

About the Center

The H.C. Drew Center for Business and Economic Analysis (Drew CBEA) collects, tracks, and analyzes data relevant to the economy of Southwest Louisiana.

A joint venture between McNeese State University and the SWLA Alliance, the center strives to serve the community with high quality economic analysis, reports, and data collections.

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1st Quarter 2021 Issue

This issue of the Drew CBEA report focuses on data illustrating the continuing recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and rebuilding from Hurricanes Laura and Delta. As the area continues rebuilding, pretty much all parishes are seeing dramatic increases in their tax revenues and a continuing trend of new business filings. The figures show most parishes are still below pre-pandemic levels in terms of employment but taxable sales and sales tax collections have seen an increase. Residents are also seeing increased assistance in the form of higher SNAP benefits in each parish. The area has also seen upticks in exports and gaming revenues (in spite of one casino establishment remaining shut down).

There has been much talk about state population estimates from the Decennial Census. From these results, some states gained seats and some lost, while others, like Louisiana, saw no change. There has been very little talk, however, about the Vintage estimates that were recently released showing population estimates from 2010-2020 for states, metropolitan areas, counties/parishes, etc. The end of this report dives into the latest population estimates for the Lake Charles MSA and each of the five parishes. While total figures and changes over the decade are shown, changes are also analyzed in connection with births/deaths, and net migration.

Thank you for reading and, as always, if you have any questions, feel free to contact the Drew CBEA with any questions.

Dan Groft, Ph.D.

Director, H.C. Drew Center for Business and Economic Analysis

Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Lake Charles MSA | 3 |
| Housing Statistics | 5 |
| Transportation Statistics..... | 6 |
| Gaming Statistics | 7 |
| Allen Parish | 8 |
| Beauregard Parish..... | 11 |
| Calcasieu Parish | 14 |
| Cameron Parish | 17 |
| Jefferson Davis Parish..... | 20 |
| Population Estimates Analysis of Southwest Louisiana | 23 |
| Sources | 27 |

Selected Employment Indicators – Lake Charles MSA

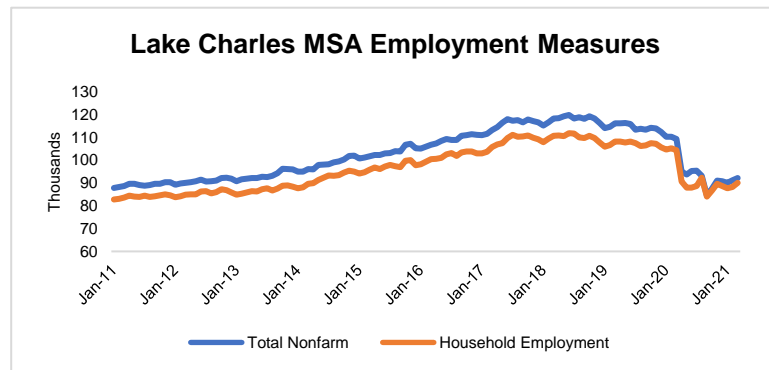
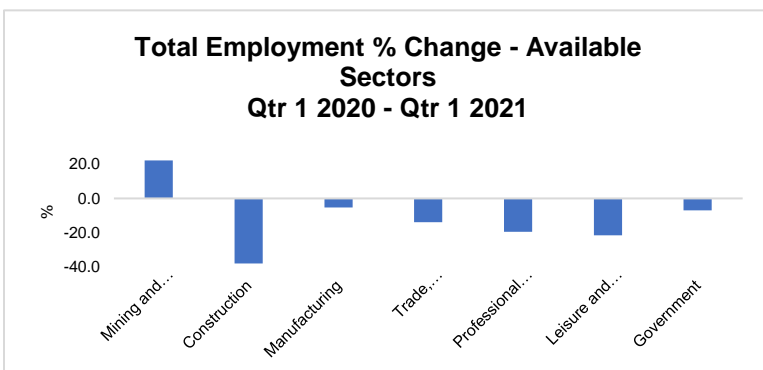
| (measures in thousands of workers) | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 |
|--|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total Nonfarm | 109.9 | 94.6 | 91.0 | 89.8 | 91.1 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | -5.0 | -21.5 | -22.5 | -23.7 | -18.8 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -4.4 | -18.5 | -19.8 | -20.9 | -17.1 |
| Mining and Logging | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 0.0 | 0.0 | 11.1 | 33.3 | 22.2 |
| Construction | 19.8 | 14.7 | 13.1 | 12.5 | 12.3 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | -4.5 | -9.9 | -9.7 | -10.1 | -7.5 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -18.5 | -40.2 | -42.5 | -44.6 | -38.0 |
| Manufacturing | 10.8 | 10.7 | 10.4 | 10.2 | 10.2 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 0.1 | -0.1 | -0.4 | -0.6 | -0.6 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 0.6 | -0.6 | -3.4 | -5.3 | -5.3 |
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities | 17.9 | 16.3 | 16.0 | 14.7 | 15.4 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | -0.4 | -1.8 | -2.3 | -3.8 | -2.5 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -2.4 | -10.1 | -12.6 | -20.4 | -13.9 |
| Professional and Business Services | 10.4 | 9.0 | 8.7 | 8.2 | 8.3 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 0.0 | -1.5 | -1.5 | -1.7 | -2.0 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 0.0 | -14.0 | -14.9 | -17.1 | -19.6 |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 14.5 | 10.5 | 10.7 | 10.3 | 11.4 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | -0.2 | -4.8 | -4.4 | -4.3 | -3.1 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -1.4 | -31.4 | -29.1 | -29.5 | -21.6 |
| Government | 15.3 | 14.6 | 13.3 | 14.0 | 14.2 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 0.0 | -1.0 | -1.6 | -1.4 | -1.1 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -0.2 | -6.6 | -10.8 | -9.1 | -7.0 |
| Average Weekly Earnings (All Employees) | 763.25 | 728.66 | 755.4 | 760.5 | 719.8 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | -50.0 | -72.2 | -65.2 | -58.9 | -43.5 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -6.1 | -9.0 | -7.9 | -7.2 | -5.7 |
| Average Hourly Earnings (All Employees) | 22.99 | 21.89 | 22.52 | 22.26 | 22.1 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 0.6 | -1.0 | -1.2 | -1.8 | -0.9 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 2.8 | -4.5 | -5.1 | -7.6 | -4.1 |

In the 1st quarter of 2021, the Lake Charles MSA (consisting of Calcasieu and Cameron parishes) has continued to experience large decreases in employment compared to the same quarter the previous year. However, compared to the 4th quarter of 2020, there has been growth as the area continues to rebuild from hurricanes and the economy further opens up.

Total nonfarm employment (presented in thousands of jobs in the table) fell by 18,800 jobs over the year for a 17.1% decrease. Looking at the industries shows no industry gained jobs over the year (not counting mining). Construction experienced the largest percentage drop at 38% drop losing 7,500 jobs. Leisure & Hospitality fell 3,100 jobs (-21.6%) while Manufacturing only lost 600 jobs (-5.3%). Professional and Business services lost 2,000 jobs for a 19.6% drop. Trade,

Transportation, and Utilities lost 2,500 jobs (-13.9%) and government lost 1,100 jobs (-7.0%).

This loss in employment also led to large drops in earnings measures. Average weekly earnings of all employees fell 5.7% while average hourly earnings fell 4.1%. Although not shown, average weekly hours of all employees in the first quarter fell 1.7% over the year.

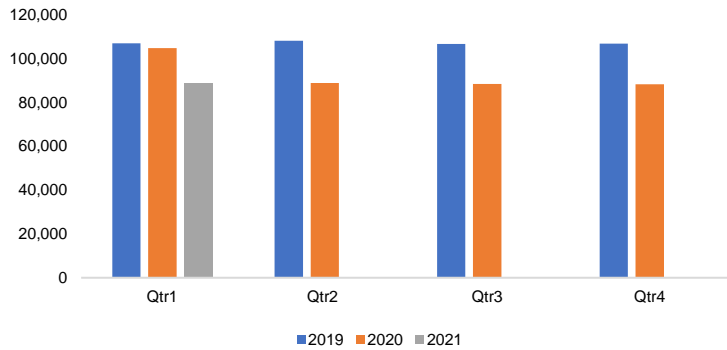


Selected Employment Indicators – Lake Charles MSA

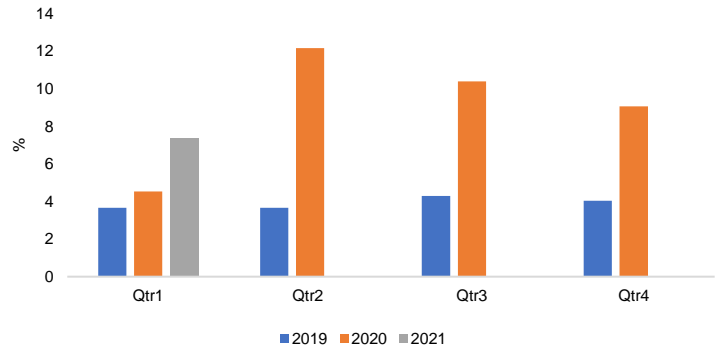
| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Household Employment | 104,733 | 88,843 | 88,328 | 88,313 | 88,650 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | -2,143 | -19,222 | -18,355 | -18,438 | -16,083 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -2.0 | -17.8 | -17.2 | -17.3 | -15.4 |
| Household Unemployment | 4,973 | 12,361 | 10,176 | 8,793 | 7,104 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 920 | 8,191 | 5,374 | 4,299 | 2,131 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 22.7 | 196.5 | 111.9 | 95.7 | 42.9 |
| Labor Force | 109,706 | 101,203 | 98,504 | 97,106 | 95,753 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | -1,222 | -11,031 | -12,982 | -14,139 | -13,952 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -1.1 | -9.8 | -11.6 | -12.7 | -12.7 |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | 4.5 | 12.2 | 10.4 | 9.1 | 7.4 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 0.9 | 8.5 | 6.1 | 5.0 | 2.9 |

| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total Job Openings | 5,026 | 3,875 | 4,954 | 4,723 | 5,496 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | -561 | -1,695 | -1,675 | -876 | 470 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -10.0 | -30.4 | -25.3 | -15.6 | 9.3 |

Lake Charles MSA Employment

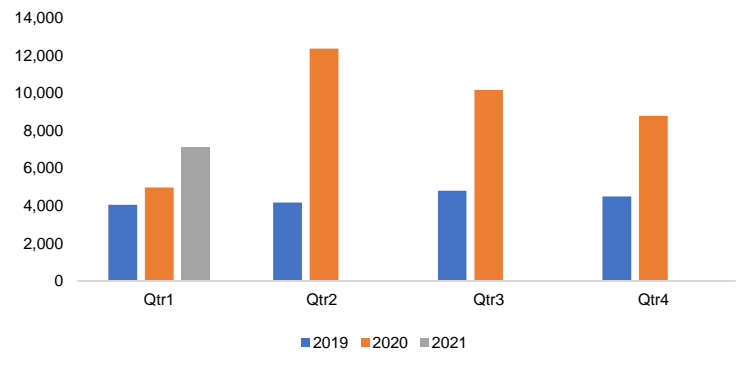


Lake Charles MSA Unemployment Rate



The quarterly average unemployment rate in the MSA currently sits at 7.4% which represents a 2.9 percentage point increase from a year ago. Lake Charles currently has the 3rd highest 1st quarter unemployment rate of all MSA's in the state, behind Hammond and New Orleans. The household employment measure fell by 16,083 over the year in the 1st quarter for a 15.4% decrease. The number of unemployed increased by 2,131. This represented a dramatic 42.9% increase. As the labor force is the total of unemployed and employed, the total change in the labor force was a drop of 13,952 (-12.7%). Job openings in the 1st quarter of 2021 averaged 5,496. Openings increased by 470 (9.3%) over the year.

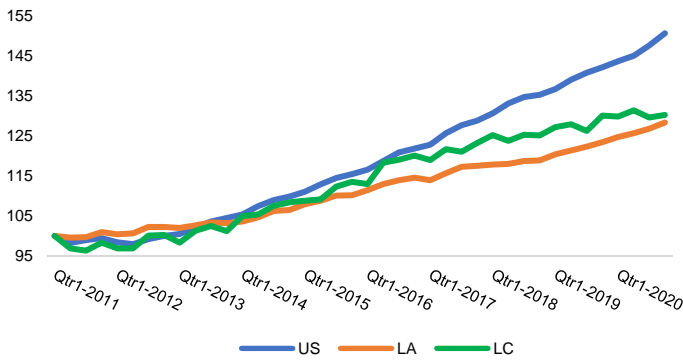
Lake Charles MSA Unemployment



Overall, both the household and nonfarm employment measures show the MSA had been falling slightly (mainly due to construction projects finishing), but took a dramatic drop in the third and fourth quarters due to the pandemic and Hurricanes Laura and Delta. Jobs have been increasing but are still below pre-pandemic levels.

Housing Statistics

FHFA Quarterly Housing Price Indexes
(Qtr1-2011 = 100)

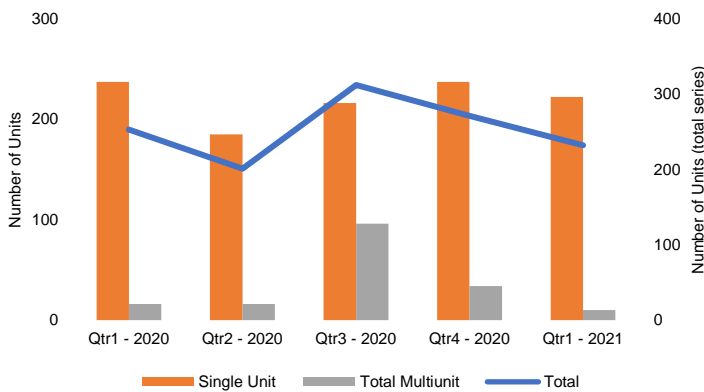


| Home Price Index Comparisons | Qtr4- 2019 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Year-over-Year % Change |
|------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Lake Charles HPI | 130.1 | 130.3 | 0.2 |
| Louisiana HPI | 123.4 | 128.3 | 4.0 |
| US HPI | 142.1 | 150.7 | 6.0 |

The housing statistics show that prices in the area were rising slower than the state and the nation. Looking at price changes over-the-year, from the first quarter of 2020 to the same quarter in 2021, housing prices have only risen 0.2% in the Lake Charles MSA compared to 4.0% in LA and 6.0% in the US.

Housing Permits – Lake Charles MSA

Lake Charles MSA Building Permits



In the first quarter of 2021, single unit permits fell by 15 over-the-year while multi-unit permits fell by 6 bringing the total decrease to 21. This represented an 8.3% decrease. The YTD figures show drops of 15 in single unit and 6 for multi-unit bringing the total decrease to 21. The percentage change for total permits YTD was –8.3%. In terms of valuation, single unit permits fell \$2.7 million while multi-unit permit valuations fell \$739,000 for a total decrease of \$3.4 million. This represented an 8% drop year-over-year in the 1st quarter of 2021 for valuation of all permits. In terms of YTD numbers, the total year-over-year change in valuation for single unit permits was a drop of \$2.7 million while the drop-in multi-unit permits was \$739 thousand leading to a total drop in valuation of \$3.4

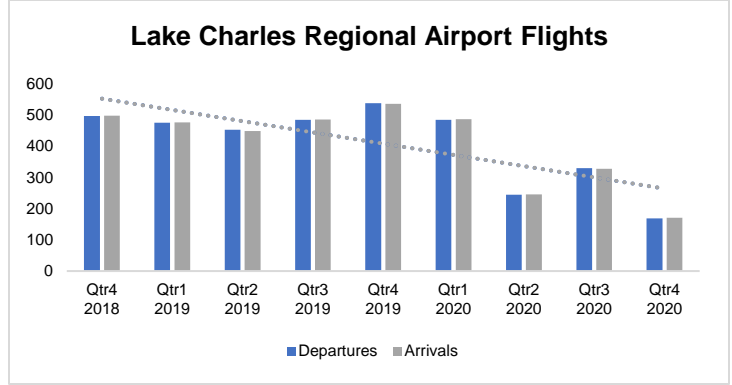
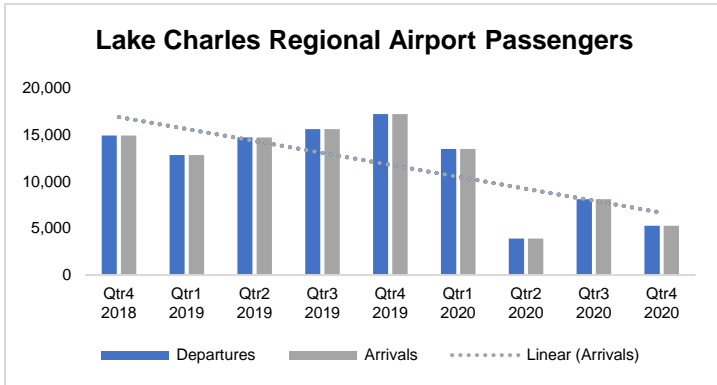
million. The percentage change in valuation for all permits YTD was a decrease of 8.0%.

| | Qtr-1 2020 | Qtr-1 2021 | YoY Change | YoY % Change | Qtr-1 2020 YTD | Qtr-1 2021 YTD | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|------------|--------------|
| Number | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 253 | 232 | -21 | -8.3 | 253 | 232 | -21 | -8.3 |
| Single | 237 | 222 | -15 | -6.3 | 237 | 222 | -15 | -6.3 |
| Multi-unit | 16 | 10 | -6 | -37.5 | 16 | 10 | -6 | -37.5 |
| Valuation (thousands \$) | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 42,883 | 39,465 | -3,418 | -8.0 | 42,883 | 39,465 | -3,418 | -8.0 |
| Single | 41,427 | 38,746 | -2,681 | -6.5 | 41,427 | 38,746 | -2,681 | -6.5 |
| Multi-unit | 1,458 | 719 | -739 | -50.7 | 1,458 | 719 | -739 | -50.7 |

The graph of building permits shows that there was a slight dip in permits during the 2nd quarter of 2020 (during the pandemic). Since that time, total permits have been at a slightly higher level. Part of this is no doubt due to hurricane rebuilding in the 4th quarter of 2020 continuing into the 1st quarter of 2021.

Transportation Statistics

Lake Charles Regional Airport

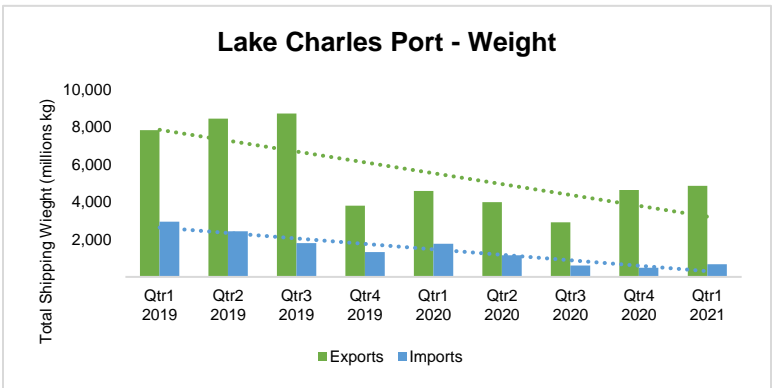
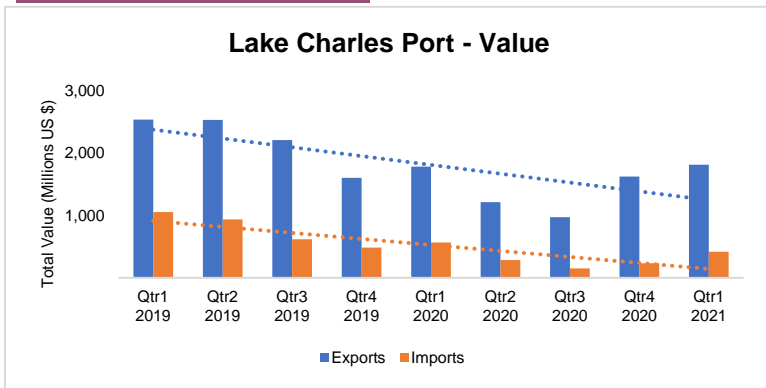


| | Qtr-4 2019 | Qtr-4 2020 | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Passengers | | | | |
| Departures | 17,422 | 5,577 | -11,845 | -68.0 |
| Arrivals | 17,200 | 5,273 | -11,927 | -69.3 |
| Flights | | | | |
| Departures | 538 | 169 | -369 | -68.6 |
| Arrivals | 536 | 171 | -365 | -68.1 |

The Lake Charles regional airport experienced a large downturn in activity during the 4th quarter. While some of the drop was due to the pandemic, more was due to the damages inflicted by Hurricanes Laura and Delta.

Passengers departing in the 4th quarter of 2020 fell 11,845 (-68%) since the 4th quarter of 2019 and those arriving have decreased 11,927 (-69.3%). In terms of flights, there has been a decrease of 369 flights (-68.6%) departing Lake Charles over that same period while the number of flights arriving has fallen by 365 (-68.1%). The graphs showing these measures point to downward trends driven by mainly by the 2nd quarter drop due to COVID and the 4th quarter drop due to the storms. This activity should pick up as repairs are completed and American Airlines resumes flights.

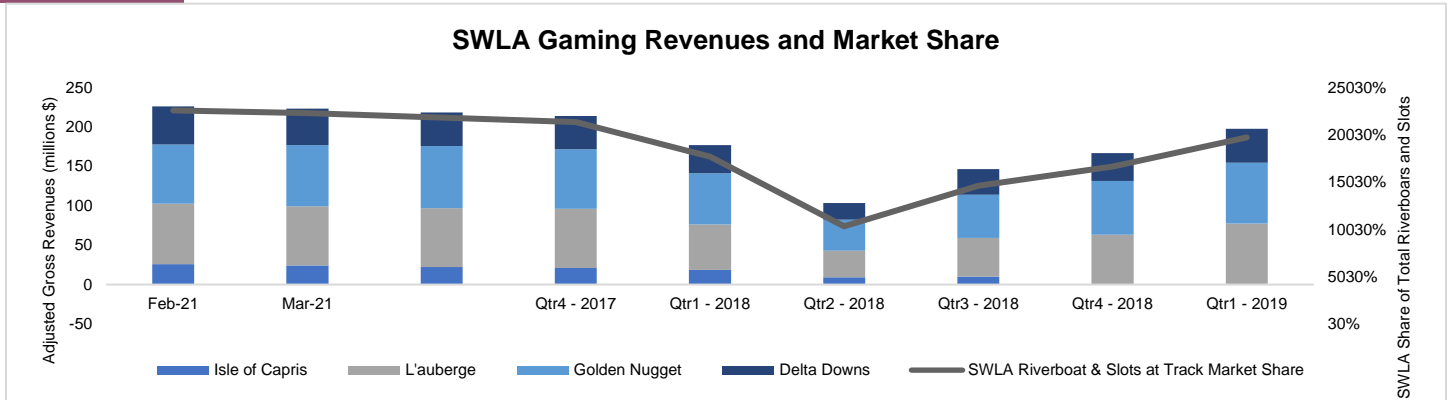
Lake Charles Port Statistics



The Lake Charles port has seen a continued uptick in exports in the 1st quarter of 2021 compared to the previous year. The figures in the table below show the value of exports rose \$31 million (+1.7%) over the year while the total value of imports fell \$149 million (-26.2%). The total weight of all exports rose 266 million kg (+5.8%) while the total weight of all imports fell 1,090 million kg (-61.5%).

| | Qtr-1 2020 | Qtr-1 2021 | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Value (millions \$) | | | | |
| Exports | 1,784 | 1,815 | 31 | 1.7 |
| Imports | 569 | 420 | -149 | -26.2 |
| Shipping Weight (millions kg) | | | | |
| Exports | 4,601 | 4,867 | 266 | 5.8 |
| Imports | 1,774 | 683 | -1,090 | -61.5 |

Gaming Statistics



| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total State AGR (millions) | 444.0 | 229.2 | 413.7 | 420.8 | 497.7 |
| Year-Over-Year Change (millions) | -117.4 | -319.0 | -121.8 | -104.2 | 53.6 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -20.9 | -58.2 | -22.7 | -19.8 | 12.1 |
| Total SWLA AGR (millions) | 177.2 | 103.6 | 146.7 | 166.8 | 197.7 |
| Year-Over-Year Change (millions) | -49.0 | -119.8 | -71.8 | -47.1 | 20.4 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -21.7 | -53.6 | -32.9 | -22.0 | 11.5 |
| Total AGR (millions) | | | | | |
| Isle of Capri | 18.4 | 9.3 | 10.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Year-Over-Year Change (millions) | -7.4 | -15.0 | -12.1 | -20.9 | -18.4 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -28.6 | -61.7 | -54.3 | -100.1 | -100.0 |
| L'Auberge | 57.7 | 33.6 | 49.0 | 63.2 | 77.6 |
| Year-Over-Year Change (millions) | -19.2 | -41.4 | -25.8 | -12.2 | 19.9 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -24.9 | -55.2 | -34.5 | -16.2 | 34.5 |
| Golden Nugget | 65.0 | 39.6 | 54.9 | 68.3 | 76.9 |
| Year-Over-Year Change (millions) | -10.3 | -38.3 | -23.9 | -7.4 | 11.9 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -13.6 | -49.2 | -30.3 | -9.8 | 18.4 |
| Delta Downs | 36.1 | 21.1 | 32.5 | 35.3 | 43.2 |
| Year-Over-Year Change (millions) | -12.2 | -25.1 | -10.0 | -6.6 | 7.1 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -25.2 | -54.3 | -23.5 | -15.8 | 19.5 |
| Share of Total SWLA AGR | | | | | |
| Isle of Capri | 10.4% | 9.0% | 7.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| L'Auberge | 32.6% | 32.4% | 33.4% | 37.9% | 39.3% |
| Golden Nugget | 36.6% | 38.2% | 37.4% | 41.0% | 38.9% |
| Delta Downs | 20.4% | 20.4% | 22.2% | 21.2% | 21.8% |
| Share of Total State AGR | | | | | |
| Isle of Capri | 4.2% | 4.1% | 2.5% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| L'Auberge | 13.0% | 14.7% | 11.8% | 15.0% | 15.6% |
| Golden Nugget | 14.6% | 17.3% | 13.3% | 16.2% | 15.4% |
| Delta Downs | 8.1% | 9.2% | 7.9% | 8.4% | 8.7% |
| SWLA Total AGR | 39.9% | 45.2% | 35.4% | 39.6% | 39.7% |

Gaming establishments have been operating at reduced capacity. Restrictions and the temporary closing of Isle of Capri are still preventing revenues and admissions from reaching pre-pandemic levels, despite recent gains. Revenues are above 1st quarter 2020 figures which had some effects of the pandemic. Total revenues in SWLA for the 1st quarter of 2021 increased \$20.4 million for a 11.5% increase compared to the same quarter the previous year.

Isle of Capri collected no revenue in the 1st quarter of 2021 due to closure. L'Auberge had an increase of \$19.9 million for a 34.5% increase. The Golden Nugget had an annual percentage increase in AGR of 18.4% with an absolute increase of \$11.9 million. Delta Downs experienced a \$7.1 million rise in AGR over the year for a 19.5% increase. These figures indicate a solid recovery in

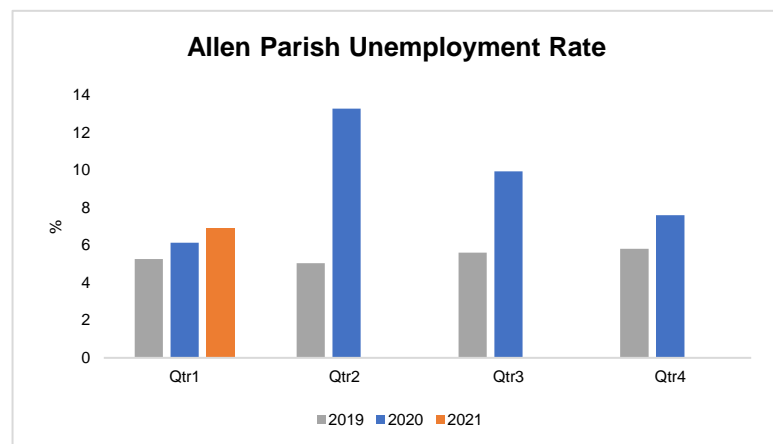
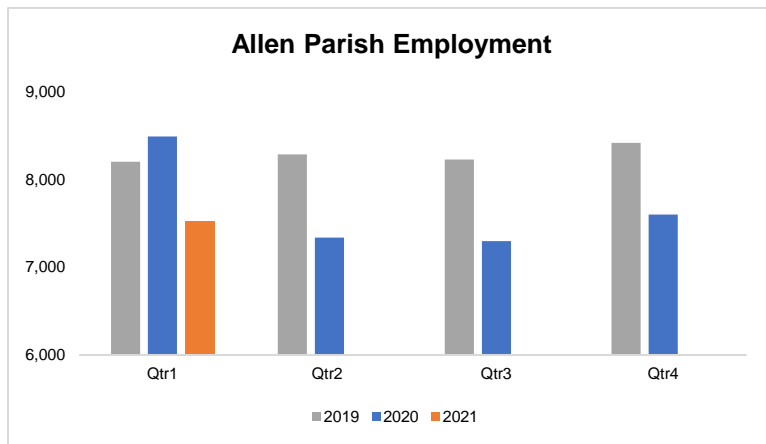
the gaming market despite restrictions.

The region saw a very slight drop in the share of total state revenues. The three SWLA establishments made up 39.7% of the total AGR from riverboats and slots and tracks in the state, falling only slightly from 39.9% in the 1st quarter of 2020 (which included Isle of Capri). The SWLA gaming industry still has a similar share despite having one casino closed.

Selected Employment Indicators – Allen Parish

| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Household Employment | 8,492 | 7,337 | 7,298 | 7,601 | 7,525 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 172 | -1,130 | -1,057 | -865 | -967 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 2.1 | -13.3 | -12.6 | -10.2 | -11.4 |
| Household Unemployment | 554 | 1,127 | 801 | 628 | 559 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 96 | 668 | 291 | 124 | 5 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 21.0 | 145.4 | 57.1 | 24.5 | 1.0 |
| Labor Force | 9,046 | 8,464 | 8,099 | 8,229 | 8,085 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 269 | -462 | -766 | -742 | -962 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 3.1 | -5.2 | -8.6 | -8.3 | -10.6 |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | 6.1 | 13.3 | 9.9 | 7.6 | 6.9 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 0.9 | 8.1 | 4.2 | 2.0 | 0.8 |

| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Job Openings | 161 | 139 | 193 | 161 | 175 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 10 | -18 | 26 | 11 | 13 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 6.8 | -11.3 | 15.6 | 7.1 | 8.3 |

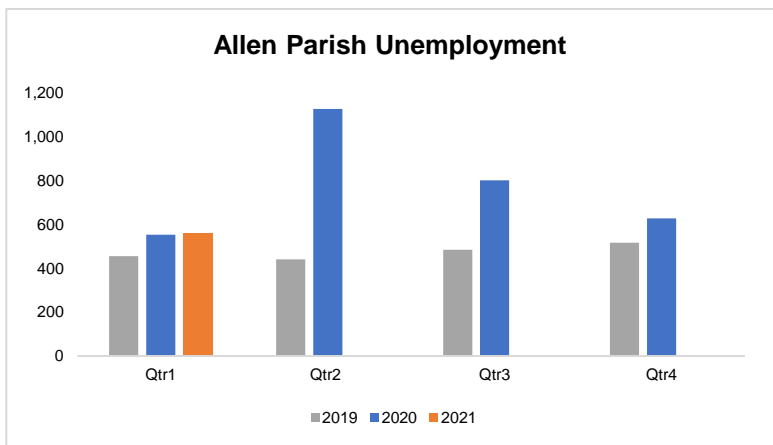


In the 1st quarter of 2021, Allen parish saw a drop in the labor force of 962 (-10.6%). This was broken down by an increase in household unemployment of 5 over the year (+1.0%) while the number of employed persons fell 967 (-11.4%) over the year. The unemployment rate rose 0.8 percentage points over the year to 6.9%.

Job openings in the 1st quarter of 2021 averaged 175. Openings rose by 13 (+8.3%) over the year.

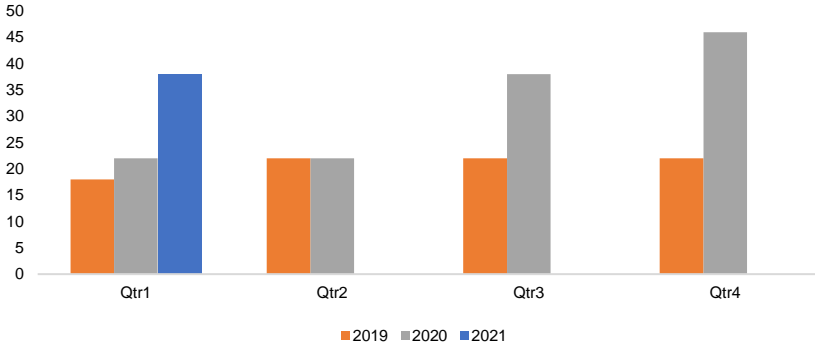
The graphs show the levels of household employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate for each quarter compared to the same quarter the previous two years.

In the 1st quarter of 2021, Allen has had generally higher unemployment and lower employment figures while the labor force has been steady over the year.



New Business Filings

Allen Parish New Domestic Business Filings



The graph to the left shows the amount of new business filings each quarter compared to the same quarter in the previous two years.

The number of new business filings in Allen parish was 38 in the 1st quarter of 2021 which was 16 more than the same quarter in 2020 and 20 more compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 1st quarter of 2020 was 38. This was 16 businesses higher than the 1st quarter of 2020 YTD and 20 business lower than the 1st quarter of 2019 YTD.

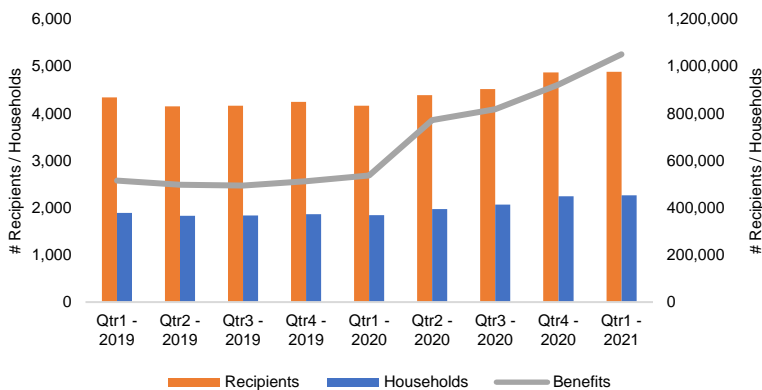
| Qtrly New Business Filings | Qtr1 | Qtr2 | Qtr3 | Qtr4 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| 2019 | 18 | 22 | 22 | 22 |
| 2020 | 22 | 22 | 38 | 46 |
| 2021 | 38 | | | |

| Qtrly New Business Filings YTD | Qtr1 | Qtr2 | Qtr3 | Qtr4 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| 2019 | 18 | 40 | 62 | 84 |
| 2020 | 22 | 44 | 82 | 128 |
| 2021 | 38 | | | |

SNAP Benefits

| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Recipients | 4,162 | 4,386 | 4,513 | 4,867 | 4,884 | 723 | 17.4 |
| Households | 1,845 | 1,973 | 2,068 | 2,241 | 2,261 | 417 | 22.6 |
| Benefits | 536,533 | 771,752 | 817,835 | 921,432 | 1,050,320 | 513,787 | 95.8 |

Allen Parish SNAP Data



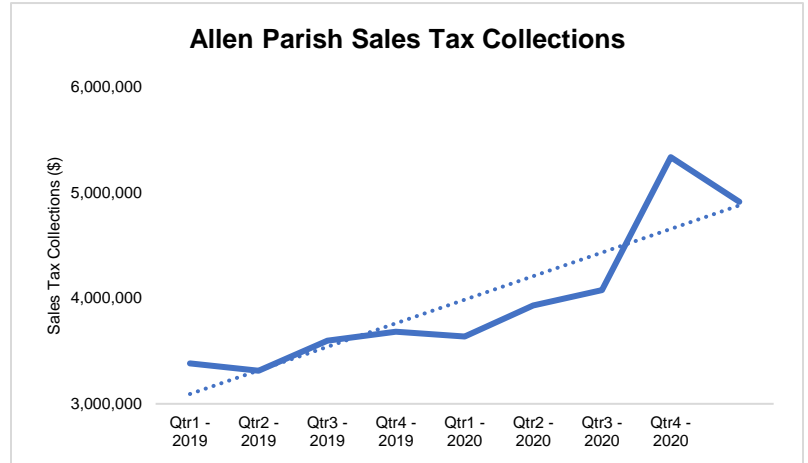
Allen parish had a continuing increase in SNAP recipients, households and benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 4,884 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 1st quarter of 2021. 723 more people received benefits compared to the 1st quarter of 2020 for an 17.4% increase over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP was 2,261 which was 417 more than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented a 22.6% increase. In terms of benefits, the parish received \$1 million in total during the 1st quarter of 2021, which was a \$513.8 thousand increase over-the-year. This was a 95.8% rise in benefits in the parish. Looking at the graph illustrates over the past two years an

overall decreasing trend in benefits before a sharp rise due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and effects of the storms.

Tax Collections

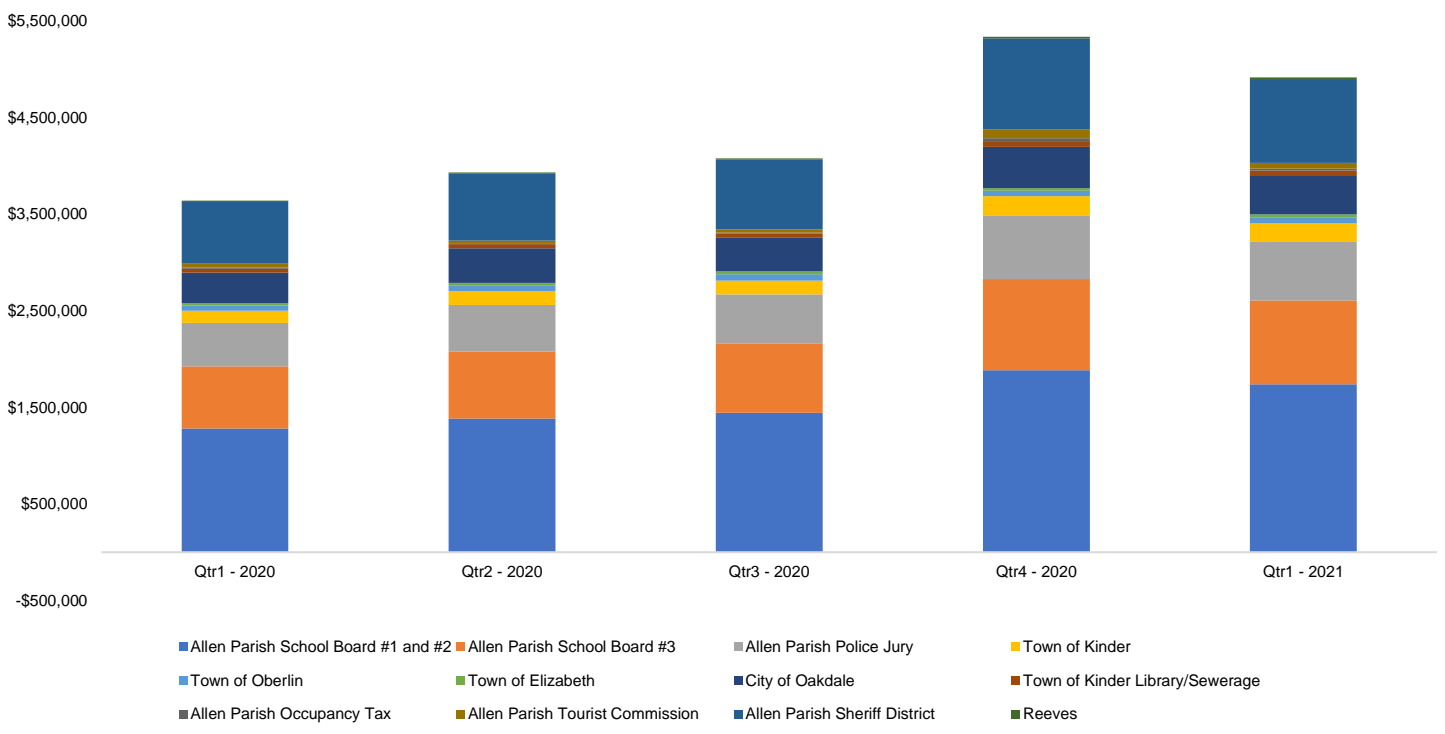
The Drew CBEA has begun building a history of Allen Parish sales tax collections with the help of the Allen Parish School Board. The numbers show clear upward movement throughout most of the year.

Compared to the 1st quarter of 2020, Allen parish has seen an overall increase in tax collections. Total tax collections increased \$1.3 million for a 35.1% increase. This is mainly due to increased shopping during COVID, recovery from the storms, and a 1 percentage point increase in the local sales tax rate.



| Allen Parish Sales Tax Collections by Entity | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Allen Parish School Board #1 and #2 | 1,281,813 | 1,382,632 | 1,441,878 | 1,882,518 | 1,736,979 | 455,166 | 35.5 |
| Allen Parish School Board #3 | 641,545 | 691,986 | 721,166 | 944,436 | 868,096 | 226,551 | 35.3 |
| Allen Parish Police Jury | 449,084 | 484,392 | 504,818 | 661,107 | 607,670 | 158,586 | 35.3 |
| Town of Kinder | 129,010 | 142,217 | 145,001 | 197,934 | 191,697 | 62,686 | 48.6 |
| Town of Oberlin | 50,073 | 57,529 | 65,862 | 56,954 | 61,910 | 11,837 | 23.6 |
| Town of Elizabeth | 26,846 | 28,830 | 28,365 | 27,072 | 29,469 | 2,623 | 9.8 |
| City of Oakdale | 315,427 | 359,408 | 348,021 | 425,006 | 398,584 | 83,157 | 26.4 |
| Town of Kinder Library/Sewerage | 38,703 | 42,665 | 43,500 | 59,380 | 57,509 | 18,806 | 48.6 |
| Allen Parish Occupancy Tax | 13,219 | 8,662 | 10,780 | 30,334 | 19,793 | 6,574 | 49.7 |
| Allen Parish Tourist Commission | 39,658 | 25,986 | 32,339 | 91,003 | 59,379 | 19,721 | 49.7 |
| Allen Parish Sheriff District | 641,545 | 691,986 | 721,166 | 944,436 | 868,096 | 226,551 | 35.3 |
| Reeves | 11,625 | 14,356 | 15,001 | 16,029 | 14,742 | 3,118 | 26.8 |
| Total | 3,638,550 | 3,930,651 | 4,077,897 | 5,336,210 | 4,913,925 | 1,275,375 | 35.1 |

Allen Parish Tax Collections by Entity



Selected Employment Indicators – Beauregard Parish

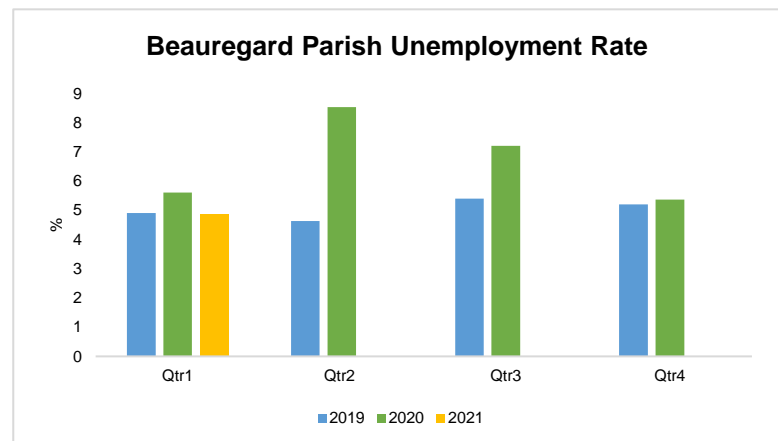
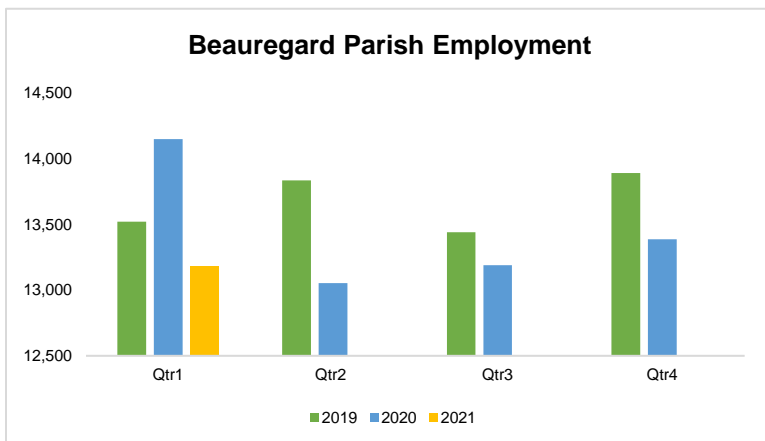
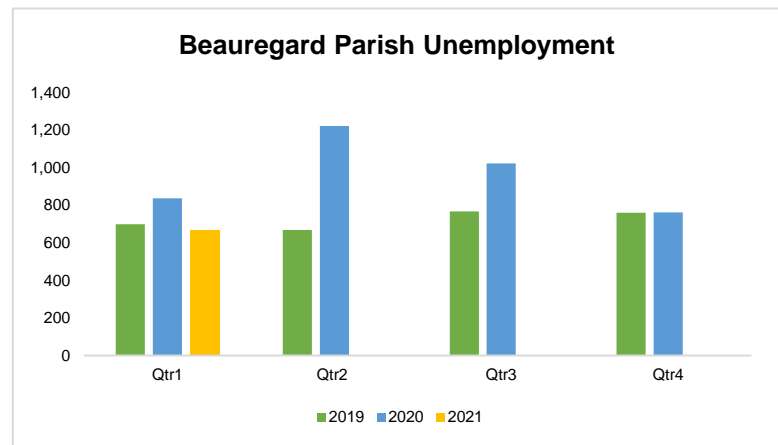
| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Household Employment | 14,149 | 13,052 | 13,188 | 13,386 | 13,182 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 399 | -1,011 | -898 | -808 | -967 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 2.9 | -7.2 | -6.4 | -5.7 | -6.8 |
| Household Unemployment | 837 | 1,222 | 1,023 | 762 | 671 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 130 | 519 | 212 | 12 | -166 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 18.4 | 73.9 | 26.1 | 1.6 | -19.9 |
| Labor Force | 14,986 | 14,274 | 14,211 | 14,148 | 13,852 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 529 | -492 | -686 | -796 | -1,133 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 3.7 | -3.3 | -4.6 | -5.3 | -7.6 |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | 5.6 | 8.5 | 7.2 | 5.4 | 4.9 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 0.7 | 3.8 | 1.8 | 0.3 | -0.7 |

| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Job Openings | 216 | 183 | 284 | 355 | 393 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 22 | -35 | 25 | 85 | 177 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 11.6 | -16.2 | 9.8 | 31.6 | 82.1 |

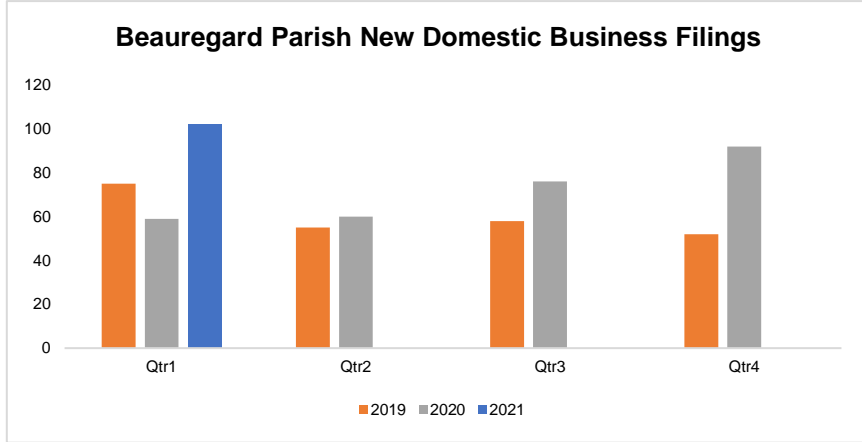
In the 1st quarter of 2021, Beauregard parish saw a drop in household employment of 967 over the year (-6.8%) while the number of unemployed persons dropped 166 (-19.9%) over the year. This led to a drop of 1,133 (-7.6%) in the total labor force. The unemployment rate dropped 0.7 percentage points over the year to 4.9%.

Job openings in the 1st quarter averaged 393. Openings rose by 177 (+82.1%) over the year.

The graphs show the levels of household employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate for each quarter compared to the same quarter the previous two years. In the 1st quarter of 2021, Beauregard has lower unemployment and employment figures, representing a falling labor force.



New Business Filings



The graph shows the amount of new business filings each quarter compared to the same quarter in the previous two years.

The number of new business filings in Beauregard parish was 102 in the 1st quarter of 2021 which was 43 more than the same quarter the previous year and 27 more compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 1st quarter of 2021 was 102. This was 43 more businesses than the 1st quarter of 2020 YTD and 27 businesses higher than the 1st quarter of 2019 YTD.

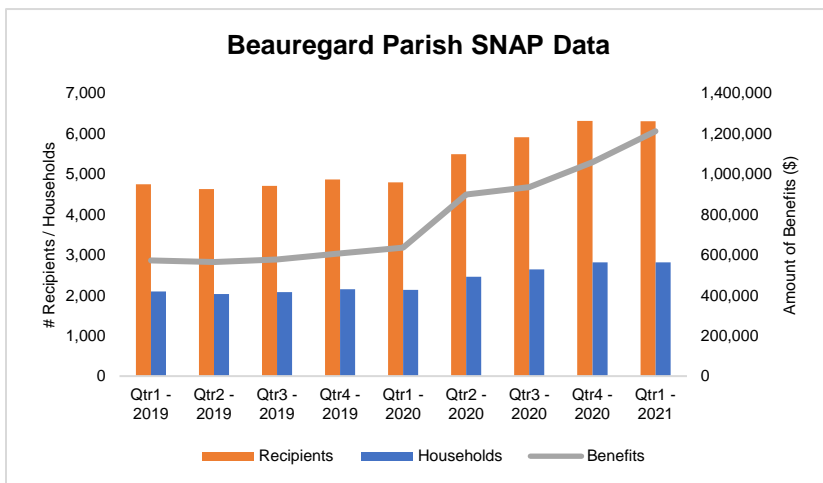
| Qtrly New Business Filings | Qtr1 | Qtr2 | Qtr3 | Qtr4 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| 2019 | 75 | 55 | 58 | 52 |
| 2020 | 59 | 60 | 76 | 92 |
| 2021 | 102 | | | |

| Qtrly New Business Filings YTD | Qtr1 | Qtr2 | Qtr3 | Qtr4 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| 2019 | 75 | 130 | 188 | 240 |
| 2020 | 59 | 119 | 195 | 287 |
| 2021 | 102 | | | |

SNAP Benefits

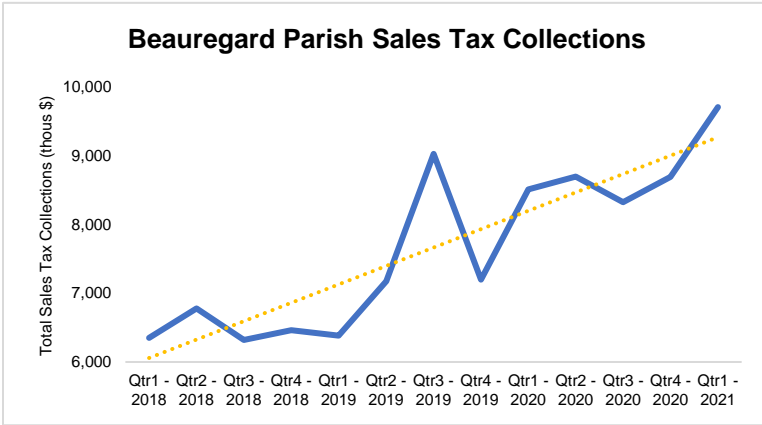
| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Recipients | 4,793 | 5,492 | 5,905 | 6,309 | 6,304 | 1,511 | 31.5 |
| Households | 2,129 | 2,454 | 2,636 | 2,812 | 2,810 | 681 | 32.0 |
| Benefits | 636,193 | 898,771 | 934,335 | 1,058,026 | 1,211,119 | 574,927 | 90.4 |

Beauregard parish has had a sharp increase in SNAP recipients, households and benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 6,304 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 1st quarter of 2021. 1,511 more people received benefits compared to the 1st quarter of 2020 for a 31.5% increase over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP averaged 2,810 which was 681 more than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented a 32%



increase. In terms of benefits, the parish received an average of \$1.2 million in total during the 1st quarter of 2021, which was a \$574.9 thousand increase over-the-year. This was a 90.4 % rise in benefits in the parish. Looking at the graph illustrates a relatively flat trend in benefits before a sharp rise. This trend is also shown in the number of households and recipients receiving benefits. The pandemic has led to more people receiving a greater amount of benefits.

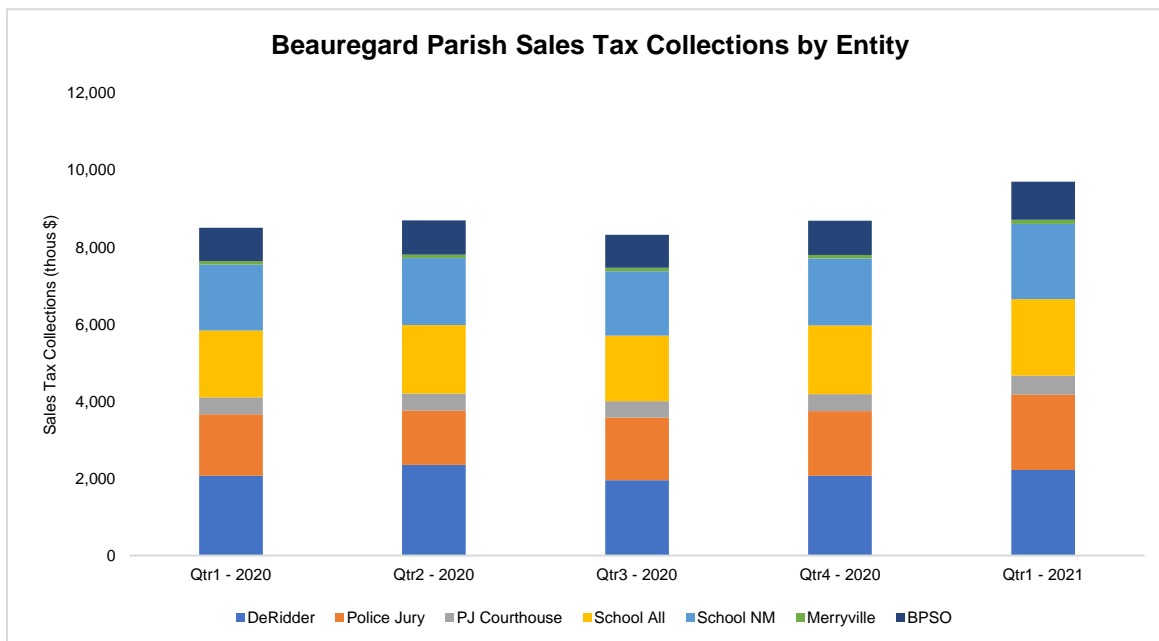
Tax Collections



Beauregard parish has seen an increase in its sales tax collections in the 1st quarter of 2021, compared to the same quarter the previous year. Sales tax collections rose by \$1.2 million over the year for a 14% increase. Part of this no doubt comes from increased purchases in the parish after the storms. Looking at the entities that receive sales tax distributions shows that DeRidder collects the most revenue. These are sales conducted within the city limits. This category saw a year-over-year increase of \$154.8 thousand (+7.5%) over the year. All other entities all experienced increases in sales tax collections. Police Jury collections grew the largest at

\$355.5 thousand (+22.2%). School board revenues, All and NM, rose by \$241.6 thousand (+13.9%) and \$240.0 thousand (14%), respectively. PJ Courthouse collections rose \$59.6 thousand (+13.7%) and BPSO increased \$119.2 thousand (+13.7%) over the year. Finally, Merryville collections rose \$23.5 thousand (+26.3%).

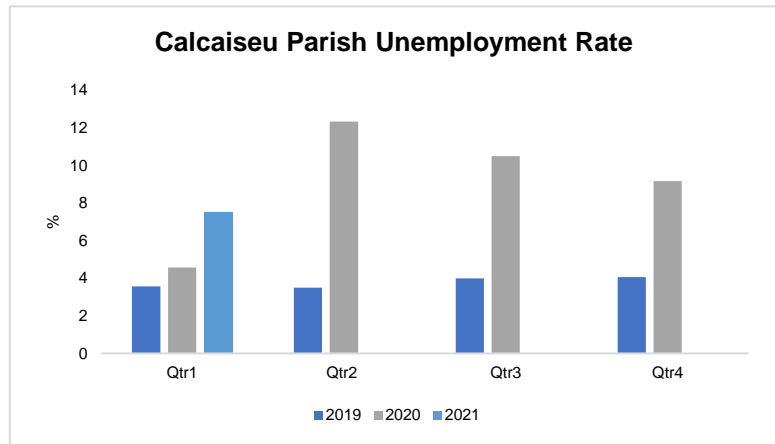
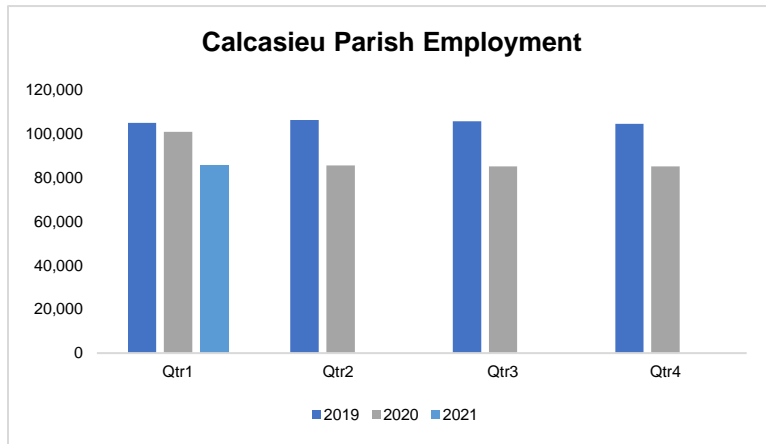
| Sales Tax Collections (thous \$) | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| DeRidder | 2,067.4 | 2,350.9 | 1,955.1 | 2,075.1 | 2,222.1 | 154.8 | 7.5 |
| Police Jury | 1,600.3 | 1,413.2 | 1,630.0 | 1,673.5 | 1,955.9 | 355.5 | 22.2 |
| PJ Courthouse | 434.6 | 442.1 | 424.5 | 442.0 | 494.1 | 59.6 | 13.7 |
| School All | 1,740.8 | 1,773.0 | 1,702.9 | 1,781.4 | 1,982.4 | 241.6 | 13.9 |
| School NM | 1,709.5 | 1,738.7 | 1,667.3 | 1,734.5 | 1,949.6 | 240.0 | 14.0 |
| Merryville | 89.4 | 92.1 | 92.9 | 98.7 | 112.8 | 23.5 | 26.3 |
| BPSO | 869.2 | 884.8 | 851.7 | 884.9 | 988.3 | 119.2 | 13.7 |
| Total | 8,511.1 | 8,694.7 | 8,324.5 | 8,690.1 | 9,705.2 | 1,194.1 | 14.0 |



Selected Employment Indicators – Calcasieu Parish

| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 |
|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Household Employment | 100,978 | 85,659 | 85,163 | 85,146 | 85,470 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | -2,065 | -18,534 | -17,694 | -17,781 | -15,508 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -2.0 | -17.8 | -17.2 | -17.3 | -15.4 |
| Household Unemployment | 4,810 | 12,101 | 9,967 | 8,617 | 6,958 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 893 | 8,071 | 5,316 | 4,269 | 2,148 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 22.8 | 200.2 | 114.3 | 98.2 | 44.7 |
| Labor Force | 105,788 | 97,760 | 95,129 | 93,763 | 92,429 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | -1,172 | -10,463 | -12,377 | -13,511 | -13,360 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -1.1 | -9.7 | -11.5 | -12.6 | -12.6 |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | 4.6 | 12.3 | 10.5 | 9.2 | 7.5 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 0.9 | 8.6 | 6.2 | 5.1 | 3.0 |

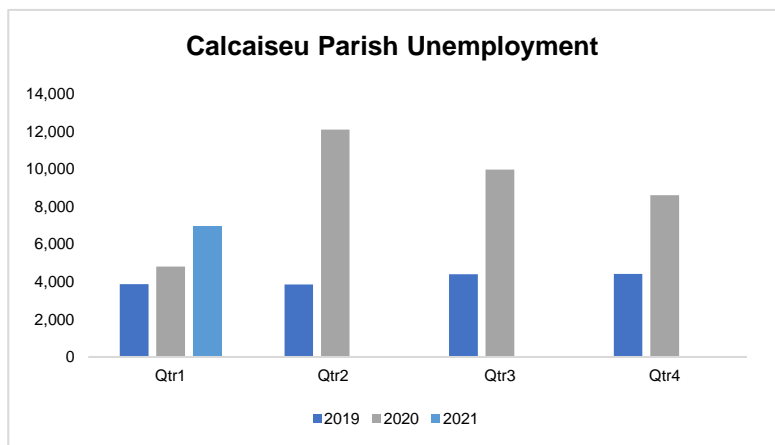
| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total Job Openings | 4,875 | 3,772 | 4,824 | 4,578 | 5,358 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | -570 | -1,654 | -1,548 | -800 | 484 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -10.5 | -30.5 | -24.3 | -14.9 | 9.9 |



In the 1st quarter of 2021, Calcasieu parish saw a drop in the labor force of 13,360 (-12.6%). This was due to a drop in household employment of 15,508 over the year (-15.4%) while the number of unemployed persons rose 2,148 (+44.7%). The unemployment rate rose 3.0 percentage points over the year to 7.5%.

Job openings in the 1st quarter averaged 5,358. Openings rose by 484 (+9.9%) over the year.

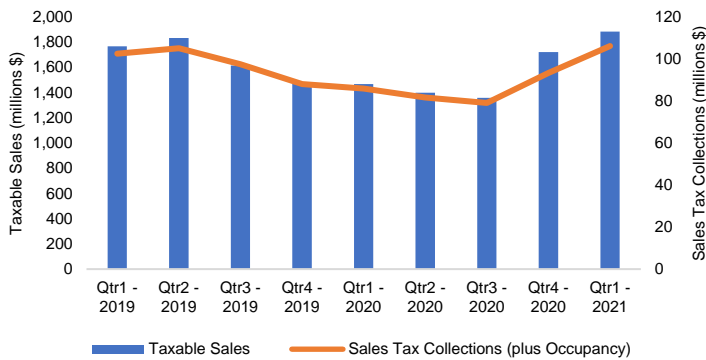
The graphs show the levels of household employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate for each quarter compared to the same quarter the previous two years. Calcasieu had lower employment levels through 2021 compared to the previous years. The unemployment measures have been higher than in 2020 though that may not continue due to a falling labor force. Calcasieu employment figures have been hit the hard by the storms.



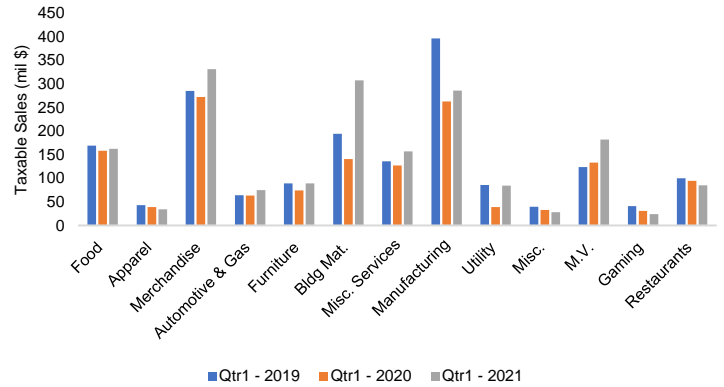
Calcasieu employment figures have been hit the hard by the storms.

Tax Collections

Calcasieu Parish Taxable Sales and Sales Tax Collections



Calcasieu Parish Taxable Sales - Qtr 1 YTD



| Collections (mil \$) | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Food | 158.1 | 170.9 | 147.8 | 140.4 | 162.3 | 4.2 | 2.7 |
| Apparel | 38.9 | 17.0 | 31.7 | 20.2 | 34.1 | -4.8 | -12.3 |
| Merchandise | 271.9 | 276.0 | 255.1 | 286.8 | 331.2 | 59.3 | 21.8 |
| Automotive & Gas | 63.0 | 66.5 | 79.2 | 82.2 | 74.9 | 11.9 | 18.8 |
| Furniture | 74.4 | 59.6 | 62.8 | 62.6 | 89.1 | 14.7 | 19.8 |
| Bldg Mat. | 140.3 | 151.5 | 148.2 | 348.5 | 307.7 | 167.4 | 119.3 |
| Misc. Services | 126.9 | 100.2 | 97.9 | 180.9 | 156.6 | 29.7 | 23.4 |
| Manufacturing | 262.5 | 277.6 | 222.1 | 247.0 | 285.9 | 23.4 | 8.9 |
| Utility | 39.1 | 42.3 | 34.0 | 57.3 | 84.7 | 45.6 | 116.6 |
| Misc. | 32.8 | 23.6 | 29.8 | 26.7 | 27.8 | -5.0 | -15.2 |
| M.V. | 133.2 | 111.8 | 137.4 | 176.0 | 182.2 | 49.0 | 36.8 |
| Gaming | 30.9 | 19.2 | 30.0 | 29.8 | 23.9 | -7.0 | -22.5 |
| Restaurants | 94.2 | 81.5 | 81.5 | 62.4 | 85.0 | -9.2 | -9.8 |
| Total | 1466.2 | 1397.7 | 1357.6 | 1721.0 | 1845.3 | 379.1 | 25.9 |

Calcasieu parish has recently seen large increases in taxable sales. Much of the increases come from building materials and motor vehicles as rebuilding and repairs commence after the storms. Other categories are still being

affected by the pandemic and recession. Sales tax collections, plus occupancy, have risen by \$20.2 million over the year for a 23.5% increase. General sales taxes rose by \$19.8 million (+23.5%) over the year. Occupancy taxes were higher. These taxes rose \$0.4 million for a 25.4% increase. This occurred as total taxable sales in the parish rose \$379.1 million (+25.9%) over the year. Almost all categories of sales generally increased. The most striking (in percentage terms) were Building Materials (+119.3%), Utility (+116.6%) and Motor Vehicles (+36.8%). Miscellaneous Services and General Merchandise sales in the parish also increased 23.4% and 21.8%, respectively. Large decreases were seen in Gaming (-22.5%) and Apparel (-12.3%). The results point to rebuilding from the hurricanes causing increases as well as increased activity coming out of the pandemic.

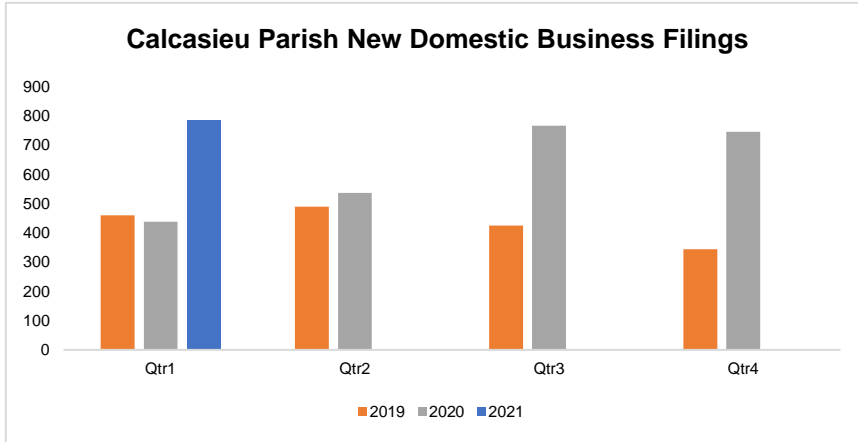
| Collections (mil \$) | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| General Sales Tax Collections | 84.3 | 80.5 | 77.5 | 90.9 | 104.1 | 19.8 | 23.5 |
| Occupancy Taxes | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 2.5 | 1.9 | 0.4 | 25.4 |
| Sales Tax Collections | 85.8 | 81.6 | 79.0 | 93.4 | 106.1 | 20.2 | 23.5 |

YTD figures show that total taxable sales have risen in the parish by \$379.1 million compared to the 1st quarter of 2020 YTD figure for a 25.9% increase. This led to a \$20.2 million increase in sales tax collections (+23.5%).

| Taxable Sales YTD (mil \$) | Qtr 1 | Qtr 2 | Qtr 3 | Qtr 4 |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 2019 | 1,764.7 | 3,596.1 | 5,210.1 | 6,685.0 |
| 2020 | 1,466.2 | 2,863.9 | 4,221.5 | 5,942.4 |
| 2021 | 1,845.3 | | | |

| Sales Tax YTD (mil \$) | Qtr 1 | Qtr 2 | Qtr 3 | Qtr 4 |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 2019 | 102.4 | 207.5 | 304.9 | 392.8 |
| 2020 | 85.8 | 167.4 | 246.4 | 339.8 |
| 2021 | 106.1 | | | |

New Business Filings



The graph shows the amount of new business filings each quarter compared to the same quarter in the previous two years.

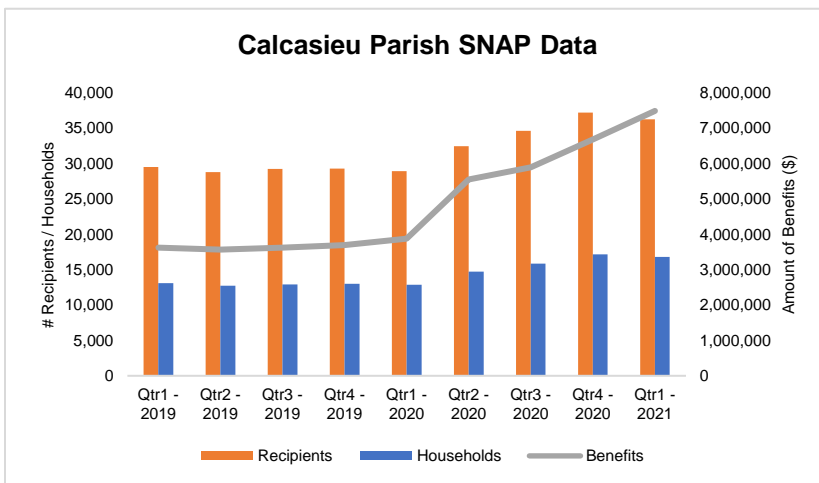
The number of new business filings in Calcasieu parish was 787 in the 1st quarter of 2021 which was 348 more than the same quarter the previous year and 327 more compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 1st quarter of 2021 was 787. This was 348 more businesses than the 1st quarter of 2020 YTD and 327 businesses higher than the same quarter of 2019 YTD.

| Qtrly New Business Filings | Qtr1 | Qtr2 | Qtr3 | Qtr4 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| 2019 | 460 | 490 | 425 | 344 |
| 2020 | 439 | 537 | 767 | 746 |
| 2021 | 787 | | | |

| Qtrly New Business Filings YTD | Qtr1 | Qtr2 | Qtr3 | Qtr4 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| 2019 | 460 | 950 | 1375 | 1719 |
| 2020 | 439 | 976 | 1743 | 2489 |
| 2021 | 787 | | | |

SNAP Benefits

| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Recipients | 28,914 | 32,455 | 34,636 | 37,172 | 36,259 | 7,345 | 25.4 |
| Households | 12,877 | 14,726 | 15,863 | 17,179 | 16,810 | 3,932 | 30.5 |
| Benefits | 3,872,104 | 5,544,380 | 5,888,494 | 6,675,059 | 7,486,287 | 3,614,183 | 93.3 |



Calcasieu parish has had an increase in SNAP recipients, households and benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 36,259 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 1st quarter of 2021. This was 7,345 more people receiving benefits compared to the 1st quarter of 2020 for an 25.4% increase over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP averaged 16,810 which was 3,932 more than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented a 30.5% increase. In terms of benefits, the parish received an average of \$7.5 million in total during the 1st quarter of 2021, which was a \$3.6 million increase over-the-year. This was a 93.3% increase in benefits in the parish. Looking at the

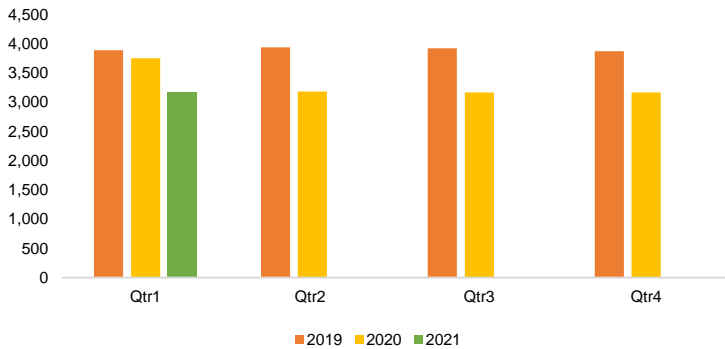
graph illustrates an overall flat trend in benefits in 2019 before spiking in the 2nd quarter of 2020 and continuing. This trend is also shown in the number of households and recipients receiving benefits as the coronavirus pandemic and hurricanes have affected the local economy.

Selected Employment Indicators – Cameron Parish

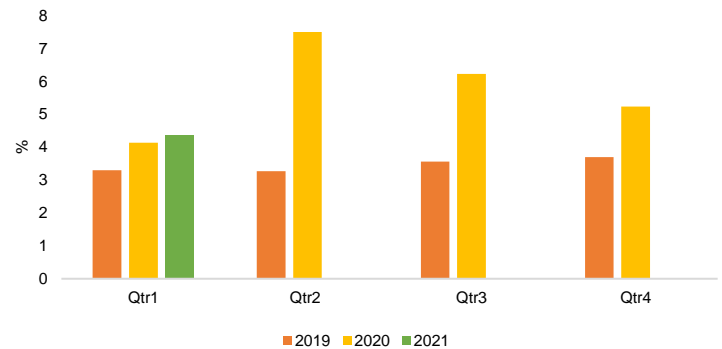
| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Household Employment | 3,755 | 3,184 | 3,165 | 3,167 | 3,179 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | -78 | -688 | -662 | -658 | -576 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -2.0 | -17.8 | -17.3 | -17.2 | -15.3 |
| Household Unemployment | 162 | 260 | 209 | 176 | 145 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 27 | 121 | 57 | 30 | -17 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 20.2 | 86.8 | 37.7 | 20.3 | -10.5 |
| Labor Force | 3,917 | 3,444 | 3,375 | 3,343 | 3,325 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | -50 | -568 | -604 | -628 | -593 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | -1.3 | -14.2 | -15.2 | -15.8 | -15.1 |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | 4.1 | 7.5 | 6.2 | 5.2 | 4.4 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 0.7 | 4.0 | 2.4 | 1.6 | 0.2 |

| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Job Openings | 151 | 103 | 130 | 145 | 137 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 9 | -40 | -127 | -76 | -14 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 6.3 | -28.1 | -49.5 | -34.2 | -9.3 |

Cameron Parish Employment



Cameron Parish Unemployment Rate

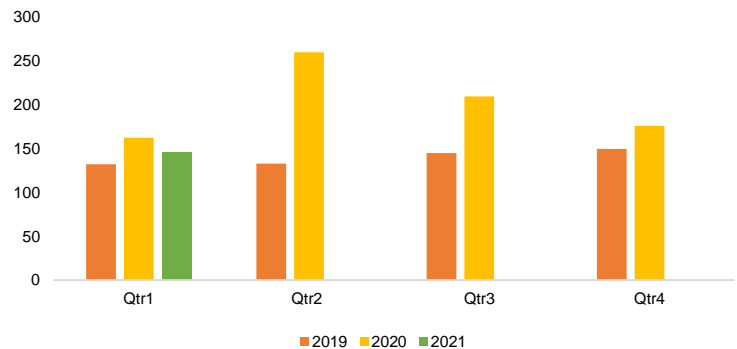


In the 1st quarter of 2021, Cameron parish had a drop in household employment of 576 over the year (-15.3%) while the number of unemployed persons dropped by 17 (-10.5%). This meant a decrease of 593 (-15.1%) in the total labor force. The unemployment rate increased 0.2 percentage points over the year to 4.4%.

Job openings in the 1st quarter of 2021 averaged 137. Openings fell by 14 (-9.3%) over the year.

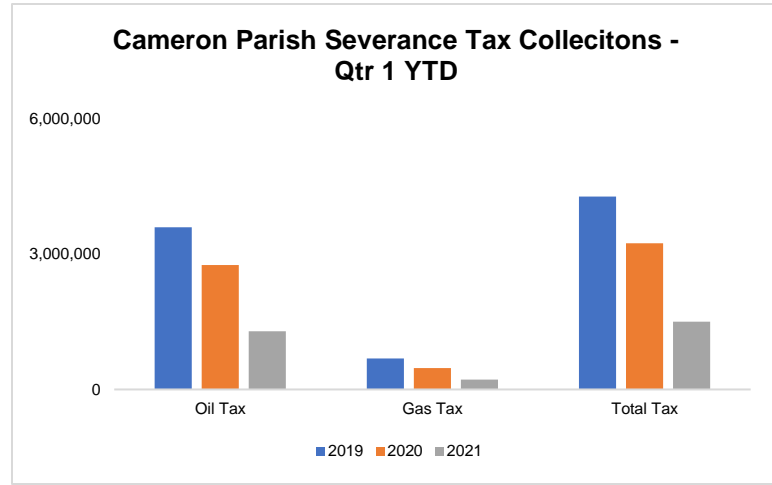
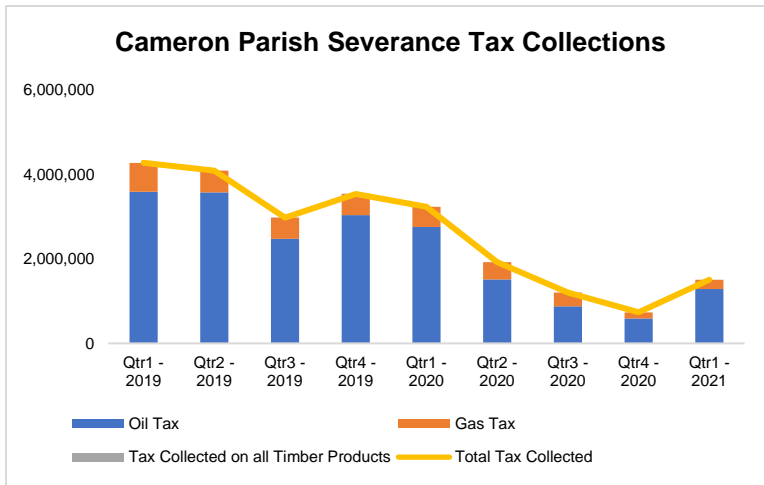
Cameron Parish had a lower employment level in 2021 compared to the same quarter the previous year while the unemployment measure was also slightly lower. As Cameron has been hit by hard by two hurricanes and this has resulted in falling labor force.

Cameron Parish Unemployment



Tax Collections

Cameron parish collects no local sales tax, so it is not possible to show the monthly or quarterly trends in those particular tax collections in the parish. However, Cameron is the parish in SWLA that is generally responsible for the highest amount of state severance tax collections. In order to give some view into the severance tax collections in the parish, below are figures and data relating to the recent severance tax collections by category for Cameron.



The graph on the above left shows the total severance tax collections from each source with the line representing total collections. The graph on the upper right shows the latest first quarter YTD figures for each severance tax type (as well as total) over the past three years.

| Severance Tax Collections | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Oil Tax | 2,758,732 | 1,513,188 | 881,297 | 589,588 | 1,286,389 | -1,472,344 | -53.4 |
| Gas Tax | 476,917 | 409,637 | 323,106 | 147,297 | 218,223 | -258,694 | -54.2 |
| Tax Collected on all Timber Products | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | NA |
| Total Tax Collected | 3,235,649 | 1,922,825 | 1,204,403 | 736,885 | 1,504,611 | -1,731,038 | -53.5 |

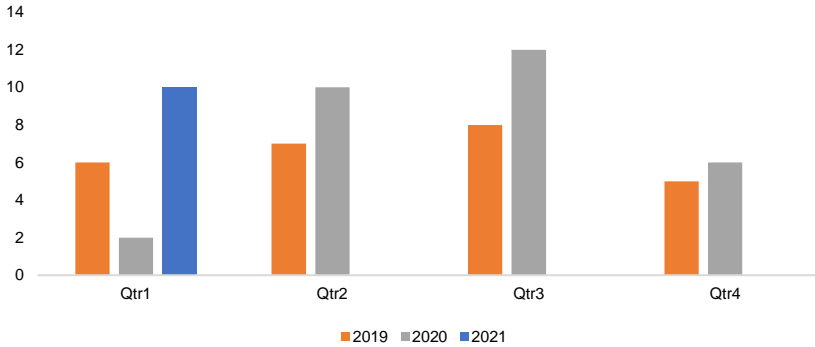
| Total Severance Tax Collections (YTD) | Qtr1 | Qtr2 | Qtr3 | Qtr4 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| 2019 | 4,276,091 | 8,368,328 | 11,341,916 | 14,881,376 |
| 2020 | 3,235,649 | 5,158,474 | 6,362,877 | 7,099,761 |
| 2021 | 1,504,611 | | | |

The largest amount of severance tax collections from Cameron are taxes on oil. Oil tax collections in the 1st quarter of 2021 fell by \$1.4 million compared to the same quarter the previous year. This represented an 53.4% drop as oil prices fell due to the pandemic and the hurricane disrupted production. In terms of gas collections, those fell \$258.7 thousand over that period for a 54.2% decrease. Timber product collections have been zero. Total severance taxes collected from the parish have fallen \$1.7 million over the year in the 1st quarter of 2021 for an 53.5% decrease. However, the 1st quarter collections did represent an improvement from the 4th quarter of 2020.

The YTD figures show in 2020 there was a substantial drop in total severance taxes collected compared to the previous year. In the 1st quarter 2020 YTD, severance taxes fell \$1.7 million for a fall of -53.5%. As mentioned previously, much of this can be traced to the drop in oil prices and production activity throughout the state and nation due to the pandemic and Hurricane Laura.

New Business Filings

Cameron Parish New Domestic Business Filings



The graph shows the amount of new business filings each quarter compared to the same quarter in the previous two years.

The number of new business filings in Cameron parish was 10 in the 1st quarter of 2021 which was 8 more than the same quarter the previous year and 4 more compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 1st quarter of 2021 was 10. This was 8 more business than the 1st quarter of 2020 YTD and 4 businesses higher than the 1st quarter of 2019 YTD.

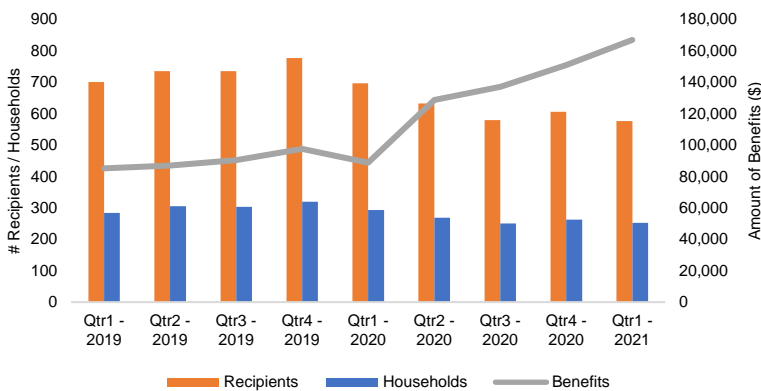
| Qtrly New Business Filings | Qtr1 | Qtr2 | Qtr3 | Qtr4 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| 2019 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 5 |
| 2020 | 2 | 10 | 12 | 6 |
| 2021 | 10 | | | |

| Qtrly New Business Filings YTD | Qtr1 | Qtr2 | Qtr3 | Qtr4 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| 2019 | 6 | 13 | 21 | 26 |
| 2020 | 2 | 12 | 24 | 30 |
| 2021 | 10 | | | |

SNAP Benefits

| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Recipients | 696 | 631 | 579 | 605 | 576 | -120 | -17.2 |
| Households | 293 | 268 | 250 | 262 | 252 | -41 | -14.0 |
| Benefits | 88,766 | 128,470 | 136,963 | 150,788 | 166,746 | 77,979 | 87.8 |

Cameron Parish SNAP Data



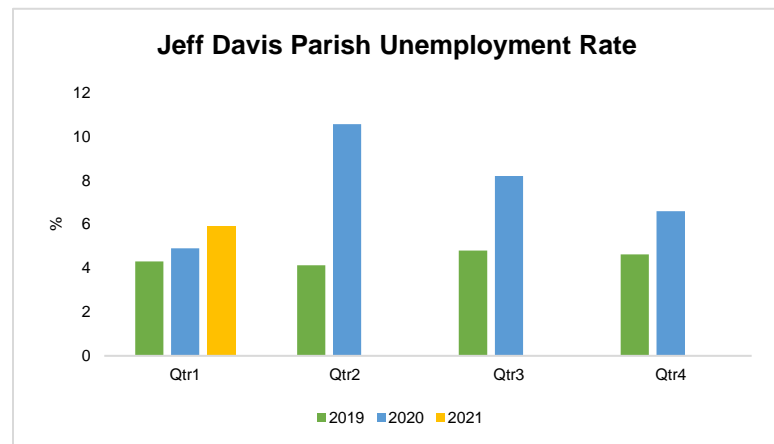
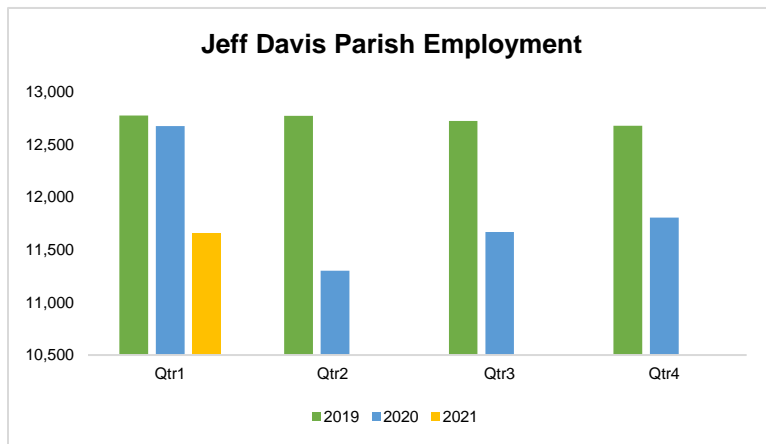
Cameron parish has had drops in SNAP recipients and households while experiencing a sharp rise in benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 576 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 1st quarter of 2020. This was 120 fewer people receiving benefits compared to the 1st quarter of 2020 for a 17.2% decrease over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP averaged 252 which was 41 less than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented a 14% decrease. While the number of recipients and households decreased, benefits rose substantially. The parish received an average of \$166.7 thousand in total during the 1st quarter of 2020, which was an \$78 thousand

increase over-the-year. This was an 87.8% increase in benefits in the parish. Looking at the graph illustrates recipients and households falling throughout the year while benefits have sharply increased in the last quarter due to the pandemic and storms. Part of this falling participation is most likely due to population loss from the storms.

Selected Employment Indicators – Jefferson Davis Parish

| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Household Employment | 12,676 | 11,301 | 11,669 | 11,806 | 11,660 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 123 | -1,555 | -1,316 | -1,031 | -1,015 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 1.0 | -12.1 | -10.1 | -8.0 | -8.0 |
| Household Unemployment | 648 | 1,340 | 1,036 | 833 | 733 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 72 | 766 | 364 | 227 | 85 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 12.4 | 133.3 | 54.1 | 37.4 | 13.1 |
| Labor Force | 13,324 | 12,641 | 12,705 | 12,639 | 12,393 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 194 | -789 | -952 | -804 | -931 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 1.5 | -5.9 | -7.0 | -6.0 | -7.0 |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | 4.9 | 10.6 | 8.2 | 6.6 | 5.9 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 0.5 | 6.3 | 3.3 | 2.1 | 1.0 |

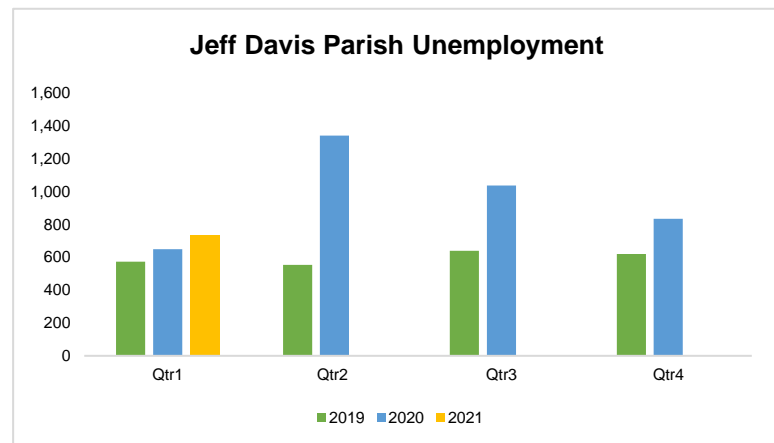
| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Job Openings | 312 | 235 | 220 | 293 | 364 |
| Year-Over-Year Change | 35 | -11 | -17 | -5 | 52 |
| Year-Over-Year % Change | 12.5 | -4.6 | -7.2 | -1.7 | 16.5 |



In the 1st quarter of 2021, Jefferson Davis parish saw a decrease of 931 (-7.0%) in the total labor force. This was broken down by a drop in household employment of 1,015 over the year (-8.0%) while the number of unemployed persons rose 85 (+13.1%). The unemployment rate increased 1.0 percentage points over the year to 5.9%.

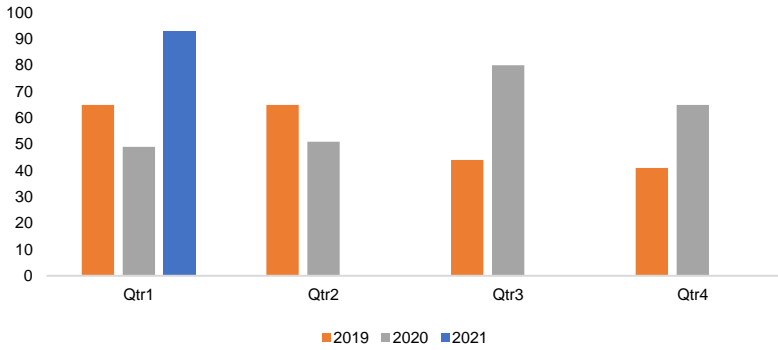
Job openings in the 1st quarter of 2021 averaged 364. Openings rose by 52 (+16.5%) over the year.

The graphs show the levels of household employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate for each quarter compared to the same quarter the previous two years. Jeff Davis parish had lower figures for employment in 2021 compared to the previous year, with higher unemployment figures.



New Business Filings

Jeff Davis Parish New Domestic Business Filings



The graph shows the amount of new business filings each quarter compared to the same quarter in the previous two years.

The number of new business filings in Jefferson Davis parish was 93 in the 1st quarter of 2021 which was 44 more than the same quarter the previous year and 28 more compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 1st quarter of 2021 was 93. This was 44 more businesses than the 1st quarter of 2020 YTD and 28 businesses higher than the 1st quarter of 2019 YTD.

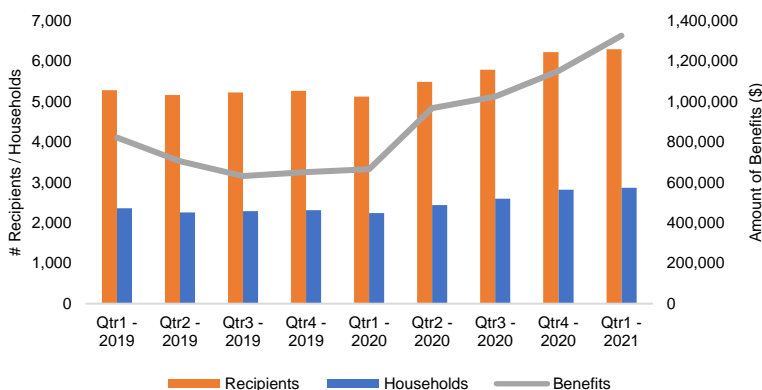
| Qtrly New Business Filings | Qtr1 | Qtr2 | Qtr3 | Qtr4 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| 2019 | 65 | 65 | 44 | 41 |
| 2020 | 49 | 51 | 80 | 65 |
| 2021 | 93 | | | |

| Qtrly New Business Filings YTD | Qtr1 | Qtr2 | Qtr3 | Qtr4 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| 2019 | 65 | 130 | 174 | 215 |
| 2020 | 49 | 100 | 180 | 245 |
| 2021 | 93 | | | |

SNAP Benefits

| | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Recipients | 5,117 | 5,484 | 5,782 | 6,219 | 6,295 | 1,178 | 23.0 |
| Households | 2,241 | 2,440 | 2,595 | 2,821 | 2,863 | 622 | 27.7 |
| Benefits | 665,681 | 966,671 | 1,024,278 | 1,151,357 | 1,325,623 | 659,942 | 99.1 |

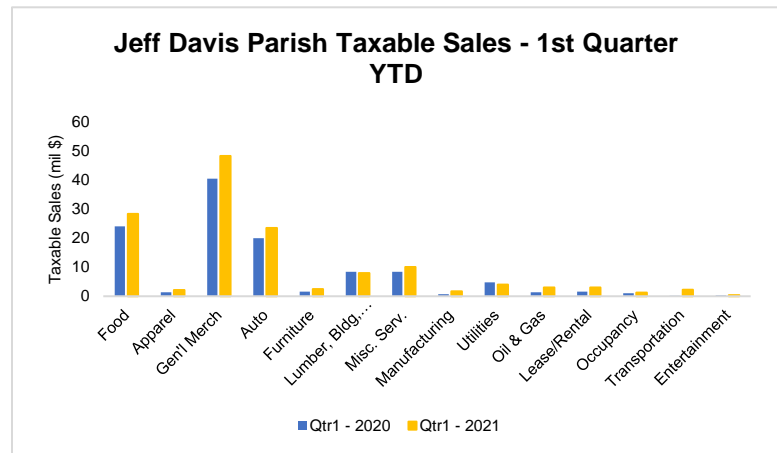
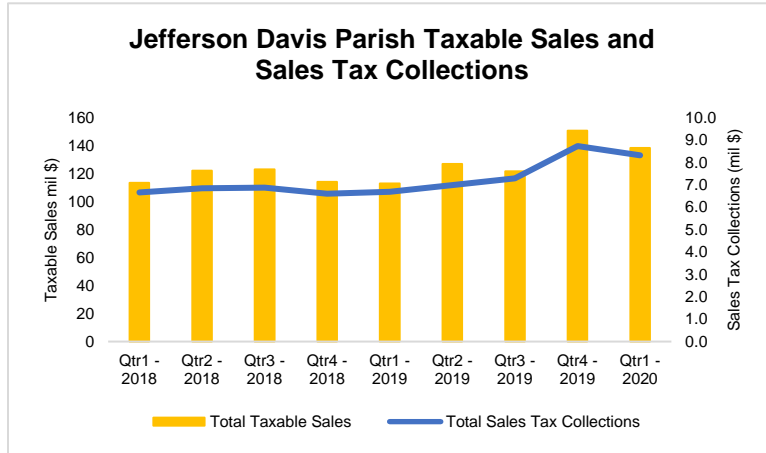
Jefferson Davis Parish SNAP Data



Jefferson Davis parish has had increase in SNAP recipients, households and benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 6,295 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 1st quarter of 2021. This was 1,178 more people receiving benefits compared to the 1st quarter of 2020 for a 23% increase over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP averaged 2,863 which was 622 more than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented a 27.7% increase. In terms of benefits, the parish received an average of \$1.3 million in total during the 1st quarter of 2021, which was a \$660 thousand rise over-the-year. This was a 99.1% increase in benefits in the parish. Looking at the graph

illustrates an overall decreasing trend in benefits beginning in 2019 before spiking in the second quarter of 2020. This has been followed by continued growth. This trend is also shown in the number of households and recipients receiving benefits. This is no doubt due to the pandemic.

Tax Collections



| Taxable Sales (mil \$) | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Food | 23.3 | 26.2 | 25.6 | 31.0 | 28.3 | 5.0 | 21.4 |
| Apparel | 1.5 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 2.1 | 0.7 | 45.1 |
| Gen'l Merch | 40.6 | 49.6 | 35.7 | 45.8 | 48.3 | 7.7 | 19.0 |
| Auto | 19.8 | 23.1 | 32.1 | 30.9 | 23.5 | 3.7 | 18.5 |
| Furniture | 2.0 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 0.5 | 23.0 |
| Lumber, Bldg, Contractors | 7.5 | 9.2 | 10.7 | 11.8 | 8.0 | 0.5 | 6.2 |
| Misc. Serv. | 8.7 | 6.6 | 6.9 | 8.1 | 10.1 | 1.4 | 15.6 |
| Manufacturing | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 129.2 |
| Utilities | 2.9 | 2.9 | 3.3 | 4.4 | 4.0 | 1.2 | 41.2 |
| Oil & Gas | 3.5 | 3.7 | 1.7 | 5.5 | 3.1 | -0.4 | -11.3 |
| Lease/Rental | 1.6 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 5.1 | 3.0 | 1.4 | 90.7 |
| Occupancy | 0.7 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 3.1 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 82.4 |
| Transportation | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 13,874.9 |
| Entertainment | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 163.8 |
| Total | 113.0 | 127.0 | 121.7 | 150.9 | 138.6 | 25.6 | 22.6 |

| Tax Collections (mil \$) | Qtr1 - 2020 | Qtr2 - 2020 | Qtr3 - 2020 | Qtr4 - 2020 | Qtr1 - 2021 | YoY Change | YoY % Change |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Total Sales Tax Collections | 6.7 | 7.0 | 7.3 | 8.7 | 8.3 | 1.6 | 24.4 |

| Taxable Sales YTD (mil \$) | Qtr 1 | Qtr 2 | Qtr 3 | Qtr 4 |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 2019 | 113.6 | 236.0 | 359.1 | 473.2 |
| 2020 | 113.0 | 240.0 | 361.7 | 512.6 |
| 2021 | 138.6 | | | |

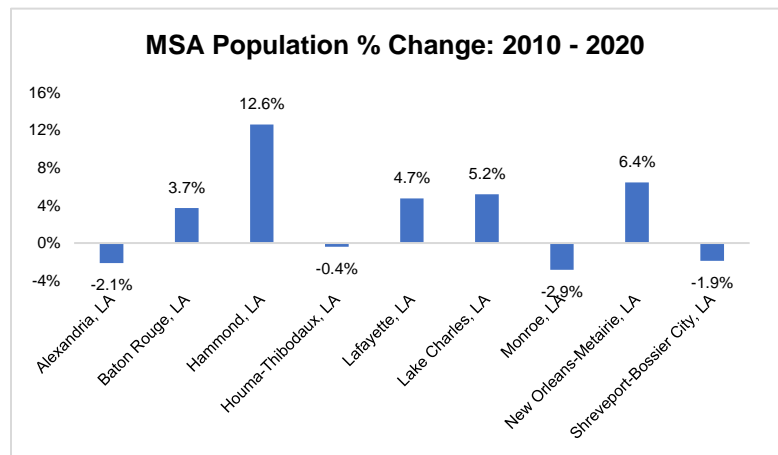
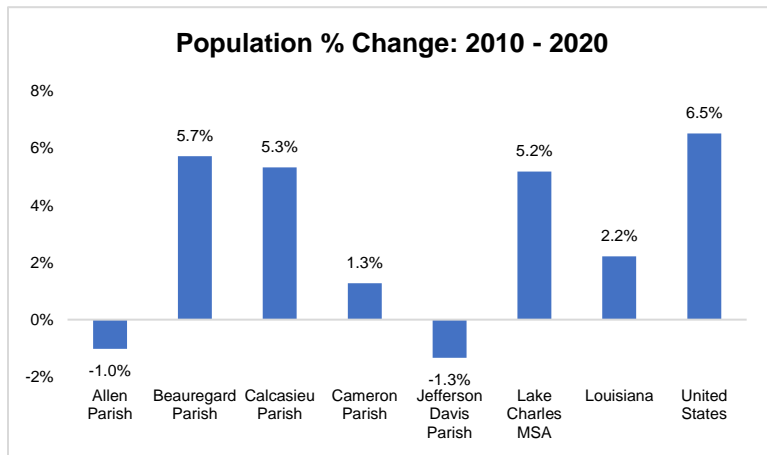
| Sales Tax YTD (mil \$) | Qtr 1 | Qtr 2 | Qtr 3 | Qtr 4 |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 2019 | 6.7 | 13.5 | 20.4 | 27.0 |
| 2020 | 6.7 | 13.7 | 21.0 | 29.7 |
| 2021 | 8.3 | | | |

Jefferson Davis Parish saw an increase in its sales tax collections in the 1st quarter of 2021, compared to the same quarter the previous year. Sales tax collections have increased by approximately \$1.6 million over the year for a 24.4% increase. This occurred as taxable sales in the parish rose by \$25.6 million (+22.6%) over the year. The largest absolute increase occurred in General Merchandise (+\$7.7 million, +19.0%). Food also experienced a large increase (+\$5.0 million, +21.4%) as did Auto (+\$3.7 million, +18.5%). Manufacturing experienced a large percentage increase of 129.2% but only represented a \$1 million increase. The most striking increase occurred in Transportation. This mostly likely occurred due to railard operations, increased deliveries due to the influx of contractors and repair work, and the addition of logistics companies to the transportation group.

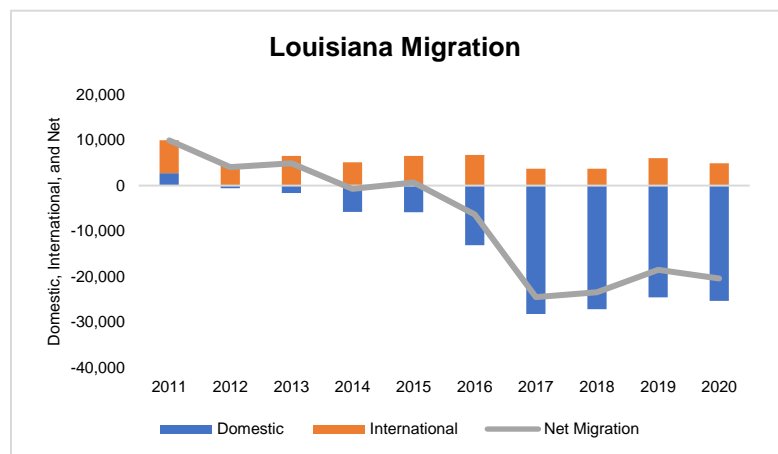
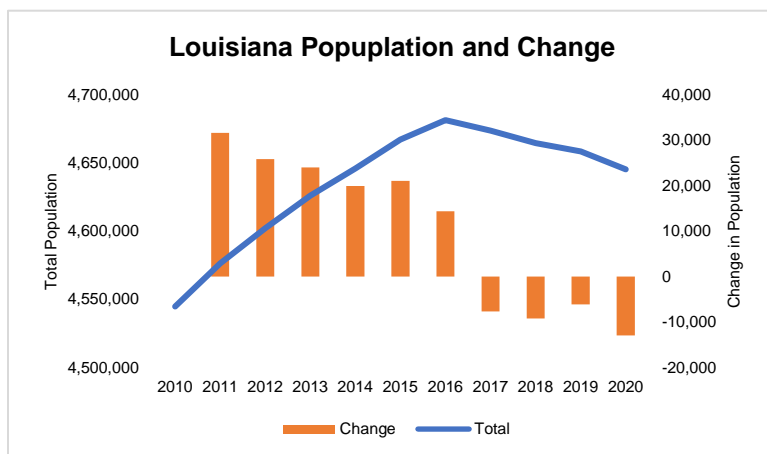
The 1st quarter of 2021 YTD figures show that total taxable sales have increased in the parish by \$25.6 million compared to the same quarter in 2020 for an 22.6% increase. This led to a \$1.6 million increase in 2021 YTD sales tax collections (+24.4%).

On May 4, 2021, the US Census released the latest [2020 Vintage Population Estimates](#) for the nation, states, counties, metropolitan statistical areas, and other geographies. Vintage estimates are released each year and the release of the 2020 estimates allow for an opportunity to compare estimates to the 2020 Decennial Census to evaluate accuracy. Vintage 2020 estimates are based on the 2010 Decennial Census and do not incorporate any results from the 2020 Decennial Census. While the 2020 Decennial Census has been receiving most of the attention due to the consequences regarding the apportionment of Representatives, the Vintage estimates provide great insight into the population dynamics of many different areas.

These Vintage estimates show the amount of population for each area as of July 1st of each year (which is why they are often called “midyear” estimates). Therefore, any results will not show the effects of Hurricane Laura or Hurricane Delta on the population of affected parishes and only some slight effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, we can see how the population is estimated to have changed over the past ten years. Comparing the national and state estimates shows the state and local areas have lagged the nation in percentage terms. While the nation has grown 6.5% from 2010 – 2020, the state has only grown by 2.2%. Lake Charles MSA growth has more than doubled the state at 5.2% over that same time frame. Lake Charles has been the third fastest growing MSA in terms of population behind Hammond (12.6%) and New Orleans (6.4%).

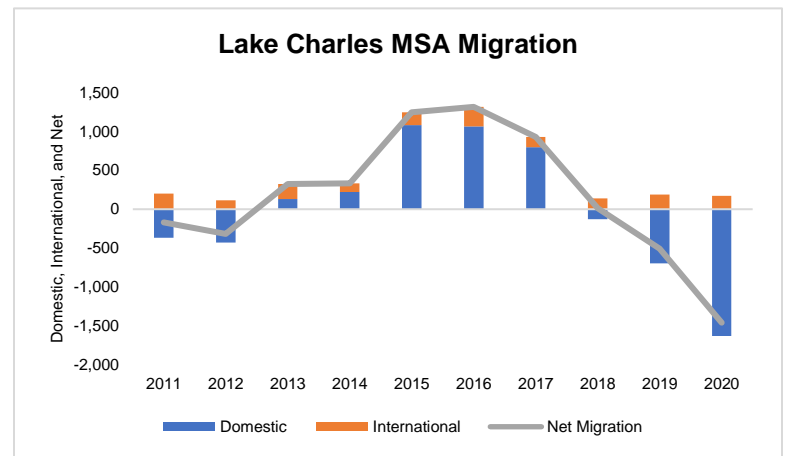
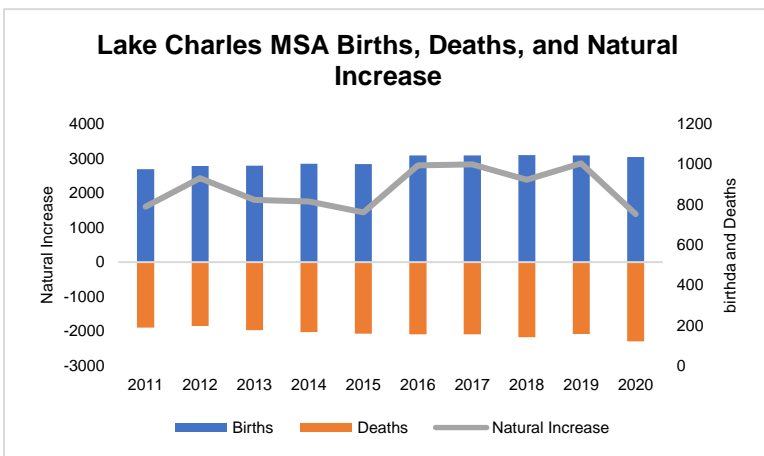
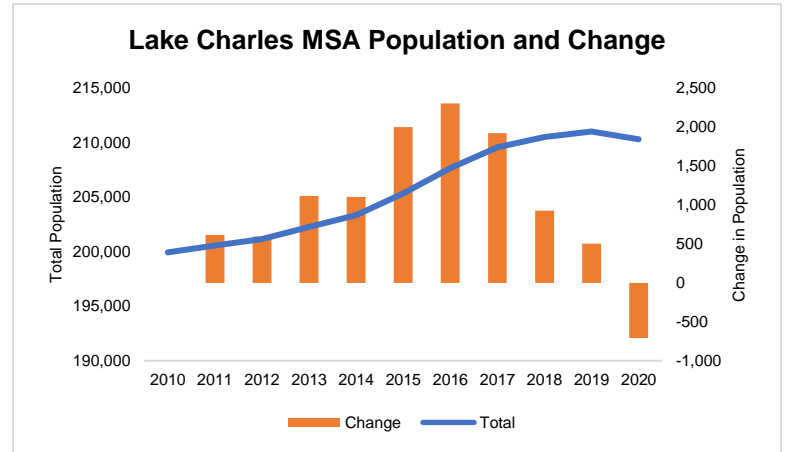


When looking at the parishes individually, Beauregard, Calcasieu, and Cameron, have all experienced increases while Allen and Jefferson Davis Parishes have had population declines from 2010 – 2020. While Beauregard had the fastest percentage growth of 5.7%, this represented a 2,049 increase in the population. Calcasieu had the second largest increase at 5.3% representing a 10,287 increase. The largest drop occurred in Jefferson Davis Parish which lost 421 residents for 1.3% drop.

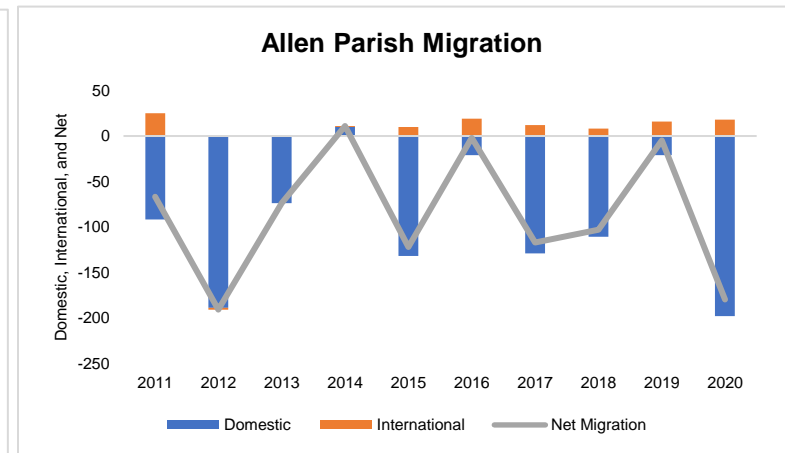
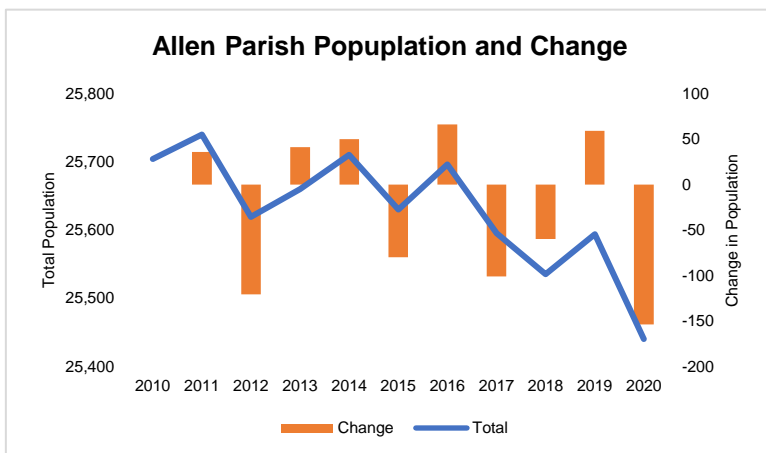


In terms of changes year to year, the state has seen continuous drops in population. Since 2017, the Louisiana has averaged an annual population growth rate of -0.2%. Even before this time the graph to the left on the previous page shows that the increases in population were experiencing a downward trend prior to entering negative territory in 2017. The graph on the previous page to the right shows the state has been experienced negative net migration each year since 2016.

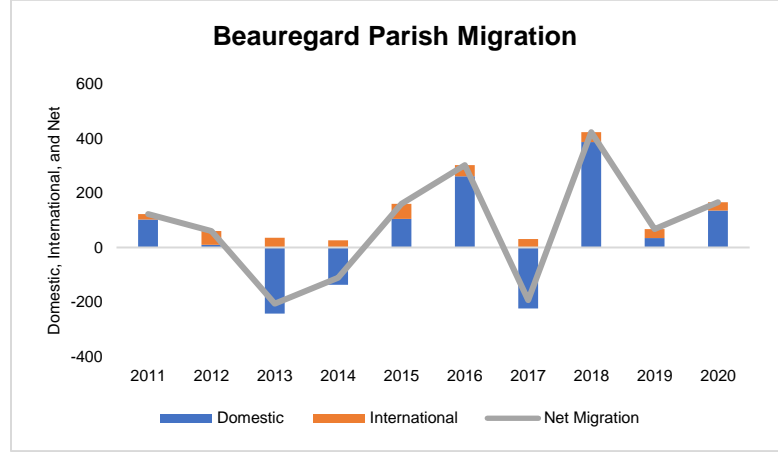
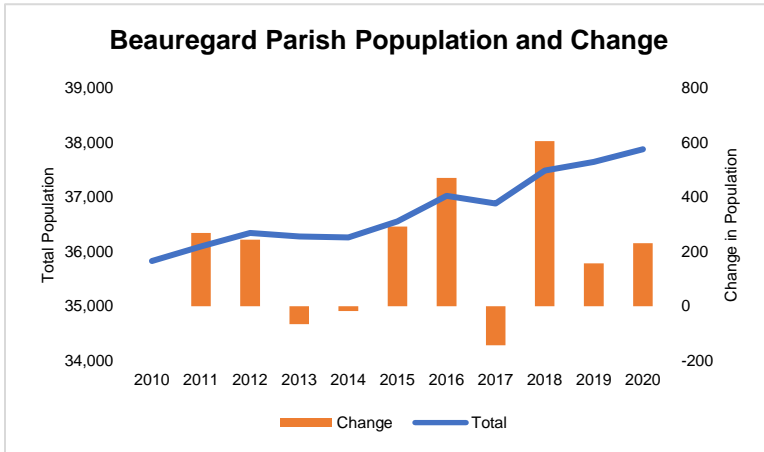
The Lake Charles MSA experienced a different pattern before 2020 led to the first annual drop in population from 2010 – 2020. The graph of Lake Charles MSA shows a steadily increasing population from 2012 before hitting a peak increase in 2016. From 2015 to 2016, the MSA experienced a 1.1% increase in population as the area gained over 2,300 residents. After that time, the population continued to increase, but at a slower pace. The last year of 2020 shows that the MSA had a 0.3% drop in population as Lake Charles lost over 700 residents.



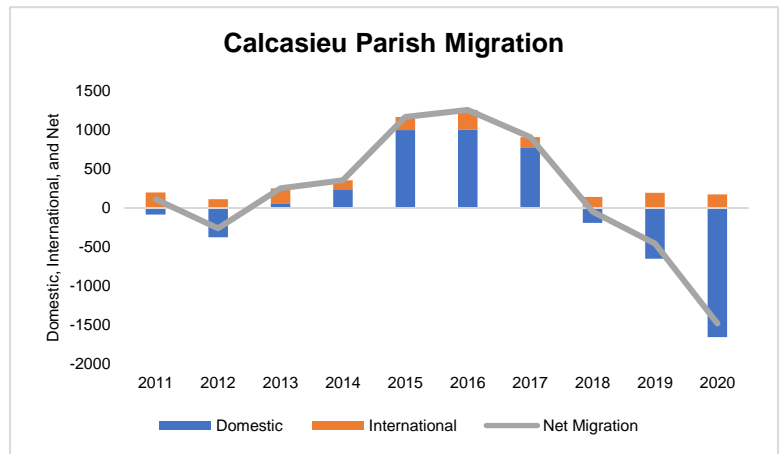
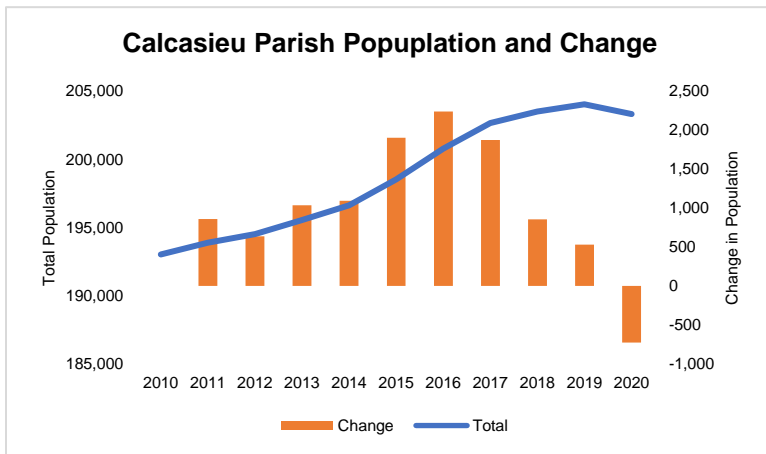
The figures show that while there was a very slight drop in births and a slight increase in deaths from 2019, leading to a smaller natural increase, the drop in population was due to a fall in migration. While international migration has been positive every year throughout the decade, the drops in domestic migration have grown larger since 2018.



Graphs for each parish in Southwest Louisiana show that some parishes have been experiencing overall growth while others have remained steady or experienced slight drops. The changes in Allen have been the volatile of all the parishes. Many of these changes can be attributed to migration patterns. Allen Parish has seen a declining population and domestic net migration in the parish has been negative each year except 2014.

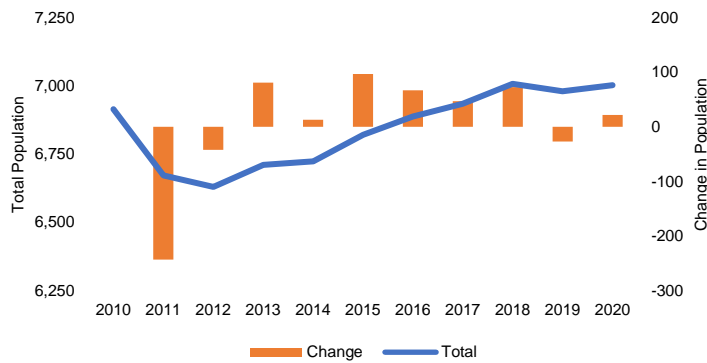


Beauregard parish is one of the most interesting parishes to investigate as the overall trend in population has generally been upward sloping. However, there are three years during this decade in which the population slightly fell. While each year there was a natural increase (more births than deaths), the domestic out-migration in 2013, 2014, and 2018 led to drops in population each of those years.

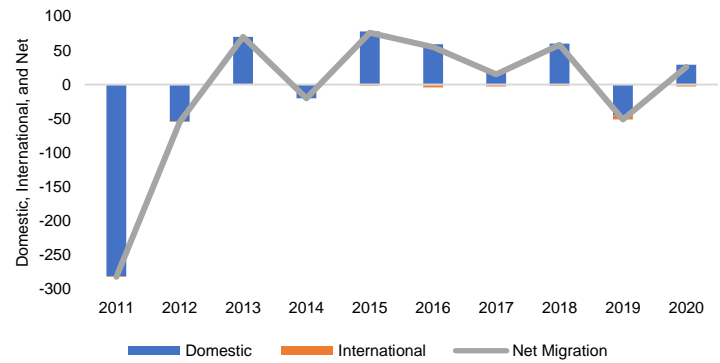


Calcasieu Parish has a similar population trend compared to the state. However, that trend lags as the parish was still seeing increases in population and migration while the state started to see decreases. However, the parish only saw declining population in 2020 with growth in the rest of the years. This drop in 2020 was due to net migration falling to greater levels since 2016. By 2017, net migration became negative, indicating that more people left the parish than moved in. Note, this data does not include the effects of Laura and Delta, so these effects may be similar for data ending in July 2021 when it is released next year

Cameron Parish Population

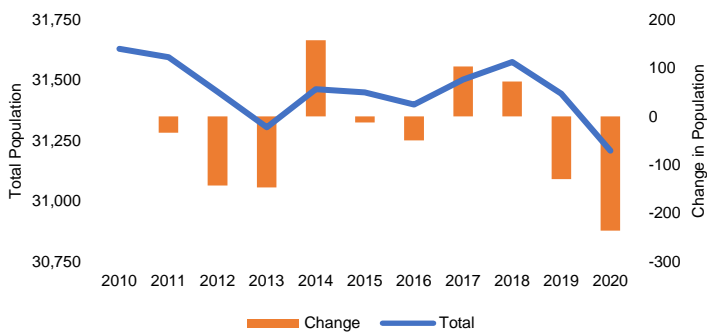


Cameron Parish Migration

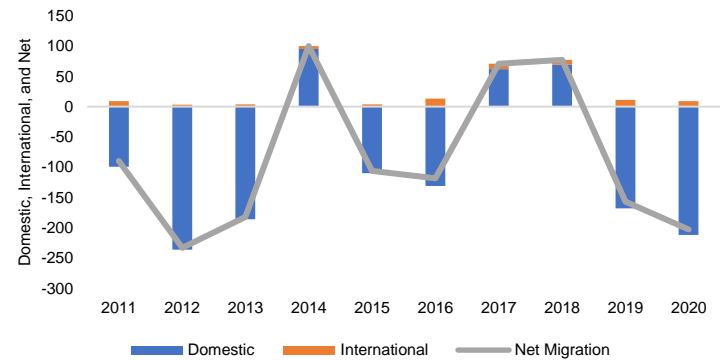


While Cameron Parish has traditionally had very low international migration, the area had started to see significant immigration and population gains after 2012. As the large economic development projects began construction, more people moved into the area. After losing residents in 2011 and 2012, the parish gained population every year until 2019. The last few years have shown relatively steady levels of total population. The effects of the recent storms will show up in future releases and will probably exhibit population declines.

Jefferson Davis Parish Population and Change



Jefferson Davis Parish Migration



Jefferson Davis Parish has also experienced volatile year to year growth. Growth has only been positive for three years since 2010. The parish was the only one to have a natural decrease (more deaths than births) since 2011 as 2018 and 2020 both had natural decreases. In terms of net migration, the figures show the parish had an annual average loss of 84 citizens since 2011.

As the Decennial Census release resulted in Louisiana keeping the number of seats in the House of Representatives, these Vintage 2020 estimates shed further light on estimates of the population change. The state has had falling population since 2017 driven in large part to out migration. Our region, driven mainly by Calcasieu, had been experiencing overall growth until the recent drop in 2020. This drop will most likely continue in the next release due to the storms. The population will need to grow to continue the economic recovery and provide the much needed labor for economic growth. Recent trends in population will have to reverse in order for SWLA to attain a full robust recovery.

The following sources were utilized for each of the graphs and tables shown in the report. Data transformations are described in the footnotes and it should be noted some of the totals in the report may be off due to rounding. The monthly data used for the report, and more not shown, is available at our website, mcneesedrewecon.org/.

1. Lake Charles MSA Employment Indicators – BLS CES/SAE and LAUS^a

Total nonfarm employment, average weekly hours, and average weekly earnings statistics for the area come from the BLS State and Metro Area Employment, Hours, & Earnings (SAE) measures which are derived from the Current Employment Statistics (CES). The household employment measures for the MSA (and parishes) come from the BLS Local Area Employment Statistics (LAUS). The CES/SAE measures are derived from a survey of businesses while LAUS figures come from a survey of households that become part of a BLS formula/model to derive the household employment statistics. For more information, please contact the Drew CBEA.

2. Quarterly Housing Price Indexes - Federal Housing Finance Agency (rebased to have the first quarter of 2011 equal 100)

3. Lake Charles MSA Building Permits – Census Building Permits Survey (BPS)^b

Note: While the building permit YTD figures in this report are calculated by summing up the monthly values, they may not match the YTD values given from pulling data directly from the Census BPS. The YTD monthly values at the BPS are changed due to late and missed filings. However, the monthly values of permits and valuations, which this report uses, are not changed at the Census BPS. These differences appear to be fairly minor, however. For more information, please contact the Drew CBEA.

4. Lake Charles Regional Airport Statistics – Bureau of Transportation Statistics, TranStats^b

5. Lake Charles Port Statistics – Census USA Trade Online^b

6. Lake Charles Gaming Statistics – Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections, Louisiana Gaming Control Board^b

7. Parish Employment Indicators – BLS LAUS^a

The labor force is the sum of household employment and household unemployment.

8. Parish Job Openings – Louisiana Workforce Commission^a

9. New Business Filings – Louisiana Secretary of State^b

10. Parish SNAP Benefits – Louisiana Department of Children & Family Services^a

11. Allen Parish Tax Collections – Allen Parish School Board^b

12. Beauregard Parish Tax Collections – Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office^b

13. Calcasieu Parish Tax Collections – Calcasieu Parish School Board^b

14. Cameron Parish Severance Tax Collections – Louisiana Department of Revenue^b

15. Jefferson Davis Parish Tax Collections – Jefferson Davis Parish School Board^b

16. Unemployment Insurance Claims – Louisiana Workforce Commission

a. Quarterly values are obtained from averaging the monthly values

b. Quarterly values are obtained from summing the monthly values