

# LOUISIANA FACT BOOK

2005 Edition



How do we  
measure up?  
How far do  
we have to go?

40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52

COUNCIL FOR A BETTER LOUISIANA

### **The Council for A Better Louisiana**

Founded in 1962, CABL works to improve the quality of life for Louisiana citizens by raising awareness of critical issues, promoting sound public policy, fostering civic leadership, and championing government accountability.



## Louisiana Fact Book: 2005 Edition

### How Do We Measure Up...How Far Do We Have to Go

In 2001 CABL issued a report entitled *Measuring Our Progress: Louisiana's Place in the New Economy*. In it we looked at what it means to be a part of the New Economy and assessed where Louisiana stands. It showed that while the South as a whole outpaced the nation in job, population and income growth during the decade of the 1990s, Louisiana lagged considerably behind the region and wasn't competitive with most other southern states. To counter this trend, CABL offered a list of 10 recommendations for moving Louisiana forward in this decade.

Three years later, nearly half-way through the decade, we thought it was a good idea to revisit those recommendations, note where there has been either progress or neglect, and bring them back to the forefront as our state increases its efforts at economic development.

These recommendations aren't particularly sexy or trendy. And while they seek to position us for the New Economy, most of them are basic and fundamental. As we noted then, following through on these recommendations will require both perseverance and leadership. We have started to address some of them and that's good, but we can't stop. To do so would put us farther behind than we already are, and as the data in this Fact Book make abundantly clear, that is something we cannot afford.

### CABL's Top Ten for Accelerating Economic Progress

#### 1. Make the full investment in early childhood education for all at-risk students.

For all the things we might do in the short-term to spur economic development, there is little question that our long-term answer is to improve the educational attainment of our people and that begins before school even starts.

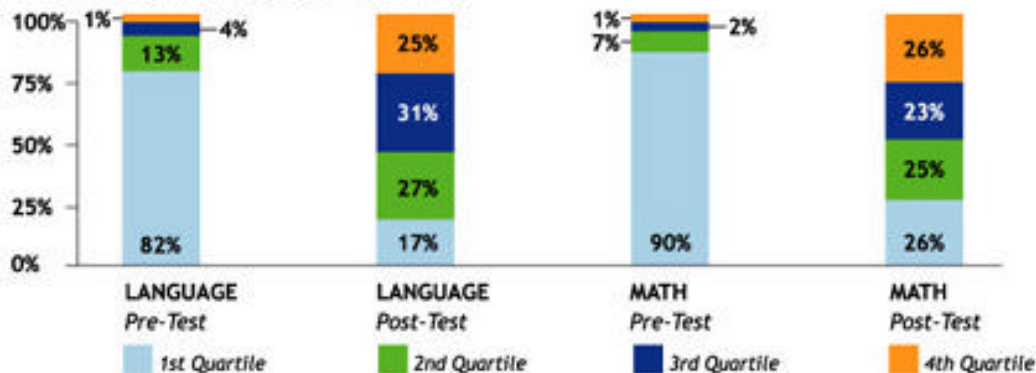
In Louisiana we have made a start. In 2001, more than 12,000 four-year-olds in Louisiana were not enrolled in any kind of early childhood education program. Today that number has been reduced significantly to less than 7,000.

That's meaningful progress. For the children enrolled in the higher quality programs, the benefits are real and have been documented. For example, an independent analysis of Louisiana's LA-4 early childhood program continues to show strong results, including narrowing the achievement gap between children in poverty and those from more affluent backgrounds.

Our short-term priority must be to ensure that all the children at highest risk have access to a quality early childhood education program. At the same time we can't lose sight of the fact that there are many thousands more children not technically at-risk, but still in need of pre-k programs that will improve their chances for academic success. Universal access to good early childhood education must remain a critical goal if we are to truly build our economy.

#### Developing Skills Checklist (DSC) - Pre-Test and Post-Test

Percent of LA 4 Students Statewide Scoring in the Respective Quartiles of the DSC, School Year 2002 - 2003  
(4th Quartile represents top performing students)

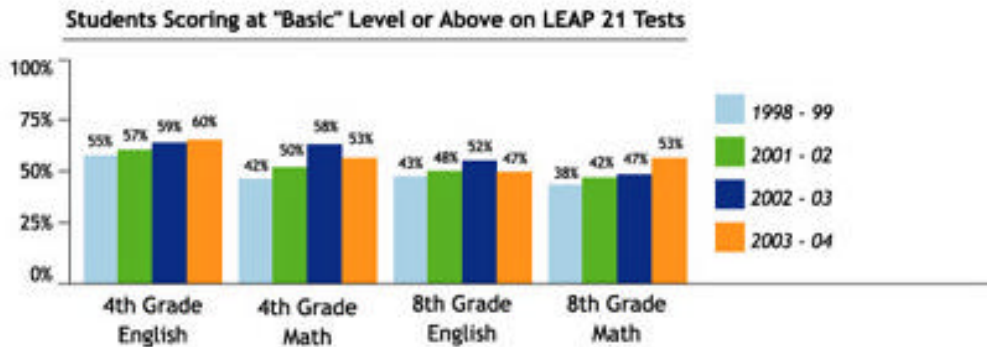


## CABL's Top Ten for Accelerating Economic Progress

### 2. Maintain and sustain the school reforms now in place and fill in the gaps.

Louisiana's school accountability system has driven positive change in our schools. Scores have risen since the plan was implemented in 1998-1999. But serious issues remain. While the high performance of some of our schools has made it possible for Louisiana as a whole to reach its target, more than half of our schools remain below the target, and some are extremely far from where they need to be. In addition, our overall academic gains have slowed and many chronically low-performing schools have not changed. This underscores how entrenched Louisiana's education problems remain.

This is not the fault of our school accountability system, which has been judged to be among the best in the nation. We must remember that it is a means for identifying where our problems are. We still have to take the steps to solve them. If Louisiana is going to succeed ultimately in raising educational attainment, we must redouble our efforts and focus intently on our low-performing, high-poverty schools. We must also accelerate the effort to use best practices in these schools, give school boards more expertise and look at leadership change in these schools that are failing our children.



### 3. Continue to invest in higher education and demand that it play a greater role in economic development.

There are some encouraging signs in this area, but much more to do. Louisiana has tried to provide additional funding to centers of excellence within our universities, and that's a good approach. But even these programs remain far behind the powerhouse programs in other states. In most cases, we simply are not on the same plane with these schools in terms of quality because of low-funding. This includes LSU which is our flagship, even though we don't really treat it like one. We do not have the resources to bring all universities in Louisiana to the same level. But if we focus, we can have some great programs at many of our schools, and out of those reap a positive economic impact.

At the same time, our universities in general must improve, especially their graduation rates, which with the exception of LSU and Louisiana Tech are below the southeast average. Since our last report, the University of Louisiana System has set an ambitious eight-year goal of improving graduation rates to the national average. By moving forward with new admissions standards and focusing more on the success of students, this is an attainable goal. This is critical because only 21% of citizens in Louisiana have a four-year college degree - among the lowest percentages in the nation. This weakens our workforce and acts as a deterrent to businesses that might be looking at Louisiana, but need an educated workforce.

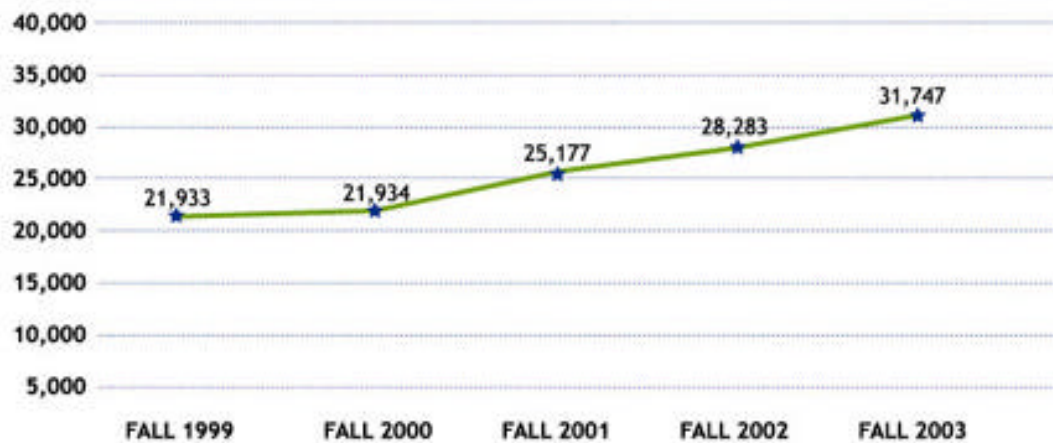
## CABL's Top Ten for Accelerating Economic Progress

### 4. Expand the reach of Louisiana's new community and technical college system.

As we stated in our earlier report, the Louisiana Community & Technical College System is a critical component of our economic future. Our economic growth is absolutely dependent on this system being accessible to students, responsive to businesses and labor markets, and raising the educational attainment level of our citizens to give them a better chance to succeed.

Today, all of our urban areas except Alexandria are served by a community college and enrollment in these colleges has risen by more than 10,000 students since 1999. This trend must continue and these schools must be given the ability to grow to meet the demand. As this happens we must significantly increase the number of two-year degrees offered and awarded. We need to think of our community colleges not just as feeder schools to universities, but as high-tech institutions that offer two-year degree and certificate programs that lead to better jobs. And we must continue to improve our technical schools, de-politicize them and make them part of a true system, not a string of individual schools. Louisiana does have some very good technical colleges. But others have been resistant to change which slows our progress.

Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS)  
Community College Fall Headcount Enrollment Trend



### 5. Reform Louisiana's tax structure.

This is an area where progress has been made. The recent phase-out of two business taxes that hurt Louisiana's competitiveness with other states has been a part of CABL's blueprint for fiscal reform for many years. This won't solve all of our problems and suddenly make us a haven for new businesses, but it will help considerably in leveling the playing field. In addition, the income/sales tax swap passed by voters in 2002 took Louisiana another step away from its over-reliance on sales taxes, added more stability to the state budget picture, and contributed to an improvement in our bond rating. These are all steps in the right direction.

Issues remain with property taxes as Louisiana's Homestead Exemption remains high compared to other states and places greater burdens on businesses. At the same time assessors continually seek to raise the exemption and worsen the problem. One thing that can happen immediately is to improve assessment practices so that all property is on the rolls, and citizens and businesses feel confident that assessments are fair. It is inexcusable that audits and media reports have shown such widespread disparities in assessments in some parishes, and revealed assessors who have basically chosen not to do their job. The good news is that this is beginning to change, thanks in part to a revitalized Tax Commission and better practices by some assessors. Politically, however, citizens must feel like they are being taxed on their property fairly and equitably before anyone can expect any structural changes in those taxes.

## CABL's Top Ten for Accelerating Economic Progress

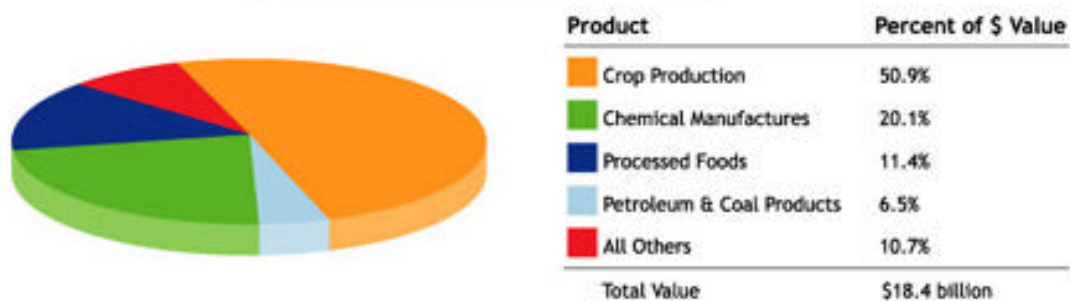
### 6. International trade and investment must play a bigger part in our future.

Why? Because, international trade is a sign that businesses in a state are accessing larger markets for their products, which increases their opportunities to grow and expand. International investment in our state is a sign that we are participating in the global economy. So how well are we doing in these areas? It depends. Louisiana is in the top ten states in the nation in terms of the dollar value of international exports leaving our state. But we rank ninth in the south in the number of exporting companies. A strong positive for us is that direct foreign investment per capita in Louisiana is nearly twice the national average, but the number of people employed by these firms in Louisiana is relatively low compared to other states in our region.

This tells us a couple of things. First, a lot of products from outside Louisiana are exported from our ports and that's good. But we don't have as many companies in our state serving these larger global markets, and we don't have the jobs to show for it.

Finally, given the size of our petrochemical industry, we know that much of the foreign investment in Louisiana is related to that sector. Take that out and it is clear that Louisiana must continue to diversify and seek global markets for more of our other industries.

2003 Exports from Louisiana to the World



### 7. Encourage entrepreneurship, innovation and diversification through research and development.

Entrepreneurship is important because that's what creates new businesses and new jobs. In most measures of entrepreneurial activity, Louisiana ranks in the lower middle among states nationally. One positive is that in recent years Louisiana has seen a growth in successful business incubators, particularly related to technology, and this has bred numerous success stories. But many new companies in Louisiana are being strangled by an inability to access needed capital. In 2002 venture capital expenditures in Louisiana totaled \$36.5 million. While that was higher than some of our neighboring states, it's not even approaching the league of others like North Carolina and Georgia where expenditures are more than \$500 million. Louisiana will probably never approach that, but we do need to address this issue to stimulate more new businesses.

Federal investment in research and development in Louisiana is another story. Louisiana currently ranks last in the country in this category per capita, even though we have made substantial state investments in cancer research, gene therapy and nutrition research. Louisiana must significantly increase its investment into a limited number of efforts that have the potential to yield huge returns in terms of federal and private sector research and development. This creates high paying jobs that bring resources and people into our state.

## CABL's Top Ten for Accelerating Economic Progress

### 8. Forge strong partnerships between state government and business to market Louisiana.

There is no doubt that Louisiana has a negative image to many businesses out of state, much of it earned over many years of poor leadership and bad government. That's changing and we must deliver a no spin message to businesses outside the state that the Louisiana of today may not fit the image they have of us.

Is there is such a message? CABL believes there is. While we cannot erase a tradition of corruption, we can demonstrate that Louisiana is moving in a positive direction. The top school accountability system in the nation, a highly-regarded early childhood education program, a new community and technical college system, preservation in trust of Louisiana's \$4 billion tobacco settlement, the phase out of business taxes, lower debt and higher bond ratings are not signs of a state moving backwards. Our state leaders must work together with the private sector to market Louisiana and provide a more complete picture of our state that goes beyond "letting the good times roll."

### 9. Continue to Invest seriously and strategically in infrastructure including technology and communications.

There is good news on one front. Louisiana has made a major long-term investment in super computing technology that has the potential to put Louisiana on the high tech map. The Board of Regents first committed \$5 million to bring the National LambdaRail, a nationwide link of mega-computing power with "nodes" in 25 cities including LSU in Baton Rouge. Then the governor added an additional commitment of \$40 million over the next ten years for the Louisiana Optical Network Initiative, or LONI. This will link computer systems at eight universities in a state-of-the-art fiber optic network that will give each of them huge amounts of computing power.



The economic development potential is tremendous for Louisiana if we do it right. This much computing power in the state gives Louisiana the opportunity to attract additional research dollars that can spin off to create new spending in the state and new jobs.

Meanwhile, major improvements in traditional infrastructure like roads and bridges is another story. We are making some progress in connecting the major urban areas of the state with four-lane highways, but Louisiana still has an \$8.5 billion backlog of highway needs. Given

Louisiana's location, transportation will be an important part of our economy for the foreseeable future. If we build a cargo airport or expand our international trade, we will place more demand on our roads, bridges and other infrastructure. We must begin to look at new approaches to finance the construction we need to move forward.

### 10. Insist on a state government that is ethical, performance driven and accountable.

In recent years there has been ample evidence that Louisiana is much improved in all of these areas, at least at the state level. Certainly, there will always be a degree of politics in a process that is political, but state leaders have placed a much greater focus on performance and accountability. Rising standards in public schools and higher education, commitment to reforms passed in the prior administration, a focus on health care and the building blocks of job growth are signs that Louisiana is addressing issues that have been too long neglected. The challenge is to remain focused, to not let up, and continue to protect and strengthen the reforms that give us the best chance of becoming a state with renewed vitality and an appealing quality of life.









# Louisiana Snapshot

Who We Are, Where We Live, Where We're Going

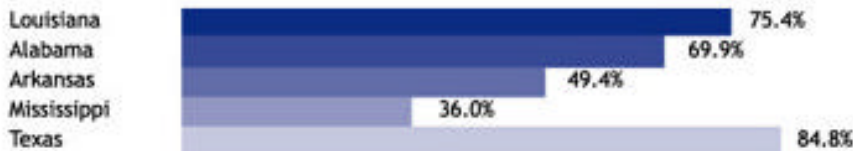
## Population

Population, 2003 est.	4,496,334	<u>National Rank</u> 22nd
Population change, 2000-2003	0.6%	47th





## Where We Live

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)	Population	Population Change (1990 - 2000)
New Orleans 	1,337,726	4.1%
Baton Rouge 	602,894	14.1%
Shreveport - Bossier City 	392,302	4.2%
Lafayette 	385,647	11.8%
Houma 	194,477	6.4%
Lake Charles 	183,577	9.2%
Monroe 	147,250	3.6%
Alexandria 	126,337	-4.0%

## Urban vs. Rural: Population in Metropolitan Areas



## By the Numbers









	2003 est.
White 	64.3%
Black 	32.9%
Hispanic or Latino Origin 	2.6%
Female 	51.5%
Male 	48.5%
Median Age 	34 years
High School Graduate 	78.9%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher 	21.3%

## We're Leaving, but Who's Coming?

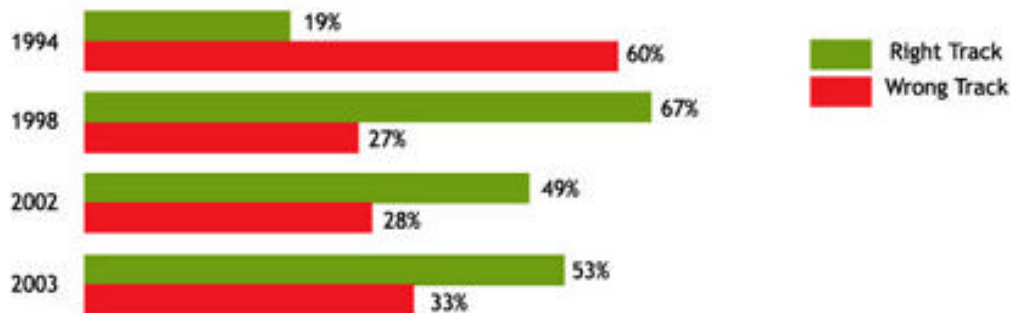
Population born in LA	79.9%
Net Out Migration 1990 - 2000	139,704
Net Out Migration 2000 - 2003	67,774

✦ During the first part of this decade, Louisiana was one of only three southern states where more people moved out than in. Mississippi lost 18,171 and Alabama lost 9,826.

## At the Ballot Box

Percentage of eligible population registered to vote		86%
Female		55%
Male		45%
Democrat		56%
Republican		24%
Independent		20%
Voted in '03 Governor's Election		51%
Voted in '04 Presidential Election		66%

## Louisiana's Moving, but Which Direction?



Source: CABL Voter Surveys



## How Much Do We Spend?

Louisiana's total State General Fund budget for FY '05 is \$6.8 billion.

## Our Economy

### Where Do We Really Stand?

#### What We Earn, 2003

	LA	National Rank	Southern Rank
Per Capita Income	\$26,100	43rd	10th
Average Annual Pay	\$30,115	36th	9th

#### Earnings of Louisiana's Households, 2003

<\$25,000	\$\$\$	39.5%	✦ Only ten states have a higher percentage than Louisiana of the "working poor" - those who earn less than one-and-a-half times the poverty level.
\$25,000 - \$49,999	\$\$\$	26.1%	
\$50,000 - \$74,999	\$\$\$	16.6%	✦ According to the Corporation for Enterprise Development, only two states have a wider gap than Louisiana between those at the lowest end of the income ladder and those at the top.
\$75,000 - \$99,999	\$\$\$	9.0%	
\$100,000 +	\$\$\$	8.8%	

#### Income Distribution Within Louisiana

MSA	Per Capita Income, 2002
New Orleans	\$28,995
Lafayette	\$27,385
Shreveport - Bossier City	\$25,984
Alexandria	\$25,887
Baton Rouge	\$25,841
Monroe	\$24,857
Lake Charles	\$24,370
Houma	\$24,330

#### Poverty

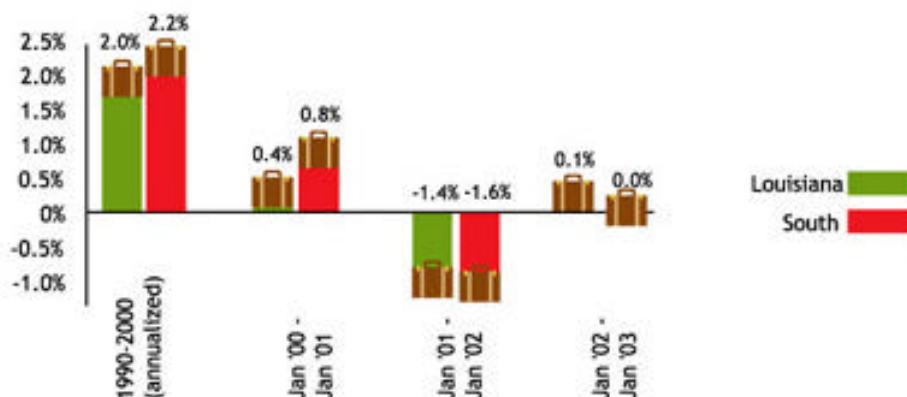
What is poverty? Income of less than \$18,810 a year for a family of four.

	LA, 2003	U.S., 2003
Poverty Rate	17.0%	12.5%
Children in Poverty	25.5%	17.6%

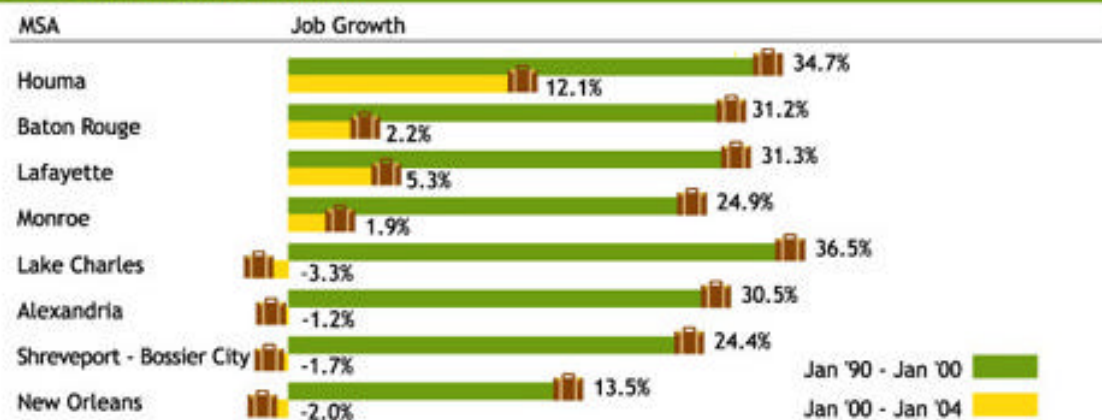
✦ Louisiana ranked fourth highest in the nation and third highest in the south in both our overall poverty rate and our rate of children in poverty.

✦ Louisiana's homeownership rate of 67.5% is the second lowest in the south.

## Job Growth: What Are the State's Trends?



## Job Growth Inside Louisiana



## Business Vitality: How Competitive is Louisiana?

Number of:	National Rank
Businesses	25th
People Self-Employed	24th
New Firms Created	27th
Firms Closed	25th
Rate of:	National Rank
Federal Investment in R & D	50th
Private Investment in R & D	47th
Patents Issued	44th
University Developed Royalties and Licenses	17th
Technology Jobs	48th

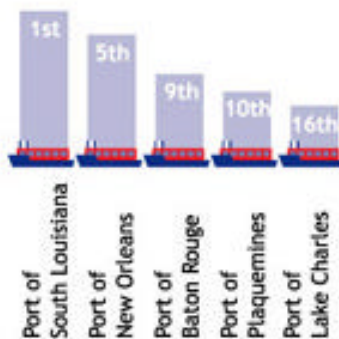
✦ In 2003, Louisiana had a total of 29,575 personal and business bankruptcies.

✦ Louisiana ranks 48th in the nation in percentage of people who get their health insurance through an employer. Besides being a health indicator, this also speaks to the quality of jobs in our state and the vitality of the economy.

## How Busy Are Our Ports?

	<u>National Rank</u>
Total "port calls" to New Orleans	4th
"Dry bulk" port calls to New Orleans	1st
Total tonnage handled at Louisiana ports	1st

In terms of tonnage handled, Louisiana has five of the top sixteen ports in the U.S.



✦ In 2002, Louisiana led the nation in terms of the tonnage of exports leaving our ports. Louisiana was third in the nation in terms of export value. This translated into 198.9 billion pounds of goods exported through Louisiana worth more than \$17 billion.

## Running the Roads

Percent of state roads in poor condition	24%
Percent of deficient bridges	33%
Projected backlog in unmet highway, road and bridge needs	\$8.5 billion

✦ It is estimated that it costs Louisiana drivers \$418 extra per year for driving on roads that are deficient and in need of repair and improvement. That is almost twice the national average.



## Did You Know?



Trucks annually carry 384 millions tons of products valued at \$525 billion into, out of, or through Louisiana.



The Latin American Trade and Transportation Study conducted by the Southeastern Transportation Alliance projects world cargo through Louisiana ports will nearly double between 2000 and 2020.

## Louisiana on the Information Superhighway?

	<u>2001 Louisiana</u>	<u>National Rank</u>
Households with Computers	45.7%	48th
Households with Internet Access	40.2%	47th



## Pre-K - 12 Education

### Will Our Kids Be Ready For the Future?

#### Who Attends Our Public Schools?

	'03-'04 School Year	
Number of students in public schools	728,791	✦ At 15.7%, Louisiana has one of the highest rates in the country of school children in non-public schools.
Percent of public school children who are minority	51.5%	
Percent of public school children who are white	48.5%	✦ Approximately 6,800 at-risk four-year olds in 2003 were not enrolled in any type of early childhood education program.

#### Are Our Students Making the Grade?

##### Percent of Students At or Above "Basic" Level on LEAP Test, 2004

4th Grade English Language Arts		60%
4th Grade Math		53%
8th Grade Language Arts		47%
8th Grade Math		53%

##### Percent Passing Grade 10 Graduate Exit Exam, 2004

English Language Arts		81%
Math		76%
ACT Composite Score, 2004 (U.S. Average 20.9, out of 36)	19.8	

✦ During the 2001-2002 school year 16,614 students in grades 9-12 dropped out of Louisiana public schools.

#### Our Teachers

Average teacher salary '03 - '04	\$38,300	✦ The Southern average for teacher pay is \$41,764.
Percentage of uncertified teachers	9.2%	
Percentage of new teachers in public schools leaving their position within three years	43%	



#### How Much Do We Spend?

During the 2004-2005 school year, Louisiana will spend more than \$2.6 billion of State General Funds on elementary and secondary education.

## School Performance Scores (SPS), 2003 - 04 School Year

(SPS academic ranges from 0 to 200)

Ratings	Elementary / Middle	Combination	High Schools
5-Star ★★★★★ (140 and above)	4	1	3
4-Star ★★★★ (120 - 139.9) <i>120 = State Goal in 2014</i>	30	2	7
3-Star ★★★ (100 - 119.9) <i>100 = State Goal in 09-10</i>	191	30	47
2-Star ★★ (80 - 99.9)	352	61	50
1-Star ★ (60 - 79.9)	284	25	58
Academic Warning (45 - 59.9)	128	7	17
Academically Unacceptable (<45)	53	9	16

### Are Our Schools Improving?

- ✦ The total number of schools at or above the 2009-10 goal of 100 (meaning, a school on average has students performing at *Basic*) has risen from 153 in the baseline year of 98-99 to 315 schools. Another 462 schools are moving toward the goal, scoring in the 80-99.9 range. But, 708 schools are below 80 and still have a long way to go. Of those, 230 are at very low performing or failing levels.
- ✦ For the state as a whole, the average SPS is at 84.1 in 2003-04, an increase of 3.6 since last year and on target. As the chart above shows, there is a significant majority of schools (79%) that fall below 100 at this time - the half-way point to Louisiana's 2009-10 goal.
- ✦ In 2003-04, 46% of our schools met their annual growth target and an additional 19% had minimal improvement, though didn't reach their annual target. That means 65% of schools had some improvement - a good sign. Schools that showed no growth totaled 13% and an additional 21% showed a decline in academic performance.

### Our Most Troubled Schools

- ✦ Of the 230 schools that are at low performing or failing levels, 81 are in Orleans Parish - 55 at the lowest level of "Academically Unacceptable." This is not new, indicating the chronic nature of the problems in our largest school system. The remaining number of these schools are scattered among several parishes - especially in urban and rural neighborhoods where poverty is prevalent. East Baton Rouge has 29, Caddo has 22, and Jefferson Parish has 16.
- ✦ All of our failing schools are high-poverty schools, but not all high-poverty schools are failing. Poverty contributes negative factors in schools, but high-quality teaching over time can overcome many of these factors and these children do learn. It is also critical that these children get quality pre-K at early stages in life, as research shows that at-risk kids make significant cognitive and academic gains with quality early education.

## Post-Secondary Education

### Are We Building a Knowledge-based Workforce?

#### From Start to Finish

Number of first-time freshmen, Fall 2002	15,925
First-time college freshmen who graduated from public high schools enrolled in remedial courses, Fall 2002	40%
Six-year graduation rate for Louisiana public colleges and universities, 2003	39%
Southeast region graduation rate, 2001	48%

- Graduation rates at our universities vary considerably. The highest rates are at LSU Baton Rouge with 62% and Louisiana Tech with 56%. Seven regional universities have rates in the 30 - 36% range, and four colleges range between 12 - 29%.

#### Four-Year vs. Two-Year: Where Do We Go?

Percent of 2002 Post-Secondary Students in	Louisiana	South
4-year colleges/universities	76%	56%
2-year community colleges/technical	24%	44%

- In 2000, Louisiana had the lowest percentage of its population in the nation with a two-year associate degree.
- But enrollment in Louisiana two-year colleges grew from 28,229 in 2000 to 39,550 in 2003.

#### Louisiana's Institutions of Higher Education

Number of four-year universities	14
Number of two-year universities	2
Number of community colleges	7
Number of technical college campuses	40
Number of technical community colleges	2

#### Diplomas = Jobs: 2020 U.S. Workforce Projection

Jobs requiring a four-year college degree	20%
Jobs requiring a two-year associate degree or advanced training	65%
Jobs requiring minimal skills	15%



#### How Much Do We Spend?

Louisiana currently spends more than \$1 billion of State General Funds on higher education.

Altogether, Louisiana spends 56% of its State General Funds on Pre-K-12 public education and post-secondary education.

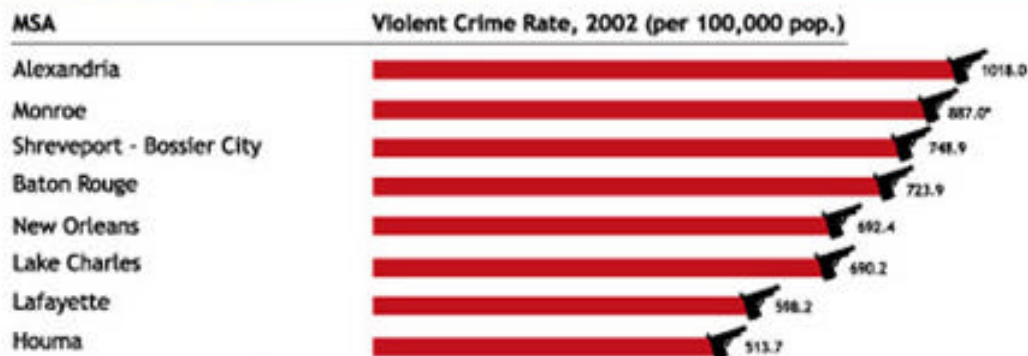
## Public Safety

### The Costs of High Poverty and Low Education

#### Crime: The Hard Numbers

	2002 National Rank
Murder rate per 100,000 habitants	1st
Violent crime rate per 100,000 habitants	5th
State prisoner incarceration rate	1st

#### Where Is the Crime?



\*2001 data; no update available

#### State Prisoners: By the Numbers

Adult state prison population, 2004	36,529
Percent of state prisoners with sentences over 10 years	38.3%
Percent of state prisoners serving life sentences	10.7%
Percent of state prisoners 50 years and older	9.6%
Number of state prisoners on death row	84

✚ Louisiana spends \$33.92 per day for a total of \$12,380.80 per year for each prisoner in a state institution.

#### What Are They in For?



#### How Much Do We Spend?

During 2004-2005, Louisiana will spend \$498 million of State General Funds on corrections.

## Crime and Our Kids



- ✦ For each youthful offender in a state juvenile institution, the state of Louisiana spends \$145.89 per day for a total of \$53,249.85 per year. When including costs for medical/mental health, the state spends \$189.33 per day on incarcerated juvenile offenders for a total of \$69,105 per year.

## Health

### Costly Programs, Disappointing Outcomes

#### Births: By the Numbers

	Louisiana	2002 National Rank
Birth Rate (per 1,000 inhabitants)	14.5	10th
Percent of births to unmarried mothers	47.0%	2nd
Birth rates for teenage mothers (per 1,000 teenage women)	58.1	6th
Percent of low birthweight births	10.4%	2nd
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	9.8	3rd

#### Insurance: Are We Covered?

	LA	2003 National Rank	2003 Southern Rank
Percent of population without health insurance	20.6%	48th	12th
Percent of children without health insurance	15.2%	44th	11th

- ✦ Since 1999, 237,000 children have received health coverage under the LaCHIP program, which helps provide health insurance coverage for children in low-income families.

#### Plenty of Beds

Louisiana has 47% more hospitals per capita than the southern average, yet their occupancy rate (in 2000) averaged only 58%.

Louisiana has the highest ratio of nursing home beds to elderly patients, but ranks 40th in the country in terms of occupancy.

## Health Report

	2002 National Rank	
	Rate of Cases	Age-Adjusted Death Rate
Diabetes	7th	1st
HIV / AIDS*	14th	4th
Cancer	16th	2nd

✚ Louisiana had an overall, age-adjusted death rate in 2002 of 1,005.9 per 100,000 residents. This is the second highest in the nation, meaning our citizens die much more prematurely than those in other states.

\*2003

## The State of Medicaid

Percent of LA population receiving Medicaid, 2003	16%
Percent of U.S. population receiving Medicaid, 2003	13%
Percent of births in Louisiana financed by Medicaid, 2000	41%
Medicaid enrollees, '02-'03	704,680
Total Medicaid budget, State Fiscal Year '05	\$5.1 billion
Total Medicaid budget from State General Funds, State Fiscal Year '05	\$733.5 million

## Number of Publicly Funded Health Facilities



## Where We Rank

Two groups that have developed health care rankings for the states place Louisiana near the bottom. Morgan-Quinto Press ranks Louisiana as the 48th "least healthy" state. United Health Foundation ranks us 50th.



## How Much Do We Spend?

During 2004-2005, Louisiana will spend \$1.1 billion in State General Funds on public health and hospitals, including Medicaid. Overall, 16% of Louisiana's State General Funds will be spent in this area.

## Environment

### Louisiana, Worth Protecting

#### Louisiana's Wetlands Are America's Wetlands

Thirty percent of all U.S. coastal marsh is in Louisiana.



Ninety percent of the coastal wetland loss in the lower 48 states occurs in Louisiana.

Louisiana's 3.4 million acres of coastal wetlands are the seventh largest delta region on earth.

Louisiana loses a football field of marshland every 38 minutes. Since 1930, the amount of wetlands lost in Louisiana is greater than the size of Rhode Island.

#### Wetlands and Wildlife

Ninety-five percent of marine species in the Gulf of Mexico spend all or part of their lifecycle in Louisiana wetlands.



Louisiana's coastal wetlands provide habitat for over 5 million migratory waterfowl.



#### Wetlands and Economics

Over 30 percent of the nation's commercial fisheries catch comes from Louisiana coastal areas and is valued at \$343 million. Recreational fishing industry in Louisiana's coastal areas is valued at \$703 million.



Over 25% percent of oil and gas consumed in the U.S. travels through Louisiana wetlands.

The Coast 2050 plan for restoring coastal Louisiana is estimated to cost \$14 billion.

The estimated cost of inaction - more than \$100 billion in infrastructure alone.



#### Environmental Quality

Toxic Releases in Millions of Pounds - LA



2002 National Rankings - LA



## The Qualities of Our Life

### Louisiana Lagniappe

Clearly, Louisiana faces many challenges and has many serious issues to address. But the statistical data doesn't reveal the many other attributes about Louisiana, our people and culture that are also important. These qualities are often hard to quantify, but some do have measurable impacts, and they help complete the picture of life in Louisiana.

### We Are Generous.

According to the Catalogue for Philanthropy, Louisiana citizens are fourth in the nation in the percentage of their earnings given to charity.



### We Support Nonprofit Organizations.

Louisiana has 11,000 nonprofits employing 130,000 people in every area of the state. More than two-thirds of Louisiana citizens contribute to nonprofits and more than one-third volunteer.

### We Like the Arts.

Louisiana citizens and businesses contribute nearly \$90 million annually to the arts.



### We Have a Literary Tradition.

Twelve writers with ties to Louisiana have won the Pulitzer Prize for literature.

### We Have a Musical Tradition.

A total of 35 artists with ties to Louisiana have won Grammy awards in the categories of jazz, blues, folk, country and gospel.



### We Have a Culinary Tradition.

We spend nearly \$5 billion a year at restaurants.



### We Corner the Market on Crawfish.

More than 90% of the crawfish harvested in the U.S. comes from Louisiana.

### And Shrimp.

More than 100 million pounds of shrimp are caught each year in Louisiana's fisheries.



### And Crabs.

More than 40 million pounds come from Louisiana.

### We Pass a Good Time.

Louisiana hosts more than 600 festivals every year.



### And Others Come to Join Us.

About 19 million people a year come to visit Louisiana.

## Council for A Better Louisiana

The Independent Voice of Louisiana's Leaders

CABL provides an extensive web site for elected officials, opinion makers, news media, and engaged citizens. It is kept up to date with information on the most important public policy issues facing our state.

## Go Online at: [www.CABL.org](http://www.CABL.org)

- ✦ **Issue briefings** on the state's critical issues presented in an easy-to-understand format.
- ✦ **Legislative commentary** to ensure that state government is accountable to citizens.
- ✦ CABL's **Louisiana Fact Book** for quick information you need to know about where we stand in education, job growth, state spending, and more.
- ✦ CABL **publications** on issues in the forefront like fiscal reform, education, economy, and poverty that get the public's attention.
- ✦ The only **Report Card** on public education in LA, Pre-K through college.
- ✦ Information on elected officials in **statewide offices and the state House and Senate**.
- ✦ **Polls of citizens** to gauge their attitudes of the important issues facing our state and the performance of state government.
- ✦ Highlights of the **Leadership Louisiana** program, a nationally recognized program that enhances the capacity of emerging or current leaders from across the state to effectively address key public issues.
- ✦ And, much, much **more...**

## Resources

---

The following is a list of sources CABL utilized in developing this report. A more detailed account of these sources may be found in the *People's Agenda* section of CABL's web site at [www.cabl.org](http://www.cabl.org).

---

ACT, Inc.  
Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts  
American Cancer Society  
Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge  
Catalogue for Philanthropy  
Center for Business & Economic Research, University of Louisiana at Monroe  
Centers for Disease Control  
Corporation for Enterprise Development  
- State Asset Development Report Card  
- Development Report Card for the States  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Kaiser Family Foundation  
LA Cultural Development Office Division of Historic Preservation  
LA Department of Education  
Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations  
Louisiana Board of Regents  
Louisiana Department of Agriculture  
Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism  
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals  
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources  
Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections  
Louisiana Secretary of State  
Louisiana Workforce Commission  
Louisiana State Senate Fiscal Services  
LSU School of Social Work Office of Social Service Research and Development  
Morgan Quinto Press  
National Restaurant Association  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention  
Pulitzer Prizes  
Recording Academy  
Southeastern Transportation Alliance  
Southern Regional Education Board  
Travel Industry Association of America  
The Road Information Program (TRIP)  
United Health Foundation  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Census Bureau  
U.S. Department for Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis  
U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration  
U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics  
U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics  
U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration  
U.S. Small Business Administration



Post Office Box 4308 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4308  
Phone: (225) 344-2225 Fax: (225) 338-9470  
Please visit our website at [www.cabl.org](http://www.cabl.org)