

# CENTRAL LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DASHBOARD



# LSUA<sup>®</sup>

College of

## Business

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November 22, 2022

# KEY FINDINGS

*November 22, 2022*

## COVID

A review of the statewide Covid-19 map shows 75% of Louisiana is at a low risk of Covid with the remaining at a medium risk. No parishes are considered high risk at this time. Cases in Regions 6 & 7 have been declining since its peak in July. The number of new cases are at levels last seen in the Spring. All of central Louisiana is at low risk for Covid, except for Vernon which is at medium risk.

## EMPLOYMENT

Employment in the Alexandria MSA in September increased by 249 to 63,296 from a month earlier, while the unemployment rate fell to 2.9% from 3.0%. Employment in Natchitoches parish increased by 562 to 15,726, while the unemployment rate fell to 3.6%.

The local labor market remained strong in September despite the threat of a slowdown from rising interest rates. The Alexandria MSA unemployment rate was the lowest among the major metro areas at 2.9%, with Baton Rouge, Lafayette, and Lake Charles closing the gap at 3.2%. In September, central Louisiana had an unemployment rate of 3.5%, down from 3.7% in August and equal to the state's rate of 3.5%.

The labor market in Alexandria relaxed somewhat in September with four job postings for each unemployed in Alexandria in comparison to five in August. The state average is two postings per unemployed. Nevertheless, the Alexandria MSA remains the tightest labor market in the state as it has since the start of the pandemic.

# KEY FINDINGS

*November 22, 2022*

## CONSUMER SPENDING

Nearly all jurisdictions collected more sales tax in October, other than Concordia. This reflected strong sales activity in September. Likewise, all jurisdictions were up year-to-date, with the exception of Catahoula. However, sales tax revenue collections in smaller towns and cities in Rapides were mixed.

Vehicles sales as measured by sales tax revenue showed declines in September after posting significant gains in August. However, Vernon parish was the exception, posting a monthly gain of 200%. Year-over-year vehicle sales tax revenues in September were down in most jurisdictions, with the exception of St. Landry and Vernon.

Online sales tax collection in central Louisiana more than doubled in October to \$3.5 million from \$1.6 million a month earlier, a 115% increase and 169% above a year earlier. The increase is largely due to the increased number retailers participating in the remote sales tax collection system, which more accurately matches sales tax revenue with point of purchase. Rapides had a 168% increase over the prior month, with online sales tax collections rising to \$1,314,574 in October compared to \$489,992 in September. Year-to-date sales tax collections are up 36% in Rapides as well as Natchitoches. For October sales tax collections were up 30% in the eleven parishes comprising central Louisiana.

According to the Louisiana Remote Sellers Commission, the agency processed 2,500 returns in the first quarter of FY 2021, 8,800 returns in the same period last year, and 17,000 in the first quarter FY 2023. The tax revenue increase is more the result of direct marketers switching to the remote sellers system, which provide a higher tax revenue and a more equitable distribution to the parishes.

# KEY FINDINGS

*November 22, 2022*

## PERMITS & HOUSING

Permit valuation data has been reorganized into a single page. This provides a better overview of permits in Cenla. Unfortunately, permit data from the City of Alexandria was not available for October.

Higher mortgage rates continue to put pressure on the housing market. The 30 year fixed mortgage rate, which is now included in the *CENLA Economic Dashboard*, reached 7.08% on November 10 with further increases likely before year end. The weakness in the housing market continues to impact lumber prices. In October 2022, the US Lumber Price Index fell -3% to 284 from 293 in September. Currently, the Lumber Index stands -2% below a year ago.

## TRAVEL

Gasoline prices in the Gulf Coast region have fallen from a peak on June 13 of \$4.63/gallon to \$3.18/gallon on November 7, a -31% decline. Hotel consumer spending in Avoyelles, Rapides, and Vernon is down by single digits on a year-to-date basis, with the exception of Natchitoches which is up 20% for the year.

U.S. air passenger traffic is yet to recover to pre-pandemic levels. Nationally, air passenger traffic in October 2022 increased 3.5% from the previous month. In October, air passenger traffic remained -6% below the October 2019 level.

## NEW BUSINESSES

New business applications in Louisiana in October 2022 decreased -2% from September. In the first 10 months, 68,500 business applications were filed in Louisiana, down -22% from the same period a year ago. Likewise, the number of new businesses established in Rapides through October 2022 was -22% below the same period in 2021.

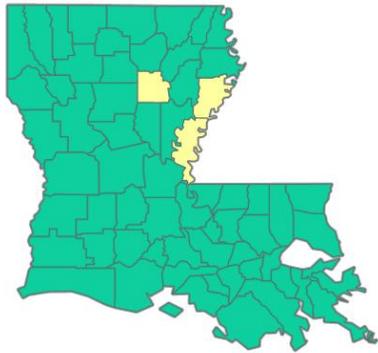
# COVID-19

Central Louisiana Economic Dashboard

# COVID-19 STATEWIDE RISK

*COVID-19 statewide risk by parish over time.*

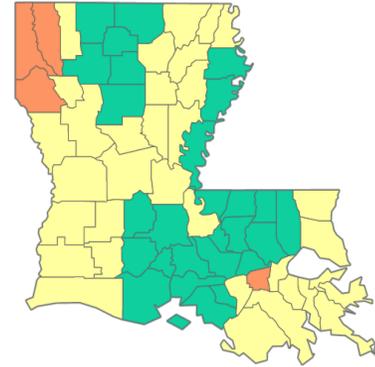
*April 16, 2022*



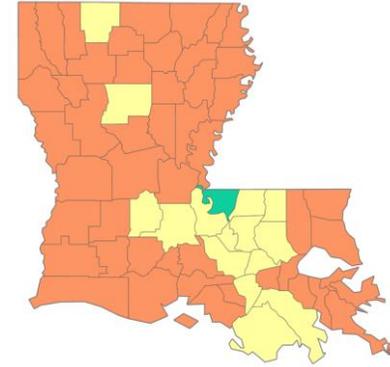
*May 19, 2022*



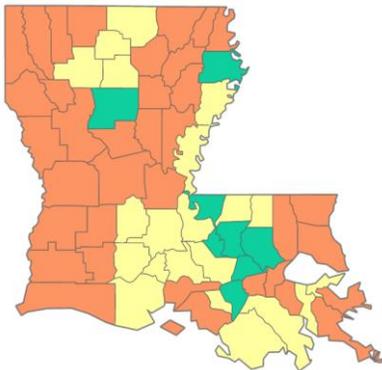
*June 20, 2022*



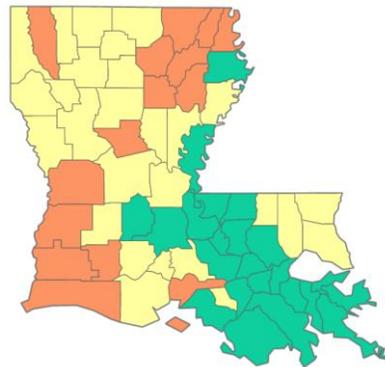
*July 19, 2022*



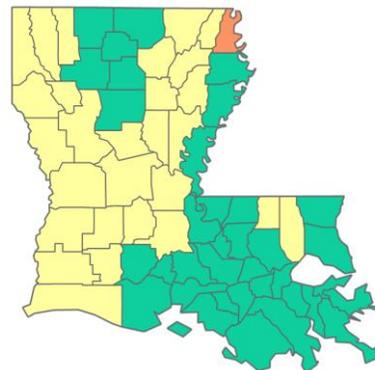
*August 21, 2022*



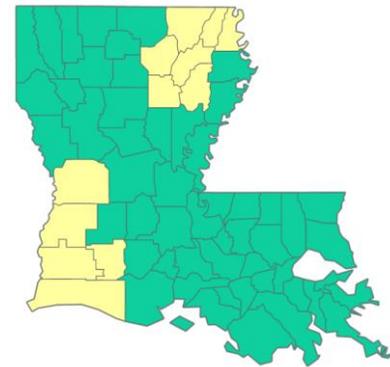
*September 20, 2022*



*October 21, 2022*



*November 20, 2022*



High

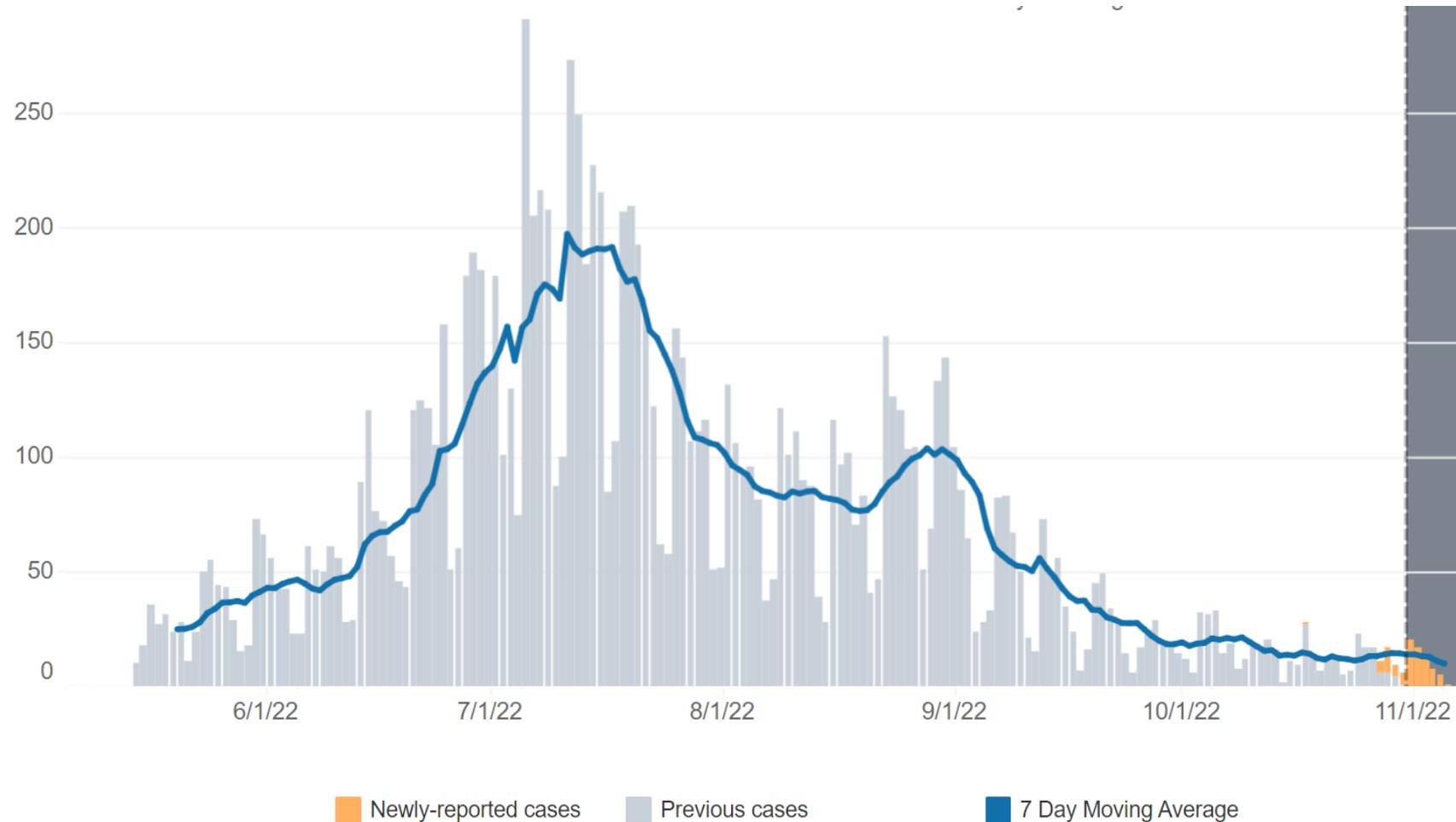
Medium

Low

Source: Louisiana Office of Public Health, November 20, 2022.

# COVID-19 CASES IN REGION 6

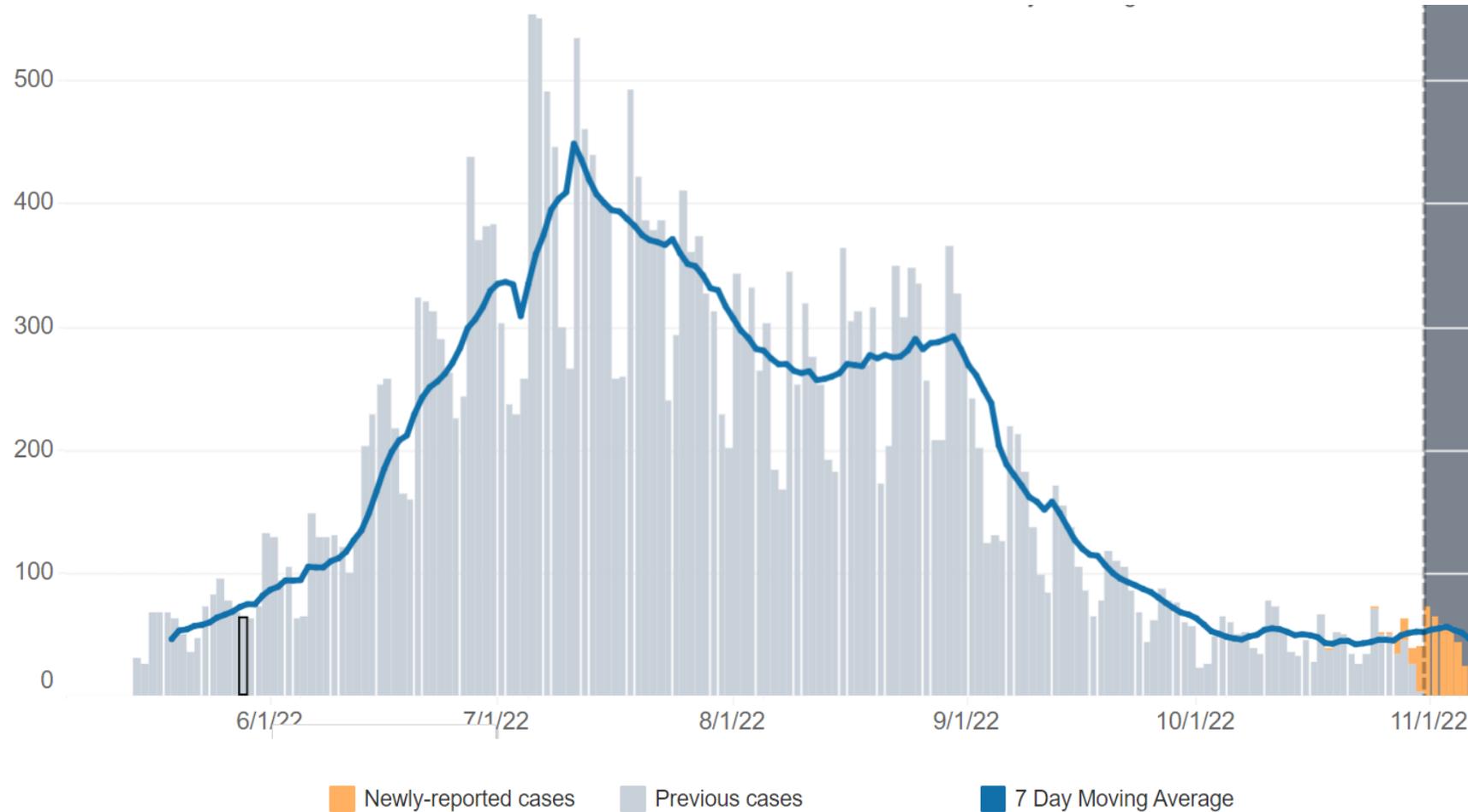
*COVID-19 cases by collection date from May 14 – November 6, 2022 in Region 6 (Cenla).*



Source: Louisiana Department of Health, COVID-19 Dashboard, <https://ldh.la.gov/>, November 13, 2022.

# COVID-19 CASES IN REGION 7

*COVID-19 cases by collection date from May 14 – November 6, 2022 in Region 7 (Natchitoches).*



Source: Louisiana Department of Health, COVID-19 Dashboard, <https://ldh.la.gov/>, November 13, 2022.

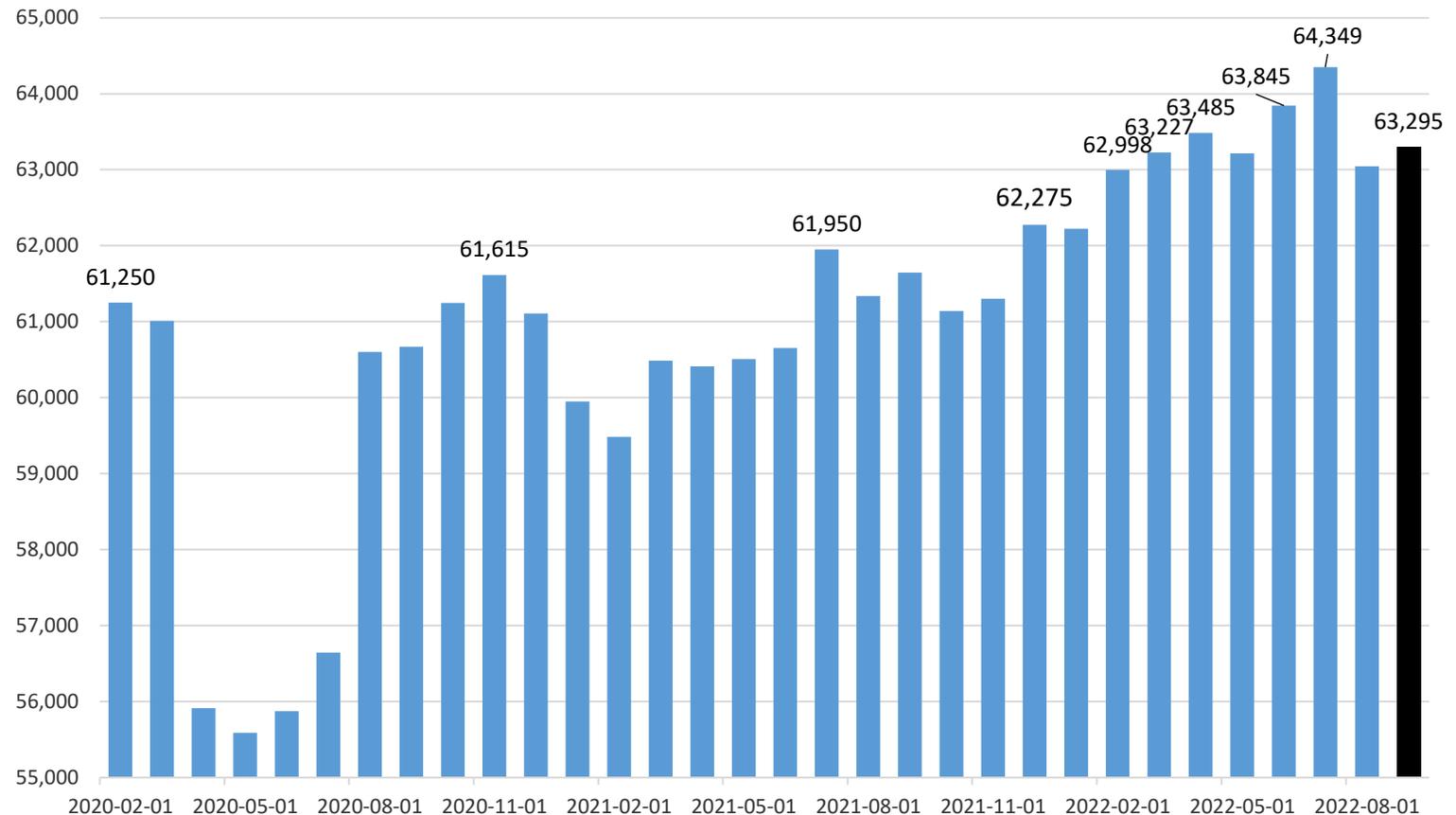
# Employment

Central Louisiana Economic Dashboard

# EMPLOYMENT IN ALEXANDRIA MSA

*Employed persons in the Alexandria MSA from 2020 – 2022.*

Employed Persons in Alexandria, LA MSA  
2020 - 2022



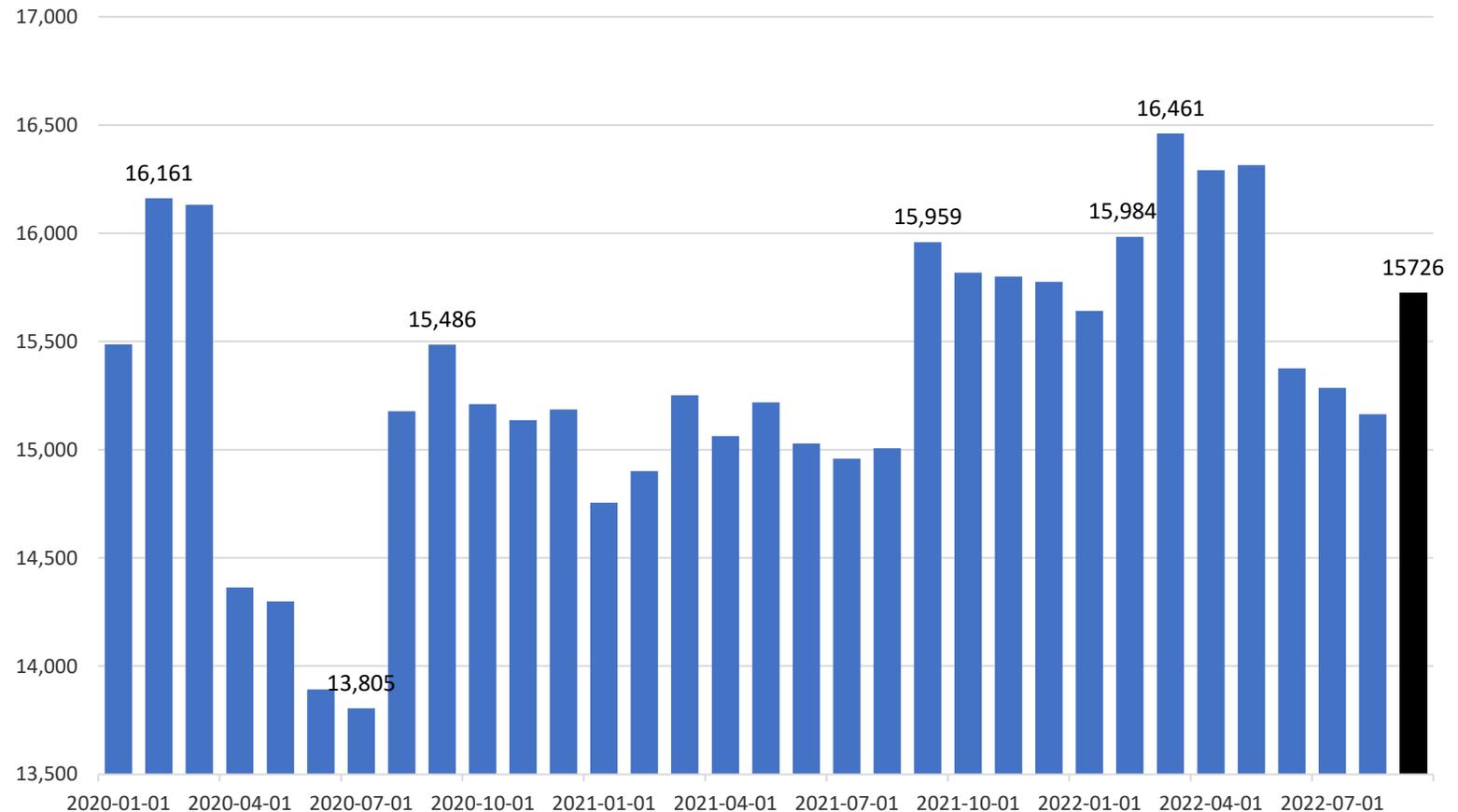
✓ Employment in September increased 249 to 63,296.

✓ Unemployment rate in September in the Alexandria MSA fell to 2.9% from 3.0% in August.

# EMPLOYMENT IN NATCHITOCHESES

*Employed persons in Natchitoches parish from 2020 – 2022.*

Employed Persons in Natchitoches  
2020-2022

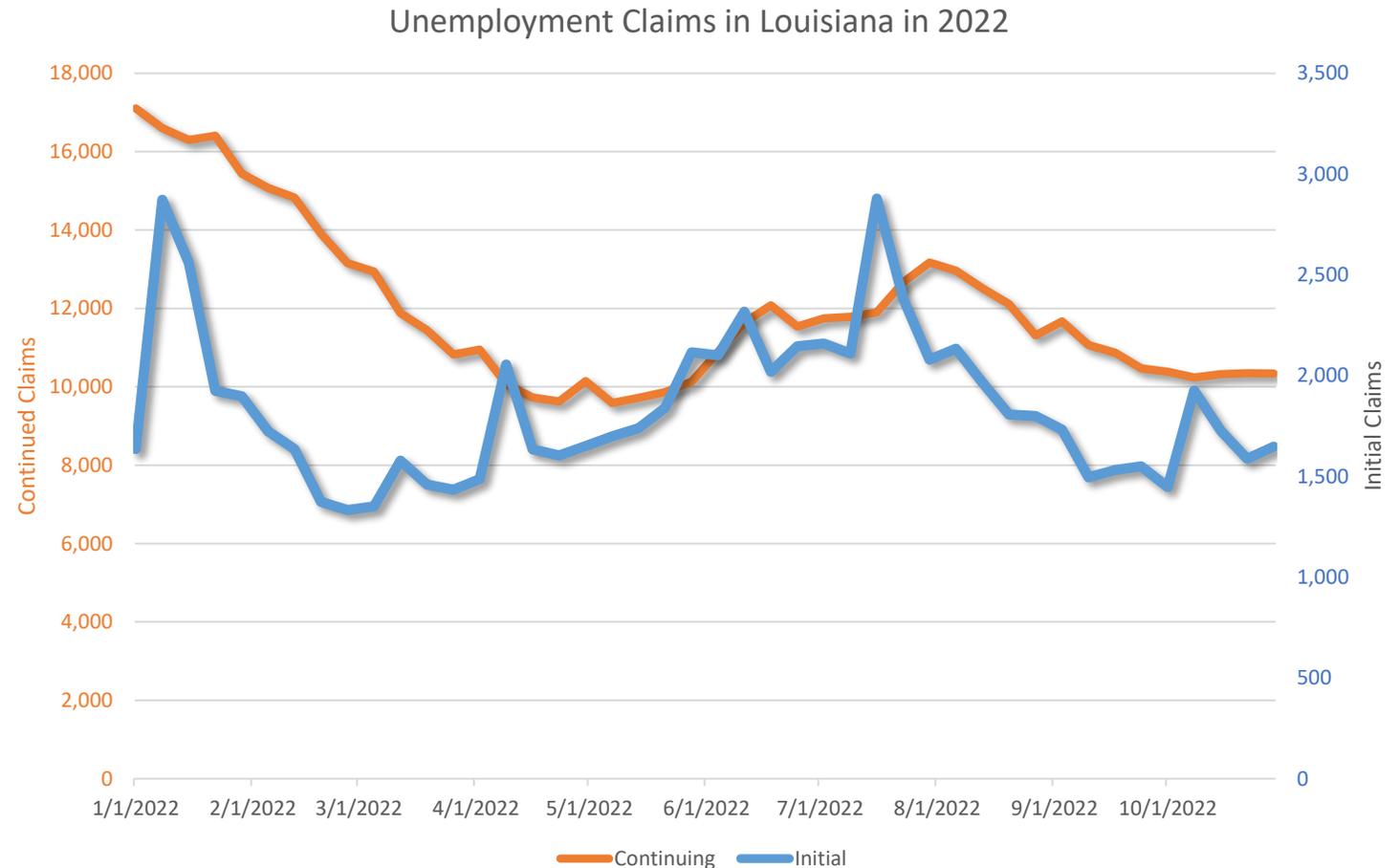


- In September 2022, 15,726 were employed in Natchitoches parish, up from 15,164 in August, an increase of 562.
- ✓ The unemployment rate in Natchitoches parish in September fell to 3.6% from 4.1% in August.

# UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS IN LOUISIANA

*Initial and continued unemployment claims in Louisiana from January 2022 to October 2022.*

- ✓ Initial unemployment claims rose in October. After falling -18% in September, average weekly initial unemployment claims rose 6% in October.
- ✓ Statewide average weekly continued unemployment claims fell -10% in September and continued the downtrend in October, falling -6%.



# UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY CENLA PARISH

*The table below shows September 2022 preliminary unemployment rate, labor force, and employment data for central Louisiana parishes.*

*September 2022*

Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate Sep 2022	Unemployment Rate Aug 2022
Allen	7,856	7,553	303	3.9%	4.3%
Avoyelles	14,198	13,664	534	3.8%	4.3%
Catahoula	3,481	3,351	130	3.7%	3.8%
Concordia	7,017	6,719	298	4.2%	4.7%
Evangeline	11,790	11,340	450	3.8%	4.2%
Grant	8,408	8,156	252	3.0%	3.2%
La Salle	6,737	6,576	161	2.4%	2.4%
Natchitoches	16,314	15,726	588	3.6%	4.1%
Rapides	56,781	55,139	1,642	2.9%	3.0%
St. Landry	31,783	30,379	1,404	4.4%	4.8%
Vernon	15,660	15,109	551	3.5%	3.5%

✓ In September, parishes in central Louisiana had an unemployment rate of 3.5%, down from 3.7% in August and equal to the state's rate of 3.5%.

# UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AMONG LA METROS

*The table below shows September 2022 preliminary unemployment rate, labor force, and employment data for Metropolitan Statistical Areas in the state.*

- ✓ At 2.9%, the Alexandria MSA unemployment rate in September fell -0.1% from August and remained the lowest among the state's major metro areas.
- ✓ Likewise, Louisiana's unemployment rate in September fell to 3.5% from 3.8% in August.

*September 2022*

Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
Alexandria	65,189	63,295	1,894	2.9%
Baton Rouge	422,207	408,878	13,329	3.2%
Lafayette	216,813	209,900	6,913	3.2%
Lake Charles	102,276	98,973	3,303	3.2%
Houma-Thibodaux	85,126	82,261	2,865	3.4%
Monroe	78,495	75,811	2,684	3.4%
Shreveport-Bossier City	186,566	179,829	6,737	3.6%
New Orleans-Metairie	598,169	575,337	22,832	3.8%
Hammond	56,753	54,310	2,443	4.3%

# 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 September 2022.*

*September 2022*

- ✓ In September 2022, the Alexandria MSA labor market had a job opening ratio of 0.28 compared to 0.20 in August.
- ✓ The Alexandria MSA labor market eased from five job posting per unemployed to four.
- The state ratio remained approximately the same as August at 0.55.

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Metro Area</b>	<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>Job Openings</b>	<b>Unemployed per Job Opening</b>
1	Alexandria	1,894	6,788	0.28
2	Lafayette	4,126	10,794	0.38
3	New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner	22,408	50,330	0.45
4	Baton Rouge	13,329	26,312	0.51
5	Shreveport-Bossier City	6,176	11,975	0.52
6	Lake Charles	3,303	6,171	0.54
7	Monroe	2,684	3,716	0.72
8	Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	2,865	3,897	0.74

# Tax Revenue

Central Louisiana Economic Dashboard

# TAX REVENUE OVERVIEW

*An overview of sales, vehicle sales, and hotel occupancy taxes collected in the October 2022 reflecting sales activity in September 2022, unless otherwise noted.*

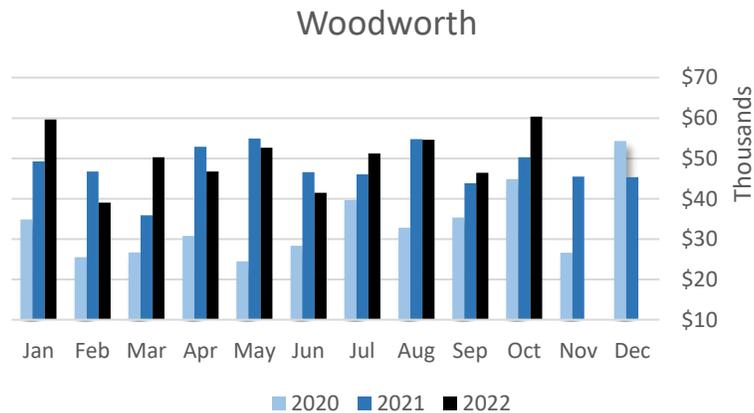
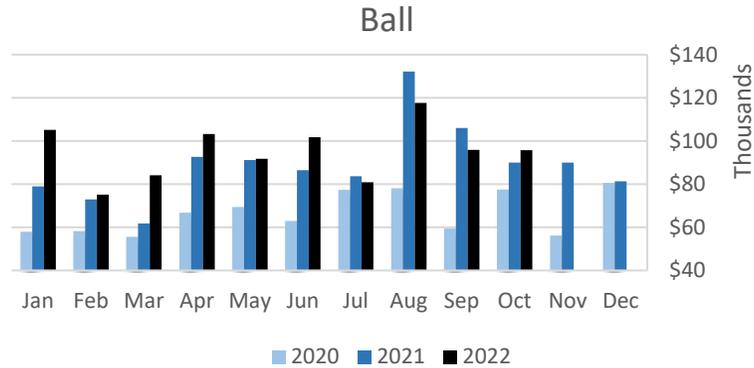
*October 2022*

<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	4%	-4%	0%		Avoyelles	-17%	-22%	1%
Avoyelles	22%	8%	6%		Evangeline	-32%	-17%	2%
Catahoula	10%	-11%	-17%		Natchitoches*	-14%	-2%	15%
Concordia	-5%	2%	5%		Rapides	-16%	-8%	-10%
Evangeline	2%	1%	15%		St. Landry	-5%	21%	-1%
Grant	16%	5%	4%		Vernon	201%	6%	-9%
La Salle	6%	18%	10%					
Natchitoches	14%	2%	13%		<b>Hotel Occupancy Tax</b>			
Pineville	5%	11%	4%		Avoyelles	-33%	-48%	-8%
Rapides	3%	-2%	0%		Natchitoches	36%	2%	20%
St. Landry	6%	5%	5%		Rapides	5%	-34%	-6%
Vernon	1%	3%	5%		Vernon	-11%	-24%	-4%

Notes: October tax revenue collection reflects sales activity in September. \*Current month data are not available. Represents prior month. N/a = Not available  
Data Source noted in detailed reports.

# RAPIDES PARISH TOWNS & CITIES

*An overview of sales tax revenue collected in other Rapides Parish towns and cities in October 2022 (excluding Alexandria and Pineville).*



## October

	Oct-22	Sep-22	Oct-21	% M/M	% Y/Y	%YTD
Ball	\$95,805	\$95,863	\$84,071	-0.1%	14.0%	5.0%
Boyce	\$52,073	\$57,467	\$49,296	-9.4%	5.6%	-6.1%
Cheneyville	\$5,632	\$2,809	\$3,409	100.5%	65.2%	63.7%
Glenmora	\$19,933	\$18,990	\$15,367	5.0%	29.7%	-2.5%
Lecompte	\$25,890	\$27,913	\$34,258	-7.2%	-24.4%	-0.5%
Woodworth	\$60,376	\$46,428	\$50,258	30.0%	20.1%	2.1%

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

Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, November 2022.

# ALEXANDRIA SALES TAX

(TR) Alexandria total sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.

(BR) Alexandria total monthly sales tax revenue from 2020 to present.

October

	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 3,385,908	\$ 4,072,623	\$ 4,095,630	\$ 3,922,678
September	\$ 3,410,715	\$ 3,117,685	\$ 3,670,600	\$ 3,757,448
% Chg over Prev Month	-0.7%	30.6%	11.6%	4.4%
% Chg over Prev Year		20.3%	0.6%	-4.2%
YTD	\$ 33,108,345	\$ 33,395,178	\$ 38,967,323	\$ 39,082,328
% Chg over Prev YTD		0.9%	16.7%	0.3%

October



4%

Oct YoY

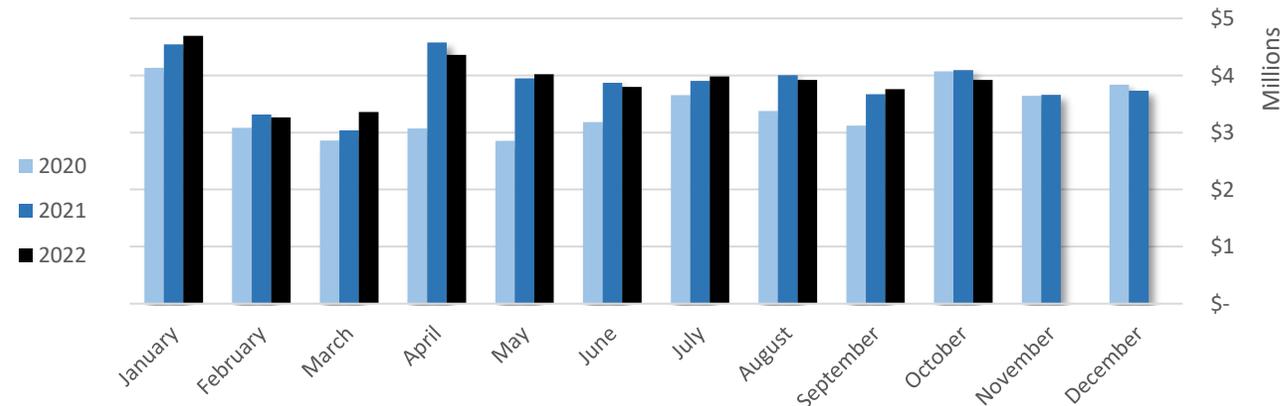


-4%

Oct YTD

0%

Alexandria Sales Tax Revenue  
2020-2022



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

Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, November 2022.

# AVOYELLES SALES TAX

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

		<i>October</i>					
		<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	
October	 22%	\$ 1,488,063	\$ 1,653,457	\$ 1,830,784	\$ 1,989,498	\$ 2,163,621	
		\$ 1,323,763	\$ 1,513,526	\$ 1,403,970	\$ 1,908,473	\$ 1,778,610	
Oct YoY	 9%	% Chg over Prev Month	12.4%	9.2%	30.4%	4.2%	21.6%
		% Chg over Prev Year		11.1%	10.7%	8.7%	8.8%
Oct YTD	 6%	YTD	\$ 14,043,601	\$ 14,756,833	\$ 14,873,241	\$ 18,818,667	\$ 19,976,870
		% Chg over Prev YTD		5.1%	0.8%	26.5%	6.2%

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

Data Source: Avoyelles Parish School Board. November 2022.

# AVOYELLES VEHICLE SALES TAX

*Avoyelles Parish vehicle sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

*October*

October   
-17%

Oct YoY   
-22%

Oct YTD   
1%

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 238,948	\$ 261,340	\$ 324,326	\$ 416,788	\$ 326,710
September	\$ 284,178	\$ 300,610	\$ 256,314	\$ 207,201	\$ 391,140
% Chg over Prev Month	-15.9%	-13.1%	26.5%	101.2%	-16.5%
% Chg over Prev Year		9.4%	24.1%	28.5%	-21.6%
YTD	\$ 2,669,172	\$ 2,784,534	\$ 2,937,712	\$ 3,472,862	\$ 3,504,019
% Chg over Prev YTD		4.3%	5.5%	18.2%	0.9%

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

Data Source: Avoyelles Parish School Board. November 2022

# CATAHOULA SALES TAX

*Catahoula Parish total sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

## October

October   
10%

Oct YoY   
-11%

Oct YTD   
-17%

	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 528,402	\$ 542,915	\$ 661,305	\$ 589,693
September	\$ 508,650	\$ 507,843	\$ 585,734	\$ 534,607
% Chg over Prev Month	3.9%	6.9%	12.9%	10.3%
% Chg over Prev Year		2.7%	21.8%	-10.8%
YTD	\$ 4,815,542	\$ 4,937,691	\$ 7,343,636	\$ 6,080,939
% Chg over Prev YTD		2.5%	48.7%	-17.2%

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

Data Source: Catahoula Parish Tax Administrator, November 2022

# CONCORDIA SALES TAX

*Concordia Parish total sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

## October

	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 1,293,099	\$ 1,242,516	\$ 1,350,733	\$ 1,374,257
September	\$ 1,222,663	\$ 1,142,316	\$ 1,190,705	\$ 1,443,955
% Chg over Prev Month	5.8%	8.8%	13.4%	-4.8%
% Chg over Prev Year		-3.9%	8.7%	1.7%
YTD	\$ 11,275,011	\$ 11,059,777	\$ 12,692,661	\$ 13,361,785
% Chg over Prev YTD		-1.9%	14.8%	5.3%

October		-5%
Oct YoY		2%
Oct YTD		5%

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

Data Source: Concordia Parish Tax Administrator. November 2022

# EVANGELINE SALES TAX

*Evangeline Parish total sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year and YTD comparisons.*

## October

		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	 2%	\$ 1,458,546	\$ 1,635,286	\$ 1,798,781	\$ 2,405,620	\$ 2,426,428
Oct YoY	 1%	\$ 1,530,450	\$ 1,510,816	\$ 1,588,031	\$ 2,201,023	\$ 2,374,790
		% Chg over Prev Month	-4.7%	8.2%	13.3%	9.3%
		% Chg over Prev Year		12.1%	10.0%	33.7%
Oct YTD	 15%	YTD	\$ 13,656,005	\$ 14,009,191	\$ 14,563,042	\$ 18,833,251
		% Chg over Prev YTD		2.6%	4.0%	29.3%
						15.3%

Note: Current sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in prior month. Evangeline implemented a 1% sales tax increase July 1, 2021.

Data Source: Evangeline Parish Sales Tax Commissioner. November 2022

# EVANGELINE VEHICLE SALES TAX

*Evangeline Parish vehicle sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year and YTD comparisons.*

*October*

October  -32%

Oct YoY  -17%

Oct YTD  2%

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 253,898	\$ 285,082	\$ 341,620	\$ 417,328	\$ 347,043
September	\$ 312,342	\$ 260,235	\$ 319,288	\$ 378,144	\$ 512,920
% Chg over Prev Month	-18.7%	9.5%	7.0%	10.4%	-32.3%
% Chg over Prev Year		12.3%	19.8%	22.2%	-16.8%
YTD	\$ 2,660,324	\$ 2,753,193	\$ 2,936,469	\$ 3,635,000	\$ 3,706,908
% Chg over Prev YTD		3.5%	6.7%	23.8%	2.0%

Note: Current sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in prior month. Evangeline implemented a 1% sales tax increase July 1, 2021.

Data Source: Evangeline Parish Sales Tax Commissioner. November 2022

# GRANT SALES TAX

*(TR) Grant sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

*(BR) Grant monthly sales tax revenue from 2020 to present.*

October   
16%

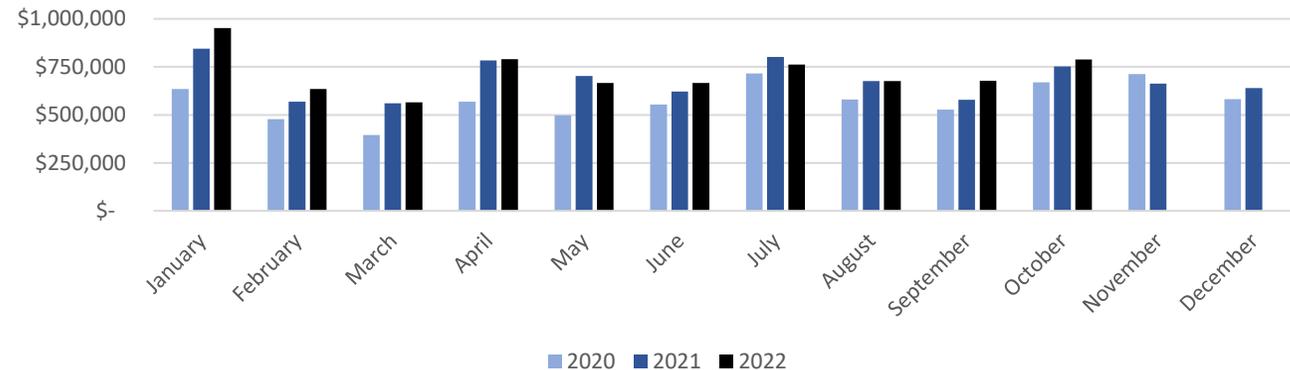
Oct YoY   
5%

Oct YTD   
4%

## October

	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 579,578	\$ 670,142	\$ 751,924	\$ 787,914
September	\$ 542,063	\$ 527,749	\$ 577,932	\$ 678,482
% Chg over Prev Month	6.9%	27.0%	30.1%	16.1%
% Chg over Prev Year		15.6%	12.2%	4.8%
YTD	\$ 5,011,682	\$ 5,624,883	\$ 6,890,642	\$ 7,178,236
% Chg over Prev YTD		12.2%	22.5%	4.2%

Grant Parish Sales Tax Revenue  
2020-2022



Note: October sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in September.

Data Source: Grant Parish Sheriff's Office, November 2022.

# LA SALLE SALES TAX

*La Salle Parish total sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

## October

		2019	2020	2021	2022
October	 6%	\$ 928,034	\$ 912,346	\$ 1,023,669	\$ 1,205,345
September		\$ 894,054	\$ 801,110	\$ 1,027,773	\$ 1,136,671
% Chg over Prev Month		3.8%	13.9%	-0.4%	6.0%
Oct YoY	 18%		-1.7%	12.2%	17.7%
YTD		\$ 9,015,675	\$ 8,707,019	\$ 10,358,868	\$ 11,395,422
Oct YTD	 10%		-23.6%	19.0%	10.0%

Note: Current month sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in the previous month.

Data Source: La Salle Parish Tax Administrator, November 2022

# NATCHITOCHESES SALES TAX

*(TR) Natchitoches sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

*(BR) Natchitoches monthly sales tax revenue from 2020 to present.*

*October*

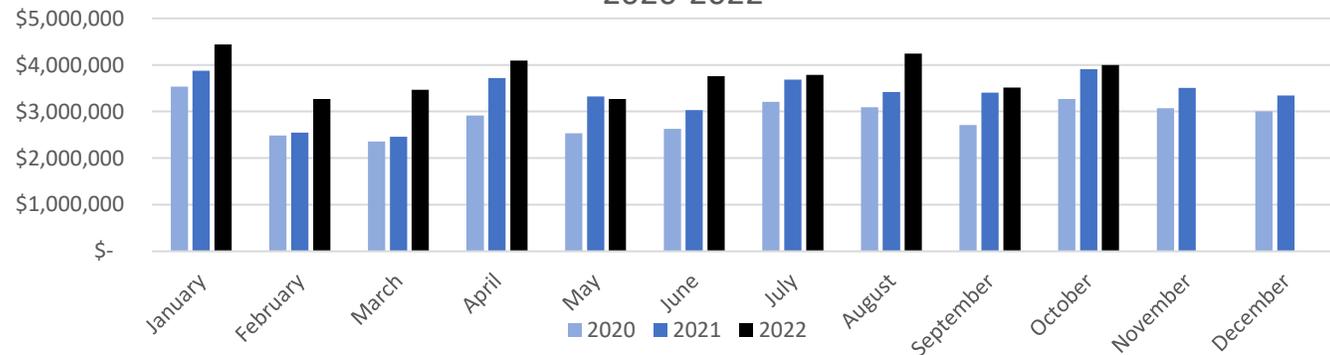
	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 3,040,395	\$ 3,264,364	\$ 3,908,649	\$ 3,993,816
September	\$ 2,946,119	\$ 2,710,018	\$ 3,401,214	\$ 3,515,543
% Chg over Prev Month	3.2%	20.5%	14.9%	13.6%
% Chg over Prev Year		7.4%	19.7%	2.2%
YTD	\$ 27,353,973	\$ 28,715,981	\$ 33,350,261	\$37,829,946
% Chg over Prev YTD		5.0%	16.1%	13.4%

October   
14%

Oct YoY   
2%

Oct YTD   
13%

Natchitoches Parish Sales Tax Revenue  
2020-2022



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

Data Source: Natchitoches Parish Tax Commission, November 2022.

# NATCHITOCHESES VEHICLE SALES TAX

*(TR) Natchitoches vehicle sales tax revenue collected in September with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

*(BR) Natchitoches monthly vehicle sales tax revenue from 2020 to present.*

*September\**

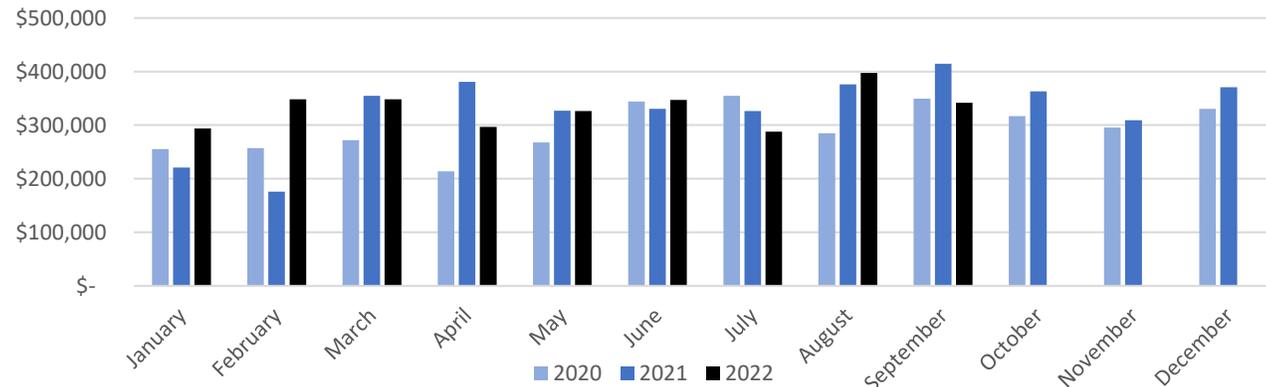
	2019	2020	2021	2022
September	\$ 235,448	\$ 349,719	\$ 414,538	\$ 341,699
August	\$ 329,778	\$ 284,736	\$ 375,967	\$ 397,393
% Chg over Prev Month	-28.6%	22.8%	10.3%	-14.0%
% Chg over Prev Year		48.5%	76.1%	-2.3%
YTD	\$ 2,569,756	\$ 2,600,105	\$ 2,906,398	\$2,987,959
% Chg over Prev YTD		1.2%	13.1%	14.9%

September  -14%

Sep YoY  -2%

Sep YTD  15%

Natchitoches Vehicle Sales Tax Revenue  
2020-2022



Note: Current sales tax revenue collections reflects sales activity in the prior month. \*October 2022 vehicle sales tax revenue was not available at time of publication.  
Data Source: Natchitoches Parish Tax Commission, November 2022.

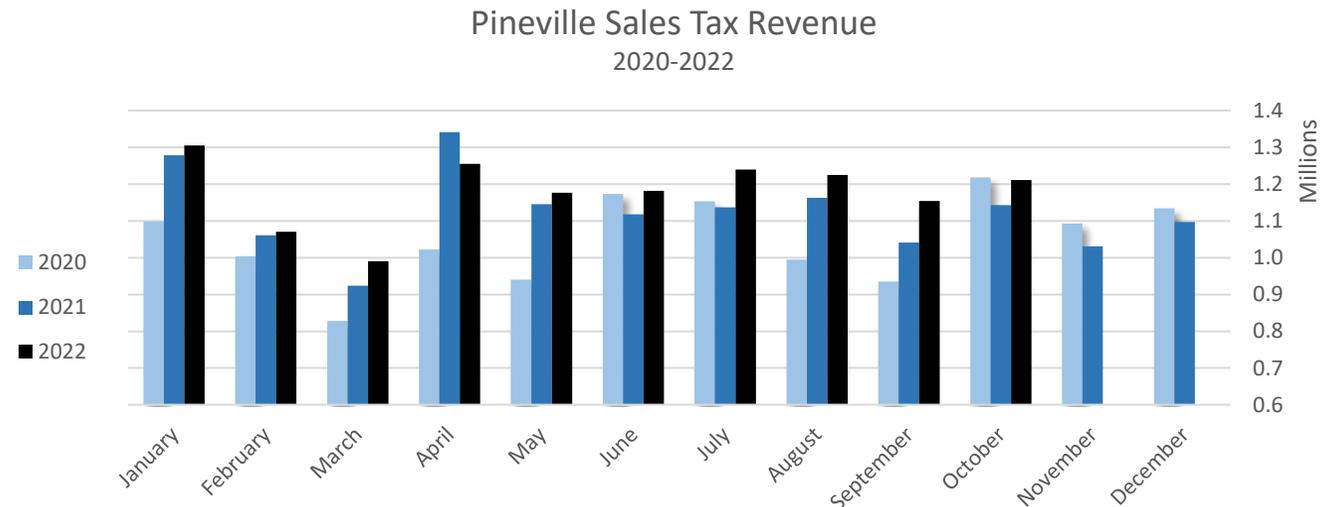
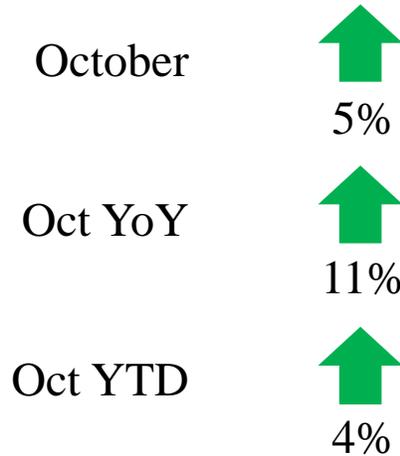
# PINEVILLE SALES TAX

*(TR) Pineville sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

*(BR) Pineville monthly sales tax revenue from 2020 to present.*

*October*

	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 968,213	\$ 1,218,365	\$ 1,092,633	\$ 1,211,085
September	\$ 1,002,333	\$ 935,245	\$ 1,041,133	\$ 1,154,293
% Chg over Prev Month	-3.4%	30.3%	4.9%	4.9%
% Chg over Prev Year		25.8%	-10.3%	10.8%
YTD	\$ 9,032,995	\$ 10,367,784	\$ 11,351,360	\$ 11,809,628
% Chg over Prev YTD		14.8%	9.5%	4.0%

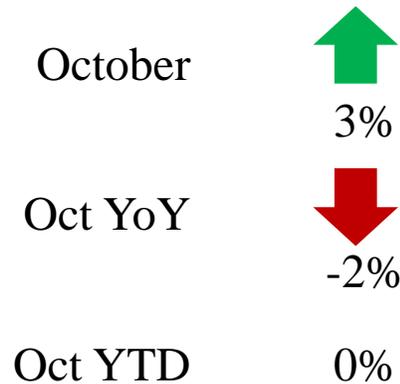


Note: Current month sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in the prior month.  
Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, November 2022.

# RAPIDES SALES TAX

*(TR) Rapides Parish sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

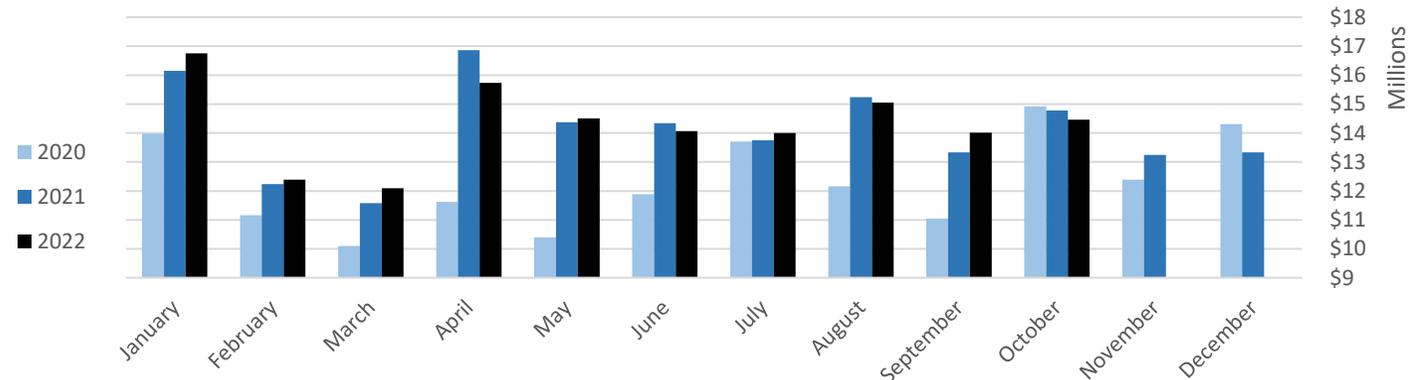
*(BR) Rapides monthly sales tax revenue from 2020 to present.*



## October

	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 11,972,707	\$ 14,925,550	\$ 14,774,022	\$ 14,457,516
September	\$ 11,964,200	\$ 11,042,515	\$ 13,334,237	\$ 14,006,929
% Chg over Prev Month	0.1%	35.2%	10.8%	3.2%
% Chg over Prev Year		24.7%	-1.0%	-2.1%
YTD	\$ 115,034,104	\$ 120,992,659	\$ 142,637,160	\$ 143,040,115
% Chg over Prev YTD		5.2%	17.9%	0.3%

Rapides Parish Total Sales Tax Revenue  
2020-2022



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

Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, November 2022.

# RAPIDES VEHICLE SALES TAX

*Rapides Parish vehicle sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

## October

October  -16%

Oct YoY  -8%

Oct YTD  -10%

	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 1,209,183	\$ 1,470,681	\$ 1,639,003	\$ 1,510,480
September	\$ 1,109,241	\$ 1,138,236	\$ 1,519,978	\$ 1,789,794
% Chg over Prev Month	9.0%	29.2%	7.8%	-15.6%
% Chg over Prev Year		21.6%	11.4%	-7.8%
YTD	\$11,105,700	\$12,551,280	\$16,287,684	\$14,634,874
% Chg over Prev YTD		13.0%	29.8%	-10.1%

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

Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, November 2022.

# ST. LANDRY SALES TAX

*St. Landry Parish sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

## October

October   
6%

Oct YoY   
5%

Oct YTD   
5%

	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 6,060,417	\$ 7,481,386	\$ 7,469,737	\$ 7,865,382
September	\$ 6,130,613	\$ 6,588,567	\$ 7,060,457	\$ 7,400,984
% Chg over Prev Month	-1.1%	13.6%	5.8%	6.3%
% Chg over Prev Year		23.4%	-0.2%	5.3%
YTD	\$ 59,061,875	\$ 64,777,664	\$ 72,118,139	\$ 75,692,884
% Chg over Prev YTD		9.7%	11.3%	5.0%

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

Data Source: Tax revenue data from St. Landry Parish School Board. November 2022

# ST. LANDRY VEHICLE SALES TAX

*St. Landry Parish vehicle sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

## October

October   
-5%

Oct YoY   
21%

Oct YTD   
-1%

	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 863,699	\$ 936,785	\$ 894,956	\$ 1,080,380
September	\$ 793,167	\$ 782,075	\$ 1,040,025	\$ 1,131,930
% Chg over Prev Month	8.9%	19.8%	-13.9%	-4.6%
% Chg over Prev Year		8.5%	-4.5%	20.7%
YTD	\$ 8,285,595	\$ 8,349,933	\$10,043,024	\$ 9,969,482
% Chg over Prev YTD		0.8%	20.3%	-0.7%

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

Data Source: Tax revenue data from St. Landry Parish School Board. November 2022

# VERNON SALES TAX

*Vernon Parish sales tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

## October

October   
1%

Oct YoY   
3%

Oct YTD   
5%

	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 2,719,073	\$ 2,677,874	\$ 2,883,802	\$ 2,978,234
September	\$ 2,124,280	\$ 2,101,531	\$ 3,114,964	\$ 2,962,081
% Chg over Prev Month	28.0%	27.4%	-7.4%	0.5%
% Chg over Prev Year		-1.5%	7.7%	3.3%
YTD	\$20,682,133	\$23,251,593	\$27,726,787	\$29,076,070
% Chg over Prev YTD		12.4%	19.2%	4.9%

# VERNON VEHICLE SALES TAX

*Vernon Parish vehicle tax revenue collected in October with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

## October

October   
201%

Oct YoY   
6%

Oct YTD   
-9%

	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 454,135	\$ 378,899	\$ 490,581	\$ 522,026
September	\$ 438,878	\$ 449,611	\$ 540,040	\$ 173,307
% Chg over Prev Month	3.5%	-15.7%	-9.2%	201.2%
% Chg over Prev Year		-16.6%	29.5%	6.4%
YTD	\$ 4,236,079	\$ 4,230,842	\$ 5,467,472	\$ 4,951,915
% Chg over Prev YTD		-0.1%	29.2%	-9.4%

# REMOTE SELLERS TAX REVENUE BY PARISH

*Remote seller tax revenue by parish with month-over-month, year-over-year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

	<b>Oct-22</b>	<b>Sep-22</b>	<b>Oct-21</b>	<b>M/M</b>	<b>Y/Y</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Allen	\$ 142,339	\$ 88,940	\$ 60,730	60%	134%	21.0%
Avoyelles	\$ 233,147	\$ 108,371	\$ 97,809	115%	138%	24.7%
Catahoula	\$ 72,987	\$ 37,804	\$ 31,144	93%	134%	17.9%
Concordia	\$ 124,716	\$ 50,233	\$ 45,205	148%	176%	29.0%
Evangeline	\$ 269,129	\$ 123,045	\$ 107,400	119%	151%	42.7%
Grant	\$ 152,406	\$ 54,158	\$ 46,734	181%	226%	29.0%
LaSalle	\$ 79,644	\$ 45,103	\$ 35,469	77%	125%	27.3%
Natchitoches	\$ 246,518	\$ 134,441	\$ 110,574	83%	123%	36.1%
Rapides	\$ 1,314,574	\$ 489,992	\$ 389,459	168%	238%	35.5%
St Landry	\$ 590,119	\$ 296,636	\$ 236,670	99%	149%	26.4%
Vernon	\$ 301,615	\$ 208,543	\$ 150,719	45%	100%	17.6%
<b>Total (Cenla)</b>	<b>\$ 3,527,194</b>	<b>\$ 1,637,266</b>	<b>\$ 1,311,913</b>	<b>115%</b>	<b>169%</b>	<b>29.6%</b>

✓ Total online sales tax revenue in Cenla in October 2022 is up 115% from a month earlier and up 169% from October 2021.

✓ YTD online sales tax revenue are up 29% in central Louisiana.

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

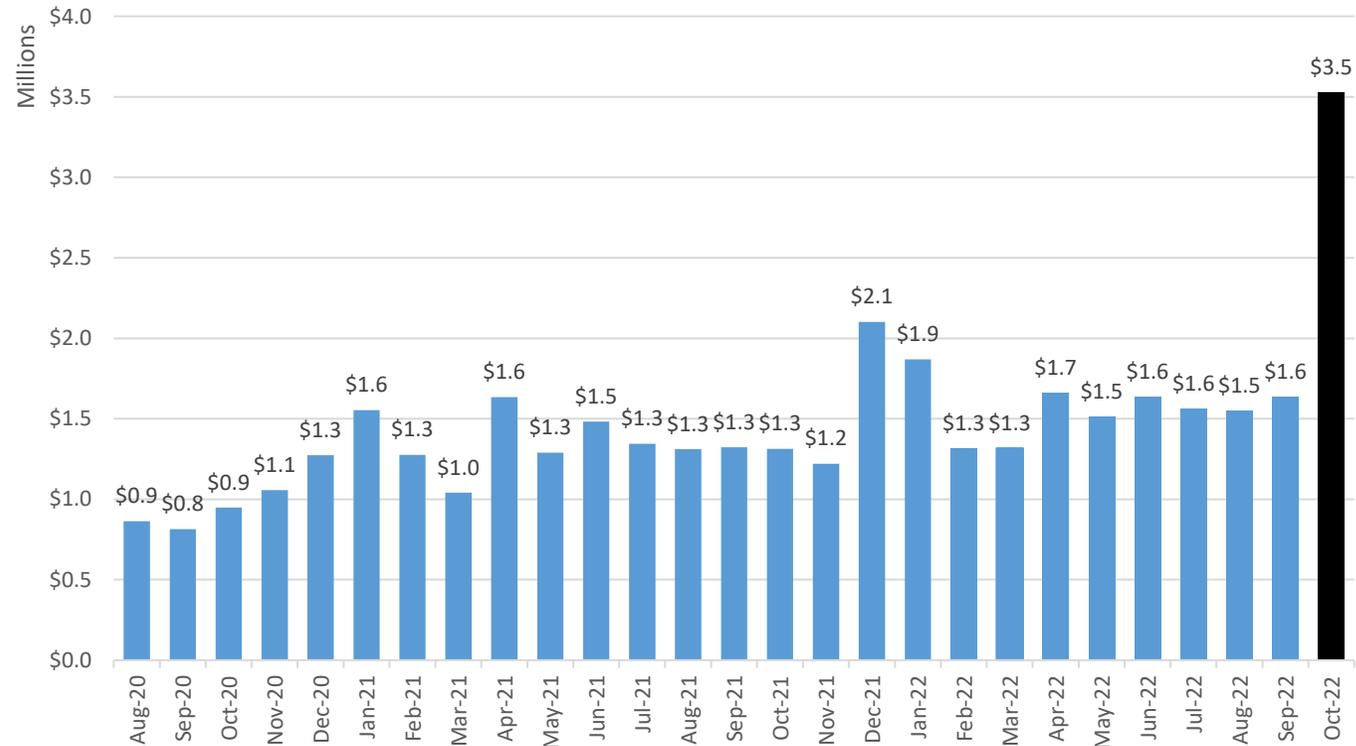
Data Source: Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. August 2020 – November 2022

# 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.*

Remote Sellers Sales Tax Collection in Cenla  
August 2020 - October 2022

- ✓ The first 10 months of 2022 saw \$17.6 million in online sales taxes collected in Cenla compared to \$13.6 million in 2021, a 29.6% increase.
- ✓ Since August 2020 when remote sellers tax revenue collection started, \$39.4 million in sales tax revenue have been collected from online sales in central Louisiana.

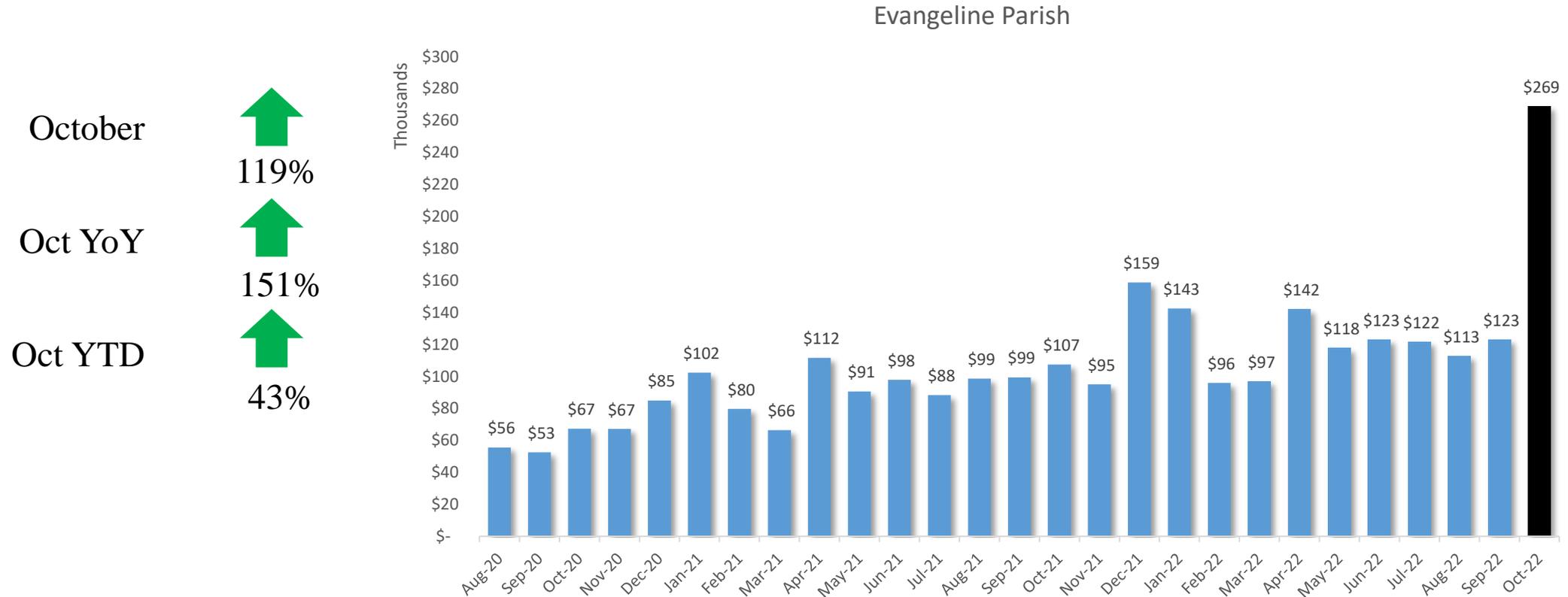


Note: Sales tax revenue collected in the current month reflects sales activity in the prior month.

Data Source: Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. August 2020 – November 2022

# REMOTE SELLERS TAX REVENUE IN EVANGELINE

*Remote sellers tax revenue from online sales in Evangeline Parish from August 2020 – October 2022.*



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

Data Source: Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. August 2020 – November 2022

# REMOTE SELLERS TAX REVENUE IN NATCHITOCHESES

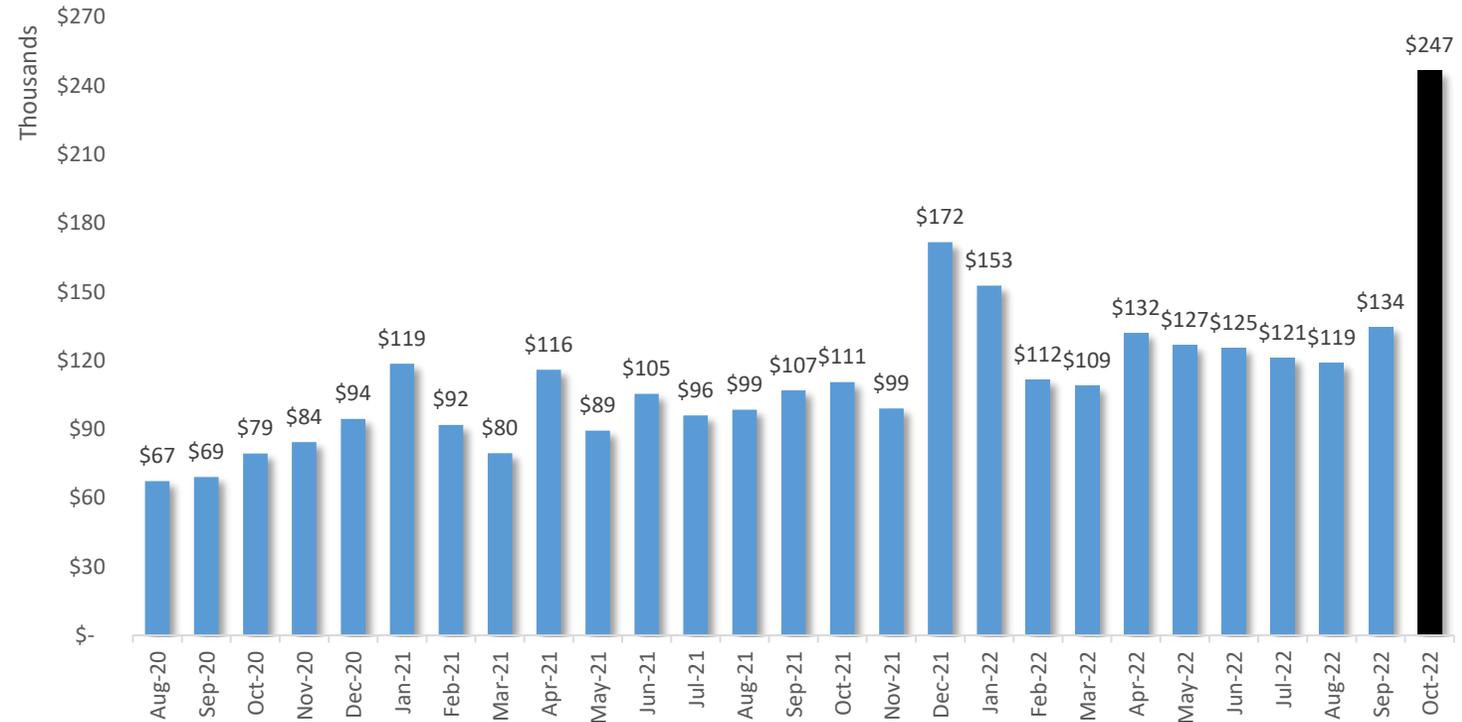
*Remote sellers tax revenue from online sales in Natchitoches Parish from August 2020 – October 2022.*

Natchitoches Parish  
August 2020 - October 2022

October   
83%

Oct YoY   
123%

Oct YTD   
36%



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

Data Source: Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. August 2020 – November 2022

# REMOTE SELLERS TAX REVENUE IN RAPIDES

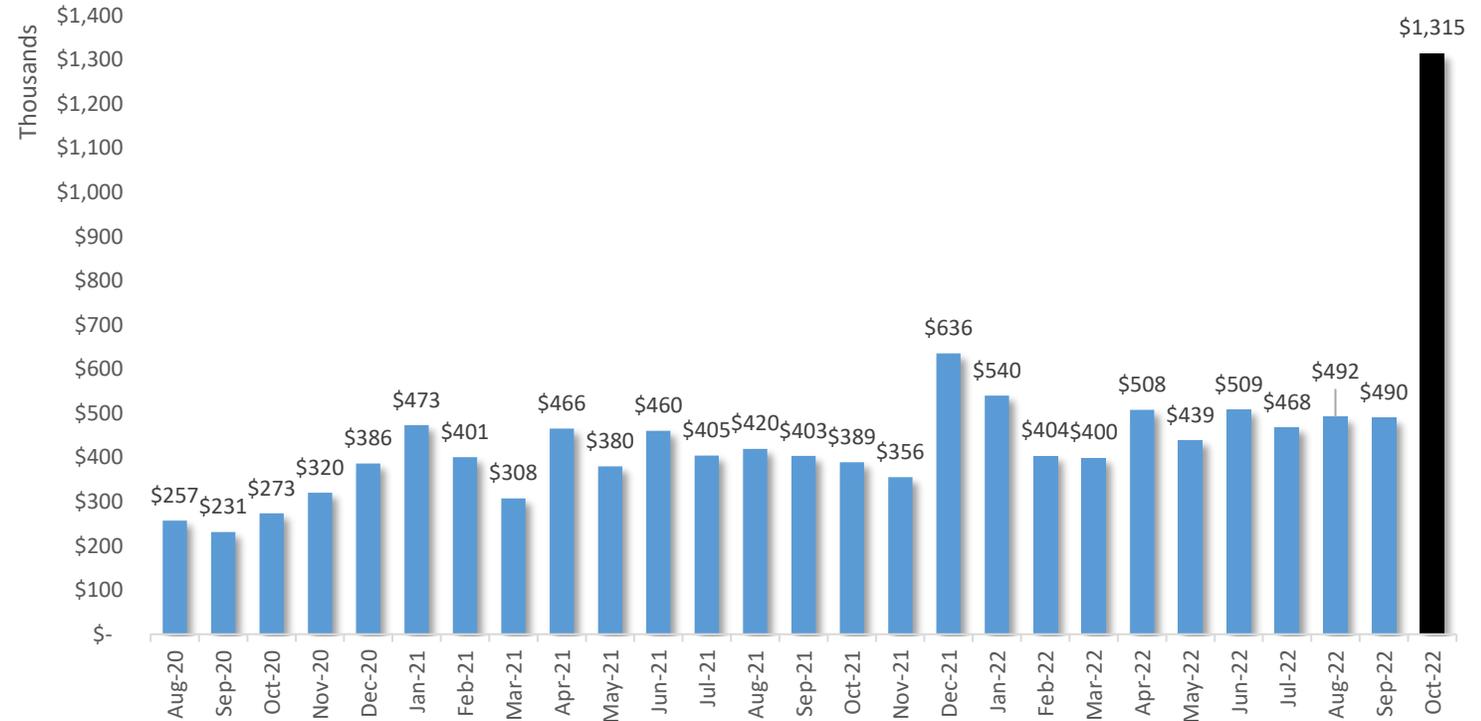
*Remote sellers tax revenue from online sales in Rapides Parish from August 2020 – October 2022.*

Rapides Parish  
August 2020 - October 2022

October   
168%

Oct YoY   
238%

Oct YTD   
36%



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

Data Source: Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. August 2020 – November 2022

# Permits & Housing

Central Louisiana Economic Dashboard

# CENLA PERMIT VALUATIONS

*This table shows the valuation of permits issued in October for select jurisdictions of Rapides Area Planning Commission, the City of Alexandria, the City of Natchitoches, and Natchitoches Parish with month-to-month, year-to-year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

*October*

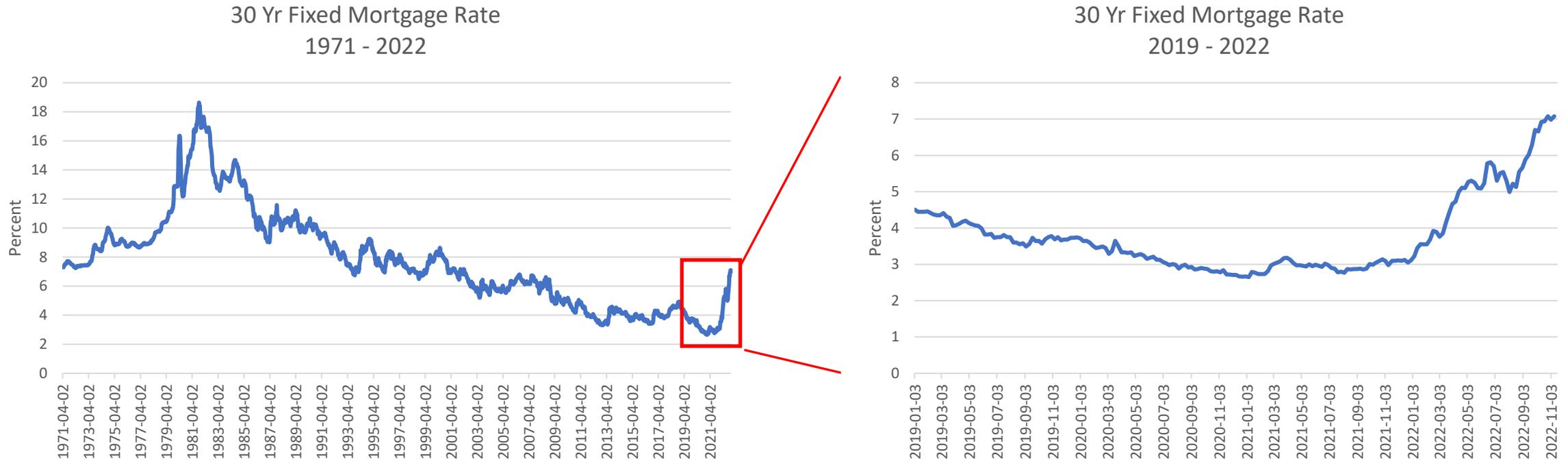
		<b>Oct-22</b>	<b>Sep-22</b>	<b>Oct-21</b>	<b>M/M</b>	<b>Y/Y</b>	<b>YTD</b>
October	 9%	n/a	\$ 88,940	\$ 60,730			
		n/a	\$ 108,371	\$ 97,809			
		\$ 5,392,776	\$ 4,914,175	\$ 9,813,598	10%	-45%	27.0%
Oct YoY	 -6%	\$ 4,457,608	\$ 2,820,000	\$ 2,155,000	58%	107%	-16.6%
		\$ 4,434,435	\$ 1,410,989	\$ 166,650	214%	2561%	-30.9%
		\$ 437,796	\$ 2,543,927	\$ 3,325,105	-83%	-87%	25.2%
		\$ 1,965,000	\$ 669,000	\$ 1,353,400	194%	45%	22.4%
Oct YTD	n/a	\$ 4,103,818	\$ 6,742,592	\$ 5,316,194	-39%	-23%	-86.5%
		\$20,791,433	\$19,100,683	\$22,129,947	9%	-6%	

Note: n/a = not available. Data was not provided by the City of Alexandria for October 2022.

Data Source: Rapides Area Planning Commission, City of Alexandria and Natchitoches, Natchitoches Parish, November 2022.

# 30 YEAR FIXED MORTGAGE RATE

*30-Year Fixed Rate Mortgage Average in the United States from 1971 – 2022 and from 2019 – 2022.*

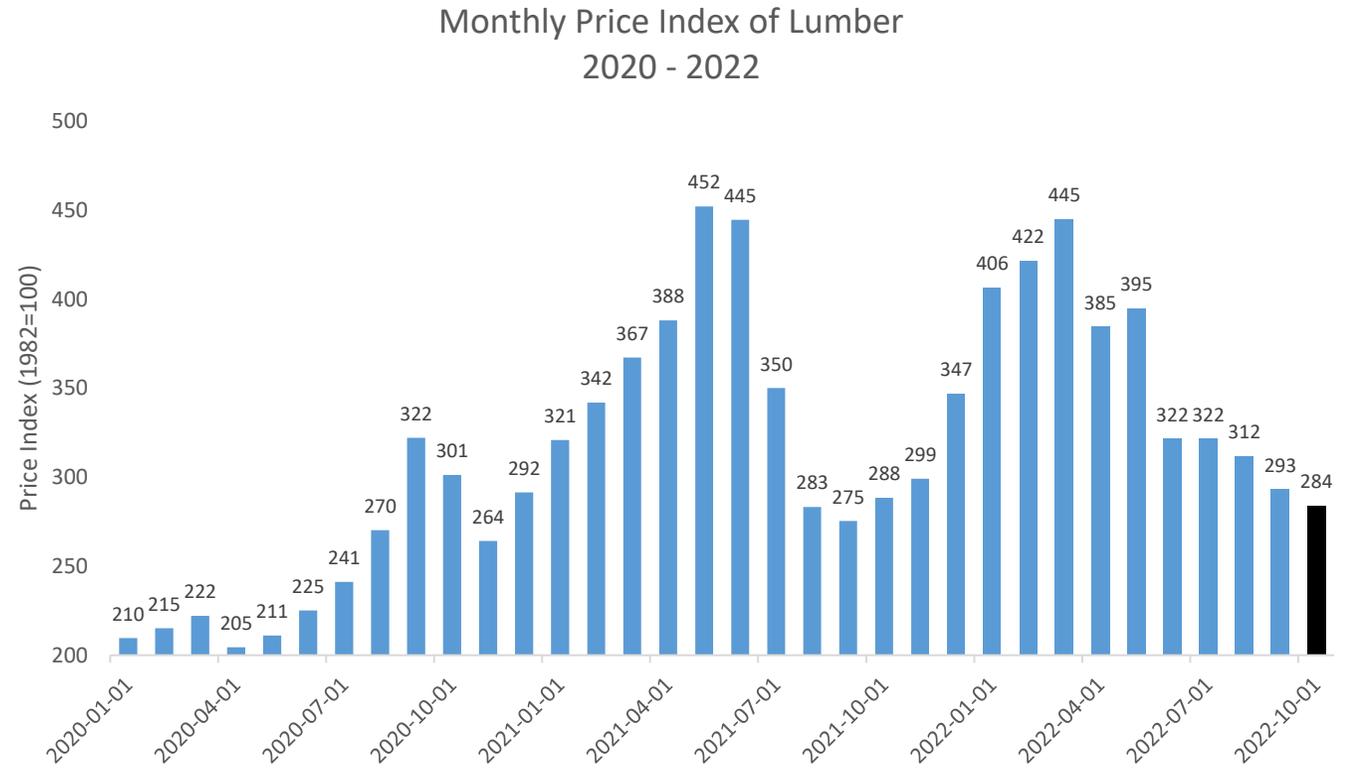


- 30 year fixed mortgage rates this year peaked the week of November 10 at 7.08%.

# LUMBER PRICES

*The chart represents the Lumber Price Index in the U.S. from January 2020 – October 2022.*

- In October 2022, the US Lumber Price Index fell -3% to 284 from 293 in September.
- Currently, the Lumber Index stands -2% below a year ago.



# ACTIVE LISTINGS BY MSA

*The count of active single-family and condo/townhome listings from January 2019- October 2022 for Alexandria, Fort Polk (Leesville), Natchitoches, and Opelousas.*

## Change from Year Ago

Alexandria



35%

Leesville



18%

Natchitoches

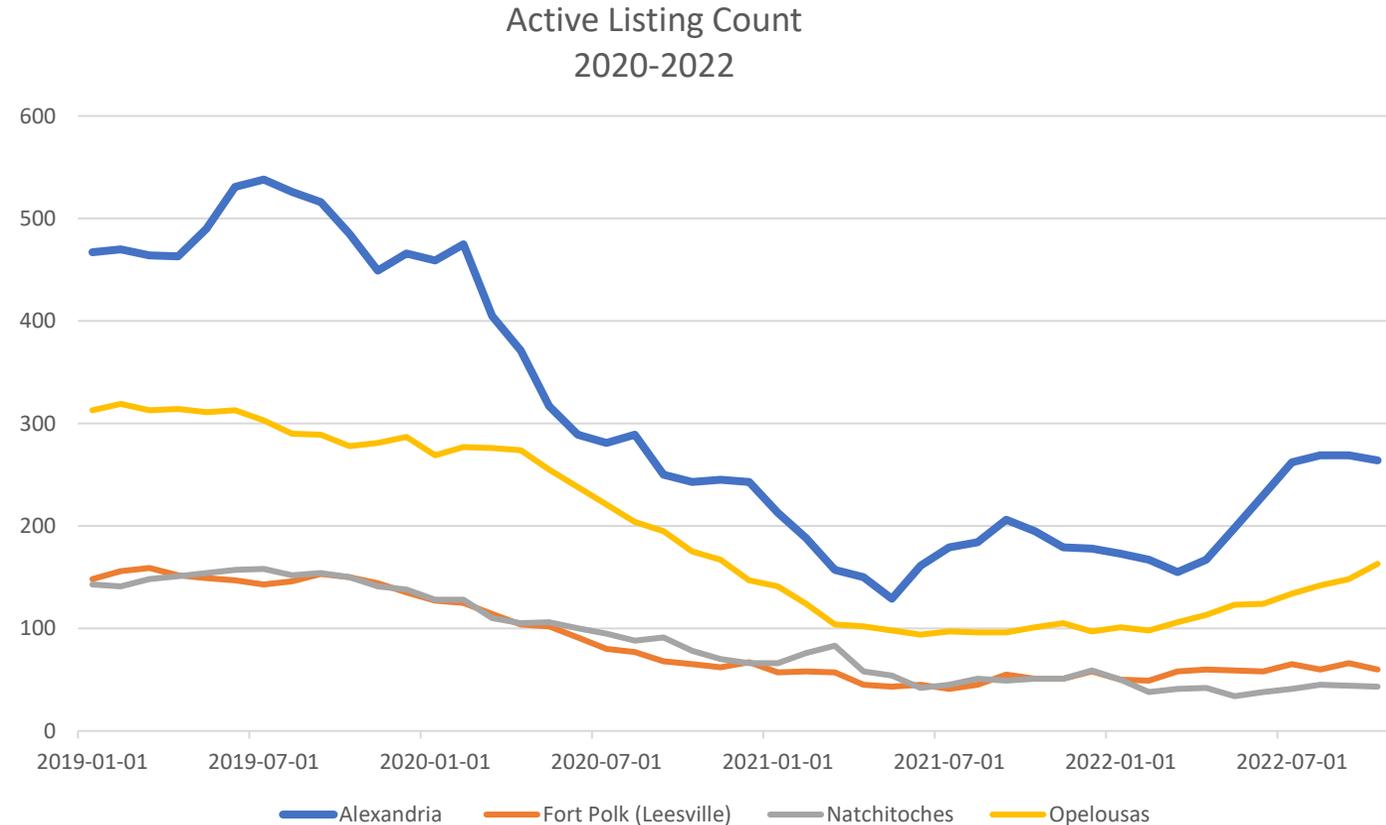


-16%

Opelousas



61%



# MEDIAN DAYS ON MARKET BY MSA

*The median number of days property listings spend on the market from January 2019 – October 2022 for Alexandria, Fort Polk (Leesville), Natchitoches, and Opelousas.*

## Change from Year Ago

Alexandria



-4%

Leesville



-4%

Natchitoches

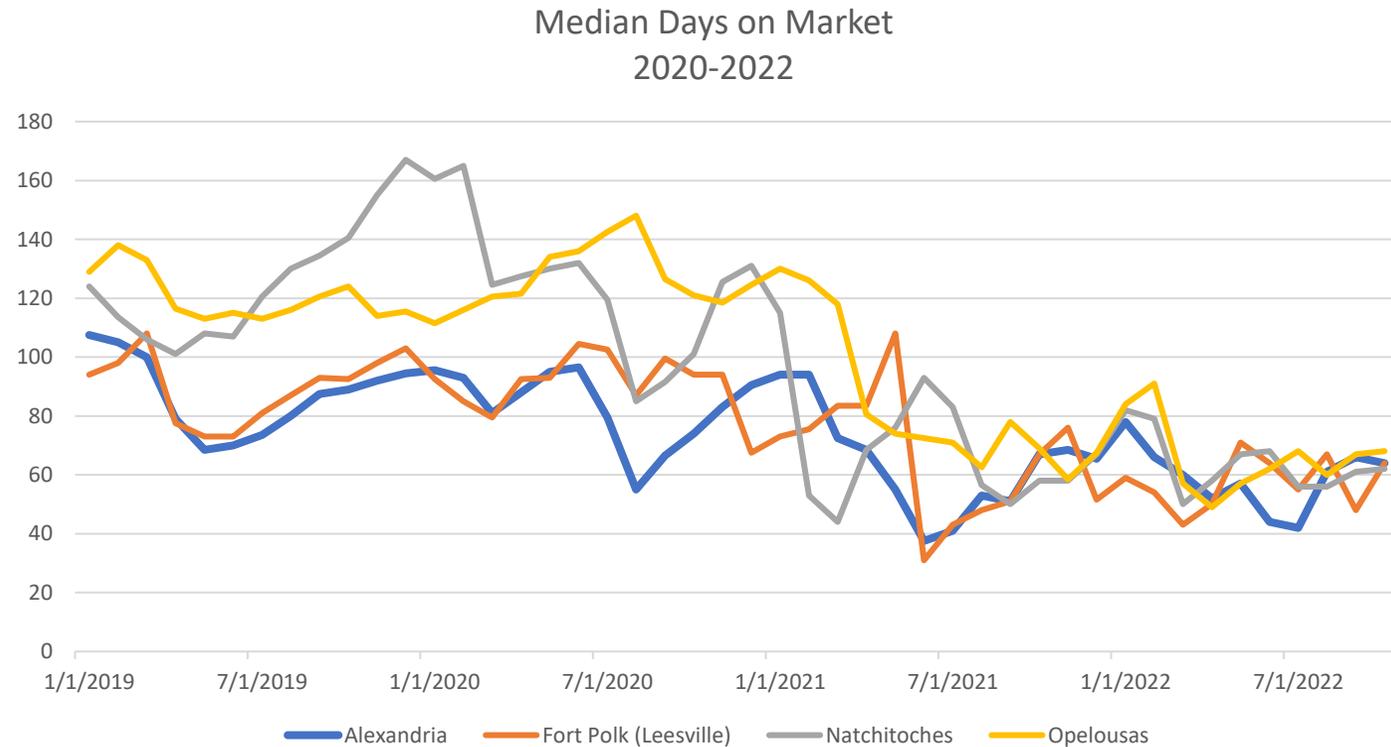


7%

Opelousas



-1%



# MEDIAN LISTING PRICE BY MSA

*The median listing price of houses from January 2019 - October 2022 for Alexandria, Fort Polk (Leesville), Natchitoches, and Opelousas.*

## Change from Year Ago

Alexandria



29%

Leesville



33%

Natchitoches

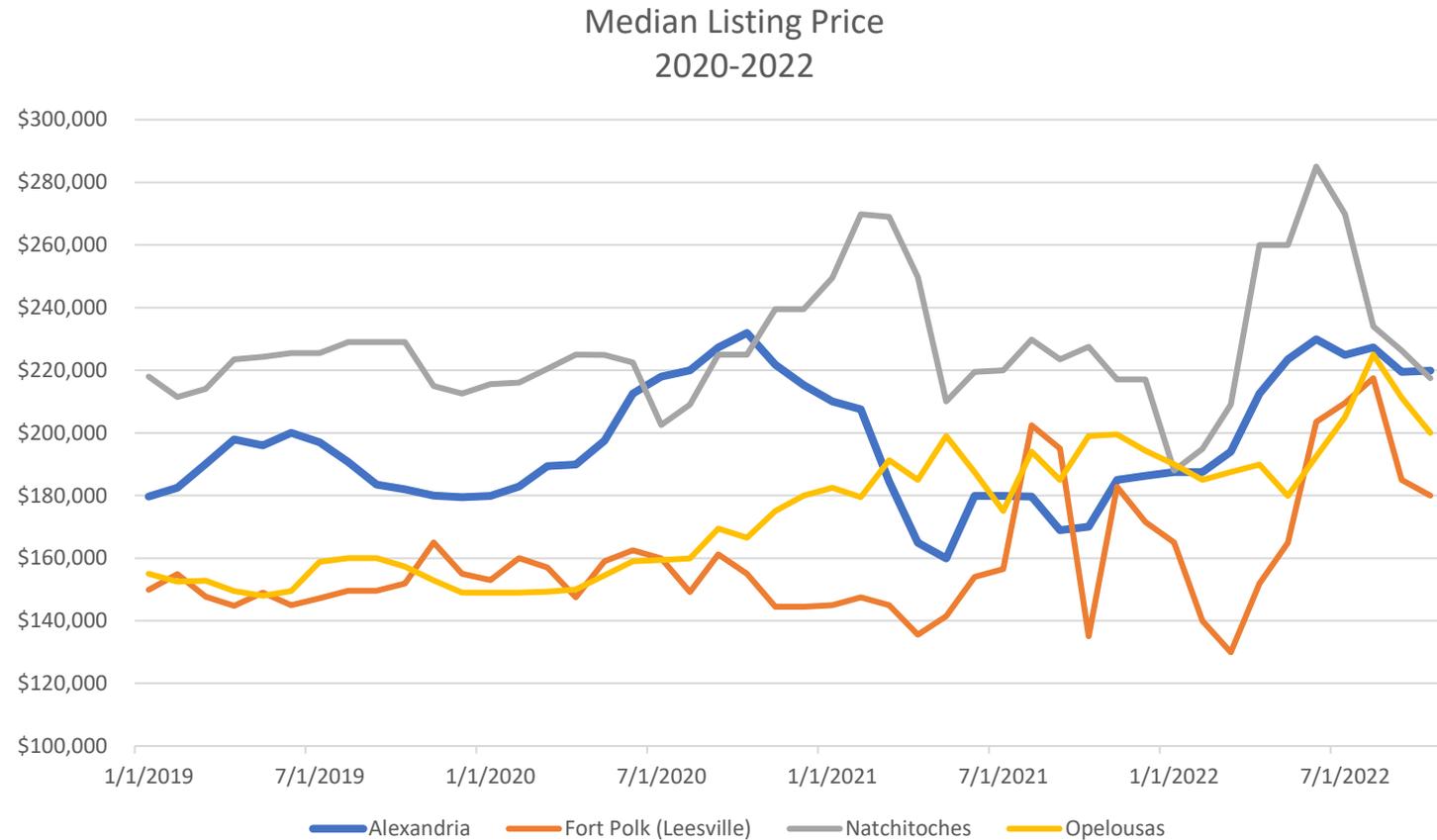


-4%

Opelousas



1%



# AVERAGE LISTING PRICE BY MSA

The average listing price of houses from January 2019-October 2022 for Alexandria, Fort Polk (Leesville), Natchitoches, and Opelousas.

## Change from Year Ago

Alexandria



19%

Leesville



8%

Natchitoches

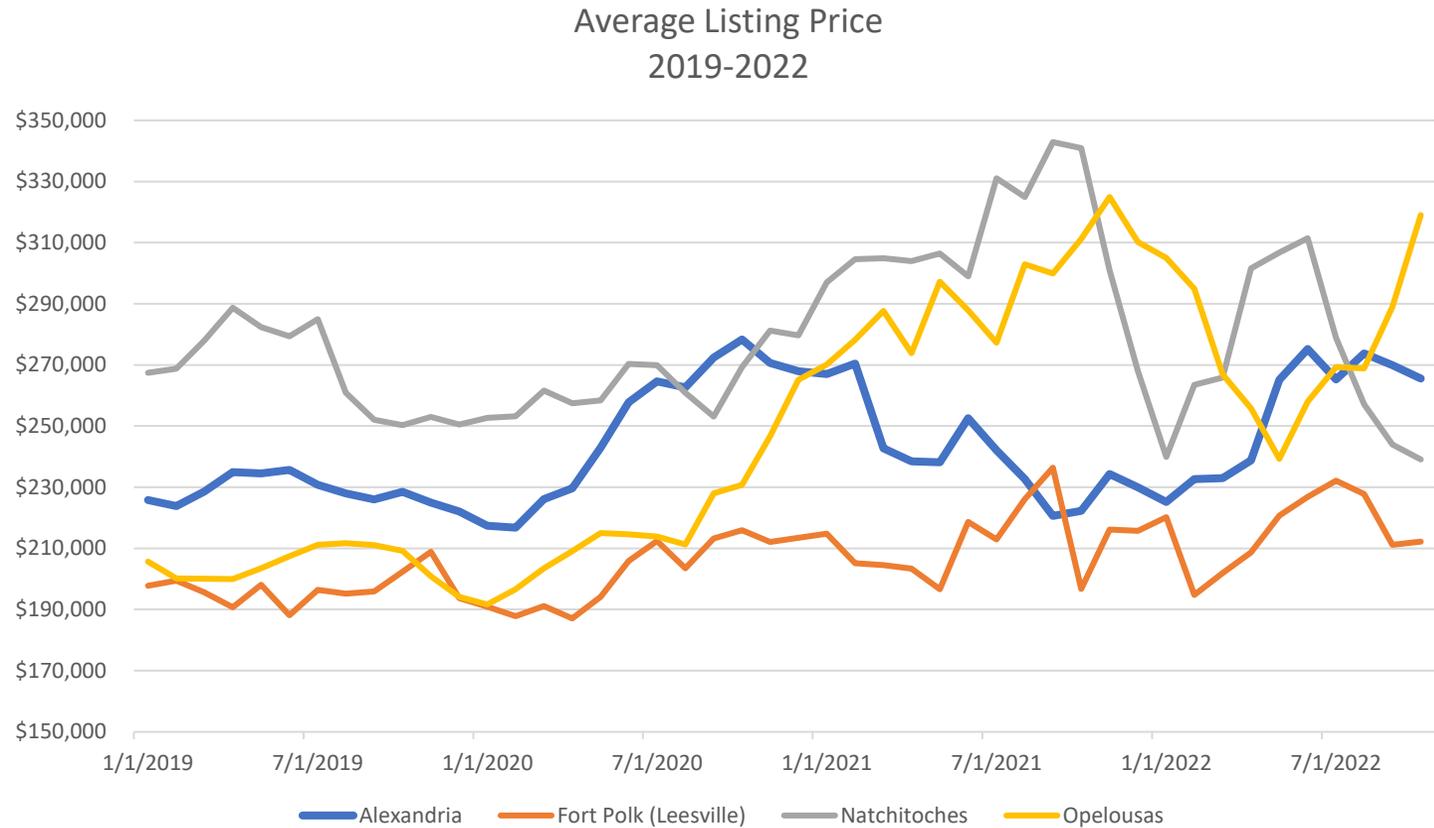


-30%

Opelousas



2%



# Travel

Central Louisiana Economic Dashboard

# AVOYELLES HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

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

## October

		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	 -33%	\$ 10,427	\$ 11,191	\$ 16,075	\$ 15,691	\$ 8,199
September		\$ 12,242	\$ 12,542	\$ 14,134	\$ 12,627	\$ 12,251
% Chg over Prev Month		-14.8%	-10.8%	13.7%	24.3%	-33.1%
Oct YoY	 -48%		7.3%	43.6%	-2.4%	-47.7%
YTD		\$ 112,753	\$ 114,462	\$ 100,482	\$ 123,887	\$ 113,680
Oct YTD	 -8%		1.5%	-12.2%	23.3%	-8.2%

Note: Current tax revenue reflects hotel occupancy activity in the prior month. Hotel occupancy tax revenue is used as a proxy for hotel occupancy rate.

Data Source: Avoyelles Parish School Board. November 2022.

# NATCHITOCHESES HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

*Natchitoches Parish hotel occupancy tax revenue for October with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.*

*October*

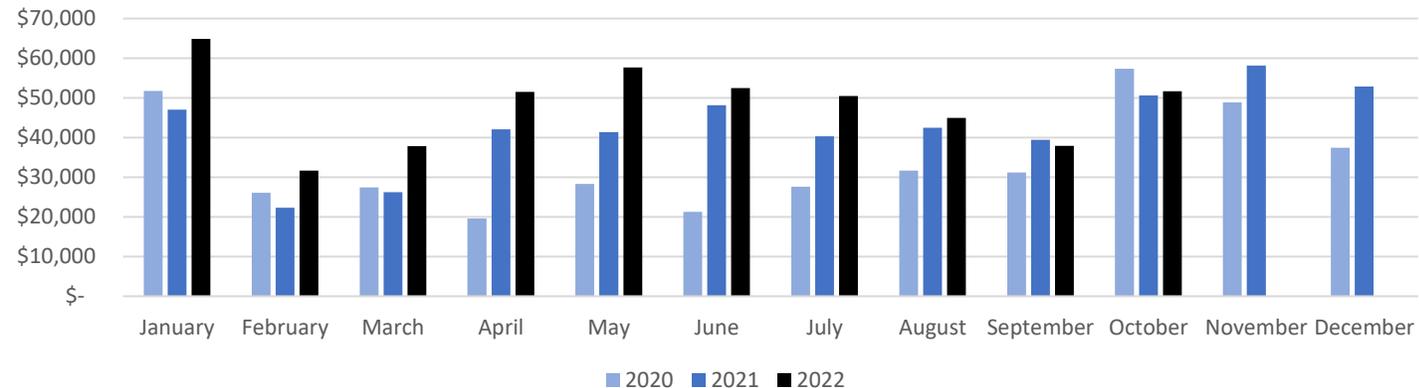
	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 34,813	\$ 57,338	\$ 50,611	\$ 51,719
September	\$ 32,883	\$ 31,156	\$ 39,402	\$ 37,905
% Chg over Prev Month	5.9%	84.0%	28.4%	36.4%
% Chg over Prev Year		64.7%	-11.7%	2.2%
YTD	\$ 353,891	\$ 322,205	\$ 400,123	\$ 481,174
% Chg over Prev YTD		-9.0%	24.2%	20.3%

October   
36%

Oct YoY   
2%

Oct YTD   
20%

Natchitoches Hotel Sales Tax Revenue  
2020-2022



Note: Current tax revenue reflects hotel occupancy activity in the prior month. Hotel occupancy tax revenue is used as a proxy for hotel occupancy rate.

Data Source: Natchitoches Parish Tax Administrator, November 2022.

# RAPIDES HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

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

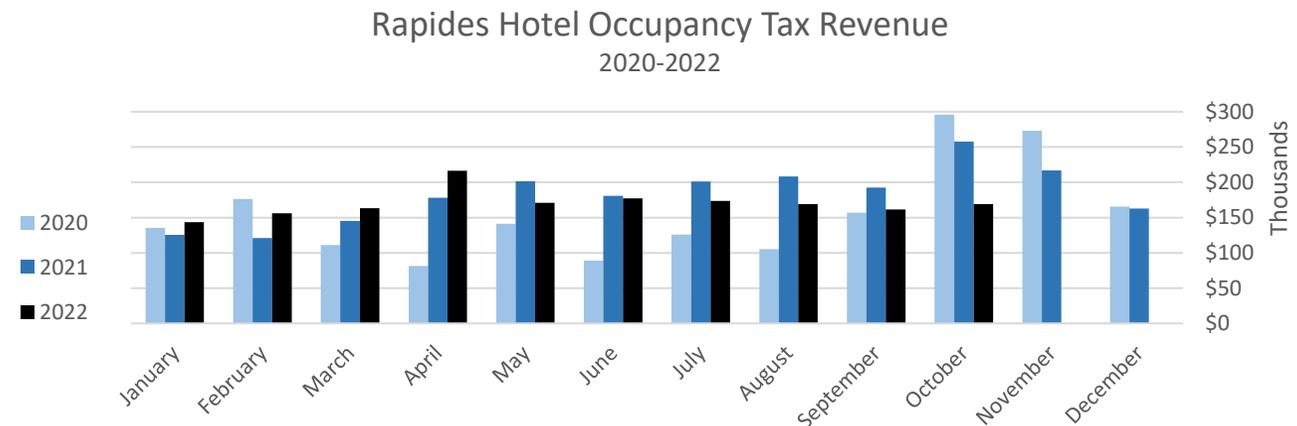
*October*

October   
5%

Oct YoY   
-34%

Oct YTD   
-6%

	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 146,583	\$ 296,043	\$ 257,765	\$ 169,025
September	\$ 148,201	\$ 157,003	\$ 192,493	\$ 161,702
% Chg over Prev Month	-1.1%	88.6%	33.9%	4.5%
% Chg over Prev Year		102.0%	-12.9%	-34.4%
YTD	\$ 1,619,044	\$1,418,410	\$1,812,012	\$1,701,410
% Chg over Prev YTD		-12.4%	27.7%	-6.1%



Note: Current tax revenue reflects hotel occupancy activity in the prior month. Hotel occupancy tax revenue is used as a proxy for hotel occupancy rate.

Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, November 2022.

# VERNON HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

*Vernon Parish hotel, motel, and RV occupancy tax revenue for October with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.*

## *October*

October   
-11%

Oct YoY   
-24%

Oct YTD   
-4%

	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	\$ 25,932	\$ 45,473	\$ 34,083	\$ 25,903
September	\$ 26,662	\$ 23,012	\$ 24,771	\$ 29,003
% Chg over Prev Month	-2.7%	97.6%	37.6%	-10.7%
% Chg over Prev Year		75.4%	-25.0%	-24.0%
YTD	\$ 224,886	\$ 200,270	\$ 281,427	\$ 270,144
% Chg over Prev YTD		-10.9%	40.5%	-4.0%

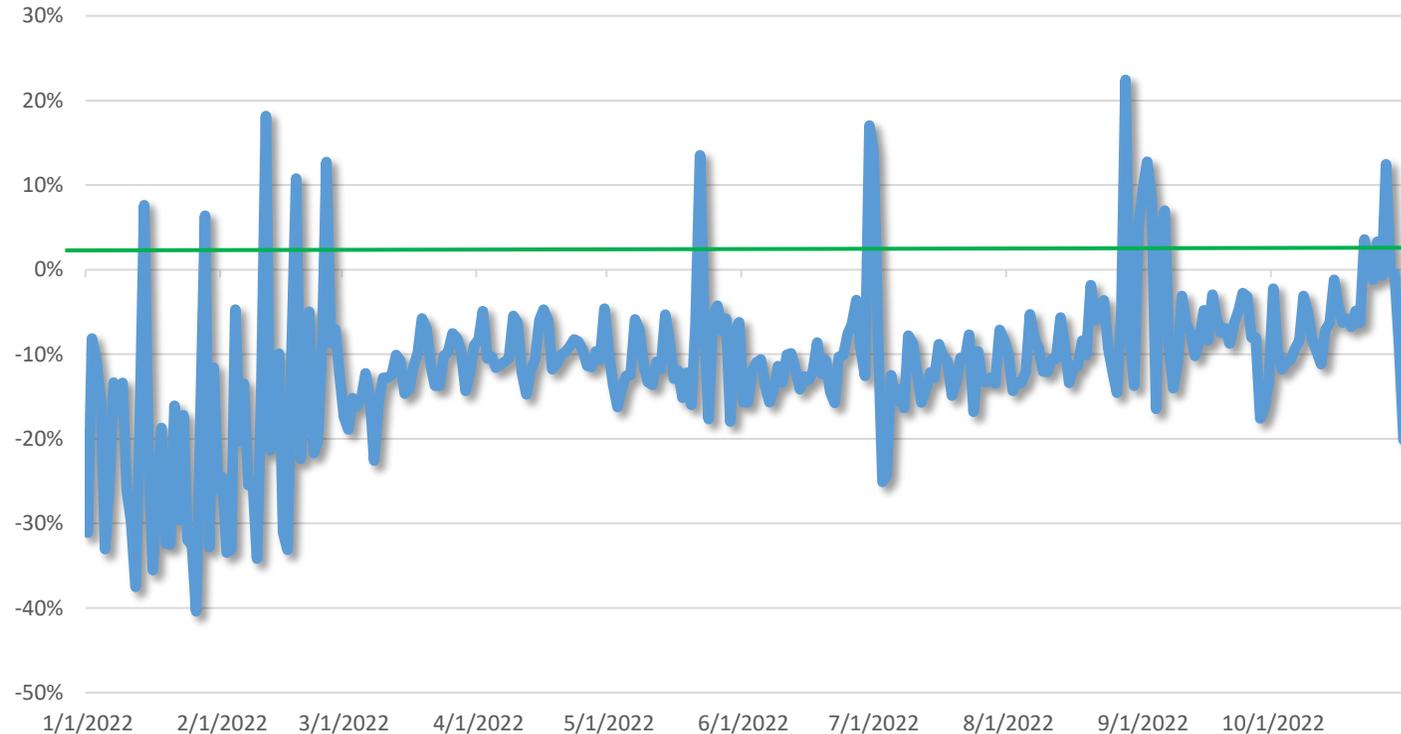
Note: Current tax revenue collection reflects hotel occupancy activity in the prior month. Hotel occupancy tax revenue is used as a proxy for hotel occupancy rate.  
Data Source: Vernon Parish Sales Tax Department. November 2022.

# AIR TRAVELER STATS

*Nationwide daily percentage of passengers passing through current TSA checkpoints in 2022 expressed as a percentage of traffic in 2019.*

- Nationally, air passenger traffic in October 2022 increased 3.5% from the previous month.
- In October, air passenger traffic remained -6% below the October 2019 level.
- U.S. air passenger traffic YTD in 2022 was down -11% from 2019.

U.S. Airport Passenger Throughput Traffic  
in 2022 as a Percent of Traffic from 2019



# GULF COAST RETAIL GASOLINE PRICE

*Weekly retail price of gasoline in the Gulf Coast region for all formulations from 2020 - 2022.*

October



3%

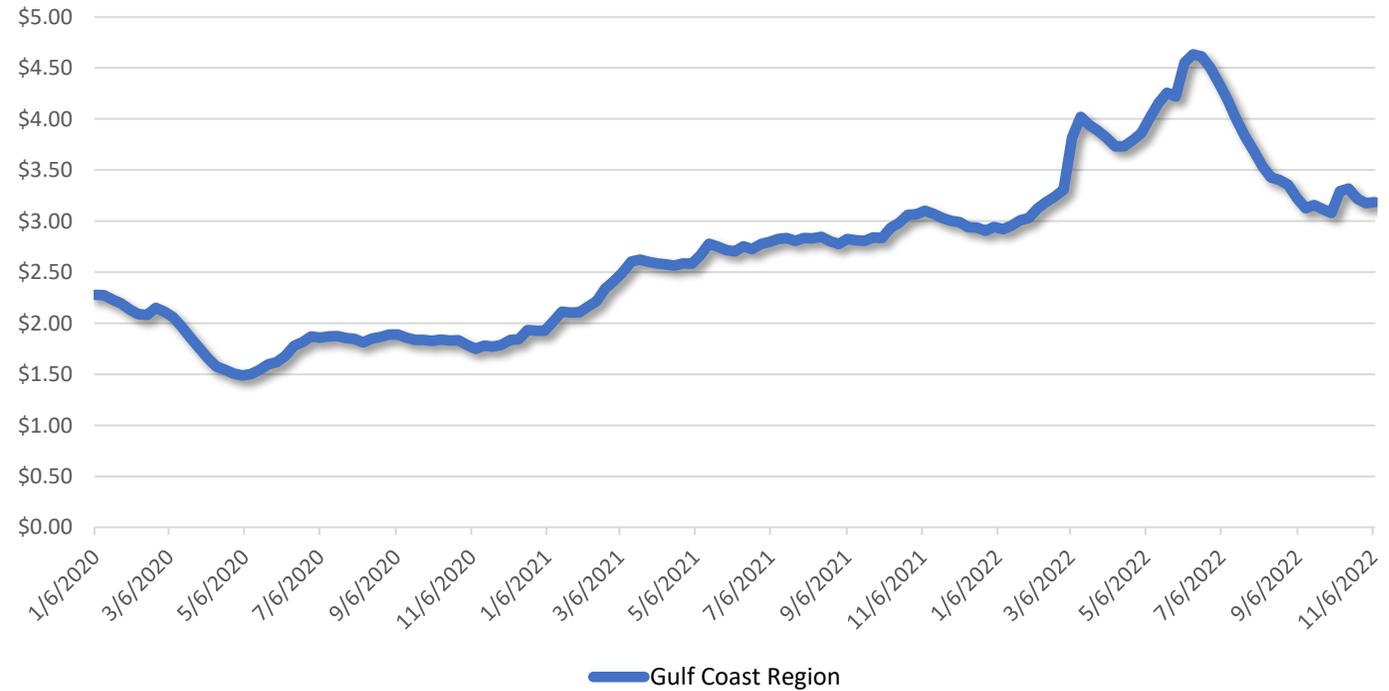
Oct YoY



9%

- Gasoline peaked on June 13 at \$4.63 a gallon. As of November 7, the price was \$3.18.
- October 2022 average retail gasoline price in Gulf Coast region was \$3.22/gal., up 8 cents from last month and 9% higher than a year ago.

Weekly Retail Gasoline Price All Formulations in Gulf Coast Region 2020-2022



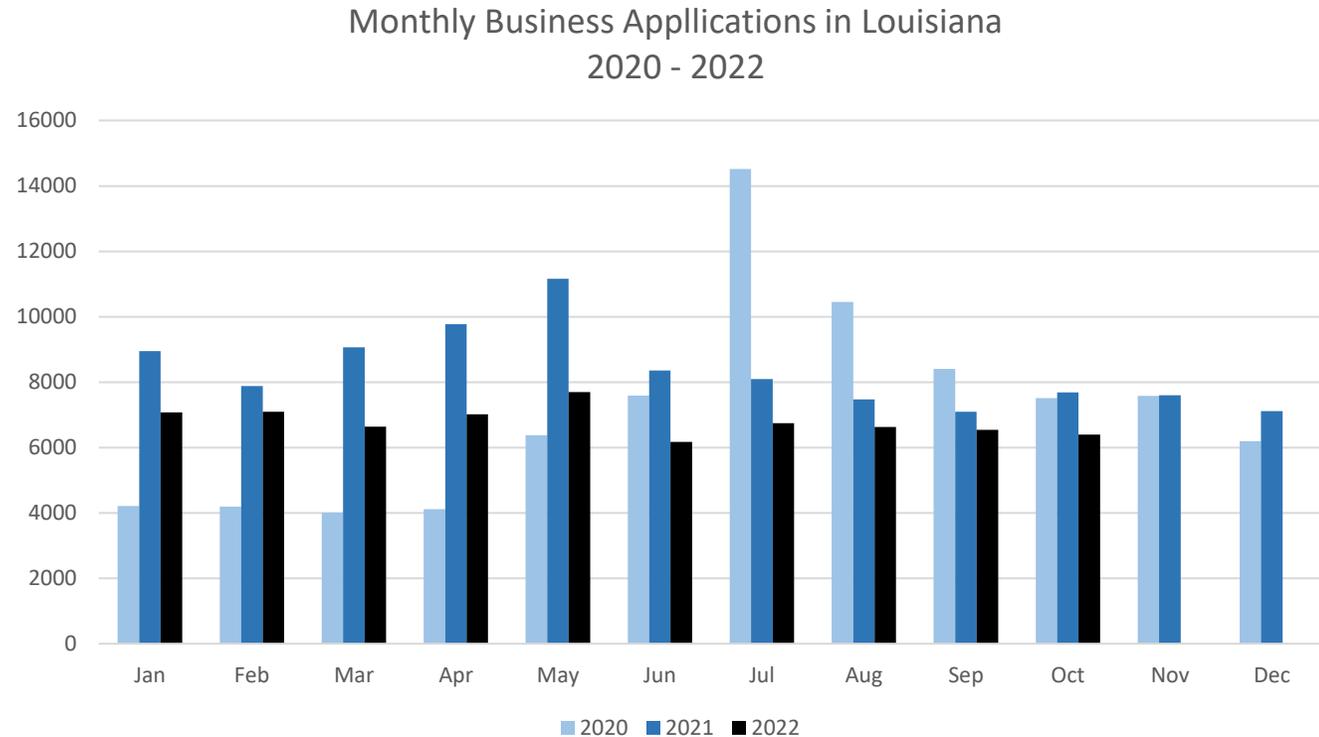
# Local & Louisiana

Central Louisiana Economic Dashboard

# NEW BUSINESS APPS IN LOUISIANA

*The chart below represents the monthly number of new businesses applications in Louisiana from 2020-2022 (seasonally adjusted).*

- New business applications in Louisiana in October 2022 decreased -2% from September.
- YTD business applications in Louisiana are down -22%, 68,022 compared to 85,539.



Note: Data reflects businesses applications, not necessarily business formations. Changed to seasonally adjusted data in September 2022.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Business Formation Statistics, Retrieved November 18, 2022.

# NEW BUSINESSES IN RAPIDES

The table and chart below represent the number of new businesses established each month in Rapides from January 2020 through October 2022.

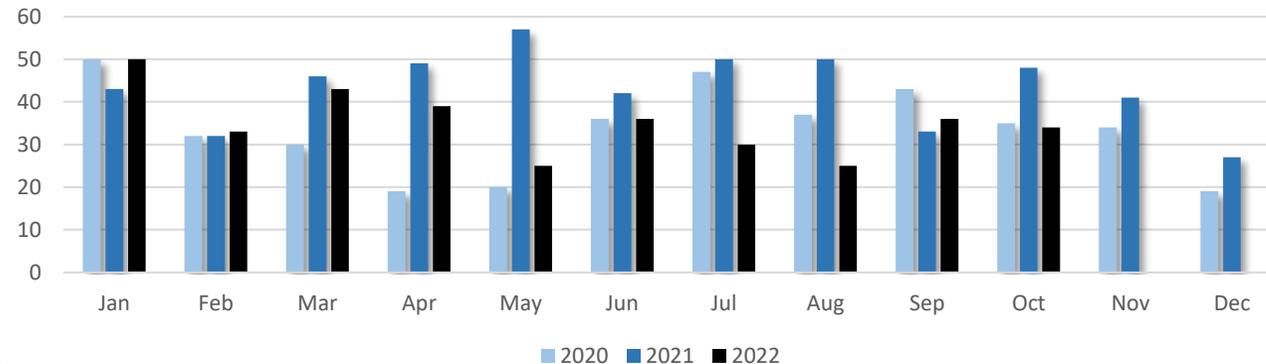
## September

	2019	2020	2021	2022
October	35	35	48	34
September	34	43	33	36
% Chg Prev Month	2.9%	-18.6%	45.5%	-5.6%
% Chg from Prev Year		0.0%	37.1%	-29.2%
YTD	386	349	450	351
% Chg over Prev YTD		-9.6%	28.9%	-22.0%

✓ The number of new businesses established in Rapides in October 2022 decreased -6% from September and was -29% lower than a year ago.

✓ Year-to-date, 351 new businesses have been created in Rapides in 2022, compared to 450 in 2021, representing a -22% decline.

New Businesses in Rapides  
2020-2022



Note: Data reflects businesses established in the current month

Data Source: Rapides Parish Sales and Use Tax Department, November 2022.

# RAPIDES OCCUPATIONAL LICENSES

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

Rapides Parish (rural)		3%
Alexandria		7%
Pineville		5%
Other		13%
Total		6%

## *October Year-to-Date*

	2021	2022
Parish	\$ 655,316	\$ 674,939
% Chg over Prev YTD		3.0%
Alexandria	\$ 1,924,015	\$ 2,049,617
% Chg over Prev YTD		6.5%
Pineville	\$ 434,463	\$ 457,053
% Chg over Prev YTD		5.2%
Other	\$ 149,038	\$ 168,461
% Chg over Prev YTD		13.0%
Total	\$ 3,162,832	\$ 3,350,070
% Chg over Prev YTD		5.9%

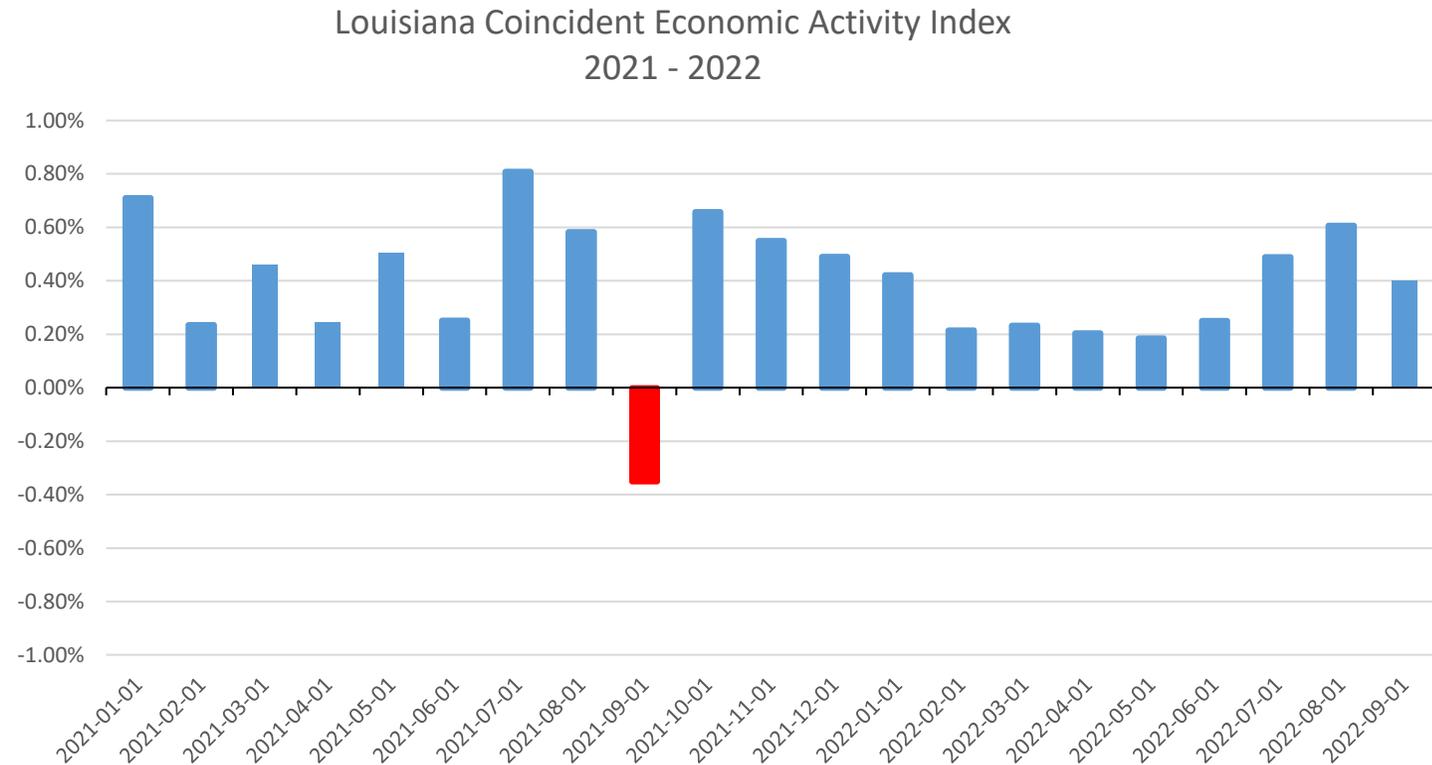
Note: Rapides Parish reflects unincorporated areas. Data reflects licenses paid year-to-date.

Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, November 2022.

# LOUISIANA ECONOMIC ACTIVITY INDEX

*The Coincident Economic Activity Index for Louisiana is set to match the trend in the gross state product and includes four indicators: nonfarm payroll employment, the unemployment rate, average hours worked in manufacturing and wages and salaries. The column graph below represents the percentage change in the index. A positive percentage represents an expanding statewide economy.*

✓ *In September 2022, the Index rose to 110.00, compared to 109.56 in August 2022.*



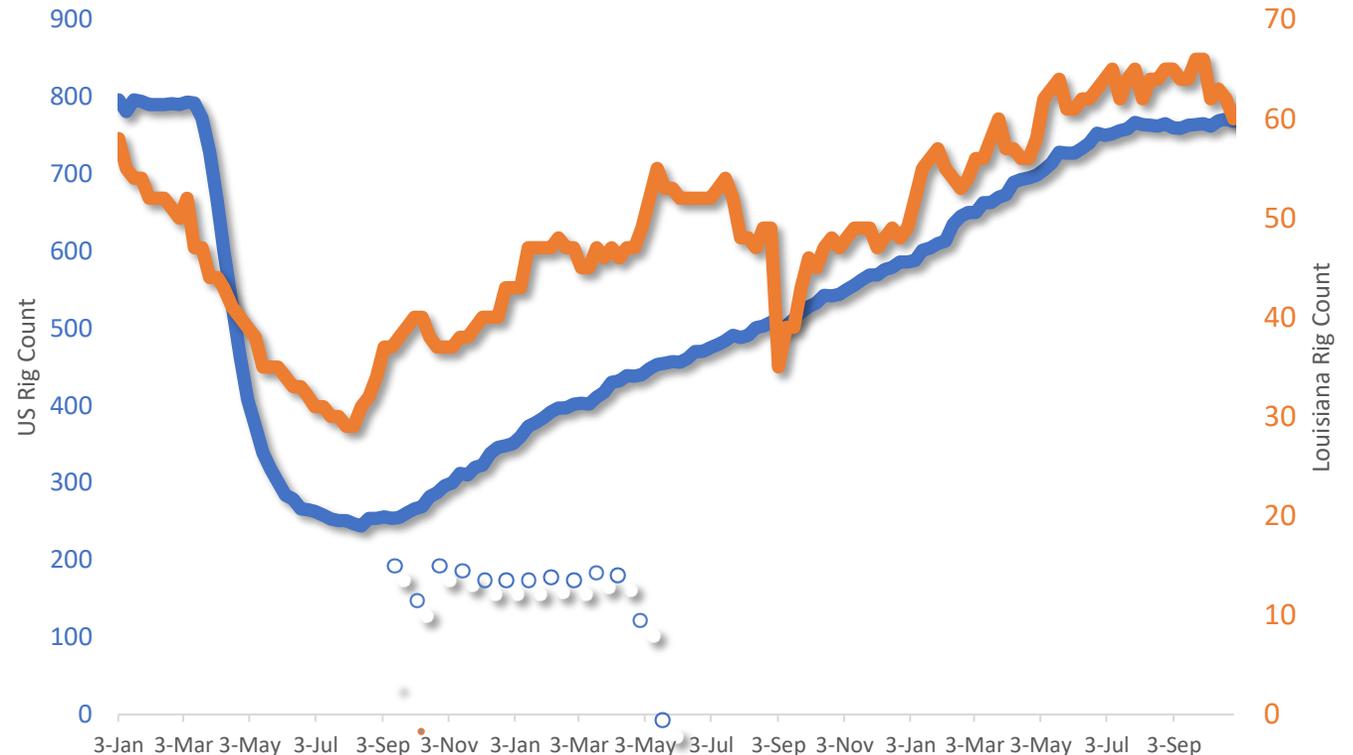
# BAKER HUGHES RIG COUNT

*Represents the number of drilling rigs actively exploring for or developing oil or natural gas in Louisiana and the U.S. in 2020-2022.*

	Oct 22	Sep 22	Oct 21
Louisiana	62	65	47
US	768	762	538

- ✓ Average rig count in Louisiana in October was down three rigs from September.
- ✓ Nationwide, the rig count rose from 538 a year ago to 768 in October, an increase of 43%.

**Rig Count in Louisiana & US  
2020-2022**



# LOUISIANA GAMING REVENUE

*Gaming revenue in Louisiana for October 2022 with previous month and year comparisons.*

*October 2022*

October  -4%

Oct YoY  -9%

Oct YTD 0%

	<b>Oct-22</b>	<b>Sep-22</b>	<b>Oct-21</b>	<b>M/M</b>	<b>Y/Y</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Video Poker	\$ 62,967,456	\$62,387,888	\$ 72,274,072	0.9%	-12.9%	-1.9%
Riverboat	\$ 130,990,774	\$140,690,698	\$ 151,297,855	-6.9%	-13.4%	0.4%
Landbased	\$ 22,344,295	\$22,932,195	\$ 16,597,864	-2.6%	34.6%	10.2%
Slots	\$ 25,695,488	\$25,588,329	\$ 26,825,997	0.4%	-4.2%	-5.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$241,998,013</b>	<b>\$251,599,110</b>	<b>\$266,995,788</b>	<b>-3.8%</b>	<b>-9.4%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

\* Note: Year-to-Date percentage reflects calendar year.

Data Source: Louisiana Gaming Control Board, November 20, 2022. [http://lgcb.dps.louisiana.gov/revenue\\_reports.html](http://lgcb.dps.louisiana.gov/revenue_reports.html)

# 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
- Alexandria / Pineville Area CVB
- 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
- St. Landry Parish School Board
- Grant Parish Sheriff's Office
- Natchitoches Parish Tax Commission
- Natchitoches Parish Planning and Zoning
- City of Natchitoches Planning
- Vernon Parish Sales Tax Department

# 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
- Greater Vernon Chamber of Commerce
- Natchitoches Chamber of Commerce
  
- *Next Issue: Week of January 23, 2023*

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