



“Our business backbone is strong. The major economic driver employers in our state experienced limited impact. Our infrastructure is sound, and all major business functions, ports, airports, highways, railways and pipelines are operating at a high level.”

— Gov. John Bel Edwards, in a November letter to Site Selection magazine readers in the wake of record flooding in March and August

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Gov. John Bel Edwards (D)

OpportunityLouisiana.com

Louisiana

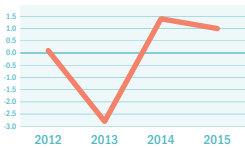
Pop. (2016): 4,766,833
Median household income: \$44,609
Credit Rating: AA/Negative

Pop. growth 2016–2021: 0.77%
Median age: 36.8
Right-to-work state: Yes

Legislative Update

- In June, the governor announced changes in Louisiana’s Industrial Tax Exemption Program (ITEP) through an executive order that “accomplishes two important aims for the first time: Local governing bodies will have a seat at the table when decisions are made about local property tax exemptions, and companies applying for those exemptions must demonstrate job creation or job retention – or both – in order to merit industrial tax exemptions.”
- Louisiana Economic Development (LED) has undertaken a review of the state’s Motion Picture Production Tax Credit program, with recommendations for reform and best practices to be addressed in the 2017 fiscal session.
- A bill stalled that would have raised the state minimum wage from the current \$7.25 to \$8.50 by 2018.
- After a FY 2016 budget shortfall of \$313 million despite three special sessions, the governor’s agenda for the 2017 session includes work to “reform our state’s broken tax code.”

GDP
24th



2015 GDP
(in millions of current US\$)
\$239,305



41

Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2016-2017: -5



29

Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure: \$662,778



18

Number of NCRCs: 66,628 | Percent Improvement 2016-2017: 25%



49

College Attainment Percent: 44.7%



5

Lowest Electric Power Cost (cents/kWh): 5.50



33

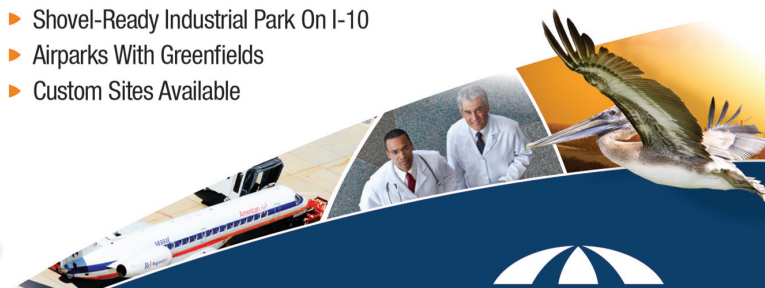


Lindsey Janies Photography

SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA

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- ▶ Chennault Industrial Park With A 10,000 Foot Runway
- ▶ Shovel-Ready Industrial Park On I-10
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