

St. Helena Parish



“Over the years, it has become clear that individual health is closely linked to community health—the health of the community and environment in which individuals live, work, and play. Likewise, community health is profoundly affected by the collective beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of everyone who lives in the community”

Parish Health Profiles 2005 — Your Parish at a Glance

	St. Helena	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
ECONOMICS, 2000				
% All persons in poverty	26.8%	19.6%	12.4%	--
% Children under 18 in poverty	35.6%	26.6%	16.6%	--
% Unemployed 16 and over	9.5%	7.3%	5.8%	--
EDUCATION 2002-2003				
School Expenditure per Student	\$6,819	\$6,906	--	--
Student Attendance (average daily attendance as a % of the average number of students enrolled)	98.8%	93.5%	--	--
% High School Drop Outs (as a % of incoming 9th grade)	3.6%	7.0%	--	--
MOTHERS AND CHILDREN, 2002				
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 births)	9.4	10.2	7.0	4.5
% Receiving prenatal care w ithin first 3 months	73.6%	83.8%	83.7%	90.0%
% Receiving adequate prenatal care (modified Kessner)	73.1%	78.9%	76.2%	--
% Low birth weight	9.2%	10.5%	7.7%	5.0%
% Births to teens ages 15 - 19	17.9%	15.5%	10.6%	--
% Children fully immunized by 2 years old	--	69.8%	78.5%	90.0%
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 2003 (new cases - rate per 100,000 population)				
Syphilis (primary and secondary)	--	4.1	2.5	0.2
Early Syphilis (primary, secondary and early latent)	209.0	8.6	5.4	--
Chlamydia	199.5	469.8	304.3	3.0
Gonorrhea	104.5	265.6	116.2	19.0
Tuberculosis	0.0	5.8	5.1	1.0
STATEWIDE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, 2002 (death rate per 100,000 population)				
Heart	226.4	248.4	241.7	166.0
Cancer	254.7	209.7	193.2	159.9
Cerebrovascular Disease	**	57.4	56.4	48.0
Accidents	**	46.7	37.0	17.5
Diabetes	**	39.5	25.4	45.0
Chronic Lower Respiratory	**	37.8	43.3	--
COMMUNITY SAFETY, 2003				
Validated cases of child abuse/neglect (rate per 1,000 population)	19.9	10.9	12.4	10.3
Deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes (rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled)	11.1	2.1	1.5	0.8
HEALTH BEHAVIORS, 2004				
	Region 9	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
% Current cigarette smokers (adults 18+)	26.9%	23.5%	21.0%	12.0%
% Obese - BMI>30 (adults 20+)	25.2%	27.0%	31.1%	15.0%
% Having a mammogram w ithin 2 years (women 40+)	72.8%	74.3%	74.6%	70.0%
% Having a pap smear w ithin 3 years (women 18+)	82.4%	85.2%	85.9%	90.0%
% Having a flu shot in past year (adults 65+)	59.6%	68.6%	67.9%	90.0%

Data Sources:

Economics: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data, 2000

Education: Louisiana Department of Education District-reported data submitted to the Student Information System (SIS) end-of-year (EOY) report and Profile of Educational Personnel (PEP) System. Office of Management and Finance, Division of Planning, Analysis and Information Resources. District Composite Report 2003-2004.

Mothers and Children: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005

Infectious Diseases: DHH/OPH, Sexually Transmitted Disease Program. 2004 and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Trends in Reportable Sexually Transmitted Disease in the United State, 2003". NA= Rate not available, # of cases is less than 5

Leading Causes of Death: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005 (**Rates for counts less than 20 are unreliable and are not reported)

Community Safety: Child Abuse--Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, prepared by Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana and Motor Vehicle Deaths--EMS/Injury Research & Prevention Program

Healthy Behaviors: DHH/OPH, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2004

History^{1, 2}

St. Helena, one of the Florida Parishes, was established on December 22, 1810. The early settlers were French and Spanish, but later English traders and Revolutionary War settlers from Georgia, the Carolinas, and Virginia came to this lush territory. St. Helena Parish is located a few minutes off Interstate 55, which enters the state in the area described as the “toe” of Louisiana.



Pine forests scent the air at the St. Helena Forest Festival held in Greensburg the last Saturday in August. The Amite River forms the western boundary of the parish and the Tickfaw flows along the eastern side. Louisiana Highway 10, once known as the Choctaw Trail, crosses the parish and is a beautiful scenic drive. Visit the Old Jail and the original Florida Parish Land Office, located in the parish seat of Greensburg. Inspiration Park, near Kentwood, offers camping and meditation facilities.

Parish Seat³ Greensburg

Major Cities (population over 5,000)
N/A

Parish Population⁴

2000.....	10,525
2003 (estimate)	10,307
2000 Population of Race	
White.....	46.5%
African-American	52.4%
Some other race.....	1.1%
Hispanic of Latino (of any race).....	1.0%
2000 Population of Age	
Under 5 years	7.5%
5-14	16.3%
15-17	5.1%
18-19	3.1%
20-24	6.0%
25-64	49.4%
65 & over	12.5%

Geography and Statistics⁵

Average elevation	223ft.
Land area in square miles	408
Water area in square miles	1.1

Climate

Average temperatures

Annual.....	67°
January.....	59°
July.....	92°
Annual average rainfall.....	65 inches

Labor Force (2001)⁶

St. Helena Parish

Civilian.....	4,399
Employed.....	4,145
Unemployed.....	254
Unemployment.....	5.8%

Louisiana

Civilian.....	2,055,000
Employed.....	1,956,500
Unemployed.....	98,500
Unemployment Rate.....	4.8%

Colleges/Universities (within one hour commute)

- Louisiana State University and A&M College, Baton Rouge
- Southeastern Louisiana University

1. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
2. Louisiana Office of Tourism. 1998. keywords: regional information
<<http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/>>.
3. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
4. U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 1 (SF 1) and Summary File 3 (SF 3) <<http://www.census.gov>>.
5. U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts <<http://www.census.gov>>.
6. Louisiana Department of Labor, Civilian Labor Force Summary
<http://www.ldol.state.la.us/forms/lmi/CLF_Parishes_2000-Present.xls>.