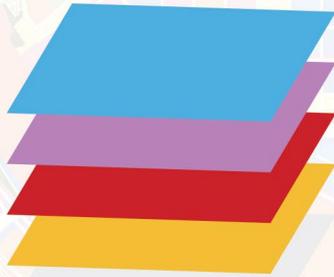


BOSSIER CITY

SHREVEPORT



**STATE
OF THE
COMMUNITY
REPORT**

2025 EDITION

Bossier
Chamber
of Commerce

Each of the sectors in this report – **Healthcare, Energy, Transportation and Defense** – have helped share our identity but each also holds even greater potential for future growth.

Now in our **fourth year**, this report highlights not only these assets that make our region strong, but also the opportunities where we can advocate, innovate and invest.

Shreveport–Bossier is asset-rich in many ways as Northwest Louisiana possesses the talent, infrastructure, and drive to compete—and succeed. You’ll see that potential reflected throughout these pages.

4 FOCUS POINTS

Still, progress is an ongoing effort. We encourage every business leader, elected official, and community partner to play a role in advancing these assets while seeking new pathways for development.



Jessica Hemingway
Vice President/Bossier Chamber of Commerce

**Principal Investigator/
State of the Community Report**

POINTS OF PROGRESS AND GROWTH EXPECTATION

As we look back over the last two years, we see a lot of growth in the state of Louisiana in areas that matter:

- *Outmigration from the state is slowing (for the first time in years).*
- *Employment is up although the labor force participation rate (the percentage of working age people actively working or looking for work) is below the national average.*
- *Median income is up but still ranked 48th in the nation.*

Another plus for the state is that while the 2024 Tax Foundation ranking was 40, because the state adopted a significant pro-growth tax reform package in the special session just after those rankings were released, the Foundation noted the state’s overall ranking would have improved to 26th with those changes. Additionally, the Foundation analysis said the state would have ranked among the top 15 in four of the five major categories of taxation (individual income taxes, corporate income taxes, property taxes, and unemployment insurance taxes).

Progress is always good but there is still more work to be done, not only to continue to grow the above metrics, but to improve others that have not shown a positive change, like our overall poverty rate and child poverty rate.



Damien Ford,
Bossier Chamber Community Sustainability Committee Chair

PRESENTING SPONSOR



SUPPORTING SPONSOR



HEALTHCARE



The overall economic impact of our healthcare industry continues to increase. In addition to delivering essential, life-saving care to the surrounding area, Caddo-Bossier healthcare employees represent 21% of our regional employment. As this industry and its services continue to grow, workforce gaps create an increased demand for skilled workers as well.

BY THE NUMBERS

HEALTHCARE SECTOR EARNINGS
CADDO AND BOSSIER PARISHES

\$2.36B 2022

\$2.4B 2023

\$2.5B 2024

GROSS REGIONAL PRODUCT
CADDO AND BOSSIER PARISHES

\$2.7B 2022

\$2.7B 2023

\$2.9B 2024

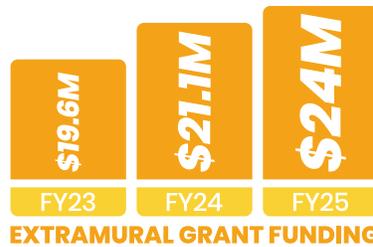
HISTORIC \$7.5M NSF GRANT

RESEARCH

FUNDING

FOR LSU HEALTH SHREVEPORT

LSU Health Shreveport has been awarded a five-year, \$7.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to establish a new Center for Post-Transcriptional Regulation. Led by Oren Rom, PhD, RD, Senior Associate Dean for Basic and Translational Research and Wayne Orr, PhD, Vice Chair for Pathology and Director of the Center for Cardiovascular Diseases and Sciences, this award represents **the first, and largest, NSF-funded center grant in the history of LSUHS.**



LSU Health Shreveport's recruitment of 14 new research faculty from top-tier institutions across the U.S. brought over \$20 million in new NIH funding to North Louisiana and significantly expanded the institution's research capacity.

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL RANKINGS

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT	ANNUAL PAYROLL
HEALTHCARE (incl. Hospitals)	319,541	\$18.3 B
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	287,451	\$13.3 B
MANUFACTURING	139,253	\$12.3 B
CONSTRUCTION	140,114	\$10.3 B
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	227,771	\$6.2 B
OIL & GAS/MINING	29,572	\$3.3 B



Source: Louisiana Workforce Commission 2023

ENABLING PREPAREDNESS, RESEARCH AND TRAINING FOR EMERGING VIRAL THREATS

LSU Health Shreveport's new BSL-3+ facility enables rapid response research, workforce training and diagnostic readiness for high-risk viruses. **The facility is one of only 20 BSL-3+ laboratories in North America.** It is the first of its scale in North Louisiana and strategically positioned to support national biodefense and public health efforts.

HEALTHCARE'S REGIONAL INFLUENCE

LOUISIANA REGION	TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	HEALTHCARE EMPLOYMENT	% OF HEALTHCARE TO TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
NEW ORLEANS	391,293	64,768	16.6%
BATON ROUGE	357,997	52,773	14.7%
HOUMA-THIBODAUX	154,129	18,537	12.0%
LAFAYETTE	231,063	44,286	19.2%
LAKE CHARLES	116,630	19,362	16.6%
ALEXANDRIA	82,008	20,316	24.8%
SHREVEPORT	200,337	42,493	21.2%
MONROE	123,125	27,267	22.1%
NORTHSHORE	186,888	35,433	19.0%

Source: Louisiana Workforce Commission 2023

HOSPITAL OVERALL ECONOMIC IMPACT

LOUISIANA REGION	BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS	ANNUAL PAYROLL	JOBS CREATED AND SUPPORTED	STATE AND LOCAL TAX COLLECTIONS
NEW ORLEANS	\$10,358	\$3,816	86,122	\$456
BATON ROUGE	\$4,716	\$1,738	39,295	\$208
HOUMA-THIBODAUX	\$1,534	\$565	12,777	\$72
LAFAYETTE	\$4,384	\$1,621	36,597	\$196
LAKE CHARLES	\$1,986	\$732	16,548	\$93
ALEXANDRIA	\$3,238	\$1,196	27,101	\$142
SHREVEPORT	\$5,642	\$2,084	47,045	\$249
MONROE	\$1,890	\$703	15,767	\$84
NORTHSHORE	\$4,638	\$1,716	38,760	\$204
STATEWIDE TOTAL	\$38,366	\$14,172	320,011	\$1,704

*Dollar amounts represented in millions.

Source: Louisiana Workforce Commission 2023

PARTNERSHIPS

Willis Knighton Health is now a member of the Mayo Clinic Care Network, a global network of independent healthcare providers carefully vetted by Mayo Clinic and granted special access to Mayo Clinic knowledge, expertise and resources. Through the Mayo Clinic Care Network, Willis Knighton Health physicians have direct access to Mayo Clinic physicians, along with the latest research, diagnostic and treatment resources.



Willis Knighton
Health



MAYO CLINIC
CARE NETWORK

ENERGY



Source: Expand Energy

PRESENTED BY:



While natural gas drilling is expected to be flat in 2026 overall, drilling activity in the U.S. will be more centered in natural-gas intensive producing regions.

As President Donald Trump works on trade deals across the world, the deal with the EU so far stands out as one that could benefit Louisiana the most as the EU agreed to purchase \$750 billion in U.S. energy exports through 2028.

OUR STATE'S PLACE IN THE NATION FOR ENERGY

STATEWIDE IMPACTS

DIRECT, INDIRECT, AND INDUCED EFFECTS:

306,750

energy-related jobs



15% of total state employment

\$25.5 B

total annual statewide earnings



19% of total earnings

\$77.7 B

added economic value



25% of Louisiana's economy

Source: LMOGA 2025 Economic Impact Study

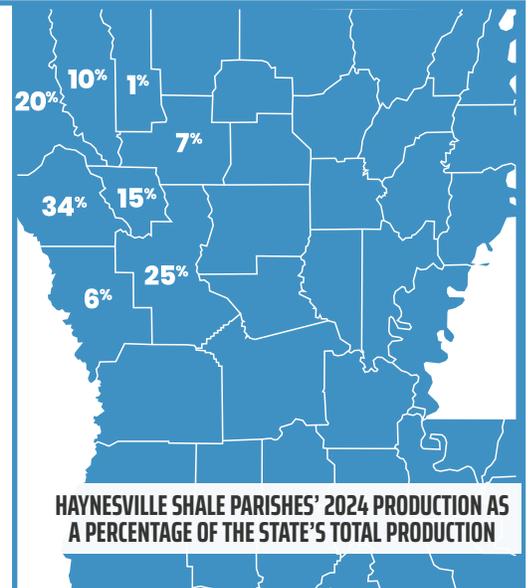
MARKET PRESSURES

FOCUS ON HAYNESVILLE

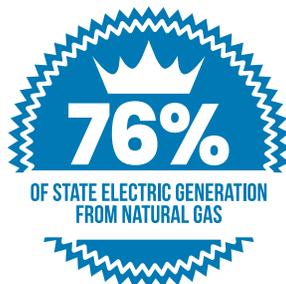
INDUSTRY HEADWINDS

REMAINS TOP U.S. PRODUCER

Natural gas production in the Haynesville Shale dipped in 2024 due to historically low natural gas prices, which came after the Haynesville production reached a record high in March 2023. Due to the depths of the drilling in the Haynesville Formation, the cost of drilling is more expensive than other hot beds in the country like the Marcellus in the Appalachia region. The Haynesville Shale is still in the top 3 of producing regions in the U.S.

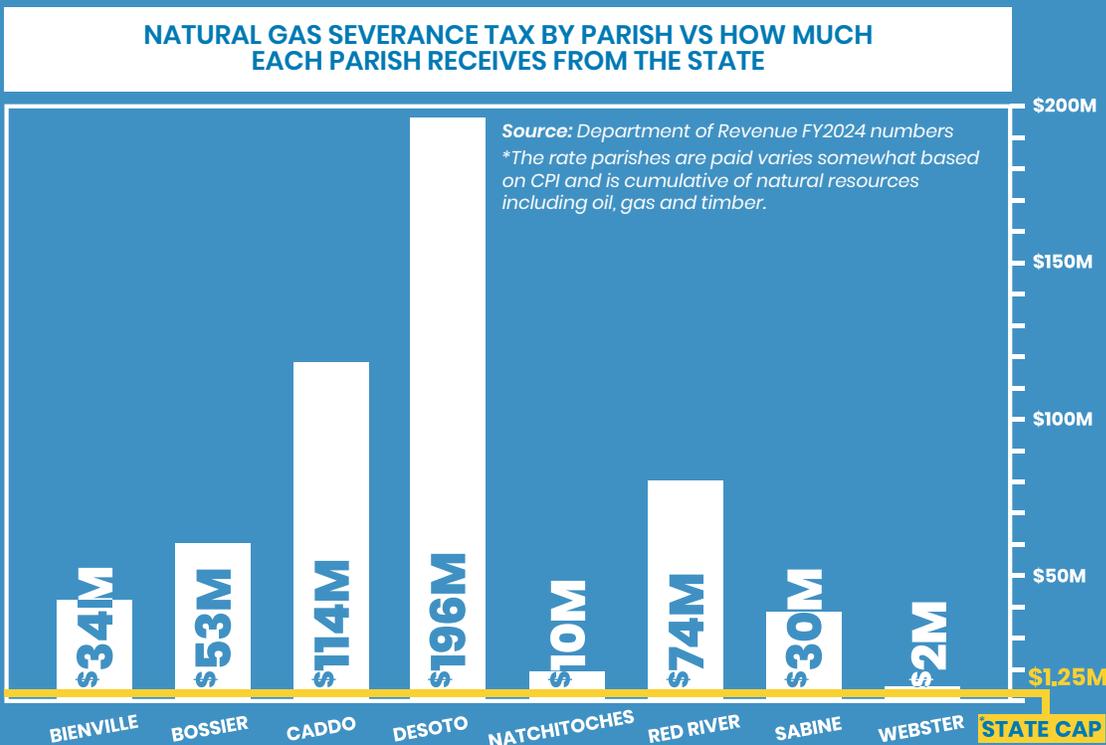


HAYNESVILLE SHALE PARISHES' 2024 PRODUCTION AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE STATE'S TOTAL PRODUCTION



SEVERANCE TAX CAP VS NATURAL GAS EARNINGS

During the March 2025 election, state voters went to the polls to consider many provisions within proposed Amendment 2, which included removing the cap that limits how much severance tax revenue local governments can receive from the state for oil, gas and other mineral activity on their lands. The amendment also accounted for profits from brine, which would be the extraction method used for lithium.



Currently parishes are capped at the amount of severance tax they receive at around \$1.25 million*, and the rest is directed to the state budget.

The amendment failed at the ballot box so legislators are working on separate bills to remove or change the cap on the amount of severance tax revenues parishes receive versus send to the state government.

UTILITY FRIENDLY REFORMS

Growing communities, new manufacturing, and new data centers require increased demand for electricity. Keeping existing plants in operation and building new, advanced nuclear power is critical to meeting this increasing consumer demand for electricity with reliable, baseload power.

Permitting reform is essential for the utility sector due to significant demand growth and the expansion of new energy projects during the next decade. Statutory changes covering NEPA, CWA, the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and other statutes will provide greater certainty and streamlined permitting processes.



NEW STATE DEPARTMENT

The Louisiana Department of Energy and Natural Resources (DENR), the state's agency for managing natural resources, is now the Department of Conservation and Energy (C&E), with segmented offices such as Permitting and Compliance, and the Office of Energy, which supports development of a reliable and resilient energy ecosystem.



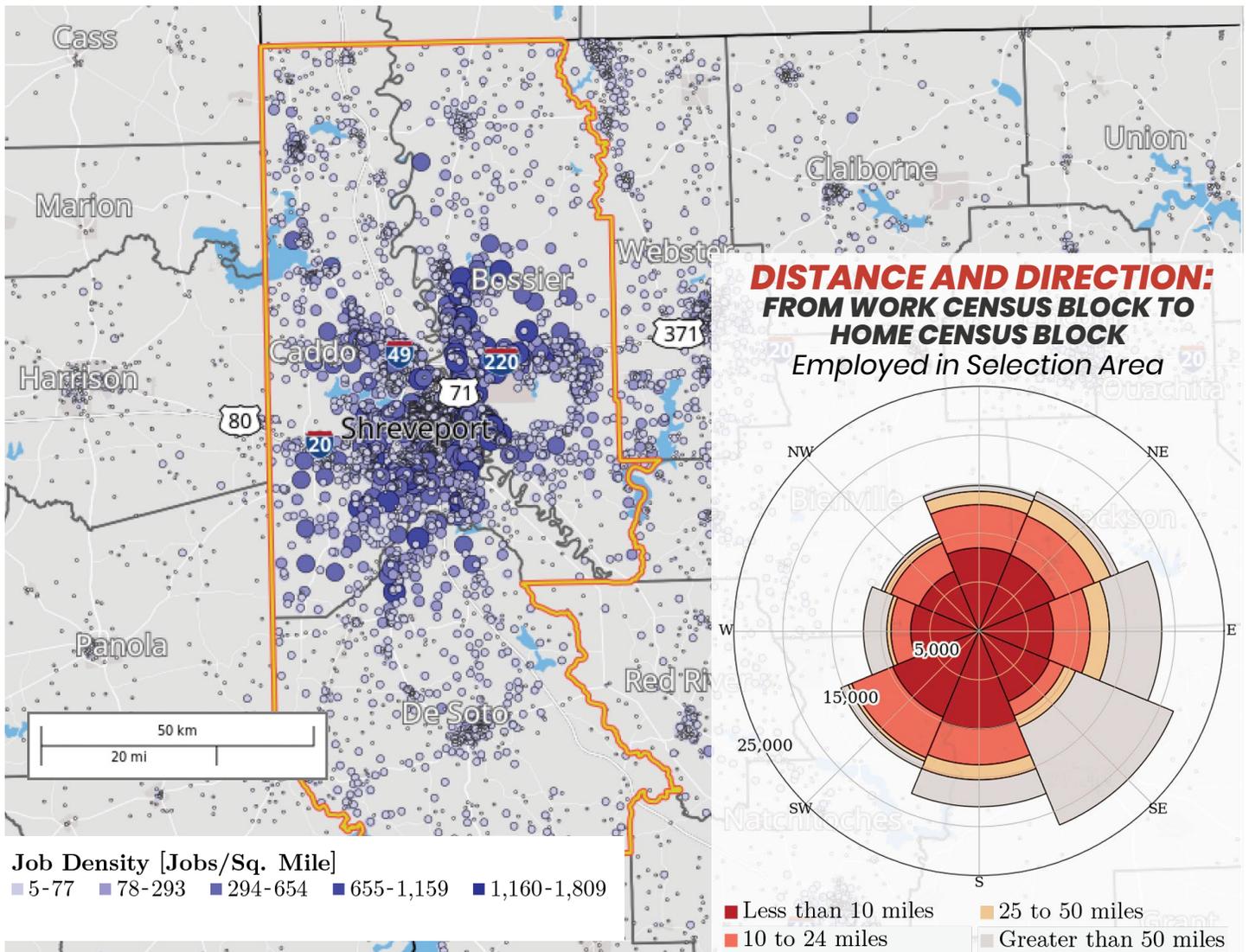
Source: The Port of Caddo-Bossier

COUNTS AND DENSITY OF HOME LOCATIONS FOR PRIVATE PRIMARY JOBS

The Shreveport-Bossier MSA has its largest concentration of jobs within the city centers, though there are many employers outside of that immediate area. This map (the density map) shows the concentration of jobs in density and job count. While the circular graphic shows the

amount of people who drive from their homes into the MSA to work, including the number of people and what direction their homes are relative to their jobs. While more than half of the workers in our area live within 10 miles of their offices (65,318), a significant portion live 10-24 miles away (27,530) and greater than 50 miles (23,842). This graphic just illustrates one more way that our road, bridge and interstate systems are useful but also heavily trafficked in the Shreveport-Bossier MSA, in addition to truck traffic using the roadways for commerce.

Source: Census Bureau, 2023



Source: LSU Shreveport Center for Business and Economic Research/Census Bureau

Significant facility upgrades should encourage more locals to Fly Shreveport, including 10,000 square feet of expanded

SHREVEPORT REGIONAL INVESTS \$4 M

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS

40 YEAR RECORD

BIGGER, BETTER, BUSIER THAN EVER

gate space and all new furniture throughout the public spaces. Additionally, to continue to grow the reach of the airport, a Federal Inspection facility is under construction that will allow the airport to have international flights.

541,737 PASSENGERS
FROM JANUARY 2025 THROUGH AUGUST

10,000
SQUARE FEET OF EXPANDED GATE SPACE

NONSTOP DESTINATIONS
ATLANTA, CHARLOTTE, DALLAS, DENVER, DESTIN, HOUSTON, LAS VEGAS, NASHVILLE, AND ORLANDO

Through August 2025, SRA had 541,737 passengers. May–August of 2025 was the busiest summer since 1981, and the fourth–busiest summer in the airport’s 73-year history.

PORT OF CADDO–BOSSIER

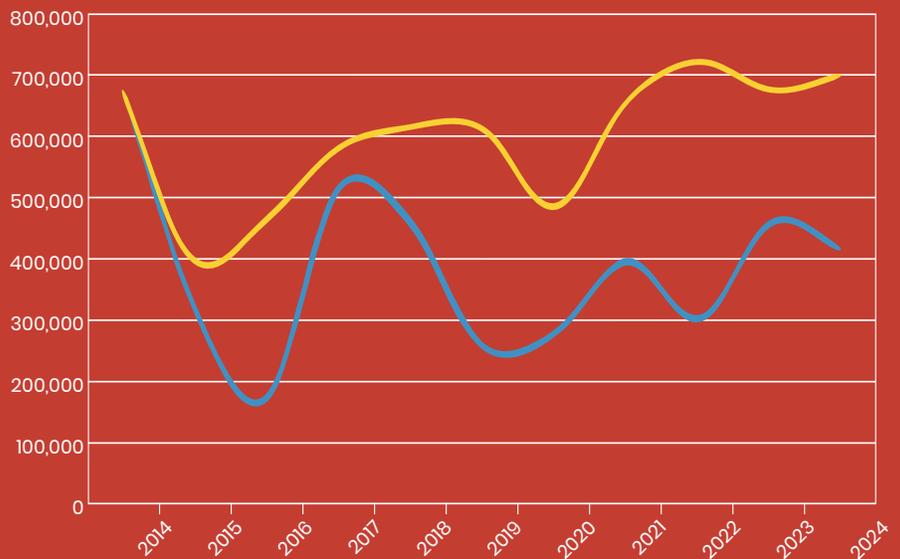
The Port of Caddo–Bossier continues to see an increase in rail tonnage leaving the Port facilities.

TOTAL WATERBORNE TONNAGE: 410,898.39

TOTAL RAIL TONNAGE: 701,971.81

TOGETHER TOTAL: 1,112,870

TOTAL INBOUND/OUTBOUND TRUCK TONNAGE: 1,340,473.69



INTERSTATE 20 REHAB



Estimated completion late 2025/early 2026

The \$128 million I-20 major rehabilitation project consists of total reconstruction of all the travel lanes and on/off ramps at five interchanges from Benton Road to Industrial Drive in Bossier City. This project is one of the largest investments in the north Louisiana interstate system in many years, providing a complete overhaul of the roadway for the first time since this section of I-20 was constructed in the 1960s.

JIMMIE DAVIS BRIDGE PROJECT



Estimated completion mid to late 2027

Construction on the \$361 million Jimmie Davis Bridge Replacement (LA 511) project over the Red River is in full swing! Work is underway on the new 4-lane bridge and the widening and realignment of the LA 511 roadway approaches to the bridge on both sides of the river. As of October 2025, progress continues on driving pile to form the foundations of the new structure, hauling significant amounts of dirt to form the new on & off ramps to the bridge and installing new drainage systems on LA 511 as the roadway takes shape to align with a widened, modernized structure.

DEFENSE



PRESENTED BY:



Barksdale is an award-winning base that is home to warrior Airmen of the 2nd Bomb Wing, Air Force Global Strike Command, 8th Air Force, 307th Bomb Wing, and a host of mission partners. BAFB is reflective of a longstanding relationship with the community, which can be seen at our air shows, marathons and military appreciation events throughout Northwest Louisiana.


DOD PERSONNEL
ACROSS THE STATE IN 2023

13,560 ACTIVE DUTY

6,437 CIVILIANS

15,736 RESERVE/
NATIONAL GUARD

TOTAL 35,736

IN THE SAME YEAR
BARKSDALE CONTRIBUTED:

5,139 ACTIVE DUTY

2,270 CIVILIANS

1,596 RESERVISTS

DOD DEFENSE SPENDING CONTRIBUTED:
Across the state

1.3% OF STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

\$1.8 BILLION PAYROLL

\$2.1 BILLION IN CONTRACTS AWARDED


DEFENSE SECTOR POWERS
ACROSS LOUISIANA

JOBS

GROWTH

Barksdale Air Force Base is our region's largest employer and military installations provide significant economic activity to the entire state of Louisiana.

The Louisiana Governor's Office reported that in Louisiana military-related activity provides more than 77,000 jobs and pays almost \$280 million in state and local taxes.

Other than the state government, the first, fourth, and fifth largest employers respectively are Fort Johnson, Barksdale Air Force Base and the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base-New Orleans.

WELCOME HOME

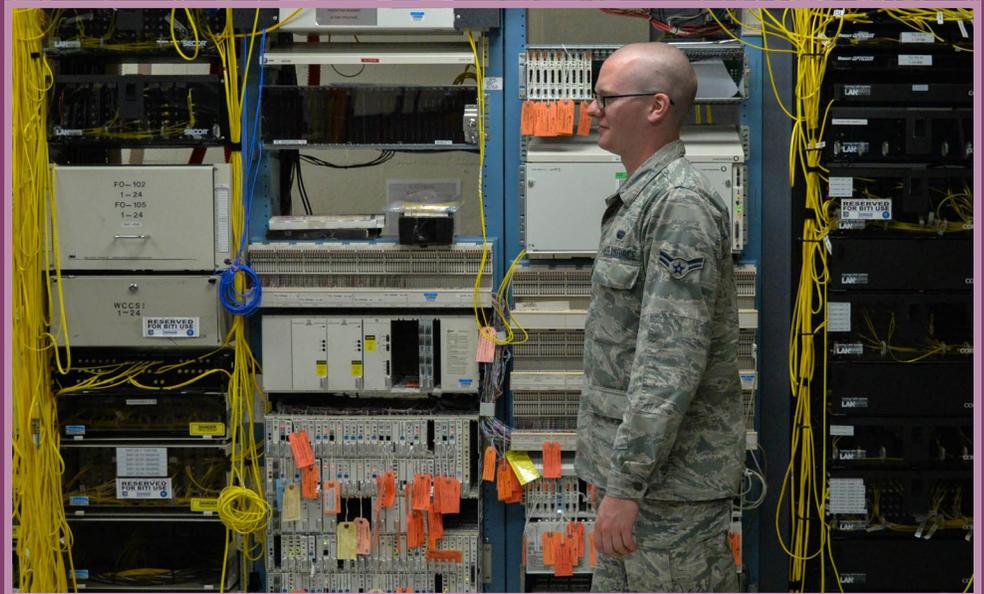
With as many as 2-3,000 spouses stationed at Barksdale with active-duty service members, a key piece of legislation to help them in employment is Louisiana's Welcome Home Act, passed in 2024. This act provides universal recognition of occupational licenses throughout Louisiana, giving anyone who moves to the state with a specific and skilled license the ability to build a career here. While many pieces of legislation have passed to give licensure reciprocity to specific occupations, this act clears a big hurdle to not cherry-pick accepted licenses but provided a way to encompass all potential employees. This was a major step forward to enhancing the quality of life for our airmen and their families.

The Louisiana National Guard (LANG) stations the 178th Cyber Protection Team in Bossier City in the summer of 2025.

This team was created to respond to cyber events within Louisiana, to secure and restore affected networks by defeating threats and restoring normal operations. It is made up of Soldiers and Airmen who have technology backgrounds in both their civilian and military careers.

THIS IS AN INVESTMENT IN CYBER INNOVATION. THIS HELPS BRIDGE OUR CYBER FIELDS IN THE MILITARY WITH INDUSTRY LEADERS.

MAJOR GENERAL THOMAS FRILOUX



LOUISIANA'S DEFENSE LANDS

250,197 ACRES

DOD MANAGED LAND

22,000 ACRES

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE

33,107 ACRES

STATE-OWNED NATIONAL GUARD LAND

15,000 ACRES

CAMP MINDEN

FY 24 BARKSDALE SURPASSED **ONE BILLION DOLLARS** IN TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT FOR THE FIRST TIME

\$937.8 M
2023

\$1.113 B
2024

BARKSDALE PAYROLL

2024

\$446.5M
MILITARY PAY

\$175.8M
CIVILIAN PAY

\$662M
TOTAL

CYBER AND TECHNOLOGY



PRESENTED BY:



CYBERSECURITY AND BOSSIER CITY

Bossier City is home to the National Cyber Research Park, which has supported **3,148 permanent jobs** and **\$192.7 million** in total annual household earnings.

ECONOMIC IMPACT FOR OUR REGION

Source: Dr. Loren Scott

1,854
JOBS IN 2024

2,102
JOBS IN 2025

2,885
PROJECTED 2027

CYBERSECURITY WORKFORCE RATIO

73%
National avg. 74%

PREVIOUS YEAR

85%
National avg. 83%

This supply/demand ratio shows that Shreveport–Bossier currently only has enough cybersecurity workers to fill 73 percent of the local employers’ demand. The national average is 74 percent. Both of these numbers are down from the previous year where both the national and SBC percentages were fulfilling almost 10 percent more of the demand.



FUELING THE FUTURE

LED

LA.IO

NEW STATEWIDE INSTITUTE FOR AI

Louisiana Economic Development has launched Louisiana Innovation (LA.IO), a new division of LED dedicated to making Louisiana a leader in the development of more high-growth, technology-enabled startup companies.

LA.IO’s first initiative will be development of the Louisiana Institute for Artificial Intelligence. This 501c3 will serve as the state’s lead anchor for our statewide AI strategy, which is focused on applied research and development, commercialization, workforce

development and policy. **The Institute’s first project will be to upgrade 5,000 small businesses across Louisiana with AI tools that will enable them to scale their business and improve their competitiveness.**

SMALL BUSINESSES EMBRACE AI

82%

of small businesses using AI increased their workforce over the past year, despite concerns about AI and jobs

58%

of U.S. Small Businesses are using AI in their daily operations

8-in-10

small business owners say technology has helped them cope with inflation, supply chain challenges and access to capital

LOUISIANA BY THE NUMBERS

88%

believe AI will help their businesses in the future

54%

use generative AI chatbots which provide dynamic, personalized responses

65%

of Louisiana’s small businesses currently use an AI platform

65%

are concerned that state-level tech policies will drive up legal/compliance costs

31%

utilize a cryptocurrency or Stablecoin platform

Source: The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Technology Engagement Center 2025 report, Empowering Small Business: The Impact of Technology on U.S. Small Business

TOP 5 IN THE NATION

4TH GRADE MATH GROWTH

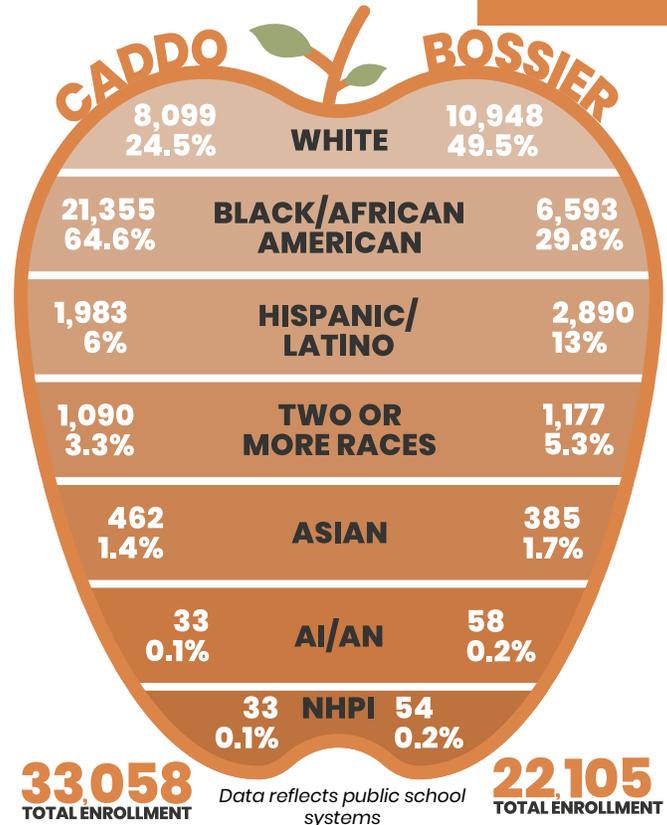
4TH GRADERS LEAD THE NATION

IN READING GROWTH FOR THE 2ND CONSECUTIVE CYCLE

The Nation's Report Card		NAME Louisiana				
National Assessment of Educational Progress		FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2024				
SUBJECT	NATIONAL RANKING					
	2013	2015	2017	2019	2022	2024
4th grade reading	48	44	50	50	42	16
4th grade math	50	46	52	50	44	38
8th grade reading	49	49	49	45	39	29
4th grade math	48	50	51	49	45	43
Overall average	49	47	51	49	43	32
SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS						
Students with disabilities outpace the nation in achievement and growth						
Economically disadvantaged students outpace the nation in achievement and growth						
COMMENTS						
Historic growth, but there's more work to do!						
 DR. CADE BRUMLEY LOUISIANA STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION						



EDUCATION



CADDO	BOSSIER
24-25 INDUSTRY-BASED CREDENTIALS EARNED 2,379	24-25 INDUSTRY-BASED CREDENTIALS EARNED 3,135
PERFECT 2024 ACT SCORES 8	PERFECT LEAP SCORES 97
NATL. MERIT SCHOLARSHIP SEMIFINALISTS 13	SCHOLARSHIPS/TOPS AWARDS \$24.14+ MILLION
ELEMENTARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR 2ND YEAR IN A ROW	ADVANCED PLACEMENT CARNEGIE UNITS EARNED 2,429

	CADDO	BOSSIER
GRADUATION RATE	79.6%	86.8%
JUMPSTART PATHWAY DIPLOMAS	240	53
TOPS UNIVERSITY PATHWAY DIPLOMAS	2,023	1,160
MILITARY STUDENTS	628	3,208

28 STATE-DESIGNATED PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS IN BOSSIER PARISH
 Most of Any District in Louisiana

Purple Star School: This distinction recognizes a school's commitment to meet specific criteria that support students and families connected to the military.

ECONOMIC WINS

LOUISIANA'S RECORD YEAR OF GROWTH AND INVESTMENT



\$70B IN PROJECTS ANNOUNCED STATEWIDE

9 MEGAPROJECTS ANNOUNCED IN LAST 11 MONTHS

PLATINUM 2024 DEAL OF THE YEAR

Meta AI Data Center (\$10B)

+13 SPOTS JUMP IN ECONOMIC RANKING

Louisiana rose from **#31** to **#18** in the Rich States, Poor States 2025 Economic Outlook. The **largest one-year improvement of any state.**

NEARLY \$1 BILLION IN ANNOUNCED PROJECTS IN THE SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER AREA **2,200 direct new jobs.**

Not including construction and support positions.

<p>Ruston, LA.</p> <p>Radiance Technologies</p> <p>\$370.65M</p> <p>Secure microchip packaging facility, <i>bolstering U.S. defense tech</i></p>	<p> 150 DIRECT JOBS</p> <p> 146 INDIRECT JOBS</p>
<p>Ascentek, Inc.</p> <p>\$50M</p> <p>Building new 270,000 sq. ft. manufacturing facility for global clients.</p>	<p> 91 DIRECT JOBS</p> <p> 247 INDIRECT JOBS</p>
<p>SkyWest Airlines</p> <p>Shreveport Regional Airport selected as newest maintenance base and facility to help support its fleet of nearly 500 regional aircraft.</p>	<p> 150 DIRECT JOBS</p> <p> 375 INDIRECT JOBS</p>

LOUISIANA'S ECONOMIC HEALTH IS RISING

Year	Median Household Income (Adjusted for Inflation)
2022	\$59,397
2023	\$59,940
2024	\$60,986

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME
(Adjusted for Inflation)

LOUISIANA IS BUILDING A STRONGER, SMARTER, MORE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY.
Statewide and right here at home.

Source: USA Facts

**More than
just Bossier.**

*More than
just Business*

Bossier 
Chamber
of Commerce

BOSSIERCHAMBER.COM

BOSSIER PARISH

CADDO PARISH