

CENTRAL LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DASHBOARD



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College of

Business

Dr. Randall Dupont, D.B.A.

Dean | College of Business | LSU of Alexandria
rdupont@lsua.edu

November 2024

KEY FINDINGS

November 2024

EMPLOYMENT

Employment for the Alexandria MSA in October stood at 59,804, down from 60,473 recorded in September. Alexandria's employment level was 2,579 below a year ago. The low point for the year was 59,755 in January. Employment in Natchitoches in October fell 164 from September to stand at 16,226 for the month, down 466 from a year ago.

The unemployment rate in the Alexandria MSA rose slightly in October to 4.4%, up from 4.2% in September, and was above the state's unemployment rate of 4.1% for the month. Baton Rouge had the lowest unemployment rate in the state at 4.0%. Houma-Thibodaux and Lake Charles followed at 4.2% and 4.3%, respectively, with Alexandria standing at 4.4%. The unemployment rate for central Louisiana was 4.9% in October, compared to 4.6% in September.

Initial unemployment claims fell 13% in September but rose 6% in October. Continued unemployment claims fell in September and October by 10% and 6%, respectively. Year-to-date (YTD), initial claims averaged 1,703 per month compared to 1,873 during the same period in 2023. Likewise, YTD continued claims were 12,383 per month compared to 12,845 in 2023.

Quit and layoff data for Louisiana is included in this month's publication. Among the September separations in Louisiana, 49,000 were quits and 27,000 were layoffs and discharges, compared to 36,000 quits and 28,000 layoffs and discharges in August. Over the last 12 months, quits averaged 52,000 per month, ranging from 36,000 to 59,000. Layoffs and discharges have averaged 25,000 per month, ranging from 20,000 to 28,000.

KEY FINDINGS

November 2024

CONSUMER SPENDING

Eight of the eleven local tax jurisdictions reporting saw an increase in sales tax revenue collected in October. October sales tax collections reflect sales activity in September. Sales tax revenues collected in Rapides were up 5% in September but down 6% in October, with Alexandria and Pineville reporting 6% and 7% declines, respectively, in October. Natchitoches had a 2% increase in September and a 14% increase in October.

On a year-to-date (YTD) basis, changes in October sales tax revenue were mixed. Tax revenues YTD were up 5% in Rapides, 6% in Alexandria, and 3% in Pineville. Natchitoches YTD tax revenues in 2024 were down 3% from the same period in 2023. Vehicle sales tax collections had significant decreases with all six jurisdictions reporting YTD declines ranging from 4% to 19%.

Online sales tax collections in central Louisiana in October, which reflects sales activity in September, continued its upward trend. Although online sales tax collections increased by only 1% in October over the previous month, online tax collections were up 21% on a year-over-year (YOY) basis and 23% year-to-date (YTD).

Online sales tax collections in central Louisiana during the first 10 months of 2024 totaled \$22.3 million. Rapides posted online sales tax revenue of \$686,785 in October, up 27% from a year ago and 28% higher YTD. Natchitoches posted \$187,150 in sales tax revenue, which was down 4% from a month earlier but up 27% from a year ago. Online sales tax collections were up 25% YTD in Natchitoches.

KEY FINDINGS

November 2024

HOUSING

The 30-year fixed mortgage rate was 6.84% on November 21, while the 15 year rate was 6.02%. In late September, the 30-year rate hit a low for the year at 6.08%, while the 15-year rate hit 5.15% at the time. Unfortunately, Louisiana ranked first in the nation in non-current mortgage loans in October at 8.3%, up from 7.9% a year ago, according to the ICE Mortgage Monitor Report. Active listings for single-family homes were up 6% from a year ago in Alexandria, 21% in Leesville, and 6% in Natchitoches. Median days on the market were up in all four metro areas reporting, with Leesville reporting a 21% increase, while Alexandria and Natchitoches reported 6% increases from October 2023. Only Alexandria saw a significant increase in the median listing price over the past year at 3%. Natchitoches and Leesville saw median list price declines of 10% and 14%, respectively. In October, homes in Alexandria had a median listing price of \$229,900, up 3% from a year ago. Leesville's median listing of \$200,000 was down 14% from a year ago, while Natchitoches' median listing price of \$295,000 represented a 10% decrease.

TRAVEL

In October 2024, the average retail gasoline price in Gulf Coast region was \$2.61/gal., down 1.9% from September. Gasoline prices were down 18% from a year ago. Hotel occupancy, which is based on hotel occupancy tax revenue, showed year-to-date declines in Natchitoches and Vernon with slight increases in Avoyelles and Rapides.

NEW BUSINESSES

New business formation fell 18% in Rapides in through October of 2024 compared to the same period in 2023. YTD, 299 businesses were created in 2024 compared to 365 in 2023. New business applications in Louisiana were down as well compared to last year. Business applications statewide fell 17% through October.

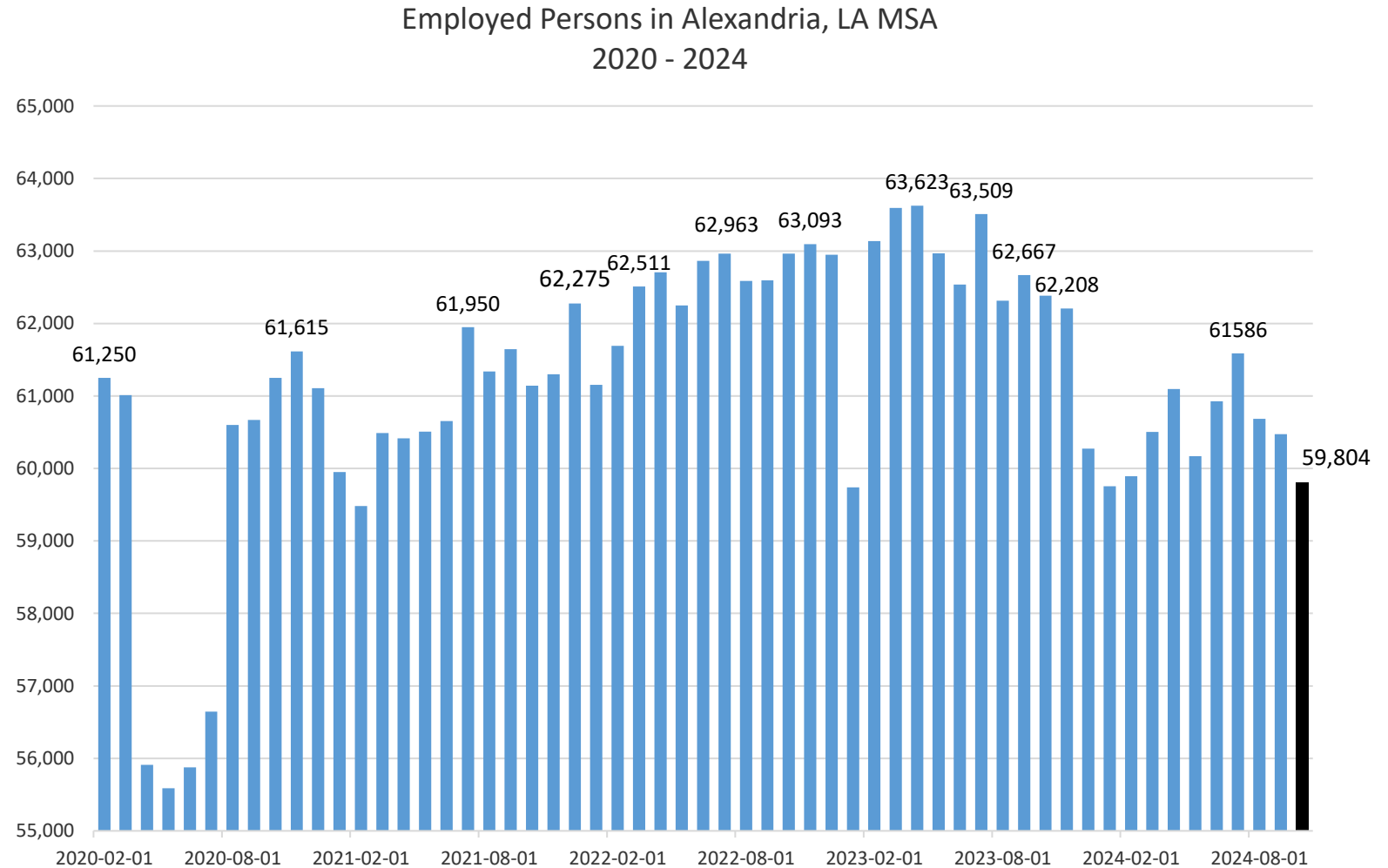
Employment

Central Louisiana Economic Dashboard

EMPLOYMENT IN ALEXANDRIA MSA

Employed persons in the Alexandria MSA from 2020 – 2024.

- Employment in the Alexandria MSA in October fell to 59,804 from 60,473 in September, and was 2,579 below a year ago.
- The unemployment rate in the Alexandria MSA in October rose to 4.4%, up from 4.2% in September.
- A year ago, Alexandria’s unemployment rate stood at 3.8%.

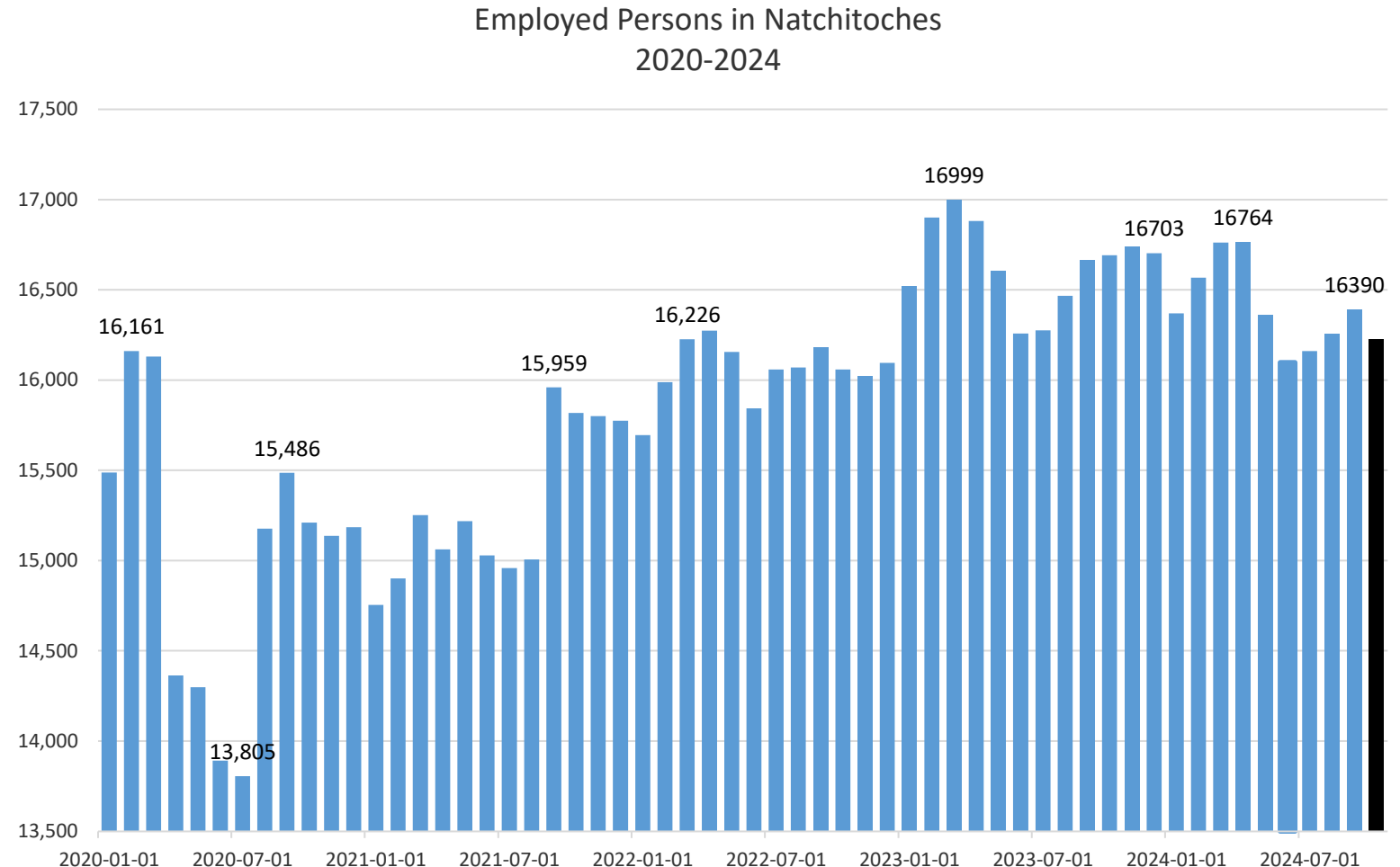


Source: Louisiana Workforce Commission, November 27, 2024.

EMPLOYMENT IN NATCHITOCHESES

Employed persons in Natchitoches parish from 2020 – 2024.

- In October 2024, Natchitoches Parish employment was 16,226, down from 16,390 in September.
- Employment in October was down 466 from a year ago.
- The unemployment rate in Natchitoches parish in October was 4.8%, up slightly from the September rate of 4.7%.



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY MSA

The table below shows October 2024 unemployment rate, labor force, and employment data for Metropolitan Statistical Areas in the state.

- At 4.0%, Baton Rouge had the lowest metro unemployment rate in the state in October.
- Alexandria had an unemployment rate of 4.4% in October.
- Louisiana’s unemployment rate in October fell to 4.1% from 4.3% in September.

October 2024

Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
Baton Rouge	426,002	409,018	16,984	4.0%
Houma-Thibodaux	87,366	83,732	3,634	4.2%
Lake Charles	94,666	90,630	4,036	4.3%
Alexandria	62,564	59,804	2,760	4.4%
Lafayette	212,379	203,066	9,313	4.4%
New Orleans-Metairie	581,378	554,510	26,868	4.6%
Shreveport-Bossier City	181,288	172,753	8,535	4.7%
Monroe	77,019	73,248	3,771	4.9%
Hammond	57,371	54,408	2,963	5.2%

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY CENLA PARISH

The table below shows October 2024 unemployment rate, labor force, and employment data for central Louisiana parishes.

October 2024

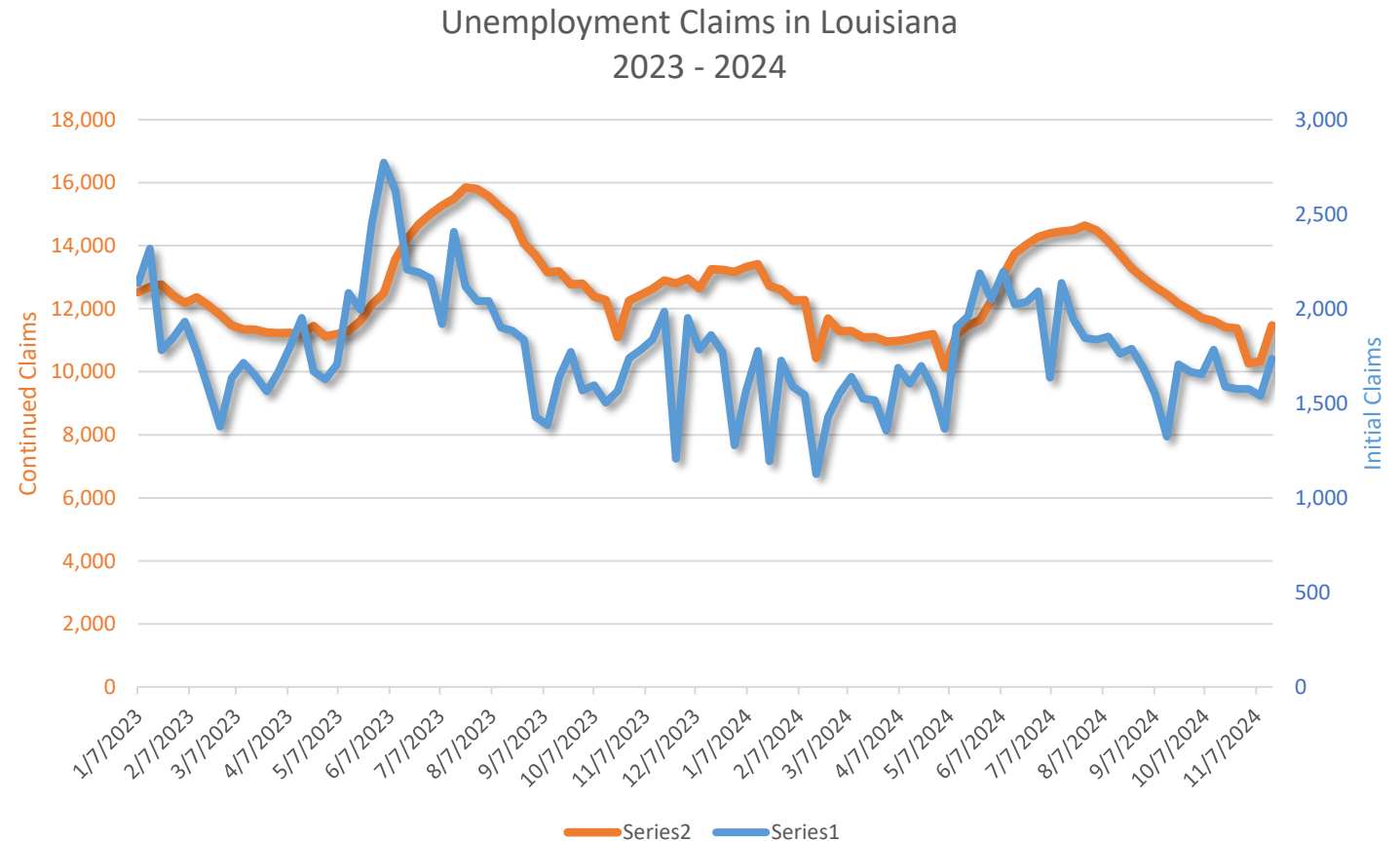
- In October 2024, the parishes in central Louisiana had an unemployment rate of 4.9%.
- Central Louisiana’s unemployment rate remains above the state’s October unemployment rate of 4.1%.

Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate Oct 2024	Unemployment Rate Oct 2023
Allen	8,173	7,765	408	5.0%	4.3%
Avoyelles	14,390	13,674	716	5.0%	4.2%
Catahoula	3,644	3,458	186	5.1%	4.1%
Concordia	6,959	6,538	421	6.0%	4.8%
Evangeline	11,985	11,376	609	5.1%	4.0%
Grant	8,038	7,703	335	4.2%	3.9%
La Salle	6,489	6,252	237	3.7%	3.0%
Natchitoches	17,040	16,226	814	4.8%	4.1%
Rapides	54,526	52,101	2,425	4.4%	3.8%
St. Landry	31,099	29,421	1,678	5.4%	4.6%
Vernon	15,770	14,808	962	6.1%	4.4%

UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS IN LOUISIANA

Initial and continued unemployment claims in Louisiana from January 2022 to October 2024.

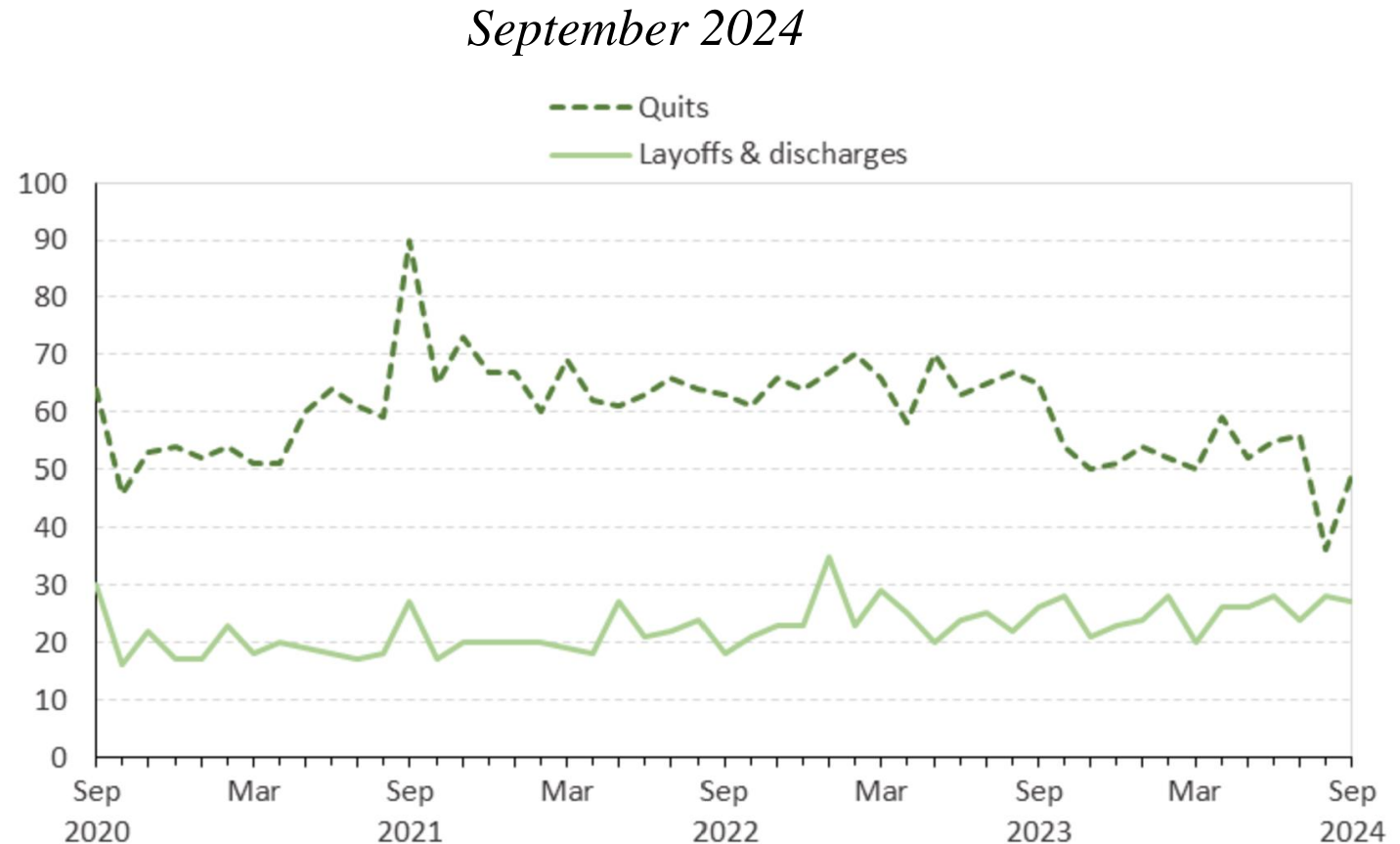
- Initial unemployment claims fell 13% in September but rose 6% in October.
- Continued unemployment claims fell 10% and 6% in September and October, respectively.
- YTD, initial claims averaged 1,703 per month compared to 1,873 during the same period in 2023.
- Likewise, YTD continued claims were 12,383 per month compared to 12,845 in 2023.



QUITS AND LAYOFFS IN LOUISIANA

The chart shows the number of quits and layoffs / discharges in Louisiana from September 2020 to September 2024 (seasonally adjusted).

- Among the September separations in Louisiana, 49,000 were quits and 27,000 were layoffs and discharges, compared to 36,000 quits and 28,000 layoffs and discharges in August.
- Over the last 12 months, quits averaged 52,000 per month, ranging from 36,000 to 59,000. Layoffs and discharges have averaged 25,000 per month, ranging from 20,000 to 28,000.



Tax Revenue

Central Louisiana Economic Dashboard

TAX REVENUE OVERVIEW

An overview of sales, vehicle sales, and hotel occupancy taxes collected in the October 2024 reflecting sales activity in the previous month, unless otherwise noted.

October 2024

Sales Tax	M/M	Y/Y	YTD		Vehicle Sales Tax	M/M	Y/Y	YTD
Alexandria	-6%	-4%	6%		Avoyelles	6%	17%	-19%
Avoyelles	3%	0%	4%		Evangeline	-21%	-8%	-11%
Catahoula	97%	20%	-2%		Natchitoches*	-9%	3%	-4%
Concordia	60%	8%	-15%		Rapides	-20%	-10%	-6%
Evangeline	-9%	-7%	-6%		St. Landry	-9%	-2%	-6%
Grant	8%	-15%	-1%		Vernon	-24%	-9%	-7%
La Salle	31%	16%	-12%					
Natchitoches	14%	13%	-3%		Hotel Occupancy Tax			
Pineville	-7%	6%	3%		Avoyelles	-10%	-5%	3%
Rapides	-6%	0%	5%		Natchitoches	23%	10%	-12%
St. Landry	2%	-9%	7%		Rapides	12%	-9%	3%
Vernon	68%	40%	-1%		Vernon	-18%	-40%	-11%

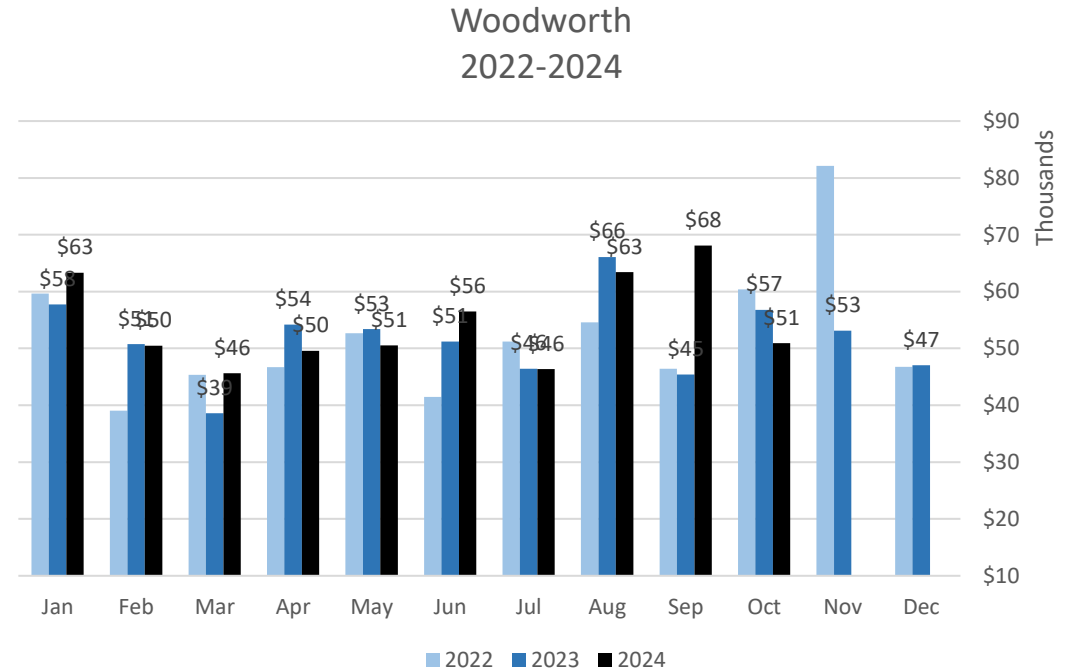
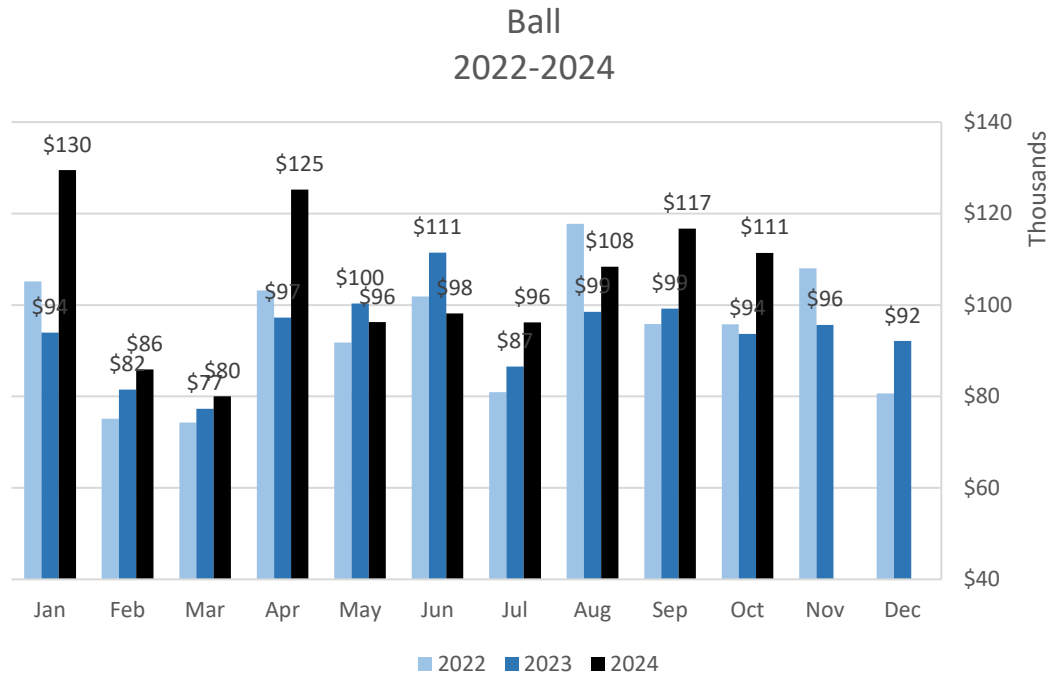
Notes: Current month tax revenue collection reflects sales activity in the previous month. * Data represents the prior month.

n/a = Not currently available

Data Source noted in detailed reports.

BALL & WOODWORTH

An overview of sales tax revenue collected in Ball and Woodworth from 2022 - 2024.



Year-to-date through October, consumer spending in Ball is up 12%, while Woodworth is up 5%. Sales tax revenue is used as a proxy for consumer spending.

Note: Current tax revenue reflects sales activity in prior month.

Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, November 2024.


ALEXANDRIA SALES TAX


(TR) Alexandria total sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.


(BR) Alexandria total monthly sales tax revenue from 2022 to present.

October

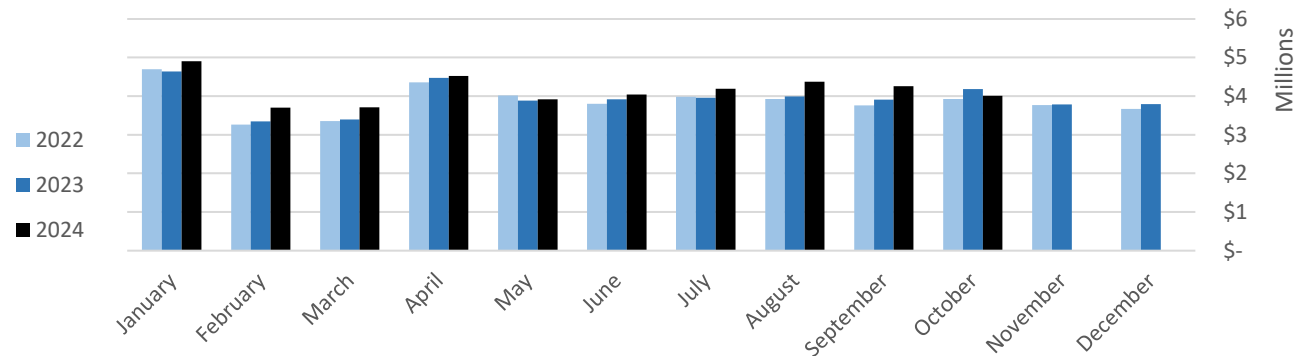
	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 4,095,630	\$ 3,922,678	\$ 4,179,980	\$ 4,009,803
September	\$ 3,670,600	\$ 3,757,448	\$ 3,908,953	\$ 4,260,780
% Chg over Prev Month	11.6%	4.4%	6.9%	-5.9%
% Chg over Prev Year		-4.2%	6.6%	-4.1%
YTD	\$ 31,201,093	\$ 31,402,203	\$ 31,602,686	\$ 33,367,825
% Chg over Prev YTD		0.6%	0.6%	5.6%

October  -6%

Oct YoY  -4%

Oct YTD  6%

Alexandria Sales Tax Revenue
2022-2024





Note: Current month sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in previous month.
Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, November 2024.

AVOYELLES SALES TAX

Avoyelles Parish total sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons. Vehicle and hotel tax revenues are excluded.

October

		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	 3%	\$ 1,830,784	\$ 1,989,498	\$ 2,163,621	\$ 2,112,531	\$ 2,109,675
September		\$ 1,403,970	\$ 1,908,473	\$ 1,778,610	\$ 1,941,370	\$ 2,055,354
Oct YoY	0%	% Chg over Prev Month	30.4%	4.2%	21.6%	8.8%
		% Chg over Prev Year		8.7%	8.8%	-2.4%
Oct YTD	 4%	YTD	\$ 14,873,241	\$ 18,818,667	\$ 19,976,870	\$ 20,016,427
		% Chg over Prev YTD		26.5%	6.2%	0.2%
						3.7%


Note: Current sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in the prior month.


Data Source: Avoyelles Parish School Board. November 2024.


AVOYELLES VEHICLE SALES TAX

Avoyelles Parish vehicle sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.

October

October 
6%

Oct YoY 
17%

Oct YTD 
-19%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 324,326	\$ 416,788	\$ 326,710	\$ 308,460	\$ 359,648
September	\$ 256,314	\$ 207,201	\$ 391,140	\$ 400,290	\$ 338,808
% Chg over Prev Month	26.5%	101.2%	-16.5%	-22.9%	6.2%
% Chg over Prev Year		28.5%	-21.6%	-5.6%	16.6%
YTD	\$ 2,937,712	\$ 3,472,862	\$ 3,504,019	\$ 3,432,871	\$ 2,778,121
% Chg over Prev YTD		18.2%	0.9%	-2.0%	-19.1%


Note: Current sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in the prior month.


Data Source: Avoyelles Parish School Board. November 2024


CATAHOULA SALES TAX

Catahoula Parish total sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.

October

October 
97%

Oct YoY 
20%

Oct YTD 
-2%

	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 661,305	\$ 589,693	\$ 676,471	\$ 810,589
September	\$ 585,734	\$ 534,607	\$ 652,054	\$ 412,513
% Chg over Prev Month	12.9%	10.3%	3.7%	96.5%
% Chg over Prev Year		-10.8%	14.7%	19.8%
YTD	\$ 7,343,636	\$ 6,080,939	\$ 6,739,847	\$ 6,640,466
% Chg over Prev YTD		-17.2%	10.8%	-1.5%

Note: Current month sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in the prior month.



Data Source: Catahoula Parish Tax Administrator, November 2024

CONCORDIA SALES TAX

Concordia Parish total sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.

October

	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 1,350,733	\$ 1,374,257	\$ 1,589,273	\$ 1,712,553
September	\$ 1,190,705	\$ 1,443,955	\$ 1,513,816	\$ 1,069,261
% Chg over Prev Month	13.4%	-4.8%	5.0%	60.2%
% Chg over Prev Year		1.7%	15.6%	7.8%
YTD	\$ 11,059,777	\$ 13,361,785	\$ 15,907,383	\$ 13,570,398
% Chg over Prev YTD		20.8%	19.1%	-14.7%

October		60%
Oct YoY		8%
Oct YTD		-15%




Note: Current month sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in the prior month.

Data Source: Concordia Parish Tax Administrator. November 2024

EVANGELINE SALES TAX

Evangeline Parish total sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year and YTD comparisons.

October

		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	 -9%	\$ 1,798,781	\$ 2,405,620	\$ 2,426,428	\$ 2,451,403	\$ 2,275,415
Oct YoY	 -7%	\$ 1,588,031	\$ 2,201,023	\$ 2,374,790	\$ 2,370,187	\$ 2,493,898
		% Chg over Prev Month	13.3%	9.3%	2.2%	3.4%
		% Chg over Prev Year		33.7%	0.9%	1.0%
Oct YTD	 -6%					
		YTD	\$ 14,563,042	\$ 18,833,251	\$ 21,709,917	\$ 21,961,219
		% Chg over Prev YTD		29.3%	15.3%	1.2%
						-5.7%


Note: Current sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in prior month. Evangeline implemented a 1% sales tax increase July 1, 2021.

Data Source: Evangeline Parish Sales Tax Commissioner. November 2024


EVANGELINE VEHICLE SALES TAX

Evangeline Parish vehicle sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year and YTD comparisons.

October

October  -21%

Oct YoY  -8%

Oct YTD  -11%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 339,620	\$ 417,328	\$ 347,043	\$ 373,607	\$ 343,924
September	\$ 319,288	\$ 378,144	\$ 512,920	\$ 417,179	\$ 432,802
% Chg over Prev Month	6.4%	10.4%	-32.3%	-10.4%	-20.5%
% Chg over Prev Year		22.9%	-16.8%	7.7%	-7.9%
YTD	\$ 2,934,469	\$ 3,635,000	\$ 3,706,909	\$ 3,942,555	\$ 3,520,894
% Chg over Prev YTD		23.9%	2.0%	6.4%	-10.7%


Note: Current sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in prior month. Evangeline implemented a 1% sales tax increase July 1, 2021.


Data Source: Evangeline Parish Sales Tax Commissioner. November 2024


GRANT SALES TAX

(TR) Grant sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.

(BR) Grant monthly sales tax revenue from 2022 to present.

October  8%

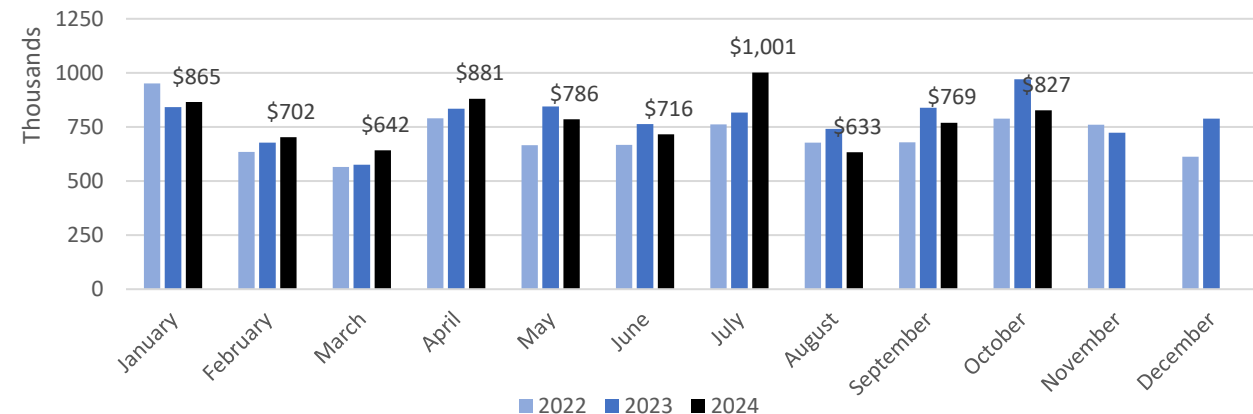
Oct YoY  -15%

Oct YTD  -1%

October

	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 751,924	\$ 787,914	\$ 969,736	\$ 827,477
September	\$ 577,932	\$ 678,482	\$ 838,330	\$ 769,343
% Chg over Prev Month	30.1%	16.1%	15.7%	7.6%
% Chg over Prev Year		4.8%	23.1%	-14.7%
YTD	\$ 6,890,642	\$ 7,178,236	\$ 7,903,909	\$ 7,823,851
% Chg over Prev YTD		4.2%	10.1%	-1.0%

Grant Parish Sales Tax Revenue
2022-2024





Note: Current sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in prior month.
Data Source: Grant Parish Sheriff's Office, November 2024.


LA SALLE SALES TAX

La Salle Parish total sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.

October

October 
31%

Oct YoY 
16%

Oct YTD 
-12%

	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 1,023,669	\$ 1,205,345	\$ 1,007,844	\$ 1,169,679
September	\$ 1,027,773	\$ 1,136,671	\$ 978,524	\$ 896,201
% Chg over Prev Month	-0.4%	6.0%	3.0%	30.5%
% Chg over Prev Year		17.7%	-16.4%	16.1%
YTD	\$ 10,358,868	\$ 11,395,422	\$ 11,935,660	\$ 10,453,576
% Chg over Prev YTD		9.0%	4.7%	-12.4%


Note: Current month sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in the previous month.


Data Source: La Salle Parish Tax Administrator, November 2024


NATCHITOCHESES SALES TAX

(TR) Natchitoches sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.

(BR) Natchitoches monthly sales tax revenue from 2022 to present.

October  14%

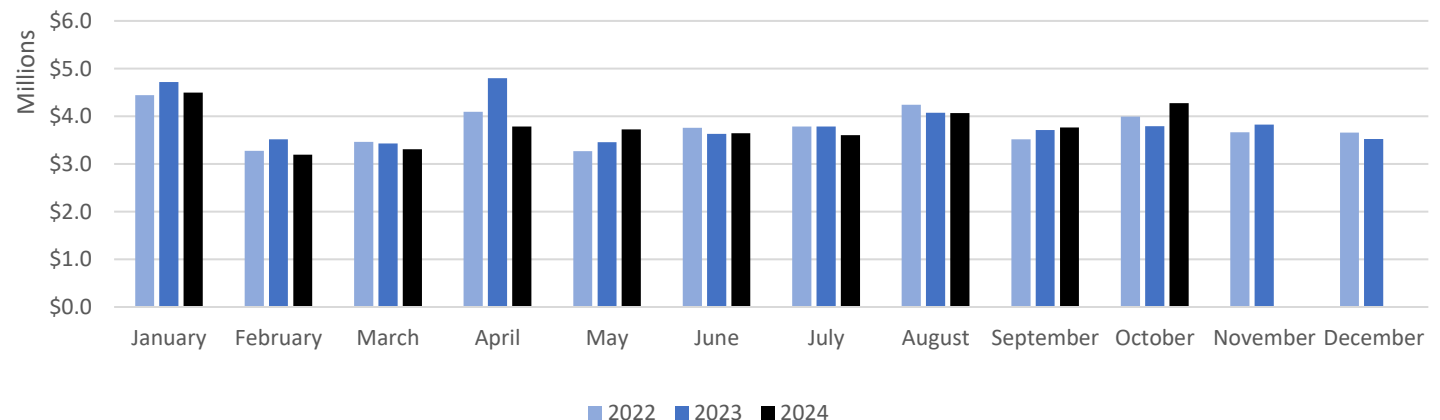
Oct YoY  13%

Oct YTD  -3%

October

	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 3,908,649	\$ 3,993,816	\$ 3,789,750	\$ 4,276,214
September	\$ 3,401,214	\$ 3,515,543	\$ 3,708,027	\$ 3,764,464
% Chg over Prev Month	14.9%	13.6%	2.2%	13.6%
% Chg over Prev Year		2.2%	-5.1%	12.8%
YTD	\$ 33,350,261	\$ 37,829,946	\$ 38,898,101	\$ 37,861,691
% Chg over Prev YTD		13.4%	2.8%	-2.7%

Natchitoches Parish Sales Tax Revenue
2022-2024



Note: Current month sales tax revenue collections reflects sales activity in the prior month.

Data Source: Natchitoches Parish Tax Commission, November 2024.


NATCHITOCHESES VEHICLE SALES TAX


(TR) Natchitoches vehicle sales tax revenue collected with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.


(BR) Natchitoches monthly vehicle sales tax revenue from 2022 to present.

*September**

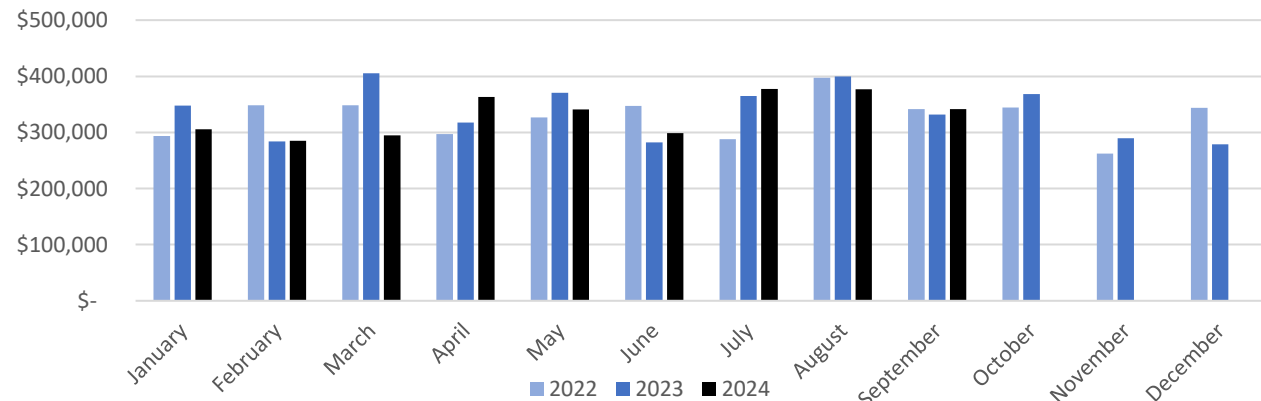
	2021	2022	2023	2024
September	\$ 414,538	\$ 341,699	\$ 331,882	\$ 341,508
August	\$ 375,967	\$ 397,393	\$ 399,923	\$ 376,681
% Chg over Prev Month	10.3%	-14.0%	-17.0%	-9.3%
% Chg over Prev Year		-17.6%	-2.9%	2.9%
YTD	\$ 2,906,398	\$ 2,987,959	\$ 3,105,069	\$ 2,985,069
% Chg over Prev YTD		2.8%	3.9%	-3.9%

September  -9%

Sept YoY  3%

Sept YTD  -4%

Natchitoches Vehicle Sales Tax Revenue
2022-2024



Note: Current sales tax revenue collections reflects sales activity in the prior month. *Vehicle sales tax collection is delayed a month.

Data Source: Natchitoches Parish Tax Commission, November 2024.


PINEVILLE SALES TAX


(TR) Pineville sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.


(BR) Pineville monthly sales tax revenue from 2022 to present.

October

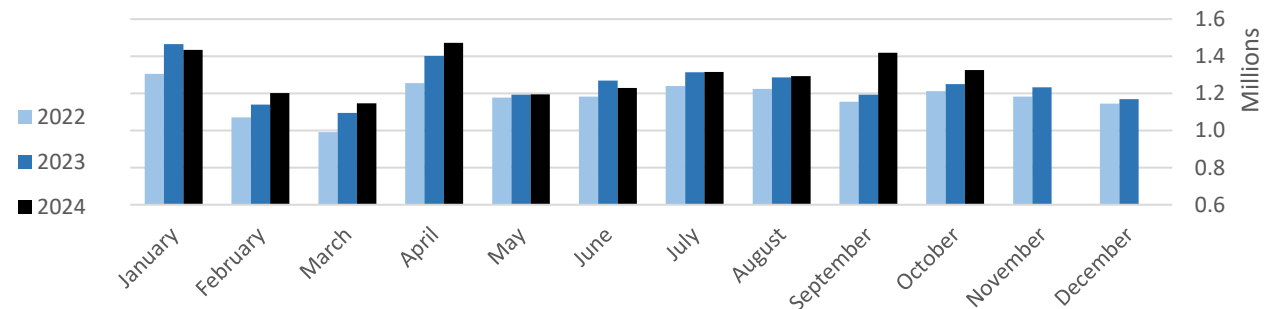
	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 1,142,808	\$ 1,211,085	\$ 1,249,493	\$ 1,325,410
September	\$ 1,041,133	\$ 1,154,293	\$ 1,192,075	\$ 1,418,045
% Chg over Prev Month	9.8%	4.9%	4.8%	-6.5%
% Chg over Prev Year		6.0%	3.2%	6.1%
YTD	\$ 11,351,360	\$ 11,809,628	\$ 12,602,758	\$ 13,030,505
% Chg over Prev YTD		4.0%	6.7%	3.4%

October  -7%

Oct YoY  6%

Oct YTD  3%

Pineville Sales Tax Revenue
2021-2024

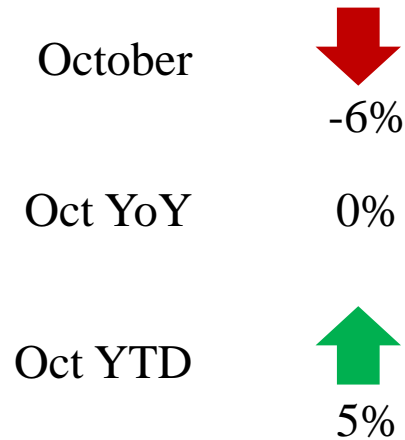


Note: Current month sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in the prior month.
Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, November 2024.

RAPIDES SALES TAX

(TR) Rapides Parish sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.

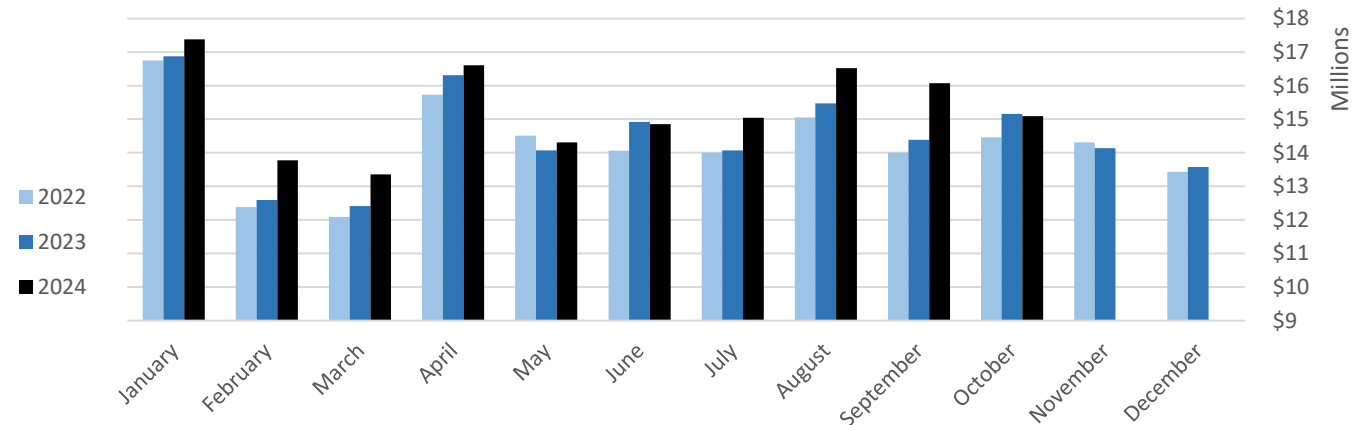
(BR) Rapides monthly sales tax revenue from 2022 to present.



October

	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 14,774,022	\$ 14,457,516	\$ 15,154,832	\$ 15,089,990
September	\$ 13,334,237	\$ 14,006,929	\$ 14,383,919	\$ 16,076,183
% Chg over Prev Month	10.8%	3.2%	5.4%	-6.1%
% Chg over Prev Year		-2.1%	4.8%	-0.4%
YTD	\$ 142,637,160	\$ 143,040,115	\$ 146,250,157	\$ 153,007,533
% Chg over Prev YTD		0.3%	2.2%	4.6%

Rapides Parish Total Sales Tax Revenue
2022-2024



Note: Current sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in the prior month.
Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, October 2024.

RAPIDES VEHICLE SALES TAX

Rapides Parish vehicle sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.

October

October 
-20%

Oct YoY 
-10%

Oct YTD 
-6%

	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 1,639,003	\$ 1,510,480	\$ 1,440,977	\$ 1,300,032
September	\$ 1,519,978	\$ 1,789,795	\$ 1,642,303	\$ 1,617,887
% Chg over Prev Month	7.8%	-15.6%	-12.3%	-19.6%
% Chg over Prev Year		-7.8%	-4.6%	-9.8%
YTD	\$ 16,287,664	\$ 14,634,874	\$ 14,483,614	\$ 13,587,817
% Chg over Prev YTD		-10.1%	-1.0%	-6.2%


Note: Current sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in the prior month. Data for July and August are averaged for the period.


Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, November 2024.


ST. LANDRY SALES TAX

St. Landry Parish sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.

October

October 
2%

Oct YoY 
-9%

Oct YTD 
7%

	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 7,469,737	\$ 7,865,382	\$ 9,589,350	\$ 8,744,922
September	\$ 6,938,261	\$ 7,475,597	\$ 8,369,432	\$ 8,611,672
% Chg over Prev Month	7.7%	5.2%	14.6%	1.5%
% Chg over Prev Year		5.3%	21.9%	-8.8%
YTD	\$ 72,118,139	\$ 75,692,884	\$ 80,869,543	\$ 86,338,727
% Chg over Prev YTD		-6.3%	6.8%	6.8%




Note: Current sales tax revenue collection reflects sales activity in prior month.

Data Source: Tax revenue data from St. Landry Parish School Board. November 2024

ST. LANDRY VEHICLE SALES TAX

St. Landry Parish vehicle sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.

October

		2021	2022	2023	2024	
October	 -9%	\$ 896,634	\$ 1,080,380	\$ 949,261	\$ 933,692	
Oct YoY	 -2%	\$ 1,040,573	\$ 1,131,930	\$ 1,085,948	\$ 1,023,687	
		% Chg over Prev Month	-4.6%	-12.6%	-8.8%	
		% Chg over Prev Year	20.5%	-12.1%	-1.6%	
Oct YTD	 -6%	YTD	\$ 10,043,024	\$ 9,969,482	\$ 10,114,411	\$ 9,548,387
		% Chg over Prev YTD		-0.7%	1.5%	-5.6%


Note: Current sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in prior month.


Data Source: Tax revenue data from St. Landry Parish School Board. November 2024


VERNON SALES TAX

Vernon Parish sales tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.

October

October 
68%

Oct YoY 
40%

Oct YTD 
-1%


	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 2,883,802	\$ 2,978,234	\$ 3,162,425	\$ 4,432,242
September	\$ 3,114,964	\$ 2,962,081	\$ 2,675,265	\$ 2,640,039
% Chg over Prev Month	-7.4%	0.5%	18.2%	67.9%
% Chg over Prev Year		3.3%	6.2%	40.2%
YTD	\$ 27,726,787	\$ 29,076,070	\$ 30,545,340	\$ 30,208,684
% Chg over Prev YTD		4.9%	5.1%	-1.1%


Note: Current sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in prior month.
Data Source: Vernon Parish Sales Tax Department. November 2024.


VERNON VEHICLE SALES TAX

Vernon Parish vehicle tax revenue collected in the most recent month with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.

October

October  -24%

Oct YoY  -9%

Oct YTD  -7%

	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 490,581	\$ 522,026	\$ 464,175	\$ 422,457
September	\$ 540,040	\$ 474,071	\$ 596,291	\$ 556,949
% Chg over Prev Month	-9.2%	10.1%	-22.2%	-24.1%
% Chg over Prev Year		6.4%	-11.1%	-9.0%
YTD	\$ 5,467,472	\$ 5,252,679	\$ 5,160,943	\$ 4,778,829
% Chg over Prev YTD		-3.9%	-1.7%	-7.4%

Note: Current sales tax revenue reflects sales activity in prior month.
 Data Source: Vernon Parish Sales Tax Department. November 2024.

REMOTE SELLERS TAX REVENUE BY PARISH

Remote sellers tax revenue by parish with month-over-month, year-over-year, and year-to-date comparisons.

✓ October 2024 online sales tax collections, which represents online sales activity in September, increased by 1% from a month earlier and 23% YTD.

	Oct-24	Sept-24	Oct-23	M/M	Y/Y	YTD
Allen	\$ 100,128	\$ 98,233	\$ 83,889	2%	19%	20%
Avoyelles	\$ 151,607	\$ 146,000	\$ 114,953	4%	32%	20%
Catahoula	\$ 75,253	\$ 55,693	\$ 45,230	35%	66%	31%
Concordia	\$ 72,360	\$ 73,210	\$ 60,614	-1%	19%	23%
Evangeline	\$ 161,360	\$ 165,275	\$ 133,777	-2%	21%	15%
Grant	\$ 86,320	\$ 83,530	\$ 70,718	3%	22%	26%
LaSalle	\$ 51,359	\$ 56,610	\$ 42,374	-9%	21%	8%
Natchitoches	\$ 187,150	\$ 194,598	\$ 146,925	-4%	27%	25%
Rapides	\$ 686,785	\$ 663,250	\$ 542,848	4%	27%	28%
St Landry	\$ 416,840	\$ 422,733	\$ 382,846	-1%	9%	21%
Vernon	\$ 246,213	\$ 248,927	\$ 224,606	-1%	10%	22%
Total (Cenla)	\$ 2,235,375	\$ 2,208,059	\$ 1,848,780	1%	21%	23%

Note: Sales tax revenue collected in the current month reflects sales activity in the prior month.

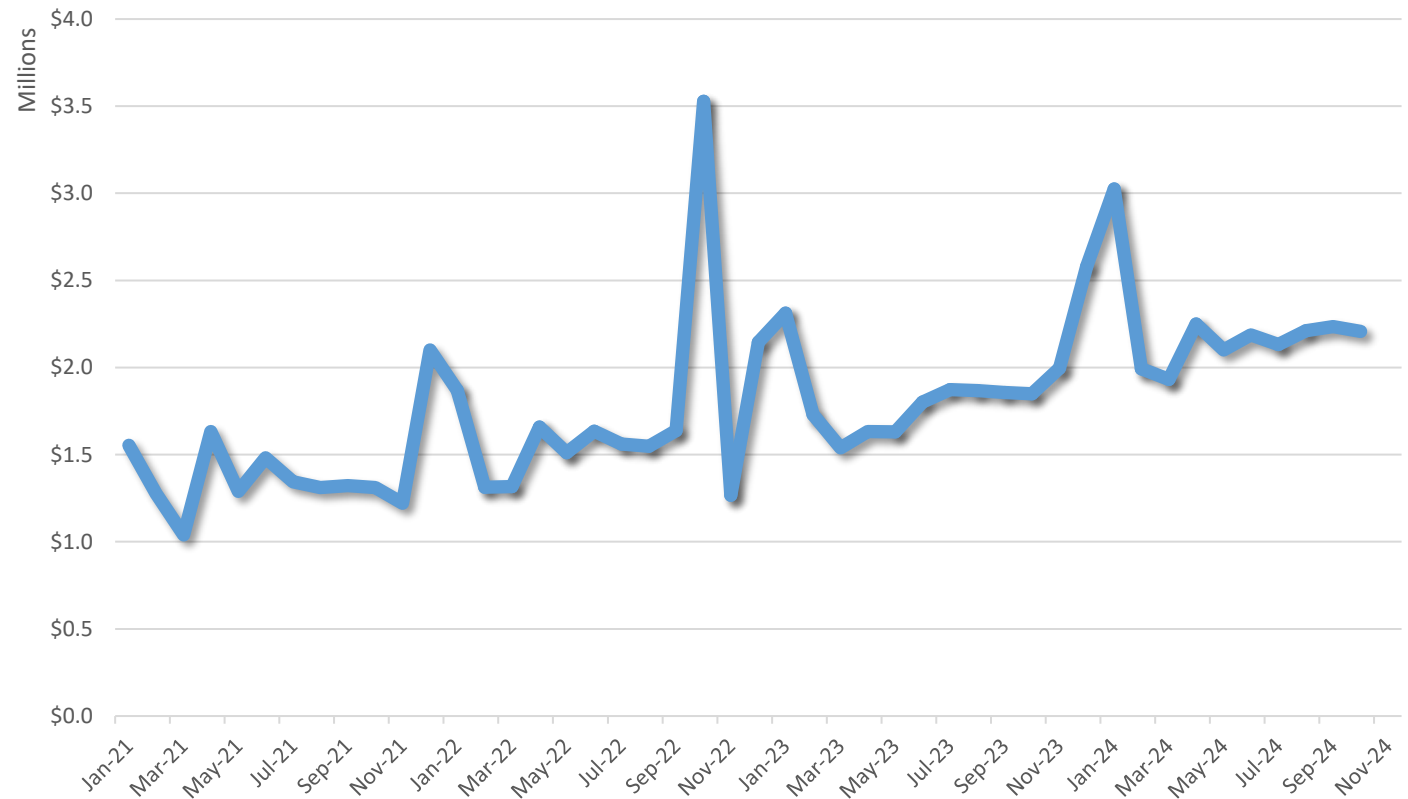
Data Source: Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. August 2020 – November 2024

REMOTE SELLERS TAX REVENUE IN CENLA

Remote seller tax revenue is tax revenue from online sales by location of the seller at the time of purchase.

- ✓ Statewide online sales tax revenue totaled \$56.6 million in October, up \$2.8 million or 5.2% from September, compared to an increase of 1% in CenLA from the previous month.
- ✓ Since August 2020 when remote sellers tax revenue collection started, \$87.8 million in sales tax revenue have been collected from online sales in central Louisiana of which \$26.9 million were in the last 12 months.

Remote Sellers Sales Tax Collection in Cenla
January 2021 - October 2024





Note: Sales tax revenue collected in the current month reflects sales activity in the prior month.


Data Source: Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. August 2020 – November 2024

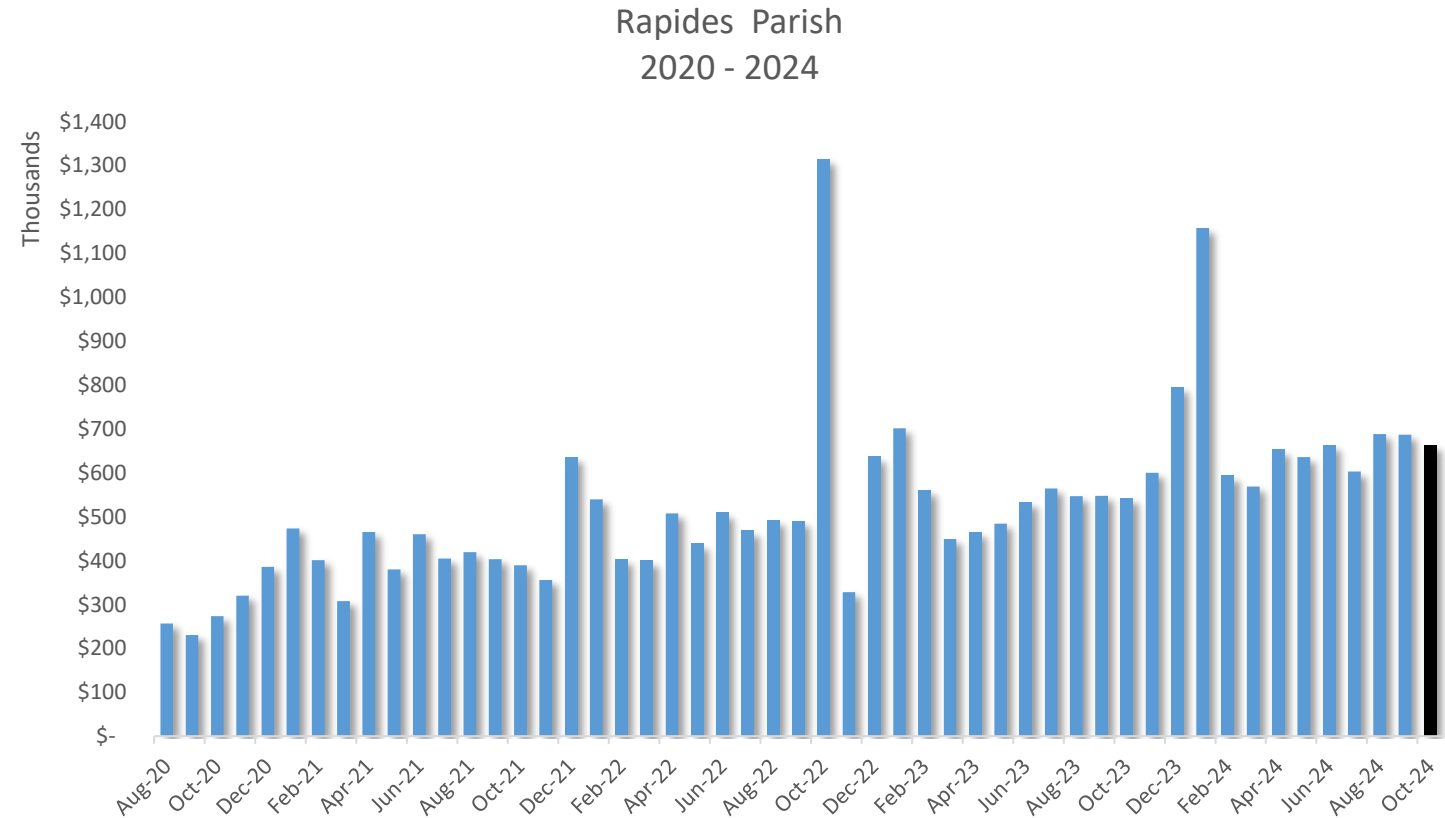
REMOTE SELLERS TAX REVENUE IN RAPIDES

Remote sellers tax revenue from online sales in Rapides Parish from August 2020 – November 2024.

October 
 4%

Oct YoY 
 27%

Oct YTD 
 28%

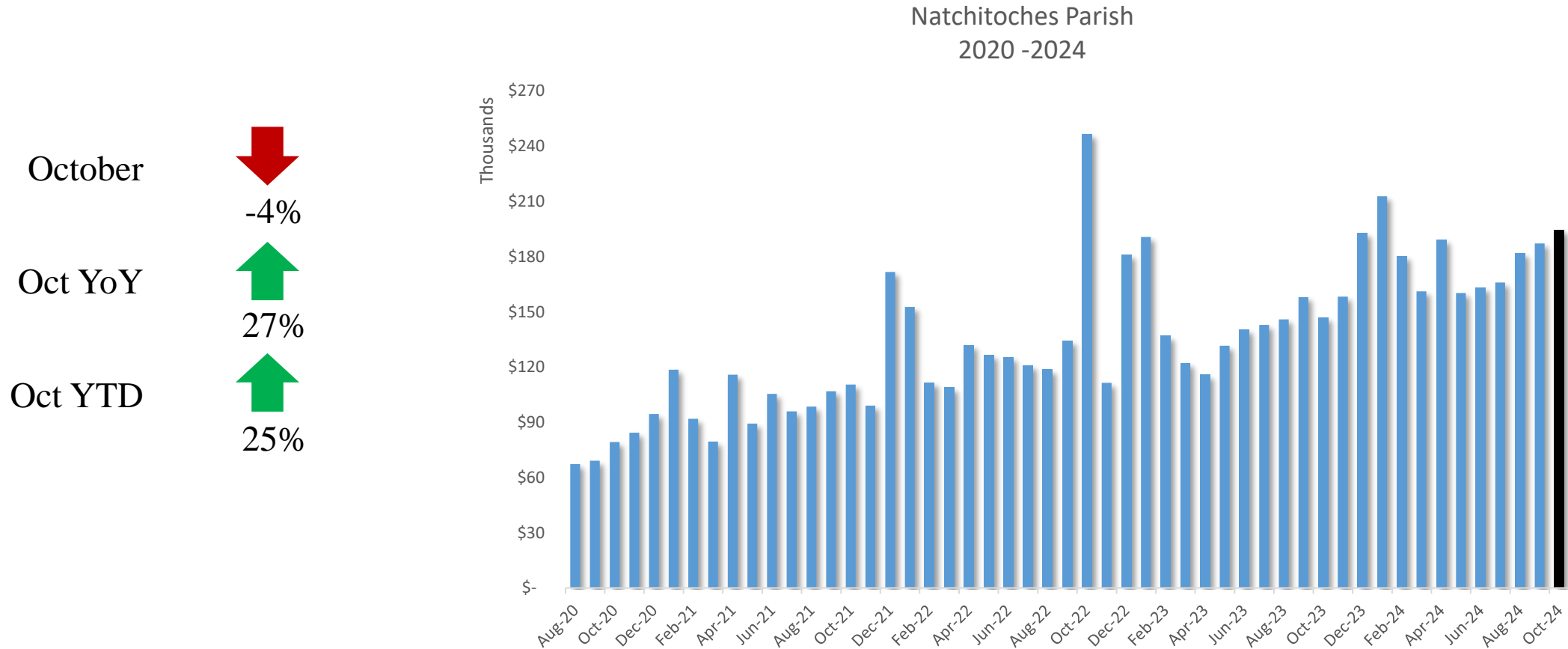


Note: Sales tax revenue collected in the current month reflects sales activity in the prior month.

Data Source: Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. August 2020 – November 2024

REMOTE SELLERS TAX REVENUE IN NATCHITOCHES

Remote sellers tax revenue from online sales in Natchitoches Parish from August 2020 – August 2024.

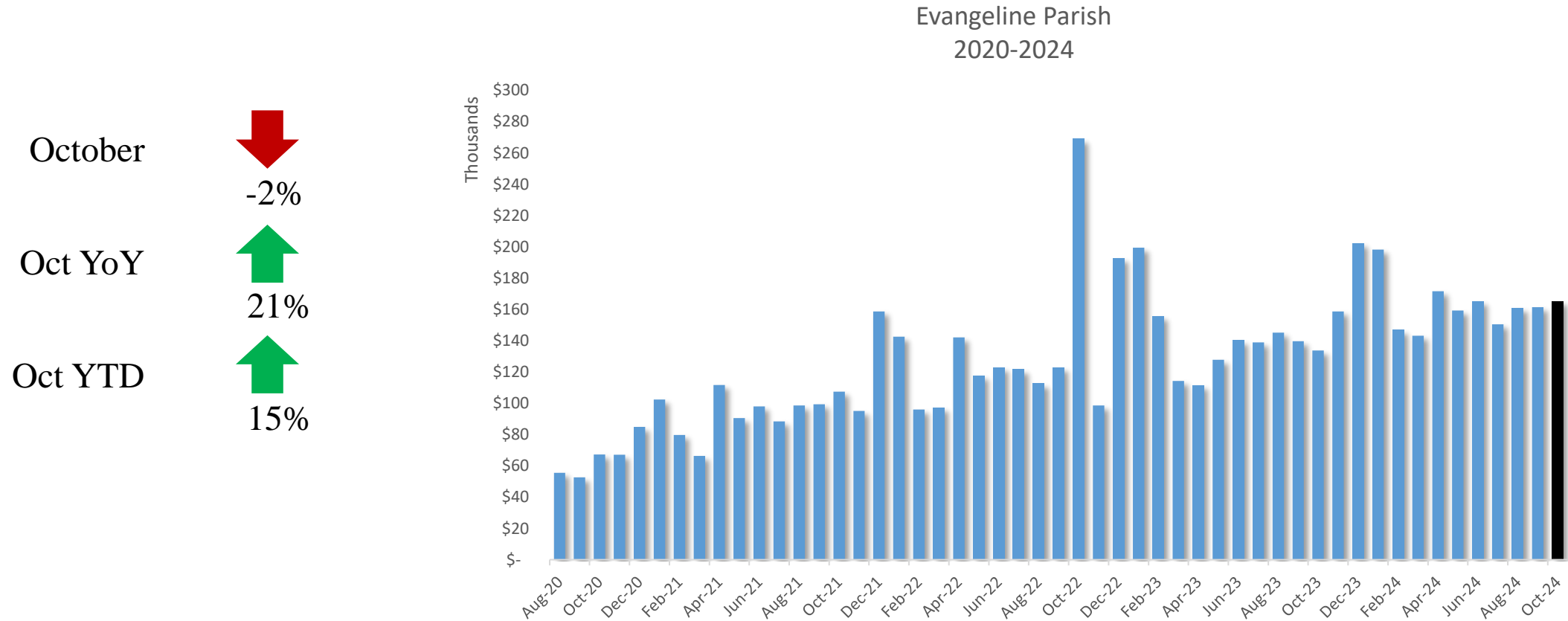


Note: Sales tax revenue collected in the current month reflects sales activity in the prior month.

Data Source: Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. August 2020 – November 2024

REMOTE SELLERS TAX REVENUE IN EVANGELINE

Remote sellers tax revenue from online sales in Evangeline Parish from August 2020 – November 2024.



Note: Sales tax revenue collected in the current month reflects sales activity in the prior month.

Data Source: Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. August 2020 – November 2024

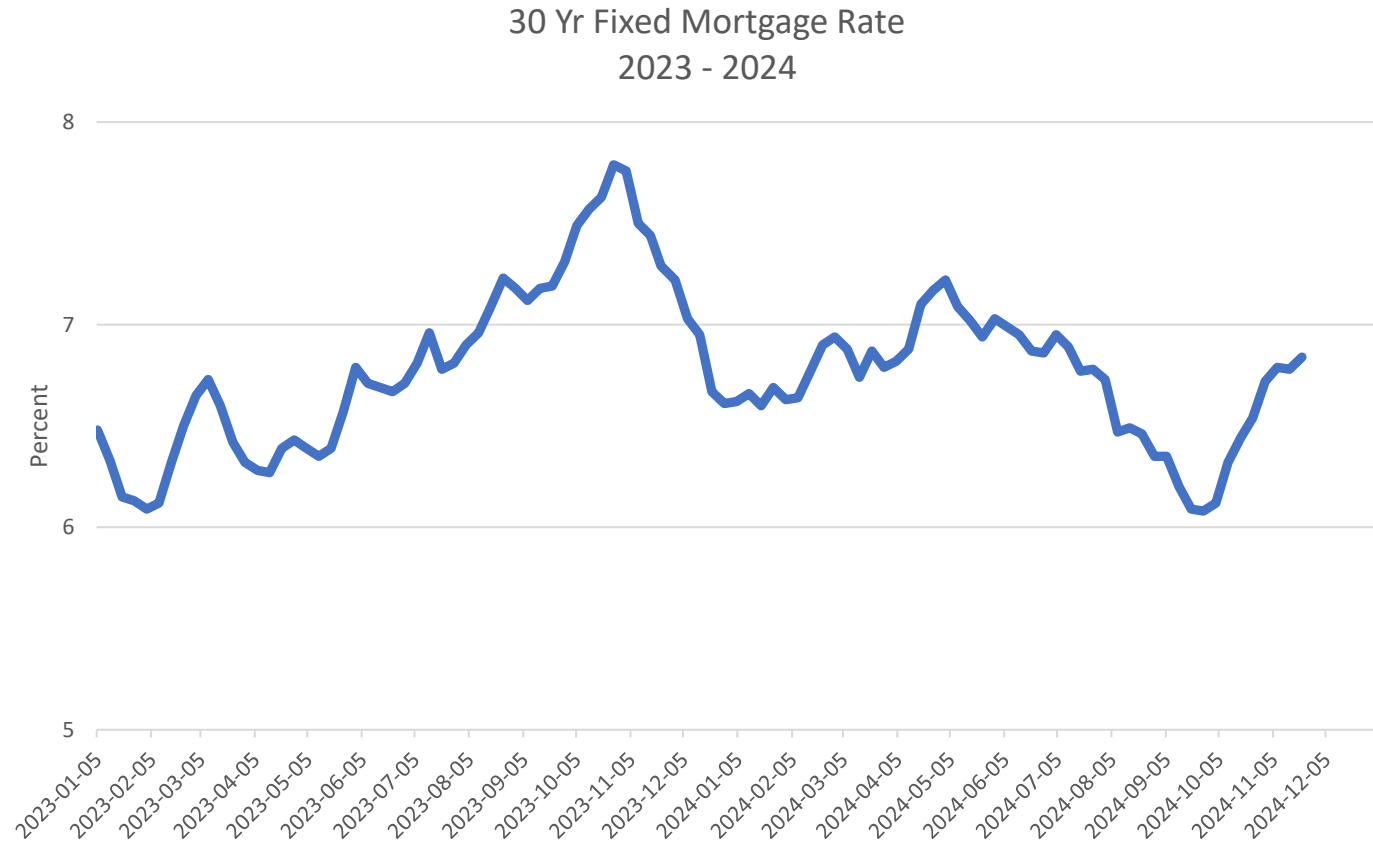
Housing

Central Louisiana Economic Dashboard

30 YEAR FIXED MORTGAGE RATE

30-Year Fixed Rate Mortgage Average in the United States from 2023 – 2024.

- On November 21, the 30-year fixed mortgage rate was 6.84%, while the 15-year mortgage rate stood at 6.02%.
- In late September 2024, the 30-year rate hit a low for the year at 6.08%, while the 15-year rate hit 5.15%.



NON-CURRENT MORTGAGE LOANS

A select year-over-year comparison of non-current mortgage loans by state.

- In November 2024, Louisiana ranked highest in the country in non-current mortgage loans at 8.3%, followed by Mississippi at 8.2% and Alabama at 5.8%.
- The change in non-current loans in Louisiana was up 12.3% from a year ago.

November 2024

State	DQ %	FC %	NC %	Yr/yr change in NC%
National	3.5%	0.3%	3.8%	3.6%
LA *	7.4%	0.9%	8.3%	12.3%
MS	7.7%	0.5%	8.2%	3.6%
AL	5.6%	0.3%	5.8%	3.5%
IN *	5.0%	0.5%	5.5%	6.5%
WV	4.9%	0.4%	5.3%	6.1%
AR	4.9%	0.3%	5.3%	5.8%
TX	4.7%	0.3%	5.0%	8.4%
GA	4.7%	0.3%	5.0%	7.7%
PA *	4.3%	0.6%	4.9%	-2.9%
OH *	4.3%	0.5%	4.8%	2.1%
OK *	4.3%	0.5%	4.8%	1.9%
DE *	4.2%	0.4%	4.7%	2.5%
IL *	4.1%	0.6%	4.7%	2.8%
MD *	4.2%	0.4%	4.6%	3.7%
SC *	4.2%	0.4%	4.5%	8.8%
KY *	3.9%	0.5%	4.3%	0.9%
FL *	3.8%	0.4%	4.2%	8.1%

** Indicates Judicial State*

November 2023

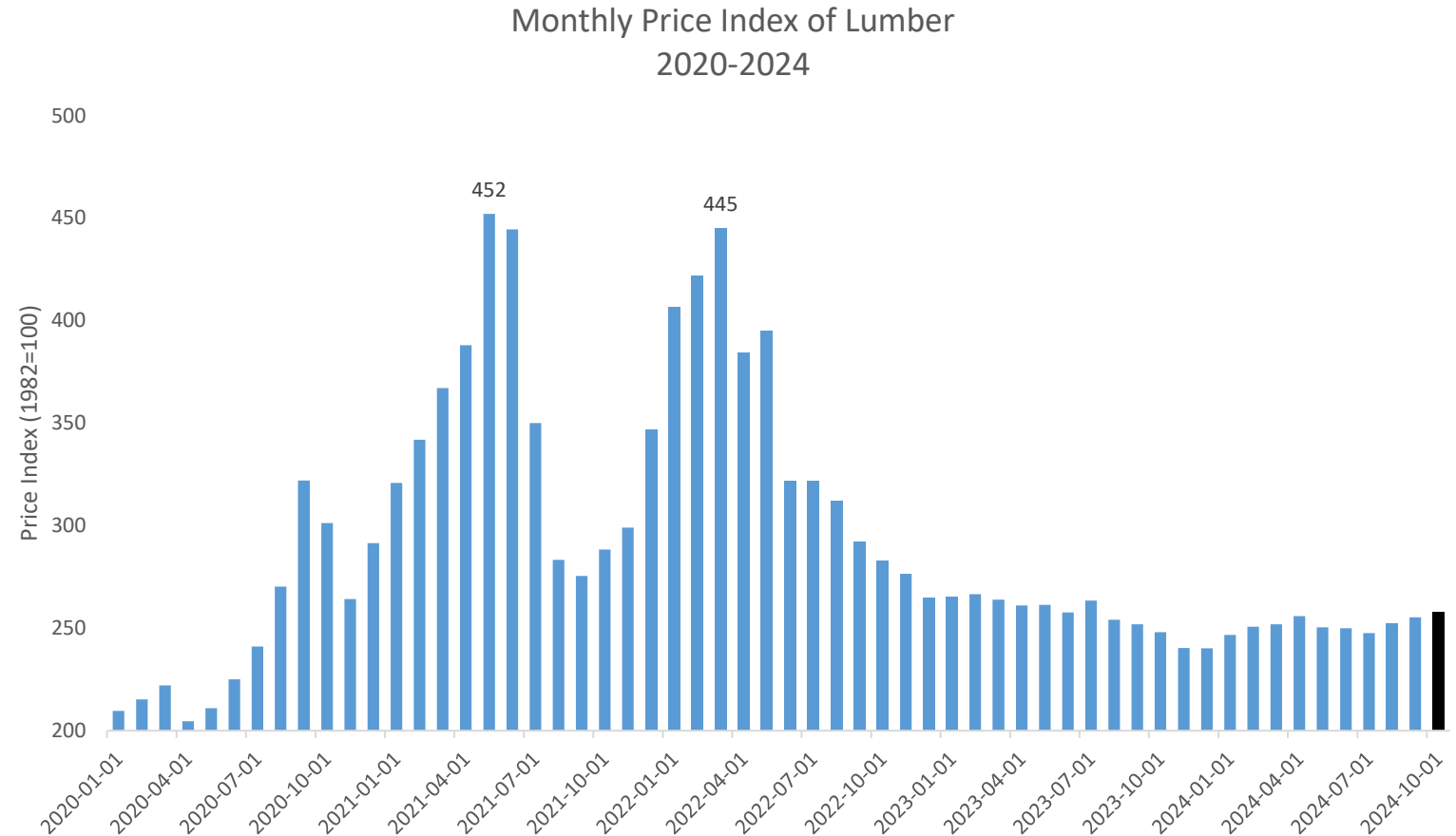
State	DQ %	FC %	NC %	Yr/yr change in NC%
National	3.3%	0.4%	3.7%	2.9%
MS	7.3%	0.6%	7.9%	6.3%
LA *	6.6%	0.8%	7.4%	10.5%
AL	5.3%	0.3%	5.6%	6.0%
IN *	4.6%	0.5%	5.1%	5.3%
PA *	4.3%	0.7%	5.0%	4.7%
WV	4.5%	0.5%	5.0%	-1.0%
AR	4.6%	0.4%	5.0%	0.7%
OH *	4.1%	0.6%	4.7%	1.5%
OK *	4.0%	0.6%	4.7%	-1.2%
GA	4.3%	0.3%	4.6%	8.2%
TX	4.3%	0.3%	4.6%	7.4%
DE *	4.1%	0.5%	4.6%	9.0%
IL *	3.9%	0.6%	4.5%	-0.8%
MD *	4.0%	0.4%	4.4%	3.6%
NY *	3.1%	1.3%	4.3%	-4.0%
KY *	3.7%	0.6%	4.3%	-1.2%
SC *	3.7%	0.4%	4.2%	-0.9%

*** Indicates judicial state**

LUMBER PRICES

The chart represents the Lumber Price Index in the U.S. from January 2020 – October 2024.

- In October 2024, the US Lumber Price Index rose to 258, up 1.0% from September.
- Currently, the Lumber Index is up 4% from a year ago.



MEDIAN LISTING PRICE BY MSA

The graphic shows the median listing price of houses from January 2023 - October 2024 for Alexandria, Leesville, Natchitoches, and Opelousas.

Change from Year Ago

Alexandria



3%

Leesville



-14%

Natchitoches

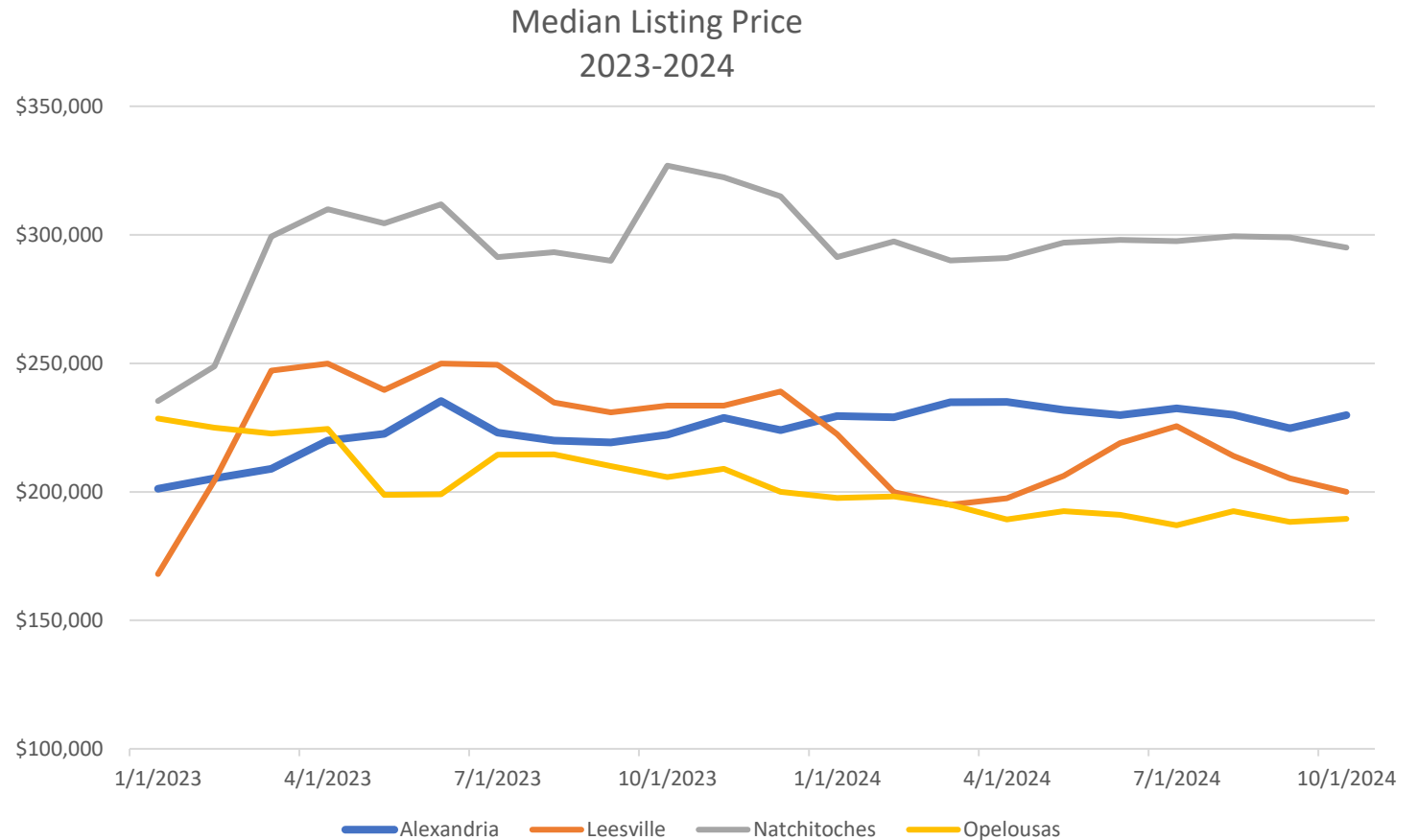


-10%

Opelousas



-8%



MEDIAN LISTING PRICE PER SQ FT BY MSA

The graphic shows the median listing price per square feet of houses from January 2023 – October 2024 for Alexandria, Leesville, Natchitoches, and Opelousas.

Change from Year Ago

Alexandria



2%

Leesville



2%

Natchitoches

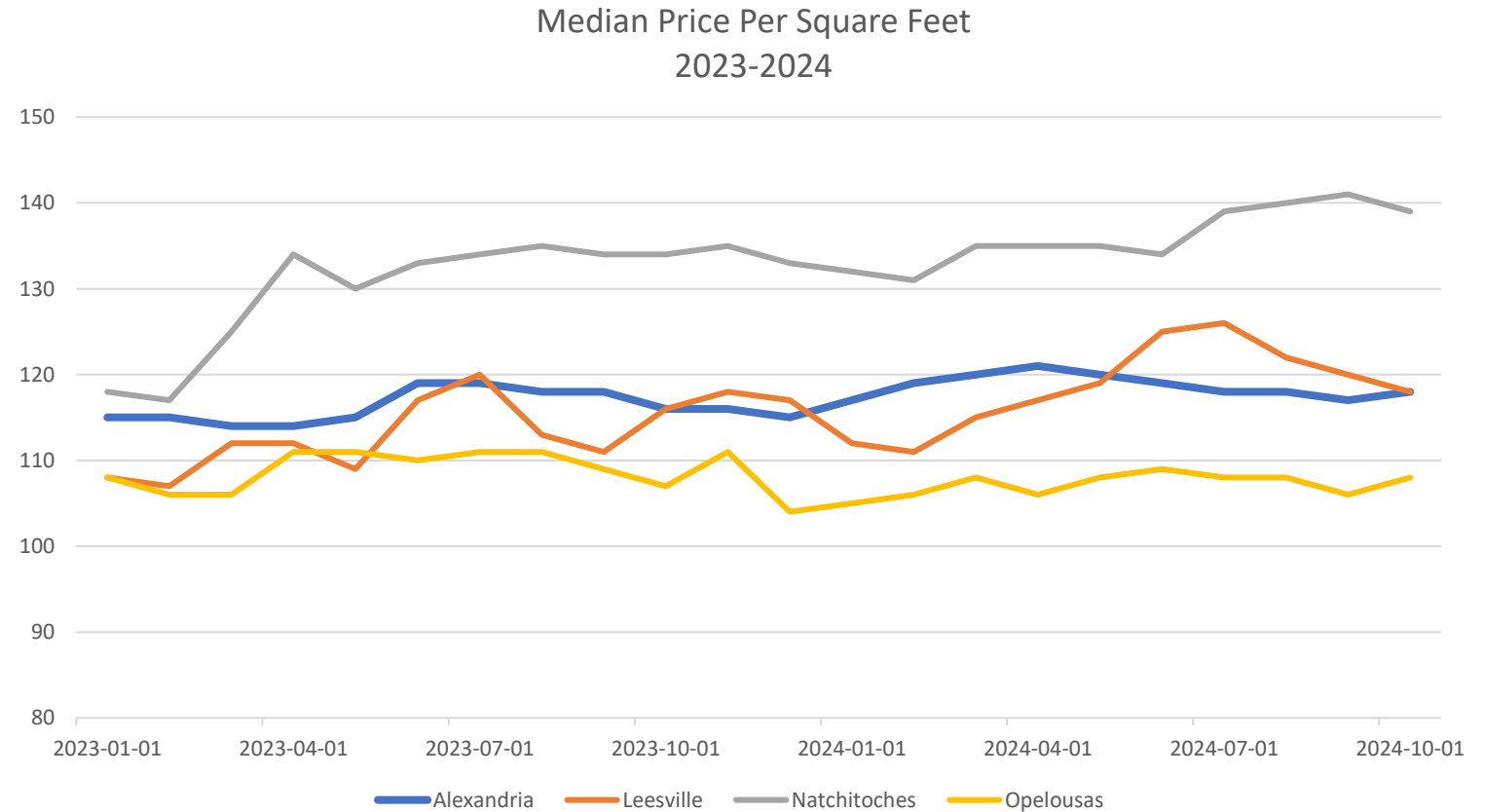


4%

Opelousas



1%



AVERAGE LISTING PRICE BY MSA

The graphic shows the average listing price of houses from January 2023 - October 2024 for Alexandria, Leesville, Natchitoches, and Opelousas.

Change from Year Ago

Alexandria



11%

Leesville



1%

Natchitoches

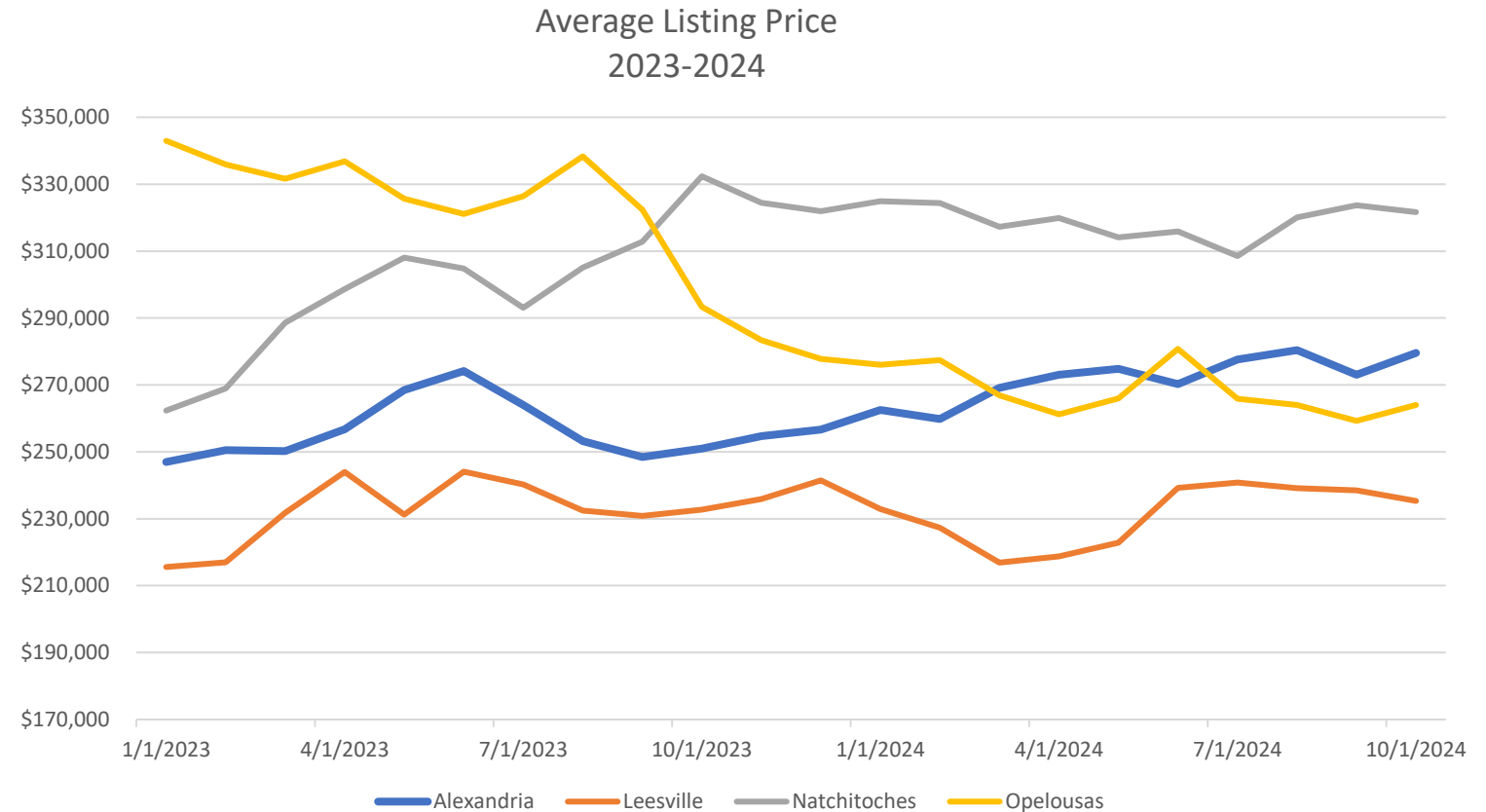


-3%

Opelousas



-10%



ACTIVE LISTINGS BY MSA

The graphic shows the count of active single-family and condo/townhome listings from January 2022- October 2024 for Alexandria, Leesville, Natchitoches, and Opelousas.

Change from Year Ago

Alexandria



6%

Leesville



21%

Natchitoches



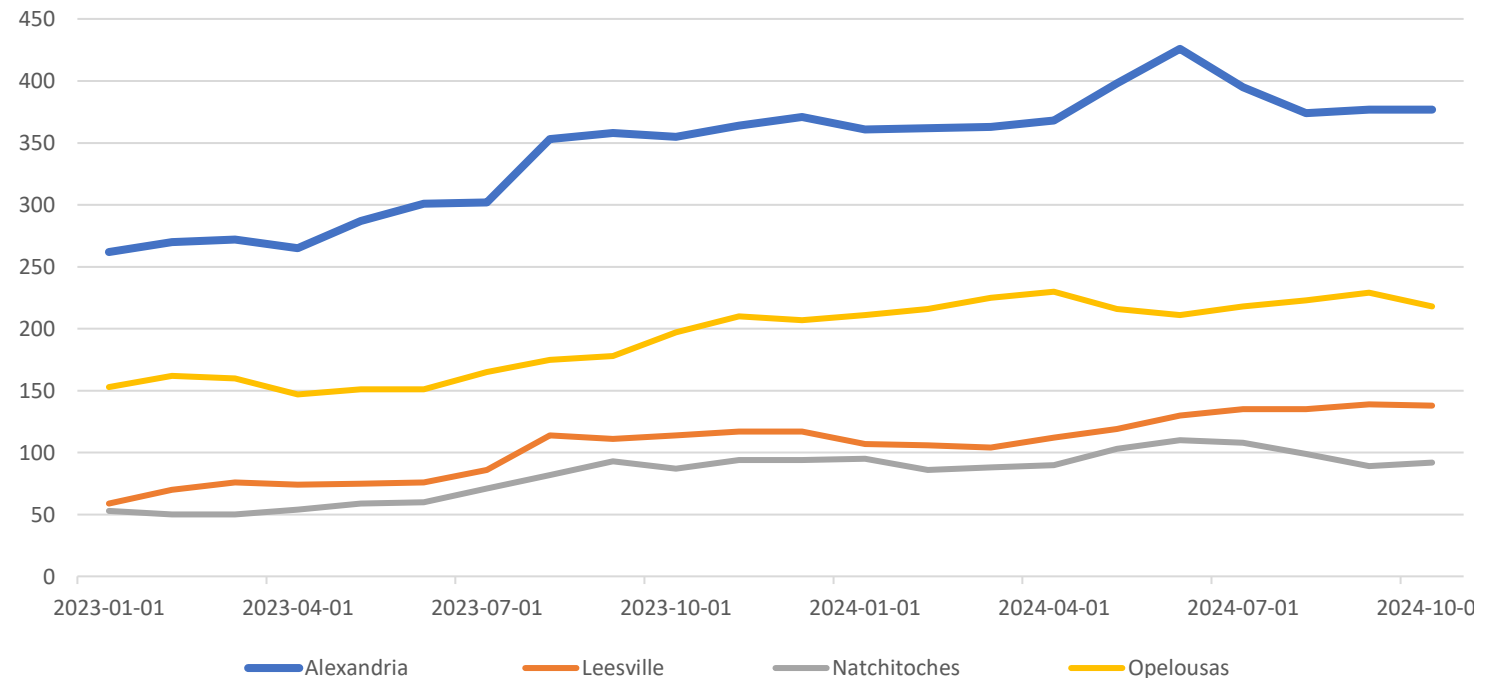
6%

Opelousas



11%

Active Listing Count
2023-2024



MEDIAN DAYS ON MARKET BY MSA

The graphic shows the median number of days property listings spend on the market from January 2023 – October 2024 for Alexandria, Leesville, Natchitoches, and Opelousas.

Change from Year Ago

Alexandria



17%

Leesville



45%

Natchitoches

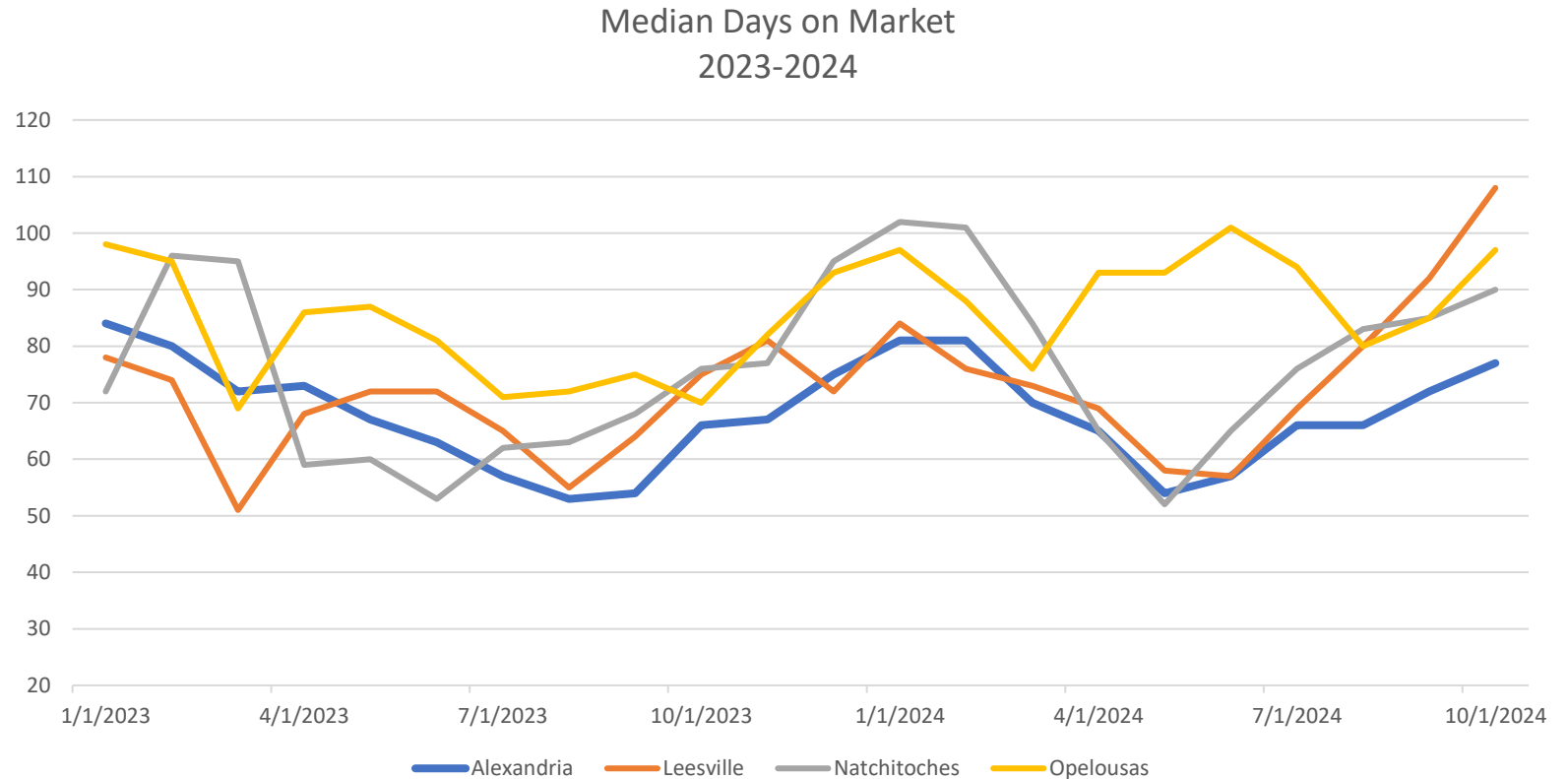


18%

Opelousas



39%




Travel


Central Louisiana Economic Dashboard


AVOYELLES HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

Avoyelles Parish hotel occupancy tax revenue with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.

October

October  -10%

Oct YoY  -5%

Oct YTD  3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 16,075	\$ 15,691	\$ 8,199	\$ 12,635	\$ 11,983
September	\$ 14,134	\$ 12,627	\$ 12,251	\$ 12,750	\$ 13,236
% Chg over Prev Month	13.7%	24.3%	-33.1%	-0.9%	-9.5%
% Chg over Prev Year		-2.4%	-47.7%	54.1%	-5.2%
YTD	\$ 100,482	\$ 123,887	\$ 113,680	\$ 112,472	\$ 116,049
% Chg over Prev YTD		23.3%	-8.2%	-1.1%	3.2%


Note: Current tax revenue reflects hotel occupancy activity in the prior month. Hotel occupancy tax revenue is used as a proxy for hotel occupancy rate.
Data Source: Avoyelles Parish School Board. November 2024.

NATCHITOCHESES HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

Natchitoches Parish hotel occupancy tax revenue with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.

October

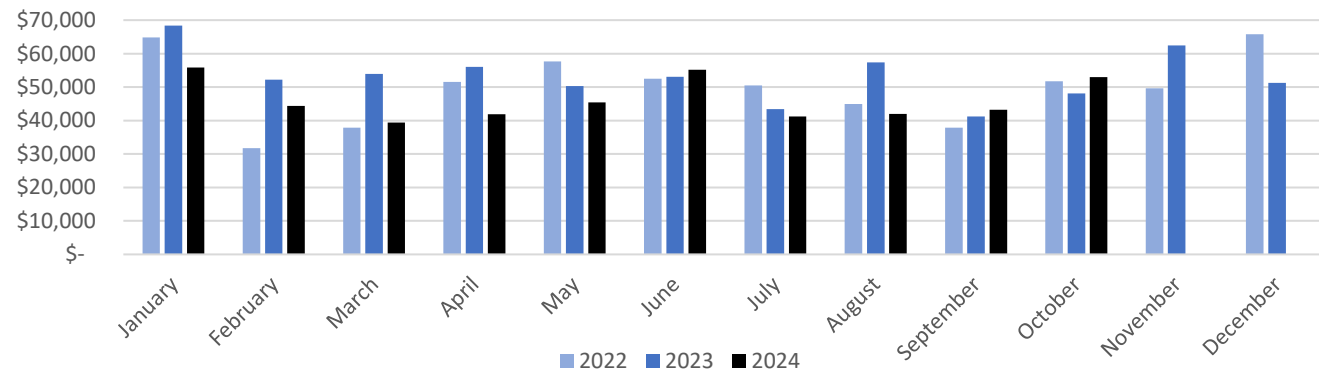
	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 50,611	\$ 51,719	\$ 48,083	\$ 53,025
September	\$ 39,402	\$ 37,905	\$ 41,182	\$ 43,194
% Chg over Prev Month	28.4%	36.4%	16.8%	22.8%
% Chg over Prev Year		2.2%	-7.0%	10.3%
YTD	\$ 400,123	\$ 481,174	\$ 524,146	\$ 461,542
% Chg over Prev YTD		20.3%	8.9%	-11.9%

October 
23%

Oct YoY 
10%

Oct YTD 
-12%

Natchitoches Hotel Sales Tax Revenue
2022-2024





Note: Current tax revenue reflects hotel occupancy activity in the prior month. Hotel occupancy tax revenue is used as a proxy for hotel occupancy rate.
Data Source: Natchitoches Parish Tax Administrator, November 2024.


RAPIDES HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

Rapides Parish hotel occupancy tax revenue for the most recent month with previous month, year, and YTD comparisons.

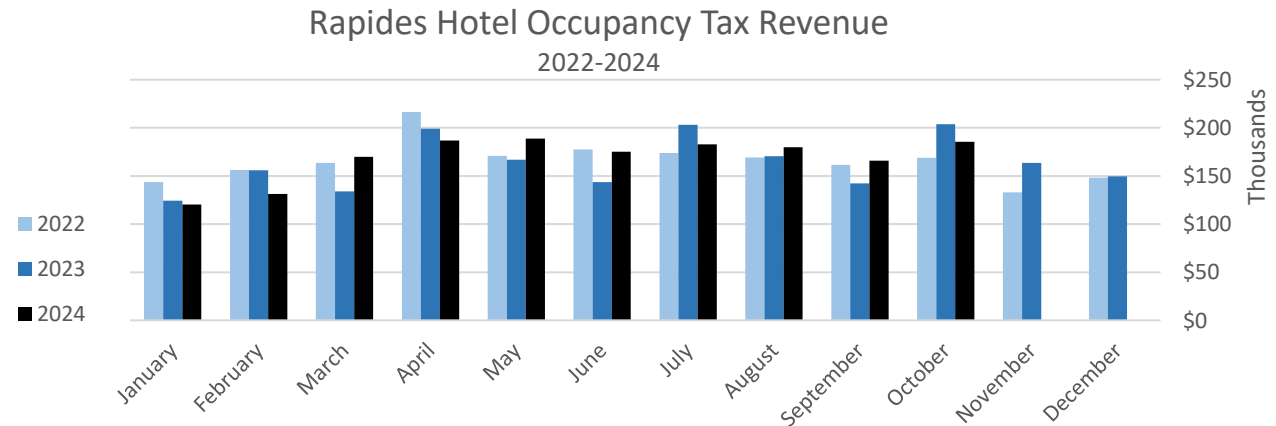
October

October 
12%

Oct YoY 
-9%

Oct YTD 
3%

	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 257,765	\$ 169,025	\$ 203,602	\$ 185,351
September	\$ 192,493	\$ 161,702	\$ 142,426	\$ 165,801
% Chg over Prev Month	33.9%	4.5%	43.0%	11.8%
% Chg over Prev Year		-34.4%	20.5%	-9.0%
YTD	\$ 1,812,012	\$ 1,701,410	\$ 1,644,086	\$ 1,685,645
% Chg over Prev YTD		-6.1%	-3.4%	2.5%





Note: Current tax revenue reflects hotel occupancy activity in the prior month. Hotel occupancy tax revenue is used as a proxy for hotel occupancy rate.
Data Source: Rapides Parish Police Jury Treasurer's Reports, November 2024.


VERNON HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

Vernon Parish hotel, motel, and RV occupancy tax revenue with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.

October

October  -18%

Oct YoY  -40%


Oct YTD  -11%


	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	\$ 34,083	\$ 25,903	\$ 37,017	\$ 22,105
September	\$ 24,771	\$ 29,002	\$ 30,048	\$ 27,067
% Chg over Prev Month	37.6%	-10.7%	23.2%	-18.3%
% Chg over Prev Year		-24.0%	42.9%	-40.3%
YTD	\$ 281,427	\$ 270,143	\$ 296,862	\$ 265,214
% Chg over Prev YTD		-4.0%	9.9%	-10.7%

Note: Current tax revenue reflects hotel occupancy activity in the prior month. Hotel occupancy tax revenue is used as a proxy for hotel occupancy rate.
 Data Source: Vernon Parish Sales Tax Department. November 2024.

GULF COAST RETAIL GASOLINE PRICE

Weekly retail price of gasoline in the Gulf Coast region for all formulations from 2020 – 2024.

October 
-2%

Oct YoY 
-18%

- In October 2024, the average retail gasoline price in Gulf Coast region was \$2.61/gal., down -1.9% from September.
- Furthermore, the retail gasoline price in October was down -18% from a year ago.

Weekly Retail Gasoline Price All Formulations
in Gulf Coast Region 2020-2024

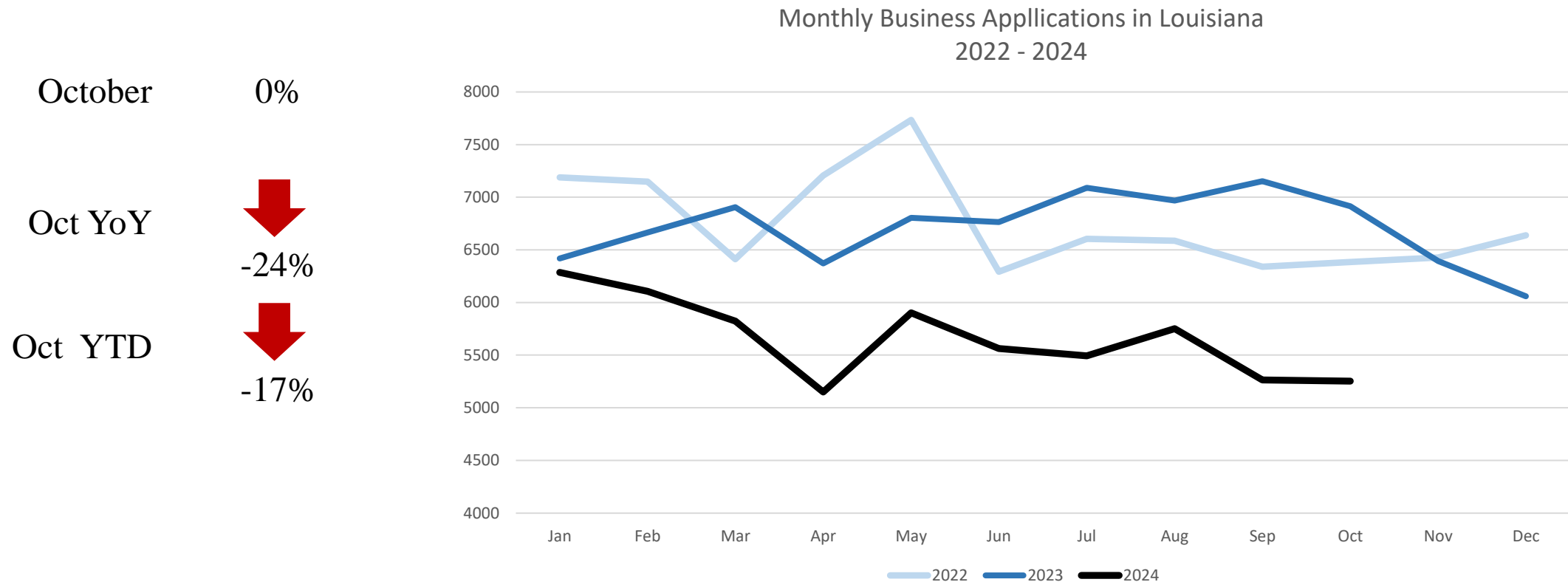


Local & Louisiana

Central Louisiana Economic Dashboard

NEW BUSINESS APPS IN LOUISIANA

The chart below represents the monthly number of new businesses applications in Louisiana from 2022-2024 (seasonally adjusted).



Note: Data reflects businesses applications, not necessarily business formations.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Business Applications: Total for All NAICS in Louisiana, Retrieved November 24, 2024.

NEW BUSINESSES IN RAPIDES

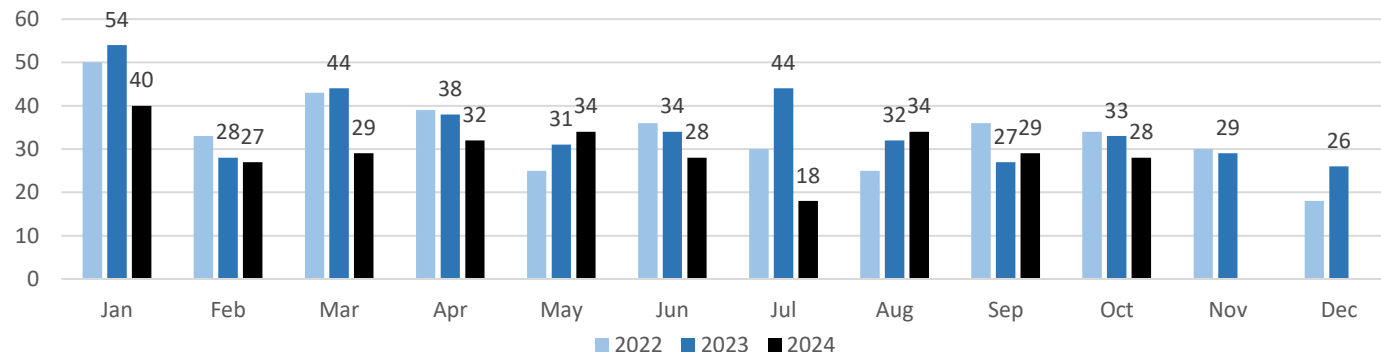
The chart below represent the number of new businesses established each month in Rapides from January 2022 through October 2024.

- The number of new businesses established in Rapides in 2024 through October fell to 299, an 18% decrease compared to the same period in 2023.

October

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
October	35	48	34	33	28
September	43	33	36	27	29
% Chg Prev Month	-18.6%	45.5%	-5.6%	22.2%	-3.4%
% Chg from Prev Year		37.1%	-29.2%	-2.9%	-15.2%
YTD	349	450	351	365	299
% Chg over Prev YTD		28.9%	-22.0%	4.0%	-18.1%

New Businesses in Rapides
2022-2024



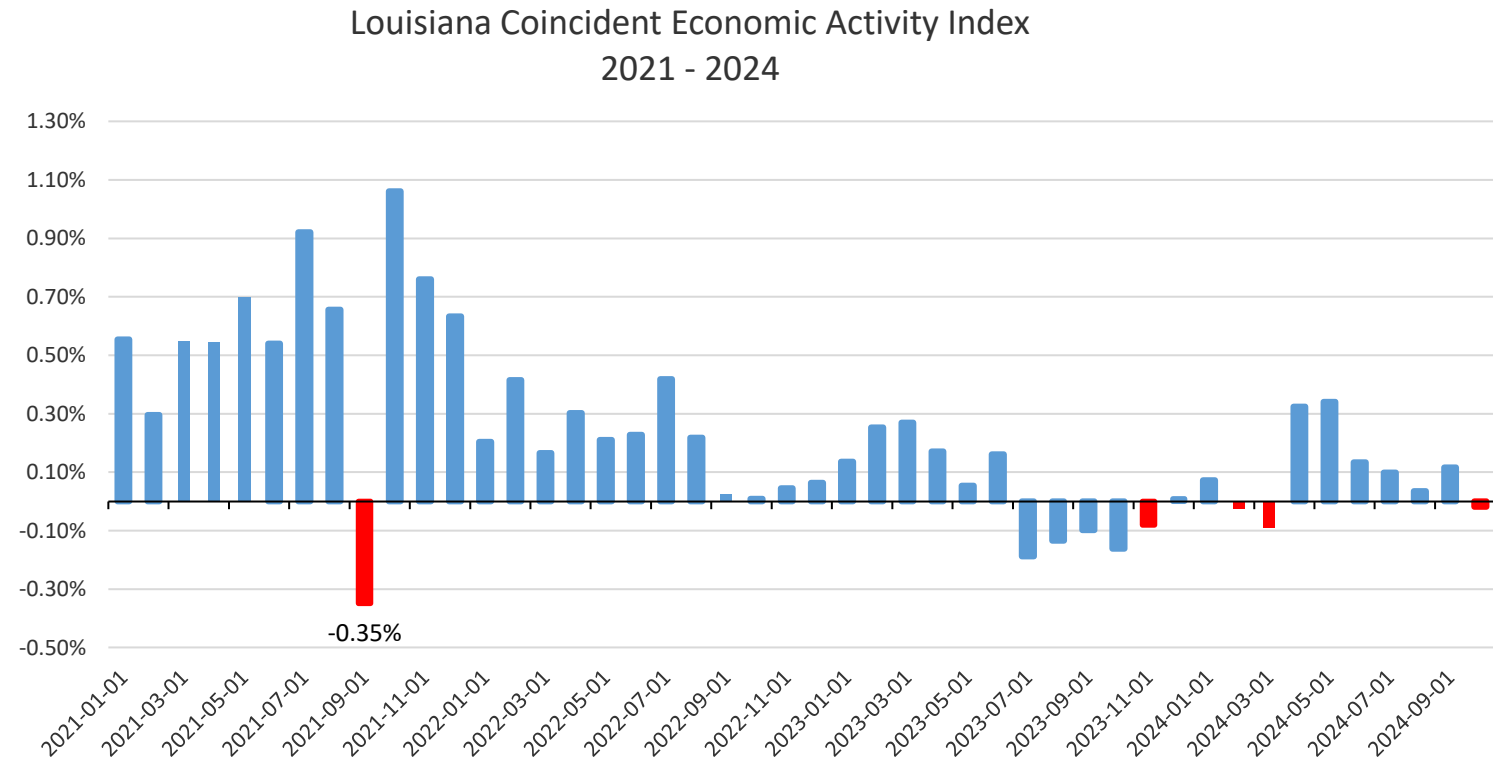
Note: Data reflects businesses established in the current month.

Data Source: Rapides Parish Sales and Use Tax Department, November 2024.

LOUISIANA ECONOMIC ACTIVITY INDEX

The Coincident Economic Activity Index for Louisiana is set to match the trend in the gross state product and includes four indicators: nonfarm payroll employment, the unemployment rate, average hours worked in manufacturing and wages and salaries. The column graph below represents the percentage change in the index. A positive percentage represents an expanding statewide economy.

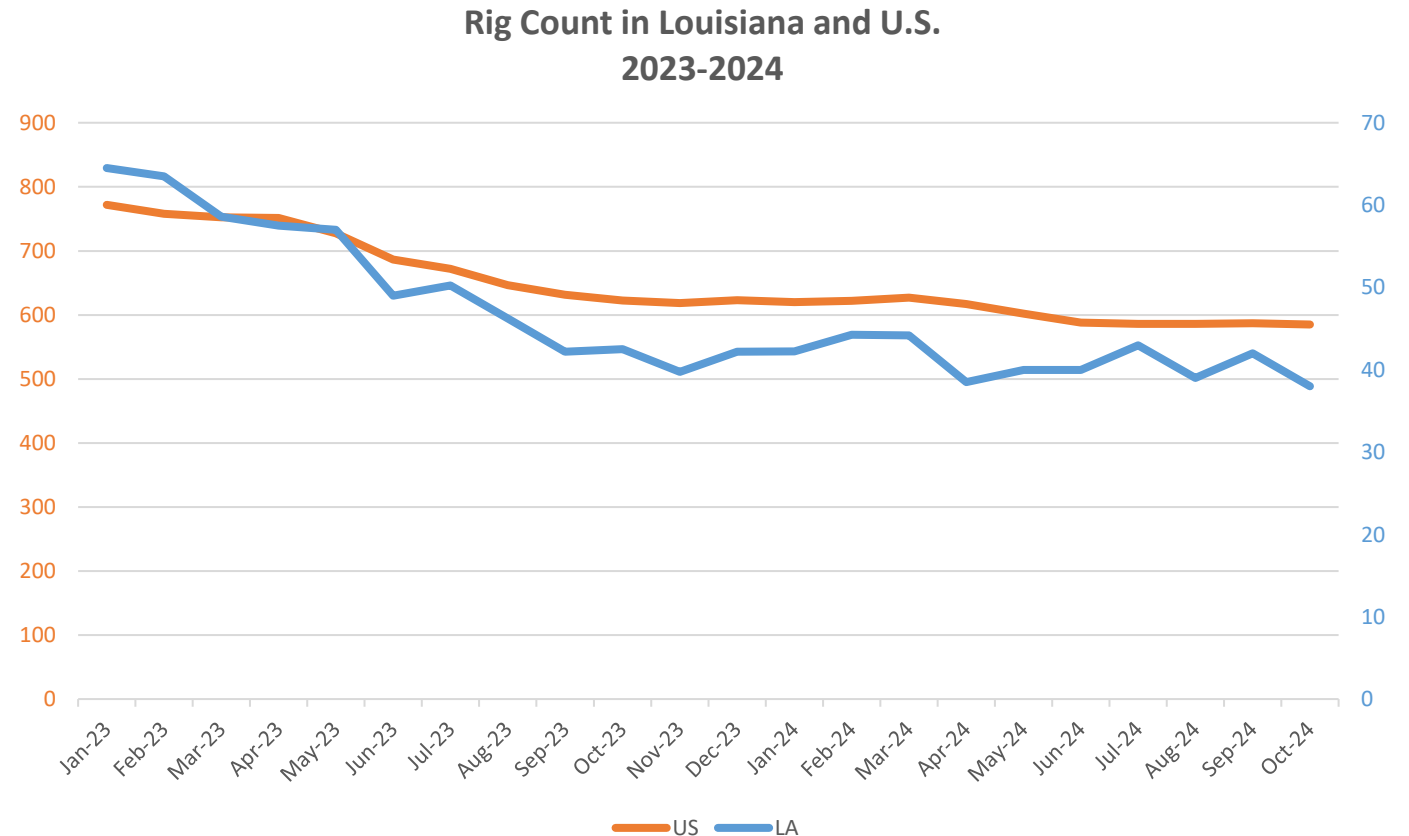
- *According to updated metrics, economic activity in Louisiana year-to-date in 2024 increased 0.9% compared to 0.6% a year earlier.*
- *In the last 12 months, the Activity Index has turned negative four times.*



BAKER HUGHES RIG COUNT

Represents the number of drilling rigs actively exploring for or developing oil or natural gas in Louisiana and the U.S. in 2023 & 2024.

- Average rig count in Louisiana in October 2024 was 38, down 5 rigs from a year ago.
- Nationwide, the rig count in October 2024 was 585, down 38 rigs from a year ago.

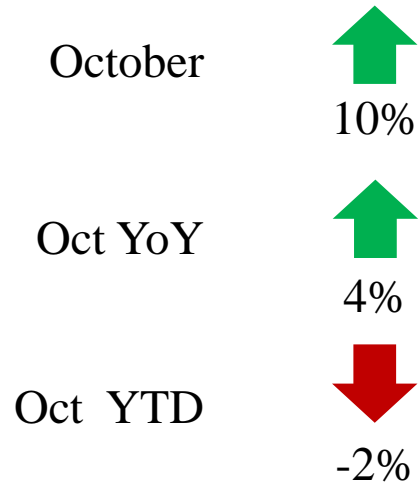


Source: Baker Hughes, <https://rigcount.bakerhughes.com/na-rig-count>, November 24, 2024.

LOUISIANA GAMING REVENUE

Gaming revenue in Louisiana for October 2024 with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.

October 2024



	Oct-24	Sep-24	Oct-23	M/M	Y/Y	YTD
Video Poker	\$ 63,184,354	\$ 56,869,829	\$ 59,360,167	11.1%	6.4%	-1.9%
Riverboat	\$ 134,198,854	\$ 129,644,340	\$ 132,508,618	3.5%	1.3%	-2.7%
Landbased	\$ 22,176,986	\$ 16,113,012	\$ 19,642,152	37.6%	12.9%	-4.1%
Slots	\$ 24,198,844	\$ 19,843,052	\$ 22,354,384	22.0%	8.3%	0.1%
Total	\$ 243,759,038	\$ 222,470,233	\$ 233,865,321	9.6%	4.2%	-2.3%


* Note: Year-to-Date percentage reflects calendar year.


Data Source: Louisiana Gaming Control Board, November 24, 2024 http://lgcb.dps.louisiana.gov/revenue_reports.html


LOUISIANA SPORTS WAGERS WRITTEN

Statewide wagers written for retail and mobile sports books in Louisiana for October 2024 with previous month, year, and year-to-date comparisons.

October 2024

October 
14%

Oct YoY 
30%

Oct YTD 
33%

	Oct-24	Sep-24	Oct-23	M/M	Y/Y	YTD
Retail Book	\$ 33,593,957	\$ 31,660,784	\$ 32,383,300	6.1%	3.7%	0.7%
Mobile Book	\$368,253,997	\$320,018,718	\$276,229,708	15.1%	33.3%	37.1%
Total	\$401,847,954	\$351,679,502	\$308,613,008	14.3%	30.2%	33.3%

* Note: Year-to-Date percentage reflects calendar year.

Data Source: Louisiana Gaming Control Board, November 24, 2024 http://lgcb.dps.louisiana.gov/revenue_reports.html

CONTRIBUTORS

The data presented throughout the CENLA Economic Dashboard reflects contributions from the following local organizations.

- Rapides Parish Policy Jury Treasurer
- Rapides Sales Tax Administrator
- Avoyelles Parish School Board
- Alexandria International Airport
- Alexandria / Pineville Area CVB
- City of Alexandria Planning Division
- Evangeline Parish Sales Tax Commissioner
- Concordia, Catahoula, & La Salle Tax Administrator
- Louisiana Office of Public Health
- St. Landry Parish School Board
- Grant Parish Sheriff's Office
- Natchitoches Parish Tax Commission
- Natchitoches Parish Planning and Zoning
- City of Natchitoches Planning
- Vernon Parish Sales Tax Department

THANK YOU

Also, special thanks to the following partners for distributing the dashboard.

- LSUA Foundation
- Central Louisiana Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Marksville Chamber of Commerce
- Bunkie Chamber of Commerce
- Evangeline Chamber of Commerce
- Concordia Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Vernon Chamber of Commerce
- Natchitoches Chamber of Commerce
- *Next Issue: Week of January 27, 2025*

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