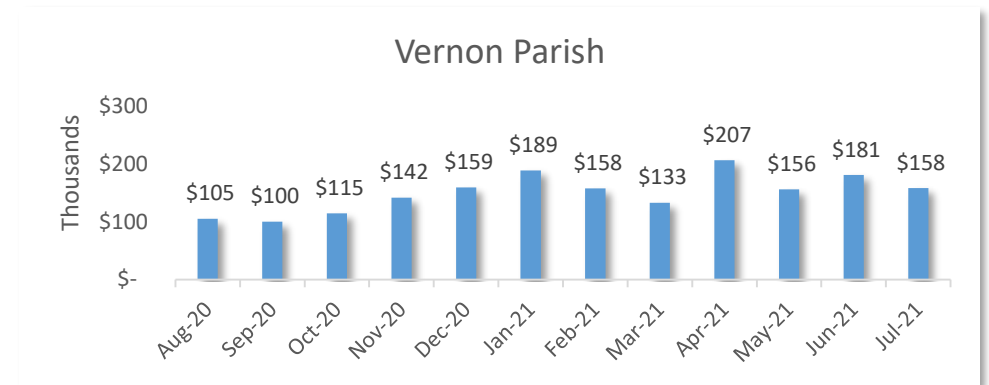
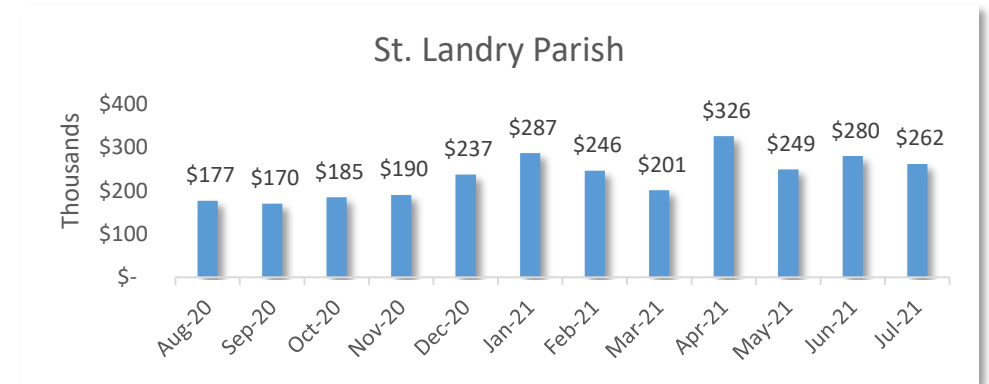
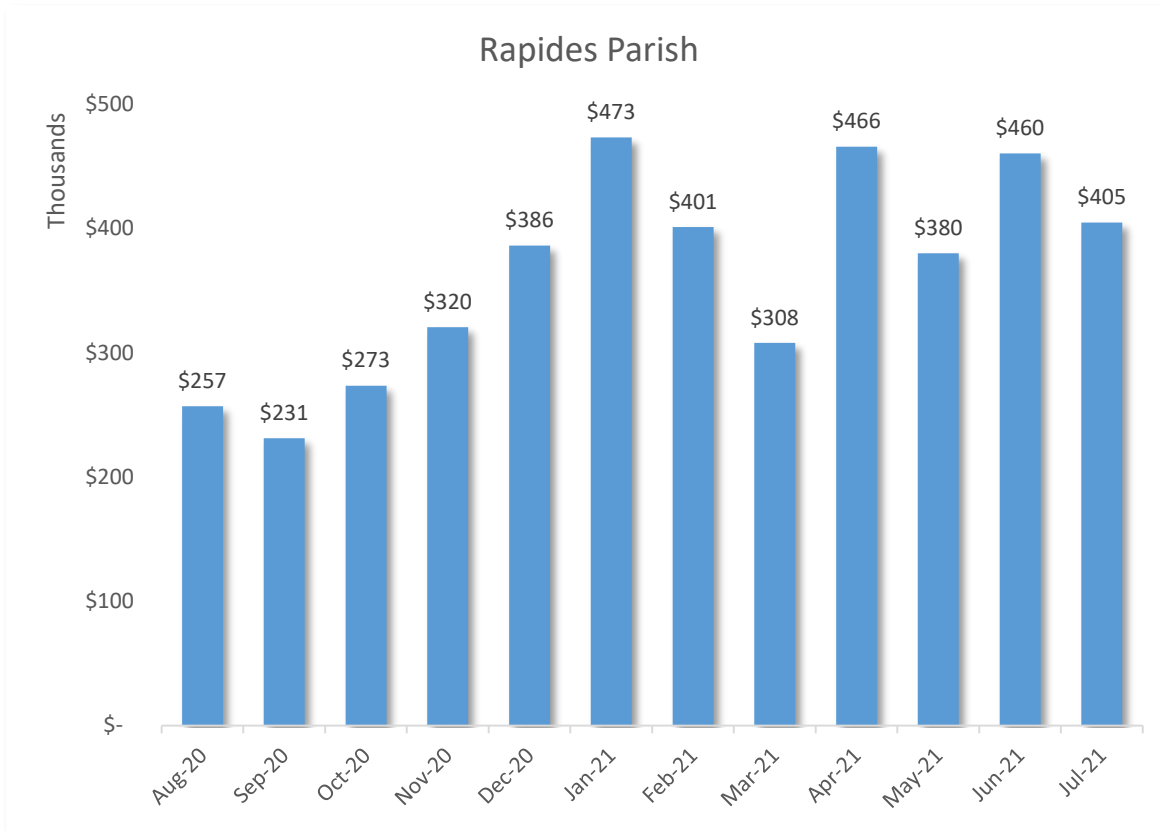
Note: Sales tax revenue collected in one month reflects sales activity in the prior month.

Data Source: Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. August 2020 – August 2021



# REMOTE SELLERS TAX REVENUE IN CENLA - 3

*Remote sellers tax revenue is tax revenue from online sales by location of the seller at the time of purchase.*



Note: Sales tax revenue collected in one month reflects sales activity in the prior month.


Data Source: Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. August 2020 – August 2021


# BUILDING PERMITS


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# ALEXANDRIA COMMERCIAL PERMITS

*The valuation (estimated development cost) of new commercial construction permits issued by the City of Alexandria in July 2021 with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

July  -28%

Jul YoY  149%

Jul YTD  33%


*July*


	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 4,767,000	\$ 6,069,877	\$ 1,406,000	\$ 3,494,054
June	\$ 534,655	\$ 1,689,399	\$ 378,120	\$ 4,837,676
% Chg over Prev Month	792%	259%	272%	-28%
% Chg over Prev Year		27%	-77%	149%
YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$ 23,467,564	\$ 19,374,737	\$ 17,368,809	\$ 23,184,567
% Chg over Prev YTD		-17%	-10%	33%


# ALEXANDRIA RESIDENTIAL PERMITS

*The valuation (estimated development cost) of new residential construction permits issued by the City of Alexandria in July 2021 with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

*July*

July   
65%



Jul YoY   
30%

Jul YTD   
71%

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 1,603,505	\$ 7,159,712	\$ 1,271,114	\$ 1,649,327
June	\$ 10,061,147	\$ 1,206,299	\$ 447,985	\$ 996,924
% Chg over Prev Month	-84.1%	493.5%	183.7%	65.4%
% Chg over Prev Year		346.5%	-82.2%	29.8%
YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$ 21,879,134	\$ 15,413,907	\$ 8,553,478	\$ 14,580,543
% Chg over Prev YTD		-29.5%	-44.5%	70.5%




# ALLEN PARISH PERMIT VALUATIONS

*This chart shows the valuation of permits issued by Rapides Area Planning Commission in Allen Parish in July between 2018-2021 with month-to-month, year-to-year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

		<i>July</i>			
		2018	2019	2020	2021
June	 -52%	\$ 351,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 435,000
Jun YoY	na	\$ 359,000	\$ 691,000	\$1,247,926	\$ 905,000
		% Chg Prev Month	-2%	-28%	-100%
		% Chg from Prev Year	42%		-100%
Jun YTD	 38%	YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$1,562,164	\$2,768,145	\$4,077,595
		% Chg over Prev YTD	77%		47%
				38%	

# AVOYELLES PARISH PERMIT VALUATIONS

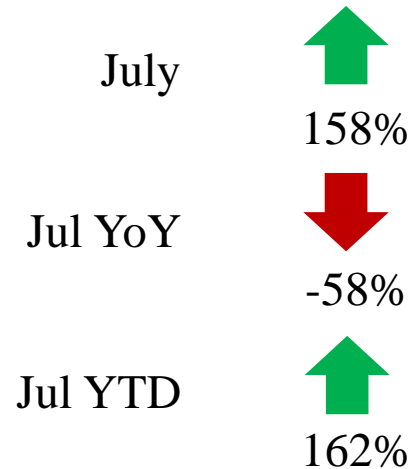
*This chart shows the valuation of permits issued by Rapides Area Planning Commission in Avoyelles Parish in July between 2019-2021 with month-to-month, year-to-year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

		<i>July</i>		
		<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
July	 3%	\$ 5,350,743	\$ 5,980,629	\$ 6,296,577
Jul YoY	 5%	\$ 2,164,138	\$ 5,985,111	\$ 6,091,716
Jul YTD	 58%			
		% Chg Prev Month	147%	0%
		% Chg from Prev Year		12%
				5%
		YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$ 29,466,322	\$ 26,756,918
		% Chg over Prev YTD		-9%
				58%

# EVANGELINE PARISH PERMIT VALUATIONS

*This chart shows the valuation of permits issued by Rapides Area Planning Commission in Evangeline Parish in July between 2018-2021 with month-to-month, year-to-year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

## July




	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 1,419,991	\$ 2,803,662	\$ 1,365,215	\$ 579,850
June	\$ 953,568	\$ 1,476,999	\$ 1,495,879	\$ 225,000
% Chg Prev Month	49%	90%	-9%	158%
% Chg from Prev Year		97%	-51%	-58%
YTD (Jan - July)	\$ 7,407,625	\$ 12,582,526	\$ 8,166,379	\$ 21,374,317
% Chg over Prev YTD		70%	-35%	162%


# PINEVILLE PERMIT VALUATIONS

*This chart shows the valuation of permits issued by Rapides Area Planning Commission in the City of Pineville in July between 2018-2021 with month-to-month, year-to-year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

*July*

July   
4%

Jul YoY unchanged

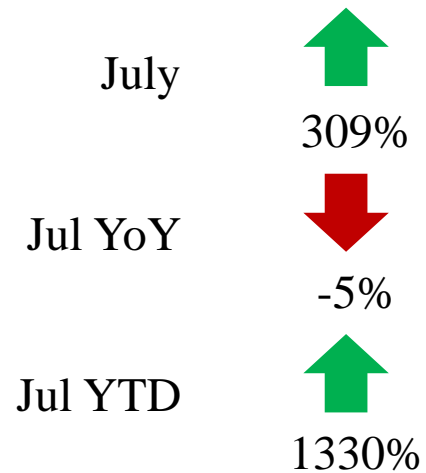
Jul YTD   
-37%

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 1,419,991	\$ 3,688,000	\$ 1,134,000	\$ 1,138,886
June	\$ 849,900	\$ 5,659,958	\$ 2,780,490	\$ 1,091,200
% Chg Prev Month	67%	-35%	-59%	4%
% Chg from Prev Year		160%	-69%	0%
YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$ 5,574,216	\$14,435,232	\$ 9,174,795	\$ 5,800,985
% Chg over Prev YTD		159%	-36%	-37%



# RAPIDES PARISH PERMIT VALUATIONS

*This chart shows the valuation of permits issued by Rapides Area Planning Commission in Rapides Parish (excluding Alexandria) in July between 2018-2021 with month-to-month, year-to-year, and year-to-date comparisons.*



## August

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 3,485,433	\$ 3,261,592	\$ 4,689,974	\$ 4,467,100
June	\$ 5,176,834	\$ 3,573,679	\$ 5,326,122	\$ 1,091,200
% Chg Prev Month	-33%	-9%	-12%	309%
% Chg from Prev Year		-6%	44%	-5%
YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$23,621,062	\$52,115,389	\$29,446,226	\$421,223,054
% Chg over Prev YTD		121%	-43%	1330%

# RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION PERMITS BY AREA

*New residential construction permit valuation (estimated development cost) issued by Rapides Area Planning Commission by jurisdiction in July 2021 compared to July 2020.*

*Valuation of New Residential Construction  
July 2020 vs July 2021*

Year-over-year value of residential construction in the RAPC jurisdictions decreased from \$6.2 to \$6.1 million.

  
-1%

	Jul-20	Jul-21	Change	% Change
Allen	\$ -	\$ 390,000	\$ 390,000	n/a
Avoyelles	\$ 1,240,472	\$ 931,814	\$ (308,658)	-25%
Pineville	\$ 1,073,000	\$ 880,000	\$ (193,000)	-18%
Evangeline	\$ 1,365,215	\$ 485,000	\$ (880,215)	-64%
LaSalle	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	n/a
Rapides	\$ 2,515,775	\$ 3,439,530	\$ 923,755	37%

Note: City of Alexandria permits are accounted for separately.  
Data Source: Rapides Area Planning Commission, August 2021.

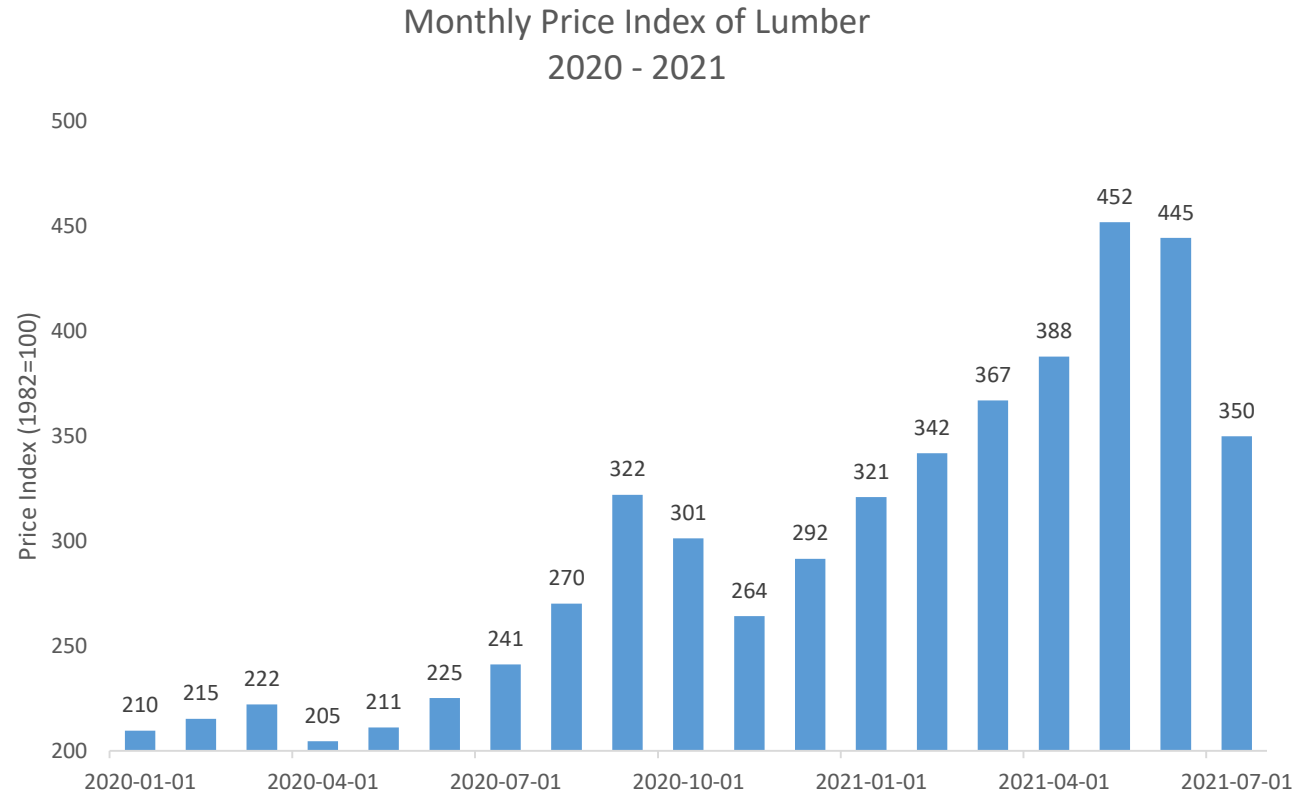
# HOUSING

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# LUMBER PRICES

*The chart represents the lumber price index in the U.S. from January 2020 – July 2021.*

- In July 2021, the US Lumber Price Index declined -21% from the previous month.
- The US Lumber Price Index has fallen the past two month and nears February's level.
- Since January 2021, the US Lumber Price Index increased 9% and remains 45% above a year ago.



# ALEXANDRIA ACTIVE LISTINGS

*The count of active single-family and condo/townhome listings for Alexandria MSA (excludes pending listings) for July 2018-2021 with month-to-month and year-over-year comparisons.*

July   
11%

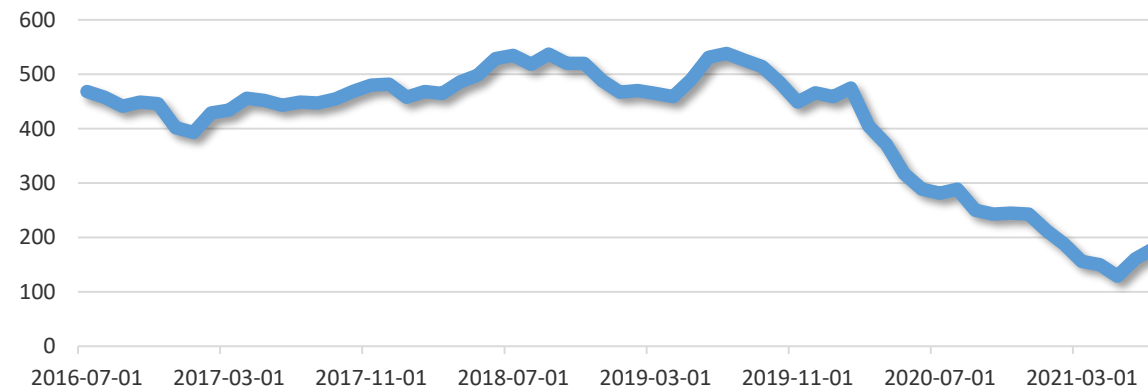
Jul YoY   
-36%

✓ Active listings in July increased 11% but remain -36% below July 2020.

*July*

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	535	538	281	179
June	529	531	289	161
% Chg Prev Month	1.1%	1.3%	-2.8%	11.2%
% Chg from Prev Year		0.6%	-47.8%	-36.3%

Active Listings Count in Alexandria  
July 2016 - July 2021



# ALEXANDRIA PENDING LISTINGS

*The count of pending single-family and condo/townhome listings for Alexandria MSA for July 2018-2021 with month-to-month and year-over-year comparisons.*

July



-15%

Jul YoY



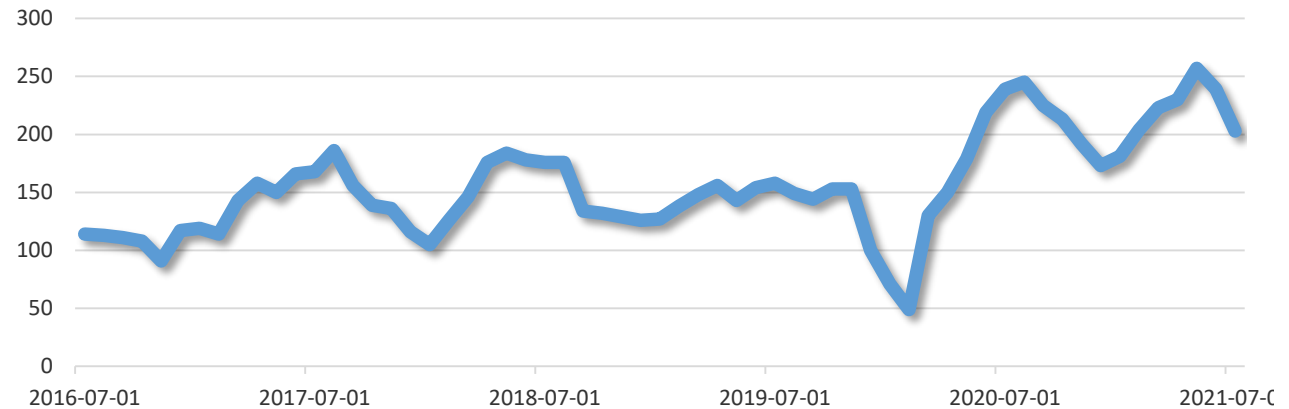
-15%

- ✓ Pending listings decreased -15% over last month and fell -15% since last July.

*July*

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	176	158	239	203
June	178	154	219	239
% Chg Prev Month	-1.1%	2.5%	8.4%	-15.1%
% Chg from Prev Year		-10.2%	51.3%	-15.1%

Pending Listing Count in Alexandria  
July 2016 - July 2021



# ALEXANDRIA MEDIAN DAYS ON MARKET

The median number of days property listings spend on the market in Alexandria MSA for July 2018-2021 with month-to-month and year-over-year comparisons.

July



9%

Jul YoY



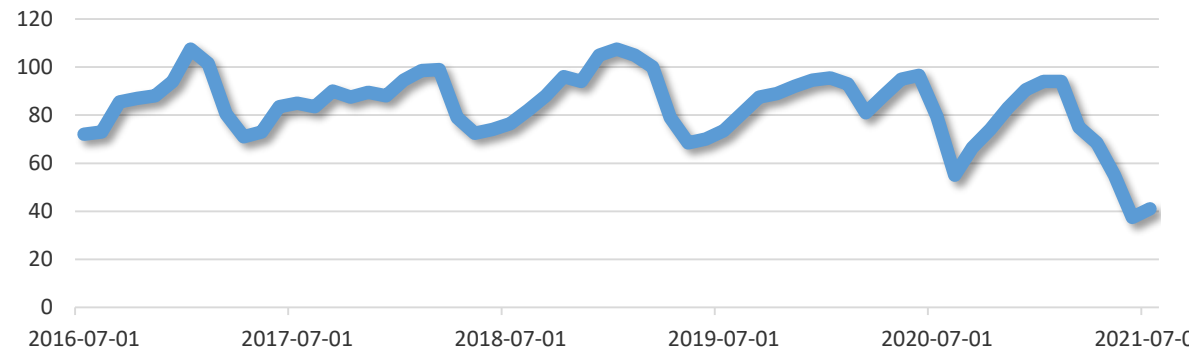
-48%

July

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	77	74	80	41
June	74	74	70	38
% Chg Prev Month	3.4%	-0.7%	13.6%	9.3%
% Chg from Prev Year		-3.9%	8.2%	-48.4%

- ✓ Median days on the market rose 9% in July from June 2021 but was still -48% below July 2020.
- ✓ Homes took an average of 41 days on the market to sell in June, the second fastest in 5 years.

Median Days on Market in Alexandria  
July 2016 - July 2021



# ALEXANDRIA MEDIAN LISTING PRICE

The median listing price of houses in Alexandria MSA for July 2018-2021 with month-to-month and year-over-year comparisons.

July

July 0%

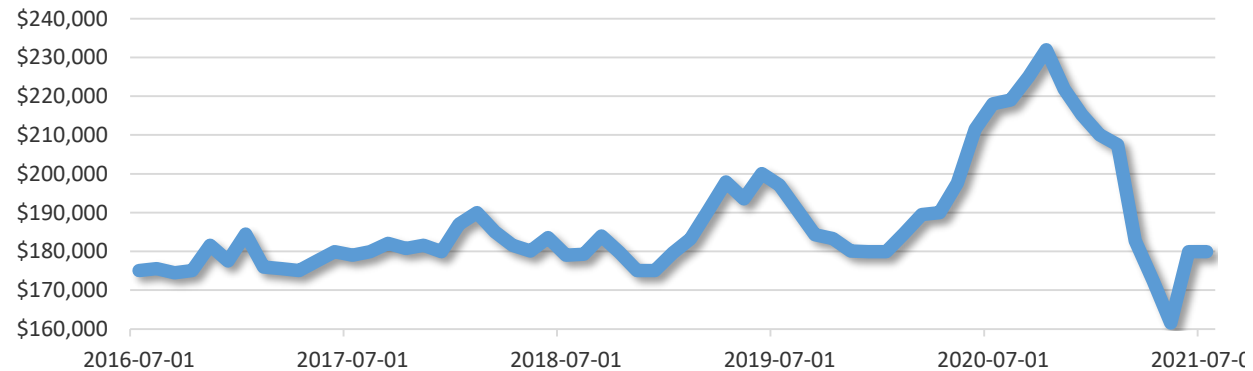
Jul YoY



-18%

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 179,050	\$ 197,050	\$ 218,050	\$ 179,900
June	\$ 183,550	\$ 200,050	\$ 211,500	\$ 179,900
% Chg Prev Month	-2.5%	-1.5%	3.1%	0.0%
% Chg from Prev Year		10.1%	10.7%	-17.5%

Median Listing Price in Alexandria  
July 2016 - June 2021



- ✓ The median listing price remained unchanged from last month at \$179,900, but still remains -18% below the July 2020 level.



# ALEXANDRIA AVERAGE LISTING PRICE

The average listing price of houses in Alexandria MSA for July 2018-2021 with month-to-month and year-over-year comparisons.

July

July



-4%

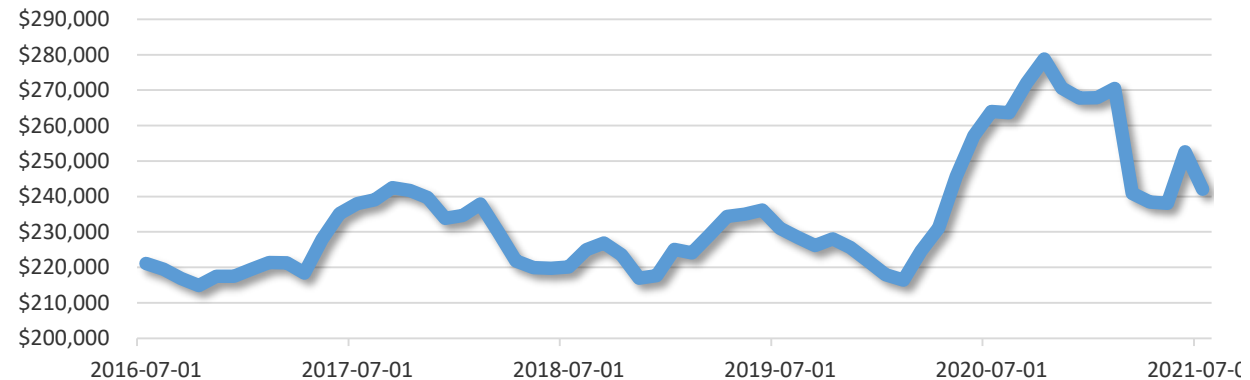
Jul YoY



-8%

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 220,100	\$ 231,039	\$ 263,951	\$ 242,090
June	\$ 219,746	\$ 236,136	\$ 257,134	\$ 252,577
% Chg Prev Month	0.2%	-2.2%	2.7%	-4.2%
% Chg from Prev Year		5.0%	14.2%	-8.3%

Average Listing Price in Alexandria  
July 2016 - July 2021



✓ The average listing price fell -4.2% to \$242,090 this month from \$252,577 in June and is -8% below the year ago level.


**TRAVEL**


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# AVOYELLES HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

*Avoyelles Parish hotel occupancy tax revenue for July with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

*July*

July   
17%

Jul YoY   
33%

Jul YTD   
36%

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 12,596	\$ 14,505	\$ 14,731	\$ 11,955	\$ 15,904
June	\$ 11,574	\$ 13,977	\$ 12,855	\$ 3,891	\$ 13,571
% Chg over Prev Month	8.8%	3.8%	14.6%	207.3%	17.2%
% Chg over Prev Year		15.2%	1.6%	-18.8%	33.0%
YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$ 79,514	\$ 75,116	\$ 76,501	\$ 56,889	\$ 77,557
% Chg over Prev YTD		-5.5%	1.8%	-25.6%	36.3%


Note: July tax revenue reflects hotel occupancy activity in June. Hotel occupancy tax revenue is used as a proxy for hotel occupancy rate.


Data Source: Avoyelles Parish School Board. August 2021.


# RAPIDES HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

*Rapides Parish hotel occupancy tax revenue for July 2020 with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

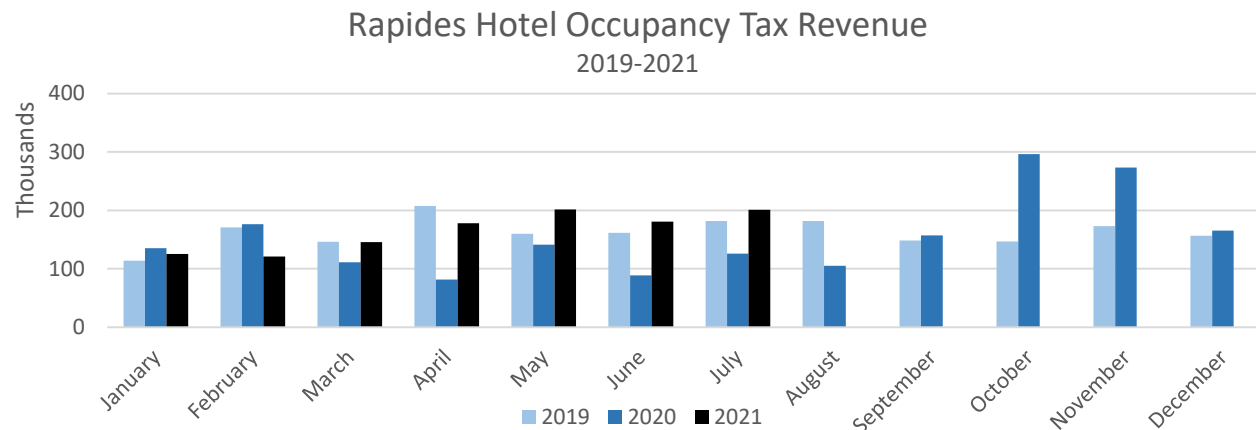
*July*

Jul   
11%

Jul YoY   
60%

Jul YTD   
34%

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	\$ 168,325	\$ 181,894	\$ 126,105	\$ 201,180
June	\$ 196,766	\$ 161,834	\$ 88,906	\$ 180,866
% Chg over Prev Month	-14.5%	12.4%	41.8%	11.2%
% Chg over Prev Year		8.1%	-30.7%	59.5%
YTD (Jan - Jul)	\$ 1,073,344	\$1,142,650	\$ 860,300	\$1,153,561
% Chg over Prev YTD		6.5%	-24.7%	34.1%



Note: July tax revenue reflects hotel occupancy activity in June. Hotel occupancy tax revenue is used as a proxy for hotel occupancy rate.

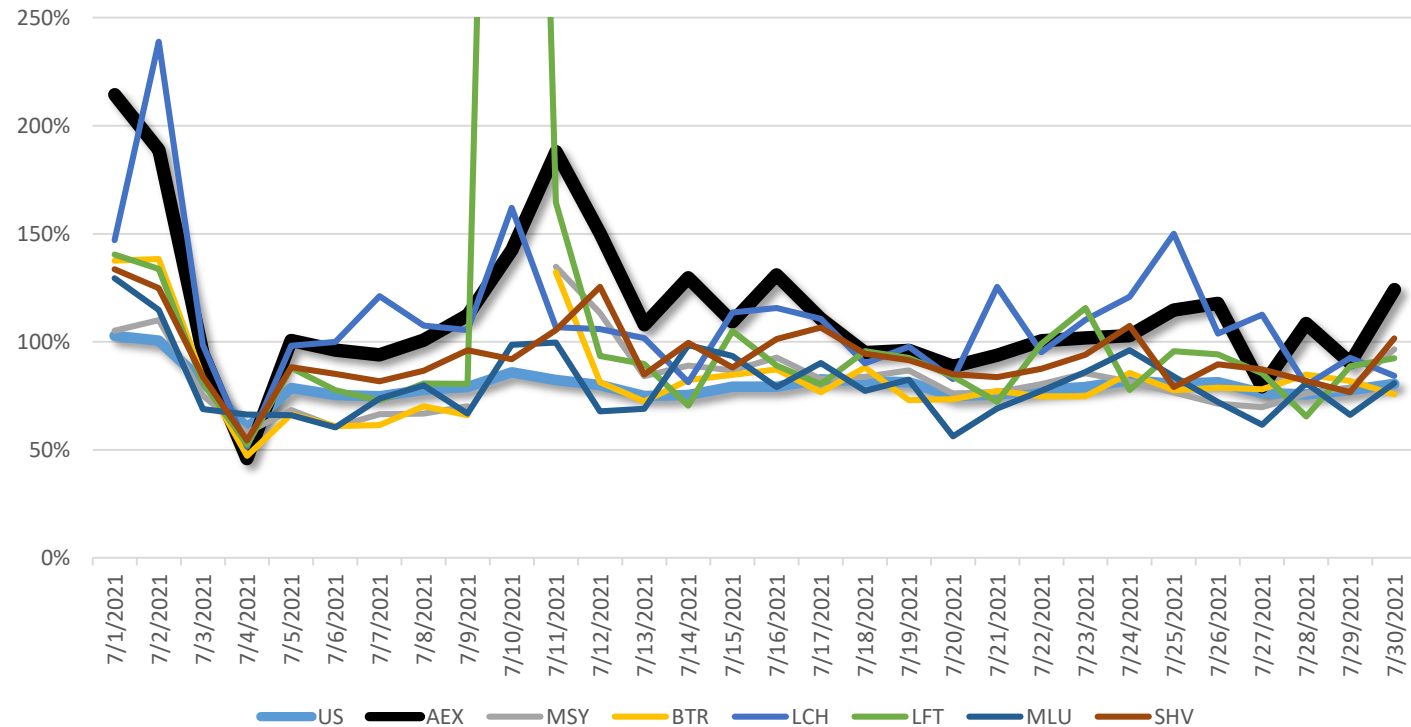
Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, August 2021.

# PASSENGER TRAFFIC AT LOUISIANA AIRPORTS

*This chart shows total passenger throughput at AEX and other Louisiana airports in July 2021 as a percent of traffic in 2019. AEX is the solid black line.*

Airport	% of 2019 Traffic
US	80%
<b>AEX</b>	<b>110%</b>
MSY	83%
BTR	81%
LCH	105%
LFT	89%
MLU	79%
SHV	82%

Passenger Throughput at AEX as a Percent 2019 Traffic (July 2021)

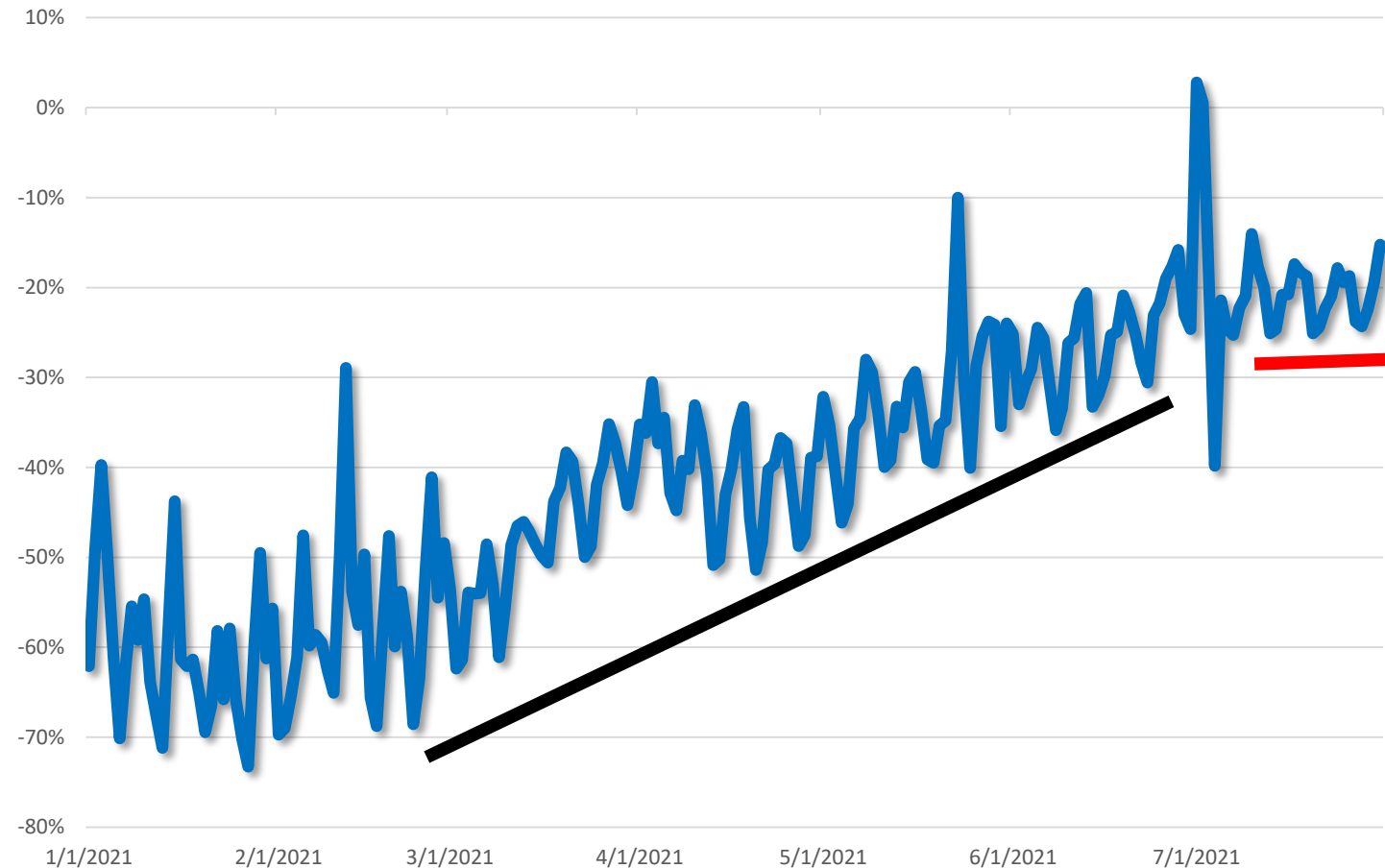


✓ AEX had the highest percentage of total passenger throughput in the state in July 2021 at 110% of the July 2019 level. The state average is 84%.

# AIR TRAVELER STATS

*Nationwide daily percentage of passengers passing through current TSA checkpoints in 2021 expressed as a percentage of 2019 traffic.*

U.S. Airport Passenger Throughput Traffic  
in 2021 as a Percent of 2019 Traffic



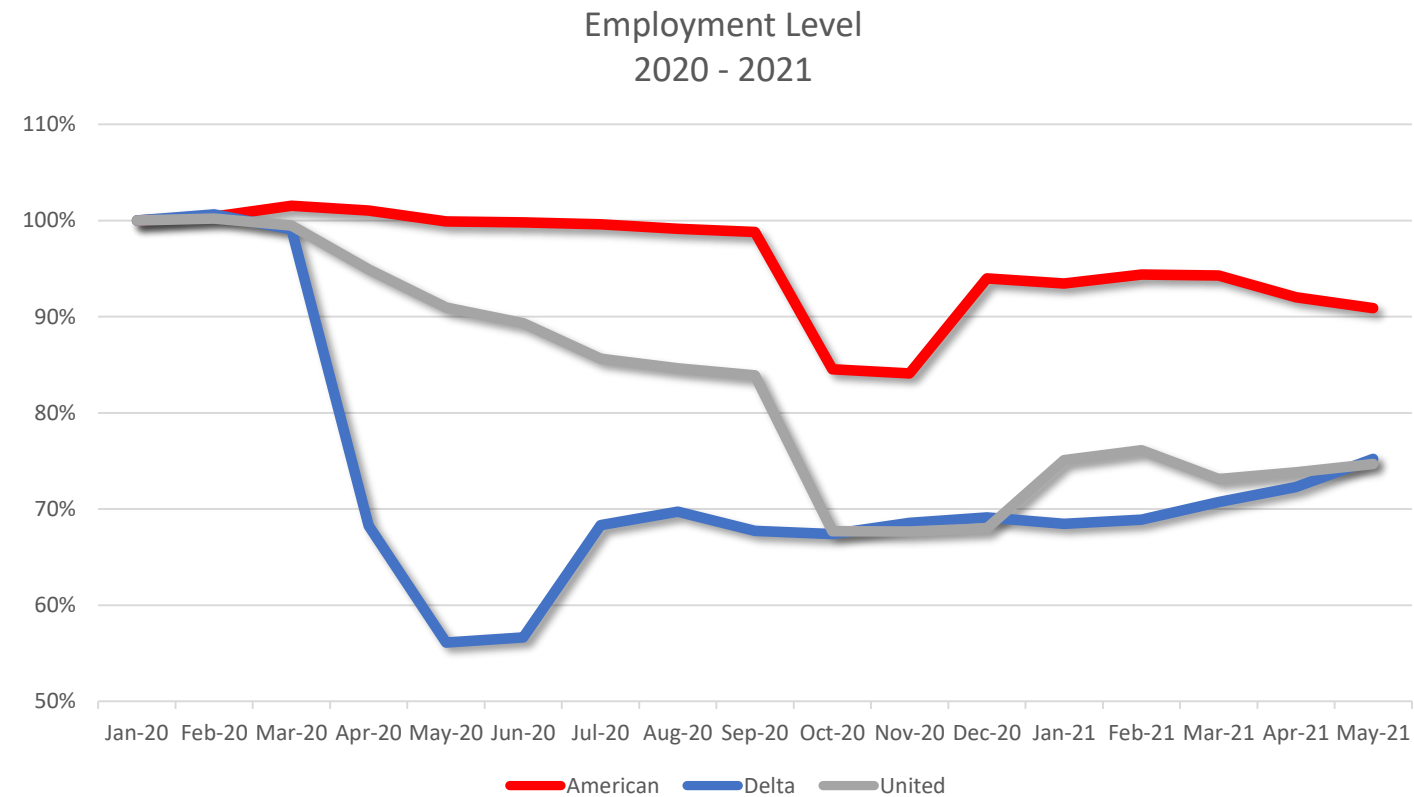
✓ Nationally, air passenger traffic in July was up 8% over June 2021 and up 205% from a year ago. However, passenger traffic remains -20% below the July 2019 level.

✓ For the first time since the pandemic started, nationwide passenger traffic exceeded 2019 levels on July 1-2.

# AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT

*The chart illustrates the level of employment retained since 2020 with January 2020 being the baseline.*

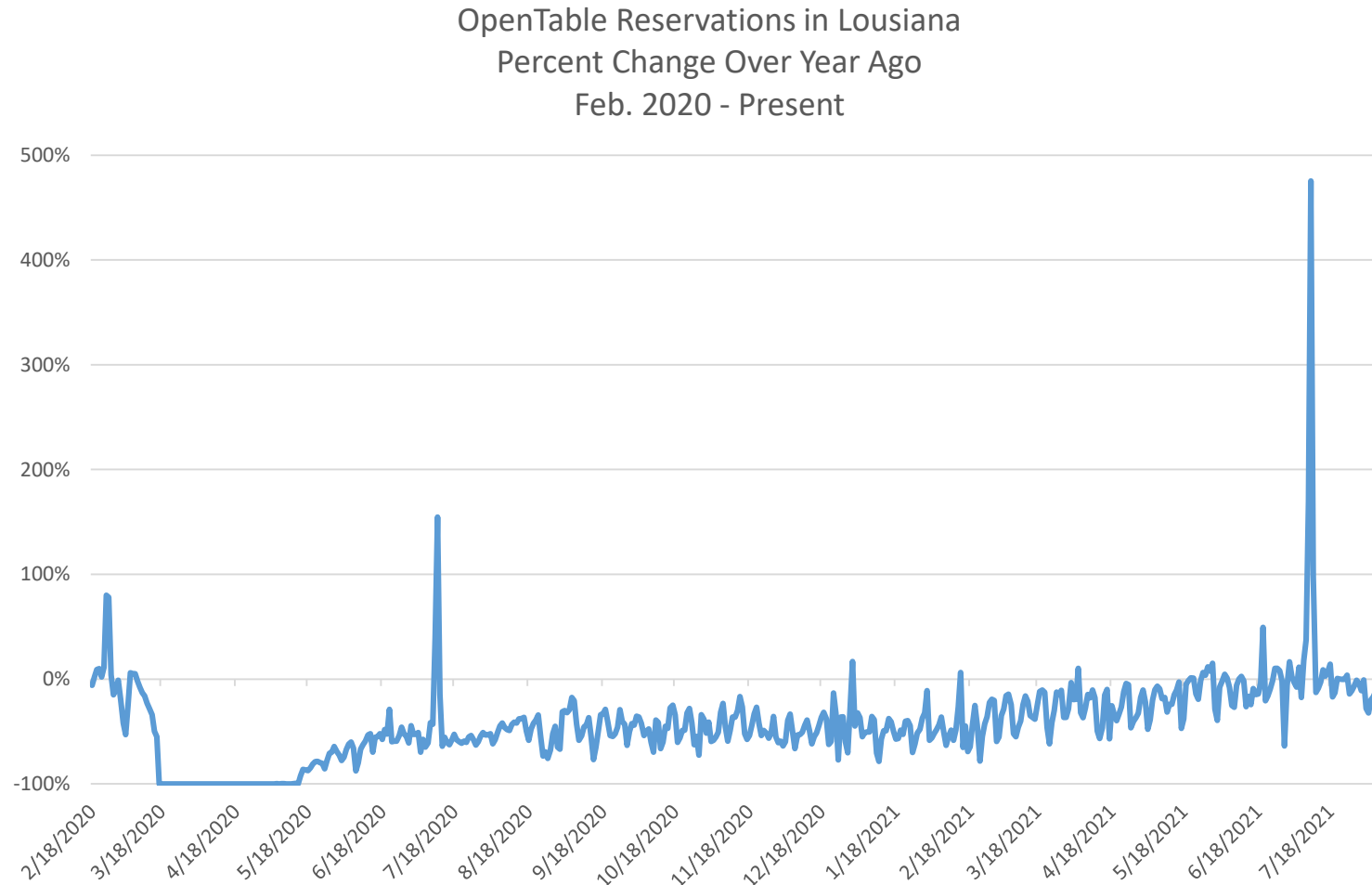
✓ American Airlines has retained 91% employment since January 2020 compared to Delta and United which stand 75%.



# OPEN TABLE RESERVATIONS IN LOUISIANA

*This data shows year-over-year seated diners at restaurants on the OpenTable network in Louisiana. Year-over-year comparisons by day compare the same day of the week from the same week in the previous year.*

- *July 10, 2021 saw a 475% spike in restaurant reservations in Louisiana, almost one year after a 155% spike on July 11, 2020.*

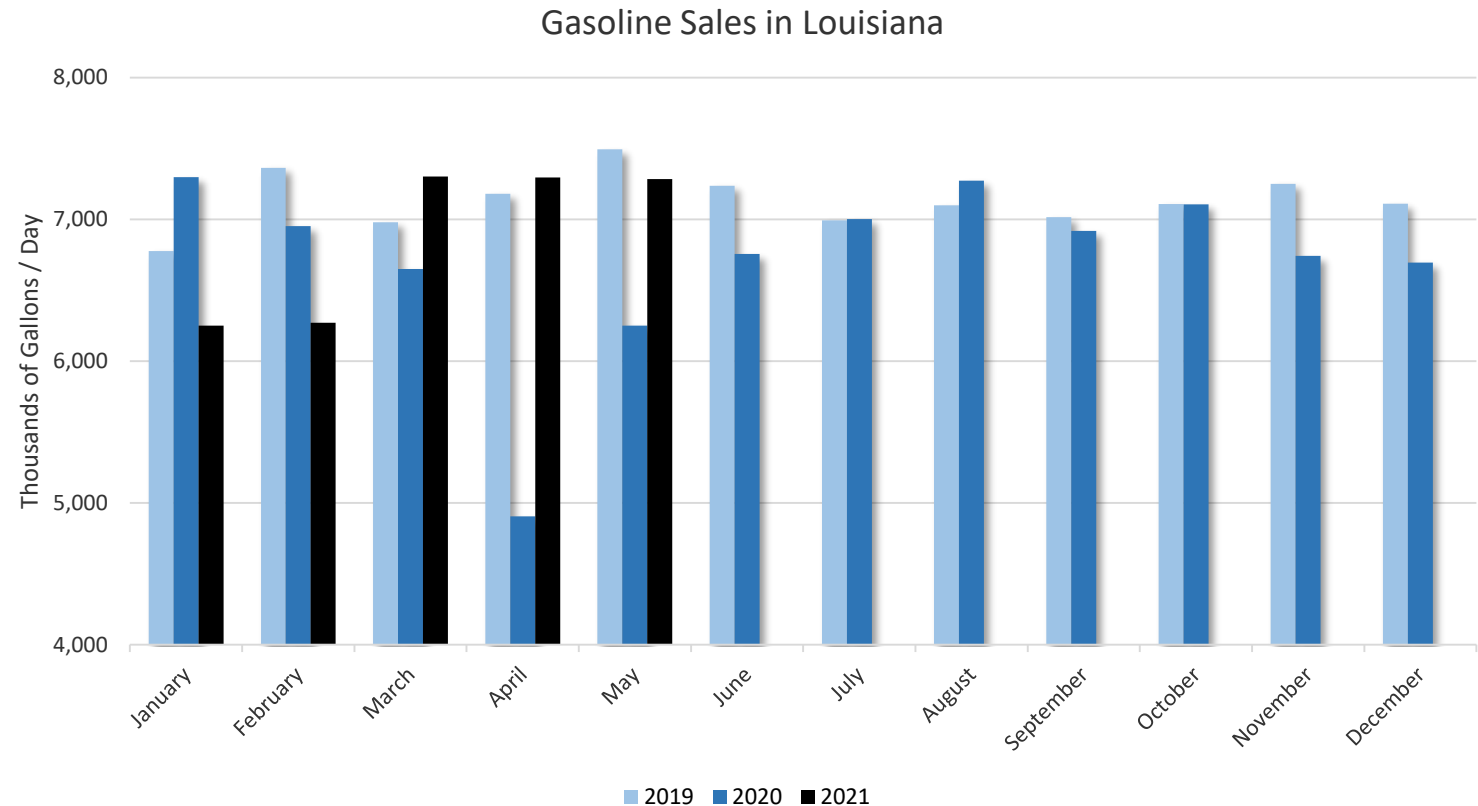




# LOUISIANA GASOLINE SALES

*Total gasoline sales in Louisiana in 2019 - 2021.*

- ✓ May 2021 gasoline sales remained near the previous month's level, but was 17% above May 2020.
- ✓ Gasoline sales in the previous 12 trailing months (June 2020-May 2021) exceeded the year early by 1.3%.



# LOCAL & LOUISIANA

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# NEW BUSINESSES IN RAPIDES

*The chart below represents the number of new businesses established each month in Rapides from January 2019 through July 2021.*

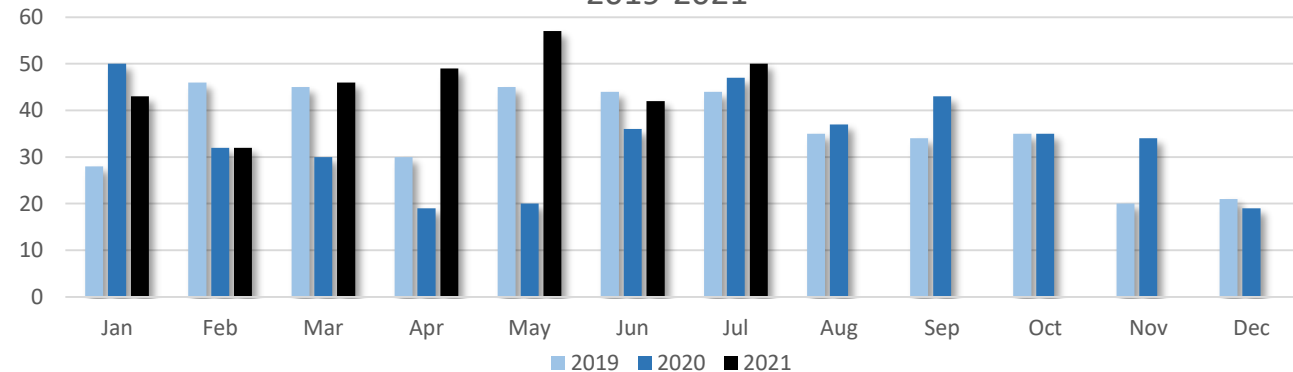
## July

	2018	2019	2020	2021
July	49	44	47	50
June	46	44	36	42
% Chg Prev Month	6.5%	0.0%	30.6%	19.0%
% Chg from Prev Year		-10.2%	6.8%	6.4%
YTD (Jan - July)	335	282	234	319
% Chg over Prev YTD		-15.8%	-17.0%	36.3%

✓ The number of new businesses established in Rapides in July 2021 rose 19% from June and it 6% higher than July 2020.

✓ Year-to-date new businesses in Rapides are up 36% over 2020.

New Businesses in Rapides  
2019-2021

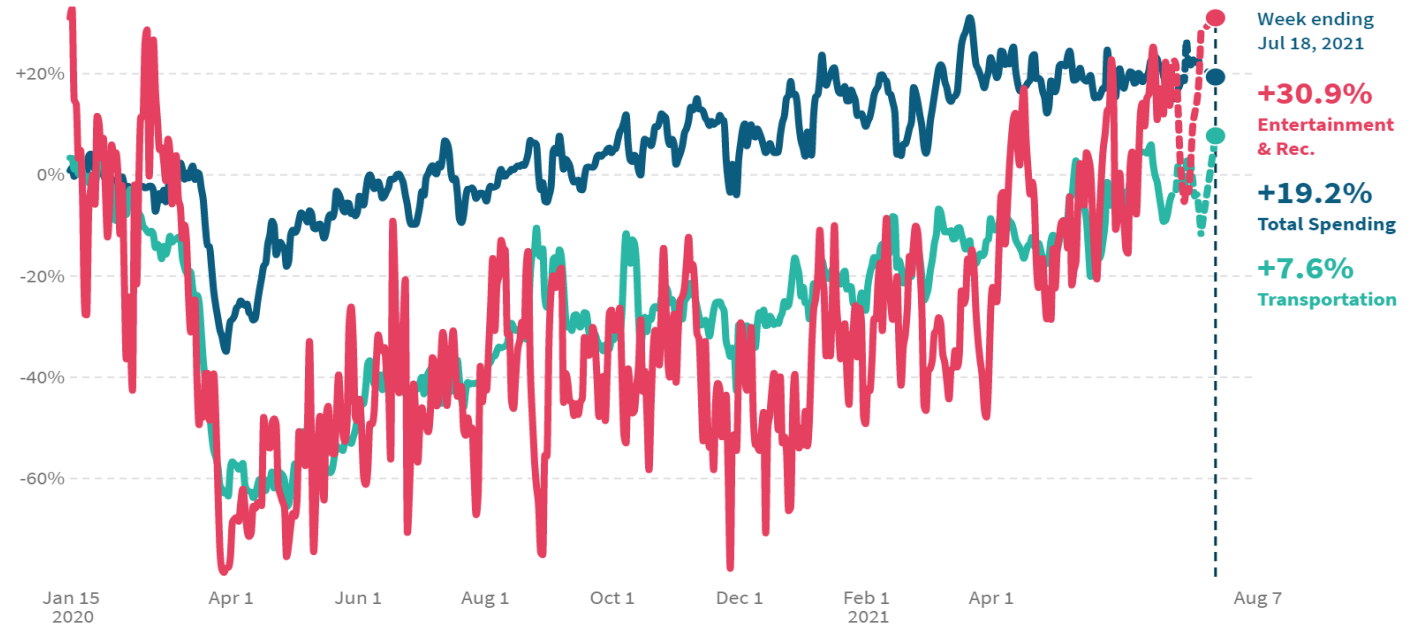


# CONSUMER SPENDING IN LOUISIANA

*These graphs represents the percent change in average consumer credit and debit card spending in Louisiana as of July 18, 2021 with January 2020 as the baseline.*

In **Louisiana**, as of July 18, 2021, total spending by all consumers increased by **19.2%** compared to January 2020.

- ✓ Total consumer spending in Louisiana has remained level since early April.
- ✓ Entertainment and transportation spending continues to trend upward reaching 31% and 8% higher than January 2020, respectively.



data source: **Affinity**

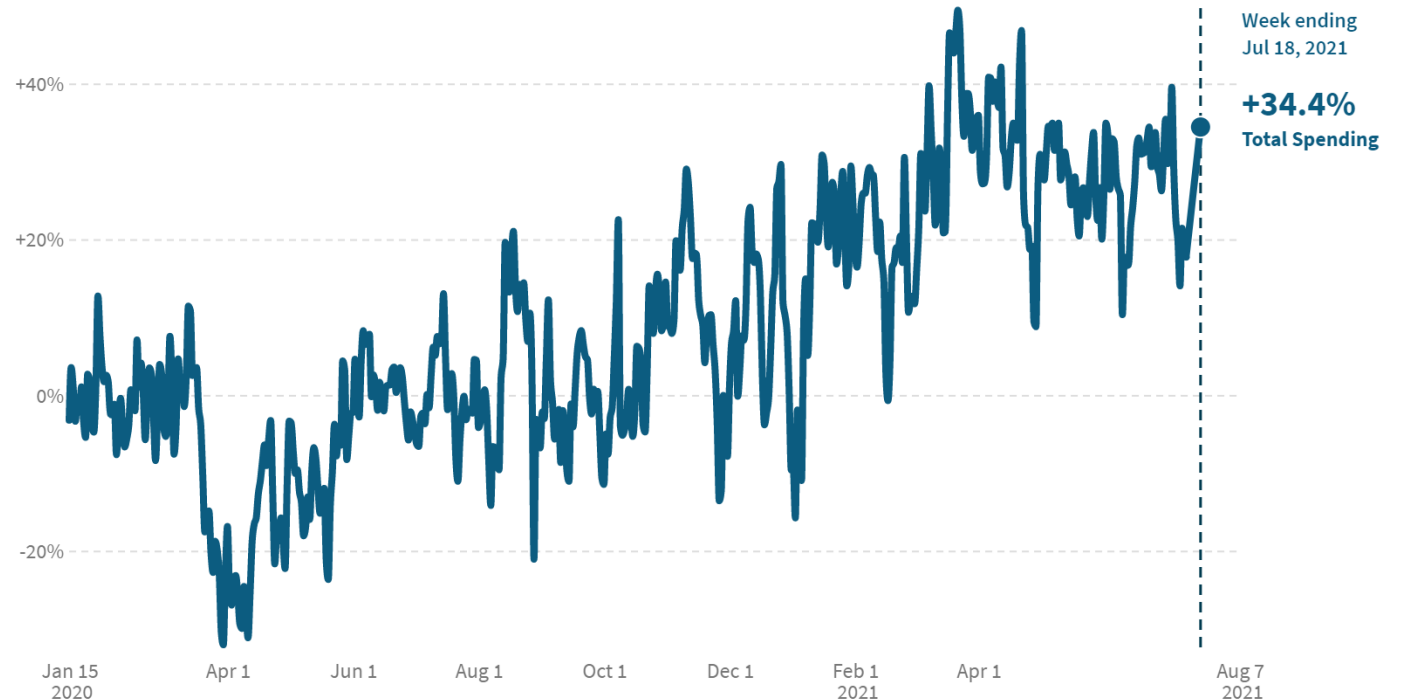
- Total consumer spending on July, 2021 in Louisiana was up 19% compared to January 2020, with retail and entertainment and recreation spending each up 31%. Grocery spending was up 14%, health care up 29%, and restaurants up 12%.

# ALL CONSUMER SPENDING IN CENLA

*The table and chart represents the percent change in average consumer credit and debit card spending in Cenla as of July 18, 2021 with January 2020 as the baseline, while the chart represents Rapides.*

	Change in Spending
Allen	+69%
Catahoula	+24%
Evangeline	+26%
Grant	+33%
La Salle	+14%
Natchitoches	+19%
<b>Rapides</b>	<b>+34%</b>
St. Landry	-10%
Vernon	+15%

In **Rapides**, as of July 18 2021, total spending by all consumers increased by **34.4%** compared to January 2020.



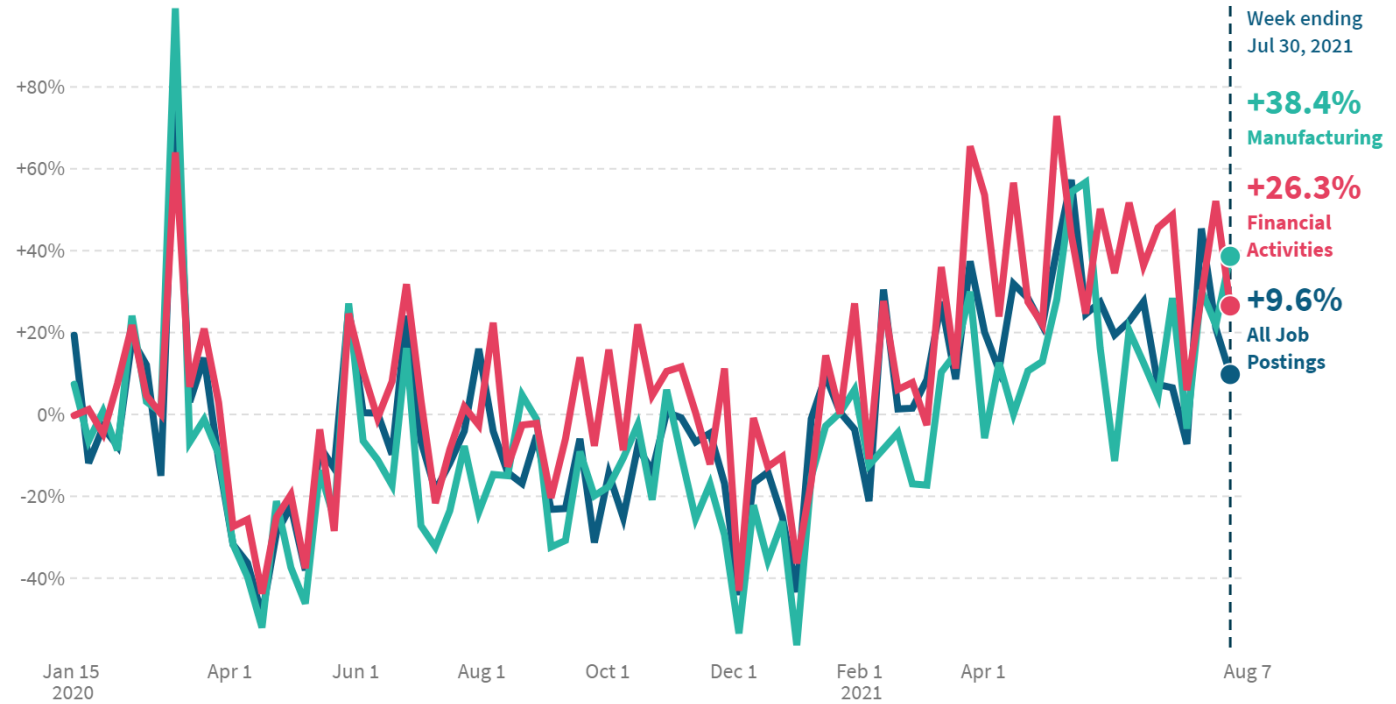
data source: Affinity

# PERCENT CHANGE IN JOB POSTING IN LOUISIANA

*The chart below represents the percent change in job posting by industry in Louisiana as of July 30, 2021 with January 2020 as the baseline.*

In **Louisiana**, as of July 30 2021, total job postings increased by **9.6%** compared to January 2020.

<u>Industry</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Education & Health Services	+10.5%
Manufacturing	+38.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	-9.2%
Professional	+5.7%
Financial	+26.3%



data source: **Burning Glass Technologies**

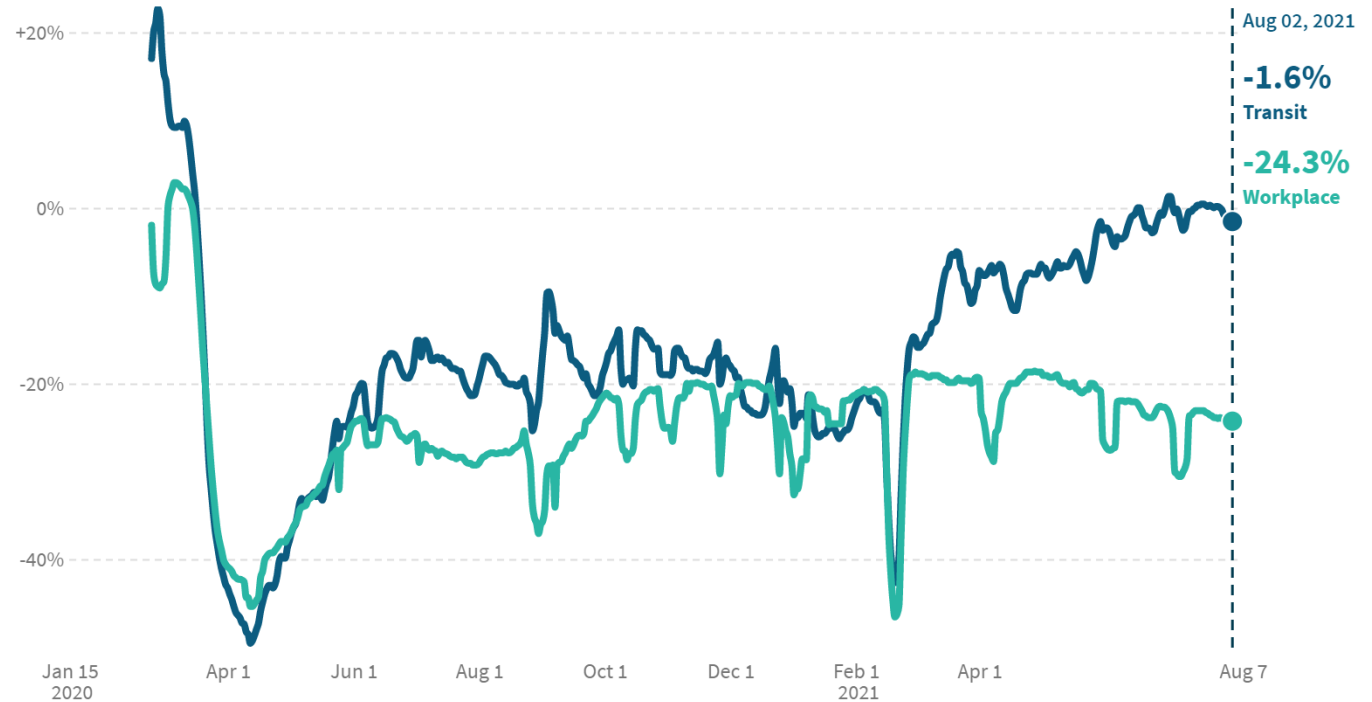
# TIME SPENT AT WORK IN CENLA

*The chart represents the percent of time employees in Cenla and statewide spent at work as of August 2, 2021 with January 2020 as the baseline.*

## Change in Time at Work

Avoyelles	-26%
Concordia	-35%
Evangeline	-29%
Grant	-9%
Natchitoches	-27%
Rapides	-22%
St. Landry	-22%
Vernon	-18%

In **Louisiana**, as of August 02 2021, total time spent at transit locations decreased by **1.6%** compared to January 2020.



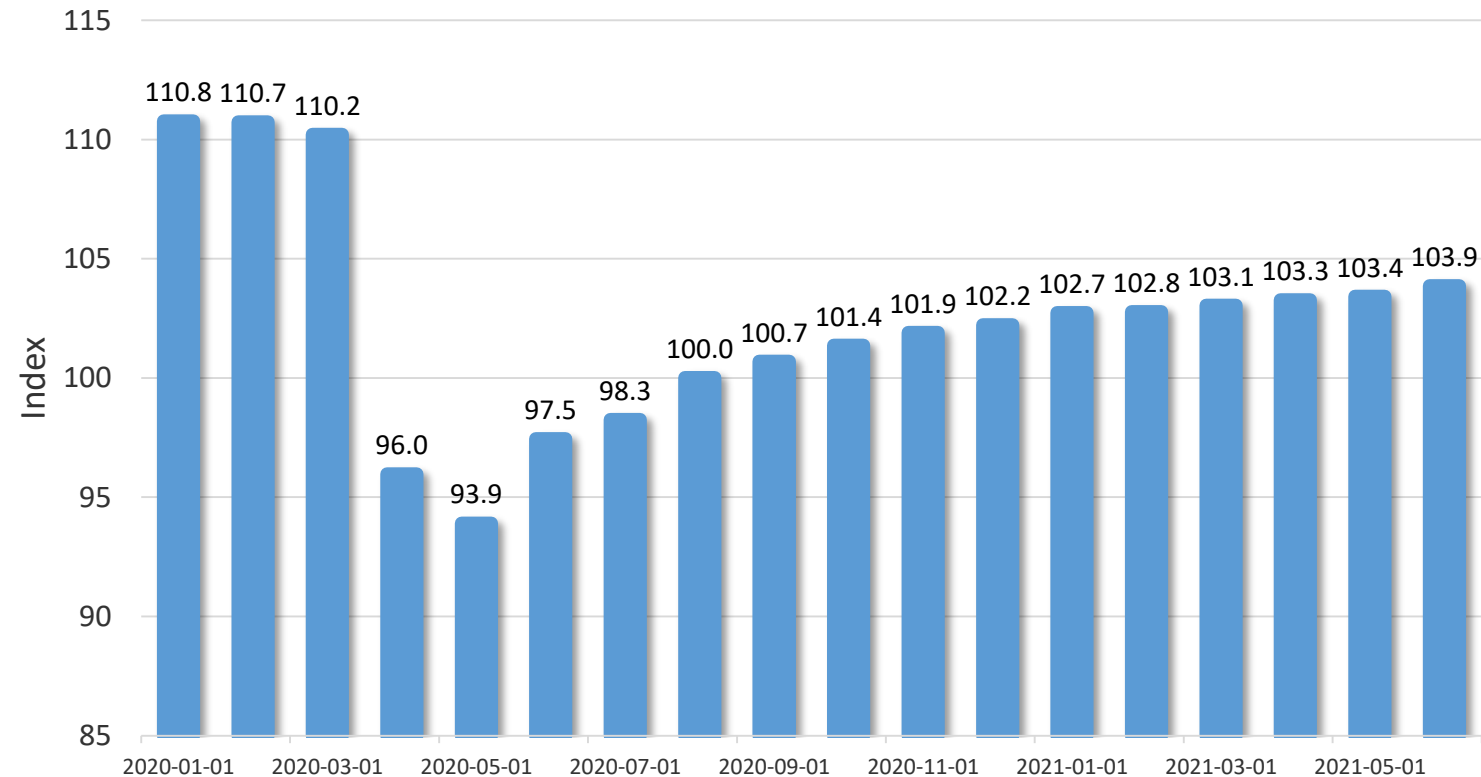
data source: **Google COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports**

# COINCIDENT ECONOMIC ACTIVITY INDEX

*The Coincident Economic Activity Index for Louisiana includes four indicators: nonfarm payroll employment, the unemployment rate, average hours worked in manufacturing and wages and salaries. The index is set to match the trend for gross state product.*

✓ *The Index for June 2021 increased 0.4% over May, indicating the economic recovery in Louisiana is continuing.*

Coincident Economic Activity Index for Louisiana  
January 2020 - June 2021





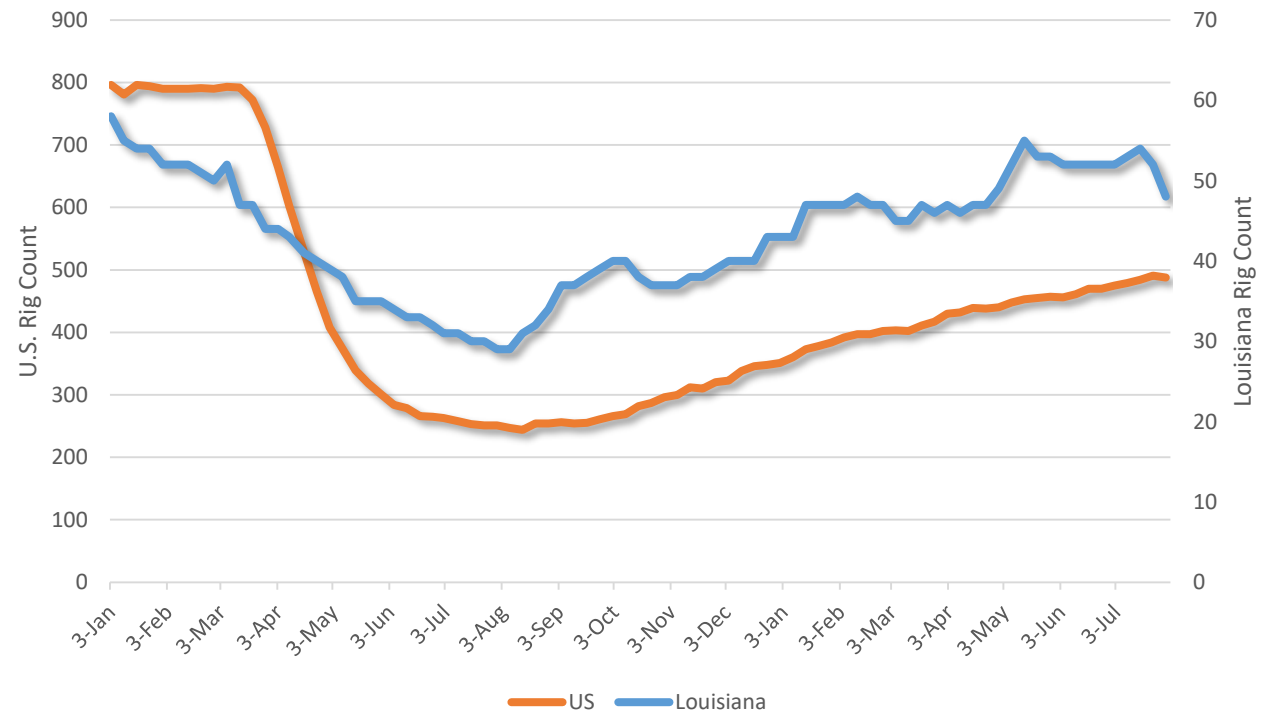
# BAKER HUGHES RIG COUNT

*Represents the number of drilling rigs actively exploring for or developing oil or natural gas in Louisiana and the U.S. in 2021*

	Jul 20	Jun 21	Jul 21
N. LA-Land	20	37	35
S. LA –Int'l Water	0	1	1
S. LA-Land	0	1	1
S. LA-Offshore	10	13	15
<b>TOTAL LOUISIANA</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>TOTAL US</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>483</b>

- ✓ Rig count in Louisiana remained unchanged in July from June but is up 73% from July 2020.
- ✓ Nationwide, the rig count is up 67% from a year ago.

Rig Count in U.S. & Louisiana  
2021






**NATIONAL**

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# NATIONAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

*Monthly U.S. economic indicators for June 2021.*

		Indicator	May-21	Jun-21
Durable Goods		Monthly Wholesale Trade	1.3%	1.1%
		Manufacturers Shipments, Inventories, and Orders	2.3%	1.5%
Residential Sales		Construction Spending	-0.2%	0.1%
		Advance Monthly Wholesale Inventories	1.3%	0.8%
		Advance Monthly Retail Inventories	-0.8%	0.3%
Residential Construction		Advance Durable Goods Manf. Shipments, Inventories, and Orders	3.2%	0.8%
		New Residential Sales	-7.8%	-6.6%
		New Residential Construction *	3.5%	-7.0%
		Advance Monthly Sales for Retail and Food Services *	0.7%	-1.1%

# CONTRIBUTORS

*The data presented throughout the CENLA Economic Dashboard reflects contributions from the following local organizations.*

- Rapides Parish Policy Jury Treasurer
- Rapides Sales Tax Administrator
- Avoyelles Parish School Board
- Alexandria International Airport
- Rapides Area Planning Commission
- City of Alexandria Planning Division
- Evangeline Parish Sales Tax Commissioner
- Concordia, Catahoula, & La Salle Tax Administrator
- Louisiana Office of Public Health, Region 6
- St. Landry Parish School Board

# THANK YOU

*Also, special thanks to the following partners for distributing the dashboard.*

- LSUA Foundation
- Central Louisiana Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Marksville Chamber of Commerce
- Bunkie Chamber of Commerce
- Evangeline Chamber of Commerce
- Concordia Chamber of Commerce
- St. Landry Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Vernon Chamber of Commerce

Next Issue: Week of Sep. 20<sup>th</sup>