



The City of Gretna, Louisiana

Demographic & Economic Profile

2019



JEDCO

Demographic & Economic Profile

Executive Summary

With over 17,000 residents, Gretna, Louisiana is the second largest city in Jefferson Parish and the seat of Jefferson Parish government. Its historic downtown features a walkable, friendly community with a variety of restaurants, shops, businesses, and events, as well as stunning views of the Mississippi and downtown New Orleans from the levee trail. Gretna is extremely business friendly, working closely with new and existing companies to ensure their success, and stands ready with JEDCO to assist any individual or company looking to relocate to its vibrant community.

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 convenient access to Interstate 10, 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 Jefferson 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. Gretna businesses may also be eligible for various state and local tax and workforce development incentives. Please visit jedco.org for more information.

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 214,681 people, which accounts for 36.1% 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 clusters. Emerging opportunities exist as well in Food Manufacturing, Information Technology, Computer Systems Design, and Motion Picture & Digital Media sectors.

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 January 2019 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, part of the world’s busiest waterway, has captured even more global market from the widening of the Panama Canal. The Port began expansion to increase capacity in anticipation of the 2016 completion of the Panama project. The Louis Armstrong International Airport is only 20 miles from Gretna and is constructing a brand-new terminal facility to be opened in February 2019. 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

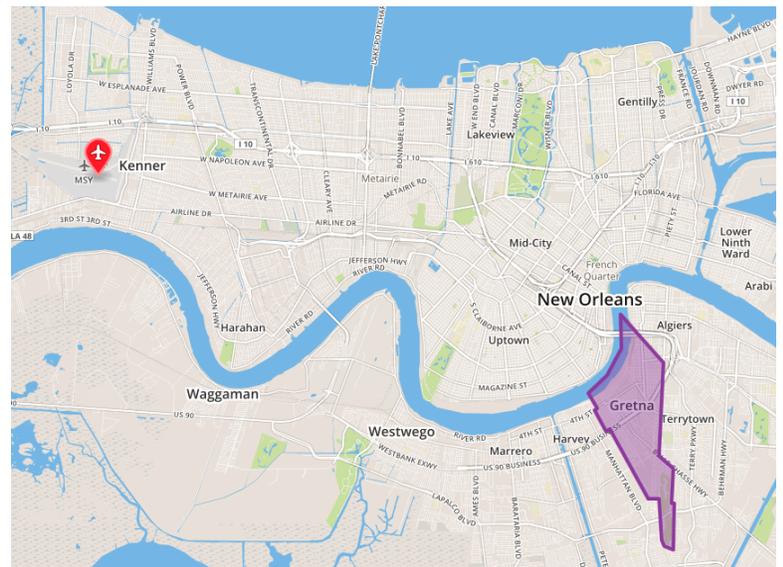
Motor Freight

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



Gretna in Relation to New Orleans

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 (continued)

Airways

Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport (MSY)

- Located in the City of Kenner and accessed by Interstate 10 and U.S. Highway 61.
- Among the fastest growing airports in the United States. Nearly 12 million passengers traveled through MSY in 2018.
- 16 passenger airlines (12 domestic, 4 international)
- 2 major freight and mail carriers (FedEx and UPS)
- Approximately 150 daily departures and 54 non-stop destination cities
- Direct international: Toronto, Frankfurt, London, Panama City, Cancun, Punta Cana
- The Airport has embarked on a \$1.029 billion capital program involving the construction of a new world-class terminal that includes 35 airline gates and related facilities on the north side of Airport property, scheduled to open May 15, 2019.
- For more information, go to www.flymsy.com

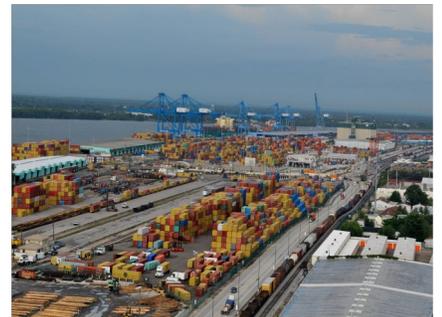


Rendering of the new terminal facility at MSY, which began construction in 2016. Completion is slated for 2019 and will include parking garages, concessions, and a new hotel.

Waterways

Port of New Orleans

- The Port of New Orleans is America's most intermodal port. It is connected to major markets across the continent by the interstate highway system and is the only seaport in the U.S. served by all six Class I rail lines, 50 ocean carriers, 16 barge lines and 75 truck lines.
- Diverse general cargo port handling containerized cargo such as apparel, food products and consumer merchandise as well as cold storage, breakbulk, heavy lift and grain containers.
- Connected to major inland markets and Canada via a 14,500-mile inland waterway system.
- 20 million square feet of cargo handling area and over 3.1 million square feet of covered storage.
- Cruise terminal serving three international cruise lines (Carnival, Norwegian and Royal Caribbean).
- Foreign Trade Zone.
- For more information, go to www.portnola.com



The Port of New Orleans' is the only deep water port served by all six Class 1 rail lines—a 132,000-mile network tying local industries to every major North American market.

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 Tem

Wayne A. Rau

Councilman District 1

Milton L. Crosby

Councilman District 2

Michael A. Hinyub

Councilman District 3

Mark K. Miller

Councilman District 4

Jackie J. Berthelot

Offices of the City of Gretna

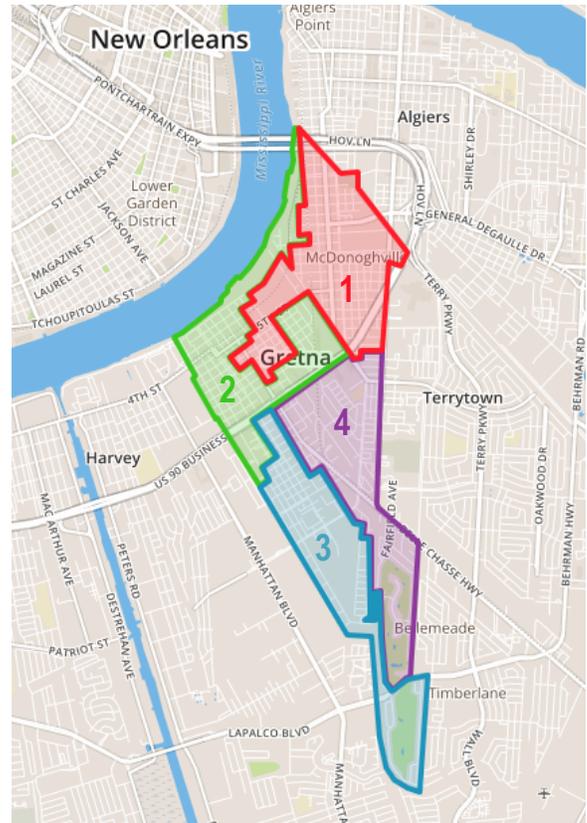
Physical Address:

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.



Gretna City Council Districts



In 2016, Gretna received recognition as an outstanding community from the Southern Economic Development Council.

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

Council-at-Large Division A Chris Roberts

Council-at-Large Division B Cynthia Lee-Sheng

Jefferson Parish Council Offices located at:

General Government Building

200 Derbigny St.

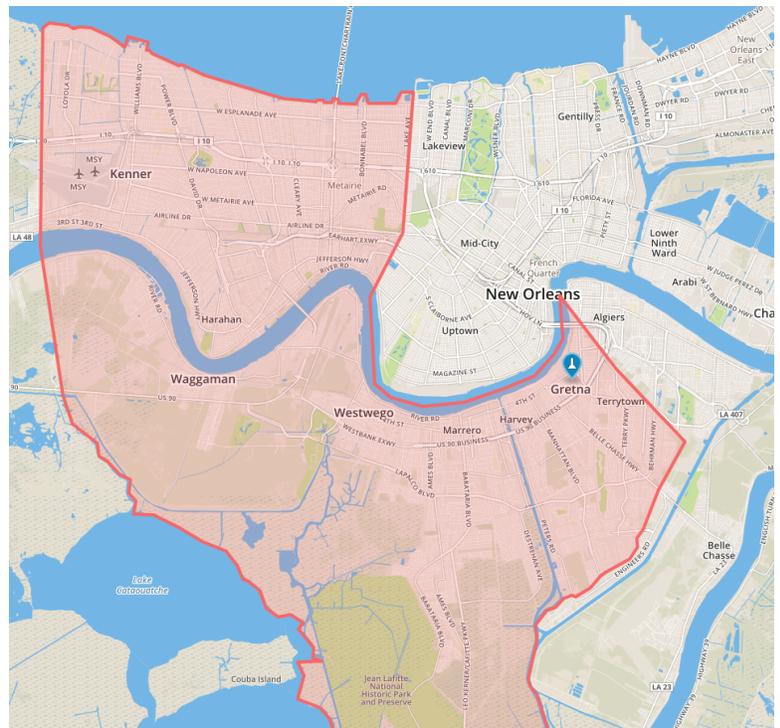
Gretna, LA 70053



With approximately 436,000 residents, Jefferson Parish is Louisiana's second most populous parish. It is also home to the Ochsner Health System, Louisiana's largest private 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 to the right (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
- Typical City mill rate in 2018 was .06052. See the table below for 2018 mills across incorporated cities in Jefferson Parish

Property Tax Millage Rates for Jefferson Parish

Location	Parish Mills	City Mills	Total Mills
City of Gretna	0.06861	0.06052	0.12913
City of Westwego	0.06861	0.02927	0.09788
City of Kenner	0.06561	0.01717	0.08278
City of Harahan	0.06627	0.02193	0.08820
Town of Grand Isle	0.11012	0.01187	0.12199

*Represents the City-wide mill in Gretna less Timberland Estates. The City mill for Timberland Estates is .03913 mills.

Sales Tax

- Total sales tax in Jefferson Parish is 9.2%
- Jefferson Parish remits 2.34% to the City of Gretna
- Jefferson Parish sales tax levied by School Board = 1.5%
- Jefferson Parish sales tax levied by Sheriff's Office = 0.250%
- Jefferson Parish sales tax levied by Parish Council = 3.0%

Sales Tax

Governing Body	Sales Tax
State	4.45%
Parish	4.75%
Total	9.2%

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.

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.

Gretna Parks and Recreation Department

- Maintains all parks, playgrounds, and green places in Gretna.
- The City of Gretna features eleven parks and playground spaces including a new dog park, Gretna Bark Park.
- Oversees youth sports activities for the City of Gretna for children between the ages of 5 and 15.

Gretna Senior Center

- Provides 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 Street.

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

JEDCO's financing programs are designed to assist businesses with financing of fixed assets, working capital, and inventory. Most loan programs work in conjunction with bank financing. Under this structure, financing of an eligible project is divided between JEDCO, a private lender and borrower's equity. For additional information on these programs, please contact Jennifer Lapeyrouse, JEDCO's Economic Development Finance Manager, at jlapeyrouse@jedco.org or 504.875.3924.

2 ways to FINANCE with JEDCO

1 SBA 504

JEDCO offers SBA 504 loans STATEWIDE

Program features:

- As little as 10% cash out-of-pocket;
- Below-market fixed rates;
- Start-ups are eligible borrowers;
- Approvals using projected revenues;
- Finance 'special purpose' properties.

PROJECT SIZE: \$250,000 to \$15,000,000+

LOAN TERM: 10 or 20 years

RATE: SBA rates change monthly; call JEDCO

ELIGIBLE USES:



COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE



EQUIPMENT, new or used



MACHINERY, new or used

2 JED(Grow) Loan Program

JED(Grow) is JEDCO's loan program established to support the growth and economic development of Jefferson Parish-based businesses.

LOAN SIZE: Typically \$25,000 to \$250,000

LOAN TERM: 3 years to 20 years

RATE: fixed, up to 3.00% over prime rate

ELIGIBLE USES: SBA 504 uses, plus:



LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS



INVENTORY



WORKING CAPITAL

Business Assistance

Tax Credits & Incentives

Eligible businesses can take advantage of various state and local tax incentive programs designed to help companies grow, potentially resulting in overall net savings. Please note: Louisiana Economic Development (LED) requires applicants for certain programs where noted to file an Advance Notification and pay a processing fee prior to creating jobs, starting construction or otherwise starting the project. The Advance Notification can be submitted electronically on the LED's FastLane website at <https://fastlane.louisianaeconomicdevelopment.com/>. In addition to the processing fee, businesses are assessed an application fee for many programs. Please contact JEDCO with any questions regarding these programs at 504-875-3908.

Enterprise Zone (EZ) Program

- Qualifying businesses are eligible for a one-time tax credit of \$3,500 per net job if the company is located in an enterprise zone or if a net new employee has received public assistance within 6 months of being hired. \$1,000 one-time tax credit is available if the business is outside an enterprise zone. \$5,000 one-time tax credit is also available for certain aerospace or automobile parts manufacturers for each certified net new, permanent full-time job created. Businesses are also eligible for a full state and partial local rebate of sales/use taxes or a refundable investment income tax credit equal to 1.5% of certain capital expenditures
- Current national workforce must be increased by 10% (minimum of one) 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. The company's average annual employment shall be determined by LED
- 50% of net new hires must meet at least 1 certification requirement (i.e., residency in an Enterprise Zone, receiving public assistance during the six months prior to employment, lacking basic skills or unemployable by traditional standards)
- Businesses engaged in gaming, residential development, churches, restaurants, hotels, employment service agencies and retail businesses having a NAICS code beginning with 44,45,721, 722 or 5613 are not eligible
- Requires submittal of Advanced Notification and \$250 non-refundable fee to LED. Program sunsets on July 1, 2021.

Quality Jobs Program

- Qualifying businesses receive an annual payroll rebate at a rate of 5% or 6% for new direct jobs for up to 10 years. For projects for which an Advance Notification was filed on or after July 1, 2015 the rebate shall not exceed the benefit rate multiplied by 80% of the gross payroll of new direct jobs. Starting July 1, 2018, the rebate shall be calculated by multiplying the benefit rate by 100% of the gross payroll of new direct jobs.
- To qualify, a business must meet one of the following eligibility criteria:
 - be in a targeted industry including Bioscience, Manufacturing, Software, Clean Energy Technology, Food Technology, Advanced Materials, Headquarters of Multi-State Businesses, Back-Office Operations, Aircraft MROs or Oil & Gas Field Service.
 - have or will have at least 50% of total annual sales to out-of-state customers or buyers, and/or to in-state customers or buyers if the product or service is resold by the purchaser to an out-of-state customer or buyer for ultimate use, or to the federal government; or the employer is a business that spends fifty percent or more of its time performing services for its out-of-state parent company. These services include but are not limited to legal, marketing, finance, information technology, order management, distribution center operation, or overall operations support.
 - be located in a parish that is within the lowest 25% of parishes based on per capita income.
- Businesses must create a minimum of five new direct full-time jobs by the end of the third fiscal year.
- Businesses must pay new direct jobs a minimum of \$18.00 per hour in wages and health care benefits to receive the 5% payroll rebate and \$21.66 per hour in wages and health care benefits to receive the 6% payroll rebate. Health care benefits must be offered and must meet federally mandated healthcare requirements, or, if no federally mandated healthcare requirements exist, shall be determined to have a value of at least one dollar and twenty-five cents per hour.
- Companies with 50 or fewer employees must create \$225,000 in gross annual payroll and companies with more than 50 employees must increase annual payroll by \$675,000 by the end of the third fiscal year (continued on following page)

Business Assistance

Tax Credits / Incentives (continued)

Quality Jobs Program (continued)

- Businesses are also eligible for a full state and partial local rebate of sales/use tax paid on materials, fixtures, furniture, machinery and equipment purchased and delivered during project/construction period for use on the project site, or a refundable investment income tax credit equal to 1.5% of certain capital expenditures. These benefits are only available to businesses meeting the Enterprise Zone program's 50% job certification requirement
- For projects for which an invitation to apply is extended by the Secretary of LED on or after July 1, 2015, the contract shall provide a rebate of 20% of relocation costs and include provisions related to the maximum amount of qualifying relocation costs, performance obligations including but not limited to the number of headquarters jobs and associated payroll to be created and maintained and reduction of annual rebate payments if performance obligations are not met. Starting July 1, 2018 the rebate increases to 25% of qualifying relocation costs.
- Participation in the Louisiana Quality Jobs program excludes the use of the Enterprise Zone program, Technology Commercialization Credit and Jobs program and or the Corporate Jobs Tax Credit program
- Requires submittal of Advance Notification and \$250 non-refundable fee to LED

Restoration Tax Abatement (RTA)

- Commercial property owners and homeowners who substantially renovate an existing structure in a qualifying district 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 five years if approved by local governing authority.
- Requires submittal of Advance Notification and \$250 non-refundable fee to LED.
- A large portion of the City of Gretna is in a qualifying district for RTA. Contact JEDCO at (504) 875-3908 to find out if your property qualifies.

Industrial Property Tax Exemption

- Manufacturing operations are eligible for a local property tax exemption on new qualifying capital related to the manufacturing process.
- Manufacturers who submit applications to this program after July 1, 2018 may be eligible to receive an 80% property tax abatement for an initial term of five years and the option to renew for an additional five years at 80%.
- Requires submittal of Advance Notification and \$250 non-refundable fee to LED.
- LED contact: Kristin Cheng, program administrator, tel. (225) 342-2083 or Kristin.cheng@la.gov
- **L.A.C.**, Title 13, Part I, Ch. 5; **LA R.S.** 11:97-37:2380

Manufacturing Sales Tax Exclusion

- Qualifying manufacturing machinery and equipment purchases are eligible for a 4% state and partial local sales/use tax exemption.
- Manufacturers must obtain manufacturer's exemption certificate from the Louisiana Department of Revenue and Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, Bureau of Taxation and Revenue to avoid paying state and local sales/use tax on eligible M&E.

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 and filled by Louisiana residents. For returns after July 1, 2018, the tax credit shall range from \$100 to \$225 for each new job.
- Tax credits can be used to satisfy up to 35% of state corporate income tax obligations. Beginning July 1, 2018, tax credits shall not exceed 50% of such tax obligations. May be used in lieu of participating in the Industrial Tax Exemption, Restoration Tax Abatement, Enterprise Zone Program, or Quality Jobs Program.

Business Assistance

Tax Credits / Incentives (continued)

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.
- Warehousing and manufacturing facilities in the Greater New Orleans area can apply for FTZ designation.
- The Port of New Orleans administers the Greater New Orleans FTZ.

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.
- For those eligible taxpayers whose ad valorem taxes paid to all political subdivisions in the taxable year were less than \$10,000, a refund shall be issued for all the excess credit. For those whose ad valorem taxes exceeded \$10,000, a refund of 75% of the excess credit shall be issued and the remaining 25% may be carried as a credit against subsequent tax liability for up to five years.

Customized Software Sales Tax Exemption

- Companies purchasing certain customized computer software are 97% exempted from paying Louisiana and 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 research expenses (based on employment).

Angel Investor Tax Credit Program

- Offers accredited investors a 25% transferable tax credit on any state income or corporate franchise tax liability based on the amount invested in a qualified Louisiana Entrepreneurial Business (LEB). LEBs are early stage, wealth-creating businesses certified by LED.

Digital Interactive Media and Software Tax Credit

- Investors in state-certified productions of digital interactive media products and platforms qualify for a refundable Louisiana investment income tax credit equal to 18% of qualified production expenditures and a 25.2% tax credit on payroll for in-state labor through Jun 30, 2018 (increasing to 25% and 35% respectively starting 7/1/2018). Certified applicants may elect to receive a one-time rebate of credits equal to 85% of the face value of the credits in lieu of tax credits at any time during the year.

Business Assistance

Tax Credits / Incentives (continued)

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 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, must have been convicted of a felony, and must have had 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 six 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 taxpayer.
- Beginning with returns filed on or after July 1, 2018, the re-entrant credit shall be \$150 per re-entrant not to exceed 50% of corporate income tax.

Entertainment Industry Tax Incentive Programs

Jefferson Parish Film Industry Incentive Program

- Productions that have their principal Louisiana production office or use a soundstage or alternative filming facility located in Jefferson Parish may be eligible to receive a 3% cash rebate on local expenses. Qualifying production must spend at least \$150,000 in qualified local expenses.

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 income 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 this state, in excess of \$5,000. Starting July 1, 2018, this credit increases to 25%.
- Project must spend at least \$5,000 in Louisiana in a 12-month period to qualify.

Musical and Theatrical Production Income Tax Credit

- Investors in state-certified live musical or theatrical productions and/or state-certified musical or theatrical infrastructure projects may be eligible for a fully transferable or refundable tax credit ranging from 7.9% to 18% of their total base investment, depending on the amount of the investment. Credits can be applied toward individual or corporate income tax liability. Starting July 1, 2018, credits increase to a range of 10% to 25%.
- Payroll for Louisiana residents employed in connection with a state-certified production is eligible for an additional tax credit.

Business Assistance

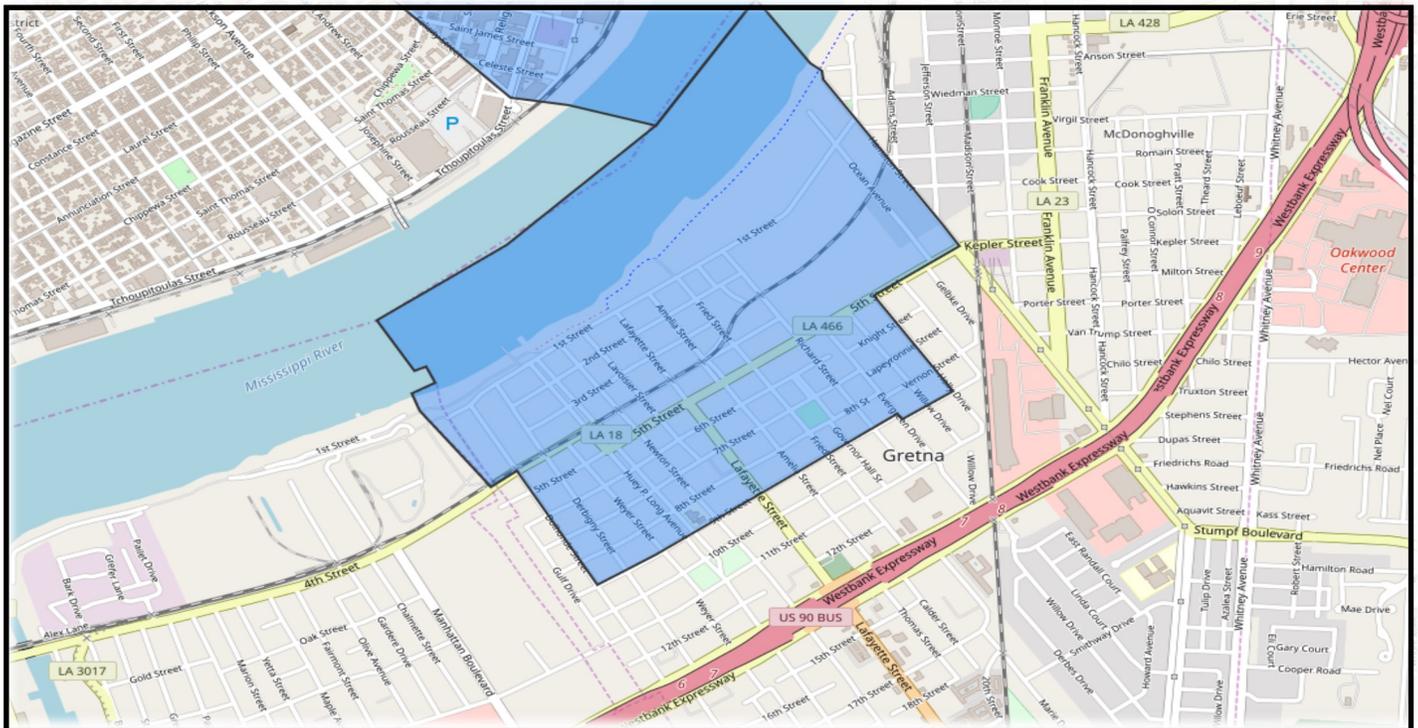
Tax Credits / Incentives (continued)

Opportunity Zone Incentives

- Through the federal Opportunity Zones Program, banks, communities and others may create Opportunity Funds to direct tax-advantaged investments to 150 federally designated Opportunity Zones in Louisiana.
- Louisiana secured U.S. Department of the Treasury certification for 150 lower-income census tracts to be Opportunity Zones. To attract new investment to underdeveloped areas, the federal government created the Opportunity Zones Program as part of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017.
- Investors and Opportunity Funds will qualify for favorable federal tax treatment through the U.S. Treasury Department, which will certify Opportunity Funds and their investments. Eligible investments will be those made for ownership of business real estate, capital and other assets by a partnership or a corporation formed for the purpose of investing in qualified Opportunity Zones property.
- The primary attraction for investing in Opportunity Zones is deferring and lowering federal taxes on capital gains. For a qualified Opportunity Zones investment, capital gains taxes may be deferred the first five years; after Year 5, taxes may be cancelled on 10 percent of the original capital gains investment and deferred for the remainder; in Year 7 through Year 10, taxes may be cancelled on 15 percent of the original capital gains investment, and the remainder may be deferred through 2026; for Opportunity Zones investments lasting longer than 10 years, investors are exempt from capital gains taxes on the Opportunity Zones investment itself, in addition to the other benefits for capital gains carried into the investment.

The City of Gretna includes one of the seven Jefferson Parish communities with a designated Qualified Opportunity Zone.

For more information, go to <https://www.cdfifund.gov/Pages/Opportunity-Zones.aspx>



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 contact Paul Helton at paul.helton@la.gov, (225) 342-5600 or visit the Louisiana Economic Development website, www.opportunitylouisiana.com/page/led-faststart

LED FastStart

Louisiana's Custom Workforce Solution

Business Facilities 2017 Rankings Report named LED Fast Start the #1 workforce program in the nation for an unprecedented eighth (8th) 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

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 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 and 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
- Additional information is at (504) 227-1283.

Business Base



Major & Developing Industries

The Jefferson EDGE 2020 is the long-term economic development strategic plan to promote sustainability, job growth and investment in Jefferson Parish. Over the course of its 15-year history, The EDGE has served as a road map for our community's development. Through the proactive efforts of our stakeholders, JEDCO and elected officials, The EDGE has delivered game-changing initiatives such as developing the 500-acre Churchill Technology & Business Park and quality of life improvements related to the beautification of major corridors, education and Fat City redevelopment.

In 2015, the Jefferson EDGE underwent its most recent 5-year update. The industry clusters identified below were selected through the planning process with JEDCO board and parish stakeholders as the greatest opportunity for growth in strategic areas of interest and strength in coordination with regional efforts. While a cluster based approach targets needs of those industries, it does not exclude any industries or businesses from JEDCO's overall support services, but provides a basis for targeting limited resources for maximizing long term impact.



Food, Beverage, Fishing and Seafood

Louisiana, and especially the New Orleans region, is known for its delicious and unique cuisine and food products. Jefferson Parish's business case for this cluster is strong: utilities and water are less expensive, the food industry of region has a rich tradition and history, and the parish has a wide variety of distribution options. Jefferson also has a tremendous proximity to supply chains, from goods moving in and out of the Port of New Orleans to agricultural products grown in parishes further west, like rice, sugarcane, bananas, sweet potatoes, and more.



Water Transportation, Distribution and Logistics

The water transportation industry cluster is a foundational industry base in Jefferson Parish and the region. Jefferson Parish's hard assets, including the Harvey Canal, interstate highways, Mississippi River, multiple Class 1 railroads, and Louis Armstrong International Airport, combine for a multi-modal location unrivaled in the Gulf South. In particular, water transportation—both the transporting of goods on water as well as the building and maintenance of water-based vessels—is a highly specialized trade industry cluster with high average wages.

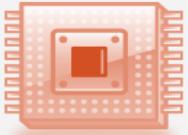


Health Care

The health services cluster is the largest employer in Jefferson Parish. The industry is facing major shifts in the parish—with private operators leasing parish hospitals, funding changes from the Affordable Care Act, and the growth of private systems like Ochsner and LCMC, Jefferson's medical landscape is radically different than it was just a few years ago. Additionally, the opening of two new medical centers in downtown New Orleans will add hundreds of beds to the regional capacity. These changes mean that the parish must address workforce development, regionally integrated marketing, and supporting destination health care to support continued growth in Jefferson Parish.

Business Base

Major & Developing Industries (cont'd)



IT Systems and Products

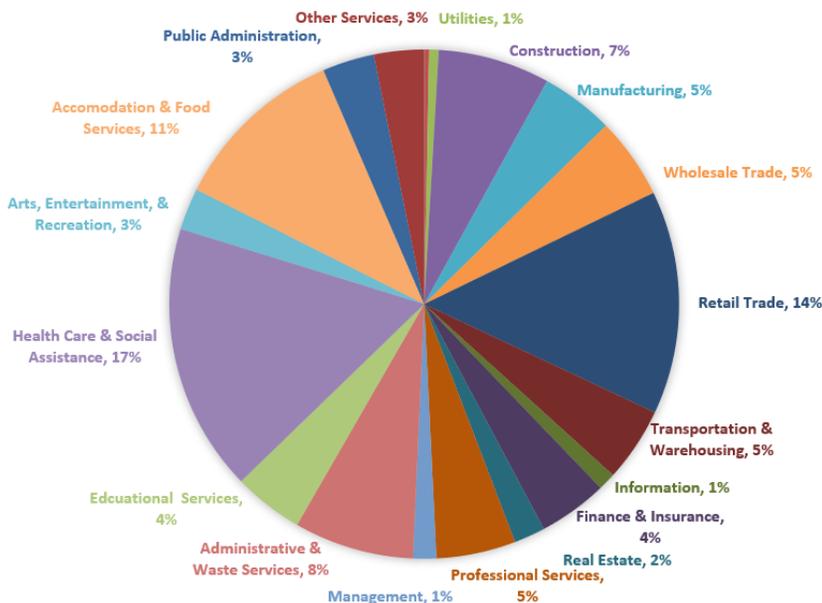
This cluster includes businesses that develop, sell, or train on software and other information technology products. This cluster, while a targeted industry in many regions across the country, has several strong and growing firms in Jefferson Parish, like Geocent, 365 Connect, Entronix, and ReadSoft. Information technology and information systems are a part of every industry and business around the globe; there is not just one kind of IT company. Thus, part of this targeted strategy is to determine what types of IT hold the most promise for Jefferson's future. Jefferson's largest employers are in engineering, health care, construction, water transportation, and other industries with significant IT needs. By tying the EDGE plan's targeted clusters together with information technology, the IT industry can be the connective tissue that helps all Jefferson businesses prosper.



Water, Coastal, and Environmental Industries

This industry has been the result of tremendous regional planning and development activity that came out of a realization post-Katrina that Louisiana can and must be a leader in water management and coastal restoration. These coordinated efforts between government, industry, and philanthropic leaders have resulted in two landmark plans that position billions of dollars of projects and investments to rebuild the coast and help our cities live with water: the state's Coastal Master Plan and the Greater New Orleans Urban Water Plan. Now, with the prospect of funding from the RESTORE Act and the settlement with BP after the 2010 oil spill, this industry is ready to grow locally, and for the best reason—rebuilding the coastal defenses that protect our region and make it more resilient.

**AVERAGE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY SECTOR,
JEFFERSON PARISH 2018**



Source: Louisiana Workforce Commission

**Negligible percentage for Mining; and Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting.*

Business Base

Top Employers

The estimated workforce living in incorporated Gretna is approximately 8,379, according to the US Census Bureau. Many of these workers are employed by the top employers in Gretna listed below, which include six private companies from various industries, City of Gretna and Jefferson Parish.

Top Employers in Gretna (Ranked by Number of Employees)

Business Base	Number of Employees	Description of Operation
Parish of Jefferson	2,485	Parish Government
Acme Trucking	2,100	Transportation and Logistics
City of Gretna	351	City Government
Brothers Regional Office	300	Regional Convenience Stores
Zatarain's Brands	199	New Orleans Style Seasonings, Mixes & Sauces Manufacturing
Versa Integrity Group	125	Onshore/Offshore Inspection Services
Technical Engineering Consultants	60	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 Private Companies in the New Orleans metropolitan area, an annual ranking based on total revenue as reported by area businesses. In 2018, 36 of the top companies were located within Jefferson Parish. 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.

* **Business has presence in Gretna**

Business Name	2018 Revenue (in millions)	Description of Operation
Ochsner Health System*	\$3,050	Medical care
Georges Enterprises, LLC	\$1,300	Food distributor & food services
Laitram LLC	\$572.5	Manufacturer of conveyor belts, shrimp processing equipment, alternating tread stairs
Ray Brandt Automotive & Collision - Nissan, Toyota, Infiniti, Dodge, Hyundai*	\$508.5	Automotive sales, service & collision repair
Acme Truck Line Inc.*	\$240	Transportation
Blessey Marine Services Inc.	\$204	Towing of barges and marine vessels
Gibbs Construction	\$184	Commercial construction
Al Copeland Investments Inc.	\$163.4	Restaurants, hotels and food manufacturing
Favrot & Shane	\$119.8	Real estate development & management
Broadmoor, LLC	\$103.7	Design/build firm
Bryan Chevrolet, Mitsubishi & Suzuki Inc.	\$101.6	Automobile dealership
Core Construction Co.	\$100.0	General contractor
McDonnel Group LLC, The	\$85	Commercial construction
ProSource Floors, Inc.	\$74.2	Wholesale flooring
Royal Honda	\$72.2	Automobile sales and service
Delta Administrative Services	\$57.0	Human resource outsourcing, PEO services
Ryan Gootee General Contractors, LLC	\$51.0	General construction

Business Base

Top Private Companies in Jefferson Parish (continued)

Business Name	2017 Revenue (in millions)	Description of Operation
Cycle Construction Co.	\$33.5	General contractor
Altus—Global Trade Solutions	\$29.2	Receivables management services
Gardner Realtors	\$29.0	Real estate
Durr Heavy Construction, LLC	\$27	General contractor, site preparation, demolition, utilities and disaster recover
Gulf Coast Office Pro	\$26.0	Copy machine, fax, printing
Diabetes Management & Supplies	\$25.1	Diabetes medical supplier
Metairie Bank & Trust	\$18.0	Banking
Eustis Insurance and Benefits	\$17.1	Insurance
Vincent Piazza Jr. & Sons Seafood, Inc.	\$17	Seafood processor & institutional distributor
Eagan Insurance Agency, Inc.	\$15.5	Property and casualty insurance
Velocity Agency	\$15.0	Digital marketing agency
U.S. Forensic	\$11.0	Forensic engineering
Rupp Marketing	\$10.8	Advertising agency
Construction Masters, Inc.	\$8.0	Construction
AAC Enterprise (dba Advanced Automotive Concepts)	\$5.7	Parts distribution and lighting technology
Bienvenue Brothers	\$2.3	A/C, Plumbing
American Office Machines Inc.	\$1.9	Office equipment and supply sales
Gambel Communications	\$1.3	Public relations
Passport Health of Louisiana	\$1.0	Travel medicine/vaccinations

Business Base

Employment & Wages

Employment (October 2018)

Industry	Parish		Louisiana	
Employment	207,521	95.8%	2,009,360	95.3%
Unemployment	9,024	4.2%	98,627	4.7%
Civilian Labor Force	216,545	100%	2,107,987	100%

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

Employment and Wages by Industry Sector (Jefferson Parish, Second Quarter 2018)

Industry Sector	Total Estimated Companies	Average Employees	Average Weekly Wage (\$)
Accommodation and food services	1,219	20,992	\$354
Administration and waste services	904	14,388	\$662
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	18	37	\$555
Arts, entertainment and recreation	214	5,015	\$1,921
Construction	1,290	13,420	\$1,059
Finance and insurance	945	8,288	\$1,329
Health care and social assistance	1,584	32,188	\$1,135
Information	146	2,102	\$1,000
Manufacturing	416	8,744	\$1,148
Management of companies and enterprises	107	2,776	\$1,331
Mining	51	546	\$1,835
Other services (except public administration)	1,078	6,003	\$679
Professional and technical services	1,735	9,519	\$1,297
Public administration	108	6,228	\$1,086
Real estate, rental and leasing	601	3,744	\$886
Retail trade	1,901	26,837	\$583
Transportation and warehousing	474	8,942	\$1,100
Utilities	29	1,149	\$1,281
Wholesale trade	1,091	9,763	\$1,267

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

Business Base

Cost of Labor

The New Orleans Metropolitan Statistical Area has a large and agile 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	2015	2016	2017
Manufacturing (overall)	\$992	\$1081	\$1,111	\$1,134	\$1,161	\$1,130	\$1,132	\$1,184
Ship and Boat Building	\$966	\$1149	\$1,263	\$1,359	\$1,505	\$1,353	\$1,358	\$1,386
Chemical Manufacturing	\$1599	\$1735	\$1,620	\$1,787	\$1,944	\$1,839	\$1,851	\$2,203
Machinery Manufacturing	\$1001	\$993	\$1,027	\$1,057	\$1,084	\$1,070	\$1,075	\$1,153

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	\$71,140	\$77,370	\$73,070	\$83,080	\$89,270	\$56,710	\$67,570
Elementary Teacher	\$49,690	\$55,740	\$51,060	\$60,280	\$62,740	\$42,590	\$50,710
Secondary Teacher	\$51,230	\$57,470	\$51,570	\$62,440	\$62,120	\$45,680	\$50,910
Registered Nurse	\$68,800	\$70,540	\$60,120	\$74,480	\$79,060	\$62,330	\$61,680
Architect & Engineer	\$90,090	\$80,600	\$79,550	\$94,500	\$112,150	\$72,180	\$75,330
Machinist	\$48,180	\$45,920	\$41,130	\$38,980	\$47,320	\$41,150	\$40,840
Welder	\$48,880	\$37,620	\$39,530	\$40,210	\$51,690	\$38,380	\$42,030
Construction Laborer	\$33,390	\$35,850	\$32,890	\$31,100	\$32,950	\$29,200	\$30,140

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

Economic Indicators

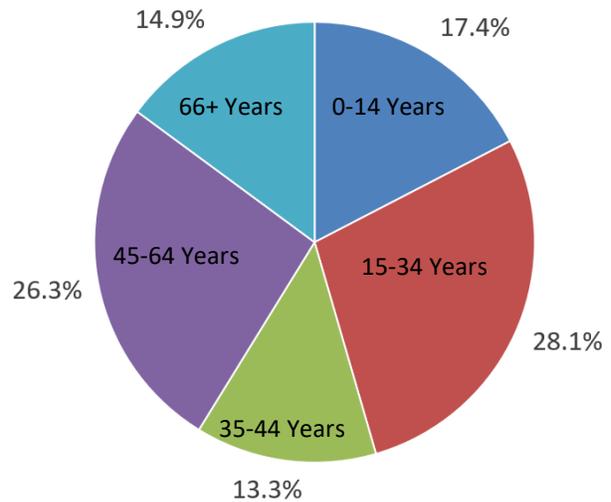
Gretna Demographics

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

Age of Residents as Percent of the Population 2018

Age	% of Pop.	Age	% of Pop.
0 - 4	6.0%	35 - 44	13.3%
5 - 9	5.9%	45 - 54	13.0%
10 - 14	5.5%	55 - 64	13.3%
15 - 19	5.8%	65 - 74	8.5%
20 - 24	6.9%	75 - 84	4.4%
25 - 34	15.4%	85 +	2.0%

Residents by Age Group



Population

Population	17,690
Median Age	38.1
Per Capita Income	\$23,836

Household Data

Households	6,956
Median Household Income	\$37,015
Average Household Income	\$58,529
Average Household size	2.40
Owner Occupied HUs	3,017
Renter Occupied HUs	3,939

Households by Income

< \$15,000	17.9%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	15.3%
\$25,000 - \$34,999	14.1%
\$35,000 - \$49,999	15%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	14.7%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	8.2%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	8.4%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	2.8%
\$200,000+	3.7%

Racial Composition

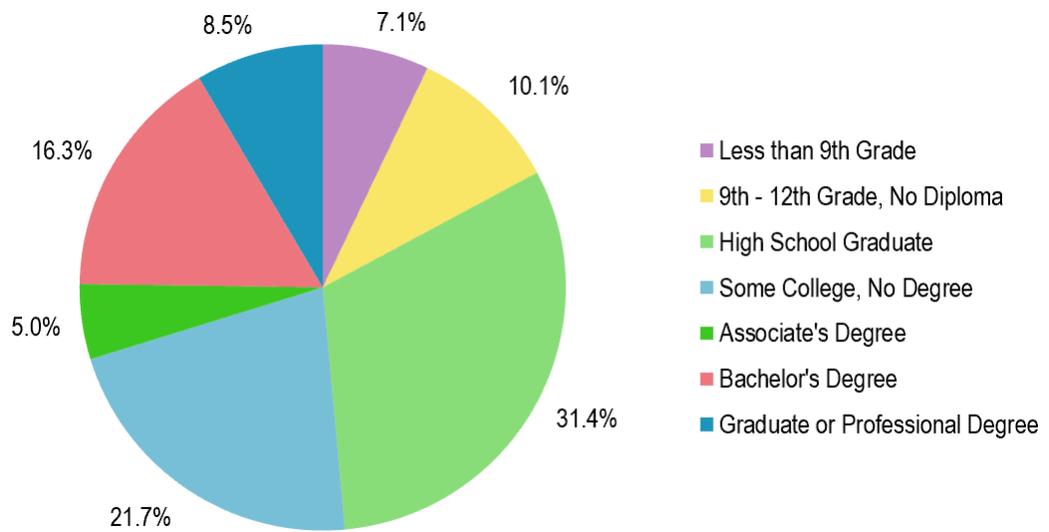
Caucasian alone	50.2%
African American alone	37.6%
Other race alone	6.1%
Asian	2.9%
Two or more races	2.6%
American Indian alone	0.5%
Pacific Islander alone	0.0%
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Hispanic Origin (any race)	16.8%

Economic Indicators

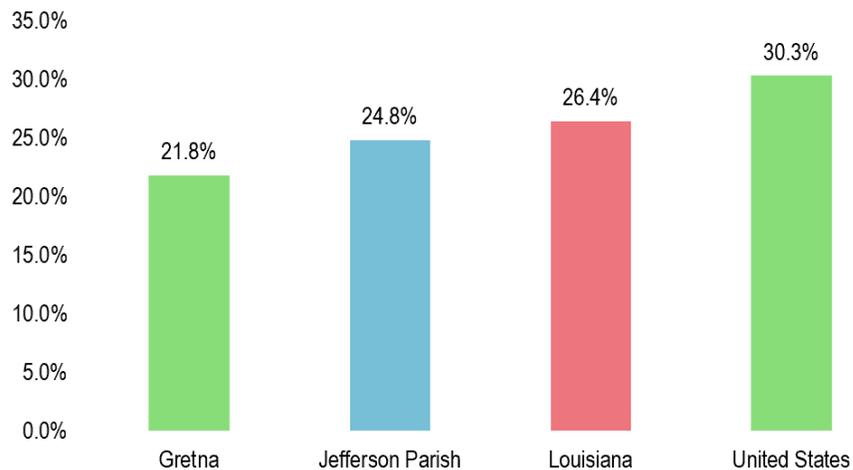
Educational Attainment

According to the US Census Bureau, Approximately 82.9% of Jefferson Parish residents 25 or older have a High School Diploma or higher. 16.7% 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, 80.9% of residents 25 or older have a high school diploma and 23.4 % have an associate's, bachelor's, or graduate degree.

Educational Attainment Levels for Jefferson



Percentage of Population with Bachelor's Degree or Higher



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

Economic Indicators

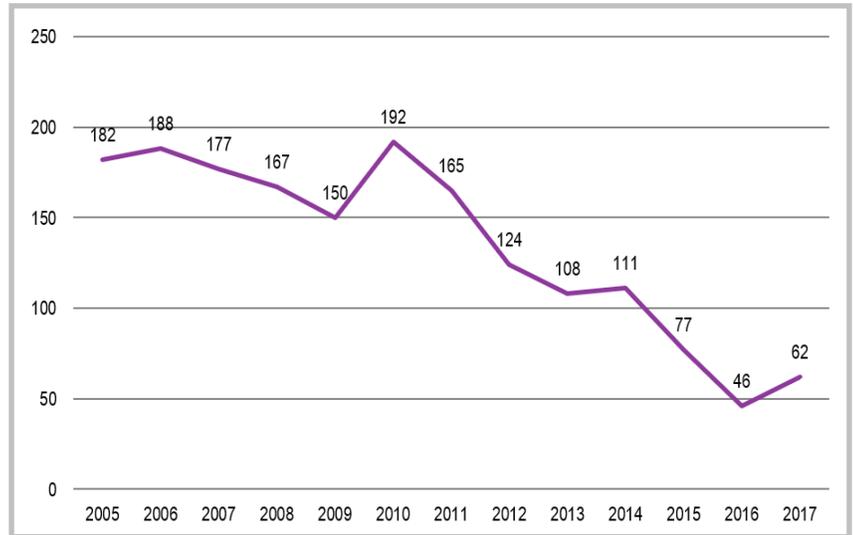
Employment in the Mining Sector

Regional Mining Sector Jobs

Year	Number of Jobs
2005	8150
2006	8100
2007	8100
2008	8250
2009	8000
2010	7200
2011	7100
2012	7000
2013	7000
2014	7890
2015	6637
2016	4285
2017	4803

Source: Louisiana Workforce Commission, 2nd Quarter 2018

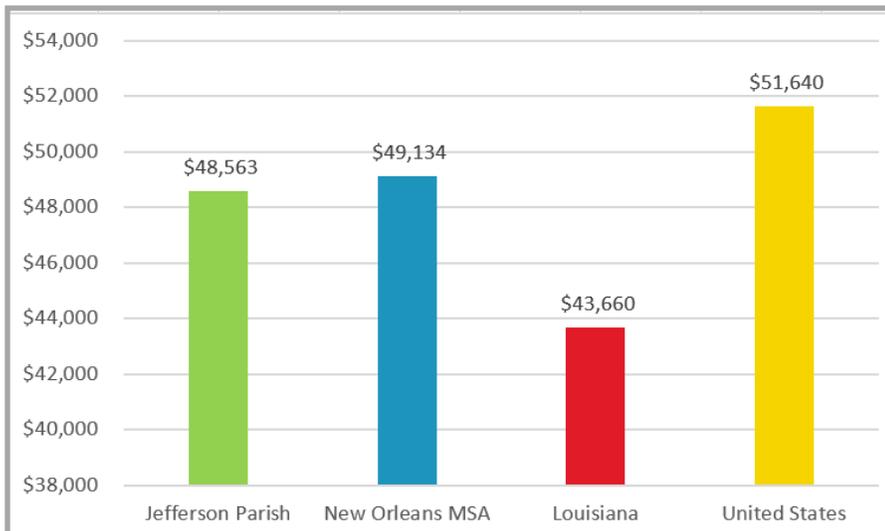
Louisiana Rig Counts



Source: Baker Hughes

Per Capita Personal Income Comparison

2017 Per Capita Personal Income (Most Current Data Available)



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Economic Indicators

Real Estate

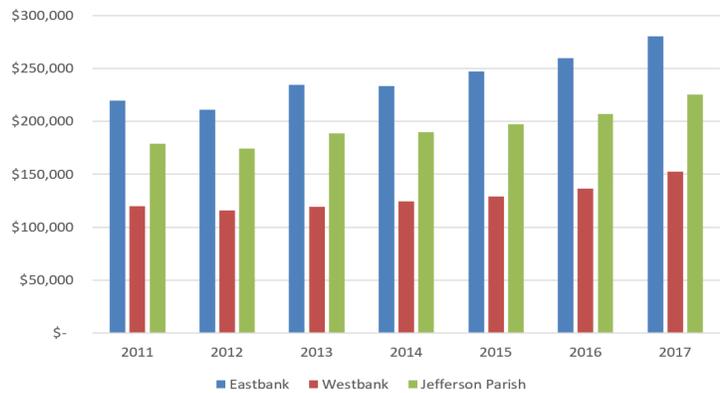
Average Prices of Single Family Homes in Jefferson Parish

2017

East Bank	\$280,527
West Bank	\$152,316
Jefferson Parish	\$225,636

Source: Metropolitan New Orleans Real Estate Market Analysis, April 2018

2011-2017 Comparison (Parish-Wide)

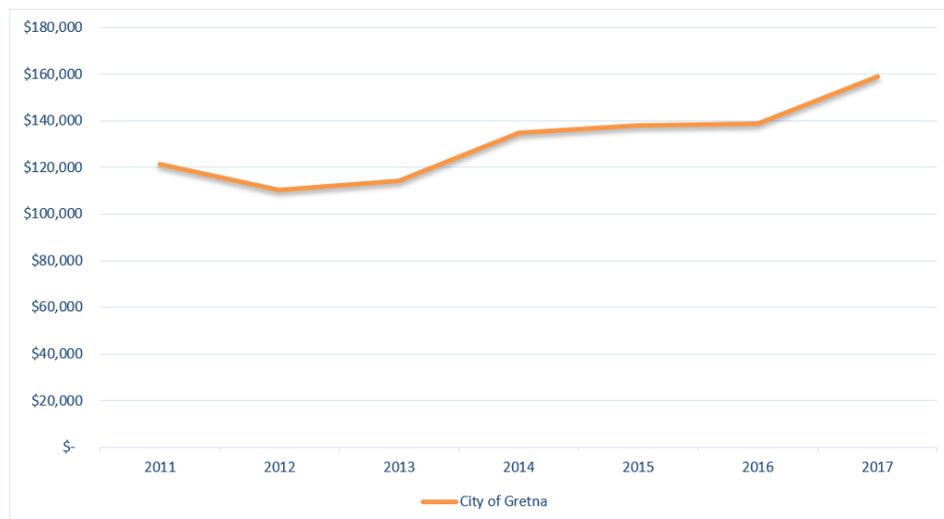


Average Prices of Single Family Homes in City of Gretna

2011	\$121,339	2014	\$134,678	2016	\$138,958
2012	\$110,234	2015	\$137,843	2017	\$158,930
2013	\$114,125				

Source: Metropolitan New Orleans Real Estate Market Analysis, April 2018

2011-2017 Comparison (Gretna Only)



Economic Indicators

Real Estate (Continued)

2017 Rental and Occupancy Rates for Office and Retail Space in Jefferson Parish

Type of Space	Average \$/SF	Occupancy Rate
Office Space		
Class A	\$22.80	91.2%
Class B	\$18.05	83.6%
Class C	\$14.36	85.6%
Retail Space		
Class A	\$17.80	86.3%
Class B	\$19.96	84.3%
Class C	\$16.36	89.1%

Source: Metropolitan New Orleans Real Estate Market Analysis, April 2018

2017 Rental and Occupancy Rates for Industrial Space in Jefferson Parish

Warehouse Space Area	Average \$/SF		Occupancy Rate	
	Distribution	Service Center	Distribution	Service Center
West Bank (includes Gretna)	\$3.00—\$4.50	N/A	92%	N/A
Kenner	\$3.00—\$5.50	N/A	95%	N/A
Elmwood	\$4.25—\$6.50	\$7.50—\$9.00	95%	95%

Source: Metropolitan New Orleans Real Estate Market Analysis, April 2018

Quality of Life

Primary Education / Secondary Education

There are eighty-six (86) public schools in Jefferson Parish and fifty-six (56) private schools, including the fifteen (15) 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, 2017-2018

85 Public Schools	50,104
56 Nonpublic Schools	18,000

Source: Jefferson Parish Public School System (jpschools.org)
Louisiana Department of Education (louisianabelieves.com)



In 2017, Thomas Jefferson High School, located in Gretna, was ranked as one of the Top 10 high schools in Louisiana by the US News and World Report.

Schools in Gretna

School Name	Level	Enrollment
Public Schools		
Gretna No. 2 Academy	Pre K-5	362
McDonogh #26 Elementary	Pre K-5	283
Shirley T. Johnson Gretna Park Elementary	Pre K-5	619
William Hart Elementary	Pre K-5	351
Paul J. Solis Elementary	Pre K-5	755
Frederick Douglass Elementary	Pre K-5	313
George Cox Elementary	K-5	387
Young Audiences Charter School	K-4	697
Jefferson RISE Charter	6-7	242
Gretna Middle	6-8	627
L W Ruppel Academy for Advanced Studies	6-8	242
Thomas Jefferson H.S. for Advanced Studies	9-12	400
Nonpublic Schools		
Arden Cahill Academy	Pre K-8	487
St. Anthony Elementary	Pre K-7	290
St. Cletus Catholic	Pre K-8	412



According to the Louisiana Department of Education, in 2017 six of the Top 15 public schools in Louisiana were in the Jefferson Parish Public School system, including Gretna No. 2 Academy and Thomas Jefferson High School for Advanced Studies.

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

Quality of Life

Colleges / Universities

The Greater New Orleans Area is home to 9 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	2017-18 Enrollment
University of New Orleans	New Orleans	7,964
Tulane University	New Orleans	13,602
Loyola University	New Orleans	3,858
Xavier University of LA	New Orleans	3,044
Southern University at N.O.	New Orleans	2,546
Dillard University	New Orleans	1,291
University of Holy Cross	New Orleans	1,246
Herzing University	Kenner	381
Southeastern Louisiana	Hammond	14,308

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

Two Year Colleges

Institution	Location	2017-18 Enrollment
Delgado Community	Various	17,805
Nunez Community	Chalmette	2,555

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



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

Medical & Law Schools

Institution	Location	2017-18 Enrollment
LSU Medicine	New Orleans	800
LSU Allied Health	New Orleans	400
LSU Nursing	New Orleans	1000
LSU Dental	New Orleans	400
LSU Public Health	New Orleans	100
Tulane University Medical School	New Orleans	1071
Tulane University Law School	New Orleans	915
Loyola University Law School	New Orleans	494

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, with Ochsner’s West Bank Campus located in unincorporated Gretna. West Jefferson Medical Center, a full service hospital, is located ten minutes from Gretna in Marrero, LA.

Jefferson Parish Hospitals

Hospital Name	Licensed # of beds
West Bank Hospitals	580
West Jefferson Medical Center	419
Ochsner Medical Center—West Bank Campus	161
East Bank Hospitals	1,272
Ochsner Medical Center—Jefferson Highway	621
East Jefferson General Hospital	420
Tulane-Lakeside Hospital for Women and Children	121
Ochsner Medical Center—Kenner	110

Sources: City Business New Orleans, Book of Lists 2018—2019



In 2017, Ochsner Medical Center was nationally ranked in the Top 50 Hospitals for four adult specialties and one pediatric specialty by the US News & World Report, including Neurology and Gastroenterology.



The American Heart Association (AHA) presented WJMC with the Heart Failure Gold Quality Achievement Award in 2017, marking the tenth year it has been recognized with a quality achievement award.



Ochsner Medical System West Bank Campus
 Located in unincorporated Gretna

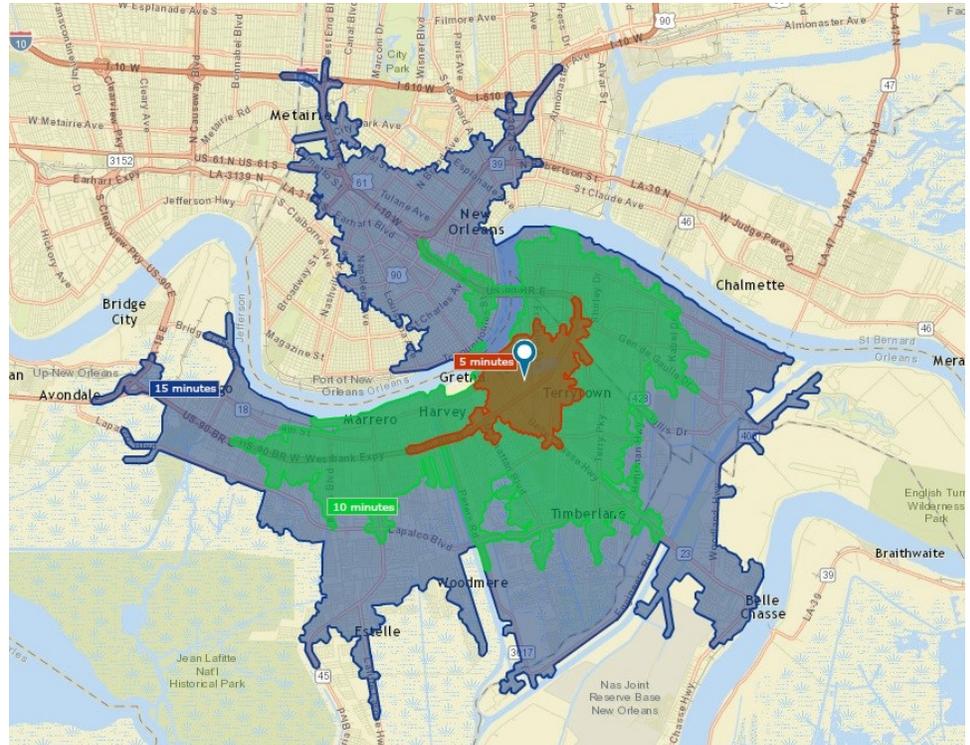
Quality of Life

Journey to Work

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. 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



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. Gretna also has local bus service that runs between the Jefferson Parish government complex, downtown Gretna and the historic McDonoghville neighborhood.



In 2018, JeT will be embarking on an update to its Strategic Plan. For more information including route maps, fares and schedules, visit the website for JeT www.jeffersontransit.org.

Quality of Life

Music / Festivals / Events

Gretna Heritage Festival

- 25 city blocks in downtown Gretna and six stages with performances by national and local artists.
- Recent years have featured KISS, The B-52s, Huey Lewis and the News, Lynyrd Skynyrd, LeAnn Rimes, Melissa Etheridge, and Kool & the Gang.
- Over 30 food vendors representing local, national, and international cuisine.
- Enormous selection of antiques, collectibles, and arts & crafts.



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, which provides food for sale to attendees.

Gretna Art Walk

- Held on the second 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 three-day festival in mid-October.
- Put on by the St. Cletus parishioners and St. Cletus Knights of Columbus.

City Wide Garage Sale

- Held every October and draws visitors from all over the region.
- Centered along Huey P. Long Avenue, with residents from all over the city selling their unwanted treasures.

Drive In Movies on the River

- Outdoor movies on the downtown Gretna riverfront complete with food vendors
- Family friendly movies are held from October to early December

Gretna Food Truck Fest

- Featuring the best in food trucks and thousands of attendees.
- Upcoming Food Truck Festivals will be at different locations throughout the city.



Quality of Life

Shopping / Recreation

Gretna Farmer's Market

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

Gretna Heritage House Welcome Center

- Located in a recently restored mid-1800's Creole Cottage at the Huey P Long entrance to Historic Downtown Gretna.
- Serves as the home to the Gretna Tourism Department and contains information on the history and current life of Gretna.
- Maps for tourists pointing out local attractions are available.

Gretna BMX Raceway

- Located in Gretna City Park, established in 2007 and is the only BMX raceway in the 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.
- Paved bike path runs 2.5 miles to the Jazz Walk of Fame and the Algiers Ferry Landing, and continues on to Federal City.

Gretna Cultural Center for the Arts

- Located in a recently renovated historic post office in downtown Gretna.
- Includes a black box theatre that hosts concerts, plays and other live performances.

Gretna Bark Park

- Official ribbon cutting in December of 2016 was met with much approval from Gretna's canine community.
- Park features plenty of room for running, jumping, climbing and exploring for dogs of all sizes.



With the Tulane Regional Urban Design Center, a new vibrant and walkable vision of downtown Gretna is being developed.



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



The paved Gretna Levee and Bicycle Trail has spectacular views of downtown New Orleans.

Historic Districts

Historic Downtown Gretna/Mechanikham Historic District

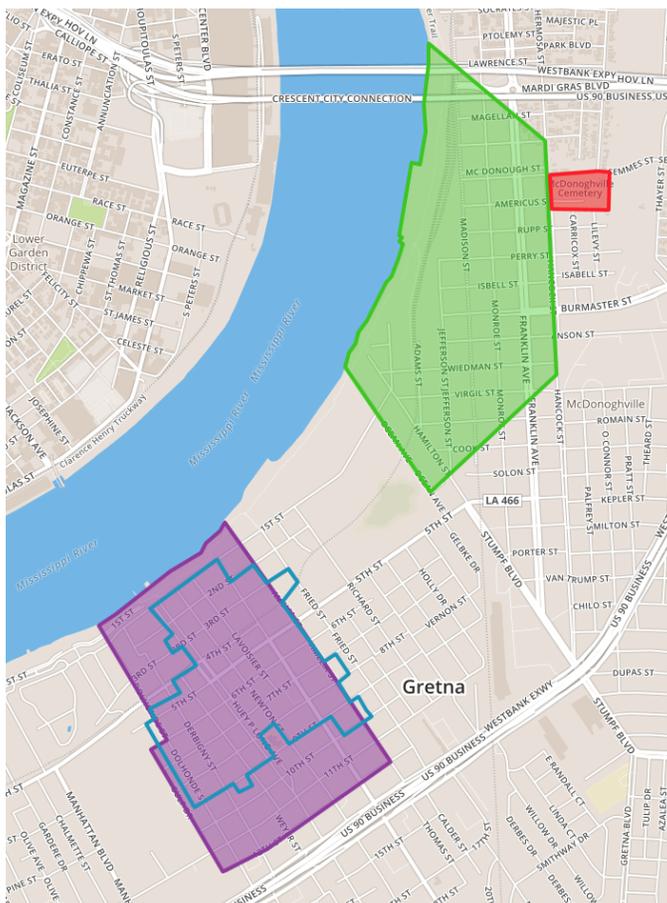
Located on the banks of the Mississippi River, Historic Downtown Gretna encompasses an approximate 50 square blocks and includes the Gretna Historic Society Museum Complex. Both the City of Gretna and Jefferson Parish government complexes can be found here, as well as supporting businesses such as law 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 of late 19th and early 20th century shotgun and bungalow homes, as well as the McDonough Cemetery. 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

Legend:

- Mechanikham Historic District
- McDonoghville Historic District
- McDonoghville Cemetery
- National Historic District



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

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 at 519 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

- Timberlane offers two large banquet rooms with multiple room configurations to accommodate events ranging from small business lunches to large receptions.

Courtyard New Orleans Westbank/Gretna

- New hotel in Gretna at the base of the Crescent City Connection.
- Large meeting room and on site restaurant serving breakfast, dinner and cocktails.

Holiday Inn West Bank Tower

- Iconic round hotel 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.

Homewood Suites by Hilton

- Brand-new hotel that opened in December 2017 in Gretna.
- Features business center, meeting rooms, pool, fitness center, and more.

Knights Inn Gretna New Orleans Westbank

- 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.

Gretna Cultural Center for the Arts

- Located in historic downtown in a renovated post office.
- Theatre setting ideal for live performances .

William D. White House

- Run by the Gretna Historical Society and located in Historic Downtown Gretna.
- Located in one of the five 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.



The newly opened Courtyard Gretna and Homewood Suites by Hilton are the first installments of a multi faceted collection of hotels, restaurants and retail planned in this location at the base of the Crescent City Connection.



The Gretna Cultural Center for the Arts is home to live performances and is located in the heart of historic downtown Gretna.