



**“We certainly have our plate full, and that is complicated by the fact that the State of Louisiana is not doing well, especially with respect to the structural budget deficit.”**

— Gov.-elect John Bel Edwards, November 22, 2015

**John Bel Edwards (D)**

**Louisiana Economic Development**

1051 N 3rd Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
Steven Grissom, Secretary ED  
225-342-3000

**opportunityLouisiana.com**

# Louisiana

**Pop. (2014):** 4,713,731

**Median household income:** \$42,406

**Credit Rating:** AA/Negative

**Pop. growth 2013–2018:** 4%

**Median age:** 36.1

**Right-to-work state:** Yes

## Legislative Update

- The Louisiana legislature capped the state’s film tax credits at \$180 million, annually, in an attempt to close the state’s budget shortfall.
- Lawmakers raised taxes on cigarettes another 50 cents, bringing the total tax on one pack of cigarettes to 86 cents. Electronic cigarettes and vapor products will also be taxed an additional 5 cents per millileter. The additional revenue, expected to reach \$108 million next year, will help fund healthcare throughout the state.

## Rankings that Matter

<b>Business Tax Climate</b> . . . . .	<b>37</b>
<b>Legal Climate</b> . . . . .	<b>49</b>
<b>Higher Ed. R&amp;D Expenditure</b> . . . . .	<b>28 (665,754)</b>
<b>ACT Career Readiness Certificates</b> . . .	<b>19 (49,932)</b>
<b>Lowest Energy Cost</b> . . . . .	<b>3 (8.06)</b>
<b>Fiscal Solvency</b> . . . . .	<b>35</b>
<b>College Attainment</b> . . . . .	<b>48 (29.6%)</b>

