



The City of Gretna, Louisiana

Demographic & Economic Profile 2016

Compiled by JEDCO

Demographic & Economic Profile

Executive Summary

Gretna, LA offers several lifestyle amenities and a strong business climate to its approximately 17,000 residents. As the seat of Jefferson Parish, Gretna is advantageously located in the New Orleans Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), and Historic Downtown Gretna is home to the Jefferson Parish Government Center. This profile is an excellent introduction for any business or individual considering relocating to the vibrant community of Gretna, LA!

Market Access

Gretna's advantageous location is one of its strongest assets. Situated immediately across the Mississippi River from Downtown New Orleans, Gretna is only 10 minutes from the Port of New Orleans and 25 minutes from the Louis Armstrong International Airport. Gretna, also has access to Interstate 10, via the West Bank Expressway (Highway 90), and access to the New Orleans Gulf Coast Railway.

Financing & Incentives

The Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission (JEDCO) helps businesses in Gretna and other parts of the parish access the many resources that are available to them. JEDCO's finance programs are designed to assist businesses with the financing of fixed assets, working capital, and inventory, and Gretna businesses may also be eligible for various state and local tax and workforce development incentives.

Workforce

The City of Gretna and the New Orleans MSA have a large, well educated workforce. The civilian labor force of Jefferson Parish is approximately 222,360 people, which accounts for 34.5% of the New Orleans MSA civilian labor force.

Business Base

The economic base of the region includes a diverse mix of industries with large concentrations in Advanced & Traditional Manufacturing, Retail Trade & Food Services, Transportation & Warehousing, Health Care & Social Assistance, and Professional & Technical Services. Emerging opportunities exist as well in Food Manufacturing, Telecommunications, Computer Systems Design, and Motion Picture & Digital Media.

Government

Gretna is an incorporated city providing superior municipal government services, including police and fire protection and water service, to its residents and businesses. Land use plans and ordinances are in place to guide city administration, elected officials, private citizens, and developers in making decisions regarding the City's future growth and to preserve the natural beauty of Gretna. The City of Gretna also serves as the seat of Jefferson Parish's government.

Quality of Life

The City of Gretna is located in a region of rich cultural history and unique natural environments that is celebrated with various events throughout the year. Gretna's lively festivals, Art Walk, and Farmer's Market provide residents and visitors with a family-friendly environment for all to enjoy. Each October the Gretna Heritage Festival takes over the downtown historic district with world-class live music performances, drawing festival goers from around the country. Gretna also has some of the highest performing schools in the region.

Demographic & Economic Profile

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Compiled on December 2015 by:



City of Gretna

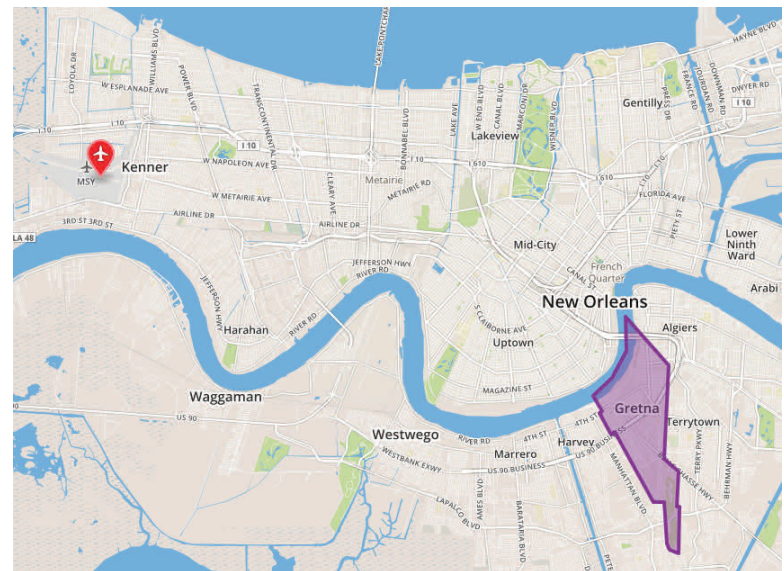
Market Access

Gretna enjoys many strategic advantages due to its location, starting with its proximity to the Port of New Orleans and the Louis Armstrong International Airport. The Port of New Orleans, considered America's gateway, is poised to capture even more global market from the widening of the Panama Canal. The Port has already begun expansion to increase capacity in anticipation for the 2016 completion of the Panama project. The Louis Armstrong International Airport is only 20 miles from Gretna and is also beginning expansion plans for a brand new terminal facility. A one of a kind juncture of railways and a robust federal interstate and state highway system also serve the metropolitan area.

Railways

Gretna is served directly by the New Orleans Gulf Coast Railway. This railway has a direct connection to the Union Pacific Railroad and also connects to the New Orleans Public Belt (NOPB) Railroad which provides service to the Port of New Orleans. The NOPB is the only short line in the country that connects with six Class I railways. They are:

- BNSF Railway
- Canadian National Railway
- CSX Transportation
- Kansas City Southern Railway
- Norfolk Southern Railway
- Union Pacific Railroad



Gretna in Relation to New Orleans

Motor Freight

The following major highways provide Gretna with excellent accessibility by road:

- Highway 90 (West Bank Expressway)
- LA 23 (Belle Chasse Hwy)

Gretna is serviced by several major motor freight carriers including, but not limited to, the following:

- ACME Truck Lines
- SAIA
- FedEx
- UPS
- Roadway
- Southeastern
- DHL
- Cross Road Centers

Miles to:

Atlanta, GA	474	Houston, TX	352
Baton Rouge, LA	84	Jackson, MS	192
Birmingham, AL	348	Memphis, TN	590
Chicago, IL	932	Mobile, AL	149
Dallas, TX	574	New Orleans, LA	5

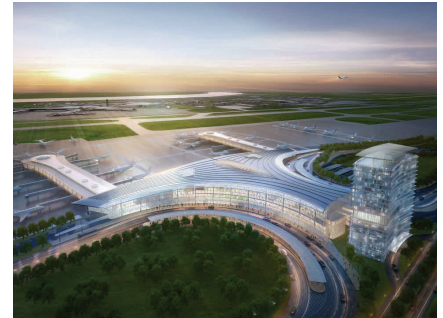
City of Gretna

Market Access (cont'd)

Airways

Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport (MSY)

- Located in the City of Kenner and accessed by Interstate 10 and U.S. Highway 61
- 12 passenger airlines (10 domestic, 2 international)
- 3 major freight and mail carriers
- 135 daily departures
- Direct international: Toronto, Cancun, Montego Bay
- Long Term Infrastructure Development Plan to build brand new, world class \$826 Million terminal facility just north of existing facilities
- For more information, go to www.flymsy.com



Rendering of the new \$826 Million terminal facility at MSY, scheduled to begin construction in 2015.

Waterways

Port of New Orleans

- Proximity to the American Midwest via a 14,500 mile inland waterway system
- Served by 6 Class I railroads, 50 ocean carriers, 16 barge lines, and 75 trucks lines
- Foreign Trade Zone
- Facility includes 22 million square feet of cargo handling area and more than 6 million square feet of covered storage area
- More than 6,000 ocean vessels move through New Orleans each year
- Cruise terminal serving 3 international cruise lines (Carnival, Norwegian and Royal Caribbean)
- For more information, go to www.portno.com



The Port of New Orleans' footprint has a 1.6 Million TEU capacity with 12 gantry cranes.

St. Bernard Port, Harbor & Terminal District

- Located 12 miles east of downtown New Orleans
- Spans 2.5-mile stretch along the Mississippi River
- The only calm water, deep draft slip on the lower Mississippi River
- 2 intermodal business parks with warehouse, office, and manufacturing space

Port of South Louisiana

- Stretches 54 miles along the Mississippi River
- Comprised of facilities in St. Charles, St. James, and St. John the Baptist Parishes
- Largest tonnage port district in the western hemisphere, ranks 4th in the world. Contains a 335-acre maritime industrial park
- Served by the Canadian National, Kansas City Southern, and Union Pacific Railroads
- Foreign Trade zone

City of Gretna

City Government

The City of Gretna is governed by a Mayor and a five-member Council. The Council consists of four district councilpersons and one at-large councilman.

Mayor

Belinda C. Constant

Chief of Police

Arthur S. Lawson Jr.

Councilman at-Large/Mayor Pro Temp

Wayne Rau

Councilman District 1

Milton Crosby

Councilman District 2

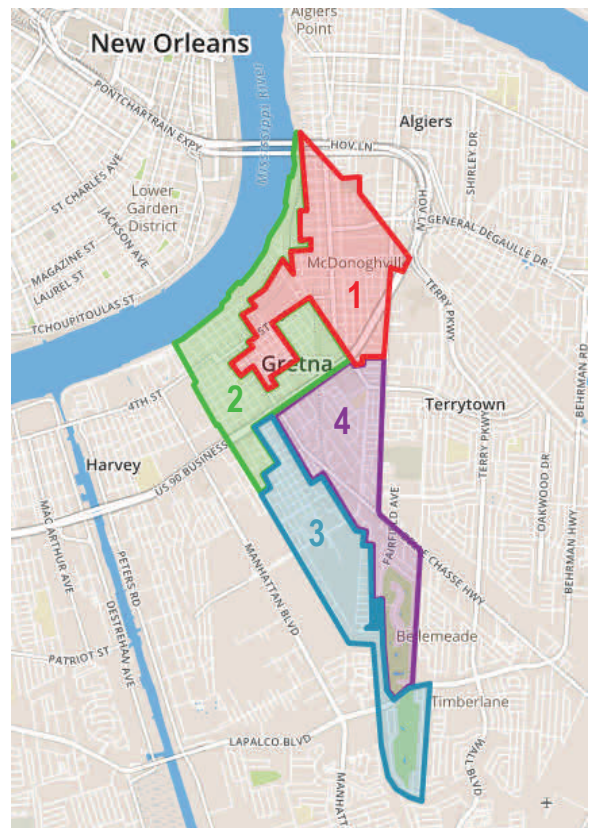
Joe Marino, III

Councilman District 3

Mark Miller

Councilwoman District 4

Jackie Berthelot



Gretna City Council Districts

Offices of the City of Gretna

Physical Address:

740 2nd St
Gretna, LA 70053

Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 404
Gretna, LA 70054-0404

For more information regarding City departments and services, go to www.gretnala.com or contact City Hall at (504) 363-1506.



Jefferson Memorial with view of Gretna City Hall

City of Gretna

Parish Government

Gretna is the seat of Jefferson Parish and home to the Jefferson Parish Government Center (right). Jefferson Parish is part of the New Orleans Metro area and it stretches from Lake Pontchartrain down to the Louisiana coast line. Gretna is located on the “West Bank” of Jefferson Parish just across the Mississippi River from downtown New Orleans.

Unincorporated Jefferson Parish is governed by the Parish President and a seven-member Council. The City of Gretna falls within Jefferson Parish Council District 1.

District 1, Councilman Ricky Templet

Councilman at-Large Chris Roberts

Councilman at-Large Cynthia Lee-Sheng

Jefferson Parish Council Offices located at:

General Government Building

200 Derbigny St.

Gretna, LA 70053



With approximately 450,000 residents, Jefferson Parish is Louisiana’s most populous parish. It is also home to the Ochsner Health System, Louisiana’s largest employer.



The Thomas Jefferson Statue stands outside the Jefferson Parish Government Center in Gretna, LA.



Jefferson Parish

*Not depicted here: the southern half of Jefferson Parish which extends to the Louisiana coast and includes the Town of Grand Isle

City of Gretna

Taxes

Corporate Franchise Tax

The rate is \$1.50 per \$1,000 on the first \$300,000 of capital employed in Louisiana, and \$3.00 per \$1,000 after the first \$300,000.

Corporate Income Tax

Corporations will pay tax on net income computed at the rates contained in the table (the effective rate is somewhat less because federal income taxes are deductible in computing net taxable income).

Corporate Income Tax

Percentage	Income
4%	First \$25,000
5%	Next \$25,000
6%	Next \$50,000
7%	Next \$100,000
8%	Over \$200,000

Property Taxes/Assessment Ratio

- No state property tax in Louisiana
- Improvements of industrial property assessed at 15 percent of fair market value and land assessed at 10 percent
- Private residences are assessed at 10 percent of fair market value with no property tax assessed on the first \$75,000
- City-wide average mill rate in 2014 was .05055 according to the City of Gretna's Finance Department
- See the table below for the 2014 mills of the City of Gretna compared to the mills of other incorporated cities in Jefferson Parish

Property Tax Millage Rates for Jefferson Parish

Location	Parish Mills	City Mills	Total Mills
City of Gretna	0.06474	0.05055	0.11529
City of Westwego	0.06474	0.02993	0.09467
City of Kenner	0.06658	0.01751	0.08409
City of Harahan	0.06726	0.01393	0.08119
Town of Grand Isle	0.10620	0.01187	0.11807

*Represents the city-wide mill in Gretna less Timberland Estates. The Gretna city mill for Timberland Estates is .02995 mills.

Sales Tax

- Total sales tax in the City of Gretna is 8.75%
- Jefferson Parish remits 2.34% to the City of Gretna
- See the table for the breakdown of sales tax in Gretna

Sales Tax

Governing Body	Sales Tax
State	4.0%
Parish	4.75%
Total	8.75%

City of Gretna

Municipal Services

Department of Regulatory Inspections

- Responsible for the enforcement of building codes, abatement of abandoned houses, high grass, trash, junk accumulation, abandoned cars on private property, and general private property maintenance problems
- Issues building, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing permits, as well as temporary sign, and garage sale permits
- Conducts all building, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical inspections to insure compliance with current building code requirements
- Enforces the city's floodplain management regulations to reduce losses to flood events. Flood mitigation pamphlets and guides are available in City Hall at the intersection of 2nd St. and Huey P. Long Ave.



GRETTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Gretna Police Department offers a Citizens Training Academy to better inform Gretna residents about law enforcement.

Gretna Police Department

- Provides citizens of Gretna with round-the-clock presence throughout the community
- Located on Fifth Street and employs more than 200 officers
- The Gretna Police Departments website, www.gretnapolice.com, provide safety tips and hurricane information such as contraflow information, evacuation routes, and contact information
- 13,000 square foot expansion and renovation project to be completed by April 2015

Gretna Parks and Recreation Department

- Maintains all parks, playgrounds, and green places in Gretna
- The City of Gretna features two "Tot Lots", and 7 community parks
- Oversees youth sports activities for the city of Gretna for children between the ages of 5 and 15

Gretna Senior Center

- Provides with activities, events, and meals to senior citizens that live in Gretna and in unincorporated Jefferson Parish east of the Harvey Canal
- Transportation to the center is provided for meals and activities, and trips to grocery and department stores are offered weekly
- Monthly "mini-ride" bus trip to regional restaurants
- Managed by the Jefferson Council on Aging and located at 606 Seventh St

City of Gretna

Utility Providers

Electricity

Entergy Louisiana

www.entergy-louisiana.com / (800) 368-3749



Natural Gas

Atmos Energy Louisiana

www.atmosenergy.com / (504) 849-4300



Water

City of Gretna

www.gretnala.com / (504) 363-1561



Wastewater

City of Gretna

www.gretnala.com / (504) 363-1500

Solid Waste Disposal

Progressive Waste Solutions

www.progressivewaste.com / (877) 747-4374



Telephone Service

AT&T / www.att.com / (800) 288-2020

Cox Communications / www.cox.com / (504) 304-8444



Cable Service

Cox Communications / www.cox.com / (504) 304-8444

AT&T U-Verse / www.att.com / (800) 288-2020

Fiber Optic Communication

AT&T / www.att.com / (800) 288-2020

Cox Communications / www.cox.com / (504) 304-8444

Southern Light Fiber / www.southernlightfiber.com / (251) 662-1514



Business Assistance

Financing Tools

The Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission (JEDCO) is the economic development organization that services the City of Gretna and its businesses. JEDCO can help businesses finance their fixed assets, working capital, and inventory through federal loan programs. JEDCO loans are made to work in conjunction with private bank financing and can range from \$10,000 to \$5.5 million. For more information on JEDCO's financing programs, contact Alberto Queral at (504) 875-3924.

JEDCO can also help businesses apply for state incentives that may be available to them. These incentives include tax credits for job creation, tax exemptions for manufacturers, and inventory tax credits for wholesalers and distributors. For more information on these incentive programs, turn to page 10 or contact Margo Ruiz at (504) 875-3920.

SBA 504 Loan Program

- Provides growing businesses with long-term, fixed-rate financing for major fixed assets
- Typically includes a loan secured with a senior lien from a private sector lender covering up to 50 percent of the project cost, a loan secured with a junior lien from JEDCO (backed by a 100 percent SBA-guaranteed debenture) covering up to 40 percent of the cost, and a contribution of at least 10 percent equity from the business
- Businesses are required to create 1 job for every \$65,000 of "504" financing
- Maximum loan is \$5 million, manufacturers may be eligible for \$5.5 million
- Term of loan is 10 years for equipment, 20 years for real estate

Industrial Development Bond (IDB)

- Tax-exempt and taxable IDBs to finance land acquisition, building construction, and the purchase of new equipment

EDA – Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)

- Assists small business expansion projects by leveraging private funds with low-cost, fully amortized term loan facilities
- Eligible uses include working capital, land/building acquisition, and equipment purchases
- Loan amounts range from \$25,000 to \$150,000

EPA Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund

- Low-interest loans for clean-up of designated EPA brownfield sites in Gretna
- Applicable to properties that have an actual release or substantial threat of release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant that may present an imminent or substantial danger to the public health or welfare



JEDCO is located in Fairfield, LA, 15 minutes from Gretna.



JEDCO's state-of-the-art conference center opened in the summer of 2014.

Business Assistance

Financing Tools (cont'd)

HUD Community Development Block Grant – Revolving Loan Fund

- Provides financing to businesses that will create jobs for low-to-moderate income persons as determined by HUD guidelines
- Loans can be used for land/building acquisition, new construction/renovation, equipment purchases, project's professional fees, working capital, and inventory.
- Loan amounts range from \$10,000 to \$150,000

Louisiana Revolving Capital Fund (LRCF)

- Supports small businesses and promotes economic development in the community
- Loan amounts range from a minimum of \$25,000 with a maximum determined by project parameter and availability of funds
- Eligible uses include land acquisition, building acquisition, purchase of equipment, working capital, and inventory
- Maximum term is 20 years based on the useful life of the assets to be purchased with proceeds



Since its inception, JEDCO has financed over \$233 Million for projects that have had almost \$600 million in economic impact!

Small Business Loan and Guaranty Program

- Facilitates capital accessibility for small business by providing loan guarantees to banks and other small business lenders
- Guarantees may range up to 75% of the loan amount, not to exceed \$1.5 million
- Loan amount may range from \$5,000 to \$1.5 million
- Minimum equity requirement of 15 to 20 percent



Business Assistance

Tax Credits / Incentives

Enterprise Zone (EZ) Program

- Qualifying businesses are eligible for a one-time tax credit of \$2,500 (\$5,000 for certain aerospace or automobile parts manufacturers) for each certified net new, permanent full-time job created. Credits can be applied toward the business' Louisiana income and corporate franchise tax liability
- Businesses are also eligible for a full state and partial local rebate of sales/use tax (total of 5%) or a refundable investment income tax credit equal to 1.5% of certain capital expenditures
- National workforce must be increased by 10% within the first 12 months, or a minimum of 5 new jobs must be created within the first 24 months of project start date, whichever is less
- Annually, 50% of net new hires must meet at least 1 of 4 certification requirement
- Requires submittal of Advanced Notification and \$250 non-refundable fee to LED
- For more information, visit www.opportunitylouisiana.com/page/enterprise-zone



Gretna based Zatarain's took advantage of the Industrial Property Tax Exemption for their \$18 Million expansion.

Quality Jobs Program

- Provides annual payroll rebate at a rate of 5% or 6% for new direct jobs for up to 10 years on 80% of new gross payroll (100% after July 1, 2018).
- Businesses may also be eligible for a full state and partial local rebate of sales/use tax (total of 5%) or a refundable investment income tax credit equal to 1.5% of certain capital expenditures
- A business must fall within one of the state's targeted industries, have a total annual out-of-state sales (or Federal Government) of at least 50%, or be located within a distressed region to qualify
- Requires submittal of Advanced Notification and \$250 non-refundable fee to LED
- For more information, visit www.opportunitylouisiana.com/page/quality-jobs

Industrial Property Tax Exemption

- Manufacturing operations are eligible for a local property tax exemption on new investments including improvements to the land, buildings, machinery, equipment, and any other property that is part of the manufacturing process
- Contracts may be granted for 5 years with an option to renew the exemption for an additional 5 years
- Requires submittal of Advanced Notification and \$250 non-refundable fee to LED
- For more information, visit www.opportunitylouisiana.com/page/industrial-tax-exemption

Manufacturing Sales Tax Exclusion

- Qualifying manufacturing machinery and equipment purchases made in Jefferson Parish are exempt 100% from local and state sales and use taxes
- Manufacturers must obtain a manufacturer's exception certificate from the Louisiana Department of Revenue (LDR) and the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, Bureau of Taxation and Revenue to avoid paying state and local sales/use tax
- As of January 1, 2014, the LDR-issued exemption certificate is automatically renewed for up to 3 years, unless LDR determines the taxpayer no longer qualifies as a manufacturer or has become delinquent in sales tax payment or filing responsibilities pursuant to R.S. 47:306

Business Assistance

Tax Credits / Incentives (cont'd)

Restoration Tax Abatement (RTA)

- Commercial property owners and homeowners who expand, restore, improve, or develop an existing structure in a qualifying district (Economic Development Districts or Historic Districts) or if the structure is a registered Historic Place may be eligible for a five-year deferred assessment of the ad valorem property taxes on the improvements
- Contracts may be renewed for an additional 5 years if approved by local governing authority
- Requires submittal of Advanced Notification and \$250 non-refundable fee to LED
- Gretna's qualifying districts have the following boundaries (Refer to page 32 for a map of Gretna's historic districts):
 - (1) Mississippi River (northern) boundary, Orleans Parish line, the intersection of the Orleans Parish line and the Jefferson Parish line south to Stumpf Boulevard (eastern) boundary, Stumpf Boulevard (north) to the West Bank Expressway and 300 feet south of the West Bank Expressway from Stumpf Boulevard to the western city limit and the western city limit north to the River (excluding Garden Park Subdivision, commonly referred to as "Old Garden Park")
 - (2) The area bounded by the western city limits to the north side of Gretna Boulevard, Belle Chasse Highway/Lafayette Street to West Bank Expressway (both sides)
- For more information, visit www.opportunitylouisiana.com/page/restoration-tax-abatement

Corporate Jobs Tax Credit

- Any corporation that establishes or expands in Louisiana may qualify for a one-time tax credit ranging from \$72 to \$162 for each new job created. For returns filed on or after 7/1/18, this credit shall range from \$100 to \$225 for each new job created.
- New job positions must be filled by Louisiana residents
- Tax credits can be used to satisfy state corporate income tax obligations, up to 35% of the tax liability
- May be used in lieu of participating in the Industrial Tax Exemption, Restoration Tax Abatement, Quality Jobs, or Enterprise Zone Program

Re-entrant Jobs Credit

- Any taxpayer who employs an eligible re-entrant during the taxable year in Louisiana shall be allowed a credit against their corporate income tax liability of \$108 per eligible re-entrant employed, not to exceed 36% of corporate income tax
- The re-entrant must reside and be domiciled in Louisiana, been convicted of a felony and has successfully completed the Intensive Incarceration Program
- Re-entrant must be employed in a full-time position working at least 36 hours per week for at least 6 consecutive months, and must not have been employed in a full-time position for 6 months or more since his/her release from custody prior to employment by the tax payer
- Beginning with returns filed on or after 7/1/15, the re-entrant credit shall be \$150 per re-entrant employed but shall not exceed 50% of corporate income tax

Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ)

- Created by Congress to expedite and encourage foreign commerce by allowing delayed or reduced duty payments
- FTZs are secure areas within the U.S. that are legally outside of the U.S. Customs territory for tariff purposes
- Manufacturing, distribution, and warehouse sites can apply to receive an FTZ designation through the Port of New Orleans

Business Assistance

Tax Credits / Incentives (cont'd)

Freeport Law

- Goods and commodities in public or private storage are exempt from property taxes while moving through Louisiana in interstate commerce to a final destination outside the state
- Permits most manufacturers to bring raw materials in the state without having to pay a tax on them until they have been placed in the manufacturing process

Inventory Tax Credit Program

- Allows ad valorem taxes levied on business inventories to be credited toward state income and corporate franchise tax liability
- Manufacturers, distributors, and retailers are eligible to receive a 100% credit of local inventory taxes paid
- Excess credit shall be either refundable or may be carried forward as a credit against subsequent tax liability for a period not to exceed five years as follows:
 - Eligible taxpayers whose ad valorem taxes paid to all political subdivisions in the taxable year was less than \$10,000 shall be refunded all of the excess credit
 - Eligible taxpayers who paid \$10,000 in ad valorem taxes or more shall be refunded 75% of the excess credit. The remaining 25% credit may be carried forward as a credit against subsequent tax liability for up to five years

Customized Software Sales Tax Exemption

- Companies purchasing certain customized computer software are exempted from paying Jefferson Parish sales and use tax imposed on retail sales
- Customized software is defined as software prepared, created, adapted, or modified to the special order of a particular purchaser, licensee, or user

Research and Development (R&D) Tax Credit

- To encourage research and development in Louisiana, taxpayers are offered a refundable tax credit to be applied against state income or corporate franchise tax liability
- Taxpayers are eligible for a credit of up to 40% of Louisiana qualified researched expenses (based on employment)

Angel Investor Tax Credit Program

- Offers accredited investors a 25.2% nonrefundable tax credit on any state income or corporate franchise tax liability based on the amount invested in a qualified Louisiana Entrepreneurial Business (LEB)
- Transfer of credits is allowed

Technology Commercialization Tax Credit and Jobs Program

- Companies that invest in the commercialization of Louisiana technology can receive a 28.8% refundable tax credit against state income or corporate franchise tax liability of the cost to purchase or lease machinery and equipment and of expenditures for obtaining rights to use technology
- The business must have an agreement with an in-state university or school to commercialize the technology
- Businesses are also eligible for a 4.32% payroll rebate for the creation of new direct jobs. Starting 7/1/18 credit increases to 6%

Business Assistance

Tax Credits / Incentives (cont'd)

Corporate Tax Apportionment Program

- Eligible businesses may use a single sales factor to apportion its income to Louisiana when moving to the state or expanding in the state
- Applies to corporate income tax period beginning on or after January 01, 2013 and corporation franchise tax periods beginning on or after January 01, 2014
- A business must receive an invitation from the Secretary of LED to apply for participation in this program

Corporate Headquarters Relocation Program

- Eligible businesses receive a 20% rebate of qualified relocation costs paid on moving headquarters to Louisiana or expanding headquarters in the state
- Businesses must create and maintain a minimum number of headquarters jobs and associated payroll and any other performance obligations deemed appropriate by the secretary of LED
- A business must receive an invitation from the Secretary of LED to apply for participation in this program

Competitive Projects Payroll Incentive Program

- Qualifying businesses receive a maximum 12% rebate of new payroll for up to 10 years
- Businesses must create and maintain a minimum number of permanent full-time direct new jobs at its Louisiana facility filled by residents of the state and amount of new payroll as determined by the Secretary of Economic Development
- Partial rebate of state and local sales tax on capital expenditures for the facility or a project facility expense rebate equal to 1.2% of qualified capital expenditures may be taken
- A business must receive an invitation from the Secretary of LED to apply for participation in this program

Tax Equalization Program

- Designed to attract, retain, and encourage the expansion of manufacturing businesses, headquarter, warehousing and distribution establishments in/to Louisiana by eliminating the tax differential between a Louisiana location and a competing location in another state
- The state of Louisiana matches the tax rates of a competing state, if necessary, to retain or recruit eligible businesses
- Application must be approved the Louisiana legislature

Business Retention & Modernization Tax Credit Program

- Provides a 5% Louisiana tax credit to manufactures that increase efficiency by at least 10% or have multi-state operations and an established competitive capital project with an approved investment of at least \$5 million
- Participation in this program is at the discretion of the Secretary of LED

Business Assistance

Tax Credits / Incentives (cont'd)

Jefferson Parish Film Industry Incentive Program

- Productions that have their principal Louisiana production office, sound stage, or filming facility located in Jefferson Parish may be eligible to receive a 3% cash rebate on local expenses
- Qualifying productions must spend at least \$150,000 in qualified local expenses
- For more information, visit www.experiencejefferson.com/film/incentives/



Creative Film Connections,
the largest prop supplier in
the Southeast, relocated to
Gretna in 2013.

Motion Picture Investor Tax Credit

- Investors in state-certified productions with a total base investment greater than \$300,000 qualify for a fully transferable Louisiana investment tax credit of 30% of the in-state spend
- An additional tax credit of 5% of payroll up to a salary limit of \$1 million is allowed for Louisiana residents employed in connection with a state-certified production

Sound Recording Investor Tax Credit

- Until January 1, 2020 investors in state-certified, sound recording productions qualify for a fully refundable tax credit of 18% of the base investment in excess of \$15,000, or if a resident of Louisiana, in excess of \$5,000. Starting 7/1/18 this credit increases to 25%
- Project must spend at least \$5,000 in Louisiana in a 12-month period to qualify

Digital Interactive Media Software Tax Credit

- For applications for state-certified productions submitted on or after 7/1/15 and subsequently approved by the office and secretary, tax credits shall be earned at the rate of 18% of the base investment
- To the extent that the base investment is expended on payroll for Louisiana residents employed in a state-certified production, a digital interactive media company is allowed an additional tax credit of 7.2% of the payroll
- Tax credits are refundable and allowed against the individual or corporate income tax liability of the companies or financiers of the project
- Certified applicants may elect to receive a one-time rebate of credits equal to 85% of their face value in lieu of tax credits

Musical and Theatrical Production Income Tax Credit

- Investors in state-certified musical or theatrical productions qualify for transferable tax credits according to their total base investment
- Provides a 7.2% tax credit for certified Louisiana expenditures between \$100,000 and \$300,000
- Provides a 14.4% tax credit for certified Louisiana expenditures between \$300,000 and \$1,000,000
- Provides a 18% tax credit for certified Louisiana expenditures over \$1,000,000
- Starting with returns on or after 7/1/18 these credits increase to 10%, 20%, and 25%, respectively
- Payroll for Louisiana residents employed in connection with a state-certified production is eligible for an additional tax credit.

Business Assistance

Education / Training Programs

Louisiana Fast Start

- Provides project evaluation, workforce solutions, material development, pre-employment identification, evaluation and feedback, course delivery, customized training and core skills training for new or expanding companies
- Program is available at no cost to manufacturing companies, corporate headquarters, warehouse and distribution, research and development or other strategic facilities that commit to creating at least 15 new jobs, or any service-related operation that commits to creating at least 50 permanent new jobs
- For additional information, please visit the Louisiana Economic Development website, www.opportunitylouisiana.com/page/led-faststart

LED FastStart

Louisiana's Custom Workforce Solution

Business Facilities 2015 Rankings Report named LED Fast Start the #1 workforce program in the nation for an unprecedented sixth (6th) consecutive year.

On-The-Job Training (OJT)

- Reimburses a percentage of qualified wages during the training period of new or existing employees with occupational skills that are typically required to obtain employment or advance within the company
- For additional information, contact the Career and Business Solutions Center at (504) 227-1283 (Gretna office)

Incumbent Worker Training Program

- Can pay most of a company's new eligible training costs, including equipment, teaching materials and instructor time
- Provides customized training for existing employees as well as pre-employment training for non-incumbent workers by an approved training provider
- Employers must have been in business in the state for at least three years and contributing to and in full compliance with the state unemployment insurance tax laws
- Additional information is available at the Louisiana Workforce Commission website, www.laworks.net

Small Business Employee Training Program

- Designed for employers of up to 50 employees
- Employers must have been in business in the state for at least three years and in full compliance with the state unemployment insurance tax laws
- Employees may obtain training from any approved standardized training course or program from an institution, trade association or the manufacturer of a specific piece of equipment
- Additional information is available at the Louisiana Workforce Commission website, www.laworks.net

Career and Business Solutions Center

- Provides job recruitment and applicant screening assistance
- Administers OJT Program
- Houses the largest state database of qualified job seekers; job listings that cannot be filled locally are fed into the database
- Clearinghouse of labor market information
- Also houses the Louisiana Workforce Commission and serves as the unemployment office, (504) 227-1283 (Gretna office)

Business Base

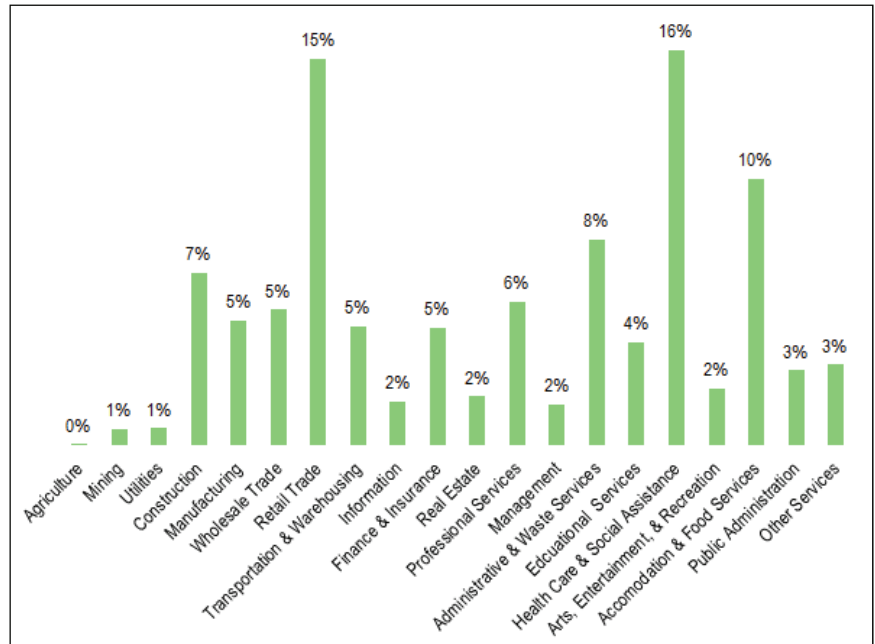
Major & Developing Industries

The economic base of Gretna and Jefferson Parish includes a diverse mix of industries with particularly large concentrations of employment in the Food Manufacturing, Wholesale Trade, Health Care, Construction, Administrative & Waste Services, Professional & Technical Services, Accommodation & Food Services, Retail Trade, and Transportation & Warehousing sectors.

Food Manufacturing

Sub-sectors of food processing that are prevalent throughout the region include animal and marine oils, bottled water and beverages, coffee roasting, condiments, confectioneries, meat processing and packing, prepared foods, poultry processing, sauces and spices, snack foods, sugarcane refining, and fresh, frozen, and prepared seafood. Zatarain's is headquartered in Gretna while other companies such as Chef Paul Prudhomme's Magic Seasoning Blends, King Creole, Cajun Kettle Foods, Chisesi Pride, and Coca-Cola Enterprises are all headquartered in Jefferson Parish.

Jefferson Parish Employment by Industry
(Total Employment 194,360)



Source: Louisiana Workforce Commission

Retail Trade & Accommodation and Food Services

Both the Retail Trade and Accommodation & Food Services clusters are major components of the regional economy. The retail trade sector is tied for the largest employer in Jefferson Parish, while accommodation & food services is the third largest. The parish has four regional shopping malls, one of which, The Oakwood Shopping Center, is located in Gretna. The parish also offers tax free shopping for all foreign travelers.

Transportation & Warehousing

This sector includes industries providing transportation of passengers and cargo, warehousing and storage for goods, scenic and sightseeing transportation, and support activities. In Gretna, this sector is anchored by ACME Truck Lines' national headquarters.

Health Care & Social Assistance

With six major hospitals, Jefferson Parish currently serves as the health care center of the region; and, in terms of employment, the Health Care & Social Assistance cluster is the largest in the parish. Headquartered in unincorporated Jefferson, Ochsner Health System has a reputation for being on the forefront of new medical technology. Ochsner maintains a strong presence on the West Bank with the Ochsner Medical Center - West Bank facility. Furthermore West Jefferson Medical Center in unincorporated Jefferson Parish has a renowned cardiovascular and open-heart surgical team and facility.

Business Base

Major & Developing Industries (cont'd)

Professional & Technical Services

The Professional & Technical Services sector, which includes engineering, legal services, accounting, bookkeeping, design services, computer services, and consulting services, is a strong component of the regional economy. Leaaf Environmental, which provides environmental consulting, remediation and construction support services to both the public and private sectors, is based in Gretna and was nominated for Small Business of the Year in 2015.

Telecommunications

The Telecommunications cluster includes manufacturers of network, switching, and transmission equipment, telephone and facsimile machines, fiber optic materials and cable, wireless communications equipment, and satellite communications systems. The region has experienced significant growth in the broadcasting and telecommunications portion of this cluster, which includes radio and television broadcasting, cable and satellite networks and wireless communications. Cox Cable and AT&T have significant investment in the area.

Chemical Manufacturing

The chemical manufacturing cluster is comprised of companies that produce industrial chemicals for sectors such as the petro-chemical industry. The ability to ship raw materials into and finished products out of the New Orleans regions via the Mississippi River is a distinct advantage. With the recent \$1 Billion addition of Dyno Nobel, an international ammonia production facility on the West Bank, Jefferson Parish has become the region's largest hub of petro-chemical and chemical related industries.

Computer Systems Design and Information Technology

This cluster includes custom computer programming services, computer systems design services and computer facilities management services. The City of Gretna, Jefferson Parish and the State of Louisiana have recognized the importance of this cluster by providing the Customized Software Tax Exemption and Digital Interactive Media & Software Development Incentive.

Motion Picture and Digital Media

Louisiana is the top destination in the United States for film production, largely due to the state's package of tax breaks for the film industry. The New Orleans region, in particular, has become an attractive place for film production due to its unique landscape and culture, and its proximity to either coast. Jefferson Parish is a hub of industry activity, being home to the state's first soundstage, the Robert E. Nims Center, as well as support businesses such as Panavision's Film Equipment Rental, Cineworks, Available Lighting, Strike It Green, Silver Screen Supply, and Creative Film Connection. The unique charm of the Gretna Historic District and the diverse landscape of the West Bank makes the City an ideal location for filming.



Louisiana outpaced New York and Los Angeles for film production in 2013 according to Film L.A.



Business Facilities magazine recently ranked Louisiana the #1 Best Business Climate in the US.

Business Base

Top Employers

The estimated workforce living in incorporated Gretna is approximately 7,800, according to the US Census Bureau. Many of these workers are employed by the top employers in Gretna listed below, which include 5 private companies from various industries and Gretna City Hall.

Top Employers in Gretna (Ranked by Number of Employees)

Business Base	Number of Employees	Description of Operation
Acme Trucking	3150	Transportation and Logistics
Versa Integrity Group	310	Onshore/Offshore Inspection Services
City of Gretna	249	City Government
Zatarain's, Inc.	220	Food Seasoning and Product Manufacturer
BCP Technical Services	65	Administrative Management and Consulting
Paychex North America	59	Paycheck Services

Source: JEDCO Retention Database



Business Base

Top Private Companies in Jefferson Parish

The *New Orleans City Business* magazine has published the Top 100 Private Companies in the New Orleans metropolitan area, an annual ranking based on total revenue as reported by area businesses. In 2015, 30 of the top 100 companies were located within Jefferson Parish. The top 20 are listed below.

It is important to note that the compilation of this list is dependent upon the submittal of revenue figures from local companies. Since some companies do not report, it is possible that the list is not inclusive. Any company wishing to be included in the list below may contact JEDCO at (504) 875-3908.

Jefferson Parish Top Private Companies (Ranked by Latest Year Revenue)

Business Name	2014 Revenue (in millions)	Regional Rank	Description of Operation
Ochsner Health System*	\$2,313.0	1	Health Care
Georges Enterprises, LLC	\$1,250.0	2	Food Distributor
ACME Truck Line, Inc.*	\$487.0	7	Transportation and Logistics
Ray Brandt Automotive & Collision	\$465.0	8	Automotive Sales, Service, Collision Repair
Laitram LLC	\$426.0	11	Manufacturer of Conveyor Belts
Blessey Marine Services, Inc.	\$256.2	15	Towing Company
Smoothie King Franchises	\$241.0	16	Smoothies, Supplements, and Healthy Snacks
Biggs Construction, LLC	\$121.0	19	Commercial Construction
Welman, Inc.	\$120.0	20	Investments
Favrot & Shane Cos.	\$112.2	21	Real Estate Development and Management
Core Construction Co., LLC	\$100.0	24	General Contractor
McDonnel Group, LLC	\$85.0	26	Commercial Construction
David Briggs Enterprises, Inc.	\$80.4	28	Retail and Wholesale of Alcoholic Beverages and Mixes
Broadmoor, LLC	\$74.2	29	Design/Build Firm
Pro Source Floors, Inc.	\$44.6	38	Wholesale Flooring
Durr Heavy Construction, LLC	\$34.0	44	General Contractor, Site Preparation, Demolition
Gardner Realtors	\$30.3	47	Real Estate Broker
Ryan Gootee General Contractors, LLC	\$29.0	49	General Construction
Construction Masters, Inc.	\$26.0	22	Construction
Vincent Piazza Jr. & Sons Seafood	\$24.5	54	Seafood Processor Institutional Distributor

*Business has presence in Gretna

Source: New Orleans City Business Magazine

Business Base

Employment & Wages

Employment (August 2014)

Industry	Parish		Louisiana	
Employment	206,803	94%	2,033,631	93.6%
Unemployment	13,092	6%	138,625	6.4%
Civilian Labor Force	219,175	100%	2,162,256	100%

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov)

Employment and Wages by Industry Sector (Jefferson Parish, Fourth Quarter 2014)

Industry Sector	Total Estimated Companies	Average Employees	Average Weekly Wage (\$)
Accommodation and food services	1101	20,369	\$348
Administration and waste services	849	14,741	\$661
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	24	49	\$796
Arts, entertainment and recreation	177	4,277	\$1,594
Construction	1246	13,184	\$1,107
Finance and insurance	936	8,956	\$1,299
Health care and social assistance	1400	30,169	\$979
Information	176	3,324	\$694
Manufacturing	430	9,522	\$1,157
Management of companies and enterprises	111	3,055	\$1,420
Mining	66	1,205	\$2,363
Other services (except public administration)	1017	5,679	\$711
Professional and technical services	1650	10,907	\$1,609
Public administration	105	6,141	\$1,056
Real estate, rental and leasing	570	3,699	\$846
Retail trade	1884	29,556	\$568
Transportation and warehousing	459	9,078	\$1,105
Utilities	29	1,265	\$1,302
Wholesale trade	1064	10,335	\$1,348

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov)

Business Base

Cost of Labor

The New Orleans Metropolitan Statistical Area has a large and educated workforce. The first table below provides the average weekly wages of manufacturing workers in the Jefferson. The second table shows the average annual wages for selected occupations in New Orleans and other various MSAs. For more statistics on the civilian labor force, unemployment rate and employment by industry, see the Economic Indicators section of this profile.

Average Weekly Wage (Jefferson Parish only)

Industry	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Manufacturing (overall)	\$992	\$1081	\$1,111	\$1,134	\$1,161
Ship and Boat Building	\$966	\$1149	\$1,263	\$1,359	N/A
Chemical Manufacturing	\$1599	\$1735	\$1,620	\$1,787	\$1,944
Machinery Manufacturing	\$1001	\$993	\$1,027	\$1,057	\$1,084

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov)

Average Annual Wages of Selected Occupations

Occupation	New Orleans	Atlanta	Birmingham	Dallas	Houston	Jackson	Jacksonville
Accountant	\$64,370	\$79,000	\$67,150	\$76,470	\$83,190	\$55,350	\$68,160
Elementary Teacher	\$49,500	\$53,980	\$52,970	\$53,250	\$52,770	\$40,340	\$51,240
Secondary Teacher	\$52,320	\$56,060	\$51,410	\$54,630	\$53,930	\$43,610	\$51,600
Registered Nurse	\$65,280	\$65,040	\$58,580	\$71,750	\$75,500	\$63,250	\$63,010
Architect & Engineer	\$92,600	\$78,530	\$75,470	\$83,810	\$103,330	\$67,990	\$72,270
Machinist	\$50,140	\$39,910	\$40,100	\$39,970	\$42,780	\$44,730	\$41,250
Welder	\$46,600	\$36,920	\$37,100	\$36,520	\$43,230	\$34,640	\$41,420
Construction Laborer	\$30,400	\$27,840	\$29,640	\$27,080	\$30,070	\$25,670	\$24,880

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov)

Economic Indicators

Demographics

All demographic data included below are taken from ESRI, a developer of Geographic Information System (GIS) technology and marketing analysis tools.



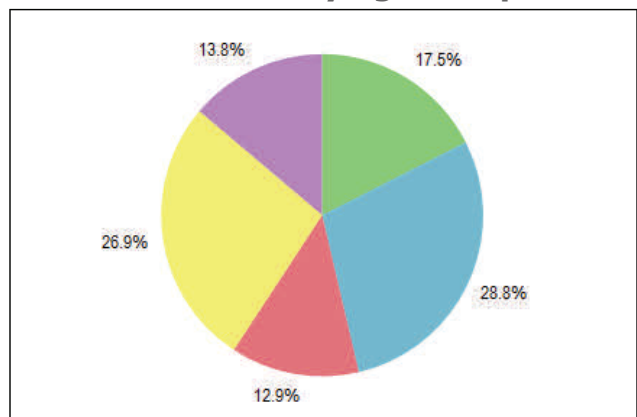
Population Snapshot

Population	17,294
Median Age	37.6
Per Capita Income	\$20,210

Age of Residents as Percent of the Population

Age	% of Pop.	Age	% of Pop.
0 - 4	6.2%	35 - 44	12.9%
5 - 9	6.0%	45 - 54	14.0%
10 - 14	5.3%	55 - 64	12.9%
15 - 19	5.9%	65 - 74	7.9%
20 - 24	7.1%	75 - 84	4.0%
25 - 34	15.8%	85 +	1.9%

Gretna Residents by Age Group



Household Data

Households	6,821
Median Household Income	\$33,415
Average Household Income	\$49,882
Average Household size	2.39
Owner Occupied HUs	3,166
Renter Occupied HUs	3,656

Households by Income

< \$15,000	20.4%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	16.7%
\$25,000 - \$34,999	14.7%
\$35,000 - \$49,999	14.0%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	15.3%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	7.4%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	7.6%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	1.9%
\$200,000+	1.9%

Racial Composition

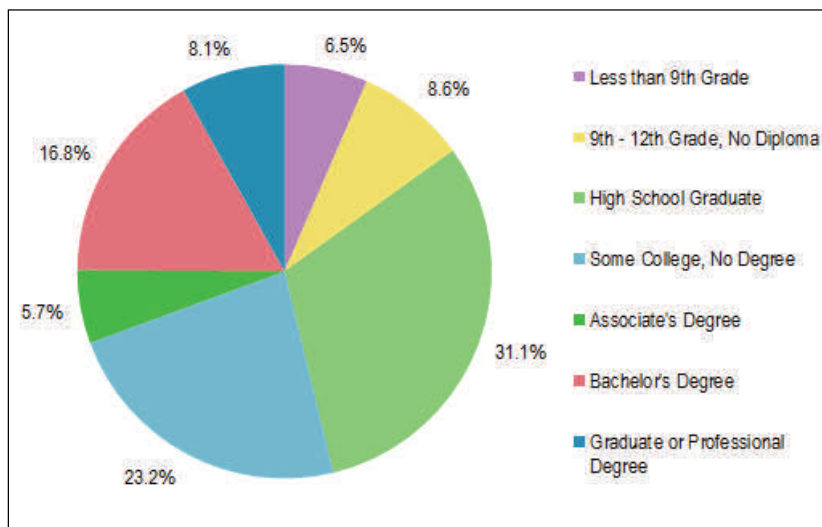
Caucasian alone	51.7%
African American alone	36.7%
Other race alone	5.6%
Asian	2.9%
Two or more races	2.4%
American Indian alone	0.5%
Pacific Islander alone	0.0%
Hispanic Origin (any race)	15.5%

Economic Indicators

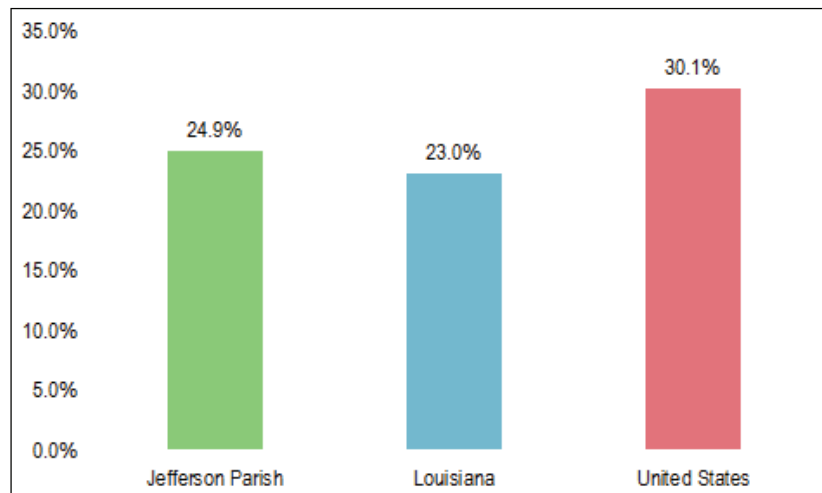
Educational Attainment

According to the US Census Bureau, Approximately 85% of Jefferson Parish residents 25 or older have a High School Diploma or higher. 25% have at least a bachelor's degree. These numbers are above the statewide average and on par with the national average. In the city of Gretna, 74 percent of residents 25 or older have a high school diploma and 21 percent have an associate's, bachelor's, or graduate degree.

Educational Attainment Levels for Jefferson Parish Residents 25 and Older



Percentage of Population with Bachelor's Degree of Higher



Source: US Census American Fact Finder (factfinder.census.gov)

Economic Indicators

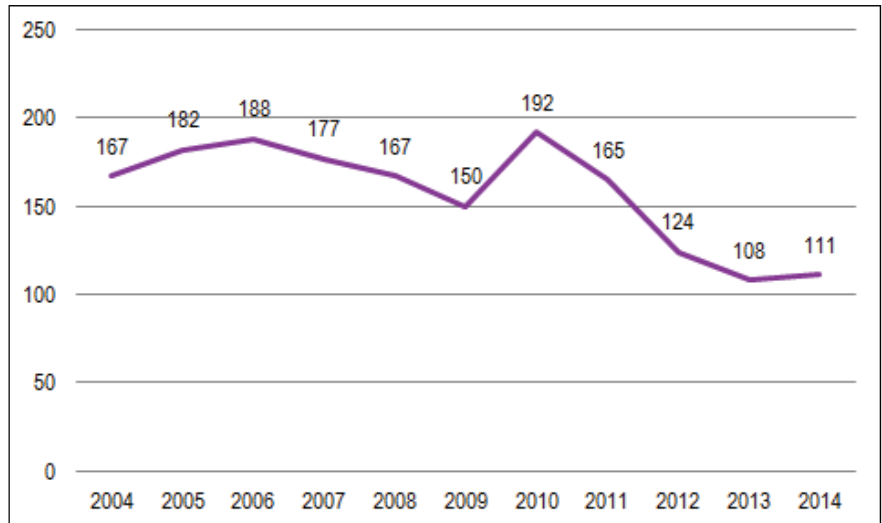
Employment in the Mining Sector / Income

Jefferson Parish Mining Sector Jobs

Year	Number of Jobs
2003	9100
2004	9000
2005	8150
2006	8100
2007	8100
2008	8250
2009	8000
2010	7200
2011	7100
2012	7000
2013	7000
2014	7890

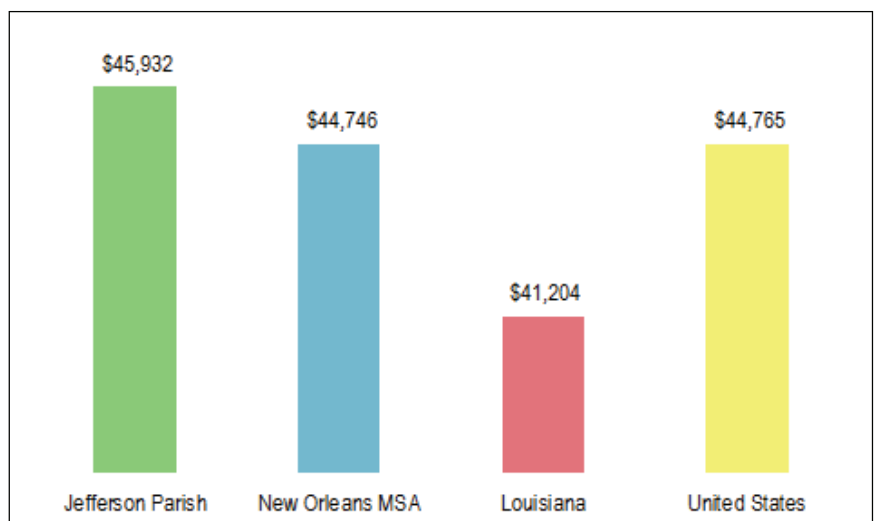
Source: Louisiana Workforce Commission

Louisiana Rig Counts



Source: Baker Hughes

2013 Per Capita Personal Income (Most Current Data Available)



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Income

In 2013, Jefferson Parish had a per capita personal income of almost \$46,000. This was approximately 10% higher than the per capita income for the state of Louisiana. It is also higher than national figure.

Economic Indicators

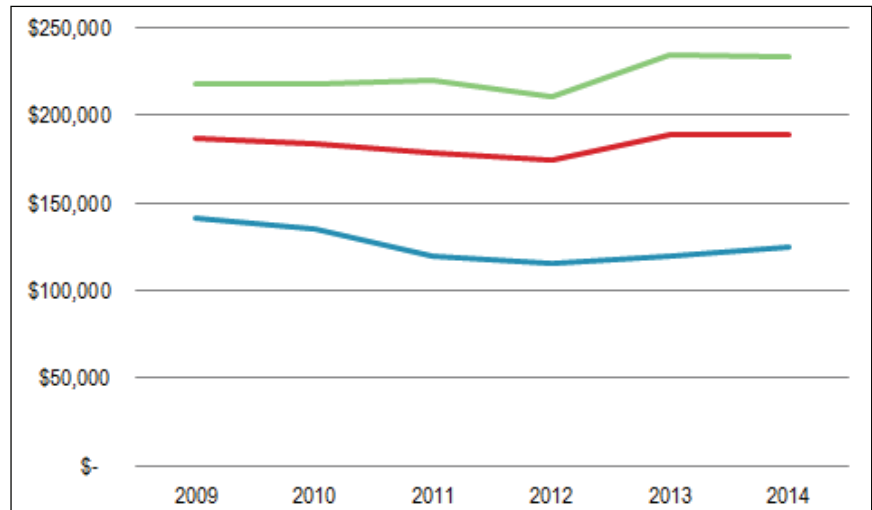
Real Estate

2014 Average Price of Single Family Home in Jefferson Parish

East Bank	\$233,284
West Bank (includes Gretna)	\$124,516
Jefferson Parish	\$189,565

Source: Metropolitan New Orleans Real Estate Market Analysis, April 2015

Average Price of a Single Family Home



Source: Metropolitan New Orleans Real Estate Market Analysis, April 2015

2014 Rental and Occupancy Rates for Industrial Space in Jefferson Parish

Warehouse Space	Average \$/SF		Occupancy Rate	
	Distribution	Service Center	Distribution	Service Center
West Bank (includes Gretna)	\$3.00—\$4.50	N/A	88%	N/A
Kenner	\$3.00—\$5.50	N/A	94%	N/A
Elmwood	\$4.50—\$6.50	\$6.50—\$10.00	95%	95%

Source: Metropolitan New Orleans Real Estate Market Analysis, April 2015

2014 Rental and Occupancy Rates for Office and Retail Space in Jefferson Parish

Type of Space	Average \$/SF	Occupancy Rate
Office Space		
Class A	\$23.81	93.9%
Class B	\$17.53	86.7%
Class C	\$14.65	87.1%
Retail Space		
Class A	\$17.41	91.6%
Class B	\$13.77	89.6%
Class C	\$15.97	87.7%

Source: Metropolitan New Orleans Real Estate Market Analysis, April 2015

Quality of Life

Primary Education / Secondary Education

There are eighty-one (81) public schools in Jefferson Parish and twenty-four (24) private schools, including the twelve (12) schools located within the City of Gretna. The Jefferson Parish Public School System became the first large school system in the Greater New Orleans area to be awarded District Accreditation from the AdvancED Accreditation Commission of the Southern Association of Colleges and School Council on Accreditation and School Improvement in 2009.

Jefferson Parish Enrollment

81 Public Schools	48,126
24 Nonpublic Schools	18,840

Source: Louisiana Department of Education (louisianabelieves.com)

Schools in Gretna

School Name	Level	2014-15 Enrollment
Public Schools		4,794
Gretna No. 2 Academy	Pre K-5	362
McDonogh #26 Elementary	Pre K-5	374
Shirley T. Johnson Gretna Park Elementary	Pre K-5	653
William Hart Elementary	Pre K-5	404
Paul J. Solis Elementary	Pre K-5	760
Frederick Douglass Elementary	Pre K-5	282
Young Audiences Charter School	K-4	499
Gretna Middle	6-8	757
Ruppel Academy for Advanced Studies	6-8	307
Thomas Jefferson Magnet High School	9-12	396
Nonpublic Schools		679
St. Anthony Elementary	Pre K-7	265
St. Cletus Catholic	Pre K-8	414

Source: Jefferson Parish Public School System (jpschools.org), Louisiana Department of Education (louisianabelieves.com), St. Anthony Elementary, St. Cletus Elementary.



In 2015, Thomas Jefferson High School was ranked as one of the Top 5 high schools in Louisiana by the US News and World Report. That same year, the Daily Beast ranked it as one of the Top 100 high schools in the country.



According to the Louisiana Department of Education, in 2014, five of the Top 10 public schools in Louisiana were in the Jefferson Parish Public School system. That same year, three more JPPSS schools were ranked in the Top 25.

Quality of Life

Colleges / Universities

The Greater New Orleans Area is home to nine four year universities, two community colleges, and the LSU, Tulane, and Loyola professional schools, all of which are located within 20 minutes of Gretna.

Four Year Colleges & Universities (New Orleans Metro)

Institution	Location	2014-15 Enrollment
University of New Orleans	New Orleans	9,234
Tulane University	New Orleans	12,603
Loyola University	New Orleans	4,330
Xavier University of LA	New Orleans	2,976
Southern University at N.O.	New Orleans	2,674
Dillard University	New Orleans	1,200
Our Lady of Holy Cross	New Orleans	1,095
Herzing University	Kenner	381
Southeastern Louisiana	Hammond	14,498

Source: National Center for Education Statistics (nces.ed.gov)



Tulane, Loyola, and the University of New Orleans are all within 12 miles of Gretna

Two Year Colleges

Institution	Location	2014-15 Enrollment
Delgado Community	New Orleans	17,152
Nunez Community	Chalmette	2,588

Source: National Center for Education Statistics (nces.ed.gov)

Research Base

New Orleans Regional Medical Center	New Orleans
UNO Research & Technology Center	New Orleans
UNO Avondale Maritime Tech. Center	Avondale

Medical & Law Schools

Institution	Location	2014-15 Enrollment
LSU Medicine	New Orleans	780
LSU Allied Health	New Orleans	1011
LSU Nursing	New Orleans	1050
LSU Dental	New Orleans	392
LSU Public Health	New Orleans	116
Tulane University Medical School	New Orleans	787
Tulane University Law School	New Orleans	696
Loyola University Law School	New Orleans	611

Source: LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans, Tulane University, Loyola University

Quality of Life

Health Care

Jefferson Parish is home to the Ochsner Medical Center, Louisiana's largest employer and top ranked hospital. Ochsner's West Bank Campus is located in unincorporated Gretna. Additionally, the West Jefferson Medical Center, a full service hospital with a proven track record in heart health, is located 10 minutes from Gretna in Marrero, LA.

Jefferson Parish Hospitals

Hospital Name	# of beds
West Bank Hospitals	616
West Jefferson Medical Center	435
Ochsner Medical Center—West Bank Campus	181
East Bank Hospitals	1154
Ochsner Medical Center—Jefferson Highway	505
East Jefferson General Hospital	420
Tulane-Lakeside Hospital for Women and Children	119
Ochsner Medical Center—Kenner	110

Sources: Ochsner Medical Center (Ochsner.org), West Jefferson Medical Center (wjmc.org), East Jefferson General Hospital (ejgh.org), Tulane Lakeside Hospital (tulanehealthcare.com).



In 2015, the Ochsner Medical center was nationally ranked in the Top 50 Hospitals for six different specialties by the US News & World Report, including Neurology and Orthopedics



The American Heart Association (AHA) presented WJMC with the Heart Failure Silver Quality Achievement Award in 2015. This marks the 7th year the hospital has been recognized by the AHA.



Ochsner Medical System West Bank Campus (located in unincorporated Gretna)

Quality of Life

Journey to Work

Bus Lines

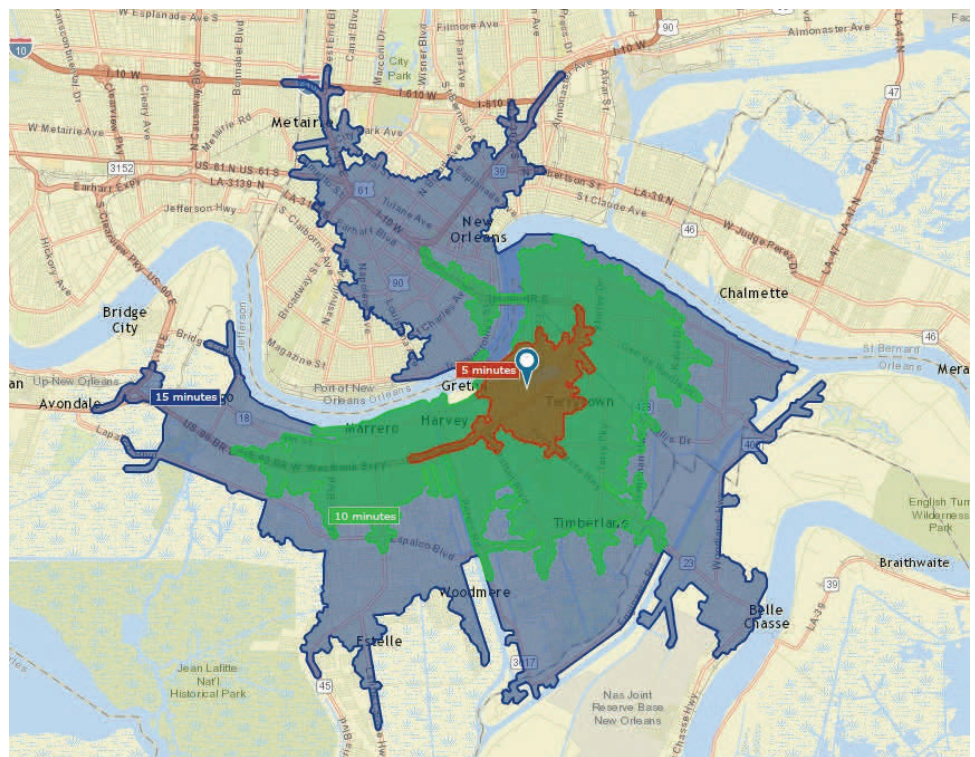
Jefferson Transit (JeT) serves the urbanized portion of Jefferson Parish providing service to New Orleans and the Louis Armstrong International Airport. Connecting services are provided to the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) bus lines in Gretna, Kenner, and New Orleans. The Gretna Local Line of JeT operates on the Lower West Bank Expressway across the Mississippi River to Downtown New Orleans.



For more information including route maps, fares and schedules, visit the website for JeT www.jeffersontransit.org.

Average Commute Time

The mean travel time to work for Jefferson Parish residents is 23.4 minutes according to the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2013. For comparison, this is about three minutes less than the average commute times for residents of both Houston, TX (Harris County) and Atlanta, GA (Fulton County), which were 27.4 minutes and 27 minutes, respectively.



Drive-Time Map for Gretna

Quality of Life

Music / Festivals / Events

Gretna Heritage Festival

- 25 city blocks in historic Gretna and 6 stages with performances by national entertainers and local artists
- Over 30 food vendors representing local, national, and international cuisine
- Enormous selection of arts & crafts and antiques & collectibles

Riverfront Concert Series

- Takes place in the Mississippi Riverfront amphitheater in Historic Downtown Gretna
- Features local Louisiana musical artists and acts
- Sponsored by a local Gretna restaurant each week, and provides food for sale to attendees

Gretna Art Walk

- Held on the 2nd Saturday of each month from September to May along Huey P. Long Avenue in Historic Downtown Gretna
- Provides local artists and craftsman with exposure and ability to sell their work
- Offers a variety of arts and crafts from metal work, paintings, glass work, and pottery

Oyster Festival

- Local celebration of Louisiana oysters through a 3-day festival in mid-October
- Put on by the St. Cletus parishioners and St. Cletus Knights of Columbus

Krewe of Gretna Mardi Gras Parade

- Oldest parading Krewe on the West Bank; has ridden through Gretna since 1947
- Rides through both historic districts and along the West Bank Expressway
- The 400 member parade offers family fun for all ages on the West Bank

Gretna Pawdi Gras

- Established in 2002 as parade for dogs and their owners on the West Bank
- Rides through Historic Downtown Gretna

Gretna Food Truck Festival

- 7 trucks and over 1,400 attendees in 2015
- Upcoming Food Truck Festivals will be at different locations throughout the city



The first ever Gretna Food Truck Festival was held in 2015 at the Farmers Market in Historic Downtown Gretna



The Gretna Heritage Festival is held on the first full weekend of October every year

Quality of Life

Shopping / Recreation

Gretna Farmer's Market

- Located in Historic Downtown Gretna
- Held every Saturday morning, rain or shine

Gretna Visitor Center & Southern Pacific Train Depot

- Located in Historic Downtown Gretna, in a 1906 Freight Depot
- Presents the history and current life of Gretna, as well as railroad artifacts
- Maps for tourists pointing out local attractions are available

Gretna BMX Raceway

- Located in Gretna City Park, established in 2007
- Only BMX raceway in the New Orleans area
- Operated by the Parents-Riders Association

Gretna Levee and Bicycle Trail

- Located on top of the Mississippi River Levee beginning at the Gretna Ferry Landing
- Bike path runs 2.5 miles and ends at the Jazz Walk of Fame and the Algiers Ferry Landing



The Gretna Farmers Market features locally grown foods, handmade crafts and, artwork



The Gretna Levee and Bicycle Trail

Quality of Life

Historic Districts

Historic Downtown Gretna/Mechanikham Historic District

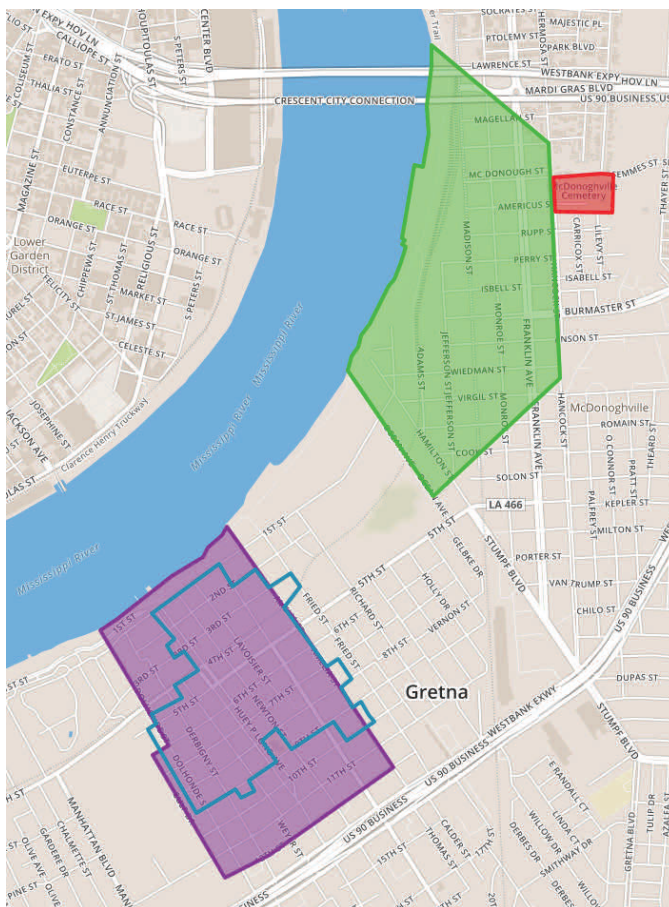
Located on the banks of the Mississippi River, Historic Downtown Gretna encompasses an approximate 50 square blocks and includes the Gretna Historic Society Museum Complex. Both the City of Gretna and Jefferson Parish government complexes can be found here, as well as supporting businesses such as law firms, notaries, and restaurants. The Mechanikham District is a mixed-use district featuring historic shotgun style residential homes.

McDonoghville Historic District

Settled in 1815 by John McDonogh, this area offers sightseeing in the forms of late 19th and early 20th century shotgun and bungalow homes, as well as the McDonough Cemetery. Also located along the Mississippi River, the McDonoghville District offers an educational and cultural experience for visitors and locals.



Gretna City Hall is located in the Downtown Gretna/Mechanikham Historic District



Gretna Historic Districts



Historic McDonoghville, settled in 1815, was incorporated into Gretna in 1913

Legend:

Mechanikham Historic District

McDonoghville Historic District

McDonoghville Cemetery

National Historic District

Quality of Life

Educational Attractions

Gretna Library

- 5,800 square foot facility built in 2010.
- Features over 15,000 items, including the 7,200 donated items from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Gretna Observatory

- Largest public observatory in the greater New Orleans area.
- Built for educational purposes in 2004 to encourage children to pursue an interest in science and astronomy.
- Located within Gretna City Park

German-American Cultural Center

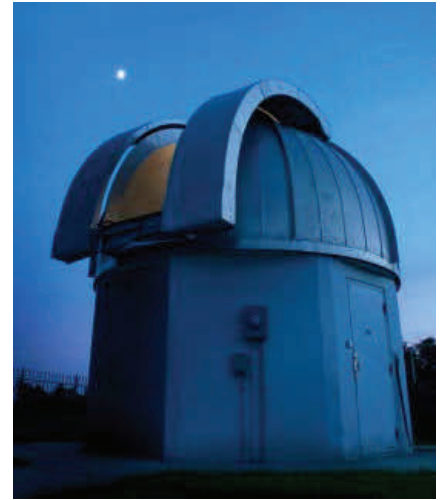
- Located on Huey P. Long Ave in Historic Downtown Gretna
- Offers historical accounts of German immigrants to the Gretna area from the 1720's to present
- Contains tourists' and locals' pictures, artifacts, and maps to show the contribution of German immigrants to the area

Louisiana State Fireman Museum

- Original home of the David Crockett Steam Fire Co. No. 1, established in 1841. It is the oldest, continuously active volunteer Fire company in the United States
- Features artifacts including Crockett's 1874 vintage steam Fire Pumper, the oldest object listed in Louisiana's Historic Districts

Gretna Historical Society Complex Museum

- Offers a glimpse of the history of the City of Gretna and includes 5 historic buildings: William D. White House, Kittie Strehle House, Gretna Green Blacksmith House, Ignatius Strehle House, and Louisiana Fire Museum
- Presents displays of information about the city's mayors, police department, religions, and education
- Fully operational Blacksmith Shop is the setting for Blacksmith Weddings, a Valentine's Day tradition from Gretna's namesake city, Gretna Green, Scotland



The Gretna Observatory in Gretna City Park is the largest public observatory in the Greater New Orleans Region



Volunteers have met monthly since 1841 at Gretna's David Crockett Steam Fire Co. Number 1, located in the Louisiana State Fireman Museum

Quality of Life

Meeting / Event Facilities

Timberlane Country Club

- Located in the newly annexed portion of Gretna
- Timberlane offers 2 large banquet rooms with multiple room configurations to accommodate events ranging from small business lunch's to large receptions

Holiday Inn West Bank Tower

- Located on the West Bank Expressway at the foot of the Crescent City Connection
- Offers 1 boardroom that can accommodate small groups and a larger event room that can be reconfigured into 5 different styles

Quality Inn and Suites

- Located on the West Bank Expressway
- Offers 7 meeting rooms, all equipped with high speed, wireless internet service
- Largest room is 1,200 square-feet and can accommodate up to 133 persons

William D. White House

- Run by the Gretna Historical Society, located in Historic Downtown Gretna
- Located in 1 of the 5 areas on the historic register in the City of Gretna
- Space can be rented for small group gatherings

Knights of Columbus

- Operated by the Archbishop Blenk Council 1905 located at 475 Franklin St.
- Offers banquet and meeting facilities

Future Hotels

- Marriott Courtyard planned along Westbank Expressway in Gretna
- Will be part of a larger complex complete with two additional hotels (at different price points), two restaurants, and retail space



The Holiday Inn West Bank Tower is one of the most iconic structures across the river from New Orleans