

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.

Visit our website and follow us on social media to see what we have to offer.

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4th Quarter 2022 Issue

We are continuing the “new normal” we saw last quarter as the area continues its slow and steady growth. On a national level, we are seeing inflation remain at relatively high levels but the rates are coming down. The country has had growth in jobs and total production. In terms of this area, we are seeing a sort of flattening of trends in economic variables, specifically jobs.

We still are not at pre-pandemic levels of employment even though the area has been growing slowly but surely. Our area is sort of “treading water” in real terms. Even though tax collections in all the parishes have increased or remained fairly steady, much of this may have been due to the inflationary impacts the country has been experiencing.

One major piece of economic news occurred in the gaming area of our economy. The former Isle of Capri reopened as the Horseshoe Casino and became the first riverboat casino to transition to land. The piece at the end of this report gives an overview of the gaming industry in SWLA and its economic contribution.

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

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Selected Employment Indicators – Lake Charles MSA

(measures in thousands of workers)	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022
Total Nonfarm	100.9	100.3	101.8	101.0	102.5
Year-Over-Year Change	10.3	7.4	5.5	2.5	1.6
Year-Over-Year % Change	11.3	8.0	5.7	2.5	1.6
Mining and Logging	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
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
Construction	18.5	18.3	19.1	18.6	18.7
Year-Over-Year Change	4.0	3.4	2.6	0.6	0.2
Year-Over-Year % Change	27.3	22.6	15.8	3.1	0.9
Manufacturing	10.6	10.6	10.7	11.0	11.1
Year-Over-Year Change	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5
Year-Over-Year % Change	3.9	2.3	2.6	4.8	4.4
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	17.3	16.9	16.8	16.9	17.4
Year-Over-Year Change	1.4	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.1
Year-Over-Year % Change	8.8	3.9	1.0	0.4	0.6
Professional and Business Services	9.5	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4
Year-Over-Year Change	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.1
Year-Over-Year % Change	3.6	1.8	1.4	0.4	-1.1
Leisure and Hospitality	12.3	12.2	12.7	12.7	12.7
Year-Over-Year Change	2.3	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.5
Year-Over-Year % Change	22.7	12.3	9.8	5.8	3.8
Government	13.6	13.5	13.6	13.2	13.9
Year-Over-Year Change	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	0.2
Year-Over-Year % Change	0.5	-1.0	-1.4	-2.0	1.7
Average Weekly Earnings (All Employees)	748.1	763.67	800.84	824.62	885.8
Year-Over-Year Change	-12.4	46.4	33.1	40.0	137.7
Year-Over-Year % Change	-1.6	6.5	4.3	5.1	18.4
Average Hourly Earnings (All Employees)	24.34	25.20	25.40	25.53	26.7
Year-Over-Year Change	2.1	3.1	2.7	1.5	2.4
Year-Over-Year % Change	9.3	14.2	11.8	6.3	9.8

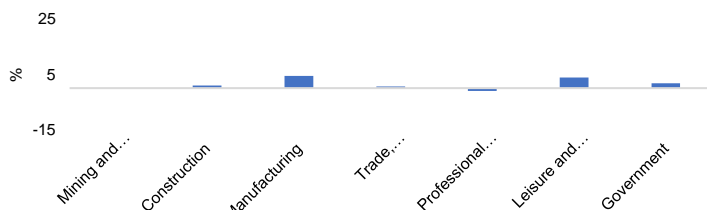
In the 4th quarter of 2022, the Lake Charles MSA (consisting of Calcasieu and Cameron parishes) experienced increases in employment compared to the same quarter the previous year. There has been continued growth but the trend seems to be flattening somewhat.

Total nonfarm employment (presented in thousands of jobs in the table) rose by 1,600 jobs over the year for a 1.6% increase. Looking at the industries, it appears all industries either gained jobs over the year or experienced no change, with the exception of Professional and Business Services. Leisure and Hospitality experienced the largest industry gain of 3.8%. The Construction industry has seen gains as it has added 200 jobs (+0.9%). Manufacturing gained 500 jobs (+4.4%). Trade, Transportation, and Utilities gained 100 jobs (+0.6%) while Government gained 200 jobs (+1.7%).

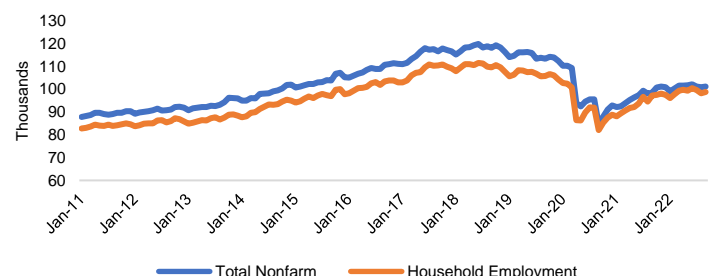
Professional and Business Services was the only business to fall, as it lost 100 jobs for a 1.1% decline.

While there was a gain in employment, there were increases in some earnings measures. Average weekly earnings of all employees rose 18.4% and average hourly earnings rose 9.8%. Although not shown, average weekly hours of all employees in the 4th quarter fell 7.8% over the year. Some of these dramatic increases are partly due to inflation.

Total Employment % Change - Available Sectors
Qtr 4 2021 - Qtr 4 2022



Lake Charles MSA Employment Measures

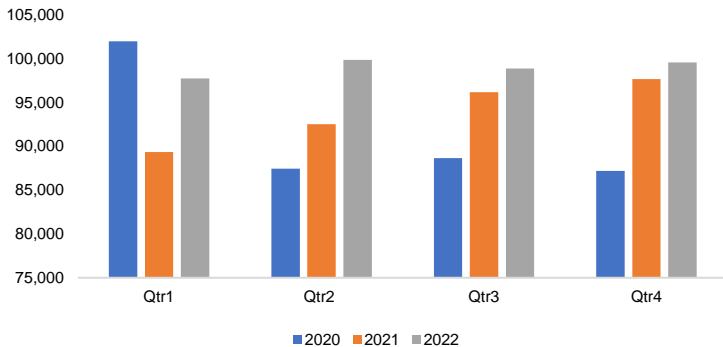


Selected Employment Indicators – Lake Charles MSA

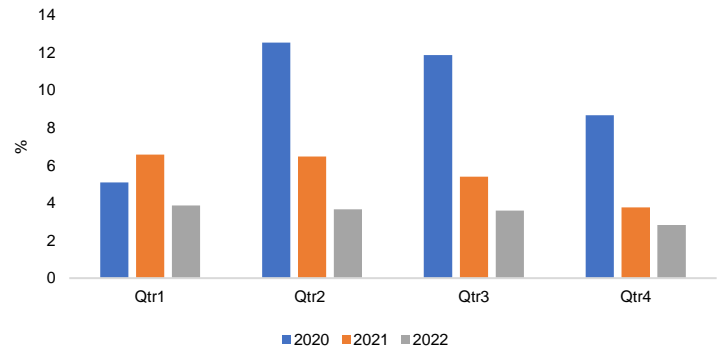
	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022
Household Employment	97,663	97,718	99,851	98,863	99,571
Year-Over-Year Change	10,483	8,364	7,325	2,720	1,908
Year-Over-Year % Change	12.0	9.4	7.9	2.8	2.0
Household Unemployment	3,849	3,912	3,803	3,706	2,892
Year-Over-Year Change	-4,422	-2,392	-2,623	-1,772	-957
Year-Over-Year % Change	-53.5	-37.9	-40.8	-32.3	-24.9
Labor Force	101,512	101,630	103,655	102,569	102,463
Year-Over-Year Change	6,061	5,973	4,702	948	951
Year-Over-Year % Change	6.3	6.2	4.8	0.9	0.9
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.6	2.8
Year-Over-Year Change	-4.9	-2.7	-2.8	-1.8	-0.9

	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022
Total Job Openings	7,127	6,764	6,555	6,594	5,979
Year-Over-Year Change	2,404	1,269	463	-199	-1,148
Year-Over-Year % Change	50.9	23.1	7.6	-2.9	-16.1

Lake Charles MSA Employment



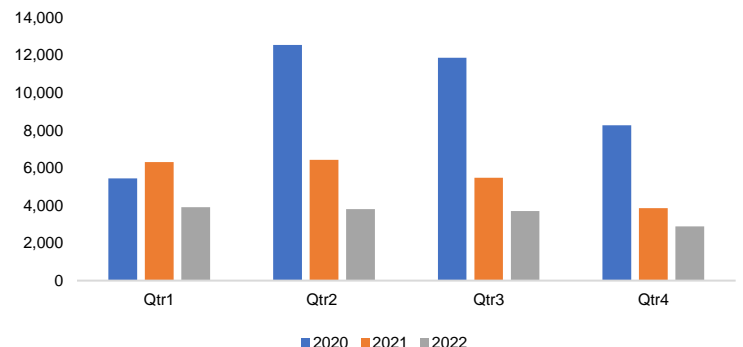
Lake Charles MSA Unemployment Rate



The quarterly average unemployment rate in the MSA currently sits at 2.8% which represents a 0.9 percentage point decrease from a year ago. The household employment measure rose by 1,908 over the year for a 2.0% increase. The number of unemployed decreased by 957. This represented a dramatic 24.9% decrease. As the labor force is the total of unemployed and employed, the total change in the labor force was an increase of 951 (+0.9%). This is good news as more labor will be needed for long-term growth though rate of increase is lower than in previous quarters.

Job openings in the 4th quarter of 2022 averaged 5,979. Openings decreased by 1,148 (-16.1%) over the year.

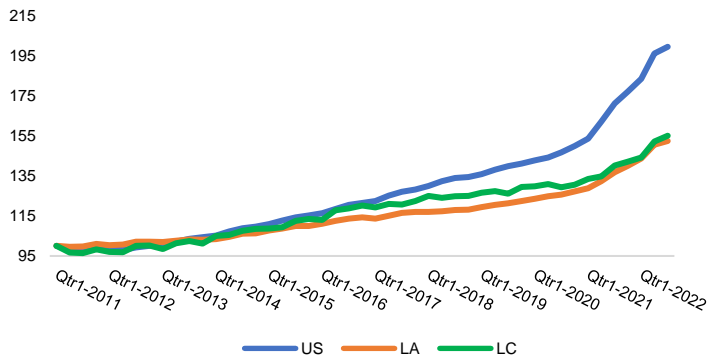
Lake Charles MSA Unemployment



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

Housing Statistics

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

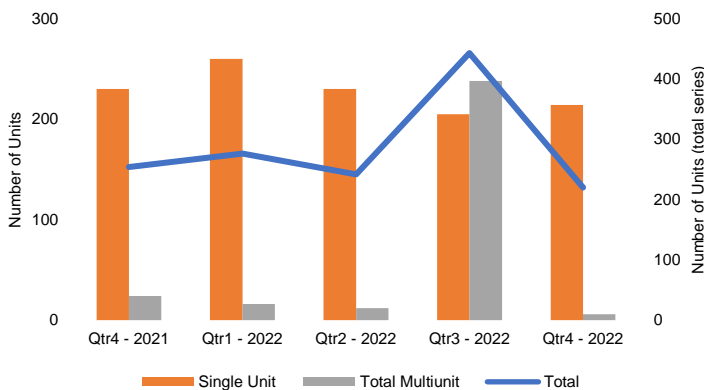


Home Price Index Comparisons	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2022	Year-over-Year % Change
Lake Charles HPI	140.2	155.1	10.6
Louisiana HPI	136.9	152.5	11.4
US HPI	171.2	199.6	16.6

As housing prices have been rising dramatically in recent years, the prices in the area were rising slower than the state and the nation. Looking at price changes over-the-year, from the third quarter of 2021 to the same quarter in 2022, housing prices have risen 10.6% in the Lake Charles MSA compared to 11.4% in LA and 16.6% in the US.

Housing Permits – Lake Charles MSA

Lake Charles MSA Building Permits



In the 4th quarter of 2022, single unit permits fell by 16 over-the-year while multi-unit permits had a decrease of 18, therefore the total decrease was 34. This represented an 13.4% drop. The YTD figures show an increase in single unit permits of 7 with an increase in multi-unit permits of 222 for a total increase of 229 over-the-year. The percentage increase in YTD was 24.1%. In terms of valuation, single unit permits fell by \$9 million while multi-unit permit valuations dropped by \$1 million for a total increase of \$10 million. This represented a 25.0% decrease year-over-year in the 4th quarter of 2022 for valuation of all permits. In terms of YTD numbers, single unit permit valuation increased \$7.9 million and multi-unit permit valuation increased \$28 million. This led to a \$35.9

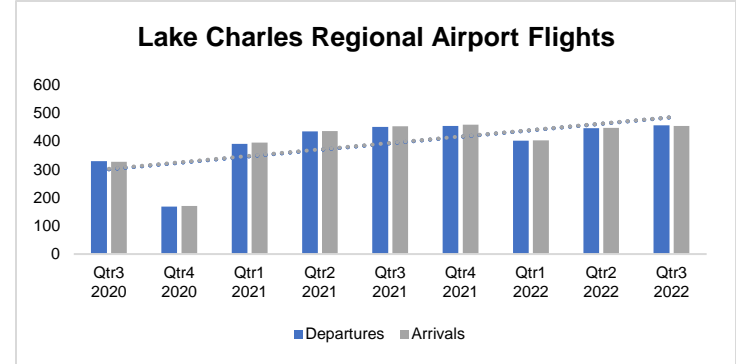
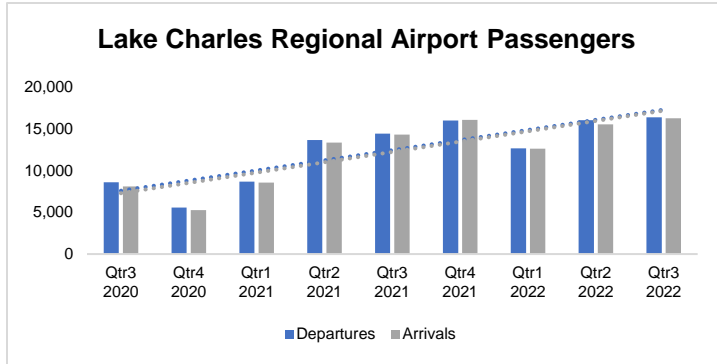
million (+22.6%) increase over-the-year.

The graph of building permits shows that single unit permits rose from the 3rd to the 4th quarter of 2022 while multi-unit permits dropped. Since the 3rd quarter saw a large spike blue line representing the total of single and multi-unit shows a large drop in the 4th quarter. While very much below the 3rd quarter levels, the total is more on the same level as previous quarters throughout the year.

	Qtr-4 2021	Qtr-4 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change	Qtr-4 2021 YTD	Qtr-4 2022 YTD	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Number								
Total	254	220	-34	-13.4	952	1,181	229	24.1
Single	230	214	-16	-7.0	902	909	7	0.8
Multi-unit	24	6	-18	-75.0	50	272	222	444.0
Valuation								
(thousands \$) Total	40,053	30,047	-10,006	-25.0	159,075	194,972	35,897	22.6
Single	38,361	29,375	-8,986	-23.4	155,382	163,318	7,936	5.1
Multi-unit	1,692	672	-1,020	-60.3	3,693	31,654	27,961	757.1

Transportation Statistics

Lake Charles Regional Airport



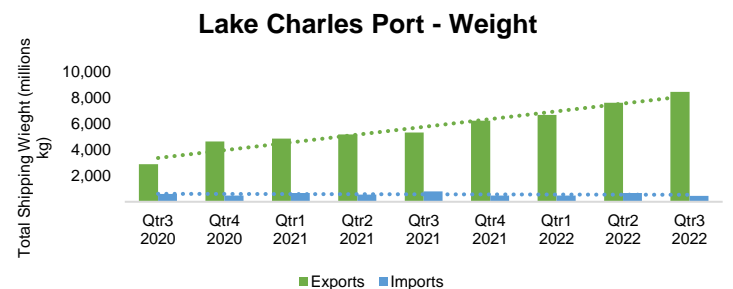
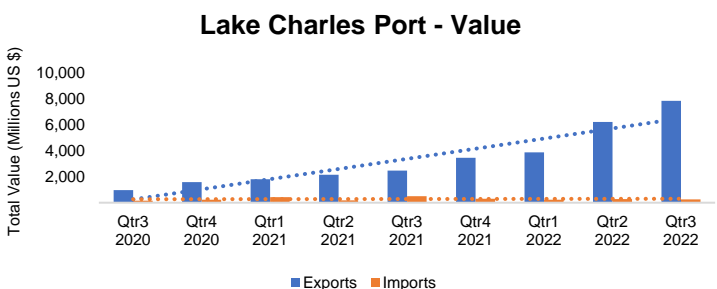
The Lake Charles regional airport experienced a continuing uptick in activity during the 3rd quarter compared to the same quarter the previous year. Activity has increased since the 3rd quarter of 2021 as the airport and area recover from the storms and flights have resumed out of LCH.

	Qtr-3 2021	Qtr-3 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Passengers				
Departures	14,412	16,364	1,952	13.5
Arrivals	14,317	16,251	1,934	13.5
Flights				
Departures	451	457	6	1.3
Arrivals	454	455	1	0.2

Passengers departing in the 3rd quarter of 2022 rose 1,952 (+13.5%) since the 3rd quarter of 2021 and those arriving have increased 1,934 (+13.5%). In terms of flights, there has been an increase of 6 flights (+1.3%) departing Lake Charles over that same period while the number

of flights arriving has risen by only 1 (+0.2%). The graphs showing these measures point to an upward trend after starting at low levels in 2020 due to the storms and COVID. Flights and passengers have been steadily increasing since that time. The figures may flatten out in the near future but remain at high levels.

Lake Charles Port Statistics

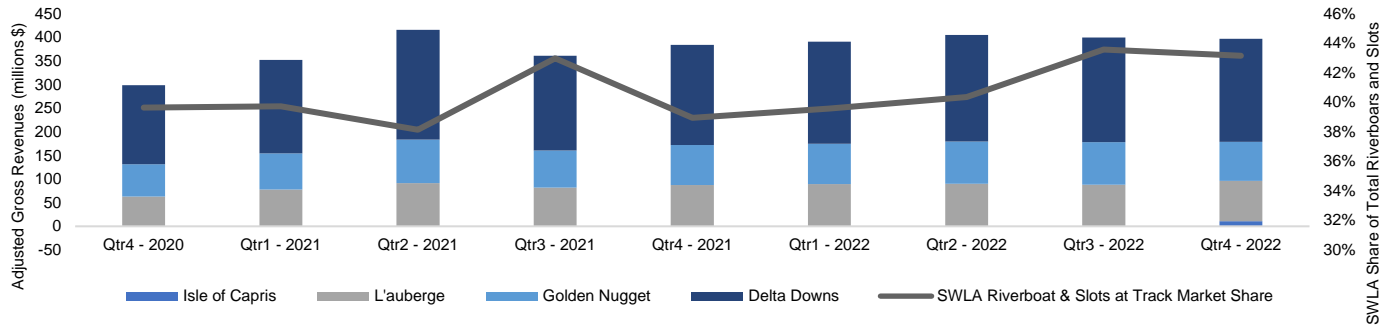


The Lake Charles port has seen an increases exports values and decreases in import values throughout 2022. The figures in the table below show the value of exports rose \$4.1 billion (+118.3%) over the year while the total value of imports fell \$2 million (-0.7%). The total weight of all exports rose 2.4 billion kg (+38.4%) while the total weight of all imports rose 74 million kg (+15.7%).

	Qtr-3 2021	Qtr-3 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Value (millions \$)				
Exports	3,476	7,591	4,114	118.3
Imports	307	305	-2	-0.7
Shipping Weight (millions kg)				
Exports	6,264	8,666	2,403	38.4
Imports	474	549	74	15.7

Gaming Statistics

SWLA Gaming Revenues and Market Share



	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022
Total State AGR (millions)	544.3	546.0	557.5	507.8	504.3
Year-Over-Year Change (millions)	123.6	48.3	-51.8	40.8	-40.1
Year-Over-Year % Change	29.4	9.7	-8.5	8.7	-7.4
Total SWLA AGR (millions)	211.9	216.1	224.9	221.3	217.5
Year-Over-Year Change (millions)	45.2	18.5	-7.4	20.6	5.6
Year-Over-Year % Change	27.1	9.3	-3.2	10.2	2.6
Total AGR (millions)					
Isle of Capri	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.6
Year-Over-Year Change (millions)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.6
Year-Over-Year % Change	-100.0	-100.0	-100.0	-100.0	NA
L'Auberge	87.2	89.7	89.9	87.8	85.7
Year-Over-Year Change (millions)	24.0	12.1	-1.6	5.9	-1.5
Year-Over-Year % Change	38.0	15.6	-1.7	7.1	-1.8
Golden Nugget	84.6	84.8	89.8	90.3	82.7
Year-Over-Year Change (millions)	16.3	8.0	-2.3	11.9	-1.9
Year-Over-Year % Change	23.9	10.4	-2.5	15.2	-2.3
Delta Downs	40.1	41.6	45.2	43.2	38.6
Year-Over-Year Change (millions)	4.8	-1.6	-3.5	2.8	-1.5
Year-Over-Year % Change	13.6	-3.7	-7.2	7.0	-3.8
Share of Total SWLA AGR					
Isle of Capri	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.9%
L'Auberge	41.1%	41.5%	40.0%	39.7%	39.4%
Golden Nugget	39.9%	39.3%	39.9%	40.8%	38.0%
Delta Downs	18.9%	19.2%	20.1%	19.5%	17.7%
Share of Total State AGR					
Isle of Capri	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.1%
L'Auberge	16.0%	16.4%	16.1%	17.3%	17.0%
Golden Nugget	15.5%	15.5%	16.1%	17.8%	16.4%
Delta Downs	7.4%	7.6%	8.1%	8.5%	7.7%
SWLA Total AGR	38.9%	39.6%	40.4%	43.6%	43.1%

In terms of revenues, gaming establishments have rebounded from the pandemic and hurricanes despite and the Horseshoe has officially opened. Revenues were above the 4th quarter 2021. We are now seeing comparisons to periods not as affected by the storms and COVID. Total revenues in SWLA for the 4th quarter of 2022 increased \$5.6 million for an 2.6% increase compared to the same quarter the previous year.

Isle of Capri is now the Horseshoe and collected 10.6 million in revenue in the 4th quarter of 2022 despite not being open for the full quarter. L'Auberge had an decrease of \$1.5 million for a 1.8% increase. The Golden Nugget had an annual percentage drop in AGR of 2.3% with an absolute increase of \$1.9 million. Delta Downs experienced a \$1.5 million decrease in AGR over the year for a 3.8% decrease. These figures

indicate a solid recovery in the gaming market from 2020, however, things have been 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.

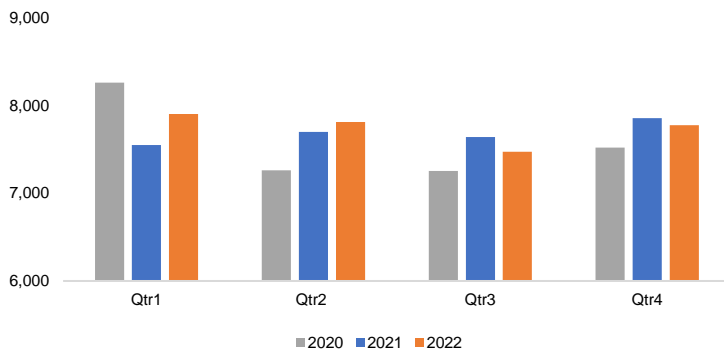
The three SWLA establishments made up 43.6% of the total AGR from riverboats and slots and tracks in the state, rising slightly from 43.0% in the 3rd quarter of 2021.

Selected Employment Indicators – Allen Parish

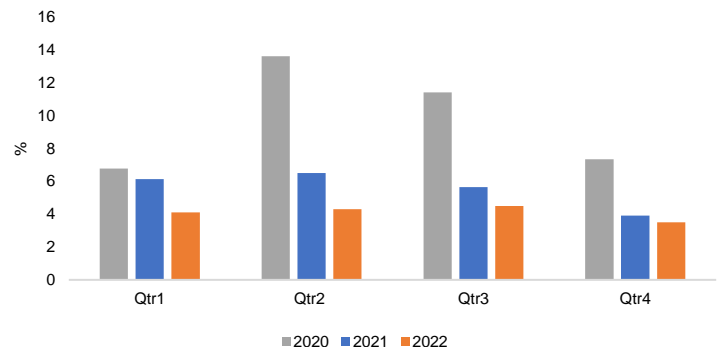
	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022
Household Employment	7,856	7,903	7,812	7,474	7,777
Year-Over-Year Change	335	353	114	-167	-79
Year-Over-Year % Change	4.4	4.7	1.5	-2.2	-1.0
Household Unemployment	319	336	351	351	282
Year-Over-Year Change	-278	-156	-184	-103	-38
Year-Over-Year % Change	-46.5	-31.8	-34.4	-22.6	-11.8
Labor Force	8,176	8,239	8,163	7,825	8,059
Year-Over-Year Change	57	197	-71	-270	-117
Year-Over-Year % Change	0.7	2.4	-0.9	-3.3	-1.4
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.9	4.1	4.3	4.5	3.5
Year-Over-Year Change	-3.4	-2.0	-2.2	-1.1	-0.4

	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022
Total Job Openings	253	288	294	271	235
Year-Over-Year Change	92	113	100	11	-18
Year-Over-Year % Change	56.8	64.9	51.8	4.4	-7.0

Allen Parish Employment



Allen Parish Unemployment Rate

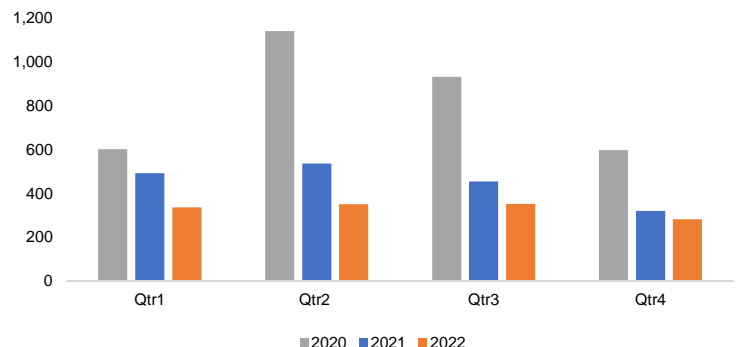


In the 4th quarter of 2022, Allen parish saw a drop in the labor force of 117 (-1.4%). This was broken down by a decrease in household unemployment of 38 over the year (-11.8%) while the number of employed persons fell 79 (-1.0%) over the year. The unemployment rate fell 0.4 percentage points over the year to 3.5%.

Job openings in the 4th quarter of 2022 averaged 235. Openings fell by 18 (-7.0%) over the year.

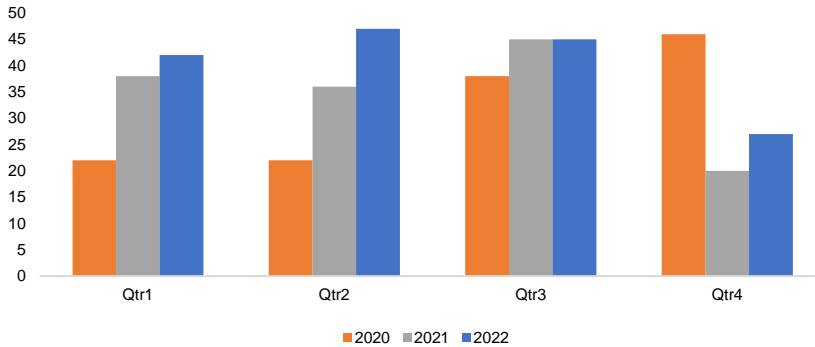
The graphs show the levels of household employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate for each quarter compared to the same quarter the previous two years. In the 4th quarter of 2022, Allen has had lower unemployment and a slightly lower employment compared to 2021 levels as recovery may be leveling out.

Allen Parish Unemployment



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 27 in the 4th quarter of 2022 which was 7 more than the same quarter in 2021 and 19 less compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 4th quarter of 2022 was 161. This was 22 businesses higher than the 4th quarter of 2021 YTD and 33 businesses higher than the 4th quarter of 2020 YTD.

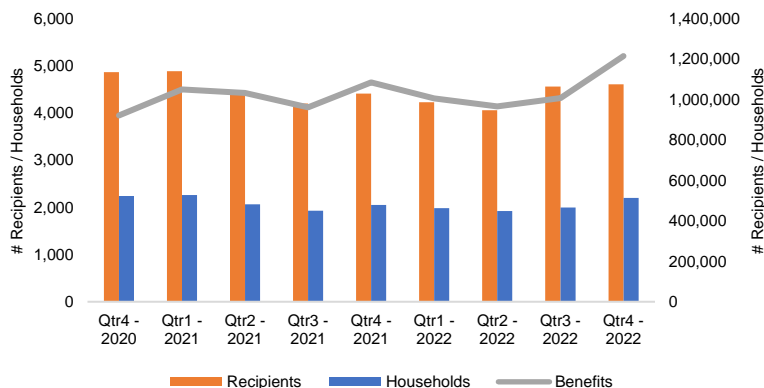
Qtrly New Business Filings	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
2020	22	22	38	46
2021	38	36	45	20
2022	42	47	45	27

Qtrly New Business Filings YTD	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
2020	22	44	82	128
2021	38	74	119	139
2022	42	89	134	161

SNAP Benefits

	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Recipients	4,415	4,227	4,058	4,564	4,610	194	4.4
Households	2,048	1,985	1,921	1,996	2,199	150	7.3
Benefits	1,085,622	1,005,141	965,388	1,007,259	1,215,027	129,406	11.9

Allen Parish SNAP Data



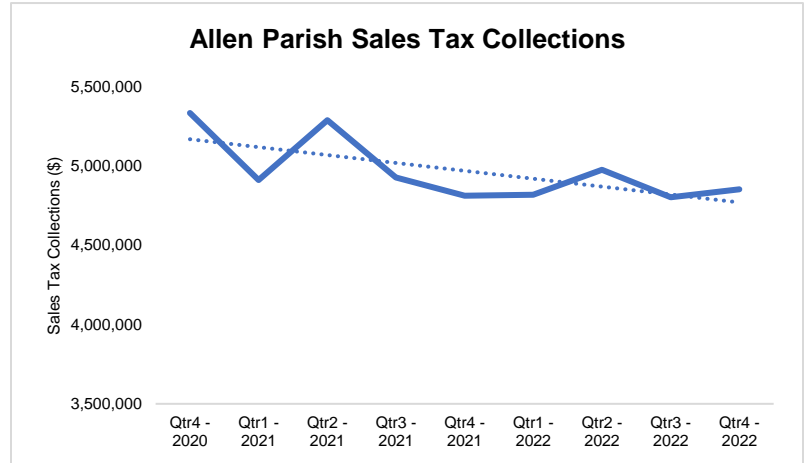
Allen parish had an increase in SNAP recipients, households, and benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 4,610 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 4th quarter of 2022. 194 more people received benefits compared to the 4th quarter of 2021 for a 4.4% increase over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP was 2,199 which was 150 more than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented a 7.3% increase. In terms of benefits, the parish received \$1.2 million in total during the 4th quarter of 2022, which was a \$129.4 thousand increase over-the-year. This was a 11.9% increase in benefits in the parish. Looking at the graph illustrates over the past two years an overall

relatively flat trend in benefits before rising in the 4th quarter. After large increases in the variables due to COVID and storm recovery, the later trends seem to show all the variables flattening out but benefits jumped in the 4th quarter.

Tax Collections

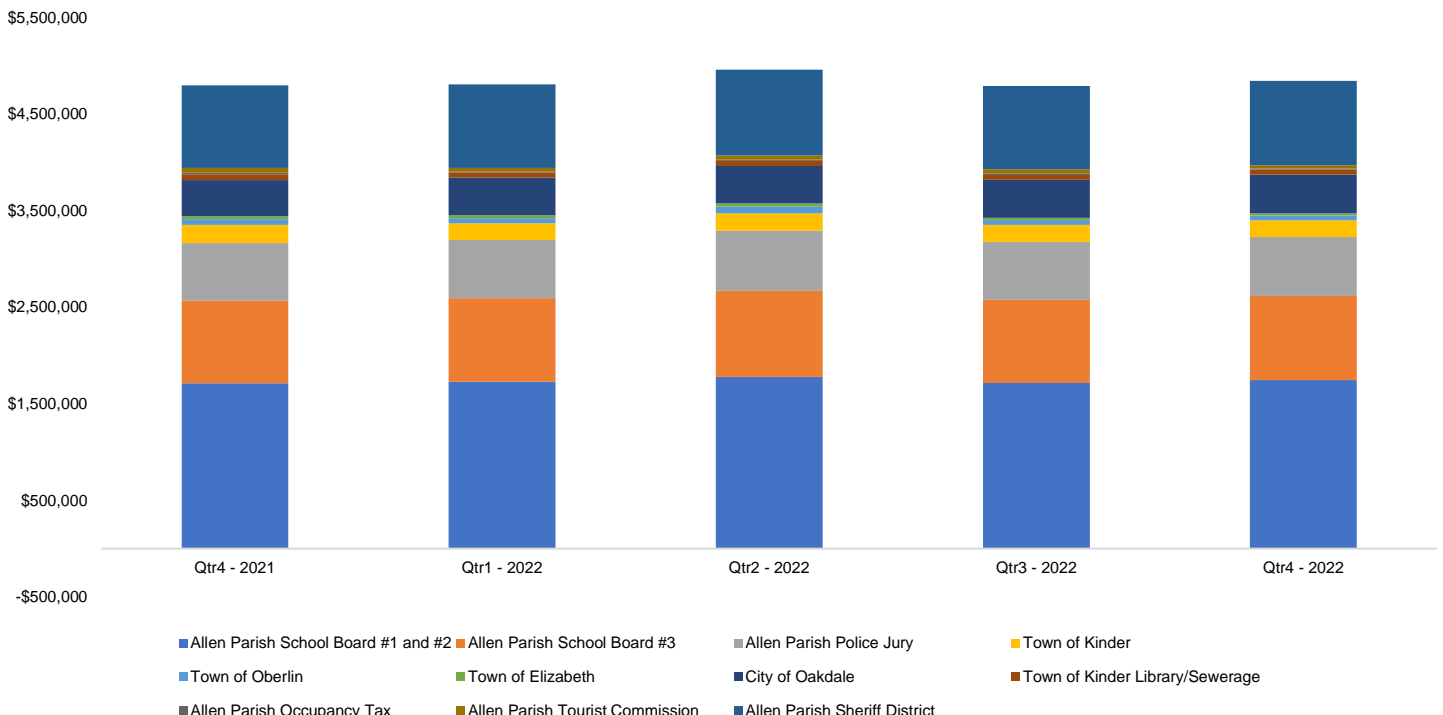
The Drew CBEA has begun building a history of Allen Parish sales tax collections with the help of the Allen Parish School Board. The numbers show a clear flattening (if not slightly downward) trend throughout the 4th quarter of 2022.

Compared to the 4th quarter of 2021, Allen parish has seen an overall slight increase in tax collections. Total tax collections increased \$41.4 thousand for a 0.9% 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	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Allen Parish School Board #1 and #2	1,710,559	1,727,819	1,778,851	1,716,295	1,744,137	33,578	2.0
Allen Parish School Board #3	855,155	863,697	889,200	858,544	872,132	16,977	2.0
Allen Parish Police Jury	598,611	604,590	622,442	600,983	610,495	11,884	2.0
Town of Kinder	188,283	171,826	181,268	175,065	170,373	-17,911	-9.5
Town of Oberlin	59,307	53,634	70,032	51,330	49,575	-9,731	-16.4
Town of Elizabeth	29,977	27,674	31,524	23,651	22,674	-7,303	-24.4
City of Oakdale	374,899	393,091	386,876	391,206	403,109	28,210	7.5
Town of Kinder Library/Sewerage	56,485	51,548	54,381	52,520	51,112	-5,373	-9.5
Allen Parish Occupancy Tax	17,046	12,109	13,591	14,929	11,378	-5,668	-33.3
Allen Parish Tourist Commission	51,138	36,327	40,773	44,786	34,133	-17,006	-33.3
Allen Parish Sheriff District	855,155	863,697	889,200	858,544	872,132	16,977	2.0
Reeves	16,913	13,695	18,926	16,381	13,659	-3,254	-19.2
Total	4,813,529	4,819,705	4,977,064	4,804,233	4,854,908	41,380	0.9

Allen Parish Tax Collections by Entity



Selected Employment Indicators – Beauregard Parish

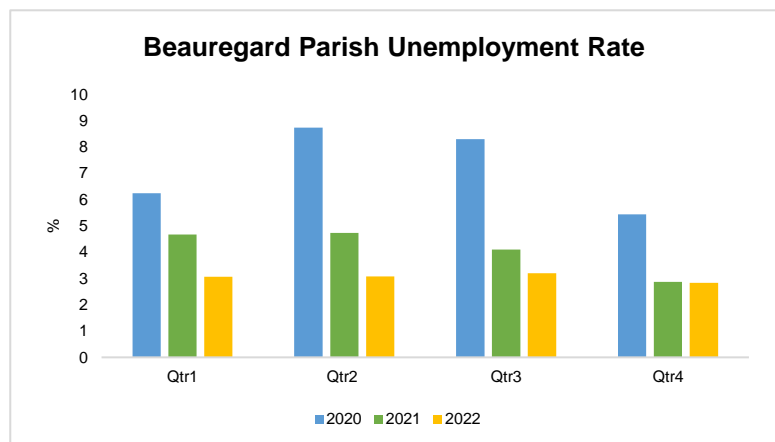
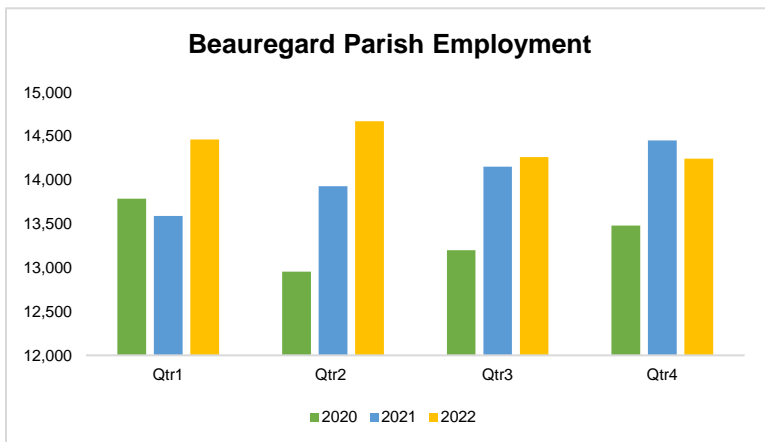
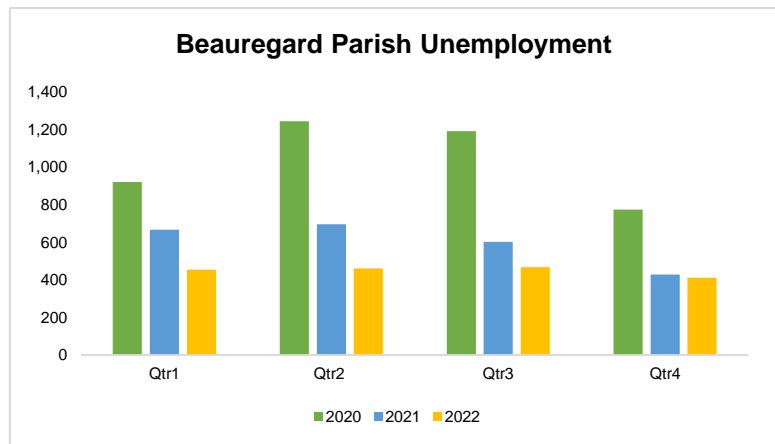
	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2021	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022
Household Employment	14,449	14,463	14,671	14,260	14,243
Year-Over-Year Change	971	875	742	106	-207
Year-Over-Year % Change	7.2	6.4	5.3	0.8	-1.4
Household Unemployment	428	455	460	468	411
Year-Over-Year Change	-346	-212	-236	-134	-17
Year-Over-Year % Change	-44.7	-31.8	-33.9	-22.3	-3.9
Labor Force	14,877	14,918	15,131	14,728	14,654
Year-Over-Year Change	625	663	506	-28	-223
Year-Over-Year % Change	4.4	4.7	3.5	-0.2	-1.5
Unemployment Rate (%)	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.2	2.8
Year-Over-Year Change	-2.6	-1.6	-1.7	-0.9	0.0

	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022
Total Job Openings	503	456	430	517	539
Year-Over-Year Change	148	64	54	1	36
Year-Over-Year % Change	41.6	16.2	14.4	0.1	7.2

In the 4th quarter of 2022, Beauregard parish saw a drop in household employment of 207 over the year (-1.4%) while the number of unemployed persons dropped 17 (-3.9%) over the year. This led to a decrease of 223 (-1.5%) in the total labor force. The unemployment rate dropped 0.0 percentage points over the year to 2.8%.

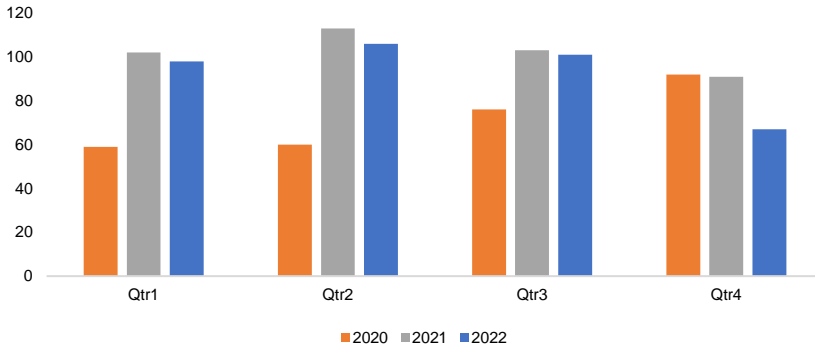
Job openings in the 4th quarter averaged 517. Openings rose by 1 (+0.1%) over the year.

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 4th quarter of 2022, Beauregard has lower unemployment and slightly lower employment figures.



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 67 in the 4th quarter of 2022 which was 24 less than the same quarter the previous year and 25 less compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 4th quarter of 2022 was 372. This was 37 less businesses than the 4th quarter of 2021 YTD and 85 businesses higher than the 4th quarter of 2020 YTD.

Qtrly New Business Filings	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
2020	59	60	76	92
2021	102	113	103	91
2022	98	106	101	67

Qtrly New Business Filings YTD	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
2020	59	119	195	287
2021	102	215	318	409
2022	98	204	305	372

SNAP Benefits

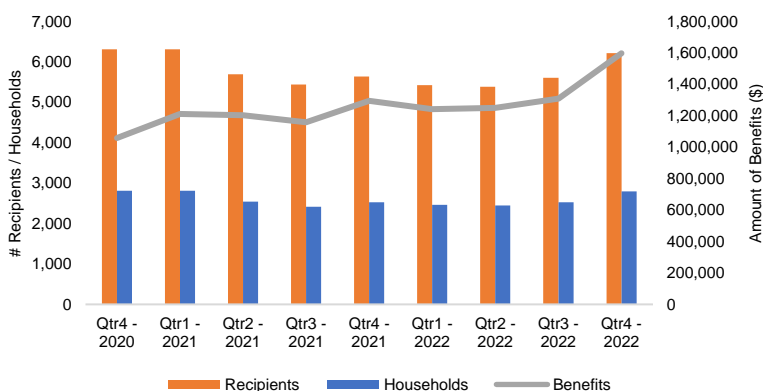
	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Recipients	5,639	5,419	5,380	5,607	6,209	571	10.1
Households	2,521	2,459	2,442	2,525	2,797	276	10.9
Benefits	1,295,130	1,242,185	1,249,026	1,308,374	1,596,582	301,452	23.3

Beauregard parish has experienced increases in SNAP recipients, households and benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 6,209 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 4th quarter of 2022. 571 more people received benefits compared to the 4th quarter of 2021 for a 10.1% increase over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP averaged 2,797 which was 276 more than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented an 10.9%

increase. In terms of benefits, the parish received an average of \$1.6 million in total during the 4th quarter of 2022, which was a \$301.5 thousand increase over-the-year. This was a 23.3% increase in benefits in the parish.

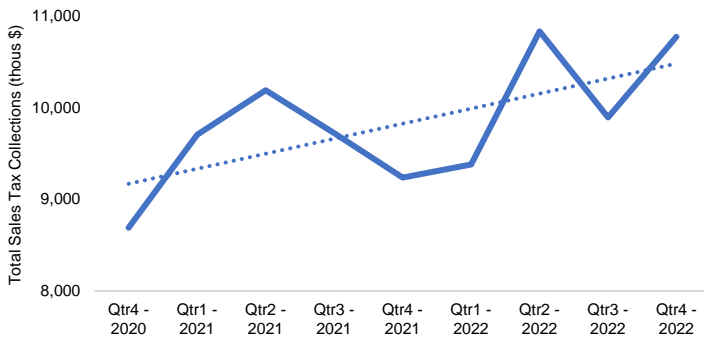
Looking at the graph illustrates an increasing trend in benefits, households, and recipients, over the past two years. Benefits have also risen due to adjustments in the amounts. The later trends seem to show all the variables flattening out although benefits ticked up significantly in the later quarters of 2022.

Beauregard Parish SNAP Data



Tax Collections

Beauregard Parish Sales Tax Collections



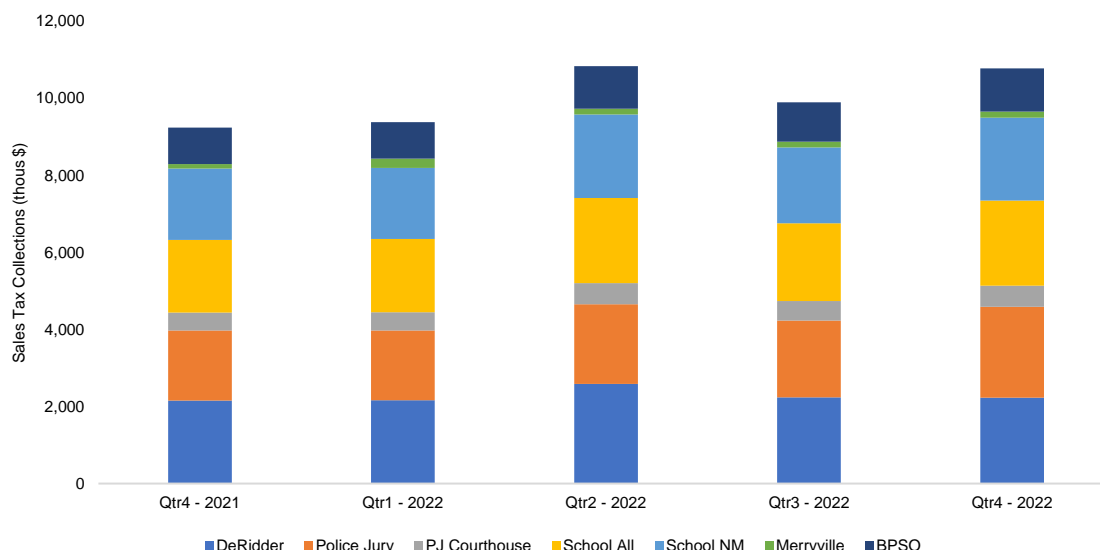
Beauregard parish has seen an increase in its sales tax collections in the 4th quarter of 2022, compared to the same quarter the previous year. Sales tax collections rose by \$1.5 million over the year for a 16.6% increase. Looking at the entities that receive sales tax distributions shows that DeRidder usually collects the most revenue but was surpassed this quarter by the Police Jury. The DeRidder category saw a year-over-year increase of \$74.3 thousand (+3.4%) over the year. Merryville tax collections grew by \$45.3 thousand for a 39.5% increase. This was the highest in percentage terms.

Police Jury rose the largest in absolute terms at \$544.2

thousand (+30.0%). School board revenues, All and NM, rose by \$317.5 thousand (+16.8%) and \$308.2 thousand (+16.7%), respectively. BPSO collections rose by \$164.4 thousand (+17.3%) and PJ Courthouse collections rose \$80.2 thousand (+17.1%).

Sales Tax Collections (thous \$)	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
DeRidder	2,156.0	2,162.3	2,583.6	2,239.6	2,230.3	74.3	3.4
Police Jury	1,813.6	1,807.4	2,070.9	1,993.9	2,357.9	544.2	30.0
PJ Courthouse	468.9	473.7	550.6	503.1	549.0	80.2	17.1
School All	1,888.1	1,901.2	2,209.4	2,019.4	2,205.6	317.5	16.8
School NM	1,846.7	1,844.8	2,164.0	1,969.7	2,154.9	308.2	16.7
Merryville	114.6	246.2	150.8	148.6	159.9	45.3	39.5
BPSO	949.6	942.2	1,101.4	1,018.9	1,114.0	164.4	17.3
Total	9,237.5	9,377.8	10,830.7	9,893.2	10,771.6	1,534.1	16.6

Beauregard Parish Sales Tax Collections by Entity

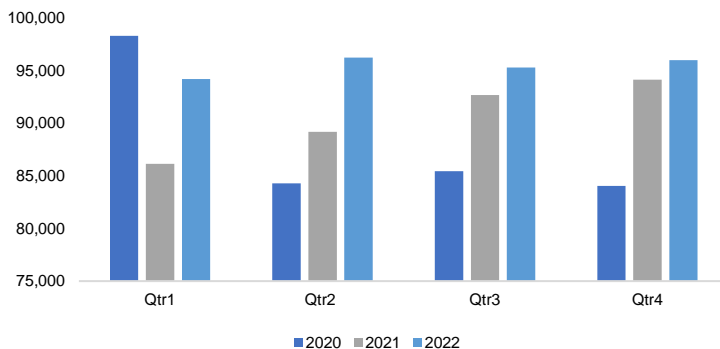


Selected Employment Indicators – Calcasieu Parish

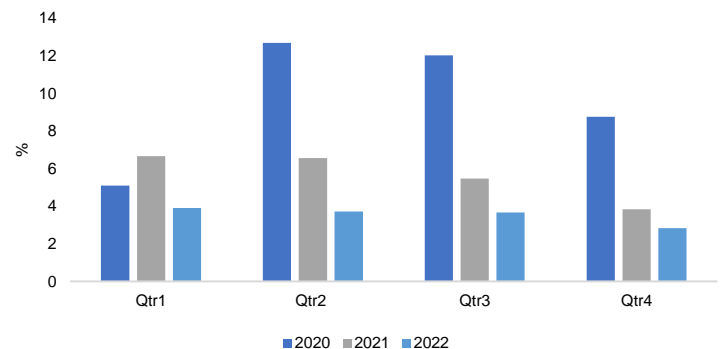
	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022
Household Employment	94,148	94,195	96,252	95,300	95,985
Year-Over-Year Change	10,109	8,060	7,058	2,615	1,837
Year-Over-Year % Change	12.0	9.4	7.9	2.8	2.0
Household Unemployment	3,762	3,820	3,715	3,616	2,810
Year-Over-Year Change	-4,332	-2,342	-2,573	-1,742	-952
Year-Over-Year % Change	-53.5	-38.0	-40.9	-32.5	-25.3
Labor Force	97,910	98,016	99,968	98,916	98,795
Year-Over-Year Change	5,777	5,718	4,485	873	885
Year-Over-Year % Change	6.3	6.2	4.7	0.9	0.9
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.7	2.8
Year-Over-Year Change	-4.9	-2.8	-2.8	-1.8	-1.0

	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022
Total Job Openings	7,030	6,673	6,489	6,525	5,917
Year-Over-Year Change	2,452	1,315	548	-148	-1,113
Year-Over-Year % Change	53.6	24.5	9.2	-2.2	-15.8

Calcasieu Parish Employment



Calcaiseu Parish Unemployment Rate

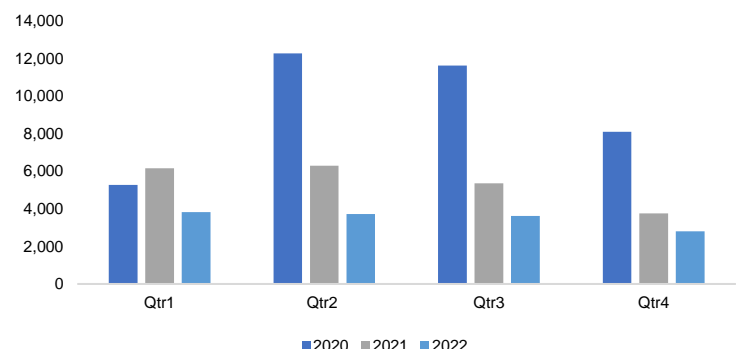


In the 4th quarter of 2022, Calcasieu parish saw an increase in the labor force of 885 (+0.9%). This was due to an increase in household employment of 1,837 over the year (+2.0%) while the number of unemployed persons fell 952 (-25.3%). The unemployment rate fell 1.0 percentage points over the year to 2.8%.

Job openings in the 4th quarter averaged 5,917. Openings fell by 1,113 (-15.8%) over the year.

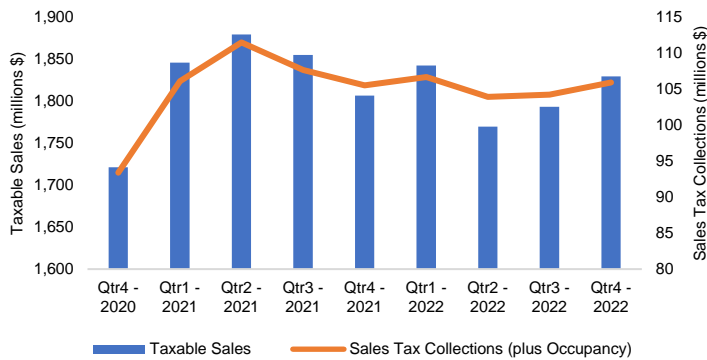
The graphs show the levels of household employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate for each quarter compared to the same quarter the previous two years. Calcasieu had a higher employment level in the 4th quarter of 2022 compared to 2021. The unemployment level is also lower than in the 4th quarter of 2021.

Calcaiseu Parish Unemployment

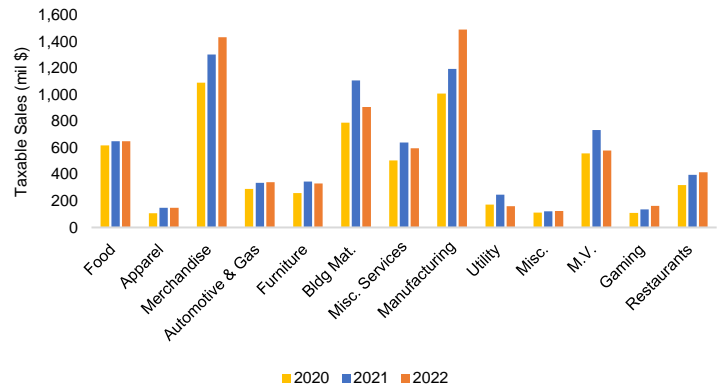


Tax Collections

Calcasieu Parish Taxable Sales and Sales Tax Collections



Calcasieu Parish Taxable Sales - Qtr 4 YTD



Collections (mil \$)	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Food	161.2	165.6	168.2	158.9	157.8	-3.4	-2.1
Apparel	39.3	40.0	38.4	33.4	37.0	-2.3	-5.8
Merchandise	332.6	358.9	345.7	356.7	370.8	38.1	11.5
Automotive & Gas	82.6	79.3	90.4	84.0	87.3	4.7	5.7
Furniture	84.2	94.9	79.7	79.9	75.6	-8.6	-10.2
Bldg Mat.	248.3	223.9	259.3	212.7	210.7	-37.6	-15.1
Misc. Services	162.7	154.5	150.5	146.9	144.1	-18.6	-11.5
Manufacturing	311.3	373.8	366.9	356.1	393.3	82.0	26.3
Utility	65.2	43.9	37.2	36.7	42.5	-22.6	-34.7
Misc.	27.6	31.9	30.6	31.5	30.9	3.2	11.7
M.V.	154.7	141.1	156.5	143.7	139.2	-15.5	-10.0
Gaming	35.5	33.4	42.7	48.5	37.3	1.9	5.2
Restaurants	99.5	100.4	109.5	103.9	102.5	3.0	3.0
Total	1,804.8	1,841.8	1,875.7	1,792.9	1,829.1	24.3	1.3

After large increases due to recovery and rebuilding, Calcasieu parish is seeing its taxable sales flattening out, even with inflation. Collections experienced a slight rise in the 4th quarter of 2022 compared to the

same quarter the previous year. Sales tax collections, plus occupancy, have risen by \$0.3 million over the year for a 0.3% decrease. General sales taxes rose by \$0.8 million (+0.8%) over the year. Occupancy taxes decreased. These taxes fell by \$500 thousand for a 21.5% decrease. This occurred as total taxable sales in the parish rose \$24.3 million (+1.3%) over the year. Increases and decreases were spread out across the categories. Manufacturing rose the largest in both absolute and percentage terms (+\$82 million, +26.3%) while Merchandise also increased \$38.1 million (+11.5%). Gaming (+1.9%), Restaurants (3.0%), Miscellaneous(+11.7%), and Auto & Gas (+5.7%) all had increases. Food (-2.1%), Apprael (-5.8%), Misc. Services (-11.5%), Utilities (-34.7%), Motor vehicles (-10.0%), and Furniture (-10.2%), all fell among other categories. Building materials (-15.1%) and motor vehicles had large drops, however, those are from much higher levels that were seen during COVID and storm recovery.

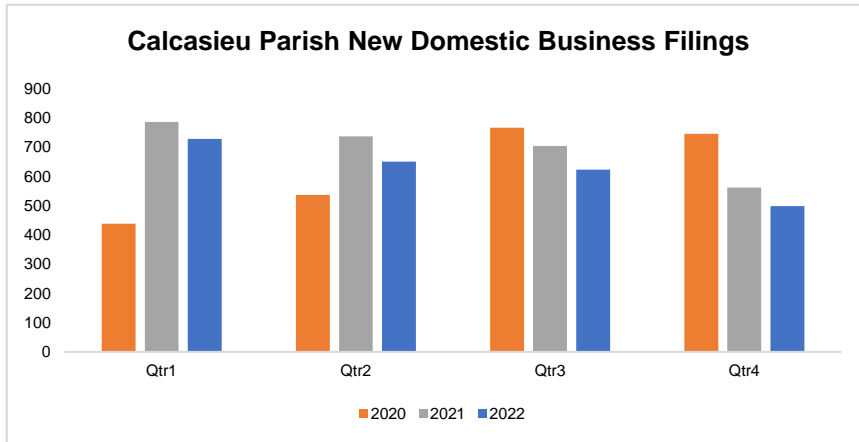
Collections (mil \$)	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
General Sales Tax Collections	103.2	104.7	107.3	102.0	104.0	104.0	0.8
Occupancy Taxes	2.4	1.9	2.2	2.2	1.9	-0.5	-21.5
Sales Tax Collections	105.6	106.6	109.5	104.2	105.9	0.3	0.3

YTD figures show that total taxable sales have fallen in the parish by \$43.9 million compared to the 4th quarter of 2021 YTD figure for a 0.6% decrease. There was a \$10.0 million decrease in sales tax collections (-2.3%) YTD.

Taxable Sales YTD (mil \$)	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
2020	1,466.2	2,863.9	4,221.5	5,942.4
2021	1,845.3	3,724.3	5,578.6	7,383.4
2022	1,841.8	3,717.5	5,510.5	7,339.5

Sales Tax YTD (mil \$)	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
2020	85.8	167.4	246.4	339.8
2021	106.1	217.5	325.1	430.6
2022	106.7	210.5	314.74	420.6

New Business Filings



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

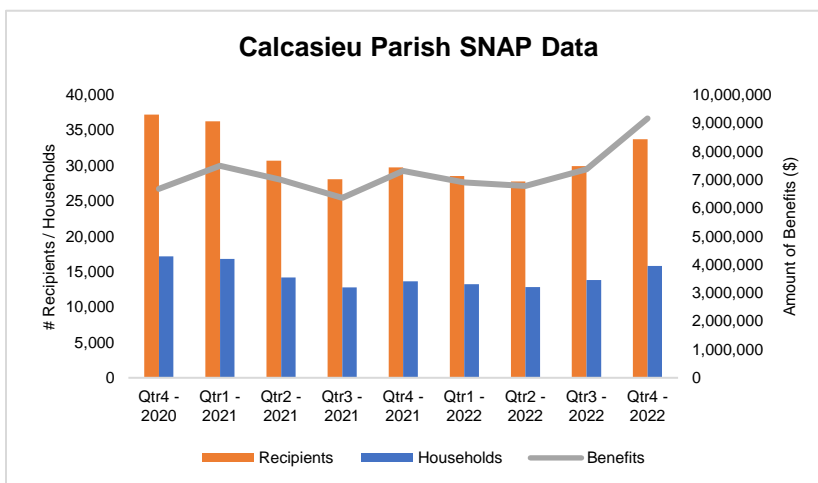
The number of new business filings in Calcasieu parish was 499 in the 4th quarter of 2022 which was 63 less than the same quarter the previous year and 247 less compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 4th quarter of 2022 was 2,503. This was 288 less businesses than the 4th quarter of 2021 YTD and 14 businesses higher than the same quarter of 2020 YTD.

Qtrly New Business Filings	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
2020	439	537	767	746
2021	787	737	705	562
2022	729	651	624	499

Qtrly New Business Filings YTD	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
2020	439	976	1,743	2,489
2021	787	1,524	2,229	2,791
2022	729	1,380	2,004	2,503

SNAP Benefits

	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Recipients	29,728	28,521	27,729	29,895	33,691	3,963	13.3
Households	13,654	13,234	12,833	13,832	15,804	2,149	15.7
Benefits	7,307,365	6,901,103	6,775,392	7,370,504	9,161,356	1,853,991	25.4



Calcasieu parish has had increases in SNAP recipients, households, and benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 33,691 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 4th quarter of 2022. This was 3,963 more people receiving benefits compared to the 4th quarter of 2021 for a 13.3% increase over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP averaged 15,804 which was 2,149 higher than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented a 15.7% increase. In terms of benefits, the parish received an average of \$9.2 million in total during the 4th quarter of 2022, which was a \$1.9 million increase over-the-year. This was a 25.9% increase in benefits in the parish. Looking at the

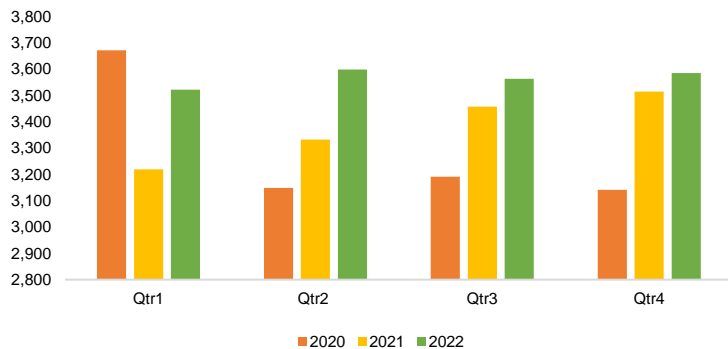
graph illustrates a rising trend in benefits since 2020 before peaking in the 1st quarter of 2021. Since then, there have been decreases from the 1st quarter to the 3rd quarter of 2021, indicating a recovery. Benefits have risen recently due to adjustments in the amounts. The later trends seem to show all the variables rising indicating more citizens are receiving assistance.

Selected Employment Indicators – Cameron Parish

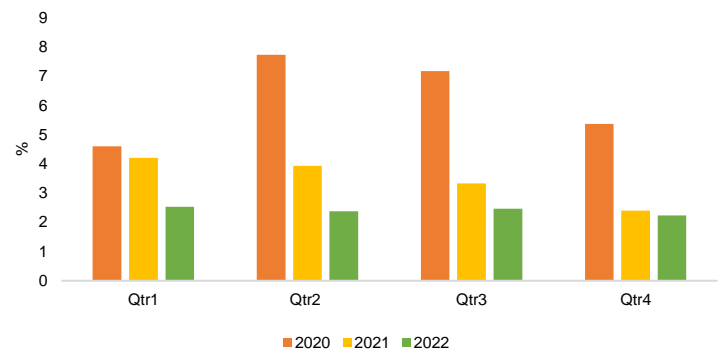
	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022
Household Employment	3,515	3,523	3,599	3,563	3,586
Year-Over-Year Change	374	304	267	105	71
Year-Over-Year % Change	11.9	9.4	8.0	3.0	2.0
Household Unemployment	87	92	88	90	82
Year-Over-Year Change	-90	-50	-50	-30	-5
Year-Over-Year % Change	-50.8	-35.1	-36.2	-24.8	-5.7
Labor Force	3,603	3,614	3,687	3,653	3,668
Year-Over-Year Change	284	254	217	75	66
Year-Over-Year % Change	8.6	7.6	6.3	2.1	1.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.2
Year-Over-Year Change	-3.0	-1.7	-1.6	-0.9	-0.2

	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022
Total Job Openings	97	91	65	69	62
Year-Over-Year Change	-48	-46	-86	-51	-35
Year-Over-Year % Change	-33.0	-33.7	-56.7	-42.6	-36.0

Cameron Parish Employment



Cameron Parish Unemployment Rate

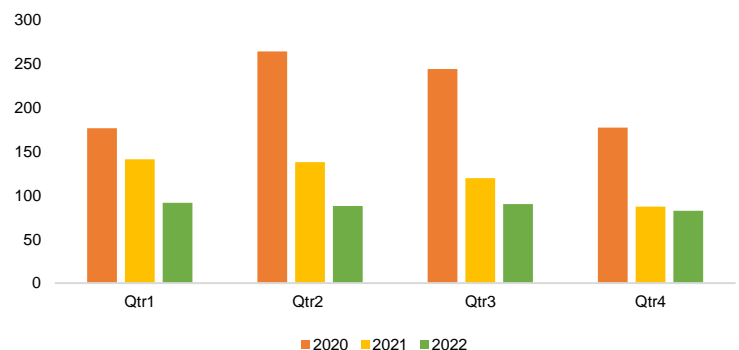


In the 4th quarter of 2022, Cameron parish had an increase in household employment of 71 over the year (+2.0%) while the number of unemployed persons dropped by 5 (-5.7%). This meant an increase of 66 (+1.8%) in the total labor force. The unemployment rate fell 0.2 percentage points over the year to 2.2%.

Job openings in the 4th quarter of 2022 averaged 62. Openings fell by 35 (-36.0%) over the year.

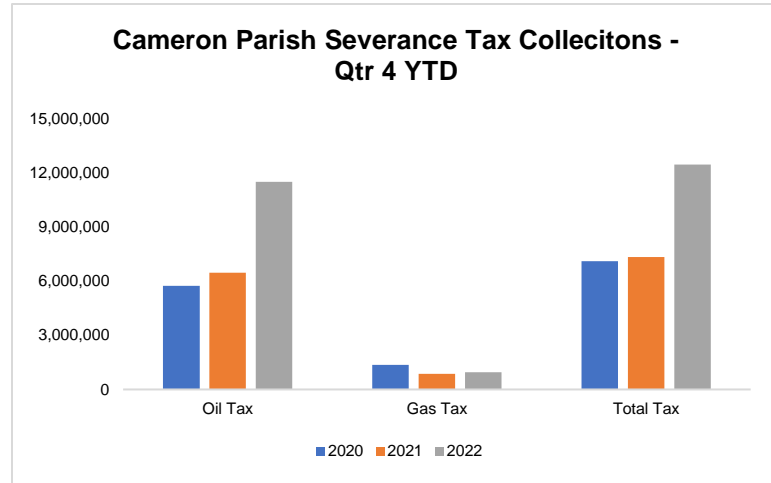
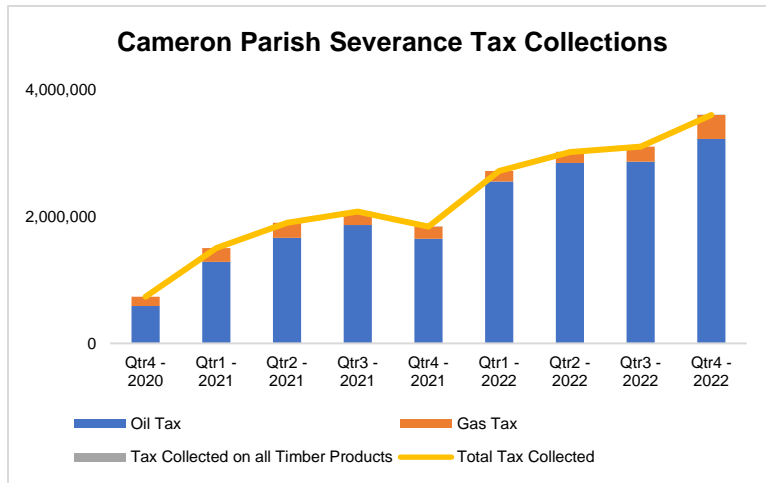
Cameron Parish had a higher employment level in the 4th quarter of 2022 compared to the same quarter the previous year while the unemployment measures were also lower. As Cameron is recovering from the two hurricanes, the labor force has increased since the unemployment rate has fallen.

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 4th 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	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Oil Tax	1,650,096	2,555,080	2,846,587	2,868,554	3,228,089	1,577,993	95.6
Gas Tax	192,841	165,348	171,545	237,889	376,894	184,052	95.4
Tax Collected on all Timber Products	13	0	12	0	10	-2	-17.6
Total Tax Collected	1,842,950	2,720,428	3,018,144	3,106,443	3,604,993	1,762,043	95.6

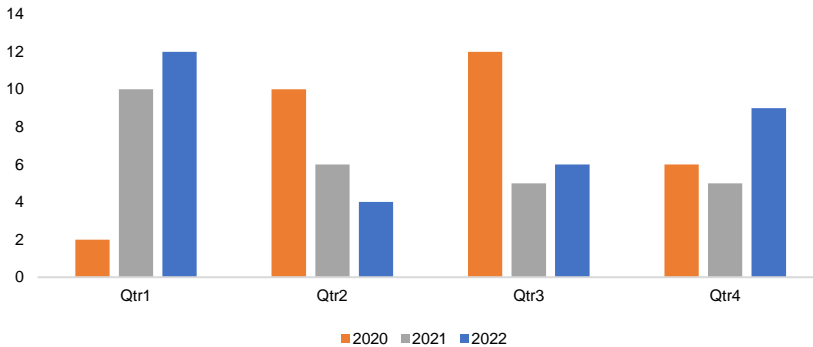
Total Severance Tax Collections (YTD)	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
2020	3,235,649	5,158,474	6,362,877	7,099,761
2021	1,504,611	3,407,758	5,486,005	7,328,955
2022	2,720,428	5,738,572	8,845,014	12,450,008

The largest amount of severance tax collections from Cameron are taxes on oil. Oil tax collections in the 4th quarter of 2022 rose by \$1.6 million compared to the same quarter the previous year. This represented an 95.6% increase as oil prices have recently increased and production picked up from the pandemic. In terms of gas collections, those rose \$184.1 thousand over that period for a 95.4% increase. Timber product collections were \$10 in the 4th quarter. Total severance taxes collected from the parish have risen \$1.8 million over the year in the 4th quarter of 2022 for a 95.6% increase. The 4th 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 4th quarter 2022 YTD, severance taxes rose \$5.1 million for an increase of 69.9%. 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 9 in the 4th quarter of 2022 which was 4 more than the same quarter the previous year and 3 more compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 4th quarter of 2022 was 31. This was 5 more compared to the 4th quarter of 2021 YTD and 1 more businesses than the 4th quarter of 2020 YTD.

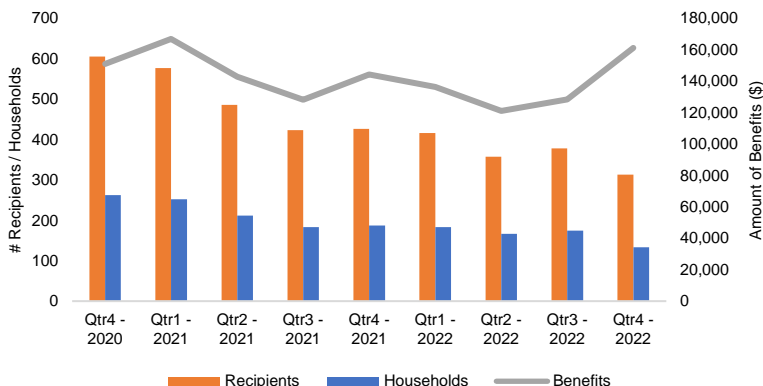
Qtrly New Business Filings	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
2020	2	10	12	6
2021	10	6	5	5
2022	12	4	6	9

Qtrly New Business Filings YTD	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
2020	2	12	24	30
2021	10	16	21	26
2022	12	16	22	31

SNAP Benefits

	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Recipients	426	416	357	378	313	-113	-26.5
Households	187	183	166	174	133	-54	-28.8
Benefits	144,182	136,302	120,951	128,323	161,010	16,828	11.7

Cameron Parish SNAP Data



Cameron parish has had drops in SNAP recipients and households, but an increase benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 313 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 4th quarter of 2022. This was 113 fewer people receiving benefits compared to the 4th quarter of 2021 for a 26.5% decrease over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP averaged 133 which was 54 less than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented a 28.8% decrease. The parish received an average of \$161 thousand in total during the 4th quarter of 2022, which was a \$16.8 thousand increase over-the-year. This was an 11.7% increase in benefits in the parish. Looking at the graph illustrates

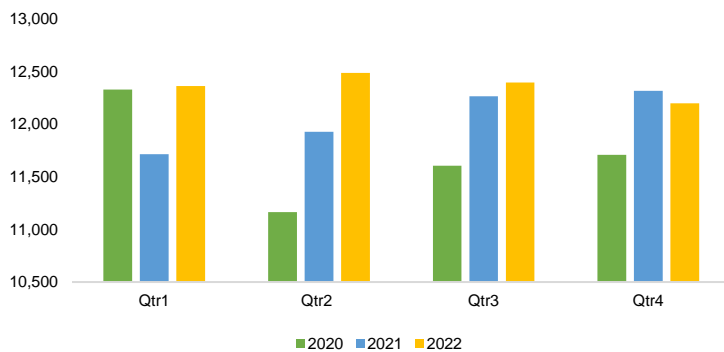
recipients, households, and benefits falling throughout 2021 and 2022. Part of this falling participation is most likely due to population loss from the storms. Benefits have risen recently due to adjustments in the amounts but the overall trends are declines in since 2021 until the recent spike.

Selected Employment Indicators – Jefferson Davis Parish

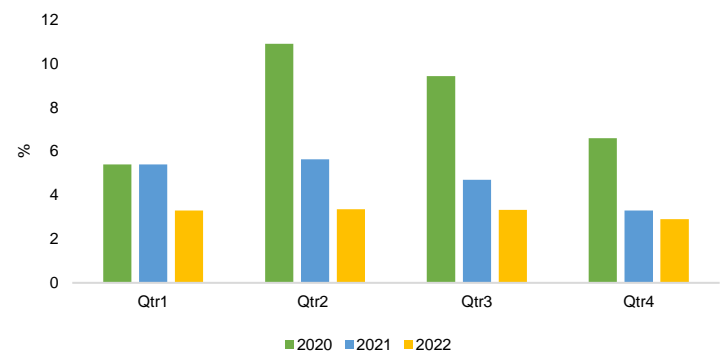
	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022
Household Employment	12,318	12,363	12,488	12,395	12,198
Year-Over-Year Change	609	647	560	131	-120
Year-Over-Year % Change	5.2	5.5	4.7	1.1	-1.0
Household Unemployment	421	423	435	431	361
Year-Over-Year Change	-406	-247	-276	-173	-60
Year-Over-Year % Change	-49.1	-36.9	-38.8	-28.7	-14.3
Labor Force	12,739	12,785	12,923	12,825	12,559
Year-Over-Year Change	203	400	284	-43	-180
Year-Over-Year % Change	1.6	3.2	2.2	-0.3	-1.4
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.3	2.9
Year-Over-Year Change	-3.3	-2.1	-2.3	-1.4	-0.4

	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022
Total Job Openings	365	374	379	236	375
Year-Over-Year Change	72	10	101	-39	11
Year-Over-Year % Change	24.6	2.8	36.3	-14.3	2.9

Jeff Davis Parish Employment



Jeff Davis Parish Unemployment Rate

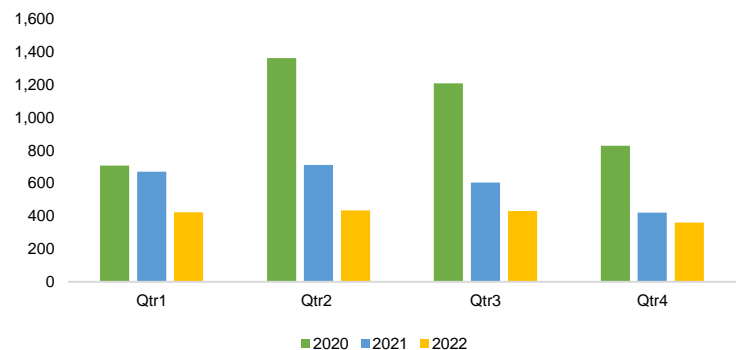


In the 4th quarter of 2022, Jefferson Davis parish saw a decrease of 180 (-1.4%) in the total labor force. This was broken down by a decrease in household employment of 120 over the year (-1.0%) while the number of unemployed persons fell 60 (-1.4%). The unemployment rate fell 0.4 percentage points over the year to 2.9%.

Job openings in the 4th quarter of 2022 averaged 376. Openings rose by 11 (+2.9%) over the year.

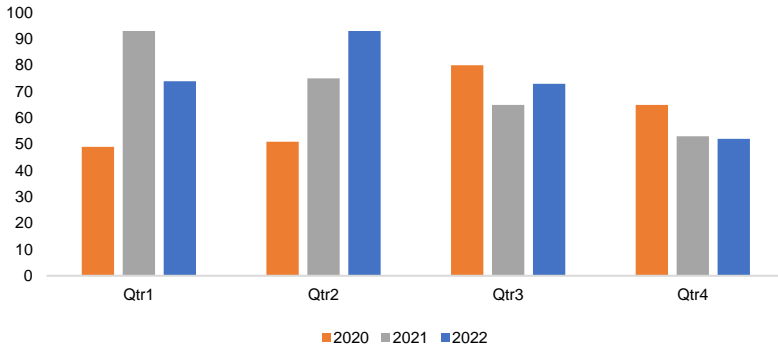
The graphs show the levels of household employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate for each quarter compared to the same quarter the previous two years. Jeff Davis parish had a lower figure4 for employment in the 4th quarter of 2022, with lower unemployment figures.

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 52 in the 4th quarter of 2022 which was 1 less than the same quarter the previous year and 13 less compared to the same quarter 2 years ago. The YTD total for the 4th quarter of 2022 was 292. This was 6 more businesses than the 4th quarter of 2021 YTD and 47 businesses higher than the 4th quarter of 2020 YTD.

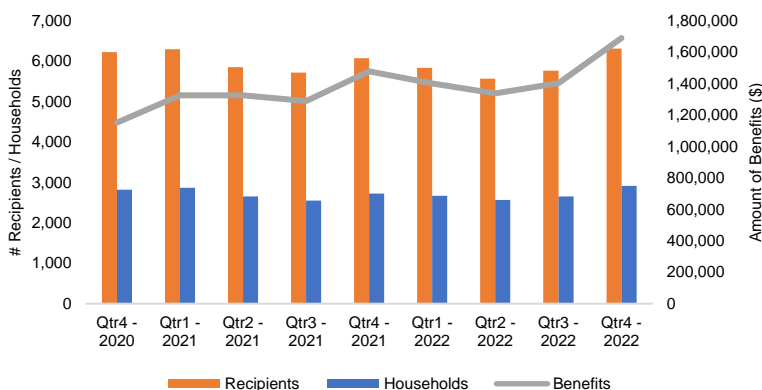
Qtrly New Business Filings	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
2020	49	51	80	65
2021	93	75	65	53
2022	74	93	73	52

Qtrly New Business Filings YTD	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
2020	49	100	180	245
2021	93	168	233	286
2022	74	167	240	292

SNAP Benefits

	Qtr4- 2021	Qtr1- 2022	Qtr2- 2022	Qtr3- 2022	Qtr4- 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Recipients	6,073	5,830	5,562	5,764	6,309	237	3.9
Households	2,727	2,671	2,564	2,649	2,910	184	6.7
Benefits	1,478,315	1,399,619	1,336,620	1,401,765	1,688,952	210,637	14.2

Jefferson Davis Parish SNAP Data

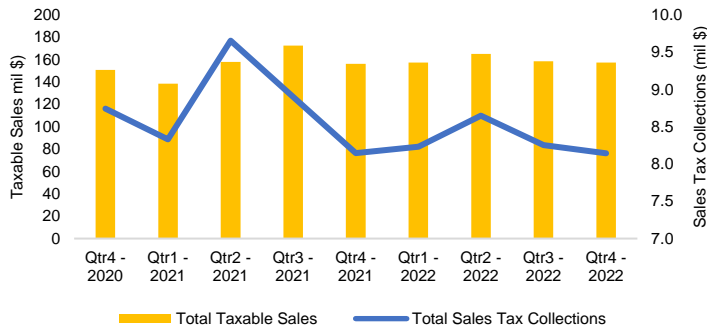


Jefferson Davis parish has had increases in SNAP recipients, households, and benefits over the year. The parish had an average of 6,309 recipients of SNAP benefits in the 4th quarter of 2022. This was 237 more people receiving benefits compared to the 4th quarter of 2021 for a 3.9% increase over this time. The total number of households receiving SNAP averaged 2,910 which was 184 more than the same quarter in the previous year. This represented a 6.7% increase. In terms of benefits, the parish received \$1.7 million in total during the 4th quarter of 2022, which was a \$210.6 thousand rise over-the-year. This was an 14.2% increase in benefits in the parish.

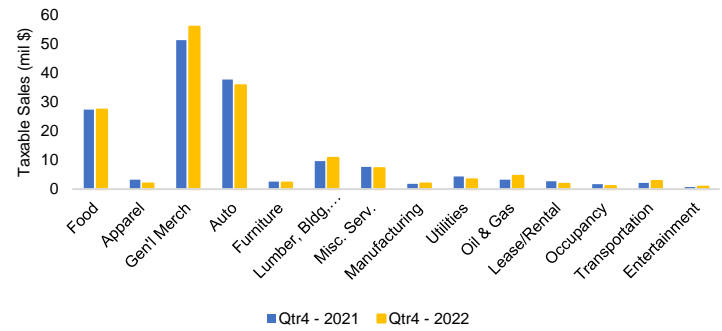
Looking at the graph illustrates an overall increasing trend in benefits beginning in 2020 before peaking in the first quarter of 2021. The number of households and recipients receiving benefits was falling for the first two quarters of 2022 before increasing in the final two quarters. Benefits have risen due to adjustments in the amounts. The later trends seem to show all the variables have been increasing since the 2nd quarter of 2022.

Tax Collections

Jefferson Davis Parish Taxable Sales and Sales Tax Collections



Jeff Davis Parish Taxable Sales - 4th Quarter YTD



Taxable Sales (mil \$)	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Food	27.4	26.5	30.2	28.1	27.3	-0.1	-0.2
Apparel	3.2	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.9	-1.3	-41.0
Gen'l Merch	51.3	53.3	58.1	52.8	55.9	4.6	8.9
Auto	37.7	36.6	39.9	41.9	35.7	-2.0	-5.4
Furniture	2.6	3.0	2.3	2.4	2.2	-0.4	-14.5
Lumber, Bldg, Contractors	9.7	11.5	9.8	10.6	10.7	1.1	11.2
Misc. Serv.	7.7	9.6	8.7	8.4	7.2	-0.5	-5.9
Manufacturing	1.8	1.4	1.4	2.1	1.9	0.1	7.3
Utilities	4.3	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.3	-1.0	-23.3
Oil & Gas	3.3	3.5	3.6	1.6	4.6	1.3	39.6
Lease/Rental	2.7	2.8	2.0	2.0	1.8	-0.9	-33.2
Occupancy	1.7	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.0	-0.7	-40.1
Transportation	2.1	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.8	0.7	35.0
Entertainment	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.1	10.9
Total	156.2	157.4	165.1	158.6	157.3	1.1	0.7

Tax Collections (mil \$)	Qtr4 - 2021	Qtr1 - 2022	Qtr2 - 2022	Qtr3 - 2022	Qtr4 - 2022	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Total Sales Tax Collections	8.1	8.2	8.6	8.3	8.1	0.0	-0.1

Taxable Sales YTD (mil \$)	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
2020	113.0	240.0	361.7	512.6
2021	138.6	296.6	469.3	625.5
2022	157.4	322.5	481.1	638.4

Sales Tax YTD (mil \$)	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
2020	6.7	13.7	21.0	29.7
2021	8.3	18.0	26.9	35.0
2022	8.2	16.9	25.1	33.3

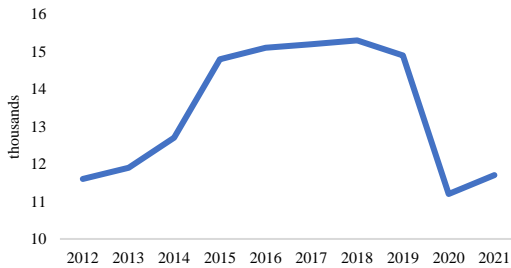
Jefferson Davis Parish saw a slight decrease in its sales tax collections in the 4th quarter of 2022, compared to the same quarter the previous year. Sales tax collections have fallen by approximately \$4 thousand over the year for a 0.1% decrease. This occurred as taxable sales in the parish rose by \$1.1 million (+0.7%) over the year. The largest percentage increase occurred in Oil & Gas (+\$1.3 million, +39.6%) followed by Transportation (+\$0.7 million, +35.0%). General Merchandise (+\$4.6 million, +8.9%) experienced the largest absolute increase. Lumber and building materials experienced a slight increase (+\$1.1 million, +11.2%) along with Manufacturing (+\$0.1 million, +7.3%) and Entertainment (+\$0.1 million, +10.9%). The largest percentage drops occurred in the categories of Apparel (-\$1.3 million, -41.0%) and Occupancy (-\$0.7 million, -40.1%). The largest absolute drop occurred in Auto (-\$2.0 million, -5.4%). Furniture had a small absolute drop (-\$0.4 million, -14.5%). Utilities (-\$1.0 million, -23.3%) and Miscellaneous services (-\$0.5 million, -5.9%) both had drops in sales. Food also had a drop of \$0.1 million (-0.2%) along with Lease/Rental (-\$0.9 million, -33.2%).

The 4th quarter of 2022 YTD figures show that total taxable sales have increased in the parish by \$12.9 million compared to the same quarter in 2021 for an 2.1% increase. There was a \$1.8 million decrease in 2021 YTD sales tax collections (-5.0%).

The Isle of Capri Casino had been closed since Hurricane Laura. It was already in the process of transitioning to being on land (being the first riverboat in the state of Louisiana to do so) before shutting down. It has since reopened as the Horseshoe Casino in December 2022 with a large event causing traffic to back up on I-10 as people waited to see the new establishment. When asked what people think of when it comes to our area's economy, the most common answers are "industry" (most likely meaning manufacturing), construction, liquified natural gas, and, of course, gaming. While others are much more versed on the area's history with gaming, this report will look at its present effects on the local economy. The area currently has four gaming institutions for which data is available. Coshatta in Allen Parish contributes greatly to the local economy, but does not report data.

First, we can think about jobs. Looking at annual employment in the Leisure and Hospitality industry in the Lake Charles MSA illustrates the large jump in employment caused by the opening of the Golden Nugget around the end of 2014 (reflected in the 2015 jump). From 2014 to 2015, the number of jobs in this industry jumped by 2,100 (+16.5%).

Lake Charles MSA Leisure and Hospitality Employment

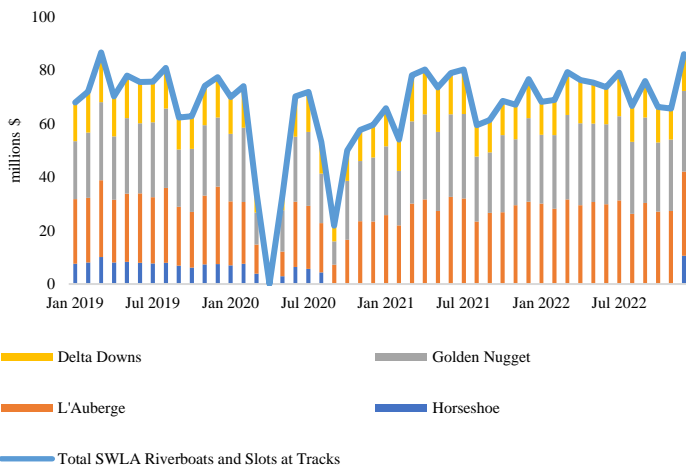


The area has already seen "spillover" effects as more hotels and businesses have opened in the area near the casinos. The shut-down of the casinos (as well as hotels and other services) due to the pandemic lead to massive drops in the industry. While this industry as a whole hasn't recovered, it's most likely due to the slow recovery of other leisure and hospitality services in the area.

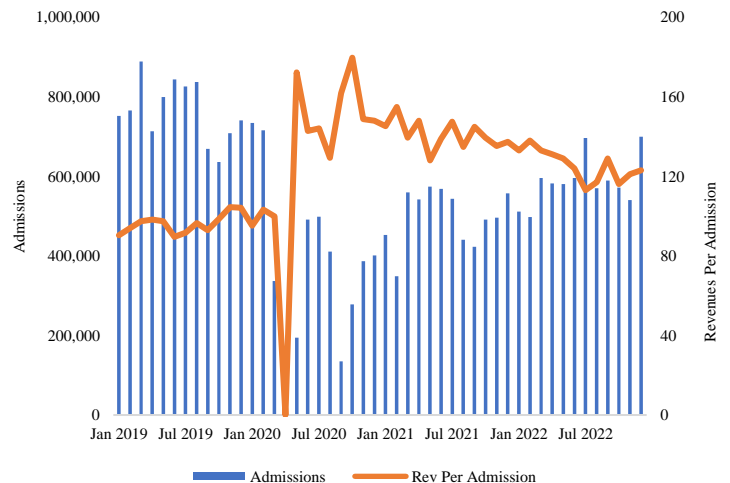
The popularity of the casinos is evident by the admissions and revenues that are generated from gaming activities. Revenues are such an important indicator of the area's economic activity, these are included as a component in the [Drew CBEA's SWLA Coincident Economic Index](#).

Looking at the first graph of adjusted gross revenues (AGR) shows that there were large drops in the total SWLA revenues due to COVID (total shutdown) and a drop a few months later due to Laura. However, the total revenues in the area recovered very quickly in spite of having one institution closed. In the final observation, you can see a slight spike as the Horseshoe is added in for December.

SWLA AGR



SWLA Admissions



Part of this quick recovery can be shown in the second graph with admissions. The area still hasn't seen a complete recovery in total terms of admissions to the area's casinos. However, the revenues per admission jumped dramatically after COVID. People wanted to return to leisure activities and began to spend more. As the trend has been downward

since right after the pandemic and storms, it is still at an overall higher level. Although the Drew CBEA has not done a complete analysis, it can be theorized that part of this decline is due to higher inflation the country experienced the past couple years. These higher overall prices may have caused consumers to dedicate more of their budgets to groceries, gasoline, and other goods and services which ate into their entertainment budgets. In spite of this, visitation and spending at the casinos remains high.

Another important part of the gaming industry is that it brings people from around the state, country, and globe to the SWLA area. This Drew CBEA report illustrated that this area has seen growing exports, but those are only exports of commodities. The fact is the data doesn't show (though it's always important to remember) that much of what is provided by the gaming institutions are exports of services. The gambling, hotel/accommodation, restaurants, etc., that are provided by the local casinos could be considered an American exported service if provided to international individuals. Even if the visitors are not international, much of the service is provided to consumers from outside SWLA. This represents new money that is brought into our local economy. In fact, the latest [2022 Annual Report](#) from the Louisiana Gaming Control Board estimates that 73% of visitors to L'Auberge are from outside the area and 75.8% of visitors to the Golden Nugget are from outside the area. Almost 20% of the Isle of Capri visitors were from outside the area¹. It is great to attract visitors and bring in money to our area but it must be remembered that the institutions can help the economy when thinking of current residents. The casinos and auxiliary services they provide keep residents' money here. If a resident of Sulphur decides to attend an event or eat at one of the casinos rather than going to Houston or somewhere else in Louisiana, that is money that did not leave the area. The fact that money is not leaving creates an economic impact as activity is higher than it otherwise would have been.

Measuring the economic impact of a casino resort is challenging. These institutions provide a wide array of services that must be accounted for in terms of a comprehensive economic impact ([retail, hotels, restaurants, performing arts, etc.](#)). To illustrate, this report will show the total contribution of "gambling industries" to Calcasieu Parish using IMPLAN. This will obviously leave out a lot of the economic activity that is generated by the area's casinos but will show the importance of just gaming. A contribution analysis shows what would occur in an economy if a total industry was removed (as opposed to an impact which just looks at more specific economic changes). Looking at just the gambling activity shows the following contributions to the Calcasieu Parish economy.

Impact	Employment	Labor Income (millions)	Real GDP (millions)	Output (millions)
Direct	1,219	\$45.1	\$125.7	\$205.6
Indirect	320	\$17.2	\$26.0	\$47.9
Induced	186	\$9.1	\$17.0	\$28.6
Total	1,726	\$71.5	\$168.7	\$282.2

Looking at only the gaming activities in Calcasieu Parish shows over 1,700 jobs are either directly or indirectly supported by the industry resulting in over \$71 million in labor income. Apart from the caveat that this impact leaves out a lot of

economic activity in other forms occurring at the casinos, this is using the latest annual data from 2021. Therefore, this is only showing the contribution of the gaming activities without the new Horseshoe casino.

If we wanted to see the effects of gaming at the new casino, an economic impact could be conducted to analyze the impacts of new economic activity in the industry. As an example, what if 100 jobs were added to the gaming industry (it is likely that the figure for gaming employees at the Horseshoe is larger, but this is an illustration)? Adding 100 jobs

Impact	Employment	Labor Income (millions)	Real GDP (millions)	Output (millions)
Direct	100	\$3.7	\$10.3	\$16.9
Indirect	26	\$1.4	\$2.1	\$3.9
Induced	15	\$0.8	\$1.4	\$2.4
Total	142	\$5.9	\$13.9	\$23.2

in the gaming industry only would result in almost 150 jobs total and almost \$6 million in labor income.

¹ There are no estimates for Delta Downs. "Out of the area" is defined as patrons who originate more than 150 miles away or from another state.

Finally, the institutions provide tax revenues to the area in many forms. Distributions from riverboats, land-based casinos, racetracks, etc., account for hundreds of millions in [recognized state revenues](#). Incomes earned by workers at the casinos are taxed at the state and federal level and spending by these workers results in sales taxes collected on purchases in the area. Property taxes, sales taxes, and distributions based on AGR will be the focus in this report.

According to the Calcasieu Assessor's Office, the Golden Nugget and L'Auberge are among the top property taxpayers in Calcasieu Parish. In 2022, Golden Nugget paid over \$5.8 million in property taxes and L'Auberge paid over \$3.8 million. Prior to being closed, Isle of Capri was also one of the top property taxpayers in the area and Horseshoe may move back up into that position. When looking at sales taxes collected, the Calcasieu Parish [taxable sales](#) figures reported by the Drew CBEA show that total taxable sales from the Gaming category was almost \$162 million. Assuming the local 5.75% sales tax rate, this would result in over \$9 million in sales taxes collected from gaming institution sales alone.

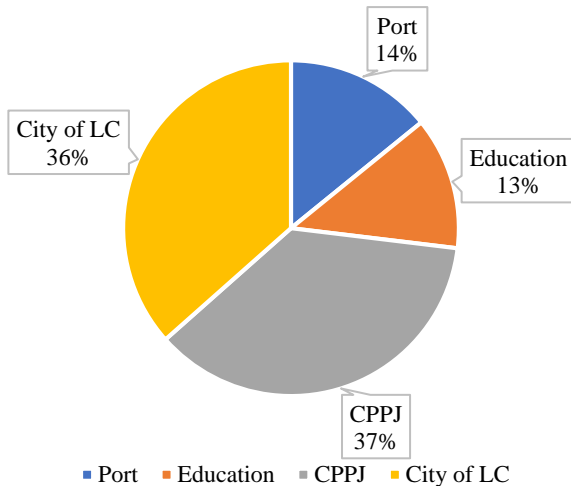
Finally, each of the gaming properties in the parish must pay distributions to local governmental and educational entities based on their AGRs². In 2022, the four gaming institutions paid a total of almost \$33.7 million to various local government and educational institutions. This amount includes only one month of Horseshoe distributions on an accrual basis due to the casino only being open for a brief period of December for that year. This \$33.7 million is distributed as shown in the graph below. The graph only shows the major categories but the distributions to CPPJ and

the City of Lake Charles both have reserves diverted to cities within the parish (amounting to over \$2 million). Westlake, Sulphur, Dequincy, Vinton, and Iowa, all received hundreds of thousands of dollars. Under the education category, over \$2.5 million went to the School Board, almost \$1.3 million went to McNeese, and over \$400,000 went to SOWELA.

A full economic analysis on gaming's effects on SWLA is beyond the scope of this essay. Nevertheless, this piece illustrates that the industry plays a massive role in the area's economy. It has created employment, attracted visitors, lead to economic ripple effects, and collected and distributed revenues to local entities. It remains to be seen exactly how the re-opening of the new Horseshoe will affect the other casinos in the area. One possibility is that it will grow the entire market and all casinos will see

increases in their activities. Another possibility is that it could grow the entire market but there will be some degree of cannibalization. Perhaps L'Auberge and Golden Nugget will lose some customers to the new Horseshoe but the market as a whole for SWLA will still grow and attract more visitors. The last scenario is that the number of visitors will remain the same and the growth of the Horseshoe will hurt the visitation and spending at the other two local area casinos. This seems to be the least likely outcome based on the fact the area has had 3 casinos operating in proximity to each other for a number of years. No matter what occurs, gaming will continue to be a large part of our local economy for years to come.

2022 Gaming Distributions



² In the rare case the percentage of total AGR does not reach a minimum agreed upon level of disbursement, there is a minimum that must be paid.

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/.

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