

College of Business Administration University of Louisiana—Monroe



PRODUCED BY THE ULM COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
CENTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH

*Business and Economic Climate
of Monroe, Louisiana,
and the Surrounding Area: 2007*

The Economy and Demography of Northeast Louisiana

Northeast Louisiana is a 12-parish area bordered to the north by Arkansas and to the east by Mississippi. The twelve parishes of Northeast Louisiana, for the purposes of this publication, are Caldwell, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Lincoln*, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, and West Carroll. The Monroe metropolitan statistical area (Ouachita and Union Parishes: MSA rank by population=209/280) is the population and business center for the greater area.

The data contained herein is compiled from many sources and is as current as availability permits.

* The State of Louisiana does not typically include Lincoln Parish in the Northeast Louisiana statistical area.

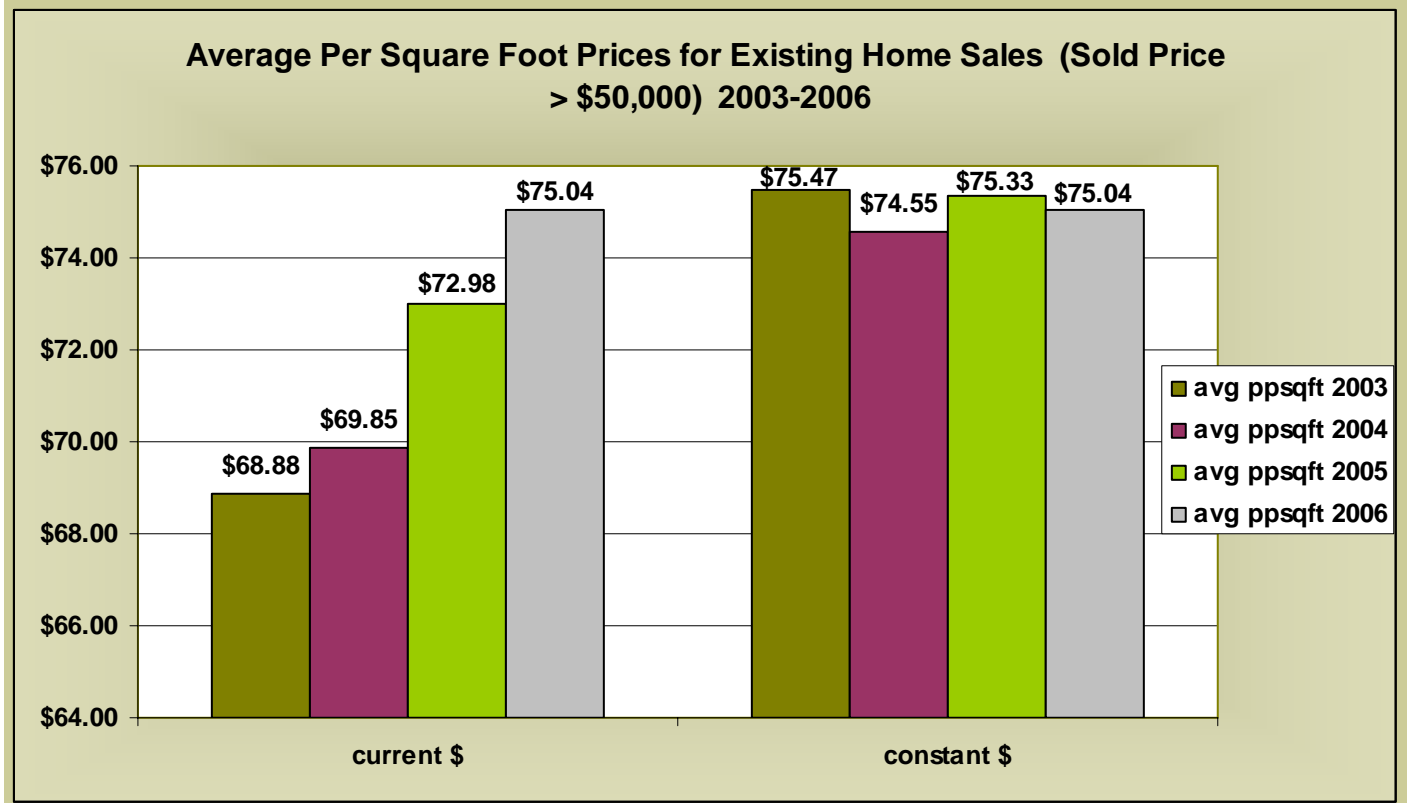
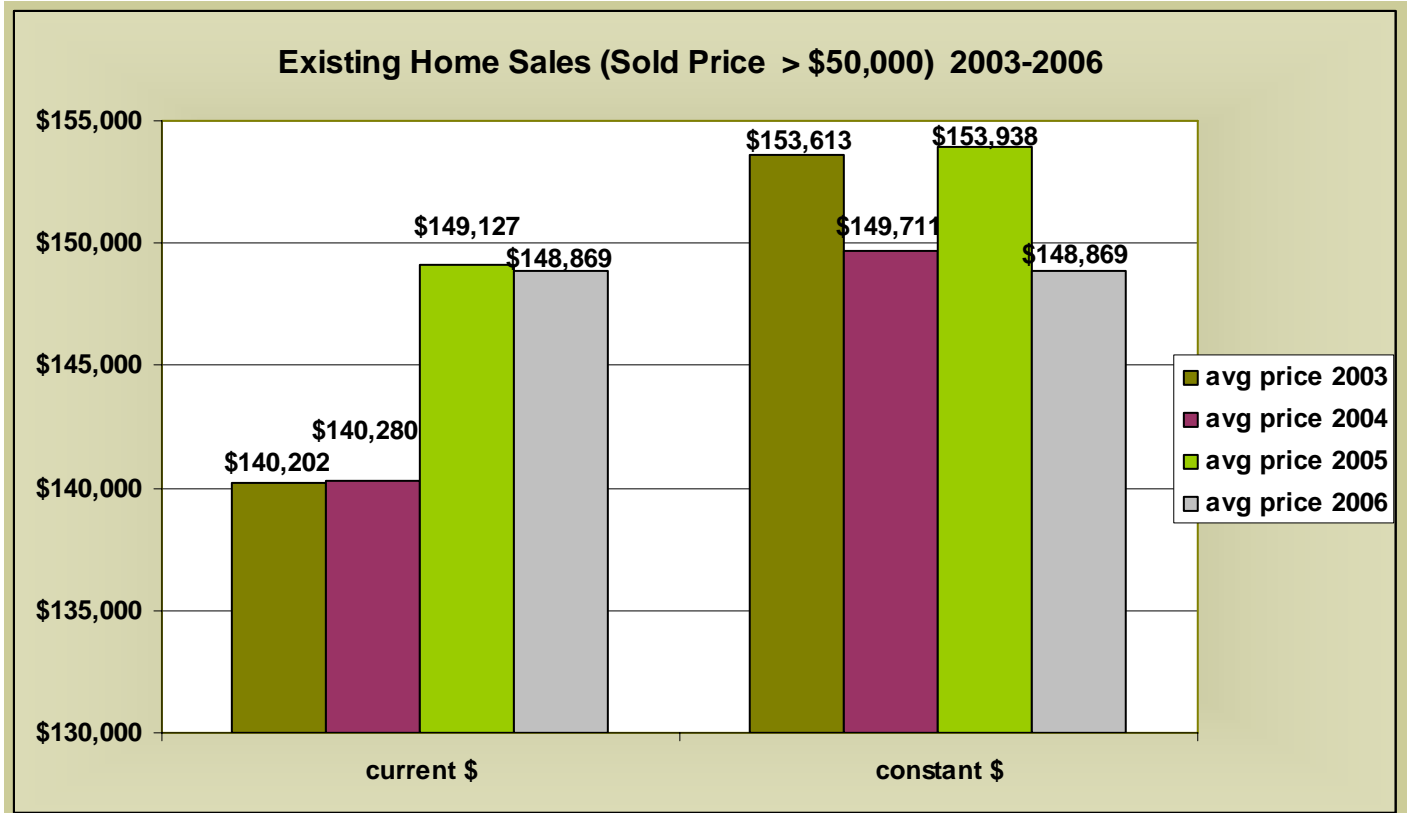


University of Louisiana Monroe Library on Bayou DeSiard

2007 Factbook, Section IV: **Quality of Life Information**

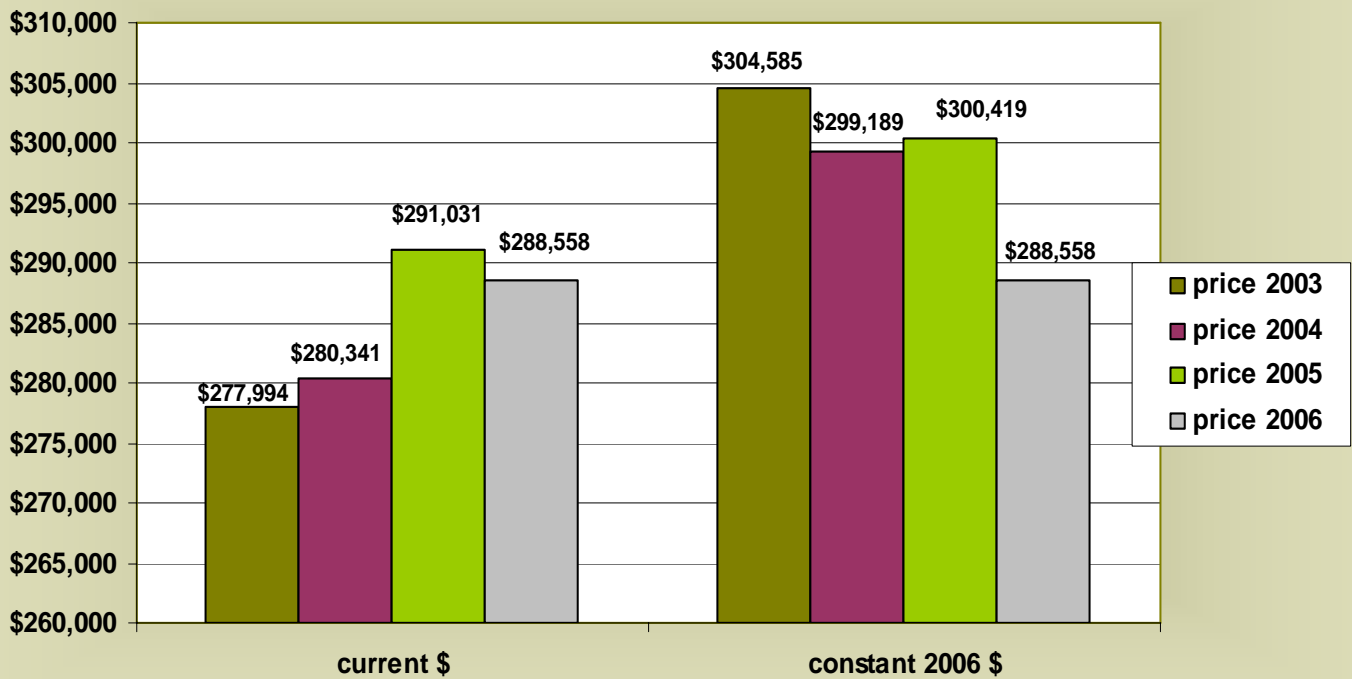
Material in this publication was researched and compiled by Robert C. Eisenstadt, PhD, of the Economics Department, Center for Business and Economic Research, College of Business Administration, at the University of Louisiana Monroe. All information presented here is the responsibility of the author and not that of the University of Louisiana Monroe or its affiliates.

Quality of Life

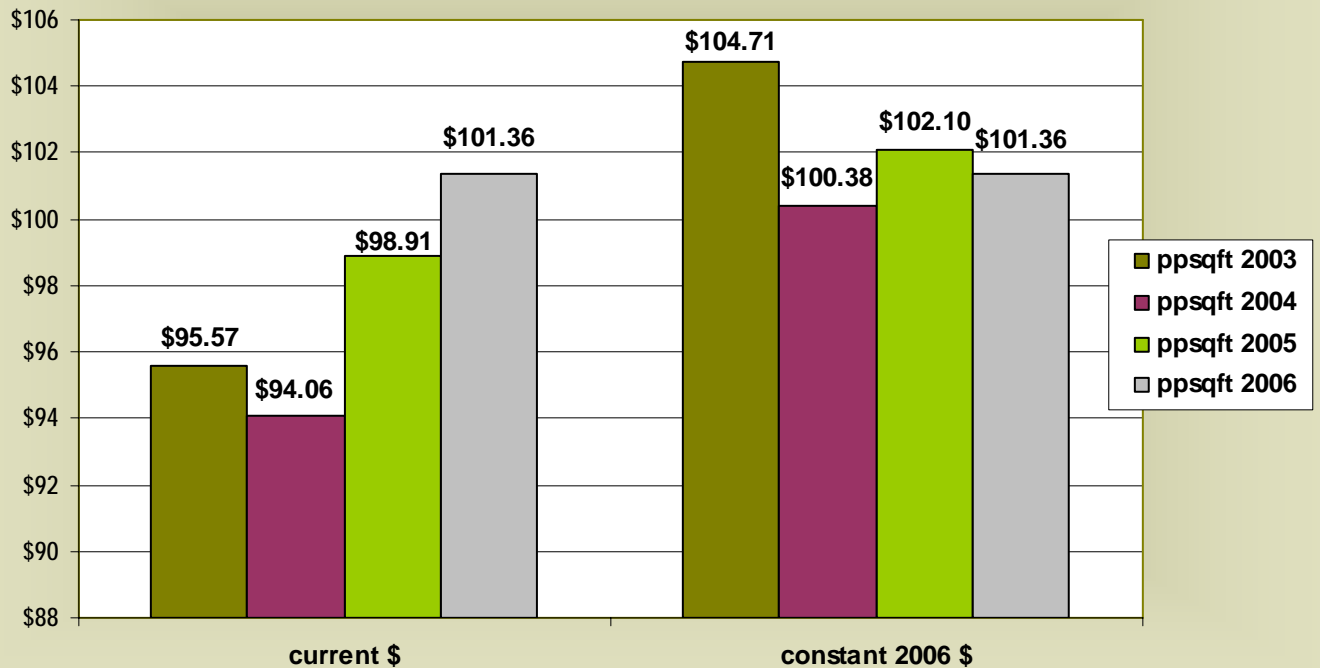


Source: Northeast Louisiana Board of Realtors Multi-Listing Service Data, Ouachita and Contiguous Parishes

Existing Home Sales (Sold Price >\$200,000) 2003-2006

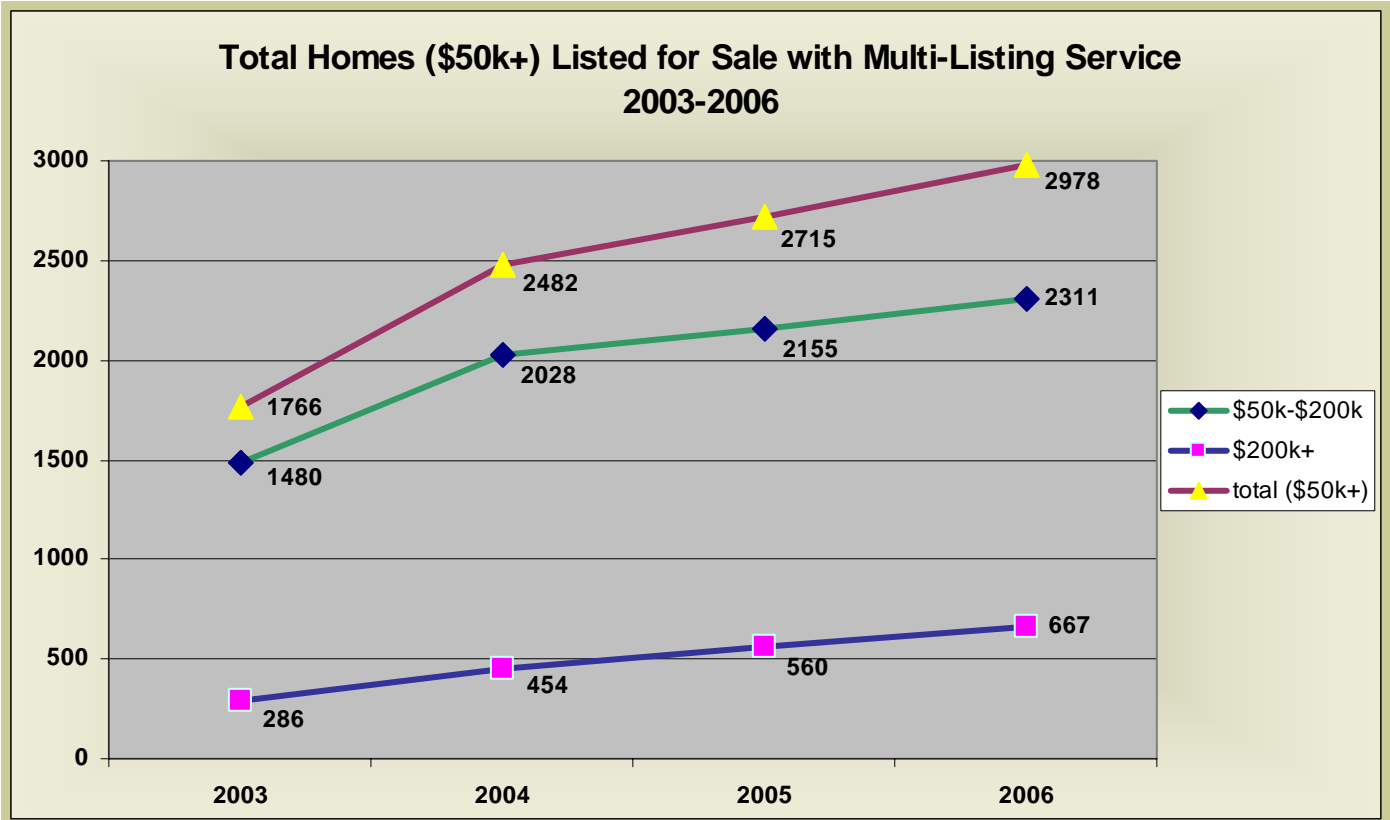


Average per Square Foot Prices for Existing Home Sales (Sold Price > \$200,000) 2003-2006



Source: Northeast Louisiana Board of Realtors Multi-Listing Service Data, Ouachita and Contiguous Parishes

Quality of Life (continued)



Source: Northeast Louisiana Board of Realtors

Residential Utility Rates for Louisiana and the United States: March 2006- February 2007												
Electricity Rates	Mar-06	Apr-06	May-06	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07
United States residential average cents/kwh	9.84	10.31	10.60	10.85	10.97	10.94	10.94	10.55	10.22	9.81	10.05	9.88
Louisiana residential average cents/kwh	8.58	8.66	8.72	9.25	9.19	9.31	9.85	10.12	8.78	8.28	8.93	9.11
Natural Gas Prices	Mar-06	Apr-06	May-06	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07
United States residential average price/mcf	\$13.20	\$13.30	\$14.39	\$15.03	\$15.67	\$16.11	\$15.63	\$12.71	\$12.49	\$12.53	\$12.08	\$12.13
Louisiana residential average price/mcf	\$13.98	\$14.66	\$16.87	n/a	n/a	\$17.51	\$16.83	\$14.22	\$13.41	\$13.05	\$11.89	\$12.87

source: U.S. Energy Information Agency, www.eia.doe.gov.

School Performance Scores* and Performance Labels by School District: 2005-06

Rank in State (out of 60 School Districts)	School District	2005-2006 (District) Performance Scores (DPS)	DPS Label	Student Enrollment in District
20	Caldwell Parish	86.9	Two Stars	1,856
43	City of Monroe	75.2	One Star	9,211
56	East Carroll Parish	64.1	One Star	1,549
54	Franklin Parish	66.8	One Star	3,451
21	Jackson Parish	85.6	Two Stars	2,201
19	Lincoln Parish	88.5	Two Stars	5,989
58	Madison Parish	56.0	Unacceptable	2,290
39	Morehouse Parish	79.5	One Star	5,056
3	Ouachita Parish	101.0	Three Stars	18,646
44	Richland Parish	75.0	One Star	3,436
51	Tensas Parish	69.7	One Star	872
48	Union Parish	71.2	One Star	3,158
10	West Carroll Parish	97.0	Two Stars	2,302
	State of Louisiana	85.3	Two Stars	653,786

Performance Scores* for Free/Reduced Lunch-Eligible Students, Teacher Certification Label by District

Rank in State (out of 60 School Districts)	School District	Free/Reduced Lunch (Group) Performance Scores (GPS)	Percent Free/Reduced Lunch Students	Teacher Certification Label
15	Caldwell Parish	80.4	66.6	Adequate
32	City of Monroe	74.5	78.9	Adequate
54	East Carroll Parish	63.0	93.4	Unacceptable
56	Franklin Parish	59.9	80.1	Unacceptable
27	Jackson Parish	75.6	55.9	Exceptional
22	Lincoln Parish	78.5	59.5	Exceptional
58	Madison Parish	56.9	83.8	Unacceptable
29	Morehouse Parish	75.1	75.6	Adequate
9	Ouachita Parish	86.8	47.4	Marginal
47	Richland Parish	68.9	74.4	Marginal
45	Tensas Parish	69.3	86.4	Unacceptable
52	Union Parish	65.0	68.6	Marginal
3	West Carroll Parish	91.6	73.5	Adequate
	State of Louisiana	75.4	61.2	Marginal

*District and Group Performance Score (DPS, GPS) Labels and Ranges	140.0 or more	<i>Five Stars</i>
	120.0 - 139.9	<i>Four Stars</i>
	100.0 - 119.9	<i>Three Stars</i>
	80.0 - 99.9	<i>Two Stars</i>
	60.0 - 79.9	<i>One Star</i>
	Below 60.0	<i>(Academically) Unacceptable</i>

Source: Louisiana Department of Education

Quality of Life (continued)

Arts, Entertainment, Museums, and Points of Interest

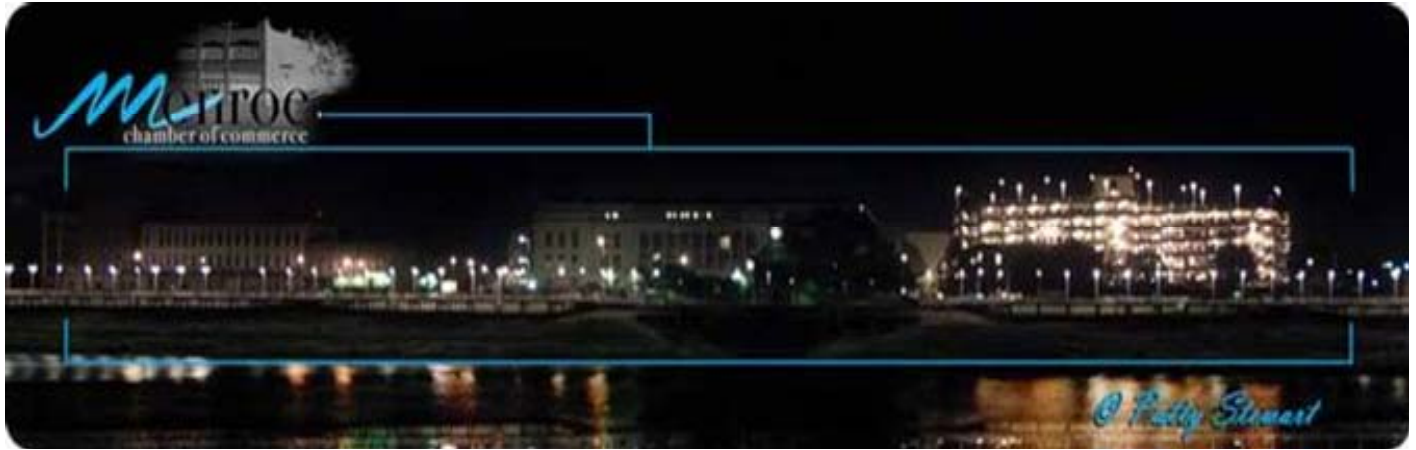
Attraction	Address	Phone	Type
Arts, Theatres, Convention Centers			
Monroe Civic Center Theater	401 Lea Joiner Expwy, Monroe	318-329-2338	Impresario's Choice, theater, concerts, sporting events
Monroe Symphony Orchestra	P.O Box 4353, Monroe	318-435-0029	Classical music, pops concerts
Princess Theatre	714 Prairie St., Winnsboro	318-435-6299	Performing arts
Rose Theatre	102 E. Jefferson Ave., Bastrop	318-283-0120	Performing arts
ThreatreWorks.ULM	700 University Ave, Monroe	318-342-1382	Performing arts
Twin City Ballet Company	2905 DeSoto St, Monroe	318-388-3011	Performing arts, dance
ULM Concert Series	701 University Ave, Monroe	318-342-3811	Call for information
Strauss Theatre/Youngstage	1300 Lamy Lane, Monroe	318-323-6681	Performing arts
West Monroe Convention Center	901 Ridge Ave., W. Monroe	318-396-5000	Meeting facilities, concerts
Northeast LA Arts Council	2305 N 7th St., W. Monroe	318-396-9520	Umbrella for more than 50 arts groups in 11 parishes
Golf Courses			
Calvert Crossing Golf Club	515 Hodge Watson Rd, W Monroe	318-397-0064	
Chennault Golf Course	Millhaven Road, Monroe	318-329-2454	18 holes; driving range
Frenchman's Bend	1484 Frenchman's Bend Rd, Monroe	318-387-2363	18 holes; driving range
Municipal/Forsythe Golf Course	2500 Sycamore, Monroe	318-329-2457	9 holes; practice green - chipping area
Trenton St Golf Course & Driving Range	2411 Trenton St, W Monroe	318-361-9345	9 holes; lighted driving range
Museums			
African American Museum	503 Plum St, Monroe	318-323-1167	Local history/culture
Aviation Historical Museum of Louisiana	701 Kansas Ln, Monroe	318-361-9020	History displays: Delta Airlines, Selman Filed, General Chennault, Flying Tigers, and war memorabilia
Biedenharn Museum & Gardens	2006 Riverside Dr, Monroe	318-387-5281	Bible history & gardens
Masur Museum	1400 S Grand St, Monroe	318-329-2237	Fine art

Northeast Louisiana Children's Museum	323 Walnut St, Monroe	318-361-9611	"Hands-on" education center
Ouachita Valley Heritage Museum	309 McClendon Ave, W Monroe	318-322-5720	
Shepis Museum	107 Main St, Columbia	318-649-9931	Culture/heritage of Caldwell Parish
ULM Natural History Museum	ULM main campus	318-342-1868	Natural history -- fossils and artifacts
Strauss Senior Center	2407 Ferrand St., Monroe	318-387-0535	Services, events, activities for senior citizens
National Wildlife Refuges	Local Office, Farmerville	318-726-4222	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Black Bayou Lake National Wildlife Refuge	Richland Place Rd., Monroe	318-387-1114	1800-acre cypress lake, hiking, canoeing, arboretum, herpetology exhibit, observation pier/deck/blinds, hunting, fishing, boat launch
D'Arbonne National Wildlife Refuge	10 miles north of W. Monroe	318-726-4222	Hunting, fishing, boat launch, trails
Handy Brake National Wildlife Refuge	Cooper Lake Rd, Bastrop	318-726-4400	Wildlife Observation/photography from Observation Platform
Tensas National Wildlife Refuge	2312 Quebec Rd, Tallulah	318-574-2664	Visitor's center, boardwalk
Upper Ouachita National Wildlife Refuge	11372 Hwy 143, Farmerville	318-726-4222	Hunting, fishing, hiking
State and Local Parks			
Chemin a Haut State Park	14656 State Park Rd, Bastrop	318-283-0812	Camping, cabins, hiking
Cheniere Lake Park	104 Cheniere Lake Rd, W Monroe	318-325-8327	Picnic areas, boat launches, fishing
Claire Chennault Park	8475 Millhaven Rd, Monroe	318-329-3267	Golf, tennis, frisbee golf, picnic areas, softball field
Forsythe Park	2300 Sycamore St, Monroe	318-329-4100	Picnic area, 9-hole golf course, tennis and volleyball courts, softball and soccer fields, children's park and public boat launch
Kiroli Park	820 Kiroli Rd, W Monroe	318-396-4016	Playgrounds, trails, fishing, gardens, picnic areas
Louisiana Purchase Gardens & Zoo	1405 Bernstein Park Dr, Monroe	318-329-2400	500 animal species, 700 plants
Poverty Point State Park	6859 Hwy 577, Pioneer	318-926-5492	Historic, 5000-year-old Indian mounds/archaeological site

Quality of Life (continued)

General and Specialty Hospitals and Facilities -- Ouachita, Lincoln, Morehouse Parishes			
Facility	Address	Phone Number	# of beds
Brentwood Hospital	1900 Lamy Ln, Monroe	318-325-0897	130
Cornerstone Hospital of West Monroe	6198 Cypress St, W Monroe	318-397-6360	40
Glenwood Behavioral Health Unit	6200 Cypress St, W. Monroe	318-329-4525	n/a
Glenwood Regional Medical Center	503 McMillan Rd, W Monroe	318-329-4200	240
Green Clinic (and Surgical Hospital)	1200 S. Farmerville St, Ruston	318-255-3690	10
LSU Health Sciences Center	4864 Jackson St, Monroe	318-330-7000	247
LA Center for the Blind	101 S. Trenton St, Ruston	318-251-2891	n/a
Monroe MRI Center	501 Catalpa St, Monroe	318-327-4433	n/a
Monroe Rehab Hospital	4320 S Grand St, Monroe	318-322-5775	20
Monroe Surgical Hospital	2408 Broadmoor Blvd, Monroe	318-410-0002	10
Morehouse General Hospital	323 West Walnut, Bastrop	318-283-3600	60
Northern LA Medical Center	401 E. Vaughn Ave, Ruston	318-254-2100	159
Saint Francis North Monroe Medical Center	3421 Medical Park Dr, Monroe	318-388-1946	225
Ouachita Surgical Hospital	1275 Glenwood Dr, W Monroe	318-322-1339	10
Premier Rehabilitation	4310 S Grand St, Monroe	318-812-1000	20
P&S Surgical Hospital	312 Grammont St, Ste 101, Monroe	318--388-4040	10
St Francis Medical Center	309 Jackson St, Monroe	318-327-4000	237
St Francis Specialty Hospital	309 Jackson St, Monroe	318-327-4600	50
St Patrick's Psychiatric Hospital	309 Jackson St, Monroe	318-327-4686	28
West Monroe Urgent Care	1416 Natchitoches St, Monroe	318-998-4878	NA

Source: Northeast Louisiana Yellow Pages May 2007.



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The College of Business Administration at ULM is pleased to be able to partner with the business community of Northeast Louisiana to provide this second annual compendium of regional demographic and economic data.

Last year, we redefined the mission of our Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) to become the provider of independent, reliable, and valuable information for use by economic development entities in our region. The Factbook is a direct output of that change in mission. Our plan is to publish an updated version each year, with intra-year updates available through the online edition at cba.ulm.edu/cba/factbook.



We look forward to continuing our role as a partner in economic and community development in Northeast Louisiana.

**Dr. Ron Berry, Dean
College of Business Administration
University of Louisiana—Monroe**