

### 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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### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2022 Issue

This issue of the Drew CBEA report continues to focus on data illustrating the continuing recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and rebuilding from Hurricanes Laura and Delta. However, we are sort of settling into a “new normal” as the area continues its slow and steady growth. On a national level, this economic time is something we haven’t seen (if we have, it has not been for a long time). The total output of the economy (GDP) has fallen for two consecutive quarters (according to preliminary estimates) but the unemployment rate has continued to fall while jobs are continuously added. If a recession is officially called by the NBER, it may be called a “jobful” recession.

We have been experiencing growth, however, we still are not at pre-pandemic levels of employment. We will get there eventually, barring any unforeseen negative events. For context, the end of this report contains an essay updating the most recent forecasts of the Lake Charles MSA employment from different sources. The wide array of projections illustrates that we will continue to grow, the question is just “How fast?”. If certain projects reach positive final investment decisions beginning construction and the federal recovery money begins to take effect, our growth could be rapid.

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

Dan Grott, Ph.D.

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

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## Selected Employment Indicators – Lake Charles MSA

(measures in thousands of workers)	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>96.3</b>	<b>98.6</b>	<b>100.9</b>	<b>100.3</b>	<b>101.7</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	2.7	6.7	10.3	7.4	5.4
Year-Over-Year % Change	2.9	7.3	11.3	8.0	5.6
<b>Mining and Logging</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Year-Over-Year % Change	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Construction</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>19.0</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	1.8	4.9	4.0	3.4	2.6
Year-Over-Year % Change	12.0	37.2	27.3	22.6	15.6
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>10.7</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-0.2	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.3
Year-Over-Year % Change	-2.2	0.6	3.9	2.3	2.6
<b>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>16.8</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	0.4	0.8	1.4	0.6	0.2
Year-Over-Year % Change	2.5	5.2	8.8	3.9	1.0
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>9.4</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1
Year-Over-Year % Change	2.6	5.2	3.6	1.8	1.4
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>12.7</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	2.0	1.2	2.3	1.3	1.1
Year-Over-Year % Change	21.0	11.1	22.7	12.3	9.8
<b>Government</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>13.6</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-0.7	-0.4	0.1	-0.1	-0.2
Year-Over-Year % Change	-4.6	-3.1	0.5	-1.0	-1.4
<b>Average Weekly Earnings (All Employees)</b>	<b>767.7</b>	<b>784.6</b>	<b>748.1</b>	<b>763.67</b>	<b>800.84</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	39.0	29.2	-12.4	46.4	33.1
Year-Over-Year % Change	5.4	3.9	-1.6	6.5	4.3
<b>Average Hourly Earnings (All Employees)</b>	<b>22.71</b>	<b>24.02</b>	<b>24.34</b>	<b>25.20</b>	<b>25.40</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	0.8	1.5	2.1	3.1	2.7
Year-Over-Year % Change	3.8	6.7	9.3	14.2	11.8

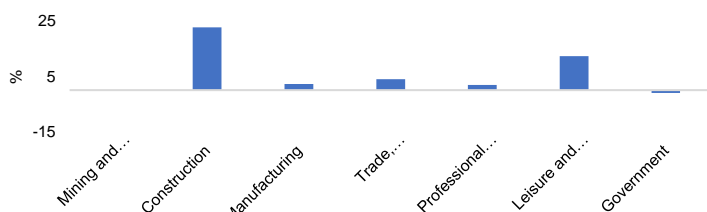
In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, the Lake Charles MSA (consisting of Calcasieu and Cameron parishes) experienced increases in employment compared to the same quarter the previous year. There has been continued growth as the area continues to rebuild from hurricanes and the economy further opens up.

Total nonfarm employment (presented in thousands of jobs in the table) rose by 5,400 jobs over the year for a 5.6% increase. Looking at the industries, it appears all industries either gained jobs over the year or experienced no change, with the exception of Government. Construction experienced the largest industry gain of 15.6% as hurricane rebuilding continues. This is a great trend that will hopefully continue. The Leisure and Hospitality industry has seen gains as it has added 1,100 jobs (+9.8%). Manufacturing gained 300

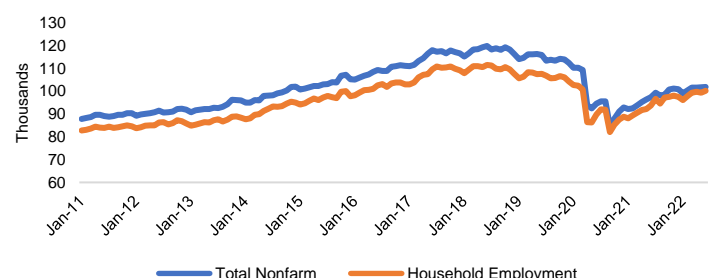
jobs (+2.6%) while Professional and Business Services gained 100 jobs (+1.4%). Trade, Transportation, and Utilities gained 200 jobs (+1.0%) while Government lost 100 jobs (-1.0%).

While there was a gain in employment, there were increases in some earnings measures. Average weekly earnings of all employees rose 6% and average hourly earnings rose 13.9%. Although not shown, average weekly hours of all employees in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter fell 6.9% over the year.

**Total Employment % Change - Available Sectors**  
Qtr 2 2021 - Qtr 2 2022



**Lake Charles MSA Employment Measures**

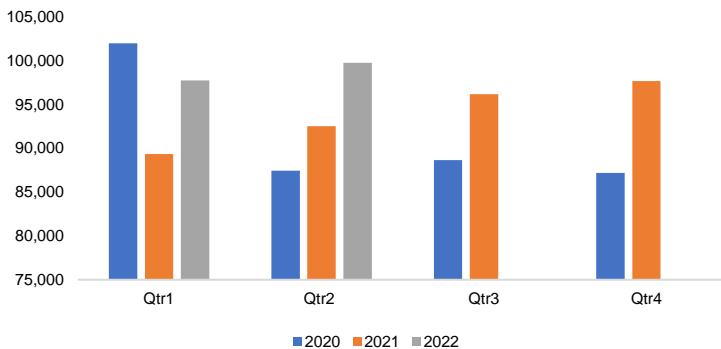


## Selected Employment Indicators – Lake Charles MSA

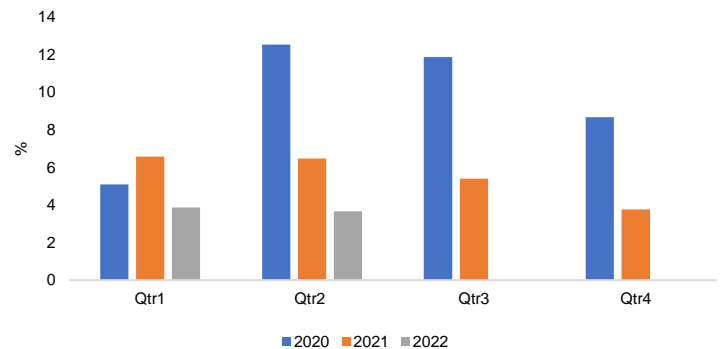
	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022
<b>Household Employment</b>	<b>92,526</b>	<b>96,143</b>	<b>97,663</b>	<b>97,718</b>	<b>99,749</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	5,095	7,497	10,483	8,364	7,223
Year-Over-Year % Change	5.8	8.5	12.0	9.4	7.8
<b>Household Unemployment</b>	<b>6,426</b>	<b>5,478</b>	<b>3,849</b>	<b>3,912</b>	<b>3,805</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-6,109	-6,390	-4,422	-2,392	-2,621
Year-Over-Year % Change	-48.7	-53.8	-53.5	-37.9	-40.8
<b>Labor Force</b>	<b>98,952</b>	<b>101,620</b>	<b>101,512</b>	<b>101,630</b>	<b>103,554</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-1,014	1,107	6,061	5,973	4,602
Year-Over-Year % Change	-1.0	1.1	6.3	6.2	4.7
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.7</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-6.1	-6.5	-4.9	-2.7	-2.8

	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022
<b>Total Job Openings</b>	<b>6,092</b>	<b>6,793</b>	<b>7,127</b>	<b>6,764</b>	<b>6,555</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	2,217	1,839	2,404	1,269	463
Year-Over-Year % Change	57.2	37.1	50.9	23.1	7.6

**Lake Charles MSA Employment**



**Lake Charles MSA Unemployment Rate**

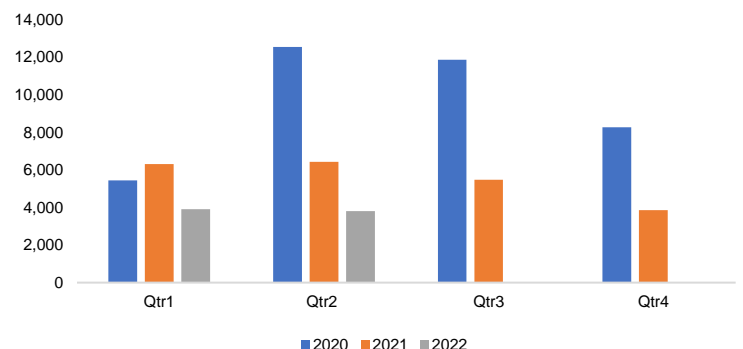


The quarterly average unemployment rate in the MSA currently sits at 3.7% which represents a 2.8 percentage point decrease from a year ago. The household employment measure rose by 7,223 over the year for a 7.8% increase. The number of unemployed decreased by 2,621. This represented a dramatic 40.8% decrease. As the labor force is the total of unemployed and employed, the total change in the labor force was an increase of 4,602 (+4.7%). This is good news as more labor will be needed for long-term growth.

Job openings in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 averaged 6,555. Openings increased by 463 (+7.6%) over the year.

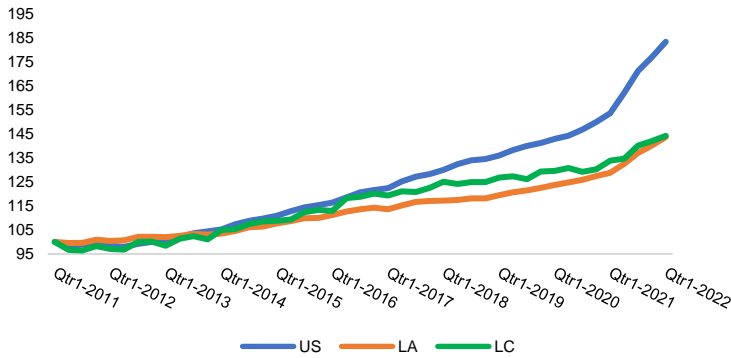
Jobs have been increasing but are still below pre-pandemic levels. Fortunately, the area is above pre-Laura levels.

**Lake Charles MSA Unemployment**



## Housing Statistics

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

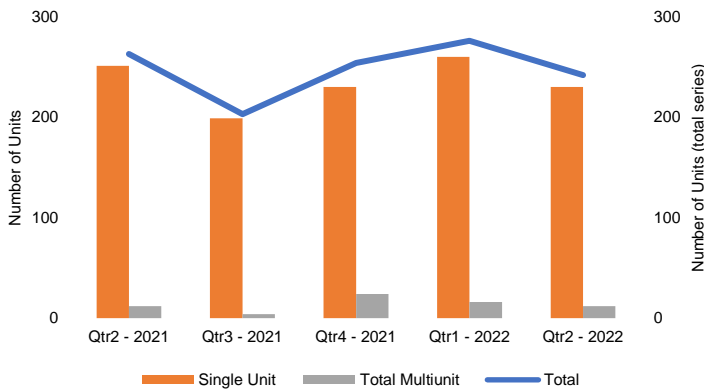


Home Price Index Comparisons	Qtr1 – 2021	Qtr1 - 2021	Year-over-Year % Change
Lake Charles HPI	133.8	144.2	7.8
Louisiana HPI	128.9	143.7	11.5
US HPI	153.6	183.4	19.4

As housing prices have been rising dramatically during this recovery, the 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 2021 to the same quarter in 2022, housing prices have risen 7.8% in the Lake Charles MSA compared to 11.5% in LA and 19.4% in the US.

## Housing Permits – Lake Charles MSA

**Lake Charles MSA Building Permits**



In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, single unit permits fell by 21 over-the-year while multi-unit permits had no change, therefore the total increase was 21. This represented an 8% increase. The YTD figures show an increase in single unit permits of 17 with an increase in multi-unit permits of 6 for a total increase of 23 over-the-year. The percentage increase in YTD was 4.6%. In terms of valuation, single unit permits rose by \$2.6 million while multi-unit permit valuations fell by \$20 thousand for a total increase of \$2.5 million. This represented a 5.8% increase year-over-year in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021 for valuation of all permits. In terms of YTD numbers, single unit permit valuation increased \$9.8 million and multi-unit permit valuation increase \$535 thousand. This led to a \$10.4 million

(+12.4%) increase over-the-year.

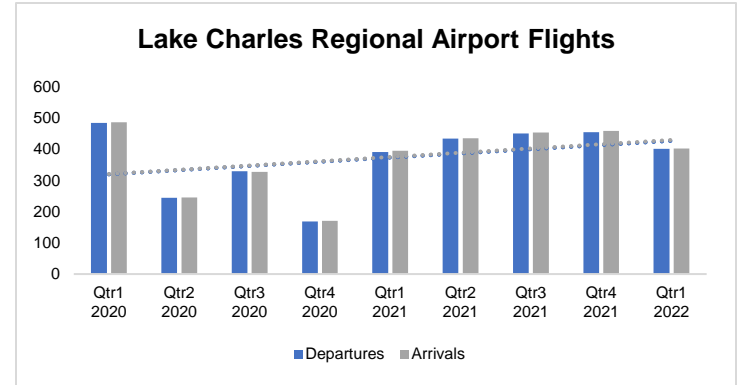
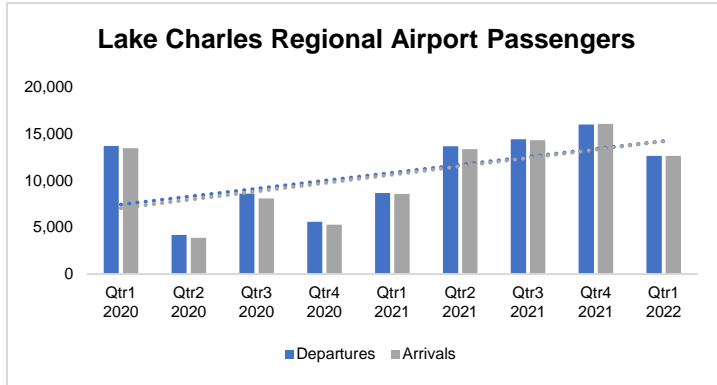
The graph of building permits shows that single unit permits rose from the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021 until the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2022. The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 showed a slight drop. Multi-unit permits have been generally steady with a slight peak in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021 and have fallen since. This led to a pattern of rising total permits from the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021 until the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2022 before falling this 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.

	Qtr-2 2021	Qtr-2 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change	Qtr-2 2021 YTD	Qtr-2 2022 YTD	YoY Change	YoY % Change
<b>Number</b>								
<b>Total</b>	263	242	-21	-8.0	495	518	23	4.6
<b>Single</b>	251	230	-21	-8.4	473	490	17	3.6
<b>Multi-unit</b>	12	12	0	0.0	22	28	6	27.3
<b>Valuation</b>								
<b>(thousands \$) Total</b>	44,344	46,927	2,583	5.8	83,809	94,223	10,414	12.4
<b>Single</b>	43,197	45,800	2,603	6.0	81,943	91,822	9,879	12.1
<b>Multi-unit</b>	1,147	1,127	-20	-1.7	1,866	2,401	535	28.7



## Transportation Statistics

### Lake Charles Regional Airport



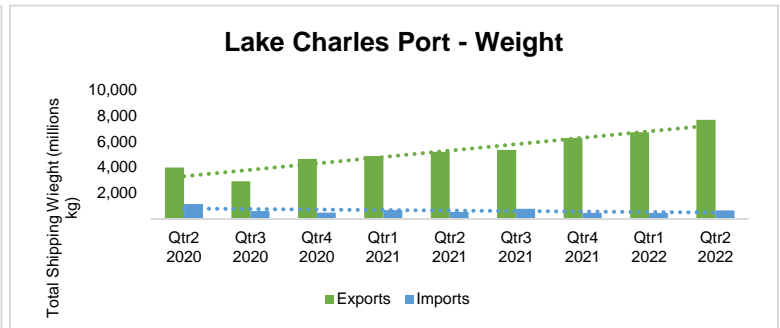
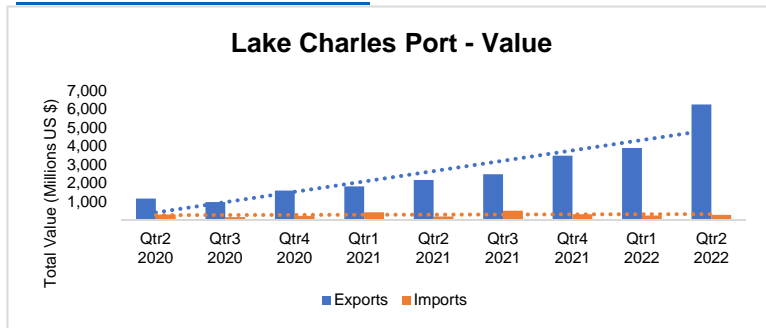
The Lake Charles regional airport experienced a dramatic uptick in activity during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter compared to the same quarter the previous year. Activity has increased since the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2021 as the airport and area recover from the storms and flights have resumed out of LCH.

	Qtr-1 2021	Qtr-1 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
<b>Passengers</b>				
Departures	8,665	12,649	3,984	46.0
Arrivals	8,563	12,620	4,057	47.4
<b>Flights</b>				
Departures	391	402	11	2.8
Arrivals	396	403	7	1.8

Passengers departing in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2022 rose 3,984 (+46%) since the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2021 and those arriving have increased 4,057 (+47.4%). In terms of flights, there has been an increase of 11 flights (+2.8%) departing Lake Charles over that same period while the number

of flights arriving has risen by 7 (+1.8%). The graphs showing these measures point to an upward trend after experiencing large drops in 2020 due to the storms and COVID. Flights and passengers have been steadily increasing since that time and will hopefully continue into the future even if the magnitudes of increases will lessen.

### Lake Charles Port Statistics

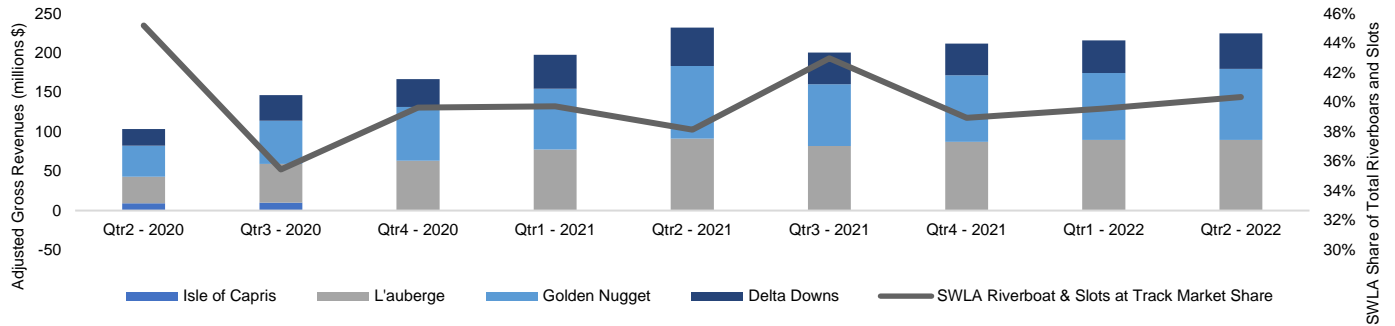


The Lake Charles port has seen an increase in exports values and a decrease in import values in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 and the overall trend in export values has turned upwards dramatically after the storms. The figures in the table below show the value of exports rose \$4.1 billion (+187.7%) over the year while the total value of imports rose \$81 million (+43.6%). The total weight of all exports rose 2.5 billion kg (+47.3%) while the total weight of all imports rose 128 million kg (+23.6%).

	Qtr-2 2021	Qtr-2 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
<b>Value (millions \$)</b>				
Exports	2,167	6,235	4,068	187.7
Imports	186	268	81	43.6
<b>Shipping Weight (millions kg)</b>				
Exports	5,192	7,649	2,457	47.3
Imports	542	670	128	23.6

## Gaming Statistics

**SWLA Gaming Revenues and Market Share**



	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022
<b>Total State AGR (millions)</b>	<b>609.2</b>	<b>467.0</b>	<b>544.3</b>	<b>546.0</b>	<b>557.5</b>
<b>Year-Over-Year Change (millions)</b>	<b>380.0</b>	<b>53.3</b>	<b>123.6</b>	<b>48.3</b>	<b>-51.8</b>
<b>Year-Over-Year % Change</b>	<b>165.8</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>-8.5</b>
<b>Total SWLA AGR (millions)</b>	<b>232.3</b>	<b>200.7</b>	<b>211.9</b>	<b>216.1</b>	<b>224.9</b>
<b>Year-Over-Year Change (millions)</b>	<b>128.8</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>-7.4</b>
<b>Year-Over-Year % Change</b>	<b>124.3</b>	<b>36.8</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>-3.2</b>
<b>Total AGR (millions)</b>					
<b>Isle of Capri</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Year-Over-Year Change (millions)</b>	<b>-9.3</b>	<b>-10.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Year-Over-Year % Change</b>	<b>-100.0</b>	<b>-100.0</b>	<b>-100.0</b>	<b>-100.0</b>	<b>-100.0</b>
<b>L'Auberge</b>	<b>91.4</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>87.2</b>	<b>89.7</b>	<b>89.9</b>
<b>Year-Over-Year Change (millions)</b>	<b>57.8</b>	<b>32.9</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>-1.6</b>
<b>Year-Over-Year % Change</b>	<b>172.2</b>	<b>67.3</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>-1.7</b>
<b>Golden Nugget</b>	<b>92.1</b>	<b>78.4</b>	<b>84.6</b>	<b>84.8</b>	<b>89.8</b>
<b>Year-Over-Year Change (millions)</b>	<b>52.6</b>	<b>23.5</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>-2.3</b>
<b>Year-Over-Year % Change</b>	<b>132.9</b>	<b>42.8</b>	<b>23.9</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>-2.5</b>
<b>Delta Downs</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>40.1</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>45.2</b>
<b>Year-Over-Year Change (millions)</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>-3.5</b>
<b>Year-Over-Year % Change</b>	<b>130.9</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>-3.7</b>	<b>-7.2</b>
<b>Share of Total SWLA AGR</b>					
<b>Isle of Capri</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>L'Auberge</b>	<b>39.4%</b>	<b>40.8%</b>	<b>41.1%</b>	<b>41.5%</b>	<b>40.0%</b>
<b>Golden Nugget</b>	<b>39.7%</b>	<b>39.1%</b>	<b>39.9%</b>	<b>39.3%</b>	<b>39.9%</b>
<b>Delta Downs</b>	<b>21.0%</b>	<b>20.1%</b>	<b>18.9%</b>	<b>19.2%</b>	<b>20.1%</b>
<b>Share of Total State AGR</b>					
<b>Isle of Capri</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>L'Auberge</b>	<b>15.0%</b>	<b>17.5%</b>	<b>16.0%</b>	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>16.1%</b>
<b>Golden Nugget</b>	<b>15.1%</b>	<b>16.8%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>	<b>16.1%</b>
<b>Delta Downs</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>8.6%</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>8.1%</b>
<b>SWLA Total AGR</b>	<b>38.1%</b>	<b>43.0%</b>	<b>38.9%</b>	<b>39.6%</b>	<b>40.4%</b>

In terms of revenues, gaming establishments have rebounded from the pandemic and hurricanes despite one being closed completely. Revenues are below 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2021. We are now seeing comparisons to periods not as affected by the storms and COVID. Total revenues in SWLA for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 decreased \$51.8 million for an 8.5% decrease compared to the same quarter the previous year.

Isle of Capri collected no revenue in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 due to closure. L'Auberge had a decrease of \$1.6 million for a 1.7% increase. The Golden Nugget had an annual percentage drop in AGR of 2.5% with an absolute decrease of \$2.3 million. Delta Downs experienced a \$3.5 million drop in AGR over the year for a 7.2% decrease. These figures indicate a solid recovery in the gaming market from 2020, however, things are slowing somewhat. This may be due to

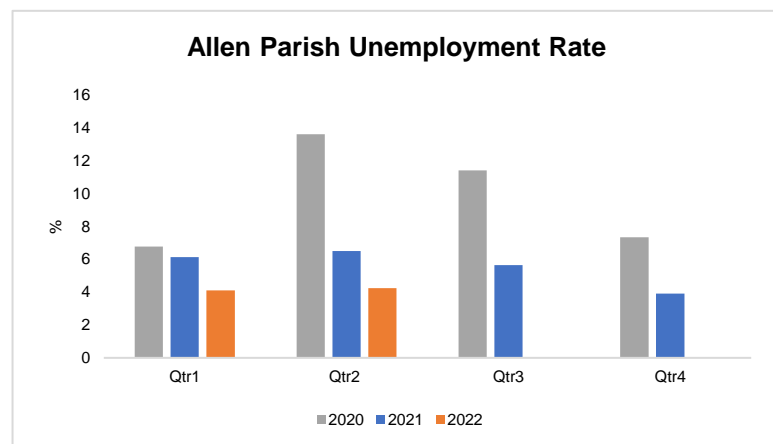
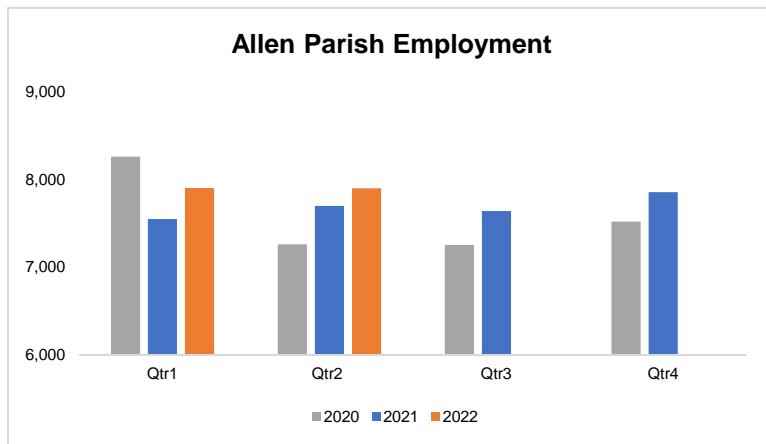
people making less frequent visits due to higher transportation costs (gasoline prices) and more spending on other goods due to inflation.

The region saw a slight increase in the share of total state revenues. The three SWLA establishments made up 40.4% of the total AGR from riverboats and slots and tracks in the state, falling from 38.1% in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021. The SWLA gaming industry still has high shares in the state totals despite having one casino closed.

## Selected Employment Indicators – Allen Parish

	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022
<b>Household Employment</b>	<b>7,698</b>	<b>7,641</b>	<b>7,856</b>	<b>7,903</b>	<b>7,901</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	438	387	335	353	203
Year-Over-Year % Change	6.0	5.3	4.4	4.7	2.6
<b>Household Unemployment</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>351</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-606	-477	-278	-156	-184
Year-Over-Year % Change	-53.1	-51.3	-46.5	-31.8	-34.4
<b>Labor Force</b>	<b>8,234</b>	<b>8,095</b>	<b>8,176</b>	<b>8,239</b>	<b>8,252</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-168	-90	57	197	19
Year-Over-Year % Change	-2.0	-1.1	0.7	2.4	0.2
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.2</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-7.1	-5.8	-3.4	-2.0	-2.3

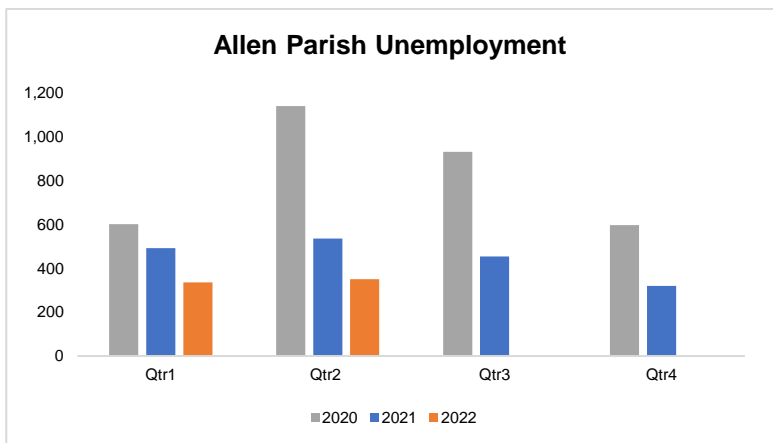
	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022
<b>Total Job Openings</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>294</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	55	67	92	113	100
Year-Over-Year % Change	39.3	34.8	56.8	64.9	51.8



In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, Allen parish saw a rise in the labor force of 19 (+0.2%). This was broken down by a decrease in household unemployment of 184 over the year (-34.4%) while the number of employed persons rose 203 (+2.6%) over the year. The unemployment rate fell 2.3 percentage points over the year to 4.2%.

Job openings in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 averaged 294. Openings rose by 100 (+51.8%) over the year.

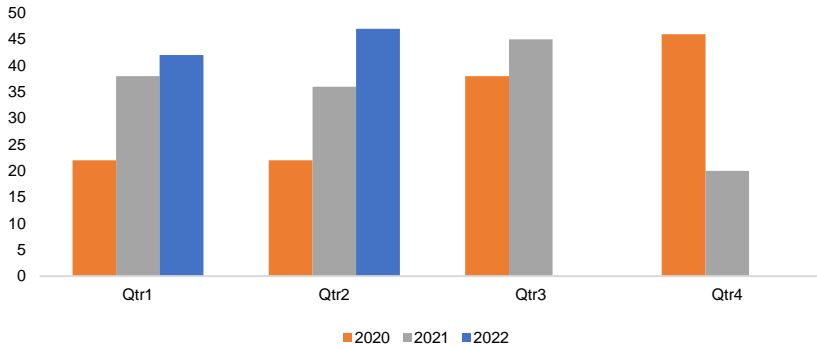
The graphs show the levels of household employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate for each quarter compared to the same quarter the previous two years. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, Allen has had lower unemployment and a slightly higher employment compared to 2021 levels as it continues recovery.





## 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 47 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 which was the 11 more than the same quarter in 2021 and 25 more compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 was 89. This was 15 businesses higher than the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021 YTD and 45 businesses higher than the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2020 YTD.

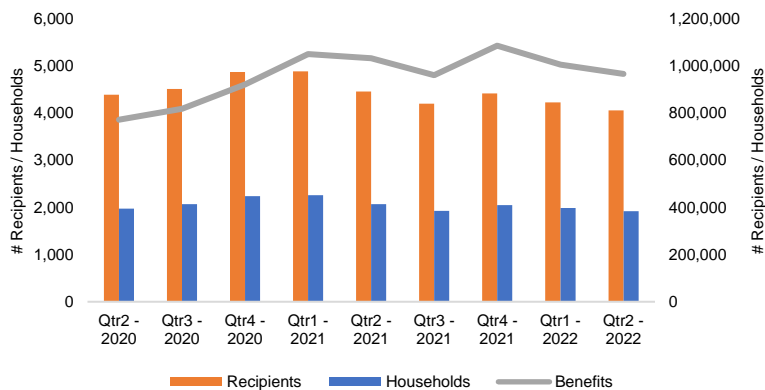
Qtrly New Business Filings	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
<b>2020</b>	22	22	38	46
<b>2021</b>	38	36	45	20
<b>2022</b>	42	47		

Qtrly New Business Filings YTD	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
<b>2020</b>	22	44	82	128
<b>2021</b>	38	74	119	139
<b>2022</b>	42	89		

## SNAP Benefits

	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
<b>Recipients</b>	4,458	4,199	4,415	4,227	4,058	-400	-9.0
<b>Households</b>	2,067	1,930	2,048	1,985	1,921	-146	-7.1
<b>Benefits</b>	1,031,955	960,978	1,085,622	1,005,141	965,388	-66,567	-6.5

**Allen Parish SNAP Data**



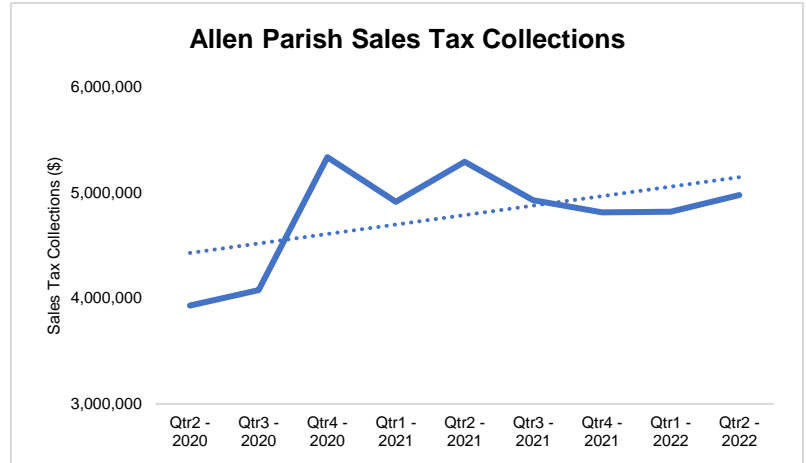
Allen parish had a decrease in SNAP recipients, households, and benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 4,058 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022. 400 fewer people received benefits compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021 for a 9% decrease over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP was 1,921 which was 146 less than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented a 7.1% decrease. In terms of benefits, the parish received \$965.4 thousand in total during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, which was a \$66.6 thousand decrease over-the-year. This was a 6.5% drop in benefits in the parish. Looking at the graph illustrates over the past two

years an overall increasing slightly increasing trend in benefits. After large increases in the variables due to COVID and storm recovery, as well as benefits rising due to adjustments in the amounts, the later trends seem to show all the variables flattening out.

## Tax Collections

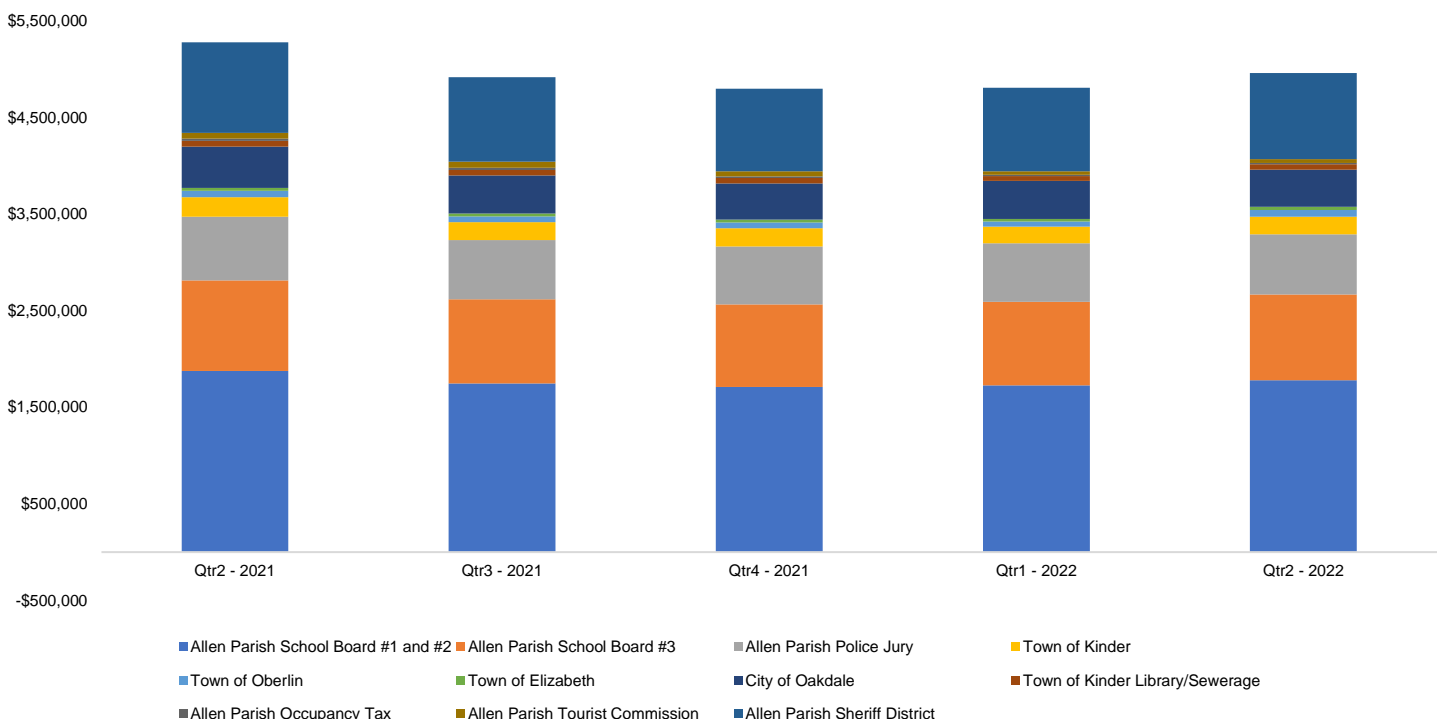
The Drew CBEA has begun building a history of Allen Parish sales tax collections with the help of the Allen Parish School Board. The numbers show a clear trend throughout the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022.

Compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021, Allen parish has seen an overall decrease in tax collections. Total tax collections decreased \$313.9 thousand for a 5.9% decrease. This is mainly due to normalized shopping recovery patterns from COVID and the storms, and a recent 1 percentage point increase in the local sales tax rate has been normalized.



Allen Parish Sales Tax Collections by Entity	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Allen Parish School Board #1 and #2	1,875,774	1,746,029	1,710,559	1,727,819	1,778,851	-96,923	-5.2
Allen Parish School Board #3	938,673	872,939	855,155	863,697	889,200	-49,474	-5.3
Allen Parish Police Jury	657,074	611,059	598,611	604,590	622,442	-34,631	-5.3
Town of Kinder	203,274	186,737	188,283	171,826	181,268	-22,006	-10.8
Town of Oberlin	66,230	57,307	59,307	53,634	70,032	3,802	5.7
Town of Elizabeth	29,321	30,633	29,977	27,674	31,524	2,204	7.5
City of Oakdale	427,427	395,348	374,899	393,091	386,876	-40,551	-9.5
Town of Kinder Library/Sewerage	60,982	56,022	56,485	51,548	54,381	-6,602	-10.8
Allen Parish Occupancy Tax	20,085	21,549	17,046	12,109	13,591	-6,494	-32.3
Allen Parish Tourist Commission	60,255	64,648	51,138	36,327	40,773	-19,481	-32.3
Allen Parish Sheriff District	938,673	872,939	855,155	863,697	889,200	-49,474	-5.3
Reeves	13,204	14,516	16,913	13,695	18,926	5,722	43.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,290,973</b>	<b>4,929,726</b>	<b>4,813,529</b>	<b>4,819,705</b>	<b>4,977,064</b>	<b>-313,909</b>	<b>-5.9</b>

## Allen Parish Tax Collections by Entity



## Selected Employment Indicators – Beauregard Parish

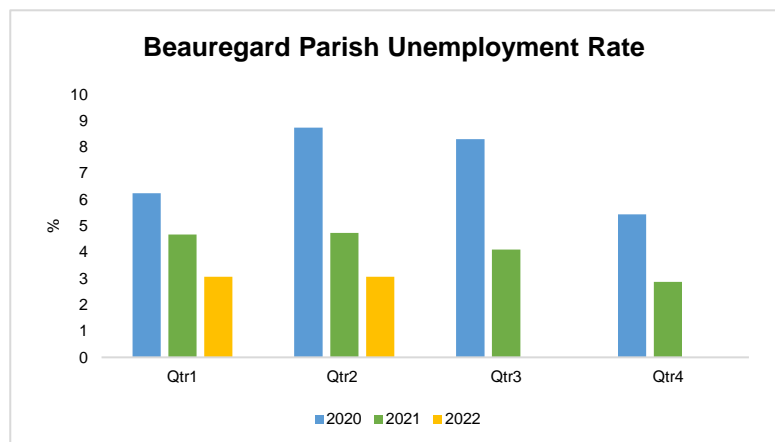
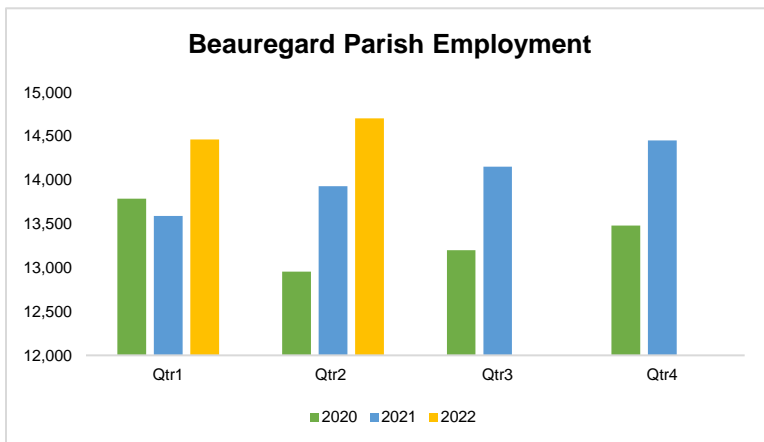
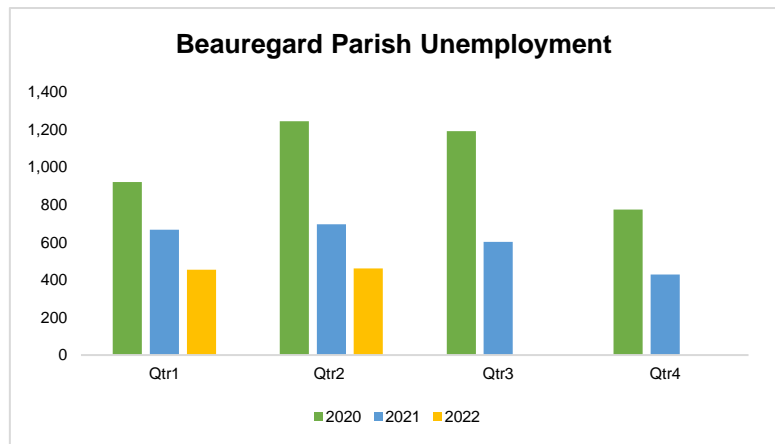
	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022
<b>Household Employment</b>	<b>13,929</b>	<b>14,153</b>	<b>14,449</b>	<b>14,463</b>	<b>14,702</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	974	954	971	875	773
Year-Over-Year % Change	7.5	7.2	7.2	6.4	5.5
<b>Household Unemployment</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>461</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-547	-588	-346	-212	-236
Year-Over-Year % Change	-44.0	-49.4	-44.7	-31.8	-33.8
<b>Labor Force</b>	<b>14,625</b>	<b>14,756</b>	<b>14,877</b>	<b>14,918</b>	<b>15,162</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	427	366	625	663	537
Year-Over-Year % Change	3.0	2.5	4.4	4.7	3.7
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.1</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-4.0	-4.2	-2.6	-1.6	-1.7

	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022
<b>Total Job Openings</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>430</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	193	232	148	64	54
Year-Over-Year % Change	105.1	81.9	41.6	16.2	14.4

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, Beauregard parish saw a rise in household employment of 773 over the year (+5.5%) while the number of unemployed persons dropped 236 (-33.8%) over the year. This led to an increase of 537 (+3.7%) in the total labor force. The unemployment rate dropped 1.7 percentage points over the year to 3.1%.

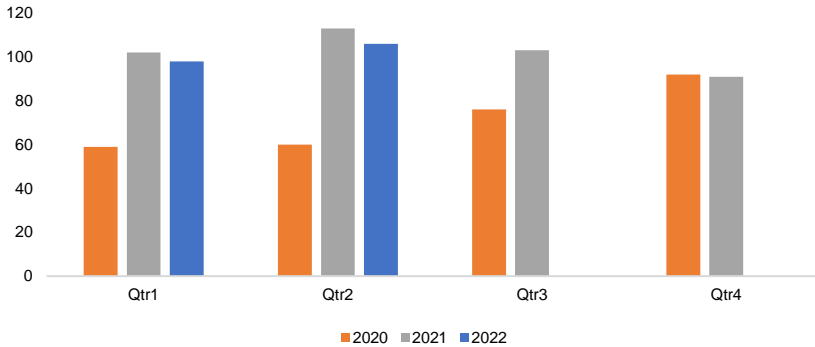
Job openings in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter averaged 430. Openings rose by 54 (+14.4%) over the year.

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 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2020, Beauregard has lower unemployment and higher employment figures. The labor force has risen after continuous drops.



## New Business Filings

**Beauregard 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 Beauregard parish was 106 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 which was 7 less than the same quarter the previous year and 46 more compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 was 204. This was 11 less businesses than the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021 YTD and 85 businesses higher than the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2020 YTD.

Qtrly New Business Filings	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
<b>2020</b>	59	60	76	92
<b>2021</b>	102	113	103	91
<b>2022</b>	98	106		

Qtrly New Business Filings YTD	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
<b>2020</b>	59	119	195	287
<b>2021</b>	102	215	318	409
<b>2022</b>	98	204		

## SNAP Benefits

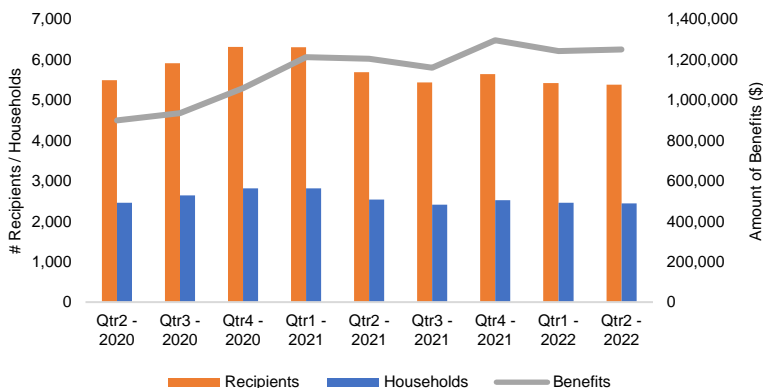
	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
<b>Recipients</b>	5,687	5,433	5,639	5,419	5,380	-307	-5.4
<b>Households</b>	2,538	2,412	2,521	2,459	2,442	-96	-3.8
<b>Benefits</b>	1,203,688	1,158,913	1,295,130	1,242,185	1,249,026	45,338	3.8

Beauregard parish has experienced a decrease in SNAP recipients, households but more benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 5,380 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022. 307 fewer people received benefits compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021 for a 5.4% decrease over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP averaged 2,442 which was 96 less than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented an

3.8% decrease. In terms of benefits, the parish received an average of \$1.25 million in total during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, which was a \$45.3 thousand increase over-the-year. This was a 3.8% increase in benefits in the parish.

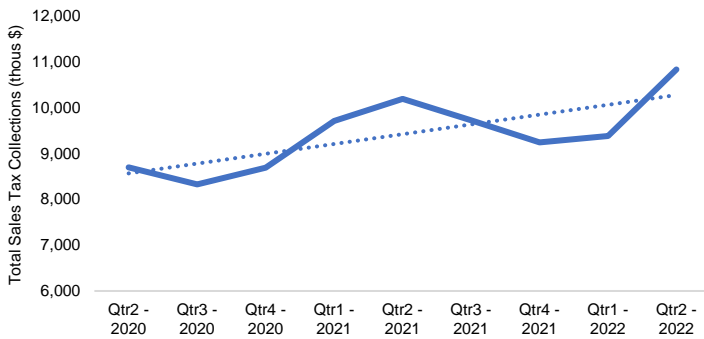
Looking at the graph illustrates an increasing trend in benefits before flattening in 2021. The pandemic has led to a greater amount of total benefits for the area. Benefits have also risen due to adjustments in the amounts. The later trends seem to show all the variables flattening out.

**Beauregard Parish SNAP Data**



## Tax Collections

**Beauregard Parish Sales Tax Collections**



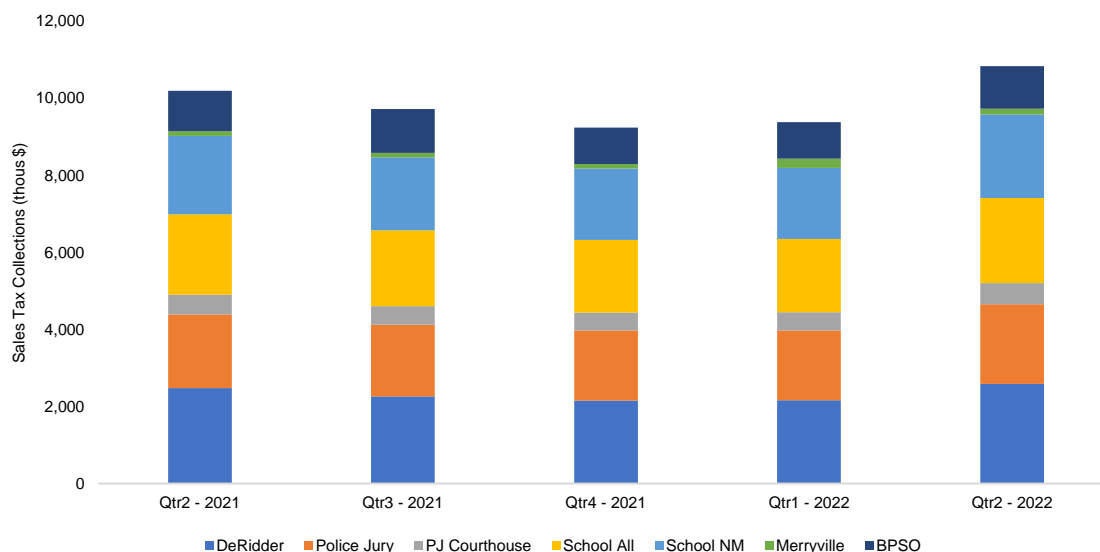
Beauregard parish has seen an increase in its sales tax collections in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, compared to the same quarter the previous year. Sales tax collections rose by \$641.2 thousand over the year for a 6.3% increase. Looking at the entities that receive sales tax distributions shows that DeRidder collects the most revenue. These are sales conducted within the city limits. This category saw a year-over-year increase of \$102.4 thousand (+4.1%) over the year. Merryville tax collections grew by \$23.8 thousand for an 18.7% increase. This was the highest in percentage terms.

Police Jury rose the largest in absolute terms at \$164

thousand (+8.6%). School board revenues, All and NM, rose by \$127.5 thousand (+6.1%) and \$128.9 thousand (+6.3%), respectively. BPSO collections increased \$62.5 thousand (+6.0%) and PJ Courthouse collections rose \$32.1 thousand (+6.2%).

Sales Tax Collections (thous \$)	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
<b>DeRidder</b>	2,481.2	2,265.9	2,156.0	2,162.3	2,583.6	102.4	4.1
<b>Police Jury</b>	1,906.9	1,853.1	1,813.6	1,807.4	2,070.9	164.0	8.6
<b>PJ Courthouse</b>	518.5	486.2	468.9	473.7	550.6	32.1	6.2
<b>School All</b>	2,081.8	1,969.3	1,888.1	1,901.2	2,209.4	127.5	6.1
<b>School NM</b>	2,035.1	1,894.3	1,846.7	1,844.8	2,164.0	128.9	6.3
<b>Merryville</b>	127.0	117.1	114.6	246.2	150.8	23.8	18.7
<b>BPSO</b>	1,038.9	1,134.4	949.6	942.2	1,101.4	62.5	6.0
<b>Total</b>	10,189.5	9,720.2	9,237.5	9,377.8	10,830.7	641.2	6.3

**Beauregard Parish Sales Tax Collections by Entity**



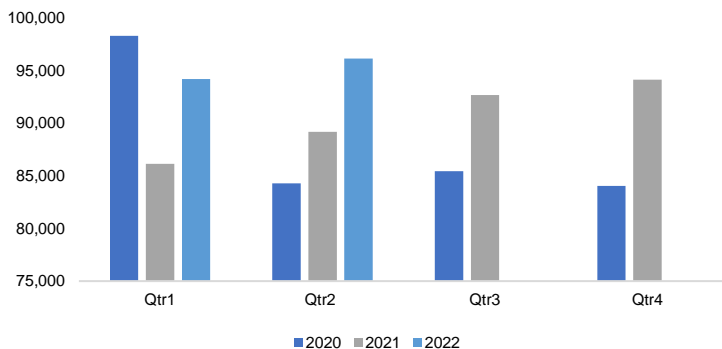


## Selected Employment Indicators – Calcasieu Parish

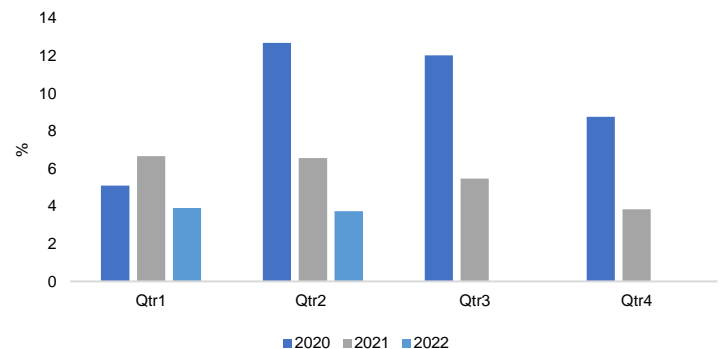
	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022
<b>Household Employment</b>	<b>89,194</b>	<b>92,685</b>	<b>94,148</b>	<b>94,195</b>	<b>96,154</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	4,912	7,230	10,109	8,060	6,960
Year-Over-Year % Change	5.8	8.5	12.0	9.4	7.8
<b>Household Unemployment</b>	<b>6,288</b>	<b>5,358</b>	<b>3,762</b>	<b>3,820</b>	<b>3,717</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-5,983	-6,266	-4,332	-2,342	-2,571
Year-Over-Year % Change	-48.8	-53.9	-53.5	-38.0	-40.9
<b>Labor Force</b>	<b>95,482</b>	<b>98,043</b>	<b>97,910</b>	<b>98,016</b>	<b>99,871</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-1,071	964	5,777	5,718	4,388
Year-Over-Year % Change	-1.1	1.0	6.3	6.2	4.6
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.7</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-6.1	-6.6	-4.9	-2.8	-2.8

	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022
<b>Total Job Openings</b>	<b>5,941</b>	<b>6,673</b>	<b>7,030</b>	<b>6,673</b>	<b>6,489</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	2,169	1,849	2,452	1,315	548
Year-Over-Year % Change	57.5	38.3	53.6	24.5	9.2

**Calcasieu Parish Employment**



**Calcaiseu Parish Unemployment Rate**

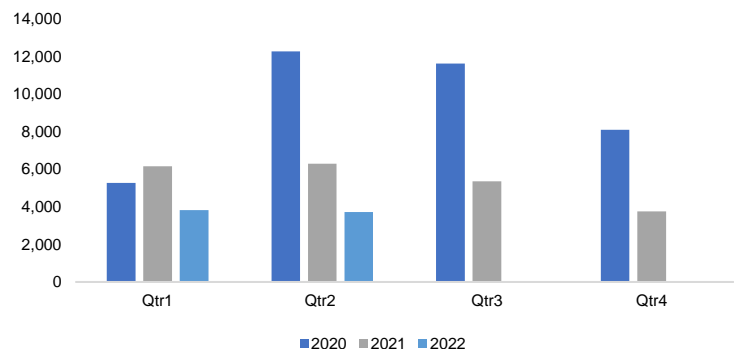


In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, Calcasieu parish saw an increase in the labor force of 4,388 (+4.6%). This was due to an increase in household employment of 6,960 over the year (+7.8%) while the number of unemployed persons fell 2,571 (-40.9%). The unemployment rate fell 2.8 percentage points over the year to 3.7%.

Job openings in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter averaged 6,673. Openings rose by 1,315 (+24.5%) over the year.

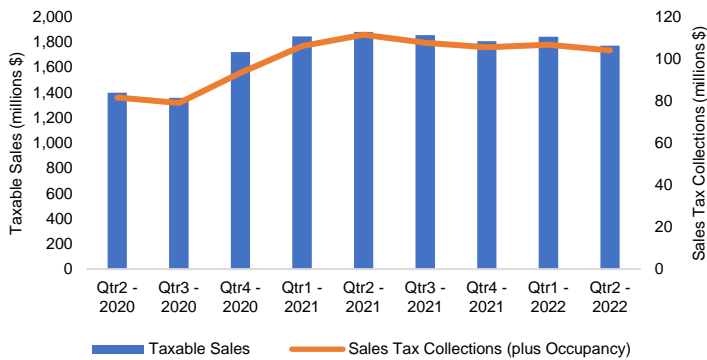
The graphs show the levels of household employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate for each quarter compared to the same quarter the previous two years. Calcasieu had a higher employment level in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 compared to 2021. The unemployment level is much lower than in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021.

**Calcaiseu Parish Unemployment**

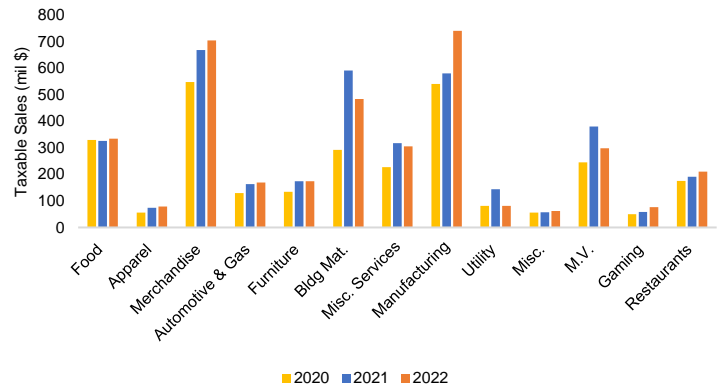


## Tax Collections

**Calcasieu Parish Taxable Sales and Sales Tax Collections**



**Calcasieu Parish Taxable Sales - Qtr 2 YTD**



Collections (mil \$)	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
<b>Food</b>	163.3	163.7	161.2	165.6	168.2	4.9	3.0
<b>Apparel</b>	40.3	34.9	39.3	40.0	38.4	-1.9	-4.7
<b>Merchandise</b>	337.5	301.7	332.6	358.9	345.7	8.3	2.5
<b>Automotive &amp; Gas</b>	88.3	89.7	82.6	79.3	90.4	2.1	2.4
<b>Furniture</b>	84.9	87.1	84.2	94.9	79.7	-5.2	-6.1
<b>Bldg Mat.</b>	283.8	267.5	248.3	223.9	259.3	-24.5	-8.6
<b>Misc. Services</b>	160.6	159.2	162.7	154.5	150.5	-10.1	-6.3
<b>Manufacturing</b>	294.8	301.1	311.3	373.8	366.9	72.1	24.5
<b>Utility</b>	58.9	39.3	65.2	43.9	37.2	-21.6	-36.7
<b>Misc.</b>	29.5	35.8	27.6	31.9	30.6	1.1	3.6
<b>M.V.</b>	197.8	199.6	154.7	141.1	156.5	-41.3	-20.9
<b>Gaming</b>	34.0	43.5	35.5	33.4	42.7	8.7	25.5
<b>Restaurants</b>	105.4	106.2	99.5	100.4	109.5	4.2	4.0
<b>Total</b>	1879.0	1854.4	1804.8	1841.8	1875.7	-3.3	-0.2

Calcasieu parish has recently seen large increases in taxable sales, however, the amounts seem to be flattening out, even with inflation. Much of the increases came from building materials and motor vehicles as rebuilding and

repairs commenced after the storms, but those are slowing down. These two categories experienced the largest absolute drops compared to the same quarter the previous year as the economy adjusts. Sales tax collections, plus occupancy, have risen by \$0.7 million over the year for a 0.6% increase. General sales taxes fell by \$1.6 million (-1.5%) over the year. Occupancy taxes also decreased. These taxes fell by \$300 thousand for a 1.7% decrease. This occurred as total taxable sales in the parish fell \$3.3 million (-0.2%) over the year. Increases and decreases were spread out across the categories. Manufacturing rose the largest in both absolute and percentage terms (+\$72.1 million, +24.5%). Food (+3.0%), Merchandise (+2.5%), Gaming (+25.5%), and Restaurants (+4.0%), all rose among other categories. Building materials (-8.6%), Utilities (-36.7%), Motor vehicles (-20.9%), and Furniture (-6.1%), all fell among other categories.

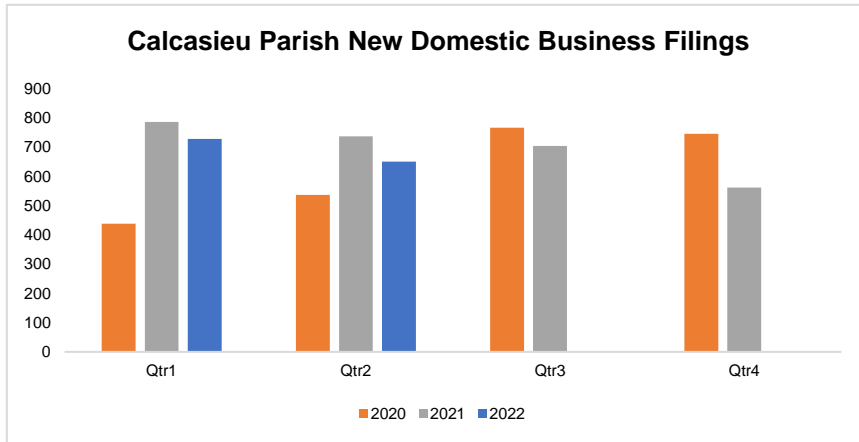
Collections (mil \$)	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
<b>General Sales Tax Collections</b>	108.9	105.0	103.2	104.7	107.3	-1.6	-1.5
<b>Occupancy Taxes</b>	2.5	2.6	2.4	1.9	2.2	-0.3	-11.1
<b>Sales Tax Collections</b>	111.4	107.6	105.6	106.6	109.5	-1.9	-1.7

YTD figures show that total taxable sales have fallen in the parish by \$6.7 million compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021 YTD figure for a 0.2% decrease. There was a \$7 million decrease in sales tax collections (-3.2%) YTD.

Taxable Sales YTD (mil \$)	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
<b>2020</b>	1,466.2	2,863.9	4,221.5	5,942.4
<b>2021</b>	1,845.3	3,724.3	5,578.6	7,383.4
<b>2022</b>	1,841.8	3,717.5		

Sales Tax YTD (mil \$)	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
<b>2020</b>	85.8	167.4	246.4	339.8
<b>2021</b>	106.1	217.5	325.1	430.6
<b>2022</b>	106.7	210.5		

## New Business Filings



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

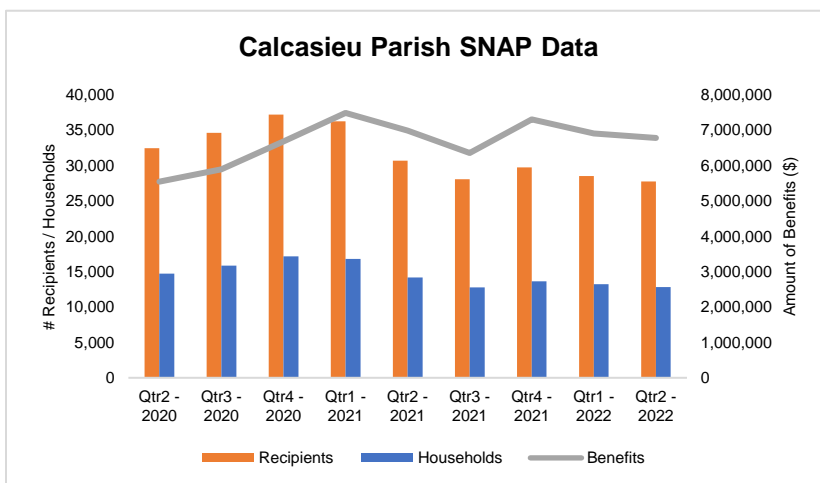
The number of new business filings in Calcasieu parish was 651 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 which was 86 less than the same quarter the previous year and 114 more compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 was 1,380. This was 144 less businesses than the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021 YTD and 404 businesses higher than the same quarter of 2020 YTD.

Qtrly New Business Filings	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
<b>2020</b>	439	537	767	746
<b>2021</b>	787	737	705	562
<b>2022</b>	729	651		

Qtrly New Business Filings YTD	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
<b>2020</b>	439	976	1,743	2,489
<b>2021</b>	787	1,524	2,229	2,791
<b>2022</b>	729	1,380		

## SNAP Benefits

	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
<b>Recipients</b>	30,666	28,053	29,728	28,521	27,729	-2,937	-9.6
<b>Households</b>	14,169	12,775	13,654	13,234	12,833	-1,336	-9.4
<b>Benefits</b>	6,987,175	6,357,173	7,307,365	6,901,103	6,775,392	-211,783	-3.0



Calcasieu parish has had decreases in SNAP recipients, households, and benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 27,729 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022. This was 2,937 fewer people receiving benefits compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021 for a 9.6% decrease over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP averaged 12,833 which was 1,336 less than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented a 9.4% decrease. In terms of benefits, the parish received an average of \$6.8 million in total during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, which was a \$211.8 thousand decrease over-the-year. This was a 3% decrease in benefits in the parish. Looking at

the graph illustrates a rising trend in benefits in early 2020 before peaking in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2021. Since then, there have been decreases from the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter to the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, indicating a recovery. Benefits have risen recently due to adjustments in the amounts. The later trends seem to show all the variables flattening out.

## Selected Employment Indicators – Cameron Parish

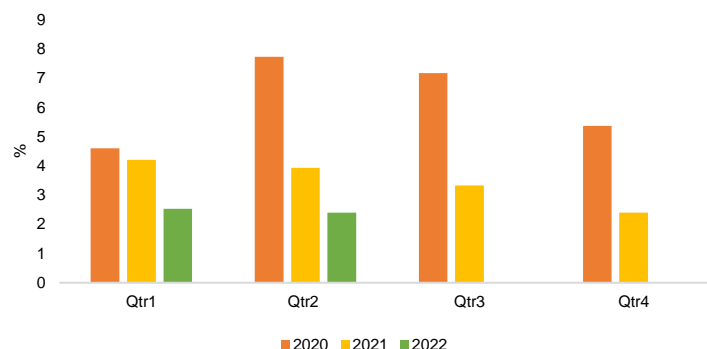
	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022
<b>Household Employment</b>	<b>3,332</b>	<b>3,458</b>	<b>3,515</b>	<b>3,523</b>	<b>3,595</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	184	267	374	304	263
Year-Over-Year % Change	5.8	8.4	11.9	9.4	7.9
<b>Household Unemployment</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>88</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-126	-124	-90	-50	-50
Year-Over-Year % Change	-47.8	-51.0	-50.8	-35.1	-36.0
<b>Labor Force</b>	<b>3,470</b>	<b>3,578</b>	<b>3,603</b>	<b>3,614</b>	<b>3,684</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	57	142	284	254	214
Year-Over-Year % Change	1.7	4.1	8.6	7.6	6.2
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.4</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-3.8	-3.8	-3.0	-1.7	-1.5

	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022
<b>Total Job Openings</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>65</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	48	-10	-48	-46	-86
Year-Over-Year % Change	46.6	-7.7	-33.0	-33.7	-56.7

**Cameron Parish Employment**



**Cameron Parish Unemployment Rate**

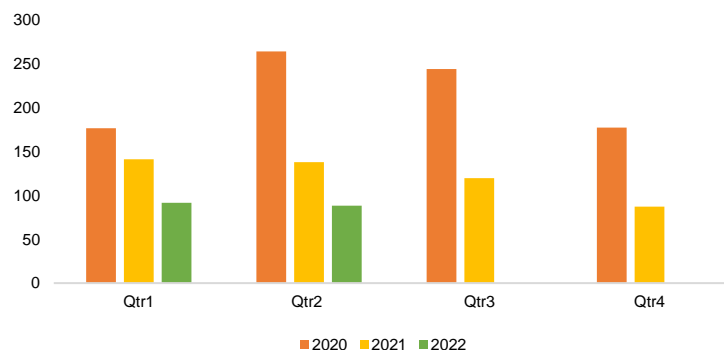


In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, Cameron parish had an increase in household employment of 263 over the year (+7.9%) while the number of unemployed persons dropped by 50 (-36%). This meant an increase of 214 (+6.2%) in the total labor force. The unemployment rate fell 1.5 percentage points over the year to 2.4%.

Job openings in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 averaged 65. Openings fell by 46 (-33.7%) over the year.

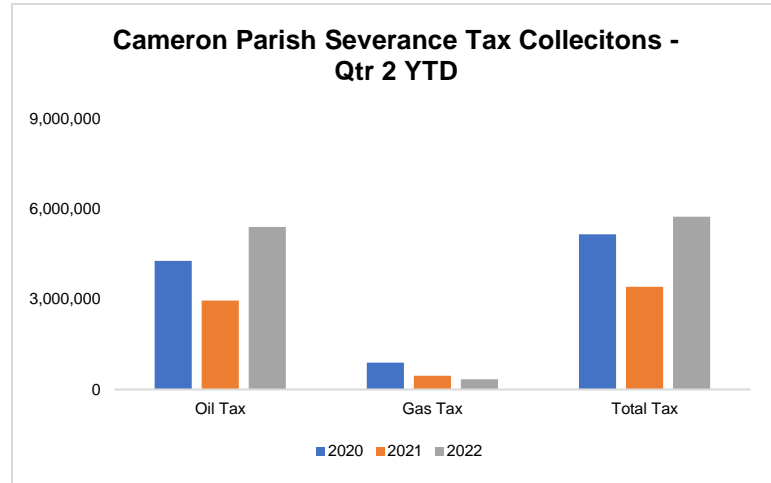
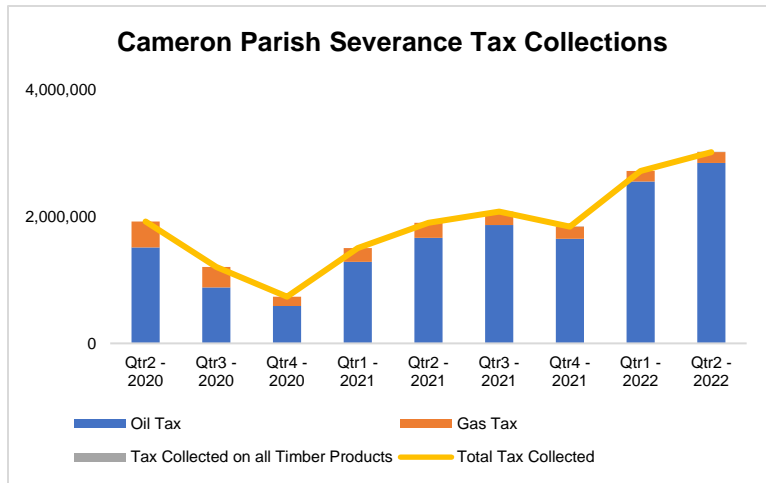
Cameron Parish had a higher employment level in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 compared to the same quarter the previous year while the unemployment measures were also lower. As Cameron is recovering from the two hurricanes, the labor force has increased since the unemployment rate has fallen.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter YTD figures for each severance tax type (as well as total) over the past three years. Total severance tax collections have been increasing steadily since the end of 2020.

Severance Tax Collections	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
<b>Oil Tax</b>	1,667,195	1,866,129	1,650,096	2,555,080	2,846,587	1,179,392	70.7
<b>Gas Tax</b>	235,952	212,118	192,841	165,348	171,545	-64,406	-27.3
<b>Tax Collected on all Timber Products</b>	0	0	13	0	12	12	NA
<b>Total Tax Collected</b>	1,903,147	2,078,247	1,842,950	2,720,428	3,018,144	1,114,997	58.6

Total Severance Tax Collections (YTD)	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
<b>2020</b>	3,235,649	5,158,474	6,362,877	7,099,761
<b>2021</b>	1,504,611	3,407,758	5,486,005	7,328,955
<b>2022</b>	2,720,428	5,738,572		

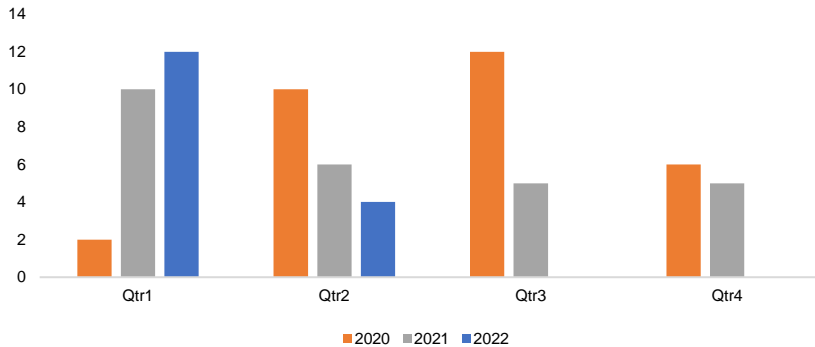
The largest amount of severance tax collections from Cameron are taxes on oil. Oil tax collections in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 rose by \$1.2 million compared to the same quarter the previous year. This represented an 70.7% increase as oil prices have recently increased and production picked up from the pandemic. In terms of gas collections, those fell \$64.4 thousand over that period for a 27.3% decrease. Timber product collections have been \$12 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Total severance taxes collected from the parish have risen \$1.1 million over the year in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 for a 58.6% increase. The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 continued the increases seen in recent quarters as recovery continues.

The YTD figures show in 2022 there was a rise in total severance taxes collected compared to the previous year. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2022 YTD, severance taxes rose \$2.3 million for an increase of 68.4%. As mentioned previously, much of this can be traced to the rise in oil prices and production activity throughout the state and nation due to recovery from 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 4 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 which was 2 less than the same quarter the previous year and 6 more compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 was 16. This was the same number of businesses as the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021 YTD and 4 businesses more than the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2020 YTD.

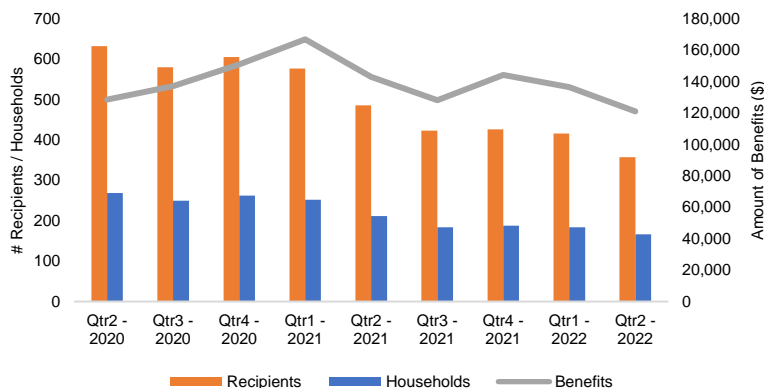
Qtrly New Business Filings	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
<b>2020</b>	2	10	12	6
<b>2021</b>	10	6	5	5
<b>2022</b>	12	4		

Qtrly New Business Filings YTD	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
<b>2020</b>	2	12	24	30
<b>2021</b>	10	16	21	26
<b>2022</b>	12	16		

## SNAP Benefits

	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
<b>Recipients</b>	485	423	426	416	357	-128	-26.4
<b>Households</b>	211	183	187	183	166	-45	-21.3
<b>Benefits</b>	142,799	128,010	144,182	136,302	120,951	-21,847	-15.3

**Cameron Parish SNAP Data**



Cameron parish has had drops in SNAP recipients, households, and benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 357 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022. This was 128 fewer people receiving benefits compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021 for a 26.4% decrease over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP averaged 166 which was 45 less than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented a 21.3% decrease. The number of recipients and households decreased, as well as benefits. The parish received an average of \$121 thousand in total during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, which was a \$21.8 thousand decrease over-the-year. This was a 15.3%

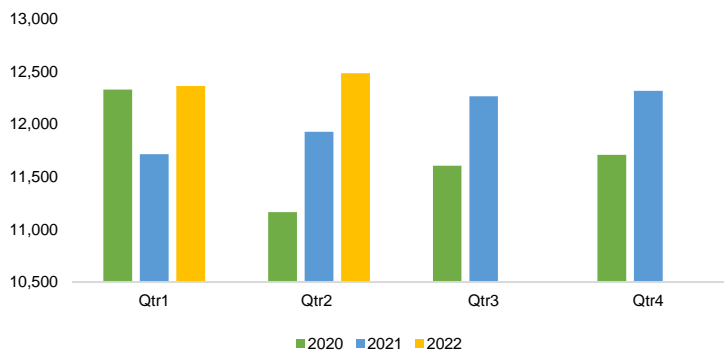
decrease in benefits in the parish. Looking at the graph illustrates recipients, households, and benefits falling throughout 2021. Part of this falling participation is most likely due to population loss from the storms. Benefits have risen recently due to adjustments in the amounts but the overall trends are declines in since 2021.

## Selected Employment Indicators – Jefferson Davis Parish

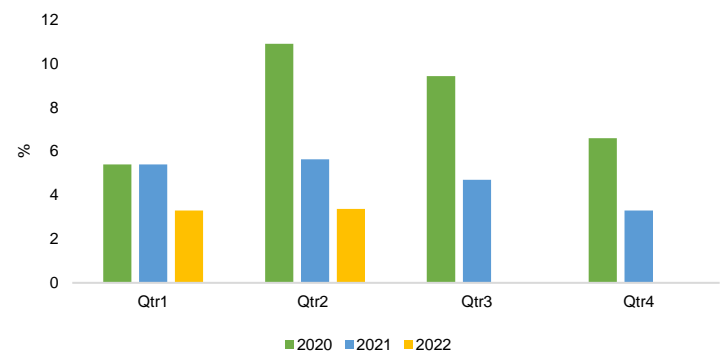
	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022
<b>Household Employment</b>	<b>11,928</b>	<b>12,264</b>	<b>12,318</b>	<b>12,363</b>	<b>12,484</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	765	660	609	647	556
Year-Over-Year % Change	6.9	5.7	5.2	5.5	4.7
<b>Household Unemployment</b>	<b>711</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>435</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-651	-604	-406	-247	-276
Year-Over-Year % Change	-47.8	-50.0	-49.1	-36.9	-38.8
<b>Labor Force</b>	<b>12,639</b>	<b>12,868</b>	<b>12,739</b>	<b>12,785</b>	<b>12,919</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	114	56	203	400	280
Year-Over-Year % Change	0.9	0.4	1.6	3.2	2.2
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.4</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	-5.3	-4.7	-3.3	-2.1	-2.3

	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022
<b>Total Job Openings</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>379</b>
Year-Over-Year Change	43	55	72	10	101
Year-Over-Year % Change	18.3	25.2	24.6	2.8	36.3

**Jeff Davis Parish Employment**



**Jeff Davis Parish Unemployment Rate**

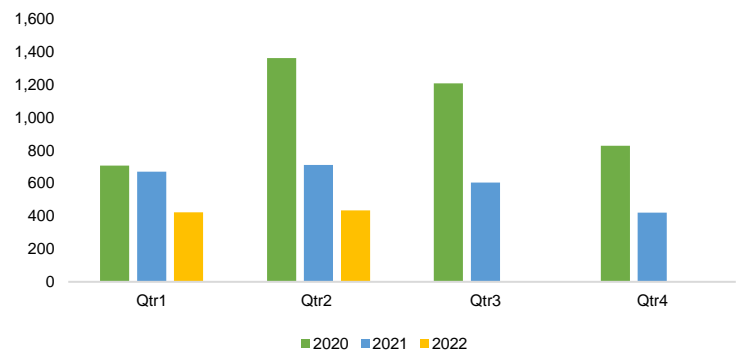


In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, Jefferson Davis parish saw an increase of 280 (+2.2%) in the total labor force. This was broken down by an increase in household employment of 556 over the year (+4.7%) while the number of unemployed persons fell 276 (-38.8%). The unemployment rate fell 2.1 percentage points over the year to 2.3%.

Job openings in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 averaged 379. Openings rose by 101 (+36.3%) over the year.

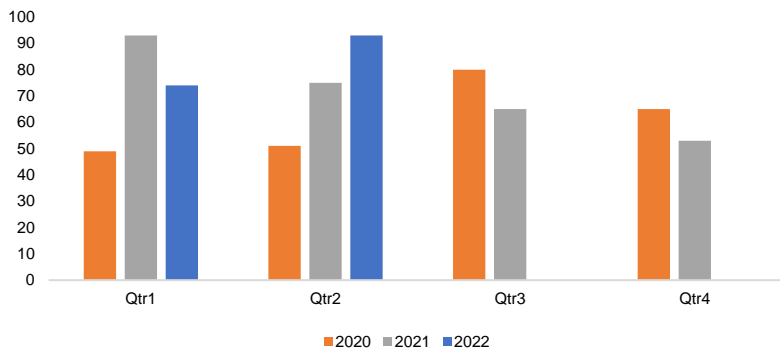
The graphs show the levels of household employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate for each quarter compared to the same quarter the previous two years. Jeff Davis parish had higher figures for employment in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021, with lower unemployment figures.

**Jeff Davis Parish Unemployment**



## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 which was 18 more than the same quarter the previous year and 42 more compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 was 167. This was 1 fewer business than the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021 YTD and 67 businesses higher than the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2020 YTD.

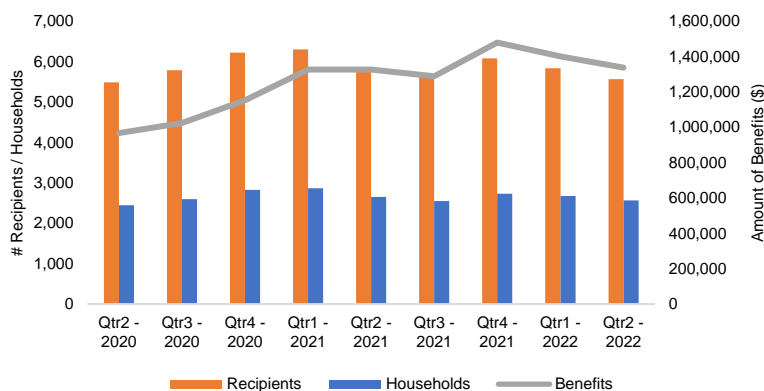
Qtrly New Business Filings	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
<b>2020</b>	49	51	80	65
<b>2021</b>	93	75	65	53
<b>2022</b>	74	93		

Qtrly New Business Filings YTD	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
<b>2020</b>	49	100	180	245
<b>2021</b>	93	168	233	286
<b>2022</b>	74	167		

## SNAP Benefits

	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
<b>Recipients</b>	5,852	5,711	6,073	5,830	5,562	-290	-5.0
<b>Households</b>	2,650	2,548	2,727	2,671	2,564	-86	-3.2
<b>Benefits</b>	1,325,712	1,287,970	1,478,315	1,399,619	1,336,620	10,908	0.8

**Jefferson Davis Parish SNAP Data**

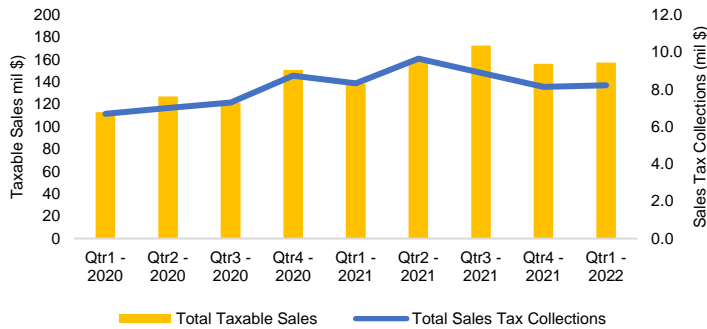


Jefferson Davis parish has had decreases in SNAP recipients and households with increases in benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 5,562 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022. This was 290 fewer people receiving benefits compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021 for a 5.0% decrease over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP averaged 2,564 which was 86 less than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented a 3.2% decrease. In terms of benefits, the parish received an average of \$1.3 million in total during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, which was a \$10.9 thousand rise over-the-year. This was a 0.8% increase in benefits in the parish. Looking at

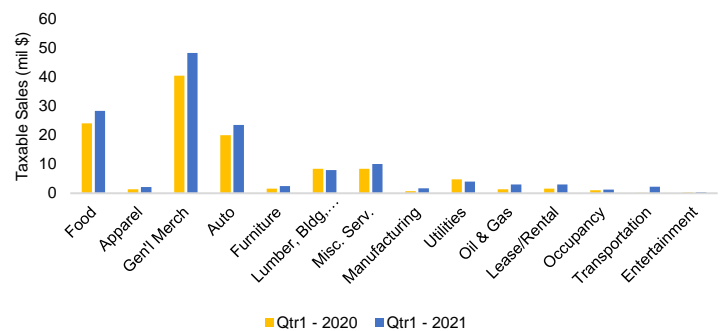
the graph illustrates an overall increasing trend in benefits beginning in early 2020 before peaking in the first quarter of 2021. This trend is also shown in the number of households and recipients receiving benefits. This is no doubt due to the pandemic. Despite annual increases, there were decreases from the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter to the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, indicating a recovery. Benefits have risen due to adjustments in the amounts. The later trends seem to show all the variables slightly falling.

## Tax Collections

**Jefferson Davis Parish Taxable Sales and Sales Tax Collections**



**Jeff Davis Parish Taxable Sales - 1st Quarter YTD**



Taxable Sales (mil \$)	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Food	30.5	29.1	27.4	26.5	30.2	-0.3	-0.9
Apparel	1.9	1.6	3.2	2.0	1.8	-0.1	-6.6
Gen'l Merch	50.0	53.9	51.3	53.3	58.1	8.1	16.1
Auto	28.9	46.5	37.7	36.6	39.9	11.1	38.3
Furniture	2.7	2.5	2.6	3.0	2.3	-0.4	-14.3
Lumber, Bldg, Contractors	20.7	20.1	9.7	11.5	9.8	-10.9	-52.7
Misc. Serv.	8.0	9.0	7.7	9.6	8.7	0.7	8.7
Manufacturing	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.4	1.4	0.0	-2.9
Utilities	3.2	3.1	4.3	3.3	3.1	-0.1	-2.2
Oil & Gas	4.0	-0.5	3.3	3.5	3.6	-0.4	-10.1
Lease/Rental	2.5	2.1	2.7	2.8	2.0	-0.5	-20.6
Occupancy	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.1	1.2	-0.2	-16.6
Transportation	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.0	-0.2	-8.1
Entertainment	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.3	62.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>158.1</b>	<b>172.6</b>	<b>156.2</b>	<b>157.4</b>	<b>165.1</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>4.4</b>

Tax Collections (mil \$)	Qtr2 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2021	Qtr2 - 2021	YoY Change	YoY % Change
<b>Total Sales Tax Collections</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>-10.4</b>

Taxable Sales YTD (mil \$)	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
<b>2020</b>	<b>113.0</b>	<b>240.0</b>	<b>361.7</b>	<b>512.6</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>138.6</b>	<b>296.6</b>	<b>469.3</b>	<b>625.5</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>157.4</b>	<b>322.5</b>		

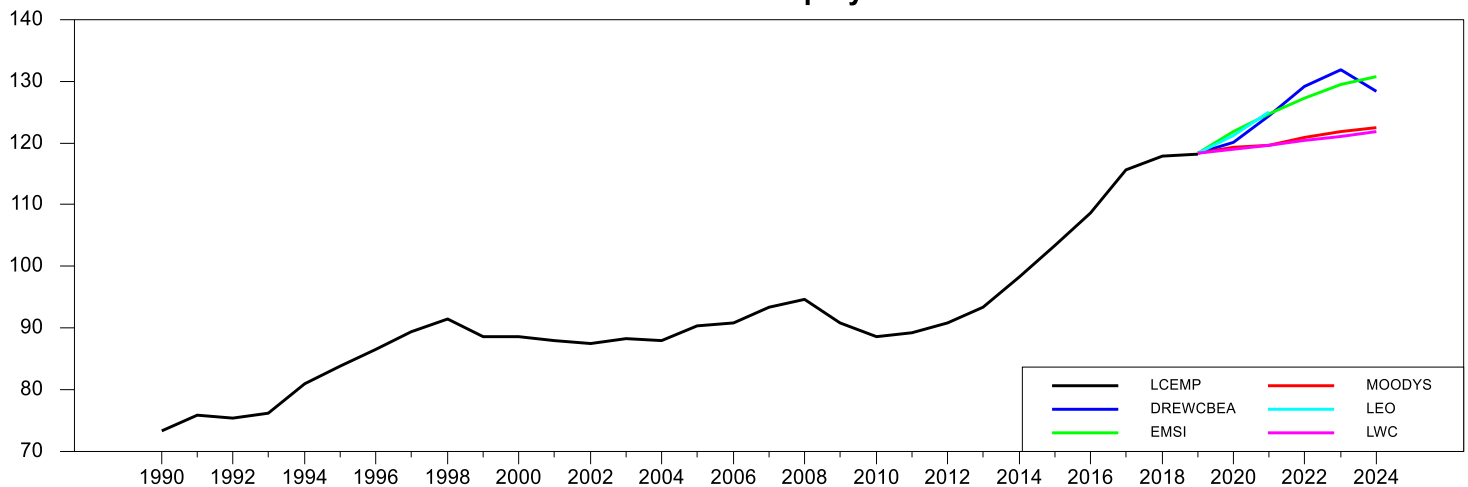
Sales Tax YTD (mil \$)	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
<b>2020</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>29.7</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>35.0</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>16.9</b>		

Jefferson Davis Parish saw an drop in its sales tax collections in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, compared to the same quarter the previous year. Sales tax collections have fallen by approximately \$1 million over the year for a 10.4% decrease. This occurred as taxable sales in the parish rose by \$7 million (+4.4%) over the year. The largest absolute and percentage increases occurred in Auto (+\$11.1 million, +38.3%). In fact, Auto and General Merchandise (+\$8.1 million, +16.1%) were the two categories leading to the overall increase. This was countered with a very large drop in lumber and building materials, which experienced a large decrease (-\$10.9 million, -52.7%). The slow down in rebuilding from the storms is shown in some of the other categories. Furniture had a small absolute drop (-\$0.4 million, -14.3%). Oil and Gas (-\$0.4 million, -10.1%) and Lease/Rental (-\$0.5 million, -20.6%) also experienced percentage decreases. Apparel experienced an absolute and percentage decrease (-\$0.1 million, -6.6%). Utilities (-\$0.1 million, -2.2%) and occupancy (-\$0.2 million, -16.6%) both had drops in sales. Entertainment had a 62.9% increase, however, that increase was small in absolute terms. Food also had a drop of \$0.3 million (-0.9%).

The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 YTD figures show that total taxable sales have increased in the parish by \$25.9 million compared to the same quarter in 2021 for an 8.7% increase. Even though there was an increase in sales, there was a \$1.1 million decrease in 2021 YTD sales tax collections (-6.1%).

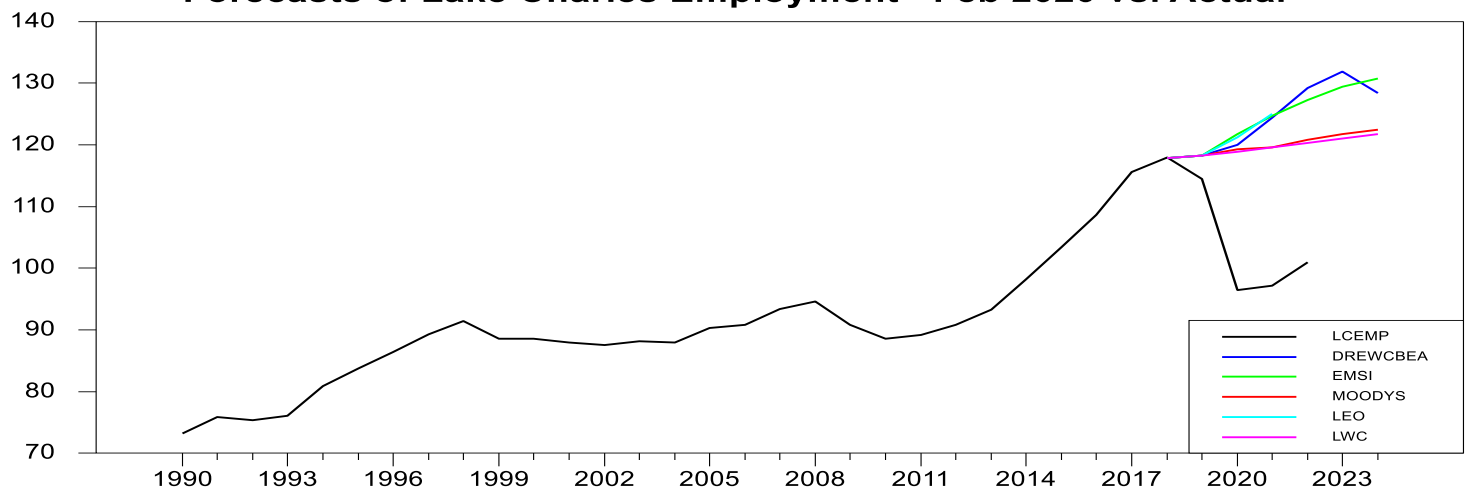
The Drew CBEA restarted quarterly reports in early February 2020. The first essay topic that was written about was [comparisons of forecasts for SWLA](#). In that piece, four different sources of Lake Charles MSA employment forecasts were compared with the Drew CBEA forecast. At the time, the Lake Charles MSA was projected to continue growth.

**Forecasts of Lake Charles Employment - Feb 2020**



However, not long after the report was released, the entire nation (in fact, most of the world) went into an economic shutdown in response to the new COVID-19 pandemic. Not long after, Hurricanes Laura and Delta made landfall and caused billions of dollars of damage to the area. Placing the actual job growth in the Lake Charles MSA with the forecasts made at that time shows how much unexpected events can affect a projected path and why forecasts are always subject to change when new information becomes available.

**Forecasts of Lake Charles Employment - Feb 2020 vs. Actual**



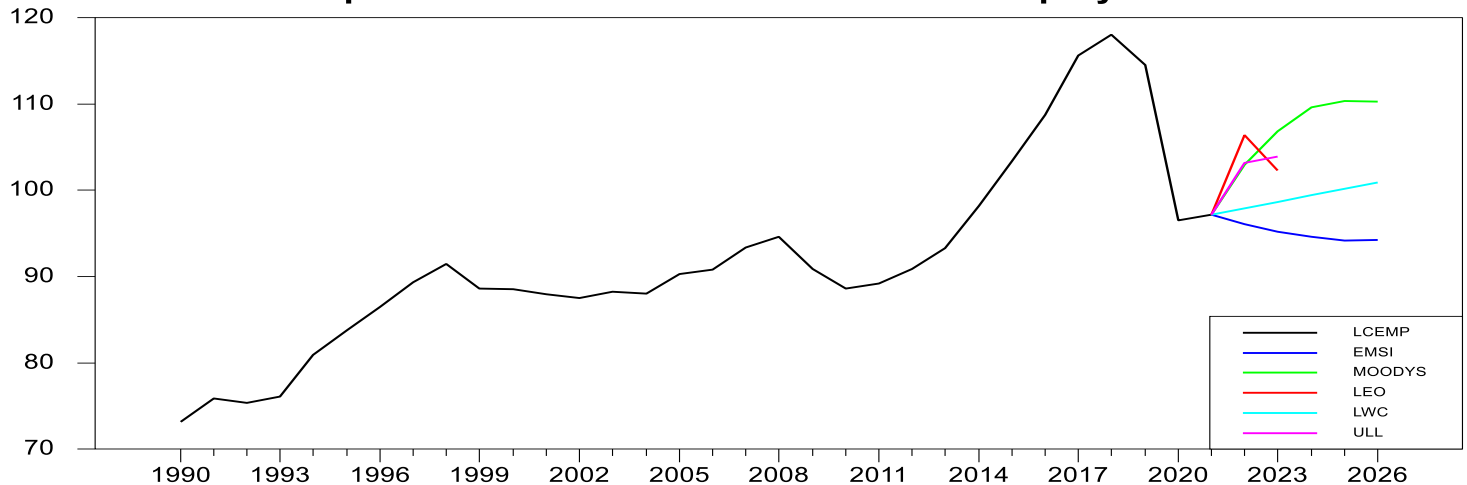
Since 2020, forecasts have been updated to account for all the dramatic changes that have taken place in our area. The following graph shows the updated forecasts from the previous sources as well as a new one from [ULL](#).

Almost all of the forecasts show the area continuing to grow over the next few years, with the exception of EMSI. This forecast projects the Lake Charles MSA will continue to experience an annual drop in employment in the coming years. The Louisiana Workforce Commission projects a slow and steady increase, basically exhibiting a constant trend



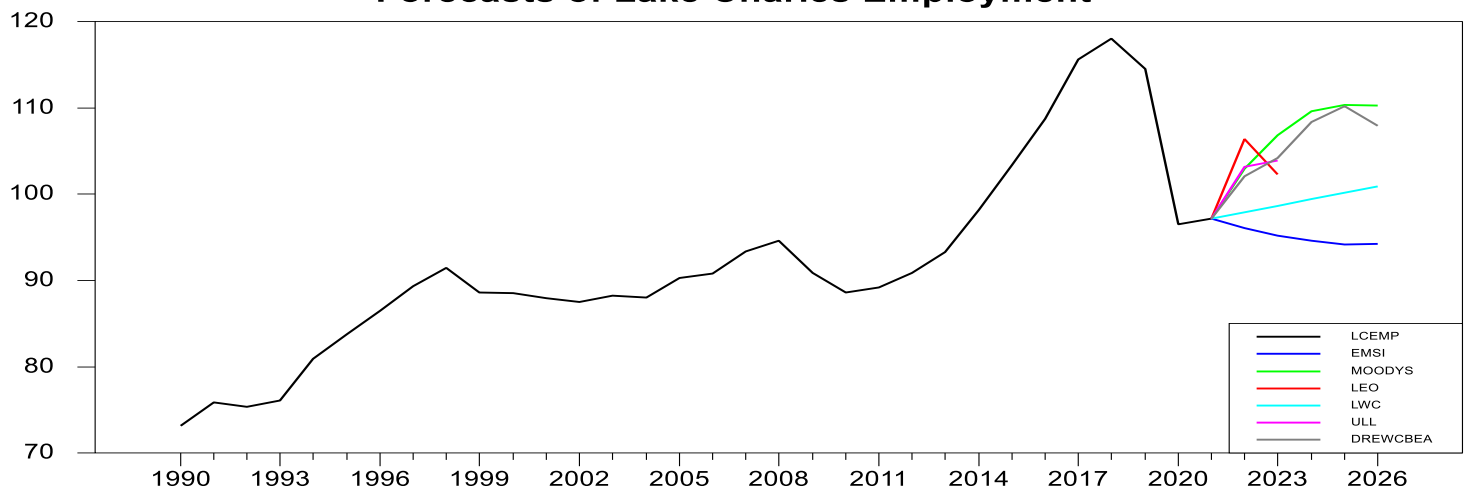
from the latest available growth rate. Moody's, Loren Scott, and ULL all predict very fast growth in the immediate future before slowing down to a more normal path.

## Comparison Forecasts of Lake Charles Employment



The Drew CBEA's forecast incorporates both statistical and economic development project information. If certain large projects in the area begin construction and/or operation over the forecast time period, the results will differ from purely statistical estimates. The Drew CBEA forecasts shows a faster increase in employment in earlier years before coming back down as some projects are completed. The graph below shows all forecasts for comparison.

## Forecasts of Lake Charles Employment



While the path of jobs in the next few years is uncertain and subject to change (especially if the national economy experiences a significant downturn), almost all projections point to continued job growth in the area. It must be mentioned there is will be a great deal of federal money coming in to help with storm recovery and this could help attract more residents and employ more people in the rebuilding process. New economic development projects could increase construction employment higher than anticipated and completion of these projects leads to more permanent jobs. Entrepreneurs will also begin new businesses and hire more people as the area become more attractive post-storms. Aside from any major economic shocks that can't be predicted, SWLA should continue the recent job growth it has been experiencing.

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, [mcneeseedrewecon.org/](http://mcneeseedrewecon.org/).

1. Lake Charles MSA Employment Indicators – BLS CES/SAE and LAUS<sup>a</sup>

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)<sup>b</sup>

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<sup>b</sup>
5. Lake Charles Port Statistics – Census USA Trade Online<sup>b</sup>
6. Lake Charles Gaming Statistics – Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections, Louisiana Gaming Control Board<sup>b</sup>
7. Parish Employment Indicators – BLS LAUS<sup>a</sup>  
The labor force is the sum of household employment and household unemployment.
8. Parish Job Openings – Louisiana Workforce Commission<sup>a</sup>
9. New Business Filings – Louisiana Secretary of State<sup>b</sup>
10. Parish SNAP Benefits – Louisiana Department of Children & Family Services<sup>a</sup>
11. Allen Parish Tax Collections – Allen Parish School Board<sup>b</sup>
12. Beauregard Parish Tax Collections – Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office<sup>b</sup>
13. Calcasieu Parish Tax Collections – Calcasieu Parish School Board<sup>b</sup>
14. Cameron Parish Severance Tax Collections – Louisiana Department of Revenue<sup>b</sup>
15. Jefferson Davis Parish Tax Collections – Jefferson Davis Parish School Board<sup>b</sup>
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