

College of Business Administration University of Louisiana—Monroe



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CENTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH

*Business and Economic Climate
of Monroe, Louisiana,
and the Surrounding Area: 2008*

The Economy and Demography of Northeast Louisiana: 2008 Edition

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: 2006 MSA rank by population=228/364) 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.



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2008 Factbook, Section II:

Labor Force Statistics

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.

Questions or comments may be referred to

**Robert Eisenstadt, PhD
Center for Business and Economic Research
College of Business Administration, ULM**

**318.342.1151 (voice)
318.342.3096 (fax)**

eisenstadt@ulm.edu

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Labor Force Statistics

Labor Force					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
City of Monroe	22,856	22,690	22,523	21,766	21,476
Caldwell	4,442	4,276	4,337	4,374	4,507
E. Carroll	3,147	3,017	2,919	2,982	3,011
Franklin	8,097	7,749	7,827	7,761	7,691
Jackson	6,586	6,419	6,435	6,437	6,456
Lincoln	18,367	18,345	18,673	18,580	18,484
Madison	5,040	4,670	4,686	4,649	4,356
Morehouse	12,769	11,881	11,725	11,475	11,486
Ouachita	72,477	71,621	72,685	71,950	70,403
Richland	8,813	8,452	8,576	8,560	8,555
Tensas	2,432	2,268	2,300	2,301	2,185
Union	10,655	10,394	10,491	10,394	10,113
W. Carroll	4,790	4,555	4,725	5,202	4,343
NE Louisiana	157,615	153,647	155,379	154,665	151,590
Louisiana	2,025,006	2,039,182	2,077,123	1,990,120	1,997,879

Monroe City data source www.bls.gov

Source: Louisiana Department of Labor, www.laworks.net

Total Employment (Household Survey, including Proprietor Employment)					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
City of Monroe	21,023	21,037	21,026	20,822	20,394
Caldwell	4,013	3,935	4,044	4,207	4,311
E. Carroll	2,731	2,630	2,558	2,743	2,745
Franklin	7,305	7,086	7,164	7,315	7,227
Jackson	6,033	6,018	6,080	6,191	6,203
Lincoln	17,188	17,233	17,484	17,802	17,655
Madison	4,478	4,241	4,287	4,393	4,086
Morehouse	11,494	10,749	10,732	10,785	10,643
Ouachita	68,210	67,850	68,569	69,276	67,214
Richland	8,054	7,799	7,962	8,161	8,071
Tensas	2,208	2,087	2,002	2,137	2,034
Union	9,881	9,763	9,889	9,991	9,653
W. Carroll	4,154	3,999	4,245	4,898	3,969
NE Louisiana	145,749	143,390	145,016	147,899	143,811
Louisiana	1,899,642	1,926,594	1,938,280	1,910,348	1,921,347

Monroe City data source: www.bls.gov

Source: Louisiana Department of Labor, www.laworks.net

Labor Force Statistics (continued)

Unemployment Rate					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
City of Monroe	8.0%	7.3%	6.6%	4.3%	5.0%
Caldwell	9.7%	8.0%	6.8%	3.8%	4.3%
E. Carroll	13.2%	12.8%	12.4%	8.0%	8.8%
Franklin	9.8%	8.6%	8.5%	5.7%	6.0%
Jackson	8.4%	6.2%	5.5%	3.8%	3.9%
Lincoln	6.4%	6.1%	6.4%	4.2%	4.5%
Madison	11.2%	9.2%	8.5%	5.5%	6.2%
Morehouse	10.0%	9.5%	8.5%	6.0%	7.3%
Ouachita	5.9%	5.3%	5.7%	3.7%	4.5%
Richland	8.6%	7.7%	7.2%	4.7%	5.7%
Tensas	9.2%	8.0%	13.0%	7.1%	6.9%
Union	7.3%	6.1%	5.7%	3.9%	4.5%
W. Carroll	13.3%	12.2%	10.2%	5.8%	8.6%
NE Louisiana	7.5%	6.7%	6.7%	4.4%	5.1%
Louisiana	6.2%	5.5%	6.7%	4.0%	3.8%

Source: Louisiana Department of Labor, www.laworks.net

Monroe City data source: www.bls.gov

Unemployment					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
City of Monroe	1,833	1,653	1,497	944	1,082
Caldwell	429	341	293	167	196
East Carroll	416	387	361	239	266
Franklin	792	663	663	446	464
Jackson	553	401	355	246	253
Lincoln	1,179	1,112	1,189	778	829
Madison	562	429	399	256	270
Morehouse	1,275	1,132	993	690	843
Ouachita	4,267	3,771	4,116	2,674	3,189
Richland	759	653	614	399	484
Tensas	224	181	298	164	151
Union	774	631	602	403	460
West Carroll	636	556	480	304	374
NE Louisiana	11,866	10,257	10,363	6,766	7,779
Louisiana	125,364	112,588	138,843	79,772	76,532

Source: Louisiana Department of Labor, www.laworks.net

Monroe City data source: www.bls.gov

Wage and Salary Employment (Number of Jobs in Parishes and State)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Louisiana	2,019,981	2,025,043	2,033,543	2,006,271	1,967,129
Caldwell	2,785	2,751	2,710	2,750	2,825
East Carroll	2,671	2,531	2,550	2,396	2,570
Franklin	6,439	6,273	6,250	6,215	6,234
Jackson	4,230	4,242	3,995	3,866	3,741
Lincoln	19,101	19,086	19,260	19,273	19,421
Madison	4,471	4,250	4,044	4,046	3,991
Morehouse	9,139	9,095	8,530	8,341	8,219
Ouachita	77,522	76,531	76,225	75,490	76,063
Richland	6,372	6,398	6,380	6,436	6,550
Tensas	2,016	1,783	1,811	1,814	1,867
Union	6,706	6,513	6,405	6,291	6,140
West Carroll	3,139	2,918	2,923	3,142	3,476
NE Louisiana	144,591	142,371	141,083	140,060	141,097

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, www.bea.gov; 2006 not available at printing.

Wage and Salary Disbursements (thousands of current dollars)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	% growth 2002-05	% growth 2005-06
Louisiana	59,573,493	61,325,403	63,875,117	66,298,256	70,740,436	11.3%	6.7%
NE Louisiana	3,633,044	3,628,712	3,704,231	3,839,323	4,036,366	5.7%	5.1%
Caldwell	58,232	59,786	61,598	65,289	68,183	12.1%	4.4%
East Carroll	53,326	54,623	57,109	57,902	61,199	8.6%	5.7%
Franklin	122,606	121,050	126,753	130,358	133,335	6.3%	2.3%
Jackson	114,183	116,876	113,163	116,388	116,533	1.9%	0.1%
Lincoln	480,763	481,451	500,597	510,683	540,504	6.2%	5.8%
Madison	95,466	93,927	91,473	91,141	91,708	-4.5%	0.6%
Morehouse	235,846	245,163	234,932	232,353	226,651	-1.5%	-2.5%
Ouachita	2,091,535	2,085,158	2,129,031	2,212,354	2,330,138	5.8%	5.3%
Richland	134,944	138,880	145,182	152,104	160,487	12.7%	5.5%
Tensas	41,153	37,474	41,174	44,446	49,162	8.0%	10.6%
Union	137,001	133,237	137,897	141,756	146,629	3.5%	3.4%
West Carroll	67,989	61,087	65,322	84,549	111,837	24.4%	32.3%
United States	—	—	—	—	—	13.8%	6.3%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. 2006 not available at printing.

Labor Force Statistics (continued)

Labor Market Data by Industry, by Region and Selected Parishes, 2006-2007

	2006				2007			
	Units	Employment	Estimated total wages	Weekly Wage \$	Units	Employment	Estimated total wages	Weekly Wage \$
Northeast Louisiana (w/ Lincoln Parish)								
All Industries	9,305	129,640	\$3,783,809,687	\$562.93	9191	129,213	\$3,906,873,229	\$581.46
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	328	2,673	\$60,899,599	\$438.14	329	2,259	\$56,599,633	\$481.94
Mining	55	382	\$20,221,453	\$1,017.96	57	469	\$25,895,841	\$1,062.39
Utilities	113	1,027	\$41,563,717	\$778.55	111	1,022	\$41,876,878	\$788.18
Construction	834	6,931	\$219,999,794	\$610.45	787	6,900	\$244,787,573	\$682.29
Manufacturing	298	13,173	\$561,923,847	\$820.36	300	12,581	\$566,339,456	\$865.68
Wholesale trade	469	4,769	\$192,822,247	\$777.59	454	4,758	\$203,005,760	\$820.59
Retail trade	1,419	16,942	\$340,589,218	\$386.60	1402	17,304	\$354,707,374	\$394.20
Transportation and warehousing	399	3,380	\$120,363,166	\$685.05	365	3,080	\$119,323,805	\$745.09
Information	153	2,340	\$84,241,909	\$692.62	143	2,252	\$78,595,797	\$671.16
Finance and insurance	679	5,374	\$195,996,092	\$701.65	676	5,446	\$208,842,366	\$737.49
Real estate and rental and leasing	412	1,804	\$43,395,577	\$462.20	403	1,775	\$47,335,798	\$512.85
Professional and technical services	757	3,680	\$137,798,690	\$719.77	754	3,739	\$152,338,530	\$783.52
Management of companies and enterprises	34	1,787	\$118,137,251	\$1,270.94	35	1,731	\$107,257,925	\$1,191.94
Administrative and waste services	358	4,973	\$138,016,481	\$533.99	351	4,681	\$102,961,578	\$422.99
Educational services	77	15,079	\$439,205,314	\$560.23	77	15,393	\$475,277,446	\$593.79
Health care and social assistance	1,039	24,161	\$674,220,827	\$536.97	1055	24,502	\$707,582,705	\$555.36
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	105	1,121	\$15,290,460	\$261.26	108	1,234	\$16,848,311	\$262.67
Accommodation and food services	516	9,761	\$102,777,055	\$202.29	530	10,049	\$109,581,202	\$209.71
Other services, except public administration	785	3,517	\$72,385,955	\$396.01	767	3,271	\$73,369,801	\$431.32
Public administration	417	6,654	\$201,746,861	\$583.30	420	6,645	\$211,016,967	\$610.73

Note: Due to unclassified and non-publishable data, major divisions may be under-reported. Annual values for 2006 compiled from quarterly data.

Quachita Parish	2006				2007			
	Units	Employment	Estimated total wages	Weekly Wage \$	Units	Employment	Estimated total wages	Weekly Wage \$
All Industries	4,685	71,162	\$2,213,554,507	\$598			\$2,306,072,507	\$623.51
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and	22	150	\$4,037,087	\$518			\$3,257,668	\$487.53
Mining	25	123	\$5,618,278	\$878	60	146	\$7,098,077	\$934.94
Utilities	24	522	\$22,469,631	\$828	146	521	\$22,935,702	\$846.18
Construction	442	3,864	\$127,499,506	\$635	1,271	3,826	\$144,496,370	\$726.38
Manufacturing	158	7,131	\$329,295,021	\$888	1,764	6,722	\$332,682,943	\$951.83
Wholesale trade	258	2,687	\$115,082,350	\$824	905	2,822	\$123,617,425	\$842.33
Retail trade	735	9,281	\$193,364,413	\$401	2,965	9,250	\$197,520,933	\$410.65
Transportation and warehousing	139	1,930	\$70,257,495	\$700	504	1,644	\$67,652,099	\$791.24
Information	90	1,786	\$68,210,370	\$734	477	1,678	\$62,636,695	\$717.96
Finance and insurance	382	3,517	\$130,577,740	\$714	1,151	3,629	\$142,192,276	\$753.56
Real estate and rental and leasing	226	1,146	\$29,338,253	\$492	452	1,105	\$31,432,945	\$546.92
Professional and technical services	473	2,540	\$97,567,594	\$739	1,034	2,675	\$112,712,667	\$810.45
Management of companies and	19	1,409	\$106,058,426	\$1,448			\$94,789,446	\$1,345.54
Administrative and waste services	213	3,254	\$69,190,116	\$409	1,064	3,474	\$75,704,050	\$419.07
Educational services	36	6,553	\$195,644,834	\$574	1,972	6,772	\$213,882,078	\$607.39
Health care and social assistance	565	12,846	\$406,702,458	\$609	3,715	13,112	\$423,645,849	\$621.35
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	48	758	\$10,274,779	\$261	235	828	\$11,053,722	\$256.73
Accommodation and food services	279	6,113	\$69,052,759	\$217	1,788	6,244	\$72,178,545	\$222.30
Other services, except public	423	2,382	\$49,928,124	\$403			\$48,488,907	\$452.33
Public administration	97	3,110\$	\$112,110,439	\$693	855	3,087	\$116,914,378	\$728.27

Labor Force Statistics (continued)

Labor Market Data by Industry, by Region and Selected Parishes, 2006-2007

Morehouse Parish	2006				2007			
	Units	Employment	Estimated total wages	Weekly Wage \$	Units	Employment	Estimated total wages	Weekly Wage \$
All Industries	613	7,284	\$205,277,906	\$542	604	7399.75	\$213,918,073	\$555.94
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and	56	426	\$8,954,134	\$404	53	362.5	\$8,250,615	\$437.70
Mining	2	*	*	*	1.25	*	*	*
Utilities	10	62	\$2,682,988	\$832	7	54.75	\$2,261,889	\$794.48
Construction	47	338	\$10,035,014	\$571	45	343.25	\$10,855,569	\$608.19
Manufacturing	17	*	*	*	18.75	822.5	\$46,950,434	\$1,097.7
Wholesale trade	24	237	\$10,706,593	\$869	21.5	219.75	\$10,290,316	\$900.53
Retail trade	99	1,041	\$22,697,721	\$419	99.5	1137	\$25,071,669	\$424.05
Transportation and warehousing	29	182	\$6,378,861	\$674	25.75	161.25	\$5,890,219	\$702.47
Information	8	104	\$2,749,228	\$508	7.75	96.75	\$2,804,544	\$557.45
Finance and insurance	50	231	\$7,928,506	\$660	50.5	228.5	\$8,179,124	\$688.36
Real estate and rental and leasing	26	93	\$1,579,056	\$327	28.5	105	\$1,898,245	\$347.66
Professional and technical services	32	104	\$2,859,521	\$529	29	94.5	\$2,923,844	\$595.00
Management of companies and	0	0	\$0	\$0	0.75	*	*	*
Administrative and waste services	13	62	\$1,233,587	\$383	12.75	68.75	\$1,785,225	\$499.36
Educational services	4	*	*	*	4	*	*	*
Health care and social assistance	76	1,574	\$36,608,895	\$447	79.75	1666.75	\$39,646,283	\$457.43
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	5	49	\$794,807	\$312	4.25	43.25	\$789,196	\$350.91
Accommodation and food services	30	448	\$4,253,125	\$183	29.75	444.75	\$4,649,386	\$201.04
Other services, except public administration	52	216	\$3,027,232	\$270	50	236	\$3,287,746	\$267.91
Public administration	34	404	\$10,960,956	\$522	33.75	416	\$11,654,713	\$538.77

* non-published data

	2006				2007			
	Units	Employment	Estimated total wages	Weekly Wage \$	Units	Employment	Estimated total wages	Weekly Wage \$
Lincoln Parish								
All Industries	1,154	18,019	\$513,832,374	\$548	1,146	18,196	\$545,982,290	\$577.03
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	32	368	\$8,399,885	\$439	33	233	\$6,500,244	\$536.50
Mining	13	158	\$9,338,026	\$1,137	10	121	\$7,627,927	\$1,217.35
Utilities	23	124	\$4,620,765	\$717	23	121	\$4,572,670	\$725.25
Construction	100	1,033	\$35,073,850	\$653	99	1,070	\$39,573,617	\$711.24
Manufacturing	37	1,497	\$61,658,738	\$792	38	1,475	\$63,916,072	\$833.47
Wholesale trade	55	857	\$33,964,707	\$762	53	786	\$34,204,247	\$837.40
Retail trade	178	2,263	\$45,199,576	\$384	179	2,407	\$49,588,133	\$396.27
Transportation and warehousing	44	294	\$11,930,675	\$780	33	301	\$12,459,076	\$797.33
Information	19	216	\$6,302,072	\$561	18	240	\$6,556,496	\$525.36
Finance and insurance	92	688	\$27,923,451	\$781	91	649	\$27,822,359	\$824.10
Real estate and rental and leasing	59	261	\$5,726,913	\$422	55	263	\$6,413,838	\$469.88
Professional and technical services	92	428	\$15,981,857	\$718	88	431	\$19,622,519	\$876.04
Management of companies and enterprises	7	70	\$6,050,230	\$1,662	7	68	\$5,930,297	\$1,677.12
Administrative and waste services	54	580	\$13,358,855	\$443	54	688	\$13,903,133	\$388.90
Educational services	12	3,511	\$112,667,389	\$617	13	3,619	\$124,379,154	\$660.98
Health care and social assistance	105	3,189	\$78,133,556	\$471	115	3,157	\$82,652,235	\$503.47
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	9	77	\$734,689	\$183	11	79	\$901,718	\$219.50
Accommodation and food services	78	1,638	\$14,818,090	\$174	76	1,677	\$15,497,474	\$177.77
Other services, except public administration	97	323	\$6,821,918	\$406	97	345	\$7,610,494	\$424.22
Public administration	41	435	\$14,902,480	\$659	41	445	\$15,491,529	\$670.22

Labor Force Statistics (continued)

Labor Market Data by Selected Parishes, 2006-2007

Parishes	2006				2007			
	Units	Employment	Estimated total wages	Weekly Wage \$	Units	Employment	Estimated total wages	Weekly Wage \$
Caldwell	251	2,528	\$61,721,970	\$470	250.25	2,663	\$66,858,367	\$482.82
East Carroll	207	2,171	\$51,628,753	\$457	208.5	2,146	\$53,644,780	\$480.83
Franklin	467	5,405	\$119,035,809	\$424	450	5,461	\$126,967,189	\$447.13
Jackson	314	3,408	\$108,699,189	\$613	309.5	3,612	\$118,105,999	\$628.77
Madison	300	3,382	\$79,954,854	\$455	296.25	3,286	\$83,453,857	\$488.44
Richland	514	5,942	\$147,950,523	\$479	517.25	6,097	\$156,099,245	\$492.36
Tensas	163	1,475	\$42,184,260	\$550	161.25	1,433	\$39,427,322	\$529.02
Union	409	5,579	\$136,088,419	\$469	406	5,191	\$131,610,690	\$487.57
West Carroll	228	3,285	\$103,881,123	\$608	236	2,602	\$64,732,910	\$478.38

Source: www.laworks.net, Louisiana Employment and Wages Annual Report, 2005, and quarterly data for 2006.

Average Annual Wages per Job (2002-06 current dollars)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	% growth 2002-05	% growth 2005-06
Louisiana	29,492	30,284	31,411	33,046	35,906	12.1%	8.7%
NE Louisiana	24,927	25,497	25,544	25,951	28,291	4.1%	9.0%
Caldwell	20,909	21,732	22,730	23,741	24,136	13.5%	1.7%
East Carroll	19,965	21,582	22,396	24,166	23,813	21.0%	-1.5%
Franklin	19,041	19,297	20,280	20,975	21,338	10.2%	1.7%
Jackson	26,994	27,552	28,326	30,106	31,150	11.5%	3.5%
Lincoln	25,170	25,225	25,992	26,437	27,831	5.0%	5.3%
Madison	21,352	22,100	22,619	22,526	22,979	5.5%	2.0%
Morehouse	25,807	29,956	27,542	27,857	27,576	7.9%	-1.0%
Ouachita	26,980	27,246	27,931	29,307	30,634	8.6%	4.5%
Richland	21,178	21,707	22,756	23,633	24,502	11.6%	3.7%
Tensas	20,413	21,017	22,736	24,502	26,332	20.0%	7.5%
Union	20,430	20,457	21,530	22,533	23,881	10.3%	6.0%
West Carroll	21,659	20,935	22,348	26,909	32,174	24.2%	19.6%
United States	36,150	37,169	38,792	40,146	41,991	11.1%	4.6%

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Major Area (private/non-retail) Businesses

Company	Product/Service	Employees
Chase Manhattan Mortgage/J.P. Morgan Chase	Mortgage/Financial Services Center	1,800
St. Francis Medical Center	Medical Services	1,600
Graphics Packaging	Pulp & paper processing	1,500
CenturyTel	Telecommunications Services	1,470
Glenwood Regional Medical Center	Medical Services	950
International Paper (Morehouse Parish)	Paper Manufacturing	600
Entergy	Electrical Utility	470
Bancroft Bag	Bags, Paper Containers	450
Tyco	Plastics	420
ANGUS Chemical Company	Specialty Chemicals	150
Pilgrim's Pride (Union Parish)	Chicken Processing	1,900

These 11 companies employ more than 10% of the wage and salary workers in NE LA. One conspicuous absence in this year's edition is Guide Corporation, which closed its headlight manufacturing plant in Monroe in early 2007. The closure resulted in the loss of 800 manufacturing jobs in the region. Commercial/industrial electric utility prices in Louisiana have fallen relative to National rates. Relative natural gas prices for commercial use, however, remain high.

Building permits for 2007 are below their 2006 levels suggesting a slowing of construction activity. We expect markedly slower growth for 2008.

Commercial/Industrial Utility Rates for Louisiana and the United States, 2007-2008

	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07	Oct-07	Nov-07	Dec-07	Jan-08
Electricity cents/kwh:													
U.S. Commercial	9.13	9.31	9.37	9.37	9.55	10.02	10.2	10.05	9.88	9.79	9.6	9.41	9.53
Louisiana Commercial	8.97	9.33	9.18	9.54	9.51	9.10	9.20	9.13	8.75	9.32	8.86	9.27	8.93
U.S. Industrial	6.09	6.18	6.16	6.19	6.2	6.51	6.61	6.84	6.55	6.44	6.22	6.25	6.27
Louisiana Industrial	6.56	6.98	6.91	7.00	7.18	6.57	6.94	6.89	6.47	6.79	6.12	6.77	6.70
Natural Gas \$/mcf:													
U.S. Commercial	11.81	11.51	11.50	11.87	11.63	11.18	10.9	10.8	11.04	11.02	11.07	11.37	11.76
Louisiana Commercial	12.28	12.15	12.25	12.02	11.37	10.51	10.04	11.04	11.95	12.31	12.41	12.69	12.93
U.S. Industrial	8.40	8.13	8.10	7.98	7.54	6.57	6.11	6.85	7.63	7.97	8.24	8.94	9.64
Louisiana Industrial	8.28	8.29	8.25	7.40	7.72	n/a	5.58	6.27	6.78	7.23	7.69	n/a	9.82

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy, Energy Information Agency

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BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
CENTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC
RESEARCH**

College of Business Administration
University of Louisiana at Monroe
700 University Avenue
Monroe, LA 71209

**(318)-342-1151
Email: EISENSTADT@ULM.EDU**

***Prepared by Robert C. Eisenstadt, PhD
Department of Economics
Director, Center for Business and
Economic Research
College of Business Administration
ULM***

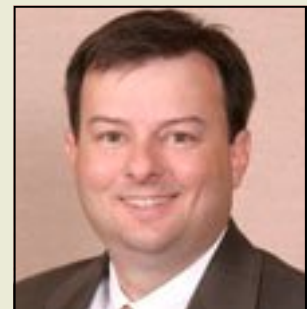
This document was designed and produced by Ann Bloxom Smith, Director, ULM Center for Student Internships. Research assistance for this document was provided by Ms. Eddna Castro, Ms. Nona L. Broxson, MBA, ULM, and Ms. Juanita Hernandez.



The College of Business Administration at ULM is pleased to be able to partner with the business community of Northeast Louisiana to provide this third 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**