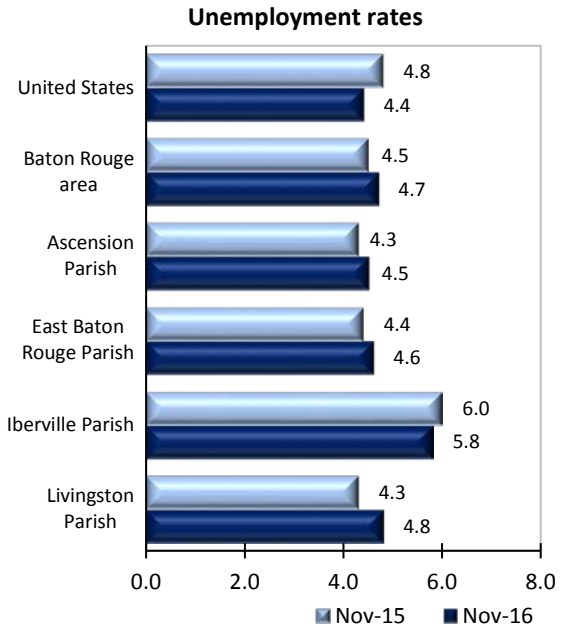
# Baton Rouge Area Economic Summary

**Updated December 29, 2016**

This summary presents a sampling of economic information for the area; supplemental data are provided for regions and the nation. Subjects include **unemployment**, **employment**, **wages**, **prices**, **spending**, and **benefits**. All data are not seasonally adjusted and some may be subject to revision. Area definitions may differ by subject. For more area summaries and geographic definitions, see www.bls.gov/regions/economic-summaries.htm.

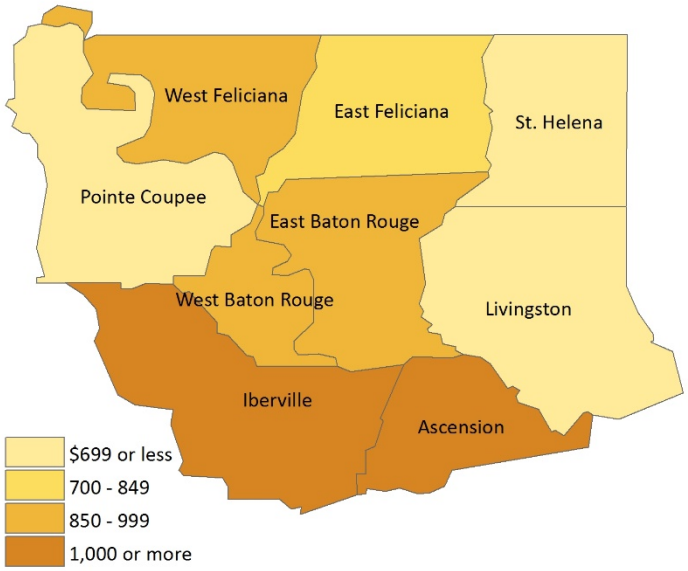
Unemployment rates for the Baton Rouge area, selected area counties, and the nation




Source: U.S. BLS, Local Area Unemployment Statistics.

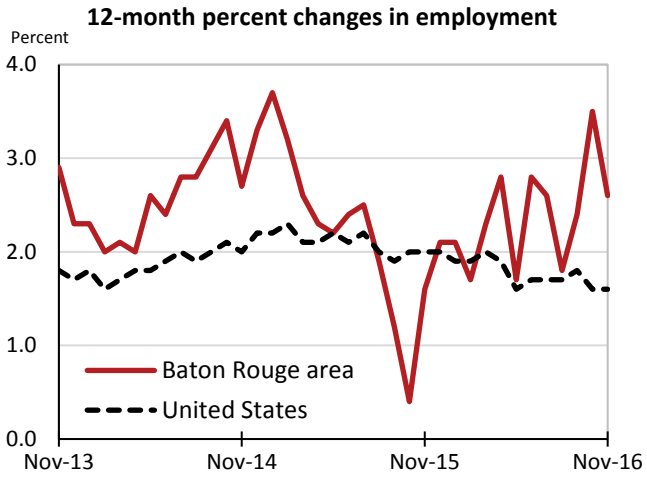
Average weekly wages for all industries by county

**Baton Rouge area, 2nd quarter 2016**
(U.S. = $989; Area = $927)




Source: U.S. BLS, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Over-the-year changes in employment on nonfarm payrolls and employment by major industry sector

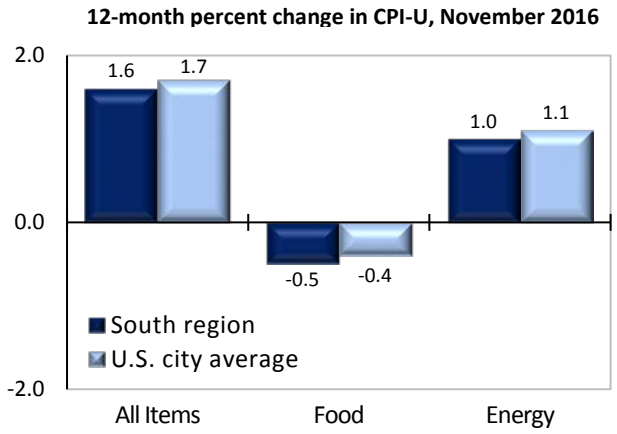



Source: U.S. BLS, Current Employment Statistics.

| Baton Rouge area employment (numbers in thousands) | Nov. 2016 | Change from Nov. 2015 to Nov. 2016 | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Number | Percent |
| Total nonfarm | 420.8 | 10.5 | 2.6 |
| Mining and logging | 0.9 | -0.1 | -10.0 |
| Construction | 55.4 | 2.4 | 4.5 |
| Manufacturing | 29.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 74.1 | 3.0 | 4.2 |
| Information | 6.7 | 0.5 | 8.1 |
| Financial activities | 18.6 | 0.1 | 0.5 |
| Professional and business services | 50.6 | 0.9 | 1.8 |
| Education and health services | 55.5 | 1.3 | 2.4 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 39.8 | 2.3 | 6.1 |
| Other services | 16.6 | 0.3 | 1.8 |
| Government | 72.9 | -0.2 | -0.3 |

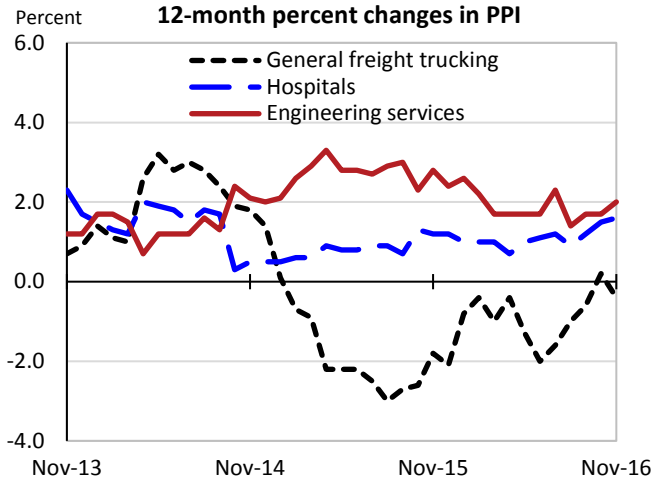
Source: U.S. BLS, Current Employment Statistics.

## Over-the-year change in the prices paid by urban consumers for selected categories



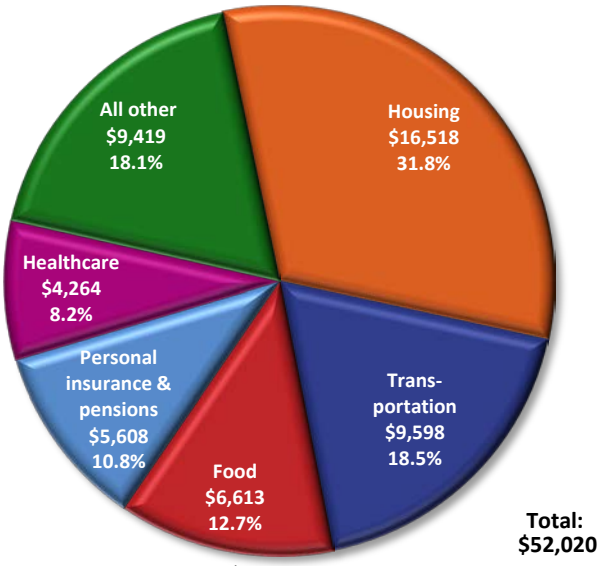

Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Price Index.

## Over-the-year changes in the selling prices received by producers for selected industries nationwide




Source: U.S. BLS, Producer Price Index.

## Average annual spending and percent distribution for selected categories




Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Expenditure Survey.

## Average hourly wages for selected occupations

| Occupation | Baton Rouge area | United States |
|---|---|---|
| Total, all occupations | $21.01 | $23.23 |
| Dentists, general | 94.21 | 82.86 |
| General and operations managers | 55.32 | 57.44 |
| Lawyers | 53.38 | 65.51 |
| Computer systems analysts | 35.05 | 43.36 |
| Accountants and auditors | 29.93 | 36.19 |
| Registered nurses | 28.18 | 34.14 |
| Construction laborers | 15.30 | 17.57 |
| Customer service representatives | 14.41 | 16.62 |
| Medical secretaries | 13.77 | 16.50 |
| Retail salespersons | 11.92 | 12.67 |
| Cooks, fast food | 8.60 | 9.43 |
| Food preparation workers | 8.57 | 10.60 |

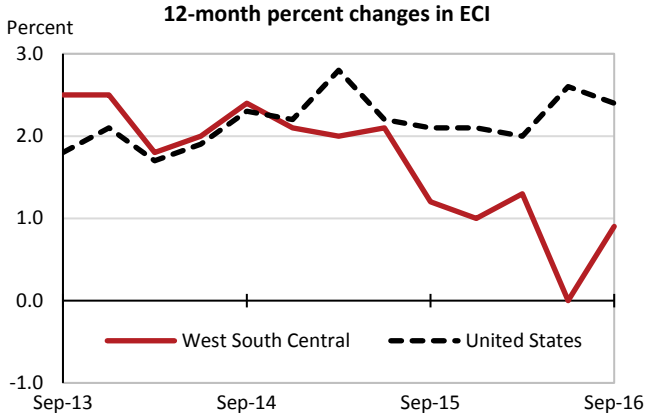
Source: U.S. BLS, Occupational Employment Statistics, May 2015.

## Employer costs per hour worked for wages and selected employee benefits by geographic division

| Private industry, September 2016 | West South Central (1) | United States |
|---|---|---|
| Total compensation | $29.91 | $32.27 |
| Wages and salaries | 21.55 | 22.52 |
| Total benefits | 8.37 | 9.75 |
| Paid leave | 1.89 | 2.21 |
| Vacation | 0.94 | 1.15 |
| Supplemental pay | 1.12 | 1.16 |
| Insurance | 2.04 | 2.59 |
| Retirement and savings | 1.03 | 1.25 |
| Legally required benefits | 2.29 | 2.54 |

(1) West South Central includes AR, LA, OK, and TX.
Source: U.S. BLS, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation.

## Over-the-year changes in wages and salaries




Source: U.S. BLS, Employment Cost Index.