Step Forward

An initiative of Community Foundation of North Louisiana

2021 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY:
Data Drives Results for Children

cfnla.org/stepforward

Letter from Executive Director

After a year of planning Step Forward once again became a part of the Community Foundation of North Louisiana (CFNLA) on September 1, 2020. CFNLA continues the legacy of Step Forward's mission to foster regional collaboration to improve education outcomes for all children!

Step Forward convenes community leaders and uses data to illuminate obstacles faced by children of color and those living in poverty. Through a shared community vision, Step Forward and its partners use evidence-based decision making and collaborative action to make positive changes for North Louisiana children. This type of change can only be achieved through a partnership with the entire community. Step Forward seeks success for every child in North Louisiana with the ultimate goal of all children obtaining a sustainable, living-wage job by age 25.

Data drives results for children. Step Forward supports a network of partners that rely on us to track and publish data indicators of well-being for children and young adults. This annual publication is our Report to the Community. The data published in our report helps us better understand the needs of our most vulnerable, children and youth. In a collaborative effort with our partners across Northwest Louisiana this report is used to develop solutions designed to get results. Our collective action moves us closer to achieving our vision of the success of every child, cradle to career.

Over the last year, with great care and intentionality Step Forward's, Building Resilience, Building Foundations and Building Futures networks have worked to address the systemic and immediate needs in our community. We are incredibly grateful for our Network partners. Your contributions are investments that advance the Step Forward mission, help connect our community with resources, while impacting thousands of children and families in communities across Northwest Louisiana. Your commitment gives us reason to believe the success of every, child cradle to career, is possible.

Step Forward will continue to build a legacy that foster collaboration to improve educational outcomes for all children.

Ensuring success for every child,

Carla D. Burgos

Director of Special Initiatives Step Forward

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In recognition of their hard work and commitment to the mission of Step Forward, we dedicate this report to the 2020 Step Forward Board of Directors:

Ms. Waynette Ballengee
Community Volunteer

Mr. John Dean, President
Partner of Counsel, Heard, McElroy & Vestal

Rabbi Jana DeBenedetti
B'nai Zion Congregation

Dr. Toya Graham, V. President
Executive Director, Beaird Family Foundation

Ms. Kristi Gustavson, Ex Officio
CEO, Community Foundation of North LA

Ms. Wealthia Jackson
Owner, Bridges to Education

Ms. Cheryl McGowen
Retired Educator

Mr. John Peak
Retired President of Chase Commercial Banking NLA

NORTHWEST LOUISIANA DASHBOARD

INDICATOR	CURRENT LEVEL	TREND FROM PREVIOUS YEAR
Kindergarten Readiness*	41.2%	Improved
3- to 4-Year-Olds Enrolled in School	52.4%	Improved
Age 5 and under Below Poverty Level	35.7%	Improved
3rd Grade ELA Proficiency*	66.4%	No Change
6th Grade Math Proficiency*	53.9%	No Change
Average ACT Composite Score	18.7	Worsened
Age 16 to 19 Idleness	9.3%	Improved
High School Cohort Graduation*	81.2%	Worsened
Immediate College Enrollment*	60%	Worsened
Age 18 to 24 Less than H.S. Graduate	18.7%	Improved
Age 20 to 29 Associate's Degree or Above*	23%	Worsened
Age 20 to 24 Labor Force Participation Rate	72%	Worsened
Age 20 to 24 Unemployment Rate*	11.5%	Improved
Age 20 to 29 Median Annual Wages	$19,448	Worsened

*Core indicator

LIST OF FIGURES

Suggested Citation:

Hinze, Wesley M. 2021. *Step Forward Report to the Community 2021* (Report No. 7). Shreveport, LA: Community Foundation of North Louisiana. Retrieved from: https://cfnla.org/stepforward/

DATA-DRIVEN PROGRAM

Step Forward uses data to drive project planning, goal setting, and evaluation. This report uses information from the following sources and would not be possible without the data they provide freely to the public:

> ACT; Agenda for Children; Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center; Caddo Parish Juvenile Services; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Louisiana Board of Regents; Louisiana Community and Technical College System; Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services; Louisiana Department of Education; Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice; Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics; National Center for Education Statistics; Shreveport Police Department; and the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Some of the most important community indicators come from the U.S. Census Bureau, including measures of poverty, school enrollment, educational attainment, and employment, in addition to population statistics for the area. This information is available annually as a result of the American Community Survey (ACS), which began in 2005 and took the place of the decennial census "long form" in 2010.[1] The American Community Survey 5-year estimates used in this report are rolling annual averages based on a sample of households.[2] The unweighted Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area sample count of population for the 2015-2019 ACS 5-year estimates is 27,271. This amounts to a 6.3 percent sample of the local area, sufficiently large for the purposes of this report.

Rapid change is captured slowly by the multi-year method, but the larger sample size reduces the margins of error, narrowing the confidence intervals around the estimates.[3] This produces more reliable figures and should be used for planning. As a result, some of these figures may differ slightly from those reported in other publications about similar topics in the area. The ACS 1-year estimates, a companion data product to the ACS 5-year estimates, are more current, but they are calculated from a smaller sample size. With an unweighted sample count of 5,200 in 2018, about 1.2 percent of the total population, the sample size becomes too small to disaggregate into reliable estimates for narrow age ranges and race or gender categories.

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[1] American Community Survey general information here: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/about.html

[2] More ACS information here: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/guidance/estimates.html

[3] The standard error of the estimate (SE), one of the components of the confidence interval, is equal to the standard deviation (σ) divided by the square root of the sample size (n).

INDICATORS

In the spring of 2013, the Step Forward team developed a set of indicators to track progress toward the stated goals of the project. These indicators were selected based on criteria developed by the Strive Together Network.

> Is the proposed indicator:
>
> A valid measure of the outcome?
> Easily understandable to local stakeholders?
> Reasonably similar across the region and school districts?
> Produced by a trusted source?
> Affordable to gather and report?
> Available consistently over time?
> Able to be improved through local action, and useful in the day-to-day work?

The 2013 baseline report included nine indicators. In the 2015 update sixteen additional indicators fitting the criteria above were added. Since then, some indicators are no longer reported or are otherwise unavailable and have been discontinued, and many new ones have been added.

The figures below present the 7 core indicators, several contributing indicators, and other information. More than 50 charts and the trends they display are discussed. Tables with counts and percentages can be found at the end of the report. Some Step Forward projects will impact these indicators directly and others will impact them indirectly. More than one strategy is generally necessary to change conditions such as school enrollment or employment rates in a metro area. Currently, 2 of the 7 core indicators have improved from the previous year, 2 do not have new data due to Covid-19, and 3 have worsened from the previous year. The more of these indicators that are heading in the right direction, the more likely the necessary conditions exist for future success.

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

Following this introduction, a profile will be built of the young residents of the region in three stages, from the early days of the cradle to the beginning of a career. This section covers the area population and its dynamics, the poverty status of all persons under 18 years of age, and the educational attainment and occupations of adults.

The Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden Combined Statistical Area contains four parishes with the following populations according to the latest available Census estimates: Caddo (240,204), Bossier (127,039), Webster (38,340), and DeSoto (27,463). As neighboring communities become more (or less) socially and economically integrated with one another, the boundaries of federal statistical geographies change. Patterns of commuting to work primarily guide the delineation decisions the Office of Management and Budget issues in its bulletins.[4] The four-parish geography used in this report since 2013—Bossier, Caddo, DeSoto, and Webster—is currently the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden Combined Statistical Area. The area has returned to its 2003 delineation in which metropolitan Shreveport-Bossier City (Bossier, Caddo, and DeSoto) and micropolitan Minden (Webster) together form a combined area of the four parishes. Any changes in future commuting patterns and other measures of social and economic integration will define the four-parish area as used by the 13 principal federal statistical agencies and other programs in the years ahead.

Area residents are spread across five cities with populations of about 5,000 or more and into many smaller towns and villages. The five cities and their 2019 resident populations are Shreveport (187,112), Bossier City (68,159), Minden (11,840), Springhill (4,772), and Mansfield (4,624). Other formally urban residents outside these cities live in towns of 2,500 or more. All other residents are formally rural, about 25 percent of the area population in 2010.[5] The villages and towns in the combined area are socially and economically integrated with the 3 principal cities. A drive from the DeSoto Parish Chamber of Commerce in Mansfield to the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce takes 40 minutes, then another 8 minutes to the Bossier Chamber of Commerce. From there to the Greater Minden Chamber of Commerce takes 30 minutes, and then on to the Springhill Webster Chamber takes 42 minutes.[6] A drive

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[4] For current and historical bulletins, see: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro/about/omb-bulletins.html

[5] Census Urban and Rural references here: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural.html

[6] Google Maps results (fastest route, the usual traffic) from 115 North Washington Road in Mansfield, LA to 400 Edward Street in Shreveport, LA (37 miles) to 710 Benton Road in Bossier City, LA (3 miles) to 110 Sibley Road in Minden, LA (27 miles), to 400 North Giles Street in Springhill, LA (33 miles).

from Logansport town (pop. 1,537) in the Southwest corner of the area to Shongaloo village (pop. 168) in the Northeast corner covers 100 miles and takes 1 hour and 50 minutes.

The most recent official estimate of the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area population is 433,046 in 2019, down one and a half percent from the official count of 439,811 tabulated in the Decennial Census of 2010. Over the past decade, the area added an estimated 14,484 residents through natural increase (births minus deaths) and 2,507 through net international migration flows, and lost 23,884 residents through net domestic migration flows.[7]

Under 30 Population of Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden Area by Age and Sex, 2019
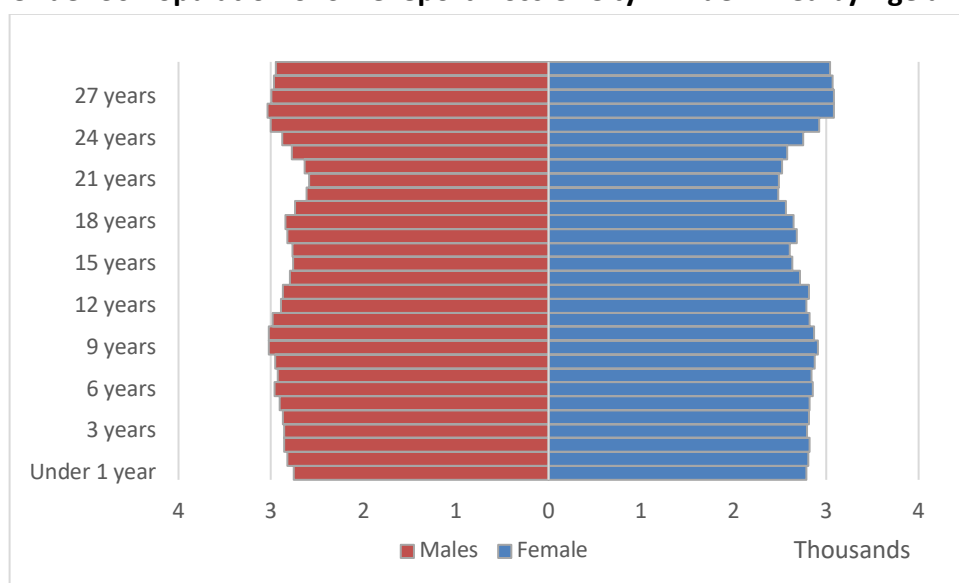
U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division
Note: Author's single-year-of-age estimates, smoothed
Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest.html

The population under age 30 in 2019 is 169,450, about 40 percent of the total population in the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area. About 5,700 individuals comprise each single-year-of-age category. Half of the Millennials (b. 1981 to 1996) are in this age group, all of Generation Z (b.

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[7] Of the 380+ metropolitan statistical areas in the U.S., 91 declined in total population from 2010 to 2019. Metro Shreveport-Bossier City (Bossier, Caddo, and DeSoto) lost the 47th most residents (3,900; combined statistical area Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden lost 6,767). Metro Pittsburgh, PA lost the most (38,694), followed by Metro Youngstown-Warren-Boardman, OH-PA (29,701) and Metro Cleveland-Elyria, OH (28,828). See: https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/2010s-total-metro-and-micro-statistical-areas.html

1997 to ~2012), and all of Generation Alpha who have been born.[8] All of the future business leaders, skilled tradespersons, academics, local government officials, and especially parents the community will have in the next decades are in this age group.

What appears in the figure to be some missing 19- to 24-year-olds reflects more than the ebb and flow of birth rates. These are individuals who have out-migrated from the area, most likely for work or school. Many will return later, as they have done in the past. In fact, the largest single-year-of-age group in the area, almost 6,200 persons, is 26-year-olds.

The area is slightly younger than the nation as a whole, adding to the importance of a cradle-to-career focused organization like the Step Forward partnership. The median age in the area is 37.2, about even with the state (36.9) and one year younger than the nation (38.1). All individuals over age 60 in the area make up one fifth of the population. One quarter of the population is under 18 years.

Age under 18 Years below Poverty Level by Race and Ethnicity, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/

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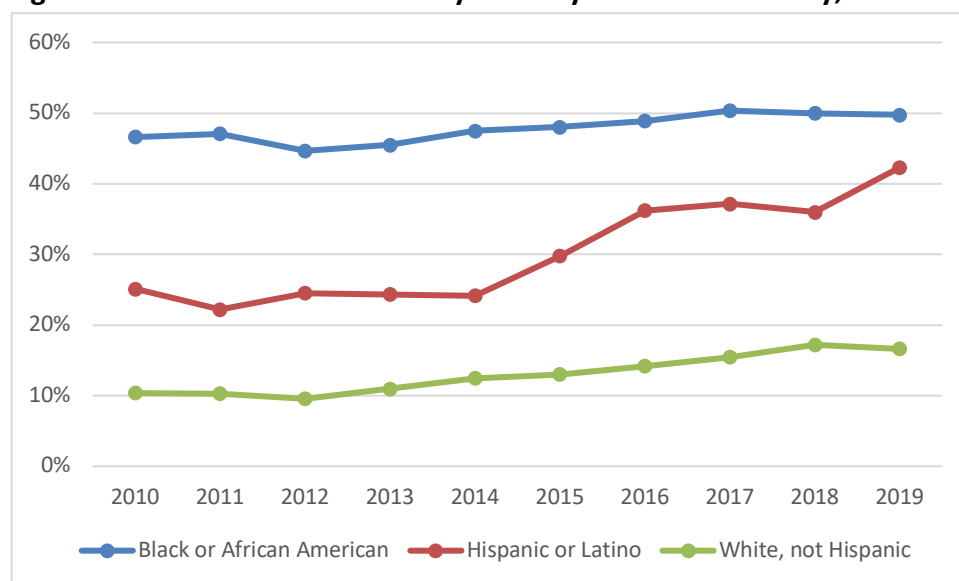
[8] Generational cohorts other than Baby Boomers are not officially defined by any federal statistical agency. For Millennials and Generation Z we use here definitions provided by the PEW Research Center. See:
http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/01/17/where-millennials-end-and-generation-z-begins/

Poverty rates for children and youth vary considerably across race groups. The disparity is especially severe in the area when compared to the United States as a whole, and is about equivalent to the state of Louisiana. The current rate of poverty for White children and youth (under 18 years) is 16.6 percent, compared to 49.8 percent for African American children and youth. This amounts to a substantial gap of 33 percentage points, 3 times as many individuals by number, and over 15,000 more African American children and youth in poverty than White children and youth. This percentage point gap at the state level is 31 points and at the national level is 22 points. The poverty rate for Hispanic or Latino children and youth, which increased to 42.3 percent, is in between.

Age 25 Years and over with Less than High School Diploma by Race and Ethnicity, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
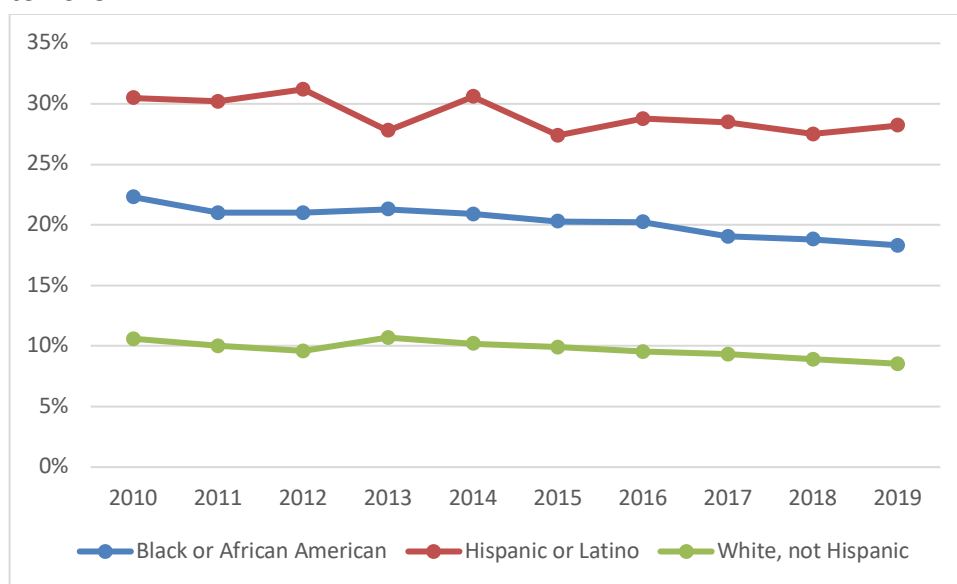
Disparities in child and youth poverty show up later as differences in adult educational attainment and in the disparate distributions of workers into middle class occupations. The most recent best estimate of adults with less than a high school diploma is 9 percent for Whites, 18 percent for African Americans, and 28 percent for Latinos. These values fall in between the state and national levels for Whites (11 percent and 7 percent) and African Americans (20 percent and 14 percent), and equivalent to the state and less than the national level for Latinos (28 percent and 31 percent). These levels are on the decline and at the current pace White and African American rates in this attainment category would converge at the

current national level for Whites (7 percent) in 2043. Step Forward works to eliminate such disparities.

Age 25 and over with Bachelor's Degree or Higher by Race and Ethnicity, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
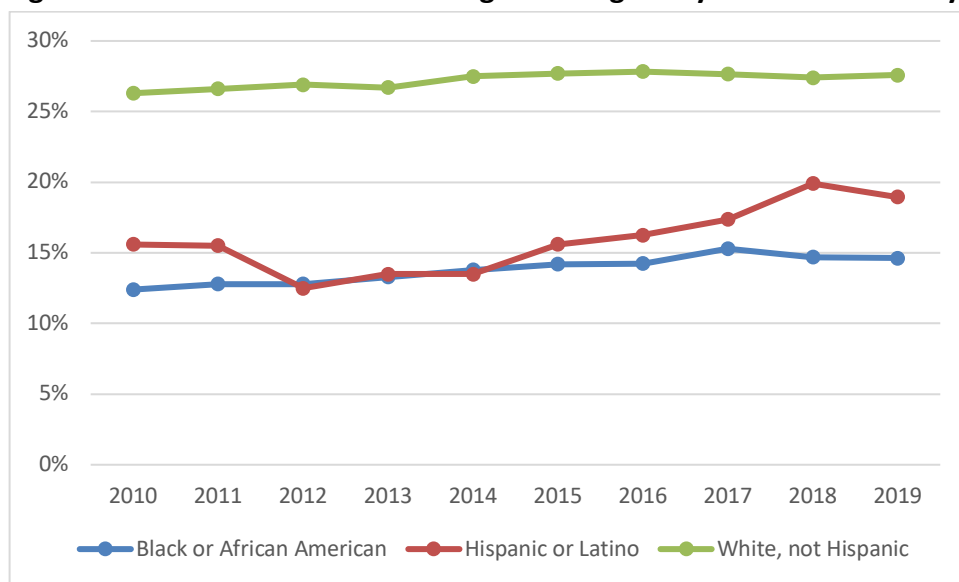
On the other end of educational attainment are those with a bachelor's degree or higher. Current best estimates place area Whites age 25 and over at 28 percent, even with the state and lower than the national average of 36 percent for this category. About 15 percent of African American adults in the area have obtained a bachelor's degree or higher, about even with the state (16 percent) and less than the national average of 22 percent. Latinos are in the middle with 19 percent, higher than both the state and national averages for this group (17 and 16 percent). If trends from 2010 to 2019 persist, area African Americans will catch up to the current national average for this group in about 25 years, and Whites will catch up to the current national average for this group in about 50 years.

These disparities culminate in generally different work lives, on average, for the adults in different race groups. This can be represented by the occupational distribution of the civilian employed population age 16 years and over. Many of the occupations held by the middle classes are professional or administrative and are captured in the broad occupational

classification of management, business, science, and arts occupations.[9] Median annual earnings for individuals in these occupations in the area are $49,593.[10] This is about 30 percent greater than the next highest category. The four other broad classifications and their 2019 median earnings are: service occupations ($17,245); sales and office occupations ($26,045); natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations ($35,351); and production, transportation, and material moving occupations ($29,280). Median earnings in the local area for the total civilian employed population 16 years and over in 2019 are $31,119.

Age 16 and over in Management, Business, Science, and Arts Occupations by Race and Ethnicity, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
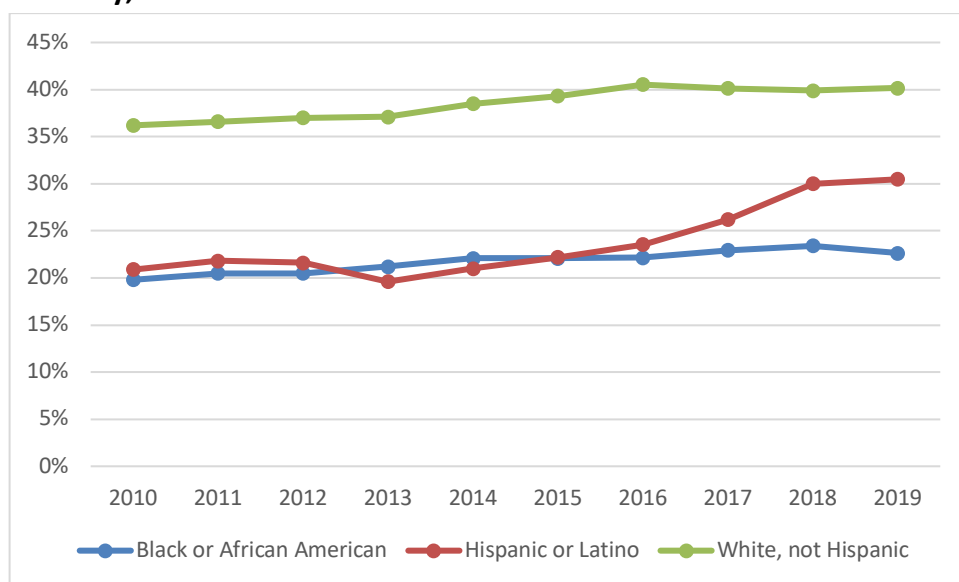
The share of employed, civilian Whites age 16 and over in the management, business, science, and arts occupations is 40 percent, about even with the state level and slightly lower than the national level for this group (39 percent and 43 percent). This is substantially higher than the share of employed nonwhites in these jobs. About 23 percent of African Americans in the area work in these occupations, slightly lower than the state level of 25 percent and lower than the

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[9] Subcategories include management, business, and financial; computer, engineering, and science; education, legal, community service, arts, and media; and healthcare practitioner and technical occupations. See: https://www.bls.gov/soc/2018/major_groups.htm

[10] For the civilian employed population 16 years and over. See: American Community Survey 2019 5-Year Estimates Subject Table S2411.

national level of 30 percent for this group. About 30 percent of area Latinos are in these occupations, higher than both the state and national levels for this group (23 percent and 22 percent). Whereas 2 out of 5 White workers are employed in these jobs, the ratios for African Americans and Latinos are closer to 1 in 4 and 1 in 3.

Narrowing the gaps in the measures above—poverty, educational attainment, and professional employment—can improve the solidarity of the community. This in turn can make the process of identifying and acting upon the challenges faced by the community more likely to be successful.

Americans have a penchant for addressing social problems through volunteerism and charitable giving. Long ago in the 1830s, the French aristocrat Alexis de Tocqueville visited the United States—there were 24 at the time—on assignment from his government.[11] Though Tocqueville at first doubted the ability of the middle classes to effectively govern a society, he observed this in person and attributed it to a high level of civic engagement and practical intelligence. Step Forward depends heavily on the creativity and engagement of stakeholders and the community in order to address the important local issues of today. In the pages below, we aim to share the progress the community has made and the challenges that remain.

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[11] Tocqueville, Alexis. 1838. Democracy in America. London: Saunders and Otley.

BUILDING FOUNDATIONS: BIRTH THROUGH GRADE 5

Being ready for kindergarten allows a child to be able to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available to them. This decade, greater than half of incoming kindergarteners in the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area lacked the letter and number awareness, understanding, and fluency expected of students at this grade level upon school entry. This means that about 3,150 5-year-olds in the area, on average each year this decade, were not prepared when they began school in the fall. In 2020, the most recent year available, this fell to 3,000 children (58.8 percent) who were unprepared to begin their formal educations. Slightly over 2,000 incoming students (41.2%, slightly higher than the state) were prepared and are on track to becoming proficient readers by the end of third grade. Not long ago kindergarten readiness was 50 percent (2012), and this cohort went on to become 66 percent proficient on the LEAP ELA assessment in third grade.

Kindergarten Readiness, 2011 to 2020
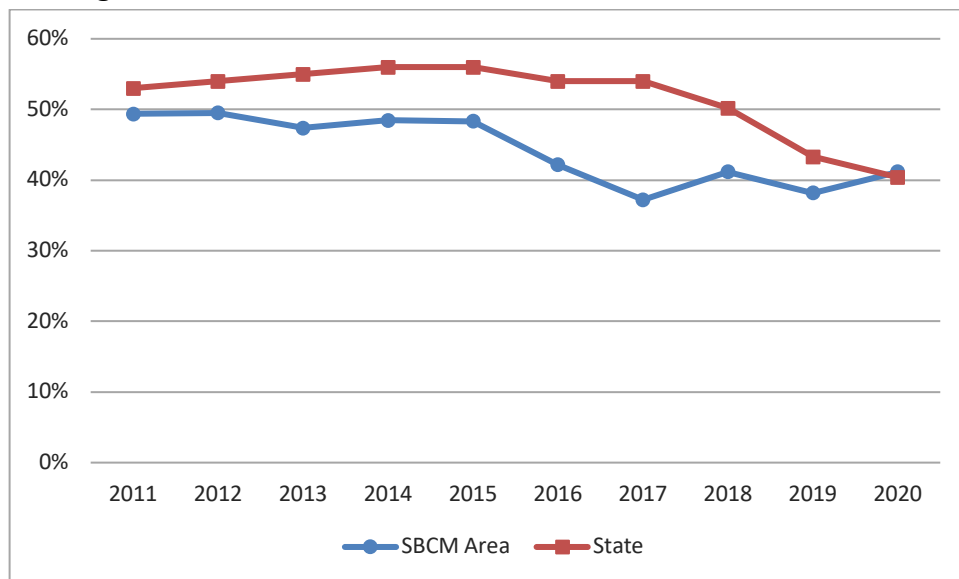
Louisiana Department of Education

Note: Author's calculation of area annual averages based on district level fall DIBELS Next or alternative assessment scores weighted by district kindergarten enrollment Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center

The state of Louisiana currently allows districts to choose from a list of four screening assessments. All are brief fluency measures of early literacy skills. In kindergarten, the assessments measure phonemic awareness by scoring the student's ability to indicate the first or initial sound of words.[12] It is possible that the decline over the past several years in kindergarten readiness is due in part to increasing levels of child poverty in the area and in part due to a change in the assessment instrument. The alternative instrument adopted by Caddo and DeSoto (STEEP) produced lower readiness scores in virtually all districts in the state that adopted it, until the most recent year. The difference in the state average between the DIBELS Next (most common assessment) and the STEEP (alternative assessment) was 7 points in 2018 and 9 points in 2019.[13] In 2020, STEEP districts outperformed DIBELS Next districts by a quarter of a point. About 7 percent of the state is currently using this alternative in fall assessments of incoming kindergarteners; 60 percent use Acadience Reading, formerly known as DIBELS Next. The state is exploring the option of moving to a single assessment tool in all districts.

Children do not develop naturally into school-ready students; the necessary language, literacy, and numeracy skills must be learned in interaction with others. We may presume that attending preschool has a positive impact on early literacy skills and kindergarten readiness, in addition to freeing up time for parents to work for income. In the nation, state, and local area, about the same percentage of 3- to 4-year-olds are enrolled in nursery school or preschool. Over the past decade, the average share of 3- to 4-year-olds in school has been 48 percent in the U.S., 52 percent in the state, and 50 percent in the local area. This percentage fell locally from 52 in 2010 to 48 in 2015 and has since increased steadily to slightly above the state level in 2019.

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[12] Fall 2020 Reading Report: School, District, and State Results for Kindergarten through Grade Three. Louisiana Department of Education. Retrieved from: https://louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/elementary-and-middle-school-performance

[13] The *Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) Next* assessment has been renamed, see: https://acadiencelearning.org/the-dibels-next-assessment-is-now-acadience-reading/. For information on the System to Enhance Educational Progress assessment (STEEP), see: https://www.isteep.com/

3- to 4-Year-Olds Enrolled in School, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
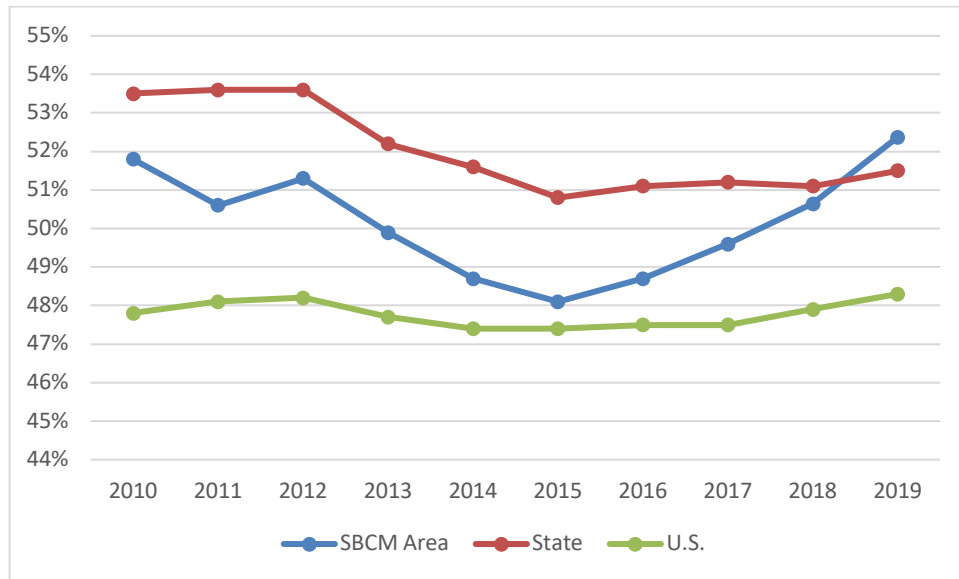
According to the most recent best estimate from the Census, 52 percent of Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area 3- to 4-year-olds are enrolled in school, about 6,500 children. The nearly 3,000 4-year-olds who are not enrolled may not be interacting with others their age in an educational setting during the year preceding their enrollment in kindergarten. In the state this figure is also 52 percent, and 48 percent in the U.S. Locally, a 1 percent increase in this measure represents about 120 children age 3 to 4 years. At 1 percent per year, the community can reach 58 percent by 2025.

Age 3 and over Enrolled in Nursery School, Preschool by Race, 2012 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
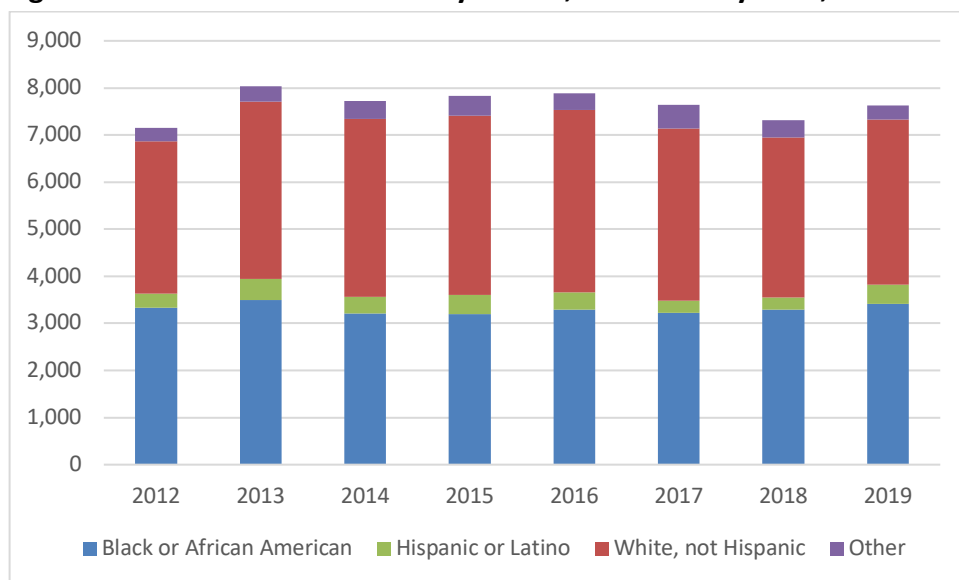
About 7,600 children age 3 and over are enrolled in nursery school or preschool in the area. This number includes about 1,000 children over age 4 who are not represented in the 3- to 4-year-olds in school numbers discussed above. This number also matches the annual average for the area over the available 8 years in the data series. The increase in number from 2012 to 2013 is likely due to the universal pre-K program in DeSoto Parish that began around 2011, the benefits of which were being felt by 2013.[14]

The age 3 and over in school data is disaggregated by race and ethnicity in the ACS summary tables available from the Census.[15] These show an estimated 3,414 African American children, 410 Hispanic or Latino children, and 3,503 White children enrolled in nursery school or preschool in 2019. Of the total number of children ages 3, 4, and 5 by group, this amounts to 34 percent of Hispanic or Latino children, 43 percent of African American children, and 45 percent of White children in the area in 2019.[16] These percentages increased for all groups over the previous year.

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[14] See: March, Segann. 2015, Nov. Experts: Lack of pre-K putting local children behind. Shreveport Times. Retrieved from: https://www.shreveporttimes.com/story/news/watchdog/2015/11/06/experts-lack-pre-k-putting-local-children-behind/75232792/

[15] Disaggregation of the smaller 3- to 4-year-old population is not available. For the age 3 and over population this is available in data.census.gov tables B14007B, B14007I, and B14007H.

[16] Single-year-of-age estimates used to calculate these percentages are based on Census ACS population estimates rather than the Population Estimates Program vintage 2019 tables used in the previous section.

Number of Licensed Early Learning (Day Care) Centers by Type, 2010 to 2020
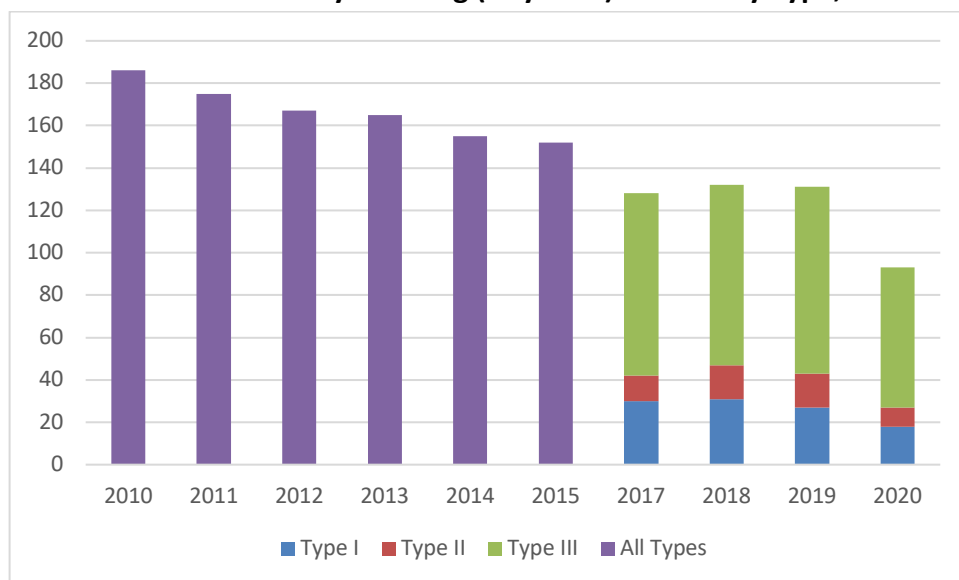
The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center; Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services via Agenda for Children
Data: https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#LA/2/0/char/0

The state of Louisiana defines a child day care center as any facility that provides care to 7 or more children on a regular basis for at least 12.5 hours a week.[17] Some types of facilities are exempt from Louisiana Department of Education licensing regulations, such as private or public day schools operating prekindergarten or kindergarten programs and certified Montessori schools. The rest are represented in the chart. After declining for several years, the total number reached a steady state from 2017 to 2019 with about 130 centers in the four-parish area. The most recent data from the Kids Count Data Center (June 2020) shows a current total of 93.[18] About two-thirds of these centers over the past four years are Type 3 (71 percent in 2020), which makes them eligible to receive most sources of government funding for early learning centers.[19]

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[17] CCDF Bulletin 137 – Early Learning Site Licensing Regulations, here:
http://www.doa.la.gov/osr/lac/28v161/28v161.doc
[18] According to the source table notes, "June 2020 data reflects the capacity of open centers, and does not include the capacity of sites that have temporarily closed due to COVID-19."
[19] Information on day care centers by type is not available before 2017.

Publicly Funded Early Childhood Programs by Domain Rating, 2017 to 2020
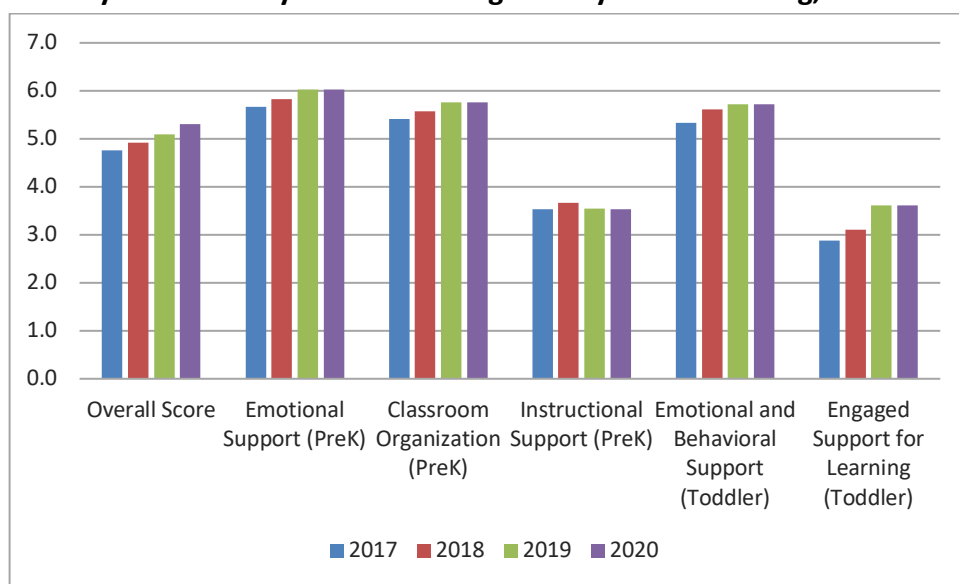
Louisiana Department of Education

Note: Author's calculation of area annual averages based on parish level Early Childhood Program scores weighted by number of sites

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center

The state of Louisiana began reporting early childhood program performance summary data in 2018 on the Department of Education information site, louisianabelieves.com. The total number of state-rated early childhood program sites in the SBCM area parishes is 142 in 2020, with an estimated publicly-funded enrolled student count of 5,492.[20] This is about 20 percent of the estimated 28,042 children under 5 years in the area.[21] Not all nursery school and preschool students are enrolled in publicly-funded early childhood programs. This is reflected in the larger student counts reported in the ACS enrollment estimates above. In the fourth year of reporting, 134 area sites have an overall rating of proficient or above (94 percent of the 142 rated sites), the highest share on record. Average scores for subcategories remained the same.[22]

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[20] The Network Performance Profile is not available in the most recent ECE Site Performance Profiles (2019-2020). The 2020 count used here is an estimate which includes the 5,232 students in the 102 rated sites, plus an author-estimated 260 from the 40 rated sites that have suppressed enrollment counts.

[21] The 2019 Census Population Division estimate of the four parishes in the SBCM area.

[22] The increase in the average overall score may be due to rounding or weighting, but without the Network Performance Profile we cannot know for sure.

Books in the home are important for the literacy development of children, as is a pattern of reading and learning by the adults around them. How children spend their time at home may be just as important as how they spend it at school. More than 20 years ago, Betty Hart and Todd Risley presented research findings from two and a half years of monthly home observations in 42 families.[23] This research demonstrated what has come to be known as the "3o million word gap." This is the difference in the total number of words addressed to children by age four in families with professionally employed parents compared to families with children in low-income households.

In addition to this large gap in the quantity of words spoken to young children, Hart and Risley also found a difference in the ratio of encouraging to discouraging feedback between these groups (6:1 in professional families and 1:2 in low-income families). This amounts to some 560,000 more instances of encouragement than prohibition in professional households and 125,000 more prohibitions than encouragements in low-income households by age four.

This important research is reminiscent of Anderson, Wilson and Fielding, who when studying fifth graders found a gap of 2.3 million words read per year outside of school.[24] This gap was found between those in the 90th percentile of time spent reading outside of school (40 minutes per day) and those in the 10th percentile (less than two minutes per day).

These two classics in the educational research literature show the magnitude of the interventions that are still necessary in order to provide equal experience in school, equal opportunity in the labor force, and personal enrichment through academic study for all young people in Northwest Louisiana.

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[23] Hart, Betty and Todd R. Risley. 1995. Meaningful Differences in the Everyday Experiences of Young American Children. Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Publishing.
[24] Anderson, Richard C., Paul T. Wilson and Linda G. Fielding. 1988. Growth in Reading and How Children Spend Their Time Outside of School. Reading Research Quarterly, vol. 23, no. 2, pp. 285-303.

3rd Grade English Language Arts Proficiency, 2010 to 2019
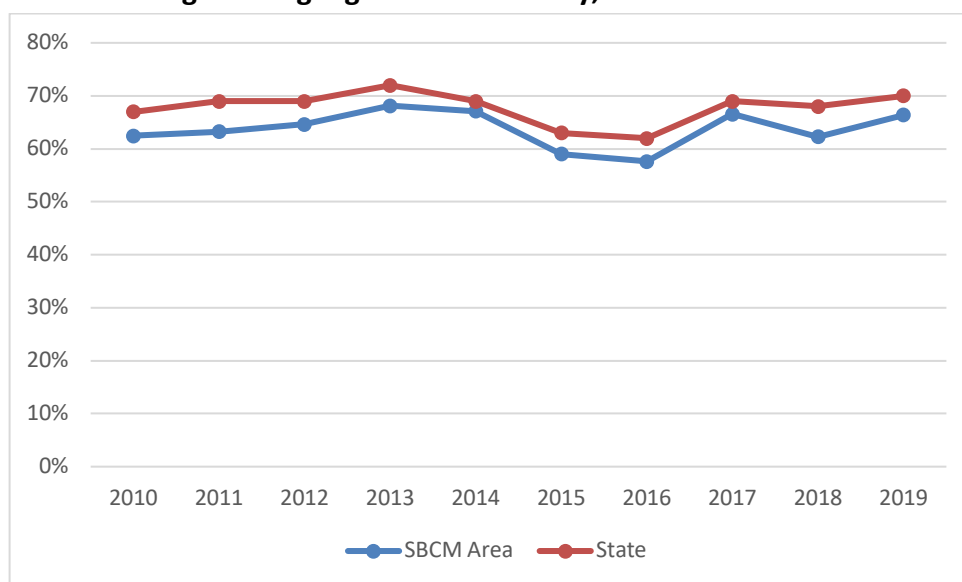
Louisiana Department of Education

Note: Author's calculation of area annual averages based on district level spring LEAP scores weighted by district 3rd grade enrollment

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center

In the third grade, around age eight and with three years of formal education, students are expected to transition from learning-to-read to reading-to-learn. Those who complete this shift have a much greater chance of continued success in school. The state assesses the English Language Arts proficiency of students through the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program, given in the spring in grades 3 through 8. New LEAP ELA scores from Spring 2020 are not available due to the pandemic. This decade, the share of Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area third graders at basic, mastery, or advanced levels is averaging just over 63 percent. In the most recent year with data (2019) this increased to 66 percent proficiency. The other 34 percent represents about 1,800 children who do not meet the basic criteria in English for a student finishing third grade. A 1 percent increase in this measure would require 54 additional third graders at basic level or above. At an increase of 1 percent per year, the community can reach 72 percent proficiency by 2025.

Cohort English Language Arts Proficiency, Kindergarten to Grade 5, by Child Poverty Rate of Cohort Kindergarten Year for Class of 2026 to 2032
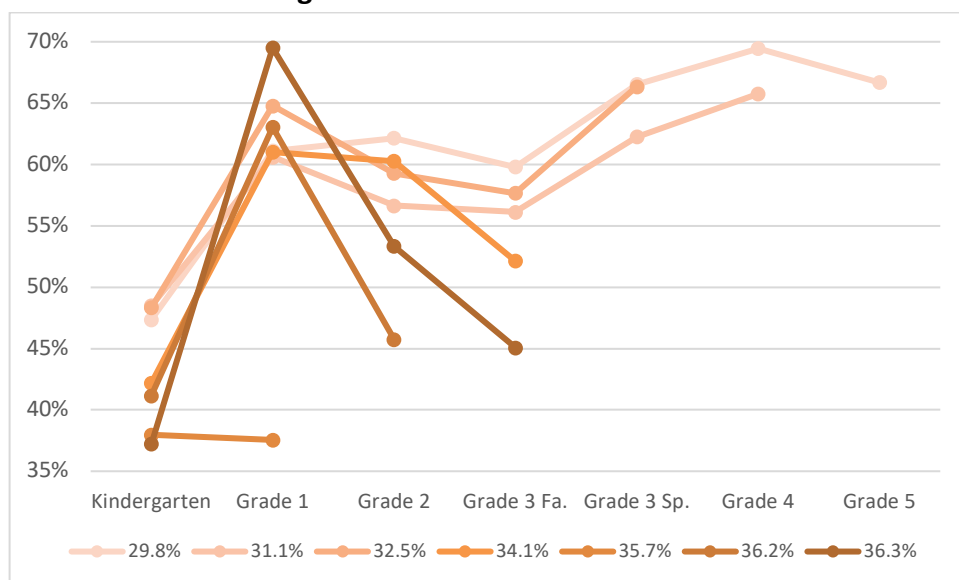
Louisiana Department of Education; American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Note: K-3 DIBELS or alternative assessment and 3-5 LEAP results, 2013-14 to 2018-19, and age 0 to 5 poverty rates, 2013 to 2019
Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center;
http://data.census.gov/

Another way of looking at student performance over time in English and other subjects is to track the progress of cohorts.[25] During the period 2013 to 2019, child poverty rates increased gradually from 30 to 36 percent of 0- to 5-year-olds, and the cohort classes of 2026 to 2032 began kindergarten. The child poverty rate of a cohort in its kindergarten year seems to be associated with lower proficiency rates in the years that follow. In 2013 to 2015 the child poverty rate was less than one third, and the cohorts who began kindergarten in those years did not fall below 50 percent proficiency any year from grade 1 to 5 with current data. From 2016 to 2019 the rate was greater than one third, and the scores for these cohorts are generally lower. Some grade 3, 4, and 5 scores are not available because LEAP data collection was interrupted in the spring of 2020 due to the pandemic. One would expect each of these cohorts to improve once they move on to the LEAP test in grade 3, as other cohorts have done.

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[25] Cohorts are grouped by expected high school graduation year. Each cohort from class of 2026 to class of 2032 has both a proficiency score for at least one grade level and a child poverty rate from its kindergarten year (2013 to 2019). SBCM area cohort performance scores are weighted by district/parish grade-level enrollment for each available year of performance data. LADOE data on DIBELS and LEAP for the academic year 2012-13 is unavailable.

Percent Under 18 Years in Household Without High-Speed Internet (Cable/Fiber/DSL) and Desktop or Laptop Computer by Race and Income, 2017 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year PUMS estimates, author's calculation
Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

The digital divide is often characterized as a problem of the geography of internet infrastructure: wired connections, such as cable, fiber, or DSL, generally provide higher speeds and are less prone to disruption. Residents of more densely populated urban communities in cities are more likely to have access to wired broadband through an internet service provider. Residents of rural communities in towns and villages are less likely to have wired options and may rely on broadband provided by satellites or mobile device. However, even within geographies that do have extensive wired broadband coverage, not all residents have reliable access to high-speed internet for the purposes of work or school. This requires the combination of a paid subscription for high-speed internet service and a desktop or laptop computer in the home.

In the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area, 55 percent of youth under 18 years live in a household that has both a paid subscription to wired internet service and at least one desktop or laptop computer. The remaining 45 percent of young people in the area may have access to the internet through a cell phone and a mobile data plan, but they may not be able to take full advantage of what current information technology can offer. The earliest data point for this measure is 2017, and the share of area youth without high-speed internet and a computer at home grows slightly each year.

The digital divide in the local area can be characterized by race and by income. The share of nonwhite youth without high-speed internet and a computer at home is 57 percent in the most recent year, compared to 31 percent of white youth. Both increased slightly over the past 2 years. The size of the white-nonwhite digital divide in the area is currently 27 percentage points.

Regarding income, this brief analysis separates those who do and do not meet eligibility for free or reduced lunch through the National School Lunch Program, which begins at 185 percent of the federal poverty line.[26] Of all young people age 0 to 17 in the area, about 55 percent are eligible for this assistance (low-income) and 45 percent are not (high-income). Two-thirds of low-income youth under 18 years do not have high-speed internet and a computer at home, compared to one-fifth of youth who are not eligible for reduced price lunch at school. The high-income--low-income digital divide is currently 48 percentage points.

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[26] See: https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/income-eligibility-guidelines

BUILDING FUTURES: GRADE 6 THROUGH YOUNG ADULTHOOD

Practicing mathematics helps young people develop important skills they will need in college and career work. Some of these skills identified by College Board include: the ability to identify and analyze patterns, logic and critical thinking, the ability to see relationships, and problem solving. A growing body of research is demonstrating that math anxiety can negatively impact how students perform in math courses, and that parental encouragement plays a key role in influencing a child's learning experience and attitude toward math.[27]

While the causal direction of math anxiety and low achievement remains unclear, research shows that it begins in early adolescence. This happens to be about the same time students begin making course-taking and career-oriented decisions. In order to position young people in the area to be able to take advantage of local career opportunities in the STEM disciplines, Step Forward created an action team in 2017 to focus on middle grade math and science.

**6th Grade Mathematics Proficiency, 2011 to 2019**
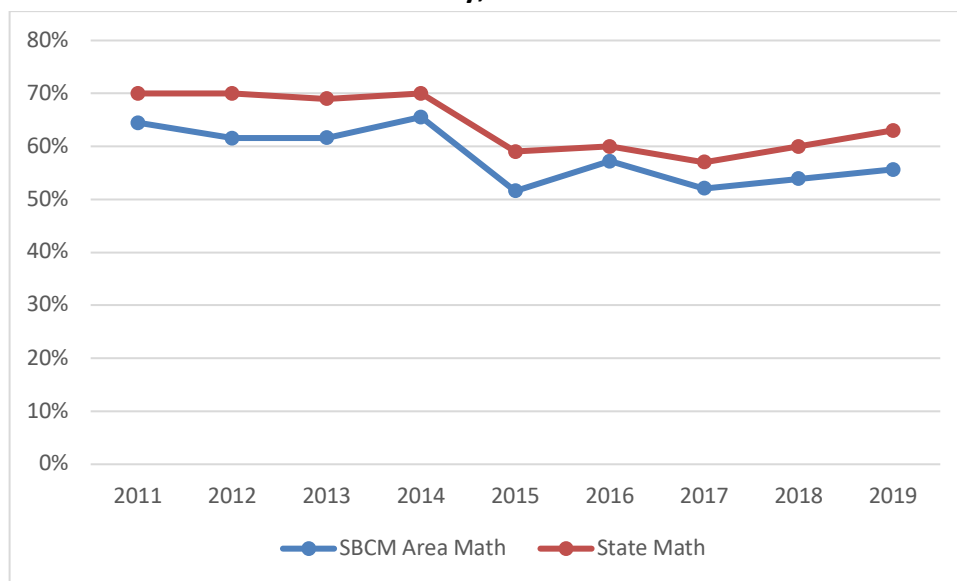
Louisiana Department of Education
Note: Author's calculation of area annual averages based on district level spring LEAP scores weighted by district 6th grade enrollment
Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center

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[27] See: Luttenberger, Silke, Sigrid Wimmer, and Manuela Paechter. 2018. Spotlight on Math Anxiety. Psychology Research and Behavior Management, vol. 11, pp. 311-322. Retrieved from: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6087017/

New LEAP mathematics scores from Spring 2020 are not available due to the pandemic. In the most recent year (2019), about 56 percent of sixth graders in the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area are proficient in math near the end of their first year in middle school, up from 54 percent in 2018. The other 44 percent in 2019 represent about 2,450 students who are not proficient in math at this grade level. A 1 percent increase in this measure represents about 55 students, and at 1 percent per year the community can reach 62 percent proficiency by 2025. The current state level of math proficiency is 63 percent.

Cohort Mathematics Proficiency, Grade 3 to Grade 8, by Child Poverty Rate of Cohort Kindergarten Year for Class of 2022 to 2028

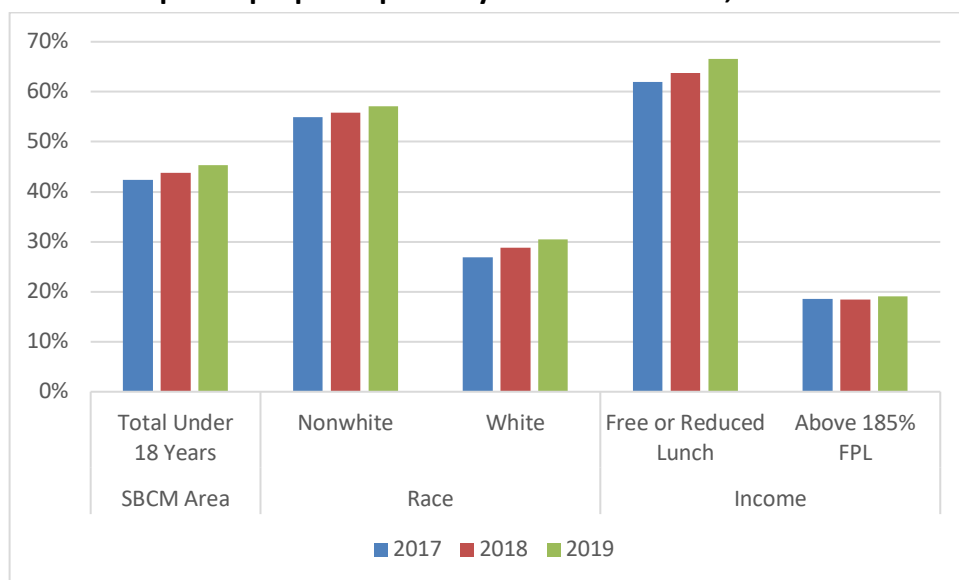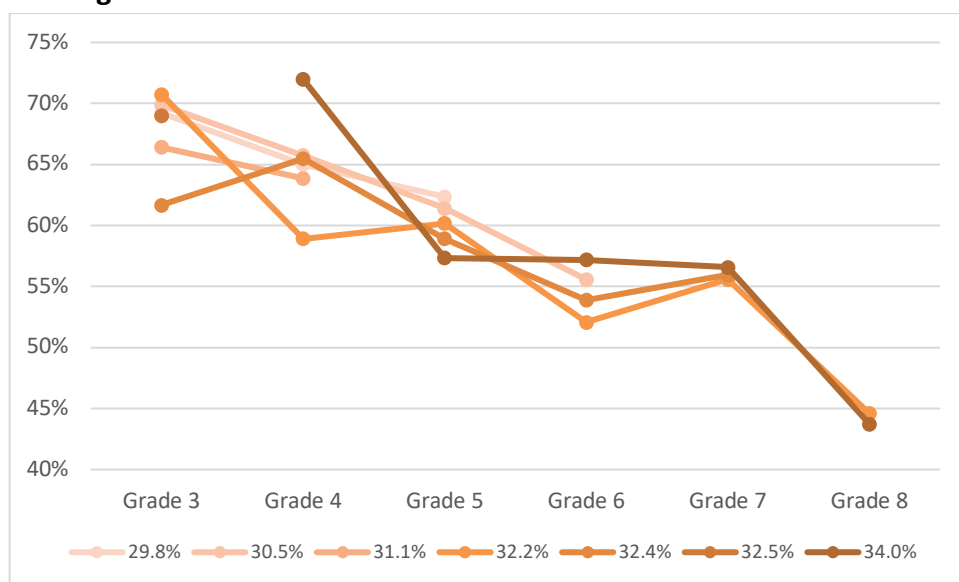Louisiana Department of Education; American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Note: Grade 3 to 5 LEAP results, 2013-14 to 2018-19, and age 0 to 5 poverty rates, 2009 to 2015
Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center;
http://data.census.gov/

As with cohort progress in ELA proficiency, the child poverty rate in the kindergarten year of each cohort may influence the level of mathematics proficiency in future grade levels as well. The data points for the higher kindergarten poverty cohorts are slightly lower than those in the lower kindergarten poverty cohorts. All cohorts tend to slope downward in proficiency as they advance through the grade levels, from about two-thirds in the earliest grades to less than half by the end of middle school.

The United States ranks fairly low in mathematics literacy based on results from the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA). Compared to the 36 other OECD countries in the most recent PISA year (2018), the U.S. average score for 15-year-olds (478) was lower than 24 other education systems, higher than 6, and not measurably different than 6.[28, 29] The current U.S. average score is in between Hungary (481) and Israel (463). The top OECD education system in math is Japan (527), followed by the Republic of Korea and Estonia; the bottom system is Columbia (391), followed by Mexico and Chile.

Perhaps the cause of low achievement in the local area, the state, and the nation has to do with low levels of parental and community engagement; perhaps it is a culture of educational complacency and low expectations permeating American society; or perhaps it is the education system itself, and a weak math curriculum, that has been unable to inspire students.[30] Whatever the causes, we can all be part of the solution by discarding false notions that only some people have a mathematical mind and that math is unrelated to our lives.

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[28] The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) includes the world's advanced and emerging economies. For more information and a list of member countries, see: http://www.oecd.org/about/membersandpartners/

[29] For PISA U.S. performance summary information and data, see: https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pisa/

[30] See: Crotty, James M. 2014, Jun. The Cause of Mediocre U.S. Math Scores. Forbes. Retrieved from: https://www.forbes.com/sites/jamesmarshallcrotty/2014/06/30/the-causes-of-mediocre-u-s-math-scores/#439027dc64b0

Software and Web Developers, Programmers, and Testers by Age, 2010 to 2019
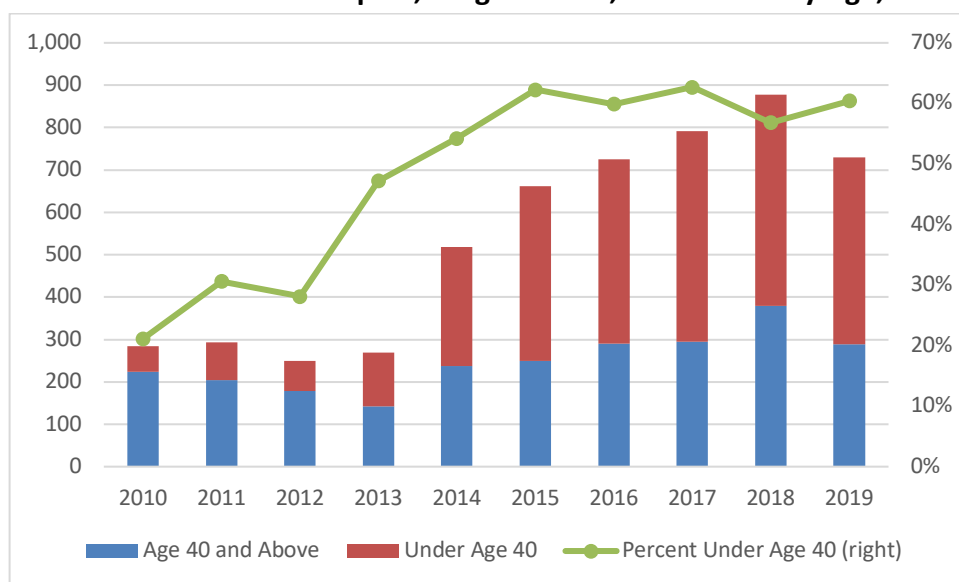
American Community Survey 5-year PUMS estimates, author's calculation
Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

Coding jobs generally include occupations classified by the new 2018 SOC system under Software and Web Developers, Programmers, and Testers.[31] The estimated number of civilians employed in these jobs in the area grew from almost 300 in 2010 to almost 900 in 2018. This total declined slightly to an estimated 730 in 2019. The share of these jobs held by younger people is also rising. Only about 20 percent of coding jobs were held by workers under age 40 in 2010; by 2015 their share grew to about 60 percent and holds steady at that percentage in the most recent year. About 70 percent of individuals in these occupations in the area have an associate's degree or above. With a strong background in math and science, young people in the area today can develop the necessary skills to attract STEM businesses to Northwest Louisiana, or create them here on their own.

The community has experienced some growth in this area in recent years due to the expansion of the I-20 cyber technology corridor. Elements of this expansion include "innovative programs hosted by public educational institutions; private/public technology partnerships and a growing number of technology companies locating in northern Louisiana."[32] In May of 2019, the Governor hosted a Cybersecurity Summit in Shreveport, and announced a new cyber-center

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[31] Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) codes 15-1251 to 15-1255. Example occupations include: Computer Language Coder, Software Engineer, Applications Tester, Web Applications Developer, and Graphic Web Designer. SOC code information available here: https://www.bls.gov/soc/

[32] See: Green, Alberta. 2017, Mar. Rise of the I-20 Technology Corridor. The News-Star. Retrieved from: https://www.thenewsstar.com/story/opinion/2017/03/18/rise--20-technology-corridor/99263386/

partnership at Bossier Parish Community College.[33] In November of 2020, the Governor announced new investments from Louisiana State University in Shreveport and Louisiana Economic Development in technology programs during a visit to the campus.[34] The North Louisiana Economic Partnership continues to promote these competitive advantages and monitor the area's rankings in various national publications.[35]

Software and Web Developers, Programmers, and Testers by Age, Race, and Gender, 2010 to 2019
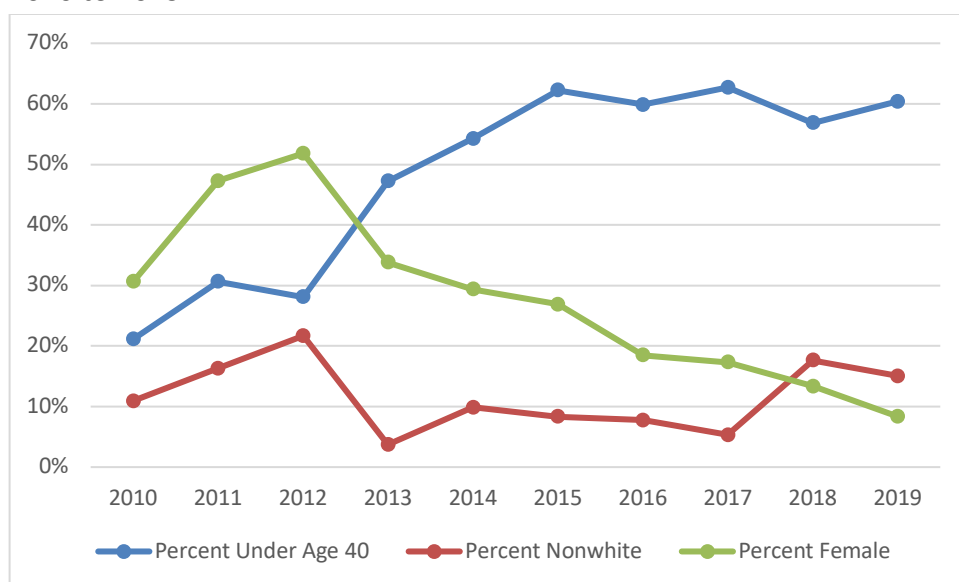
American Community Survey 5-year PUMS estimates, author's calculation
Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

While the share of younger people in these jobs has increased almost every year since 2010, the share of nonwhites and females in these jobs has not. In the most recent year, the share of coding jobs held by nonwhites is 15 percent. While this is several points above the decade average for this group, the percentage remains below the recent high of 22 percent in 2012. The share of these jobs held by females has declined each year since 2012 to 8 percent in the

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[33] See: Smith, Chuck. 2019, May. NW Louisiana's I-20 Becoming A "Cyber-Tech Corridor." Red River Radio. Retrieved from: https://www.redriverradio.org/post/nw-louisianas-i-20-becoming-cyber-tech-corridor
[34] See: Hilburn, Greg. 2020, Nov. Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards, LSUS expand I-20 Cyber Corridor reach. Shreveport Times. Retrieved from: https://www.shreveporttimes.com/story/news/2020/11/10/louisiana-governor-john-bel-edwards-lsu-s-expand-20-cyber-corridor-reach/6228899002/
[35] See: https://www.techby20.org/; https://www.nlep.org/Competitive-Advantages/Rankings.aspx

most recent year, the lowest percentage for this group this decade. Young white males appear to be capturing the majority of new programmer and developer jobs in the local area.

All Computer and Mathematical Occupations by Age, Race, and Gender, 2010 to 2019
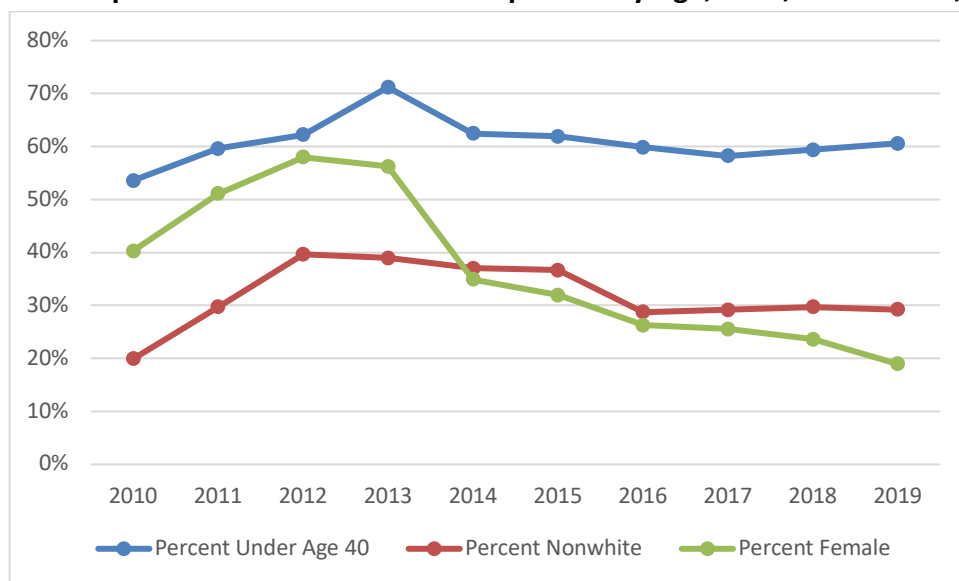
American Community Survey 5-year PUMS estimates, author's calculation
Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

The coding jobs discussed above are included in the broader occupational category of Computer and Mathematical Occupations. These include other computer job categories such as information security analysts, computer user support specialists, and database administrators, as well as the Mathematical Science Occupations such as actuaries, statisticians, and data scientists. Currently, about 2,800 Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area civilians are employed in this occupational category.[36]

Employment in these occupations has been growing but has not been getting younger. Unlike the coding jobs above, the current percentage of workers under age 40 is the same as the average this decade of 61 percent. However, the number of younger people in these occupations continues to grow each year and reached about 1,700 in 2019. The race and

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[36] Because the PUMS microdata uses a sample of the total ACS sample, occupation totals may differ between them. The available ACS 5-year estimates (non-PUMS) for computer and mathematical occupations are 2,443 (2015), 2,678 (2016), 2,846 (2017), 2,886 (2018), and 2,853 (2019). See: https://data.census.gov

gender distribution of these occupations is slightly more equitable than the coding jobs, with about 30 percent of these jobs held by nonwhites and about 20 percent held by females.

Average ACT Composite Score, 2010 to 2020
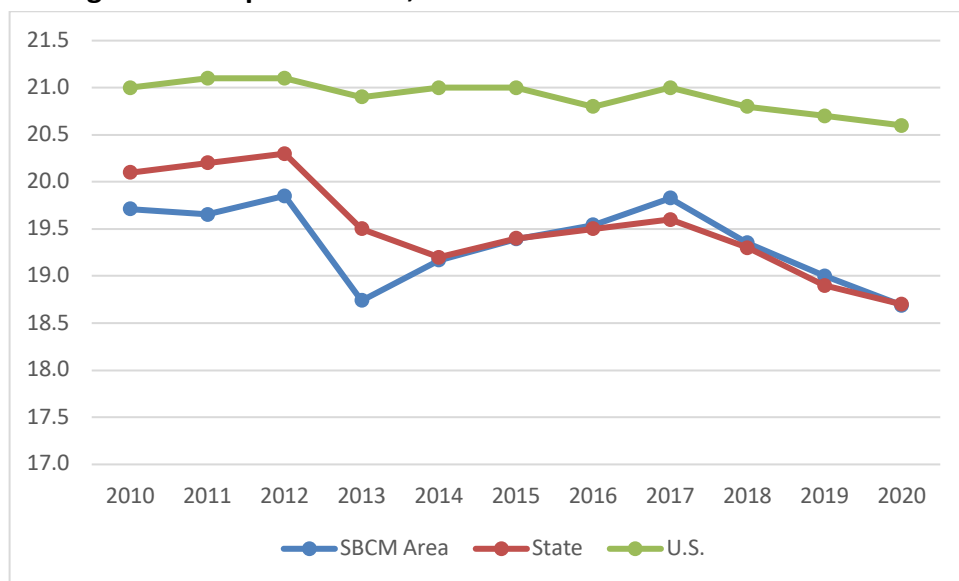
Louisiana Department of Education; National ACT Profile Reports
Note: Author's calculation of area annual averages based on parish-level ACT data weighted by count of students tested
Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center;
http://www.act.org/content/act/en/newsroom.html

Beginning in 2013, the state Department of Education now requires all high school juniors to take the ACT. In that year, many students who would not otherwise participate in a college entrance exam did so for the first time, and the decline in the average score was expected. Since 2013, the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area average score improved each year until reaching 19.8 in 2017. After 2017 the area average began to decline again and reached 18.7 in 2020, the same level as 2013. The 2017 to 2020 decline mirrors almost exactly the state ACT trend. The nation as a whole also experienced average ACT score declines each year since 2017, though the trend is not as steep.[37]

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[37] Most recent ACT National Profile Report (2020) here:
https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/2020/2020-National-ACT-Profile-Report.pdf

With an increase of 1 percent per year, the area can reach an average of 20 on the ACT in 2027, and the long-term national average of 21 by 2032. Eligibility for awards from the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS), now in its 23rd year, begin at an ACT score of 17 (TOPS Tech).[38] Minimum ACT score requirements for admission to a public university in the state begin at 20.[39] In 2020, the average high school junior in the local area would be eligible for TOPS Tech, but not for the other TOPS awards (Opportunity (20), Performance (23), and Honors (27)) or for admission to a public university in the state.

Average ACT Composite Score, Black or African American, 2012 to 2020
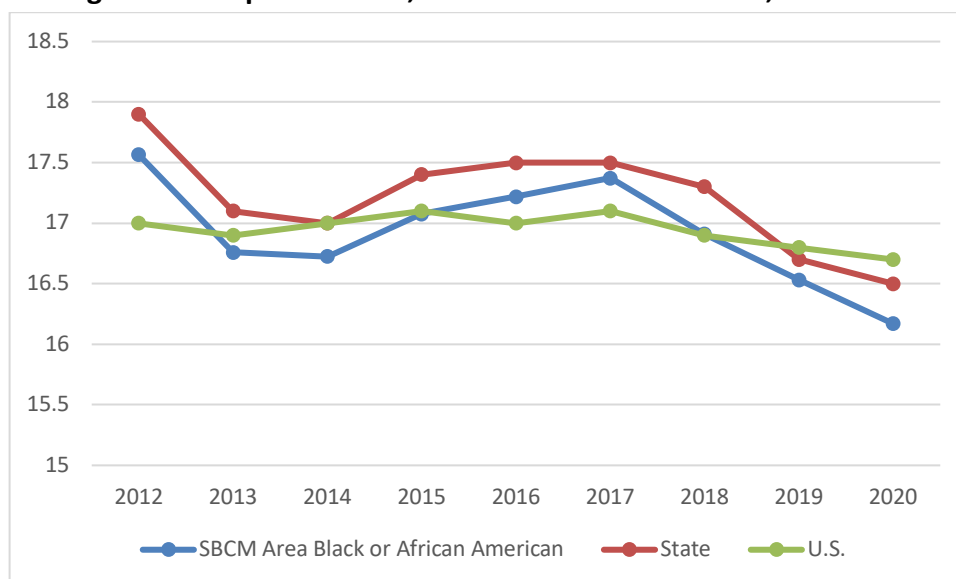
Louisiana Department of Education

Note: Author's calculation of SBCM area annual averages based on parish-level ACT data weighted by fall African American enrollment

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center;
http://www.act.org/content/act/en/newsroom.html

Disaggregating average ACT scores by race shows that scores for African American high school students increased each year for three years after 2014 to 17.4 in 2017, the highest average score for this group since 2012 (17.6). Both the local area and the state exceeded the 2016 and 2017 national averages for this group. After 2017 the average score declined each year to its

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[38] TOPS began in FY 1998-1999 and is administered by the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA). See: https://mylosfa.la.gov/about/
[39] See: https://regents.la.gov/students-parents/university-minimum-admission-standards/ and https://regents.la.gov/admissions-standards/

current level of 16.2 in 2020. The gap between the SBCM area average for all students and for African American students averages 2.4 points this decade. The current area average is below the state average of 16.5 and the national average of 16.7 for this group. Increasing the average by 1 percent per year would bring the average score to 17 by 2025 and to 18 by 2031.

Age 16 to 19 Idleness, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
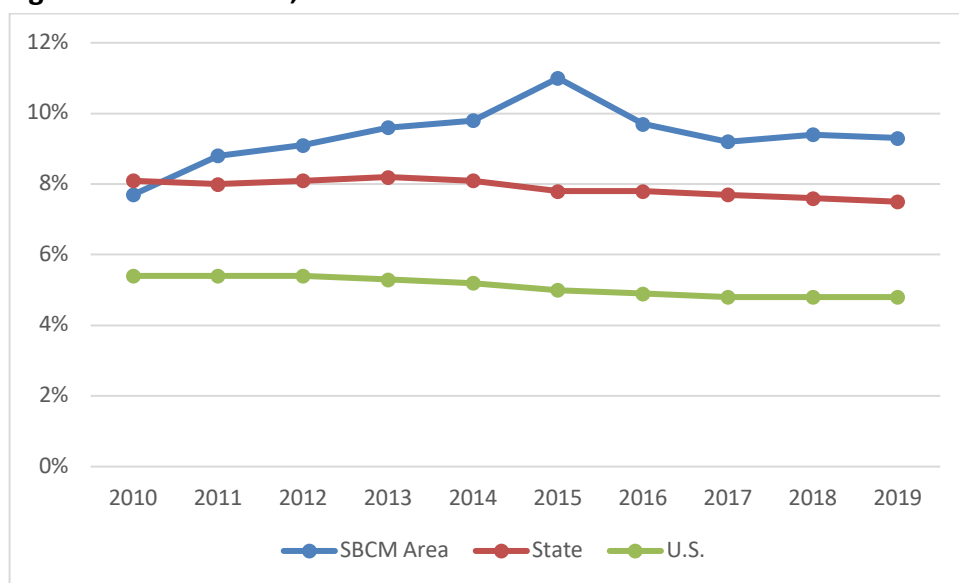
When individuals age into the teenage years, they begin to experience more personal freedom by making more decisions for themselves. Most young people generally make good decisions. However, adolescent decision making can be short-sighted, impacting education and life outcomes—and experiences from childhood have long lasting effects.

Those who drop out of high school for reasons other than paid work are likely to become idle – not in school and not in the labor force. Those who complete high school and do not enroll in college or become employed are also idle. Teenagers who are idle and not involved in a family activity such as caring for an infant or an aging relative may be at risk for delinquent behavior. About 2,000 area residents age 16 to 19 years are currently idle, about 9 percent of this age category, down slightly but essentially unchanged from the previous year. This figure is greater than the state level of 7.5 percent and nearly double the national average of 4.8 percent, but it has fallen from its peak of 11 percent in 2015.

Reducing the rate of idleness by 1 percentage point requires 220 fewer idle teenagers, and at 1 point per year the community can reach the current state level in 2 years and the national level by 2024. Even at the current level of idleness, about 20,000 young people in this age range are either in school or employed, or both.

Age 16 to 19 Idleness by Race and Ethnicity, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
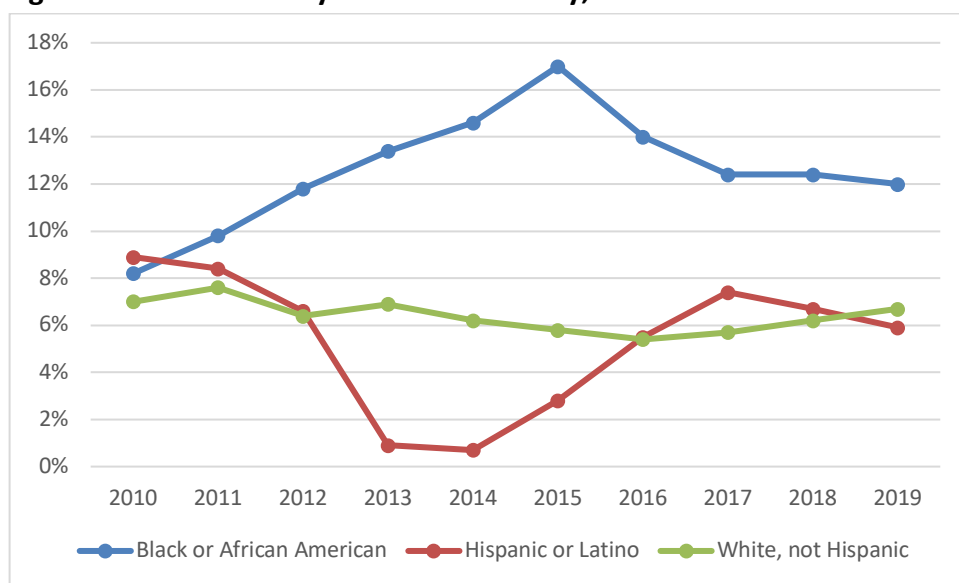
The recent Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area decline is due to falling idleness among African American youth, which is down five percentage points since 2015. In 2015, about 1,200 more African Americans age 16 to 19 than Whites were not in school and not in the labor force. This difference decreased to about 500 in 2019, the most recent year of data. Estimates of Hispanic or Latino youth idleness have fluctuated this decade, from 9 percent in 2010 to 1 percent in 2014 to 6 percent in 2019. This fluctuation may be due to statistical error resulting from the size of the sample used to produce the estimates for this population. As the second largest minority population in the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area, residents of Hispanic or Latino origin (about 17,300 persons in 2019, including 1,000 age 16 to 19) represent about 4 percent of the total population. The populations of Black or African American youth and White youth age 16 to 19 number about 10,000 each.

Cohort Graduation Rate, 2010 to 2019
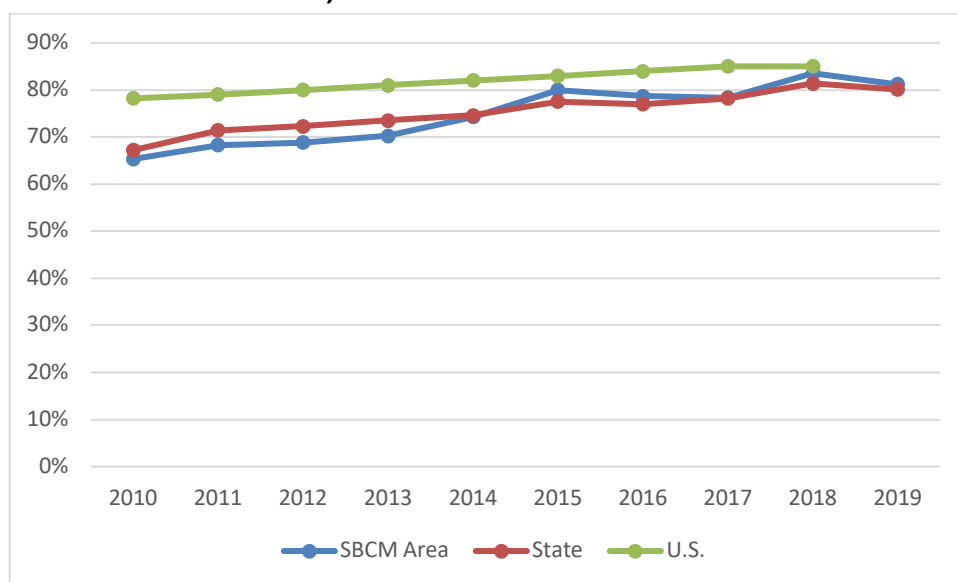
Louisiana Department of Education

Note: Author's calculation of SBCM area annual averages based on parish-level graduation data weighted by parish 12th grade fall enrollment

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center;
http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/

The most recent data from the state Department of Education shows a Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area cohort graduation rate of 81.2 percent, down 2 points from the previous year and higher than the average this decade of 75 percent. The current rate is about equal to the U.S. overall in 2013. If recent local trends continue the SBCM area would reach the current national rate of 85 percent in 2021.

This is up quite a bit from the recent area low of 65 percent in 2010, and is slightly higher than the current state average of 80.1 percent. The total number of area high school graduates in 2019, 4,604, is down slightly from the total of 4,740 in the previous year.[40] About 1,000 students from the 9th grade cohort did not graduate on time; however, there is no data to indicate the number of late graduates or those who will go on to earn an equivalency. A 1 percentage point increase in this rate requires about 57 additional graduates.

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[40] These high school graduate totals come from the Louisiana College Enrollment Reports, here: https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/high-school-performance (Cohort Graduation Rate reports do not include counts)

Cohort Graduation Rate by Race and Ethnicity, 2016 to 2019
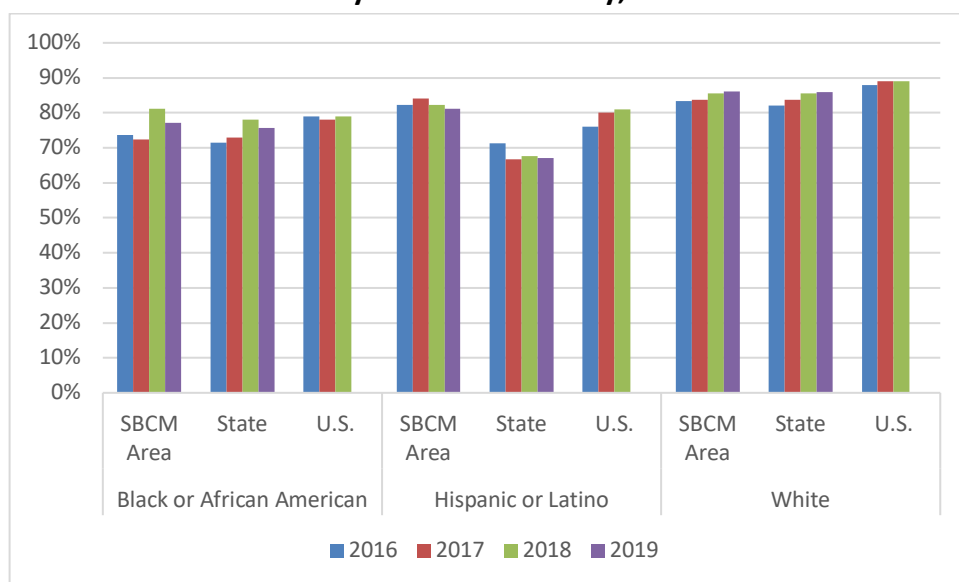
Louisiana Department of Education

Note: Author's calculation of SBCM area annual averages based on parish-level graduation data weighted by subgroup percent of population[41]

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center; http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/

The state began reporting cohort graduation rates by race and ethnicity in 2016. The most recent cohort graduation rate for SBCM area African American students is 77 percent. This is down 4 points from the previous year and higher than the 2016 to 2019 average (76 percent). The current level is 1 point above the state and 2 points behind the most recent national level.

The rate for Hispanic or Latino students is 81 percent, down slightly from the previous year. This group remains above the state average of two-thirds, and the same as the most recent national level. The rate for White students is 86 percent, up slightly from the previous year, even with the state, and below the most recent national rate of 89 percent for this group.

The knowledge, skills, and abilities needed for economic success today are developed over many years in the home, in the school, and in the workplace. Through these interactions with others an individual builds up human capital, and some of this becomes represented by formal

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[41] Cohort graduation rates for the Hispanic or Latino population are not available for DeSoto Parish in 2016 or 2019, or for Webster Parish in 2016, 2017, 2018, or 2019.

educational credentials. Human capital formation is essential to workforce development.[42] A 2-year or 4-year college degree is an important milestone for an increasing share of the labor force, and the first step on this path is enrolling in postsecondary school.

Immediate College Enrollment Rate, 2010 to 2019
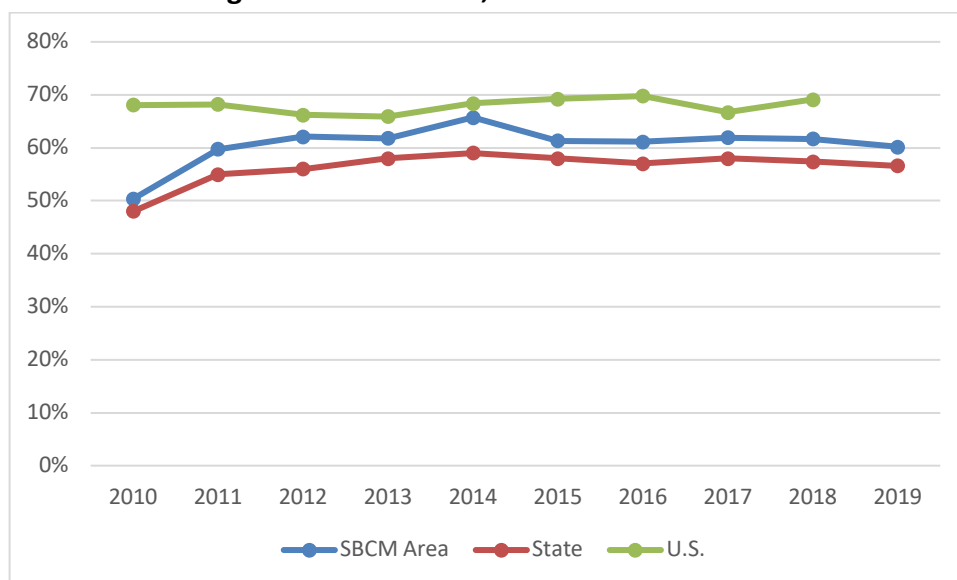
Louisiana Department of Education; National Center for Education Statistics
Data: https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center;
https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_cpa.asp

The annual percentage of high school completers who enroll in 2- or 4-year colleges in the fall immediately following high school completion is captured by the Immediate College Enrollment Rate. The Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area and state numbers reported here are based on Louisiana Department of Education Student Information System graduation data and National Student Clearinghouse college enrollment data.[43, 44] These local area and state numbers include only public high school graduates. The U.S. numbers are based on Current Population Survey

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[42] See: Athreya, Kartik B., Urvi Neelakantan and Jessie Romero. 2014. "Expanding the Scope of Workforce Development," Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond Economic Brief, available here: https://www.richmondfed.org/publications/research/economic_brief/2014/eb_14-05

[43] Louisiana parish and state college going enrollment data here:
https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/high-school-performance

[44] The National Student Clearinghouse includes more than 3,600 colleges and universities, enrolling 98% of all students in public and private U.S. institutions. For more information, see
http://www.studentclearinghouse.org/about/

(CPS) data collected by the Census Bureau and reported by the National Center on Education Statistics.[45]

In the fall of 2019, about 2,800 area high school graduates from the spring of that year enrolled in 2- or 4-year colleges in the U.S. (about 90 percent enrolled in a Louisiana college or university). These students represent 60 percent of all local area public high school graduates, about 2 points lower than the previous year and the same as the area average this decade. The immediate college enrollment rate for the state is 57 percent and for the U.S. is 69 percent.

Immediate College Enrollment Rate: Choosing 2-year Colleges, 2010 to 2019
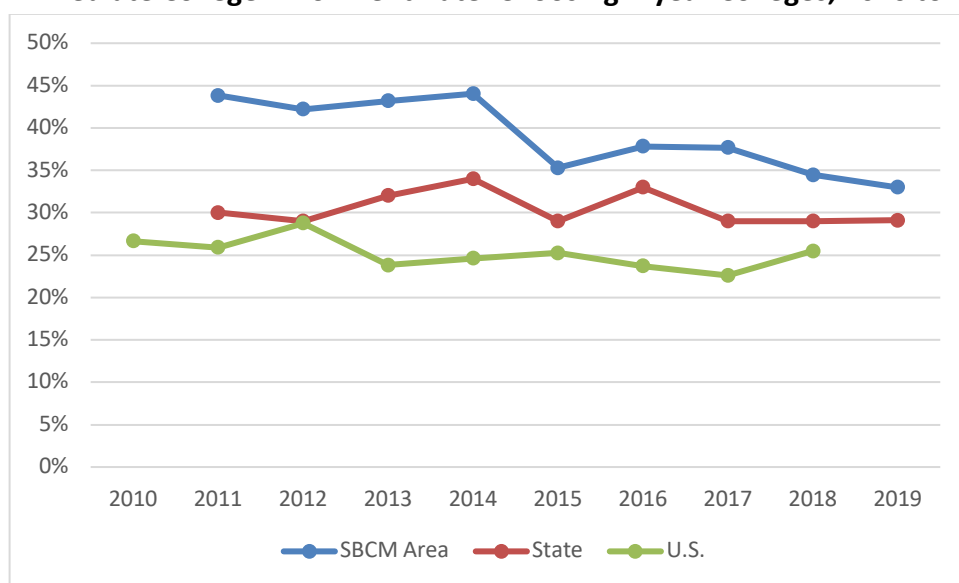
Louisiana Department of Education; National Center for Education Statistics
Data: https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center;
https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_cpa.asp

Of those area residents who enrolled immediately after high school completion, 34 percent chose a 2-year college, compared to 29 percent in the state and 26 percent in the nation. That such a comparatively large share of high school graduates are choosing 2-year colleges reflects the importance of these schools to the regional economy. And although fewer students are choosing these colleges since the peak in 2014 (44 percent), declining at an average annual rate

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[45] See Table 302.10 Recent high school completers and their enrollment in college, by sex and level of institution available here: https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/

of 5 percent per year, the area level of immediate enrollment into 2-year colleges remains relatively high.

Immediate College Enrollment Rate by Race and Ethnicity, 2016 to 2019
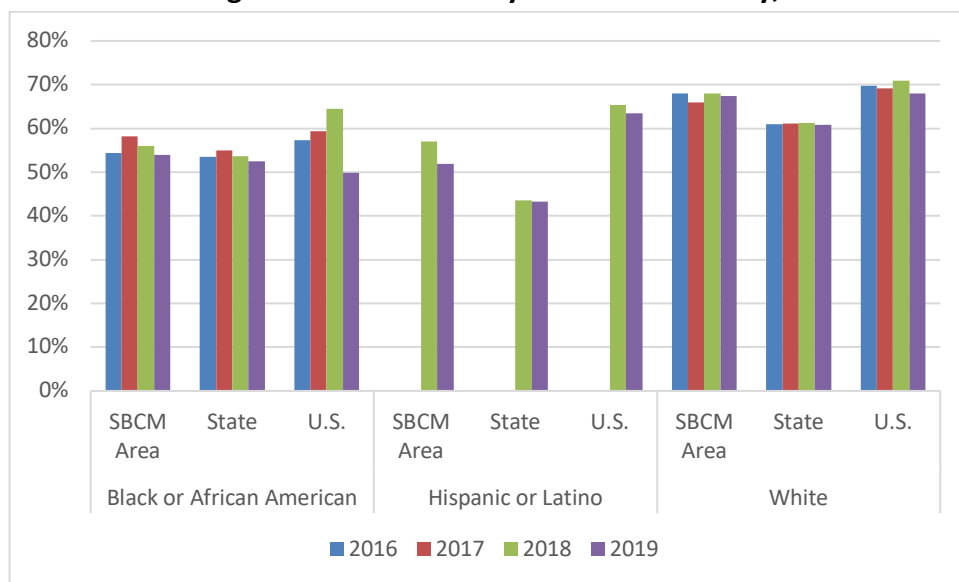
Louisiana Department of Education; National Center for Education Statistics
Data: https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center;
https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_cpa.asp

The state recently began reporting the immediate college enrollment rate by race, available for 2016 onward. The area rate for African American students fell two points to 54 percent in 2019. This remains just above the state average of 53 percent and above the current national average of 50 percent, which fell more than 10 points from the previous year to a level not seen since the mid-1990s.[46] The area rate for White students fell slightly to 67 percent and remains in between the state and national averages (61 and 68 percent).

Information at the state and local level for Hispanic or Latino students is available beginning in 2018 for some of the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area parishes. The local immediate college enrollment rate for this group in 2019 is 52 percent, in between the state and national averages (43 and 63 percent).

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[46] This most recent statistic (50 percent) is reported in a partial issue and may be revised with the release of the full issue of the Digest of Education Statistics: 2020. See Table 302.20 here: https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/2020menu_tables.asp

Age 18 to 24 Enrolled in College or Graduate School, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
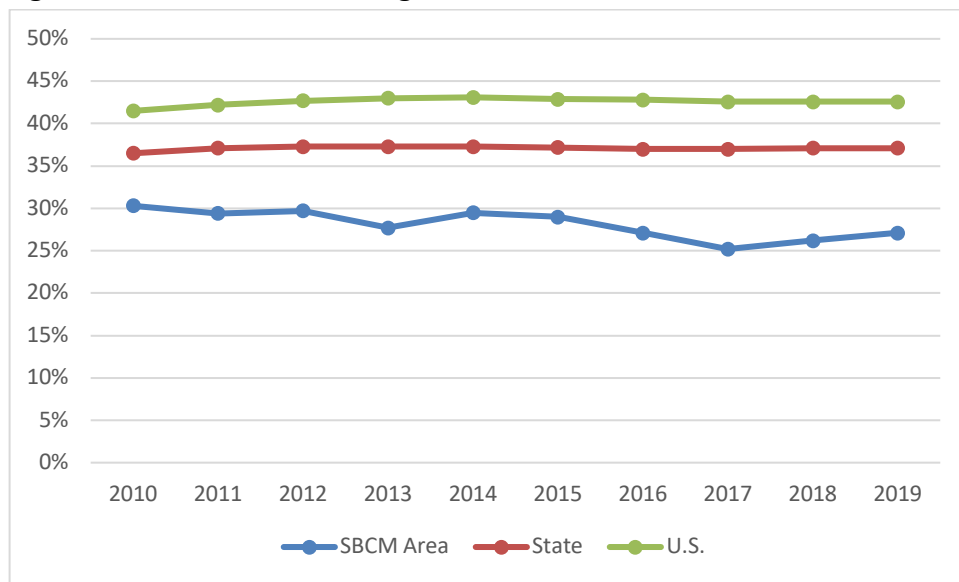
Many high school graduates who do not enroll in college go directly into the labor force. Some enroll in college later. Others do both straight out of high school and work while they are enrolled in college courses. Currently, of all area residents age 18 to 24, 27 percent are enrolled in postsecondary school, about 10,000 of the 37,000 persons in this age range. This is fairly low compared to the state (37 percent) and the nation (43 percent). After falling from 2014 to 2017, this measure improved one point each of the past two years. A 1 percentage point increase in postsecondary enrollment would represent about 380 individuals. At an increase of 1 point per year, the community can see one-third of this age group in college by 2025 and converge with the state level, which has been steady for a decade, in 2029.

Age 18 to 24 Enrolled in College or Graduate School by Gender, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
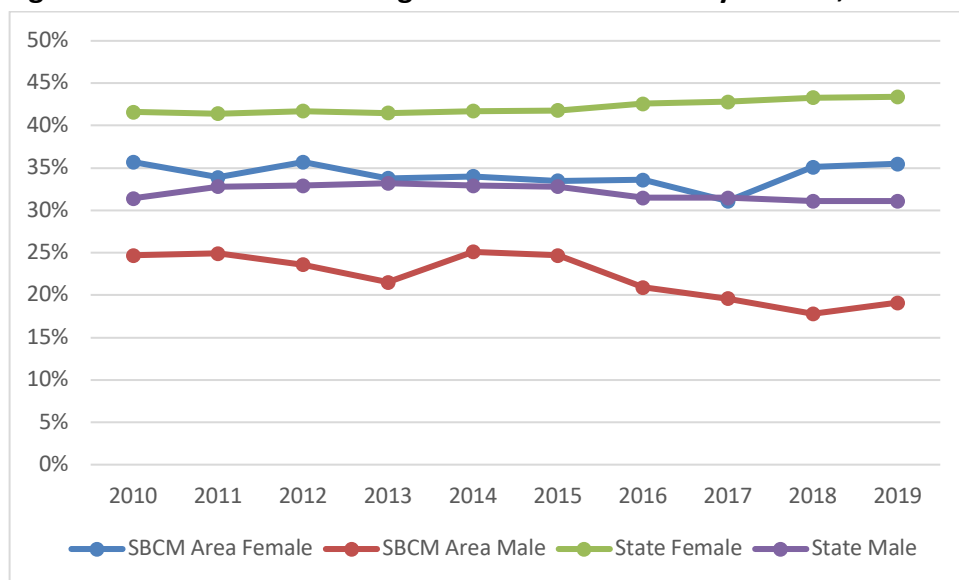
About 3,000 more women than men in the 18 to 24 age range are enrolled in college, or about 36 percent of area women and 19 percent of area men. The share of area men in this age range enrolling in college declined each year from 2014 to 2018 and increased in the most recent year. Young adult male and female college enrollment diverged over the past several years, from 75 percent as many males than females to nearly half as many in 2018. There are now 57 percent as many men as women in this age range enrolled in college, below the average of two-thirds this decade. If male enrollment in the area increased 1 point per year, the community rate would converge with a fairly steady state rate in 2031.

Age 24 and under Public College Fall Enrollment, 2011 to 2020

Louisiana Board of Regents
Data: http://www.regents.la.gov/page/data-and-publications
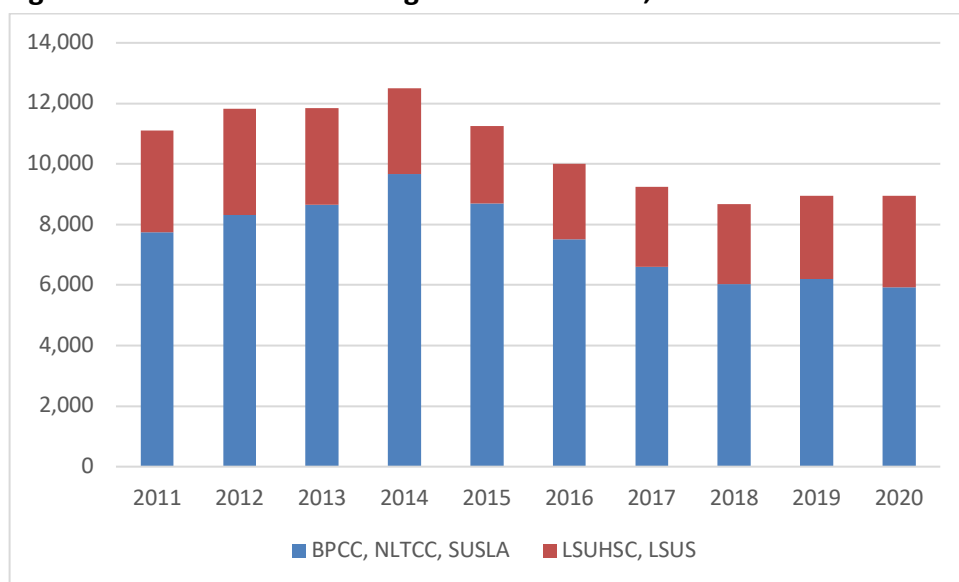
Everyone stands to benefit a great deal by encouraging young people to pursue education beyond high school, and the 2-year colleges are one of the strengths of the area. Many of the jobs that will be created in this region over the next decade will require the degrees and certificates conferred by these institutions.[47] According to data compiled by the Louisiana Board of Regents, 5,920 students age 24 and under enrolled in the fall of 2020 at the three 2-year colleges in the area (Bossier Parish Community College, Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College, and Southern University in Shreveport).[48, 49] An additional 3,036 students under 25 years enrolled at LSUHSC and LSUS, for an area total of 8,956. This is nearly identical to the previous year, about ten students greater, and about 1,500 students below the decade average.

Current young adult enrollment is about 80 percent of what it was ten years ago after falling 2 percent per year on average. For the 2-year colleges this figure is about 75 percent, and 90 percent for the local LSU campuses. With 1 percent growth per year, about 90 additional

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[47] See: http://www.laworks.net/labormarketinfo/lmi_employmentprojections.asp
[48] LBOR Statewide Student Profile System "Age Distribution by Student Level" Table SSPSAGE here: https://regents.la.gov/data-publications/statewide-student-profile/
[49] Some of the decline mid-decade results from a change in the way BOR reports enrollment for Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College. Before 2017-18, additional campuses of NLTCC were reported in aggregate with the Mansfield, Minden, and Shreveport campus totals.

students in the current year, the community could see almost 10,000 students enrolled in local public colleges and universities by the end of this decade.

Age 24 and under Public College Fall Enrollment by Race, 2011 to 2020

Louisiana Board of Regents

Data: http://www.regents.la.gov/page/data-and-publications
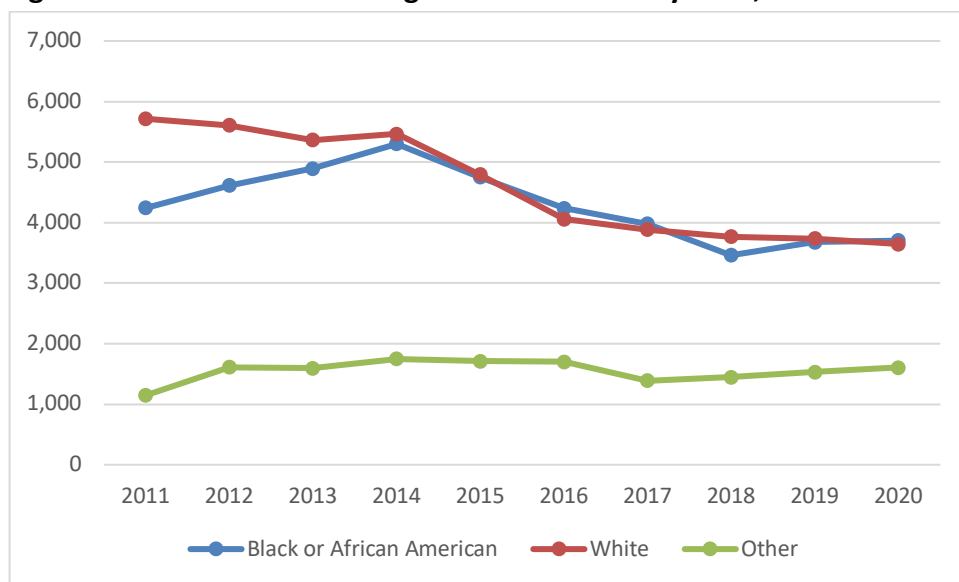
Looking at age 24 and under college enrollment by race shows about even numbers of African Americans and Whites enrolled at area public colleges in the fall of 2020. At the 2-year colleges alone there are almost 60 percent more African American than White students enrolled, and about 70 percent more White students than African American students at the universities. The total numbers and year-to-year changes for these groups have been nearly identical since 2014. Students in other race groups average about 1,500 students enrolled, increasing slightly each year since 2017.

Since 2014, a banner year for college enrollment in the area, young adult enrollment has declined 30 percent for African Americans, 33 percent for Whites, and 8 percent for all others. Between 2019 and 2020, African American enrollment for this age category increased by 1 percent, White enrollment fell by 2 percent, and the enrollment of all others increased by 5 percent. African American enrollment is now 3,700 students, about 500 below the decade average. Increasing African American enrollment by 3 percent per year, about 110 additional students in 2020, will bring the number of young adults in college for this group up to 5,000 by 2030.

Public College Degrees and Certificates Awarded, 2010-11 to 2019-20

Louisiana Board of Regents
Data: http://www.regents.la.gov/page/data-and-publications
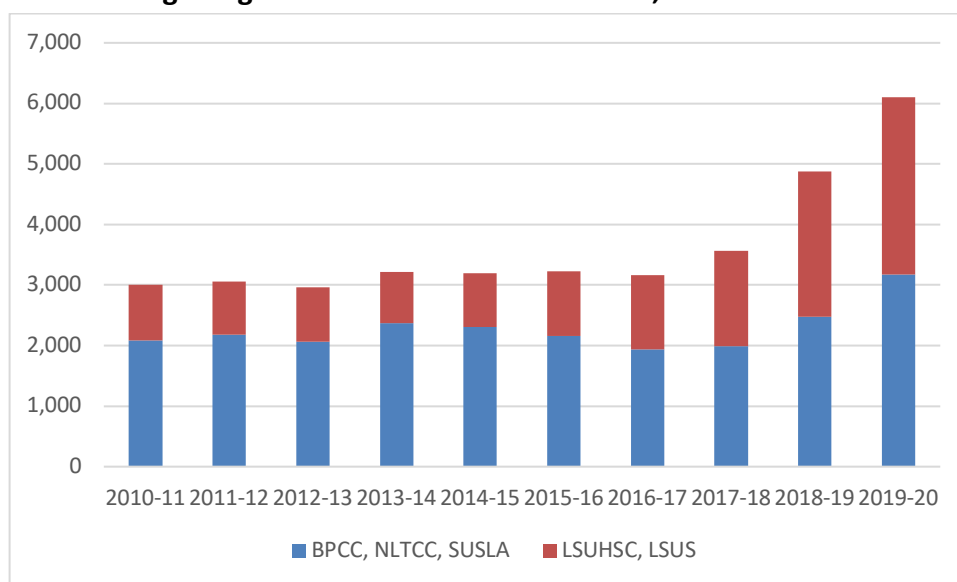
The total number of degrees and certificates awarded by the public colleges and universities in the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area increased 25 percent in the 2019-20 academic year to 6,104 (all ages).[50] More than 1,000 additional credentials were earned compared to the previous year. This total includes postgraduate degrees, bachelor's degrees, associate's degrees and various diplomas and certificates offered by these schools.[51, 52] The total for the 2-year colleges increased 28 percent to 3,171 and the total for the LSU campuses increased 22 percent to 2,933. The current total is the largest this decade, more than 2,000 credentials above the ten-year average. The area can reach 7,000 in the 2024-25 academic year with an increase of 3 percent per year.

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[50] LBOR Statewide Completers System "Degrees/Certificates Awarded by Race for Academic Year" Table CMPLRCMP here: https://regents.la.gov/data-publications/degrees-and-certificates-awarded/
[51] Certificates are accredited credentials that focus on workforce development—they are designed to fit the needs of the industries in the region. Certificates are generally 30 credit hour credentials, compared to 45 credit hour diplomas, 60 credit hour associate's degrees, and 120 credit hour bachelor's degrees.
[52] For information about various programs of study and credentials offered at area public colleges and universities, see SUSLA here: http://www.susla.edu/page/academic-programs; NLTCC here: https://www.nltcc.edu/academics/academic-programs; BPCC here: http://catalog.bpcc.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=358; LSUS here: https://www.lsus.edu/areas-of-study; and LSUHSC here: https://www.lsuhs.edu/our-schools

Public College Degrees and Certificates Awarded by Race, 2010-11 to 2019-20

Louisiana Board of Regents
Data: http://www.regents.la.gov/page/data-and-publications
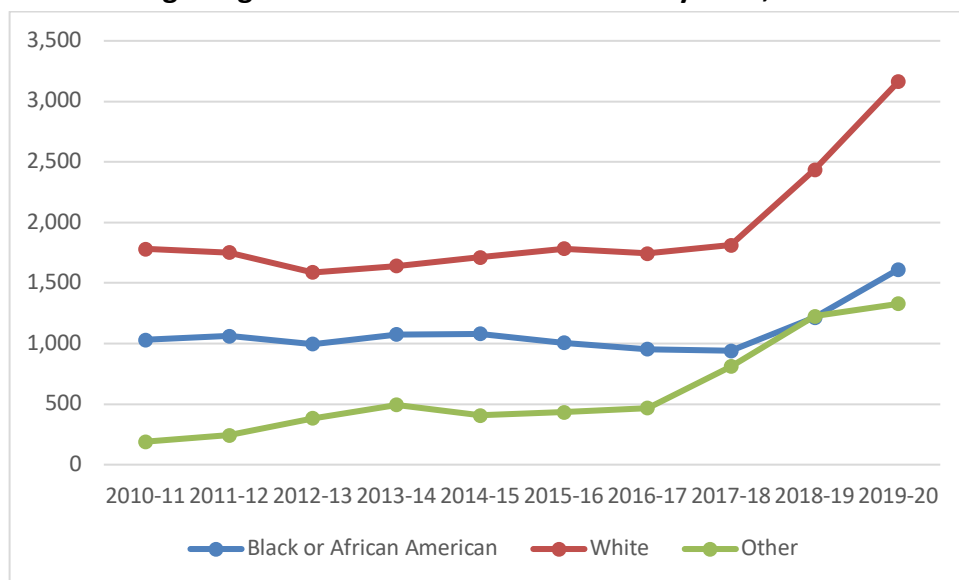
African American college graduates in the area have earned on average about one third of all credentials each year this decade, White graduates earned about half, and all Others earned about one-fifth. In the most recent year, the share of postsecondary credentials awarded to African Americans is 26 percent, to Whites is 52 percent, and to all Others is 22 percent. African American graduates received more than 1,600 credentials in 2019-20, 500 more than the annual average this decade for this group.

At 2-year colleges alone in the 2019-2020 academic year, African American graduates earned more than 1,000 degrees and certificates, one-third of all credentials. Whites earned slightly more than half (about 1,600), and the number of 2-year credentials earned by all Others decreased slightly to 420 and the decade average of 13 percent for this group. At the universities, the current distribution of credentials to African Americans, Whites, and all Others is 18 percent, 51 percent, and 31 percent. All groups experienced gains over the previous year in the number of university degrees earned.

Age 18 to 24 Less than High School Graduate, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
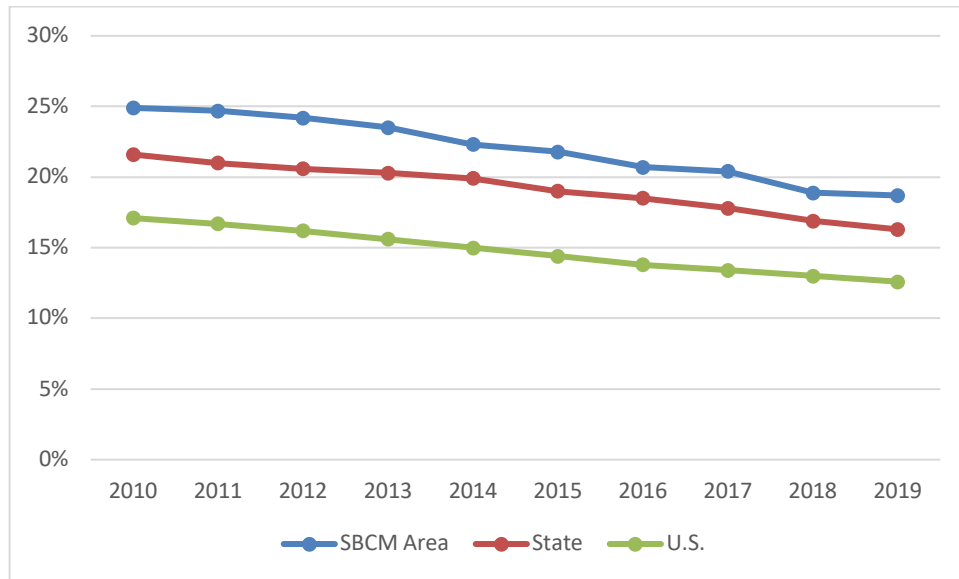
The share of area residents age 18 to 24 without a high school diploma continues to decline. According to the best most recent estimates from the Census Bureau, about 19 percent of the almost 38,000 area residents in this age range have not completed their high school education. Some of these 7,000 residents will go on to earn a high school equivalency credential, and some from this group will then pursue higher education, likely at one of the area colleges. Those that do neither will remain part of the unskilled labor force or idle adults. With a 1-point decline per year, fewer than 5,000 persons in this age group will be without high school credentials in 2025. The current less than high school figures for the state and the nation are 16 percent and 13 percent.

Age 18 to 24 Less than High School Graduate by Gender, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
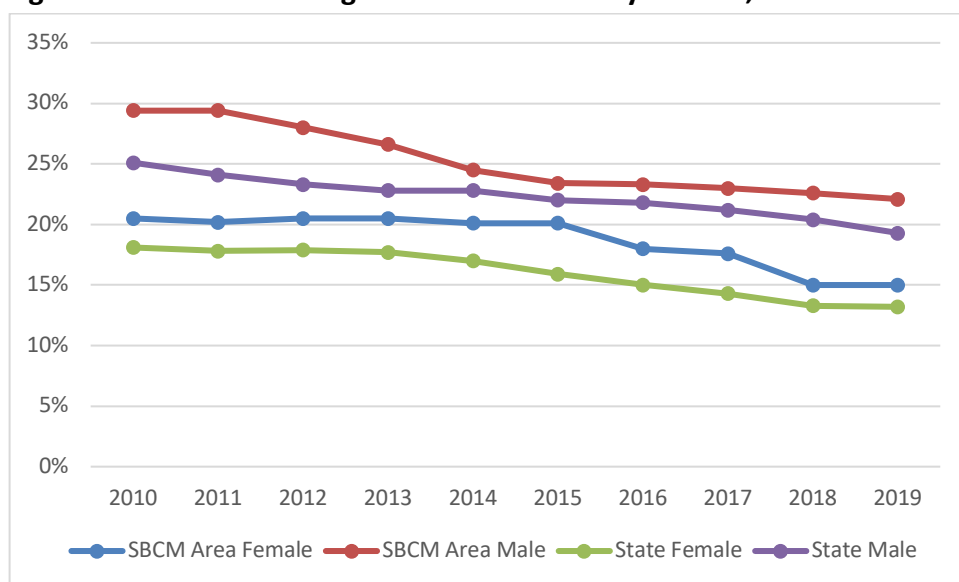
Looking at this measure by gender reveals a 6 percentage point difference on average this decade between females and males without a high school credential. The gap fell to 3 points in 2015 and has since increased to the decade average in 2019. In the most recent year, 15 percent of females and 22 percent of males age 18 to 24 are without a high school credential. Since 2015, females have declined 5 points on this measure while males have made less progress. While young men led the decline in the first half of the decade, the recent decline in Less than High School completion in the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area is being led by young women. Both males and females in the area remain slightly higher on this measure than their peers statewide.

Age 18 to 24 Some College and Above, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
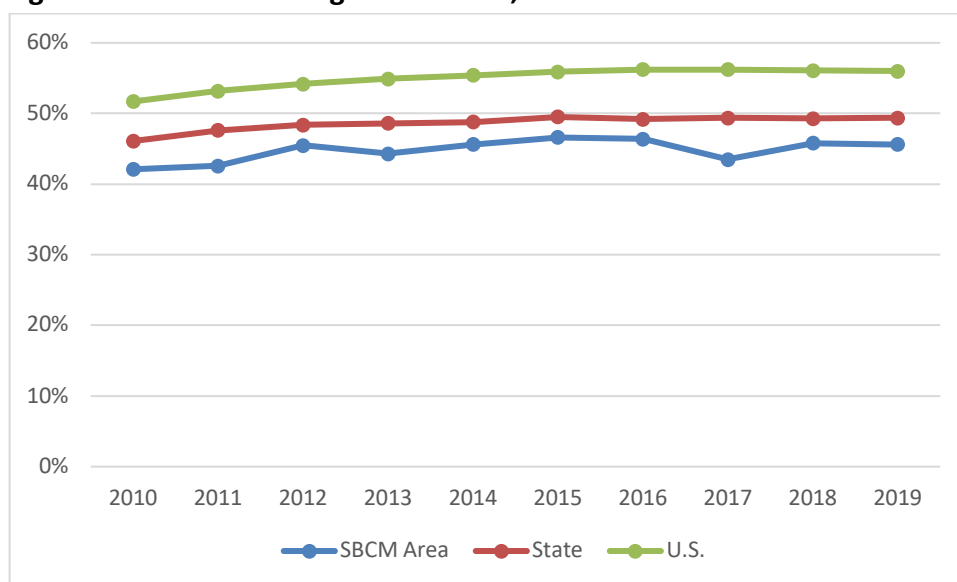
Some College is a category of educational attainment that includes those with any time at all spent in postsecondary school but without a degree or certificate. Some are currently enrolled students, some are taking a break from college, and others have left and do not intend to complete their education. This measure alone does not reflect the share of the population with any particular credential beyond a high school diploma, but all were admitted to an institution of higher learning and do have some additional training. Adding to this all persons with associate's, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral and professional degrees gives Some College and Above, presented in the figure for the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area, the state, and the nation.

Currently, 46 percent or about 17,200 persons age 18 to 24 are in an educational attainment category greater than High School Graduate. This is unchanged from the previous year and slightly above the annual average this decade. An increase of 1 point per year will bring this age group to 50 percent in 2023 and then to more than 20,000 persons in 2027. At the state and national level, this measure has changed little over the past several years.

Age 18 to 24 Some College and Above by Gender, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
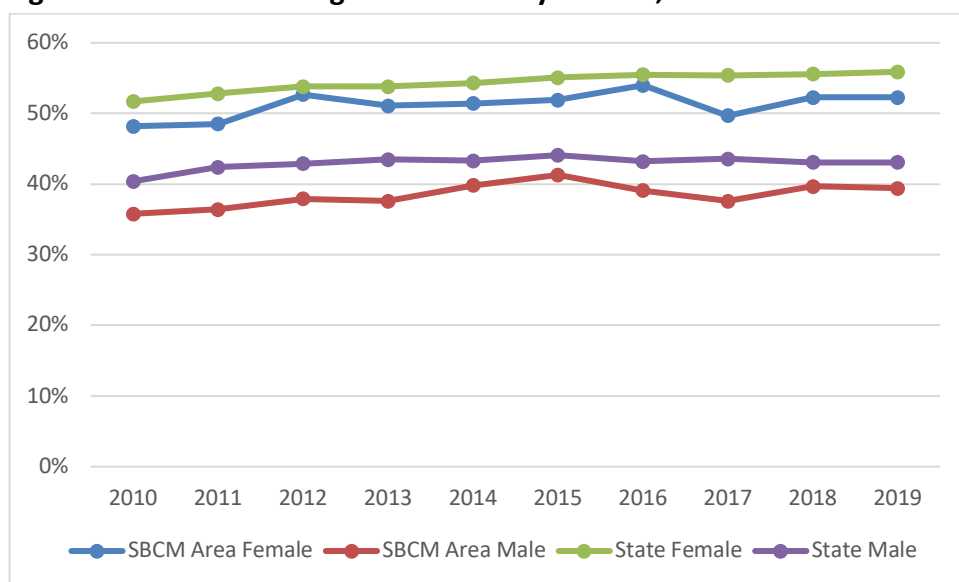
The age 18 to 24 gender gap in Some College and Above, more females than males, has been almost 13 percentage points each year this decade and remains at that level in the most recent year. More than half of area females in this age range have some college or above, compared to 39 percent of males. Both are unchanged from the previous year. The gender gap statewide is the same is the local area, though the state percentages are a few points higher. Nationwide the gender gap is 10 points, and more than half of young adult males have at least some education beyond high school.

Age 20 to 29 Associate's Degree or Above by Race and Gender, 2010 to 2019
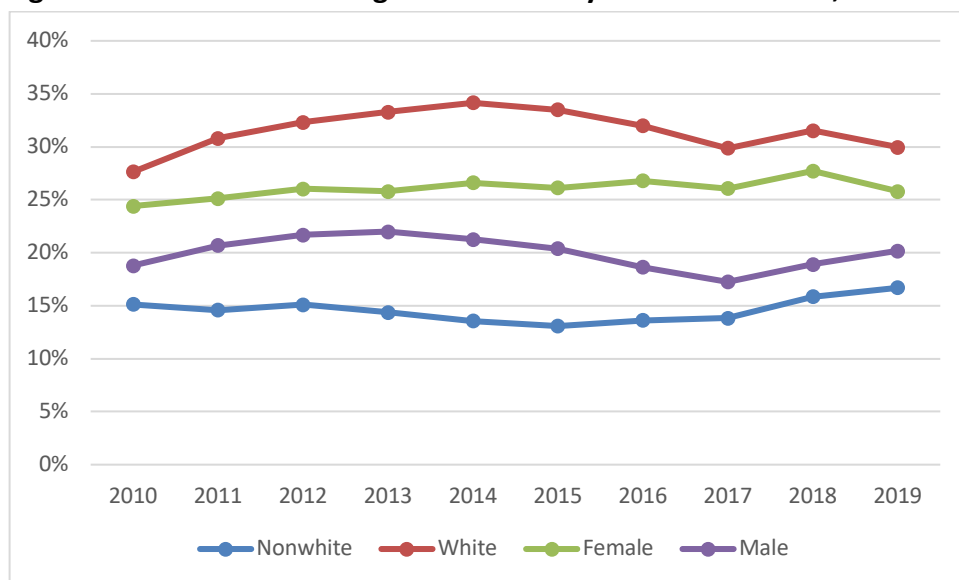
American Community Survey 5-year PUMS estimates, author's calculation
Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

Separating out information about earned associate's degrees from "some college" is not possible for most local geographies through the summary tables available on data.census.gov, helpful as this resource is. Fortunately, the Bureau makes available public use microdata sample (PUMS) files so that localities can make these and other inquiries on their own.[53] Due to the nature of sampling statistics and the community's need for reliable estimates, the age range for the PUMS derived estimates in this section of the report is 20 to 29 years. In 2019, 23 percent of young adults age 20 to 29 held an associate's degree or above, about the same as the previous year as well as the average for this decade. Disaggregated, these percentages are 17 percent of nonwhites, 30 percent of whites, 26 percent of females, and 20 percent of males. Nonwhite and males made slight gains over the previous year while whites and females saw slight declines. The associate's degree and above gap between females and males averaged about 6 percentage points per year this decade, about the same as the gap in the most recent year. Between whites and nonwhites, the gap has averaged 17 points per year, growing from a low of 13 in 2010 to a high of 20 in 2014 and 2015. In 2019, this gap fell to 13 percentage points.

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[53] Information about ACS PUMS here: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/pums/about.html

Age 20 to 24 Labor Force Participation Rate, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
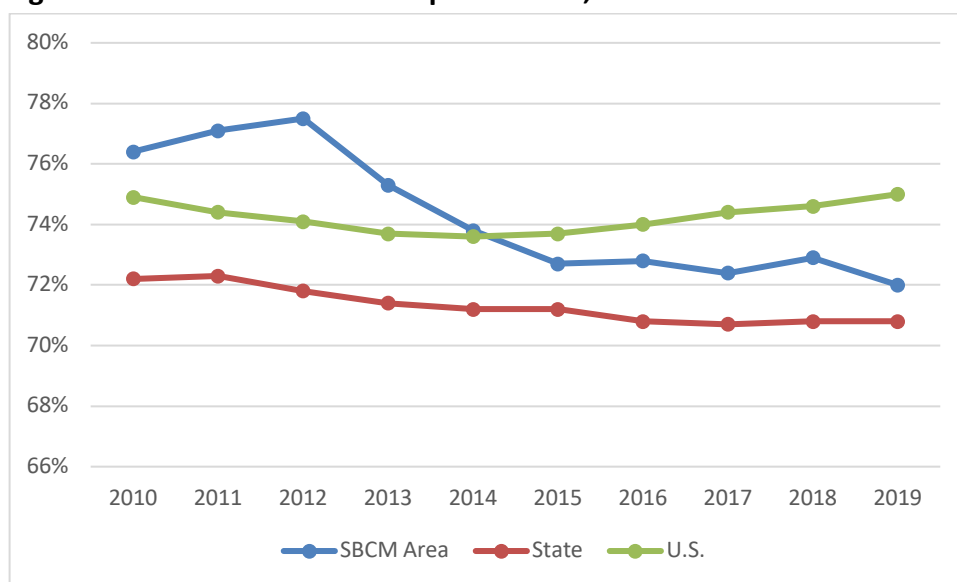
The labor force consists of civilians who are classified as employed or unemployed plus members of the Armed Forces. About 72 percent of the population age 20 to 24 are in the labor force, about 20,000 individuals.[54] Those who are not in the labor force are generally students, homemakers, seasonal workers during an off season and not looking for work, institutionalized persons, and persons doing unpaid family work fewer than 15 hours per week.[55]

The labor force participation rate declined slightly from the previous year and remains in between the state (71 percent) and the nation (75 percent). The current rate is now slightly below the annual average this decade of 74 percent. At an increase of 1 point per year, the community could return to 75 percent in 2022. Being in between the state and national rate may have a positive interpretation. It is difficult to say that labor force participation ought to be much higher than it currently is. For example, one way of increasing this rate would be to have more individuals in this age range forego or delay college and join the labor force, or work while they are in school. This is certainly already a reality for many, but it is not the most desirable way to increase participation in the labor force.

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[54] The 2019 ACS 5-year estimate for the Armed Forces population age 20 to 24 is 2,149. The civilian labor force age 20 to 24 is about 17,500 persons (14,500 employed and 3,000 unemployed).
[55] American Community Survey employment status subject definitions here: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html

Age 20 to 29 Labor Force Participation Rate by Race and Gender, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year PUMS estimates, author's calculation
Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html
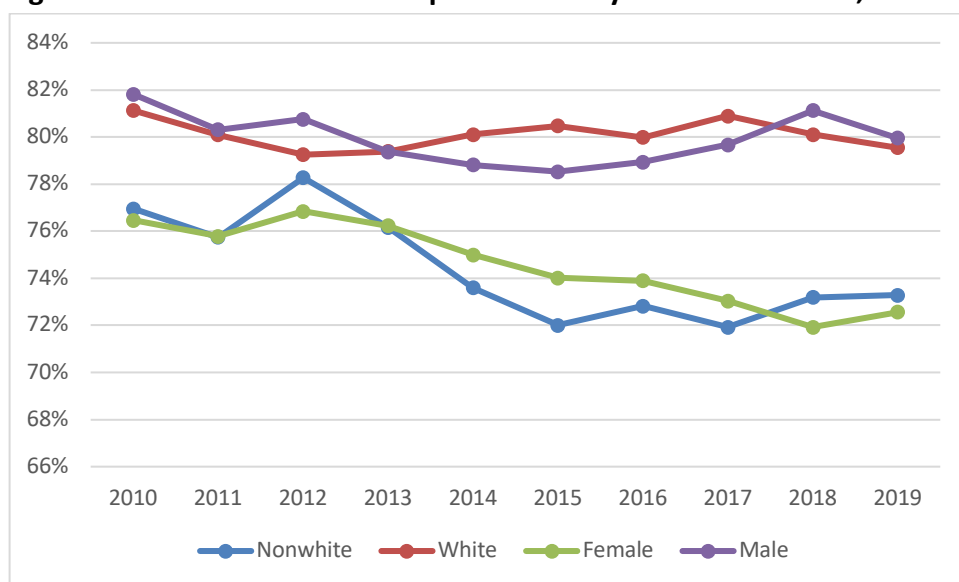
Disaggregating the labor force participation rate for the young adult population age 20 to 29 shows an average annual gap this decade of about 6 percentage points between nonwhites and whites. The participation rate for these groups nearly converged at 79 percent in 2012. In recent years the gap has fallen from a high of 9 percentage points in 2017, to 7 in 2018, to 6.3 points in 2019, the most recent year with data. If the 3-year trends for these groups continue, rates will converge at 76.5 percent in 2024. Between females and males this gap has averaged 5 points this decade. The participation rate gap grew to its largest, 9 points, in 2018. In the most recent year the gap between females and males fell to 7 percent, still a few points higher than the decade average of 5 percent.

Current age 20 to 29 labor force participation rates are 73 percent for nonwhites and females, and 80 percent for whites and males. Rates for nonwhites and males have risen over the previous year and those for whites and females have declined. The rate for all Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area civilian residents age 20 to 29 is currently 76 percent, down from 79 percent a decade ago and fluctuating only slightly over the past five years as the subgroups diverge.

Age 20 to 24 Employment to Population Ratio, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
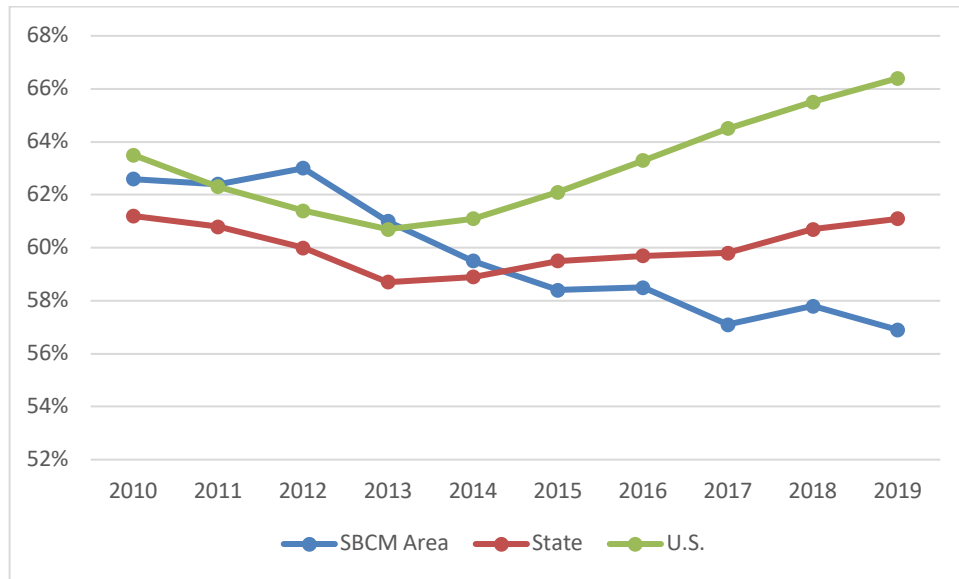
Employed is a category that includes civilians who, during the reference week, 1) did any work at all as paid employees, 2) worked in their own business or profession, 3) worked on their own farm, 4) worked 15 hours or more doing unpaid family work, or 5) were with a job but not at work due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, or other personal reasons. About 57 percent of civilian residents age 20 to 24 in the local area are employed, down slightly from the previous year. This is below the state level (61 percent) and the national level (66 percent) and has declined from a recent high of 63 percent in 2012. Each additional percent increase represents about 260 individuals, and at 1 point per year the young adults in the community can get back to the annual average this decade of 60 percent employed by 2022. If individuals were to move from unemployed to employed, the employment to population ratio would increase and the labor force participation rate would remain unchanged.

Age 20 to 29 Employment to Population Ratio by Race and Gender, 2010 to 2019
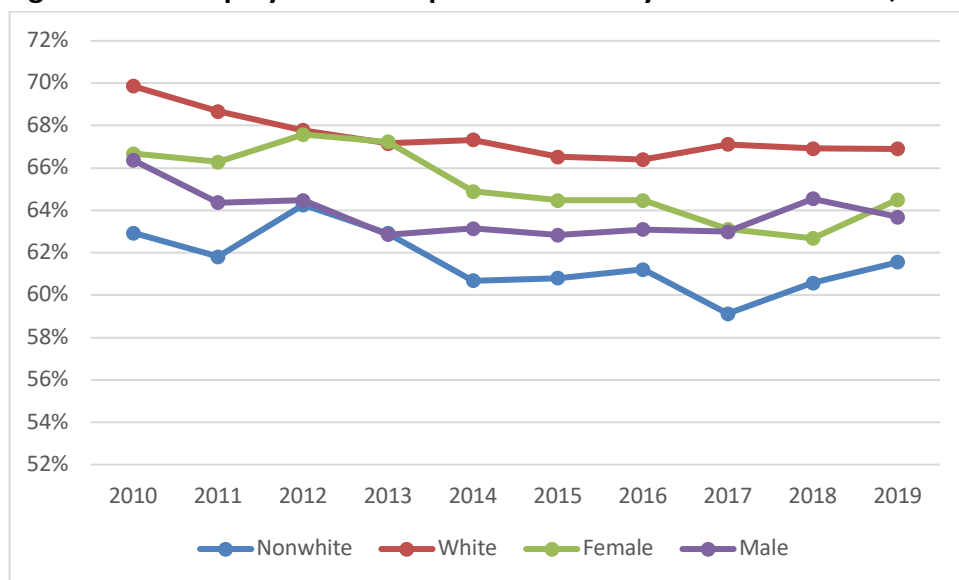
American Community Survey 5-year PUMS estimates, author's calculation
Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

Disaggregating the employment to population ratio for civilian residents age 20 to 29 shows an average gap of 6 percentage points this decade between nonwhites and whites. This gap fell to a low of 3.5 points in 2012, rose to a high of 8 points in 2017, and has since declined to slightly below the decade average in the most recent year. Currently, about 62 percent of nonwhite civilians are employed, compared to about two thirds of whites. Between females and males, the gap has been 1 point on average this decade, with a larger share of females employed than males. In 2017 the male and female employment rates converged at 63 percent, and in the most recent year males and females essentially converged again at 64 percent. These civilian gender convergences do not occur in the labor force participation rate because more males than females serve in the Armed Forces.

Age 20 to 24 Unemployment Rate, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
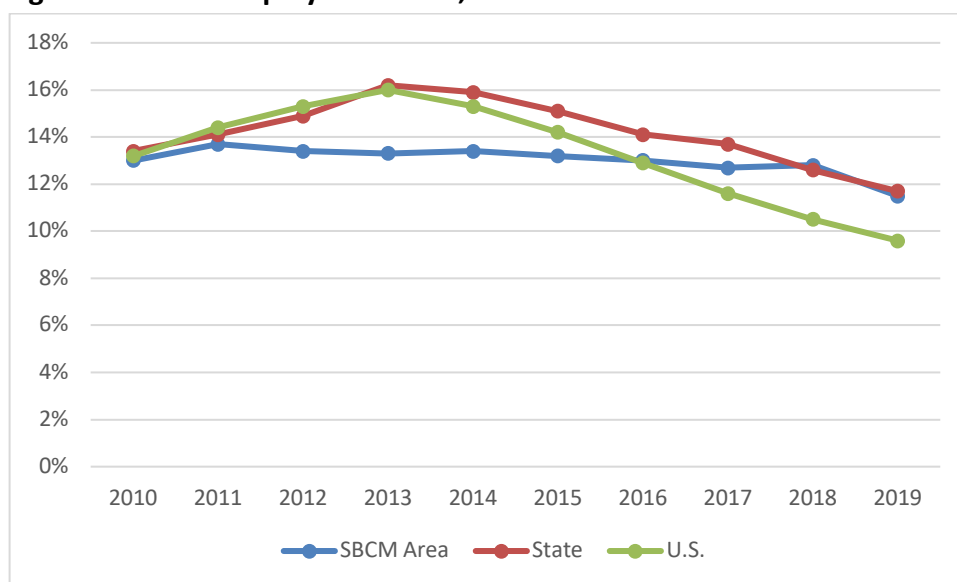
"Unemployed" is an employment status category that includes 1) those who were neither at work nor with a job but not at work during the reference week, and 2) were actively looking for work during the last four weeks, and 3) were available to start a job. Examples of job seeking activities include registering at an employment office, meeting with prospective employers, investigating possibilities for opening a business, placing or answering advertisements, writing letters of application, or being in a union. An estimated 11.5 percent of civilians age 20 to 24 in the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area are unemployed, representing about 3,000 individuals. Area unemployment for this age range is nearly the same as the state (11.7 percent) and higher than the nation (9.6 percent). A 1 point decrease per year, about 260 individuals, would place the unemployment rate at just under 10 percent for this age range in 2021.

According to the Federal Reserve Board, the lowest level of unemployment that the U.S. economy can sustain, its long-run normal level, is in a range between 4 and 5 percent.[56] The most recent nonpreliminary unemployment rate for all adults in the local area reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics is 8 percent in November 2020; the most recent annual average for

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[56] For general discussion of the long-run unemployment rate, see:
https://www.federalreserve.gov/faqs/economy_14424.htm

area adults is 5.1 percent in 2019.[57, 58] The rate for the young adults in the age 20 to 24 range considered here is much higher than the rate for all adults. This is normal, and possible reasons include the last-in, first-out explanation; lack of job search experience; shopping around; and lack of mobility.[59]

Age 20 to 29 Unemployment Rate by Race and Gender, 2010 to 2019
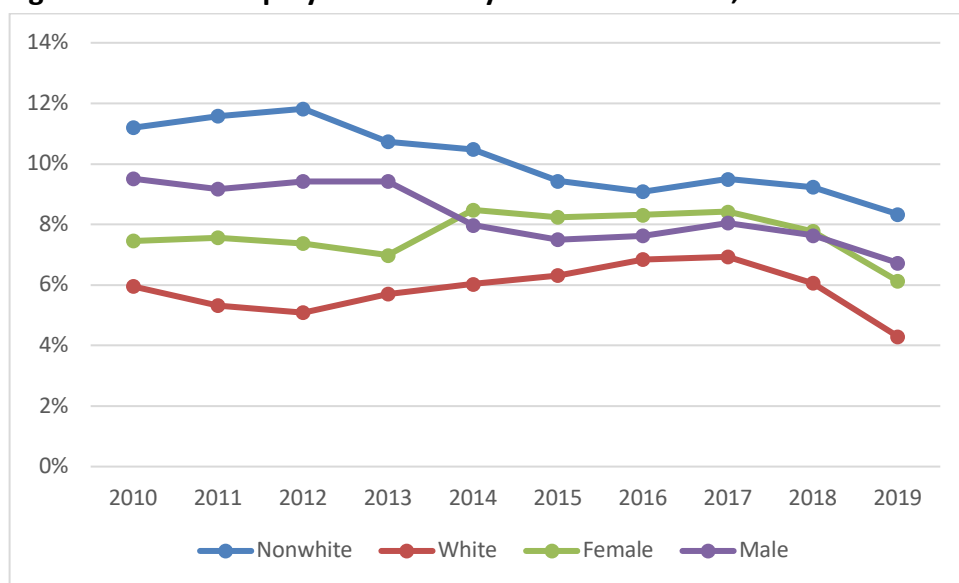
American Community Survey 5-year PUMS estimates, author's calculation
Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

Disaggregating the unemployment rate for the civilian population age 20 to 29 shows that both the race gap and the gender gap have narrowed since their peaks in 2012 and 2013. The gap between nonwhites and whites, averaging 4 points per year this decade, peaked at 7 points in 2012 and is now 4 points in the most recent year. The gap between females and males, averaging less than 1 point this decade, grew to over 2 points in 2013 and is now essentially closed. Current unemployment rate estimates continue to decline for all groups, and in the most recent year are 4 percent for whites, 6 percent for females, 7 percent for males, 8 percent for nonwhites, and 6 percent for all area civilians age 20 to 29.

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[57] For a selection of monthly metro area economic statistics, see: https://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.la_shreveport_msa.htm
[58] For annual labor force data, see: https://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm
[59] See: https://www.cnbc.com/id/40453626

At the end of the cradle to career pathway is a sustainable living wage. This is the target toward which the efforts of this organization are ultimately directed. To exceed the poverty threshold in 2020, a single adult under age 65 with no children would need to earn more than the annual equivalent of $6.47 per hour ($13,465).[60] According to the MIT living wage calculator, a single adult with no children in the local area requires $14.57 per hour over a 2,080 hour work year (just over $30,000) to meet the living wage standard.[61, 62] The difference between these two figures is about $16,800. The living wage standard in the local area is more than double the income level that would place an individual at the federal poverty line. For those supporting a child, the cost is much higher.[63]

The first of 8 income categories reported in the American Community Survey is wage and salary income, or "total money earnings received for work performed as an employee."[64] This does not include income from self-employment, interest or dividends, public assistance, or disability. Over the past decade, the average of the median annual wage and salary income of employed civilians age 20 to 29 is $20,309.[65] Median wages peaked in 2015 at $21,462 and are currently $19,448. Based on the poverty and living wage information above, we can conclude that more than half of employed civilians in their 20s are earning enough to stay above the poverty line, but less than half are earning a living wage.[66]

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[60] For current and historical poverty thresholds by size of family and number of children see: https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/historical-poverty-thresholds.html

[61] See: http://livingwage.mit.edu/metros/43340

[62] The increase in the living wage from the previous year ($11.02) reflects, in part, the replacement of landline telephone service costs with high-speed internet and cell phone service costs. See: https://livingwage.mit.edu/resources/Living-Wage-Users-Guide-Technical-Documentation-2021-02-03.pdf

[63] For a single adult with one child, the required income is more than $8.58 per hour ($17,839) to exceed the federal poverty line and $30.61 per hour ($63,669, pretax) to meet the local living wage standard.

[64] American Community Survey income subject definitions here: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html

[65] Incomes presented here are in current dollars (not inflation adjusted).

[66] Median values are reported here because extreme values tend to stretch the mean (average). This makes the median the preferred measure of central tendency for reporting a "typical" income level for a population. For comparison with the medians reported here, the mean value in 2019 for all civilians age 20 to 29 is $25,548; nonwhite $21,308; white $29,985; female $22,686; and male $28,490.

Age 20 to 29 Median Annual Wage and Salary Income by Race and Gender in Current Dollars, 2010 to 2019
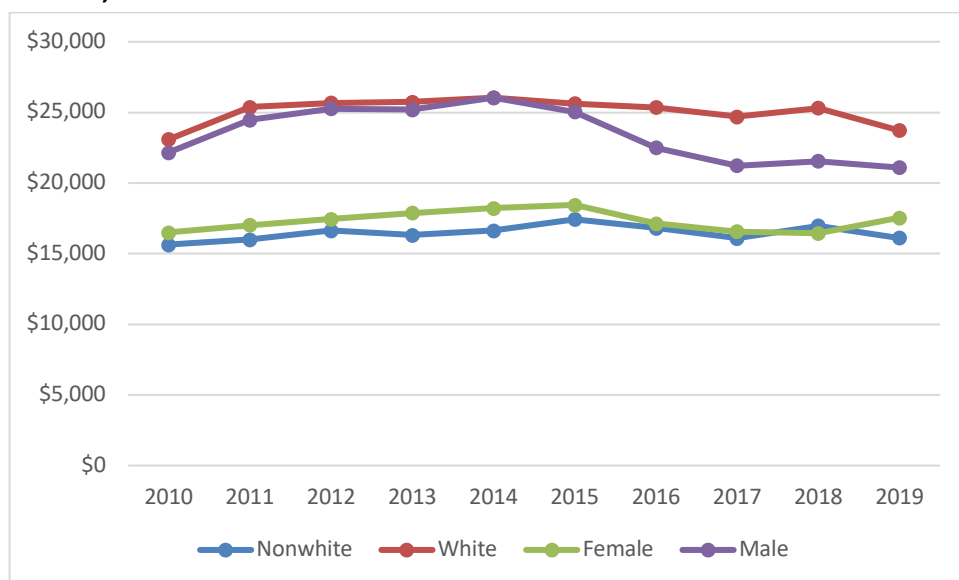
American Community Survey 5-year PUMS estimates, author's calculation
Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

Looking at median wages by race and gender reveals that some populations are less likely to meet the goal of a living wage in their twenties. Median wages are highest for whites ($23,723) and males ($21,092), followed by females ($17,535) and nonwhites ($16,102). More than half of each of these groups earns above poverty level wages. However, none of these groups are earning median wages above the living wage standard for the area. The current gap between whites and nonwhites is about $7,500, and the gap between males and females is about $3,500. As a group, females are earning above both their decade average and their level in the previous year, while all others are currently below these levels. Median wages for females increased about $1,000 over the previous year.

BUILDING RESILIENCY: CRADLE TO CAREER

Academic and employment indicators are heavily influenced by social and emotional determinants. Both environmental and personal resources are necessary for optimal child development. These resources include sufficient household income, parental support, healthcare, and protection from harm. When these resources are lacking, the risk for poor outcomes increases. This section presents indicators of child poverty and other adverse childhood experiences (ACEs); teenage idleness, delinquency, and childbearing; and high school dropout rates.

Age 5 and under Below Poverty Level, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
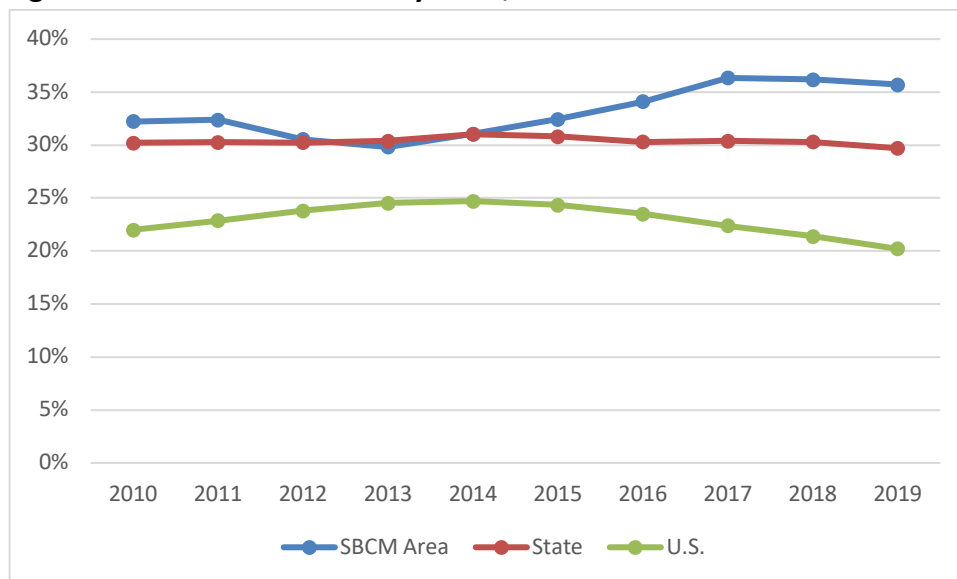
One driving force behind lagging child health and education outcomes in the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area is the persistently high levels of child poverty. After falling from 2009 to 2013, the annual rate of child poverty in the area increased from 2014 to 2017. In the most recent years the trend reversed and the rate slightly decreased. In 2019, about 12,300 children under age 6 (35.7 percent) live in families with annual incomes below the official poverty threshold. This is currently just under 30 percent for the state and 20 percent for the country—high for a developed society in the world today—and the national rate is improving. A 1 percentage point decrease in the child poverty rate for the area represents about 345 children. With an annual

decrease of 1 point the community could see child poverty below 30 percent by 2025, and fewer than 10,000 children in poverty the following year.

Age 5 and under Below Poverty Level by Race and Ethnicity, 2010 to 2019

American Community Survey 5-year estimates
Data: http://data.census.gov/
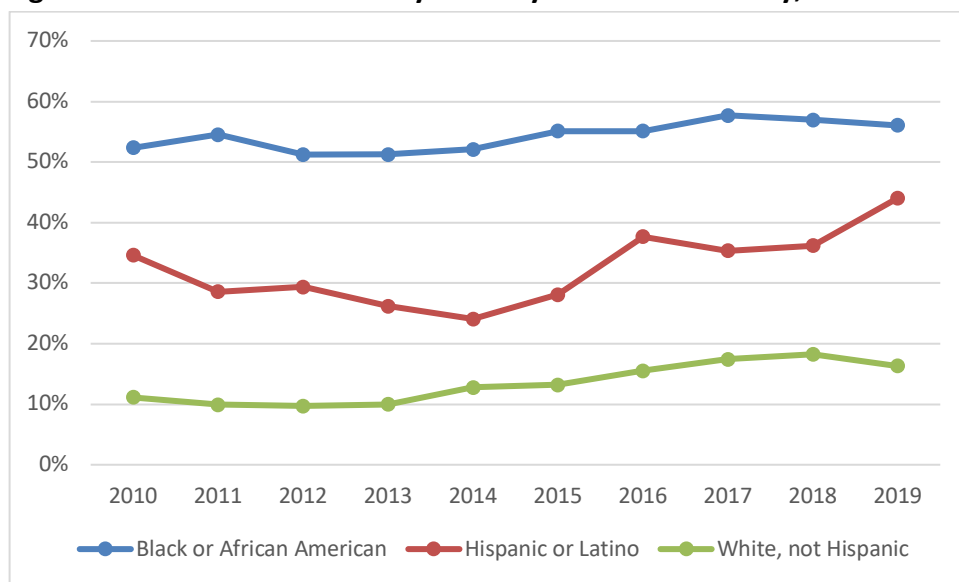
The large gap in child poverty by race should be considered unacceptable and treated like any other emergency. Large, persistent disparities in average living standards across sociodemographic groups in a society can make civic institutions appear ineffective and erode the public's trust in them. The gap in the child poverty percentage between African American children and White children each year this decade averages 41 percentage points, and is 40 points in the most recent year (56 percent and 16 percent in poverty). This is higher than the United States (25 points) and the South Region (23 points).[67] Hispanic or Latino children are in between at 44 percent in poverty after rising most years from a low of 24 percent in 2014. The current gap between Hispanic or Latino and non-Hispanic White children increased to 28 points, higher than the area average of 19 points for the decade. The current area gap is also higher than the gap in the United States and the South Region (16 points in each).

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[67] U.S. Census Bureau Region 3, the South, includes states and the District of Columbia in the South Atlantic division (Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia), East South Central division (Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee), and West South Central division (Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas). More information here: https://www2.census.gov/geo/pdfs/maps-data/maps/reference/us_regdiv.pdf

One of the largest studies of child abuse and neglect found that such child maltreatment can have life-long adverse effects. From 1995 to 1997, Kaiser Permanente surveyed more than 17,000 health maintenance organization members about their childhood experiences and current health status and behaviors.[68] The study defines Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) as any of the following: emotional abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional neglect, physical neglect, mother treated violently, household substance abuse, household mental illness, parental separation or divorce, and incarcerated household member. Of the Kaiser study participants, 26 percent reported experiencing at least 1 ACE, and 12.5 percent reported four or more.

Not only does frequent or prolonged exposure to ACEs create toxic stress which impacts a child's developing brain, the Kaiser study findings also indicate that the number of ACEs in childhood increases the risk for negative health status and behaviors in adulthood as well.[69] Specifically, there is a graded "dose-response" in that as the intensity of the stressors increases, so then does the outcome. High numbers of ACEs in childhood is predictive of poor adult social and health outcomes, including disease, disability, mental illness and early death.[70] Child maltreatment and other adverse experiences impact not only children's healthy development and their later adult well-being, but also the entire community in which they live.

In 2016, Step Forward developed an ACE initiative to raise awareness of ACEs, promote trauma-informed responses, and connect children and families to resources in the community. A current project is to increase the number of ACE trainers available to educate our community. In the spring of 2017, 30 ACE educators were trained to provide presentations at no cost to any group or organization. Faith communities, K12 schools, health care and nonprofits are partners in this initiative. The goal is to provide children with protective factors, both internal and external, that will minimize the adverse effects of childhood trauma.

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[68] Felitti, V.J., R.F. Anda, D. Nordenberg, D.F. Williamson, A.M. Spitz, V. Edwards, M.P. Koss, and J.S. Marks. 1998. Relationship of Childhood Abuse and Household Dysfunction to Many of the Leading Causes of Death in Adults. American Journal of Preventive Medicine, vol. 14, no. 4, pp. 245-258.
[69] Harvard University Center on the Developing Child. Retrieved from: http://developingchild.harvard.edu/science/national-scientific-council-on-the-developing-child/
[70] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved from: https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/about.html
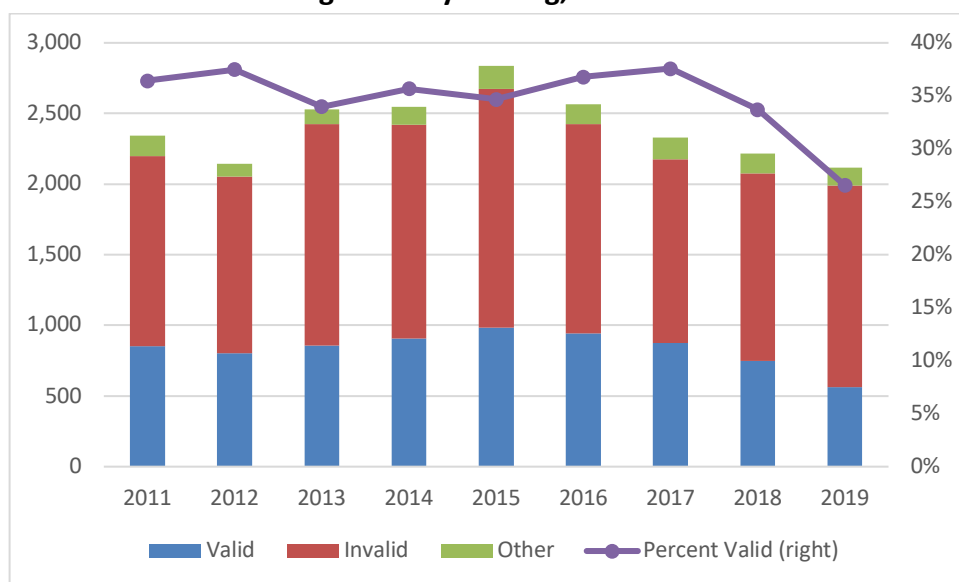
Child Protection Investigations by Finding, 2011 to 2019

The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center; Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services via Agenda for Children
Data: https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#LA/2/0/char/0

In 2019, there were 2,117 investigations of child abuse and neglect in the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area and surrounding parishes, 100 fewer total investigations than the previous year.[71] Of the total in 2019, 562 (27 percent) were found to be valid, 185 fewer valid cases that the previous year. In Bossier and Caddo alone the 2019 total is 1,627 with 451 determined to be valid, down about 100 valid cases from the previous year.

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[71] Includes parishes Bossier and Caddo, DeSoto (with Sabine), and Webster (with Bienville, Claiborne, and Jackson).

Children in Foster Care, 2011 to 2019
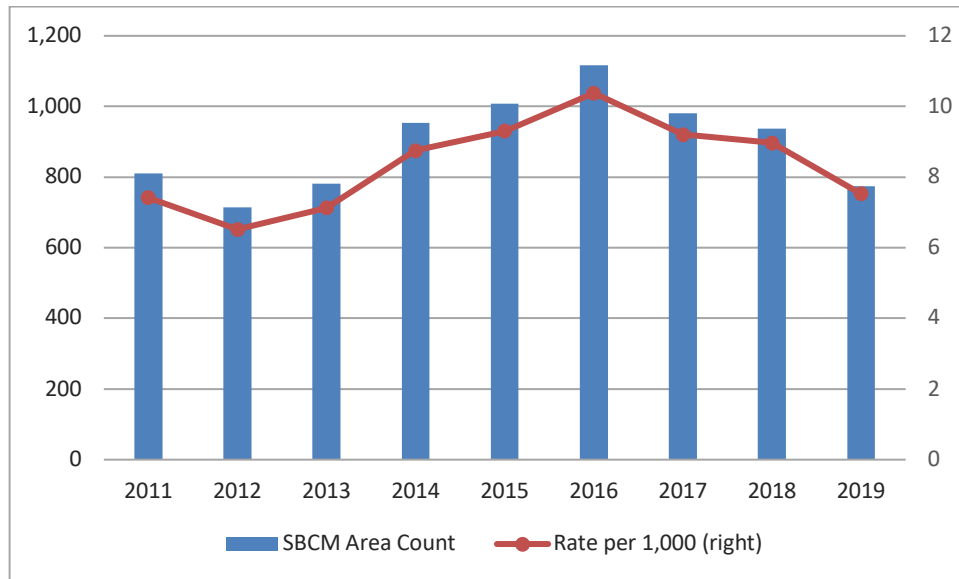
The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center; Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services via Agenda for Children
Data: https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#LA/2/0/char/0

Children in foster care are another vulnerable population at risk of poor health outcomes that can affect educational experiences and the quality of adulthood.[72] The total number of children in foster care in the area declined to 775 in 2019, a rate of 7.5 per 1,000 children under age 18. This measure has improved each year since 2016 when 1,116 (10.4 per 1,000) children under 18 years were living in foster care, the highest amount this decade. These are adjudicated Child in Need of Care cases, or cases of abuse or neglect confirmed by juvenile court.

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[72] Bruskas, D. 2008. Children in Foster Care: A Vulnerable Population at Risk. Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing, vol. 21, no. 2, pp. 70-77.

The Shreveport Police Department participates in the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting program (UCR) through the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement, and releases detailed arrest and other statistics annually to the public through the shreveportla.gov website. Although crime rates are generally lower these days compared to the 2000s, and half of what they were in the peak years of the late 1980s and early 1990s, the community should continue to build upon past success and work toward reducing them further.[73]

Age 17 and under Arrest Rate per 1,000 and Part 1 and 2 Counts, Shreveport, 2010 to 2019
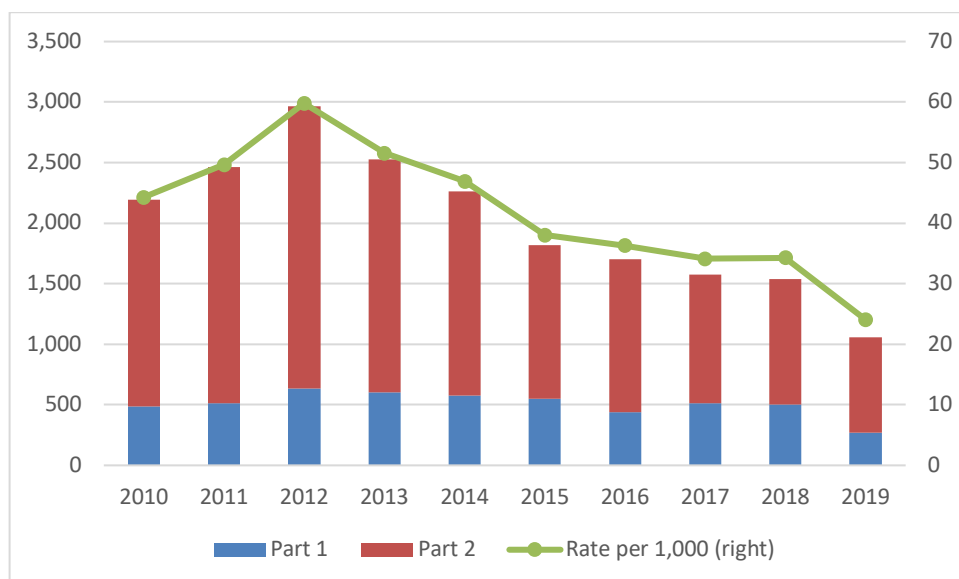
Shreveport Police Department; Census Population Division, author's estimate of city population under age 17
Data: https://www.shreveportla.gov/1107/Annual-Crime-Reports

Arrests and summonses issued by the Shreveport Police Department are classified per UCR guidelines according to the type of crime committed. All other law enforcement agencies in the area either do not release detailed annual crime reports to the public or do not report crime statistics by age category, a particular interest of this report. Part 1 crimes include the eight broad categories that are used to create the FBI's annual crime index.[74] These crimes include serious violent crimes (murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault), burglary (breaking or

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[73] For index crime counts and rates in local geographies see: https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s, Metropolitan Statistical Areas (Table 6).
[74] FBI index crime information available here: https://ucr.fbi.gov/

entering), and theft (larceny and automobile).[75] The most common crime type in this category is larceny theft (62 percent of the category for juveniles), which includes all or almost all theft except motor vehicle theft. Most larceny arrests of juveniles likely involve common stealing, such as shoplifting and theft from automobiles. In 2019, the Shreveport Police Department recorded 167 larceny arrests and summonses for the population under age 18, a decrease of 157 arrests and summonses (49 percent) from the previous year. Total arrests and summonses of juveniles for Part 1 offenses declined 47 percent from the previous year, to 268.

Part 2 crimes account for the majority of crime and delinquency and do not include the serious violent crimes greatly feared by the public. Three-fourths of juvenile arrests in 2019 were for these offense types. The most common offense in this category is other assault (simple assault not involving a weapon and not resulting in serious injury), accounting for 47 percent of juvenile arrests for Part 2 offenses. Much of it is likely ordinary fighting, threats of violence, and striking a parent. The Shreveport Police Department reports 371 such arrests for youth age 17 and under in 2019, a decline of 32 percent from the previous year and about half of the decade average for these offenses. Total arrests and summonses of juveniles for Part 2 offenses declined 24 percent from the previous year to 788. Part 1 and Part 2 altogether, the rate of arrest for those age 17 and under has fallen from about 34 per 1,000 in 2018 to 24 per 1,000 in 2019.

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[75] The eighth index crime category is arson, but it is often not included in the property crime estimate due to variations in the level of participation by reporting agencies. See: https://www.fbi.gov/news/pressrel/press-releases/fbi-releases-2017-crime-statistics

Shreveport Police Department Calls for Service: Juvenile Complaint, 2010 to 2019

Shreveport Police Department
Data: https://www.shreveportla.gov/2540/Interactive-Annual-Report
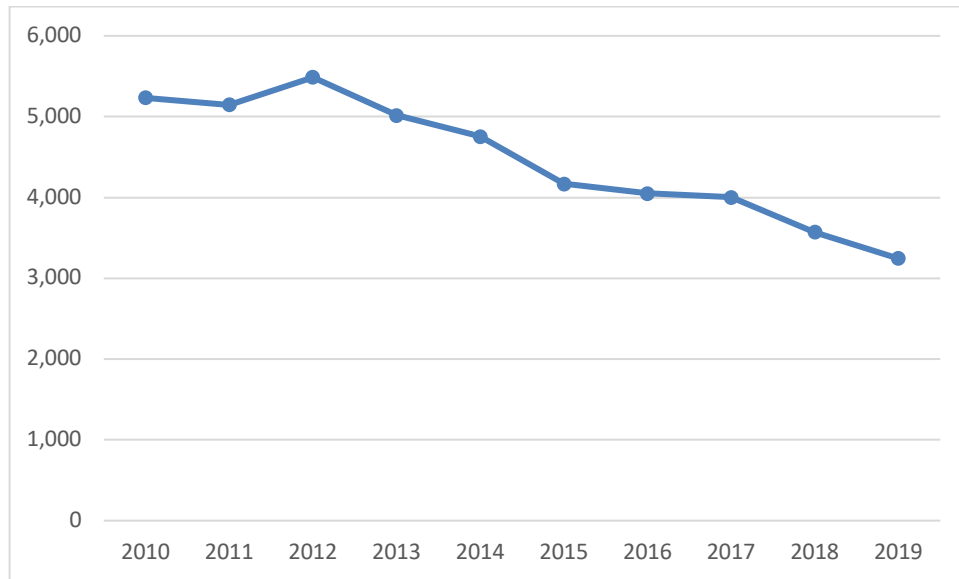
Calls for service to the Shreveport Police Department involving complaints about juveniles are down about 9 percent from the previous year and 38 percent from the total at the beginning of the decade in 2010. A total of 3,244 such calls were made in 2019, about 300 fewer than the previous year and 2,000 fewer than in 2010. Each year's total represents less than 2 percent of the more than 200,000 total annual calls for service to SPD.

Youth under the Supervision of the Office of Juvenile Justice and the Caddo Parish Juvenile Detention Center, 2011 to 2019
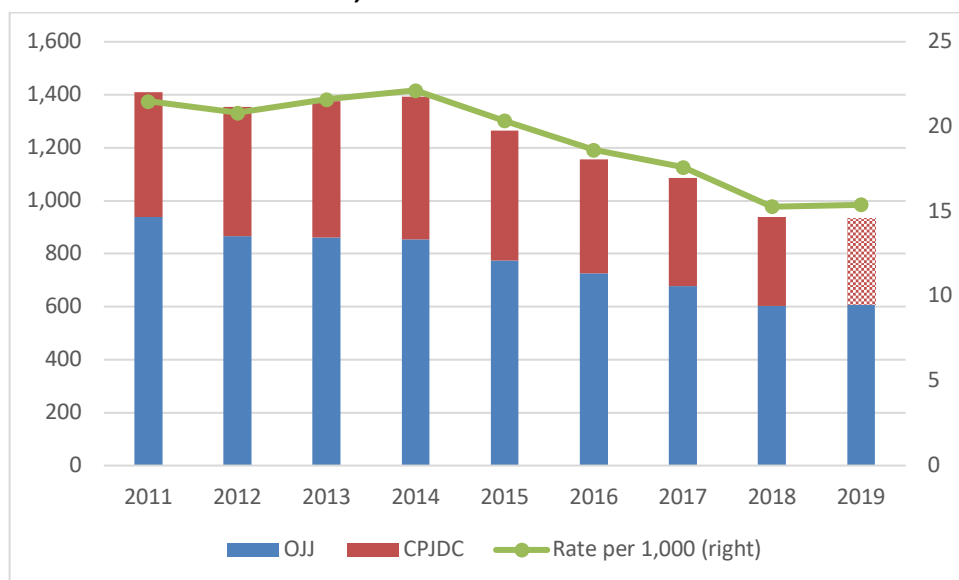
The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center; Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice via Agenda for Children; Caddo Parish Juvenile Services
Note: Author's estimate of 2019 CPJDC intake
Data: https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#LA/2/0/char/0;
http://www.caddo.org/162/Juvenile-Services

The number of youths under the supervision of the Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice increased slightly in the most recent year reported, to a total of 608 in 2019. This total includes youth either in secure or non-secure custody as well as those under supervision in the form of probation or parole. Adding to this youth taken to the Caddo Parish Juvenile Detention Center by an officer (though not necessarily held pending trial) brings the current total to 934.[76] This total represents an area rate of 15.4 per 1,000 youth age 10 to 20, or about 1.5 percent. Youth in the adult criminal justice system are not included in these totals. The current total is about the same as the previous year and down 28 percent since 2011. A reduction of 1 percent per year would bring the total to under 800 by 2025.

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[76] Estimated as the total Caddo Parish Juvenile Detention Center unique intake in 2018 (433), minus those children in state custody from Caddo Parish in 2018 (96), reduced by the 2010 to 2018 average annual rate of decline in CPJDC unique intake (3.2 percent): (433-96)*0.968=326

Deaths Due to Assault and Intentional Self-Harm Rates per 100,000 Age 10 to 24, 2010 to 2019
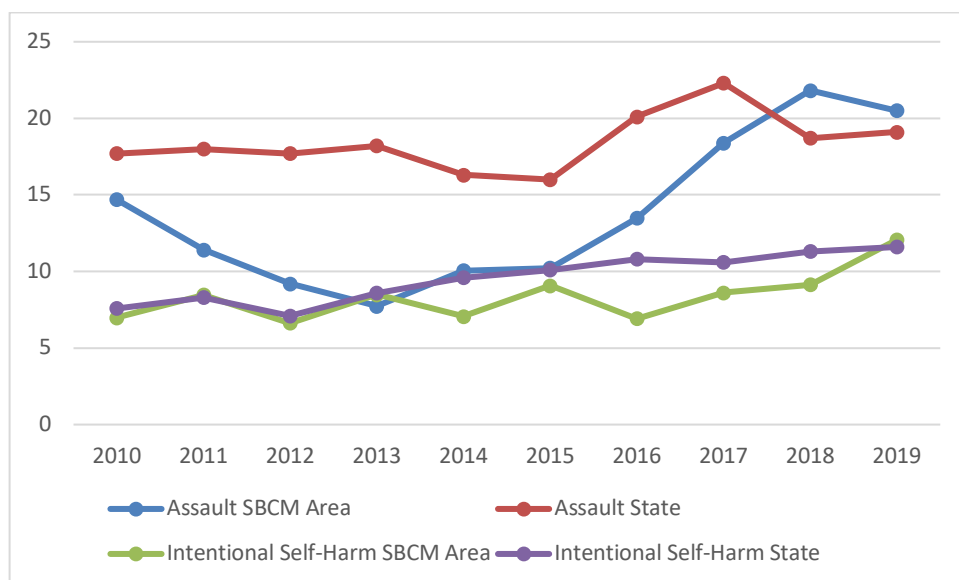
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; National Center for Health Statistics
Note: SBCM rolling 3-year annual averages 2008-10 to 2017-19
Data: https://wonder.cdc.gov/Deaths-by-Underlying-Cause.html

The rate of violent deaths (suicide and homicide) for Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area residents 10- to 24-years-old has increased in recent years. After declining from a rate of 28 per 100,000 in 2000 to 13 in 2011 and 2012, the rate climbed to 36 in 2017. In the most recent year the violent death rate for 10- to 24-year-olds declined to 31 per 100,000, 8 points higher than the decade average. The current level is the same as the state and both are much higher than the national rate. Over the same time period, 2000 to 2019, the national rate increased from 16 to 18 per 100,000.[77, 78]

The figure shows the violent death rate split into its components for the local area and the state. Annual deaths due to assault in the four-parish area increased from a rate of about 8 to

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[77] Mortality data used in this section is based on death certificates in state registries, collected through the National Vital Statistics Program for the National Center for Health Statistics. See: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/deaths.htm

[78] NCHS data is available through the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Wide-ranging Online Data for Epidemiologic Research (WONDER) internet system. General information about CDC WONDER here: https://wonder.cdc.gov/wonder/help/faq.html

21 during the years 2013 to 2019.[79] Deaths due to intentional self-harm increased from a rate of 7 to 12 during the years 2016 to 2019. Both are at about the state level.

These rates cannot be disaggregated for the four-parish area by race or gender in any given year due to data suppression constraints. For the range of years from 1999 to 2019, the local area suicide rate per 100,000 males age 10 to 24 is about 10 points higher than for females, representing about 100 additional male deaths locally over the time period. This gender gap in the rate is the same for the state and the nation. The suicide rate for 10- to 24-year-old Whites is about 10 points higher locally, compared to 7 points higher in the state, and 4 points higher in the nation than it is for Black or African American residents in this age range. This represents about 100 additional White deaths over the time period.

Group differences in homicide rates for this age range are also pronounced. Locally, the 1999 to 2019 rate per 100,000 males is about 8 times higher than for females, compared to 7 times higher in the state and 6 times higher in the nation. This represents over 200 additional male deaths locally. Homicide rates for Black or African American 10- to 24-year-olds are about 8 times higher than for Whites, compared to 11 times higher in the state and 13 times higher in the nation. This represents over 200 additional Black or African American deaths locally over the time period.

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[79] Due to data suppression constraints, the author uses a rolling 3-year average to produce an estimate for each year of assault and intentional self-harm deaths used to calculate the rates. Information about the protection of small data values in CDC WONDER is available in the FAQ, linked in a previous note.

Deaths due to Firearms Rate per 100,000 Age 10 to 24, 2010 to 2019
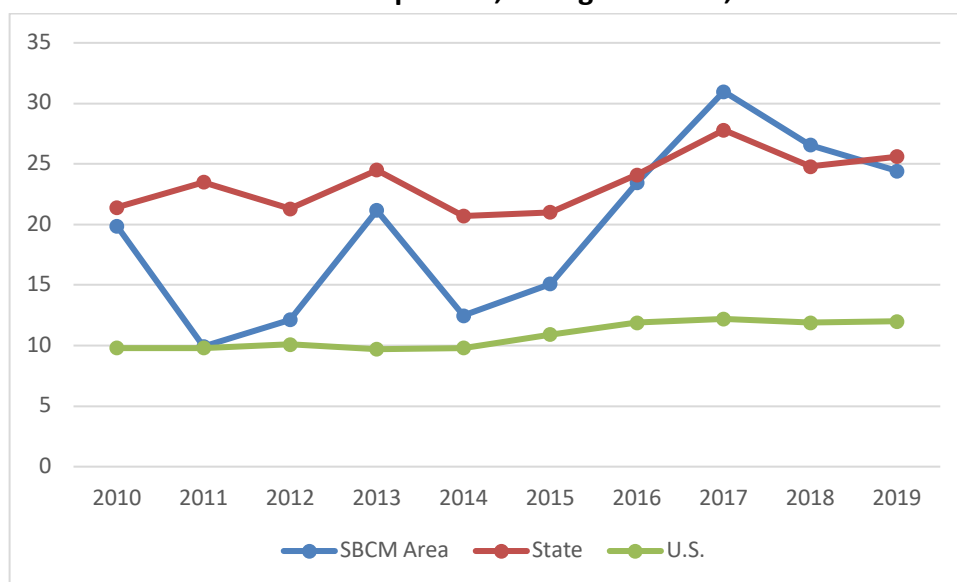
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; National Center for Health Statistics
Note: Includes assault, intentional self-harm, and accident
Data: https://wonder.cdc.gov/Deaths-by-Underlying-Cause.html

The number of deaths this century due to firearm discharge, or gun deaths, averages about 18 per year locally, 230 per year in the state, and almost 7,000 per year nationwide for 10- to 24-year-olds. This decade, the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area rate climbed from a low of 10 per 100,000 in 2011 to 31 in 2017. In the most recent year the rate declined to 24 per 100,000, representing 20 deaths in the age range and near the state rate. In the first 5 years of the century the local rate also matched the state rate, followed by an 11-year period from 2005 to 2015 when the area remained below the state level. In 2011, the local gun death rate declined to the national level, which increased slightly this decade from 10 to 12.

Separating gun deaths by type of incident cannot be done for any given year due to data suppression constraints. During the range of years from 1999 to 2019, the community experienced 384 gun deaths of resident 10- to 24-year-olds. About 3 percent of these are categorized as resulting from an accident, 30 percent from intentional self-harm, and 67 percent from assault. Regarding the type of firearm, the vast majority, 94 percent, are categorized as "other and unspecified firearm discharge" in the NCHS data reported on CDC WONDER.

Birth Counts and Rates per 1,000 Females Age 15 to 19, 2010 to 2019
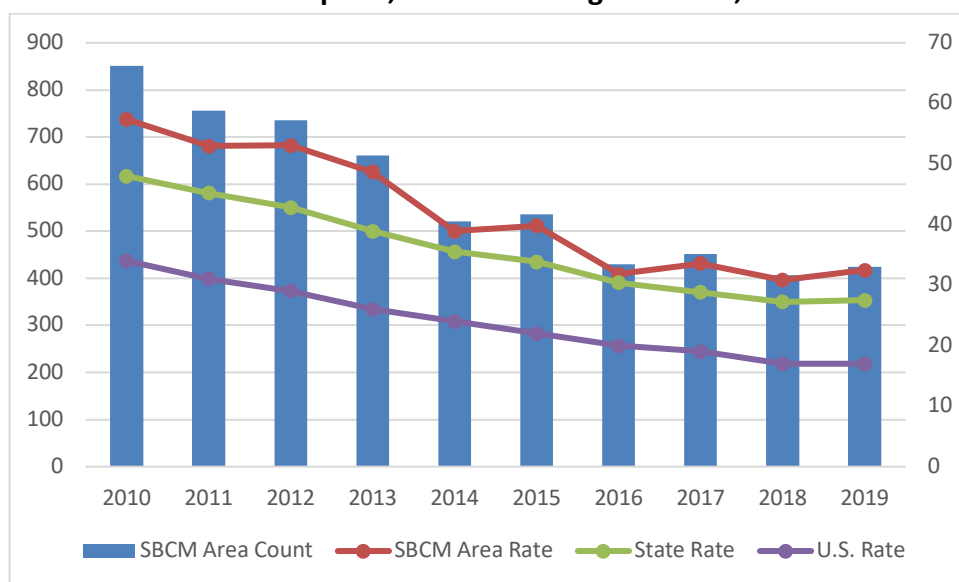
The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; National Center for Health Statistics
Data: https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#LA/5/0/char/0

The birth rate is a measure of the incidence of childbearing in a population. The rate of births to women age 15 to 19 in the United States has declined 82 percent since 1957, from a high of 96 per 1,000 during the peak of the Baby Boom to 17 per 1,000 in 2019. Access to effective contraception and changing social conditions for women explain much of the decline in this measure over time. Although the current area rate is 90 percent higher than the national rate and 18 percent higher than the state rate, it has declined 43 percent since 2010.

The most recent available data shows a teenage birth rate in the four-parish area of 32.5 per 1,000 in 2019.[80] Total births to this age group fell from more than 1,000 in 2008 to 424 in 2019. Already below the 2010 national rate, the community can see teen births at the current state level in 2022 and the current national level by 2031 if the ten-year average annual decline of 5 percent per year continues.

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[80] Data reflect the mother's place of residence, rather than the place of birth.

Preterm Births, All Ages, 2010 to 2019
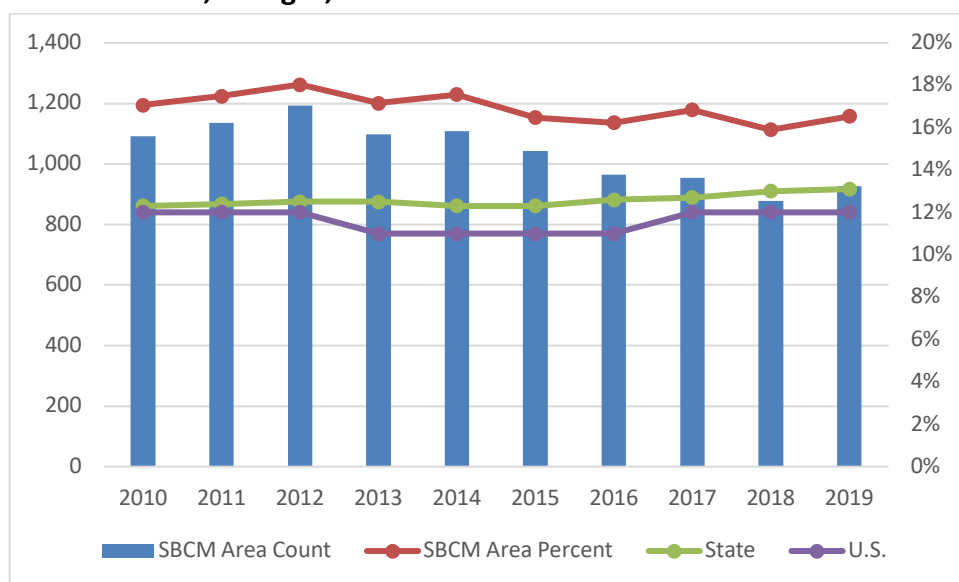
The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; National Center for Health Statistics
Data: https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#LA/2/0/char/0

Preterm is defined as less than 37 completed weeks of pregnancy. In addition to increasing the risk of breathing, feeding, vision, and hearing problems, outcomes for preterm births can also include developmental delays.[81] This does not mean that each individual who is born preterm will experience academic deficits. It does mean that a group-level tendency compared to full-term peers for poorer performance does exist. In the most recent year, about 17 percent of births, 926, were preterm. This measure declined about 1 percent from the first to the second half of the decade, and the decade average locally has been about 4 points higher than the state and 5 points higher than the nation.

The area's relatively high rate of births that are preterm may be one of many sources which contributes to the lack of academic preparedness in grade school and beyond. Some preterm births are not preventable, but others are. Lowering the teenage fertility rate, reducing tobacco use and substance abuse, and increasing the use of prenatal care are ways that the area can improve this outcome.

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[81] See: https://www.cdc.gov/features/prematurebirth/index.html

Dropout Count and Rate, 2009-10 to 2018-19
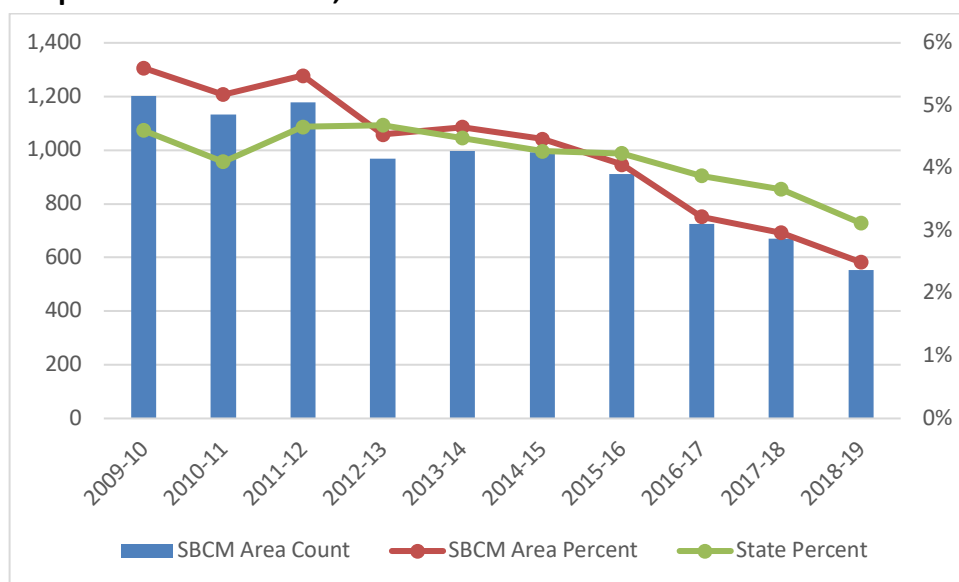
Louisiana Department of Education

Note: Author's calculation of area weighted averages

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center

In 2013, researchers at Michigan and Texas A&M looked at reasons for high school dropout over the past half century in a comparative analysis of seven nationally representative studies.[82] From the 1950s through the 1980s students reported most often that they were pulled away from school, often by work or family (60 percent in 1955). In the most recent study, these and other "pull" factors were the cause for dropout for only 37 percent of those who left school. The top three ranked reasons were: "missed too many days of school" (43 percent), "thought it would be easier to get a GED" (40 percent), and "was getting poor grades/failing school" (38 percent). This suggests that reasons for dropout are no longer primarily related to work and family, but are increasingly related to policies or student disinterest (labeled "push" factors and "fall out" factors).

The total grade 9 to 12 dropout count reported to the state by the four area parish school districts in 2019 is 554, down from 670 in the previous year. This represents about 2.5 percent of the total number of students enrolled at the beginning of the school year (20,878 in fall 2018). The number of Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area high school dropouts continues to decrease almost every year and the total in the most recent year is less than half of what it was

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[82] Doll, Jonathan Jacob, Zohreh Eslami and Lynne Walters. 2013. Understanding Why Students Drop Out of High School, According to Their Own Reports: Are They Pushed or Pulled, or Do They Fall Out? A Comparative Analysis of Seven Nationally Representative Studies. SAGE Open, October-December 2013, pp. 1-15.

at the beginning of the decade. Once higher than the state, the area high school dropout rate is now below the state level for the fourth year in a row. This continues to be a promising development for the area's high schools.

NEXT STEPS

The Step Forward initiative is actively engaged around multiple critical developmental milestones. Action plans to improve the core indicators of Kindergarten Readiness, Third Grade Reading, Middle Grade Math, High School Graduation, Postsecondary Enrollment and Completion, and Employment have been developed. These plans are made possible by a mutual commitment to share resources and measure outcomes as the partnership seeks to find what works and do more of it.

The Step Forward partnership is always seeking community volunteers to assist and contribute to these important efforts. Your involvement can make a difference. Community-wide grassroots involvement is in fact critical to achieving such population-level change. If you are committed to improving educational opportunities for the children in the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden area, Step Forward would like to hear from you.

In the meantime, Step Forward will remain committed to sharing data indicators, and will continue to engage in continuous evaluation of its efforts to improve the status of the community's children, from cradle to career.

DATA TABLES

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

Population of Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden Area Parishes and Principal Cities, 1850 to 2019

Year	Total	Bossier Parish	Caddo Parish	DeSoto Parish	Webster Parish	Shreveport	Bossier City	Minden
1850	23,869	6,962	8,884	8,023	-	1,728	-	-
1900	108,840	24,153	44,499	25,063	15,125	16,013	775	1,300
1950	276,788	40,139	176,547	24,398	35,704	127,206	15,470	9,787
1960	345,430	57,622	223,859	24,248	39,701	164,372	32,776	12,785
1970	357,406	64,519	230,184	22,764	39,939	182,064	43,769	13,996
1980	402,437	80,721	252,358	25,727	43,631	206,989	50,817	15,084
1990	401,676	86,088	248,253	25,346	41,989	198,402	53,129	13,661
2000	417,796	98,310	252,161	25,494	41,831	199,822	56,128	13,027
2010	439,811	116,979	254,969	26,656	41,207	199,311	61,315	13,082
2015	444,061	125,554	251,345	27,101	40,061	197,001	68,157	12,614
2016	441,698	125,920	248,837	27,190	39,751	194,672	68,125	12,486
2017	439,425	126,959	245,935	27,267	39,264	192,023	68,471	12,271
2018	436,073	127,022	242,833	27,426	38,792	189,360	68,316	12,083
2019	433,046	127,039	240,204	27,463	38,340	187,112	68,159	11,840

Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest.html;
http://web.stanford.edu/group/spatialhistory/cgi-bin/site/index.php

Annual Estimates of the Components of Population Change, Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden Area, 2011 to 2019

Year	Total Change	Vital Events		Net Migration	
		Births	Deaths	International	Domestic
2011	3,990	6,476	4,349	257	1,607
2012	3,219	6,631	4,316	457	398
2013	-1,446	6,452	4,668	499	-3,767
2014	-2,078	6,452	4,652	356	-4,279
2015	-758	6,335	4,532	402	-2,948
2016	-2,363	6,147	4,664	312	-4,158
2017	-2,273	5,770	4,708	63	-3,405
2018	-3,352	5,573	4,721	-3	-4,200
2019	-3,027	5,372	4,681	62	-3,777

Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest.html

Under 30 Population of the Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden Area by Age and Sex, 2019

Age	Males	Females	Total	Age	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year	2,790	2,754	5,544	15 years	2,635	2,762	5,397
1 year	2,805	2,826	5,631	16 years	2,607	2,766	5,373
2 years	2,820	2,855	5,675	17 years	2,686	2,827	5,513
3 years	2,795	2,856	5,651	18 years	2,652	2,845	5,496
4 years	2,818	2,870	5,687	19 years	2,568	2,742	5,311
5 years	2,823	2,906	5,729	20 years	2,483	2,614	5,096
6 years	2,857	2,960	5,817	21 years	2,489	2,590	5,079
7 years	2,842	2,930	5,772	22 years	2,527	2,634	5,161
8 years	2,877	2,955	5,832	23 years	2,579	2,774	5,353
9 years	2,913	3,021	5,933	24 years	2,755	2,878	5,634
10 years	2,871	3,023	5,894	25 years	2,927	3,004	5,932
11 years	2,824	2,986	5,810	26 years	3,087	3,035	6,123
12 years	2,785	2,895	5,680	27 years	3,087	2,998	6,085
13 years	2,813	2,871	5,683	28 years	3,068	2,971	6,039
14 years	2,721	2,798	5,519	29 years	3,042	2,945	5,987

Note: Author's single-year-of-age estimates, smoothed

Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest.html

Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden Area Public K-12 Fall Enrollment by Grade Level, 2011 to 2020

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Kindergarten	6,056	6,243	6,210	5,877	5,580	5,482	5,641	5,291	5,319	5,024
Grade 1	6,094	6,056	6,180	6,188	5,850	5,670	5,549	5,684	5,321	5,226
Grade 2	5,877	5,918	5,900	6,094	5,920	5,783	5,505	5,382	5,471	5,083
Grade 3	5,792	5,739	5,740	5,766	5,900	5,822	5,619	5,390	5,276	5,272
Grade 4	6,709	6,399	6,250	6,008	5,650	5,796	5,640	5,467	5,272	5,151
Grade 5	5,486	5,473	5,260	5,316	5,760	5,587	5,702	5,523	5,376	5,086
Grade 6	5,923	5,649	5,600	5,494	5,310	5,585	5,483	5,532	5,489	5,192
Grade 7	5,431	5,785	5,520	5,635	5,390	5,302	5,531	5,425	5,395	5,374
Grade 8	5,190	5,404	5,760	5,444	5,450	5,326	5,198	5,375	5,258	5,249
Grade 9	5,810	5,605	5,800	6,420	6,190	6,016	5,821	5,710	5,876	5,627
Grade 10	5,262	5,130	4,930	5,174	5,550	5,553	5,548	5,403	5,248	5,479
Grade 11	4,547	4,656	4,500	4,513	4,710	5,109	5,024	5,062	4,903	4,923
Grade 12	4,062	4,272	4,400	4,311	4,280	4,534	4,964	4,703	4,861	4,784
Total K-12	72,239	72,329	72,050	72,240	71,540	71,565	71,225	69,947	69,065	67,470

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center

Age under 18 Years below Poverty Level by Race, 2010 to 2019

Year	Black or African American		Hispanic or Latino		White, not Hispanic	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2010	21,040	46.6%	1,039	25.1%	4,612	10.4%
2011	21,158	47.1%	993	22.2%	4,586	10.3%
2012	20,126	44.7%	1,136	24.5%	4,268	9.6%
2013	22,255	45.5%	1,250	24.3%	5,489	11.0%
2014	23,008	47.5%	1,308	24.2%	6,220	12.5%
2015	23,212	48.0%	1,672	29.8%	6,495	13.0%
2016	23,731	48.9%	2,014	36.2%	7,016	14.2%
2017	24,120	50.4%	2,141	37.1%	7,528	15.5%
2018	23,615	50.0%	2,094	36.0%	8,195	17.2%
2019	23,156	49.8%	2,494	42.3%	7,831	16.6%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 25 and over with Less than High School Diploma by Race, 2010 to 2019

Year	Black or African American		Hispanic or Latino		White, not Hispanic	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2010	20,024	22.3%	1,941	30.5%	16,112	10.6%
2011	19,114	21.0%	2,057	30.2%	15,342	10.0%
2012	19,466	21.0%	2,190	31.2%	14,888	9.6%
2013	21,809	21.3%	2,193	27.8%	18,608	10.7%
2014	21,643	20.9%	2,510	30.6%	17,834	10.2%
2015	21,225	20.3%	2,335	27.4%	17,261	9.9%
2016	21,462	20.2%	2,466	28.8%	16,522	9.5%
2017	20,285	19.0%	2,521	28.5%	16,088	9.3%
2018	20,200	18.8%	2,442	27.5%	15,315	8.9%
2019	19,829	18.3%	2,548	28.2%	14,532	8.5%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 25 and over with Bachelor's Degree or Higher by Race, 2010 to 2019

Year	Black or African American		Hispanic or Latino		White, not Hispanic	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2010	11,097	12.4%	992	15.6%	40,169	26.3%
2011	11,663	12.8%	1,057	15.5%	40,937	26.6%
2012	11,847	12.8%	876	12.5%	41,652	26.9%
2013	13,640	13.3%	1,063	13.5%	46,350	26.7%
2014	14,270	13.8%	1,107	13.5%	47,787	27.5%
2015	14,877	14.2%	1,328	15.6%	48,112	27.7%
2016	15,100	14.2%	1,393	16.3%	48,169	27.8%
2017	16,294	15.3%	1,537	17.4%	47,664	27.7%
2018	15,826	14.7%	1,765	19.9%	46,966	27.4%
2019	15,820	14.6%	1,711	19.0%	46,908	27.6%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 16 and over in Management, Business, Science, and Arts Occupations by Race, 2010 to 2019

Year	Black or African American		Hispanic or Latino		White, not Hispanic	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2010	12,057	19.8%	1,183	20.9%	37,001	36.2%
2011	12,880	20.5%	1,297	21.8%	37,122	36.6%
2012	13,030	20.5%	1,331	21.6%	38,136	37.0%
2013	14,466	21.2%	1,372	19.6%	42,158	37.1%
2014	14,947	22.1%	1,519	21.0%	43,446	38.5%
2015	14,862	22.1%	1,634	22.2%	43,827	39.3%
2016	14,830	22.1%	1,664	23.6%	44,516	40.5%
2017	15,285	22.9%	1,782	26.2%	43,024	40.1%
2018	15,894	23.4%	2,048	30.0%	42,081	39.9%
2019	15,266	22.6%	2,052	30.5%	41,496	40.2%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

BUILDING FOUNDATIONS: BIRTH THROUGH GRADE 5

Kindergarten Readiness, 2011 to 2020

| Year | SBCM Area | | State |
	Count	Percent	Percent
2011	2,990	49.4%	53.0%
2012	3,090	49.5%	54.0%
2013	2,941	47.4%	55.0%
2014	2,849	48.5%	56.0%
2015	2,696	48.3%	56.0%
2016	2,313	42.2%	54.0%
2017	2,099	37.2%	54.0%
2018	2,178	41.2%	50.2%
2019	2,031	38.2%	43.3%
2020	2,069	41.2%	40.4%

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center

3- to 4-Year-Olds Enrolled in School, 2010 to 2019

| Year | SBCM Area | | State | U.S. |
	Count	Percent	Percent	Percent
2010	5,834	51.8%	53.5%	47.8%
2011	5,908	50.6%	53.6%	48.1%
2012	6,202	51.3%	53.6%	48.2%
2013	6,239	49.9%	52.2%	47.7%
2014	6,291	48.7%	51.6%	47.4%
2015	6,412	48.1%	50.8%	47.4%
2016	6,030	48.7%	51.1%	47.5%
2017	6,204	49.6%	51.2%	47.5%
2018	6,031	50.6%	51.1%	47.9%
2019	6,513	52.4%	51.5%	48.3%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 3 and over Enrolled in Nursery School, Preschool by Race, 2012 to 2019

Year	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	White, not Hispanic	Other	Total
2012	3,337	298	3,232	284	7,151
2013	3,496	444	3,770	321	8,031
2014	3,213	355	3,777	374	7,719
2015	3,192	407	3,817	412	7,828
2016	3,296	361	3,881	352	7,890
2017	3,230	246	3,663	498	7,637
2018	3,292	263	3,395	367	7,317
2019	3,414	410	3,503	303	7,630

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Number of Licensed Early Learning (Day Care) Centers by Type, 2011 to 2020

Year	Type I	Type II	Type III	All Types	Percent Type III
2011	-	-	-	175	-
2012	-	-	-	167	-
2013	-	-	-	165	-
2014	-	-	-	155	-
2015	-	-	-	152	-
2017	30	12	86	128	67.2%
2018	31	16	85	132	64.4%
2019	27	16	88	131	67.2%
2020	18	9	66	93	71.0%

Data: https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#LA/2/0/char/0

Publicly Funded Early Childhood Programs by Domain Rating, 2017 to 2020

Domain	2017 Score	2018 Score	2019 Score	2020 Score	Current Rating
Overall Score	4.8	4.9	5.1	5.3	Proficient
Emotional Support (PreK)	5.7	5.8	6.0	6.0	Excellent
Classroom Organization (PreK)	5.4	5.6	5.8	5.8	Proficient
Instructional Support (PreK)	3.5	3.7	3.5	3.5	Approaching
Emotional and Behavioral Support (Toddler)	5.3	5.6	5.7	5.7	Proficient
Engaged Support for Learning (Toddler)	2.9	3.1	3.6	3.6	Approaching

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center

3rd Grade English Language Arts Proficiency, 2010 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Count	SBCM Area Percent	State Percent
2010	3,805	62.5%	67%
2011	3,782	63.2%	69%
2012	3,754	64.7%	69%
2013	3,913	68.1%	72%
2014	3,855	67.1%	69%
2015	3,387	59.0%	63%
2016	3,383	57.6%	62%
2017	3,879	66.5%	69%
2018	3,489	62.3%	68%
2019	3,564	66.4%	70%

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center

Cohort English Language Arts Proficiency, Kindergarten to Grade 5, by Child Poverty Rate of Cohort Kindergarten Year for Class of 2026 to 2032

Cohort	Child Poverty Rate in Cohort Kindergarten Year	Percent Proficient						
		Kinder garten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3 Fall	Grade 3 Spr.	Grade 4	Grade 5
c/o 2026	29.8%	47.4%	61.1%	62.1%	59.8%	66.5%	69.4%	66.7%
c/o 2027	31.1%	48.5%	60.6%	56.7%	56.1%	62.3%	65.8%	
c/o 2028	32.5%	48.3%	64.8%	59.3%	57.7%	66.4%		
c/o 2029	34.1%	42.2%	61.0%	60.3%	52.1%			
c/o 2030	36.3%	37.2%	69.5%	53.3%	45.1%			
c/o 2031	36.2%	41.2%	63.0%	45.8%				
c/o 2032	35.7%	38.0%	37.6%					

Note: K-3 DIBELS or alternative assessment and 3-5 LEAP results, 2013-14 to 2018-19, and age 0 to 5 poverty rates, 2013 to 2019

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center; http://data.census.gov/

Percent Under 18 Years in Household Without High-Speed Internet (Cable/Fiber/DSL) and Desktop or Laptop Computer, By Race and Income, 2017 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Total Under 18 Years	Race		Income	
		Nonwhite	White	Free or Reduced Lunch	Above 185% FPL
2017	42.4%	55.0%	27.0%	61.9%	18.5%
2018	43.8%	55.8%	28.8%	63.7%	18.4%
2019	45.4%	57.1%	30.5%	66.6%	19.1%

Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

BUILDING FUTURES: GRADE 6 THROUGH YOUNG ADULTHOOD

6th Grade Mathematics Proficiency, 2011 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Count	SBCM Area Percent	State Percent
2011	3,499	64.5%	70%
2012	3,620	61.5%	70%
2013	3,468	61.6%	69%
2014	3,692	65.5%	70%
2015	2,836	51.6%	59%
2016	3,032	57.2%	60%
2017	2,889	52.1%	57%
2018	2,948	53.9%	60%
2019	3,072	55.7%	63%

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center

Cohort Mathematics Proficiency, Grade 3 to Grade 8, by Child Poverty Rate of Cohort Kindergarten Year for Class of 2022 to 2028

Cohort	Child Poverty Rate in Cohort Kindergarten Year	Percent Proficient Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
c/o 2022	34.0%		72.0%	57.3%	57.2%	56.6%	43.7%
c/o 2023	32.2%	70.8%	58.9%	60.2%	52.1%	55.6%	44.6%
c/o 2024	32.4%	61.7%	65.5%	58.9%	53.9%	56.0%	
c/o 2025	30.5%	69.9%	65.7%	61.4%	55.6%		
c/o 2026	29.8%	69.2%	65.0%	62.4%			
c/o 2027	31.1%	66.4%	63.9%				
c/o 2028	32.5%	69.0%					

Note: Grade 3 to 5 LEAP results, 2013-14 to 2018-19, and age 0 to 5 poverty rates, 2009 to 2015
Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center; http://data.census.gov/

Software and Web Developers, Programmers, and Testers by Characteristic, 2010 to 2019

Year	Total Count	Under Age 40 Percent	Nonwhite Percent	Female Percent
2010	284	21.1%	10.9%	30.6%
2011	294	30.6%	16.3%	47.3%
2012	249	28.1%	21.7%	51.8%
2013	269	47.2%	3.7%	33.8%
2014	518	54.2%	9.8%	29.3%
2015	662	62.2%	8.3%	26.9%
2016	725	59.9%	7.7%	18.5%
2017	791	62.7%	5.3%	17.3%
2018	878	56.8%	17.7%	13.3%
2019	730	60.4%	15.1%	8.4%

Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

All Computer and Mathematical Occupations by Characteristic, 2010 to 2019

Year	Total Count	Under Age 40 Percent	Nonwhite Percent	Female Percent
2010	1,627	53.6%	19.9%	40.3%
2011	1,602	59.6%	29.7%	51.1%
2012	1,185	62.2%	39.7%	58.0%
2013	795	71.2%	39.0%	56.2%
2014	2,282	62.4%	37.0%	34.9%
2015	2,404	61.9%	36.7%	31.9%
2016	2,547	59.9%	28.7%	26.3%
2017	2,843	58.2%	29.2%	25.6%
2018	2,992	59.4%	29.7%	23.6%
2019	2,765	60.6%	29.2%	19.0%

Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

Average ACT Composite Score, 2011-2020

Year	SBCM Area Count	SBCM Area Average	State Average	U.S. Average
2011	2,756	19.7	20.2	21.1
2012	2,879	19.9	20.3	21.1
2013	3,906	18.7	19.5	20.9
2014	4,232	19.2	19.2	21.0
2015	4,163	19.4	19.4	21.0
2016	4,099	19.5	19.5	20.8
2017	4,271	19.8	19.6	21.0
2018	4,746	19.4	19.3	20.8
2019	4,547	19.0	18.9	20.7
2020	4,533	18.7	18.7	20.6

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center; http://www.act.org/

Average ACT Composite Score, Black or African American, 2012 to 2020

Year	SBCM Area	State	U.S.
2012	17.6	17.9	17.0
2013	16.8	17.1	16.9
2014	16.7	17.0	17.0
2015	17.1	17.4	17.1
2016	17.2	17.5	17.0
2017	17.4	17.5	17.1
2018	16.9	17.3	16.9
2019	16.5	16.7	16.8
2020	16.2	16.5	16.7

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center; http://www.act.org/

Age 16 to 19 Idleness (Not in School and Not in Labor Force), 2010 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Count	SBCM Area Percent	State Percent	U.S. Percent
2010	1,751	7.7%	8.1%	5.4%
2011	1,999	8.8%	8.0%	5.4%
2012	2,053	9.1%	8.1%	5.4%
2013	2,288	9.6%	8.2%	5.3%
2014	2,320	9.8%	8.1%	5.2%
2015	2,470	11.0%	7.8%	5.0%
2016	2,243	9.7%	7.8%	4.9%
2017	2,077	9.2%	7.7%	4.8%
2018	2,053	9.4%	7.6%	4.8%
2019	2,025	9.3%	7.5%	4.8%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 16 to 19 Idleness (Not in School and Not in Labor Force) by Race, 2010 to 2019

Year	Black or African American Count	Black or African American Percent	Hispanic or Latino Count	Hispanic or Latino Percent	White, not Hispanic Count	White, not Hispanic Percent
2010	894	8.2%	94	8.9%	706	7.0%
2011	1,065	9.8%	94	8.4%	754	7.6%
2012	1,259	11.8%	89	6.6%	627	6.4%
2013	1,495	13.4%	12	0.9%	738	6.9%
2014	1,592	14.6%	10	0.7%	647	6.2%
2015	1,790	17.0%	30	2.8%	580	5.8%
2016	1,501	14.0%	70	5.5%	548	5.4%
2017	1,268	12.4%	87	7.4%	577	5.7%
2018	1,232	12.4%	71	6.7%	619	6.2%
2019	1,189	12.0%	59	5.9%	673	6.7%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Cohort Graduation Rate, 2010 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Count	SBCM Area Percent	State Percent	U.S. Percent
2010	3,900	65.4%	67.2%	78.2%
2011	3,725	68.3%	71.4%	79.0%
2012	3,771	68.9%	72.3%	80.0%
2013	3,873	70.3%	73.5%	81.0%
2014	4,085	74.3%	74.6%	82.0%
2015	4,025	80.0%	77.5%	83.0%
2016	4,011	78.4%	77.0%	84.0%
2017	4,287	78.3%	78.1%	85.0%
2018	4,740	83.5%	81.4%	85.0%
2019	4,604	81.2%	80.1%	-

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center;
http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/

Cohort Graduation Rate by Race and Ethnicity, 2016 to 2019

Year	Black or African American SBCM Area	State	U.S.	Hispanic or Latino SBCM Area	State	U.S.	White, not Hispanic SBCM Area	State	U.S.
2016	73.6%	71.5%	79.0%	82.3%	71.3%	76.0%	83.4%	82.0%	88.0%
2017	72.4%	72.9%	78.0%	84.1%	66.7%	80.0%	83.7%	83.7%	89.0%
2018	81.1%	78.1%	79.0%	82.3%	67.7%	81.0%	85.6%	85.5%	89.0%
2019	77.1%	75.6%	-	81.2%	67.1%	-	86.1%	85.9%	-

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center;
http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/

Immediate College Enrollment Rate, 2010 to 2019

| | Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden Area | | | State | | U.S. | |
| | Total HS | Immediate | 2-Year | Immediate | 2-Year | Immediate | 2-Year |
Year	Graduates	Enrollment	Colleges	Enrollment	Colleges	Enrollment	Colleges
2010	3,900	50%	-	48%	-	68%	27%
2011	3,725	60%	44%	55%	30%	68%	26%
2012	3,771	62%	42%	56%	29%	66%	29%
2013	3,873	62%	43%	58%	32%	66%	24%
2014	4,085	66%	44%	59%	34%	68%	25%
2015	4,025	61%	35%	58%	29%	69%	25%
2016	4,011	61%	38%	57%	33%	70%	24%
2017	4,287	62%	38%	58%	29%	67%	23%
2018	4,740	62%	34%	57%	29%	69%	26%
2019	4,604	60%	33%	57%	29%	-	-

Data: https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center;
https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_cpa.asp

Immediate College Enrollment Rate by Race, 2016 to 2019

| | Black or African American | | | Hispanic or Latino | | | White | | |
Year	SBCM Area	State	U.S.	SBCM Area	State	U.S.	SBCM Area	State	U.S.
2016	54.4%	53.5%	57.3%	-	-	-	68.0%	61.0%	69.7%
2017	58.2%	55.0%	59.4%	-	-	-	65.9%	61.1%	69.1%
2018	56.1%	53.6%	64.5%	57.0%	43.6%	65.4%	67.9%	61.3%	70.9%
2019	53.9%	52.5%	49.8%	52.0%	43.2%	63.4%	67.4%	60.9%	68.0%

Data: https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center;
https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_cpa.asp

Age 18 to 24 Enrolled in College or Graduate School, 2010 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Count	SBCM Area Percent	State Percent	U.S. Percent
2010	11,935	30.3%	36.5%	41.5%
2011	11,571	29.4%	37.1%	42.2%
2012	11,744	29.7%	37.3%	42.7%
2013	11,876	27.7%	37.3%	43.0%
2014	12,579	29.5%	37.3%	43.1%
2015	12,211	29.0%	37.2%	42.9%
2016	11,194	27.1%	37.0%	42.8%
2017	10,129	25.2%	37.0%	42.6%
2018	10,181	26.2%	37.1%	42.6%
2019	10,218	27.1%	37.1%	42.6%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 18 to 24 Enrolled in College or Graduate School by Gender, 2010 to 2019

Year	Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden Area Female Count	Female Percent	Male Count	Male Percent	State Female Percent	State Male Percent	U.S. Female Percent	U.S. Male Percent
2010	7,096	35.7%	4,820	24.7%	41.6%	31.4%	45.9%	37.3%
2011	6,764	33.9%	4,832	24.9%	41.4%	32.8%	46.7%	38.0%
2012	7,166	35.7%	4,595	23.6%	41.7%	32.9%	47.2%	38.4%
2013	7,275	33.8%	4,590	21.5%	41.5%	33.2%	47.5%	38.7%
2014	7,198	34.0%	5,389	25.1%	41.7%	32.9%	47.5%	38.8%
2015	6,939	33.5%	5,272	24.7%	41.8%	32.8%	47.3%	38.8%
2016	6,787	33.6%	4,407	20.9%	42.6%	31.5%	47.1%	38.7%
2017	6,092	31.1%	4,037	19.6%	42.8%	31.5%	46.8%	38.5%
2018	6,630	35.1%	3,551	17.8%	43.3%	31.1%	46.8%	38.5%
2019	6,500	35.5%	3,718	19.1%	43.4%	31.1%	46.9%	38.5%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 24 and under Public College Fall Enrollment, 2011 to 2020

Year	BPCC Count	NLTCC Count	SUSLA Count	LSUHSC Count	LSUS Count	Total Count
2011	4,465	1,809	1,475	424	2,929	11,102
2012	4,916	1,729	1,672	417	3,093	11,827
2013	5,188	1,593	1,863	416	2,791	11,851
2014	5,168	2,498	1,997	417	2,427	12,507
2015	4,191	2,222	2,274	411	2,161	11,259
2016	3,925	1,243	2,337	406	2,085	9,996
2017	3,900	636	2,066	417	2,232	9,251
2018	3,691	630	1,714	419	2,221	8,675
2019	3,658	654	1,884	435	2,314	8,945
2020	3,246	590	2,084	460	2,576	8,956

Data: http://regents.la.gov/data-publications/

Age 24 and under Public College Fall Enrollment by Race, 2011 to 2020

Year	Black or African American	White	Other
2011	4,241	5,715	1,146
2012	4,611	5,605	1,611
2013	4,894	5,364	1,593
2014	5,298	5,463	1,746
2015	4,752	4,794	1,713
2016	4,238	4,060	1,698
2017	3,977	3,883	1,391
2018	3,460	3,769	1,446
2019	3,676	3,738	1,531
2020	3,702	3,647	1,607

Data: http://regents.la.gov/data-publications/

Public College Degrees and Certificates Awarded, 2010-11 to 2019-20

Year	BPCC Count	NLTCC Count	SUSLA Count	LSUHSC Count	LSUS Count	Total Count
2010-11	890	853	341	242	675	3,001
2011-12	972	803	403	252	626	3,056
2012-13	989	698	373	268	639	2,967
2013-14	1,130	869	375	258	579	3,211
2014-15	1,105	855	351	264	625	3,200
2015-16	1,078	775	307	259	805	3,224
2016-17	1,032	586	319	246	982	3,165
2017-18	917	769	302	260	1,317	3,565
2018-19	1,580	593	303	258	2,143	4,877
2019-20	2,047	869	255	253	2,680	6,104

Data: http://regents.la.gov/data-publications/

Public College Degrees and Certificates Awarded by Race, 2010-11 to 2019-20

Year	Black or African American	White	Other
2010-11	1,031	1,780	190
2011-12	1,061	1,752	243
2012-13	997	1,587	383
2013-14	1,076	1,642	493
2014-15	1,080	1,713	407
2015-16	1,007	1,783	434
2016-17	953	1,745	467
2017-18	941	1,813	811
2018-19	1,215	2,437	1,225
2019-20	1,613	3,163	1,328

Data: http://regents.la.gov/data-publications/

Age 18 to 24 Less than High School Graduate, 2010 to 2019

| | SBCM Area | | State | U.S. |
Year	Count	Percent	Percent	Percent
2010	9,808	24.9%	21.6%	17.1%
2011	9,721	24.7%	21.0%	16.7%
2012	9,569	24.2%	20.6%	16.2%
2013	10,076	23.5%	20.3%	15.6%
2014	9,509	22.3%	19.9%	15.0%
2015	9,174	21.8%	19.0%	14.4%
2016	8,553	20.7%	18.5%	13.8%
2017	8,184	20.4%	17.8%	13.4%
2018	7,336	18.9%	16.9%	13.0%
2019	7,051	18.7%	16.3%	12.6%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 18 to 24 Less than High School Graduate by Gender, 2010 to 2019

| | SBCM Area | | State | | U.S. | |
Year	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
2010	20.5%	29.4%	18.1%	25.1%	14.3%	19.8%
2011	20.2%	29.4%	17.8%	24.1%	13.9%	19.3%
2012	20.5%	28.0%	17.9%	23.3%	13.5%	18.7%
2013	20.5%	26.6%	17.7%	22.8%	13.0%	18.0%
2014	20.1%	24.5%	17.0%	22.8%	12.6%	17.3%
2015	20.1%	23.4%	15.9%	22.0%	12.1%	16.5%
2016	18.0%	23.3%	15.0%	21.8%	11.7%	15.8%
2017	17.6%	23.0%	14.3%	21.2%	11.4%	15.3%
2018	15.0%	22.6%	13.3%	20.4%	11.1%	14.8%
2019	15.0%	22.1%	13.2%	19.3%	10.8%	14.4%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 18 to 24 Some College or Above, 2010 to 2019

| | SBCM Area | | State | U.S. |
Year	Count	Percent	Percent	Percent
2010	16,583	42.1%	46.1%	51.7%
2011	16,766	42.6%	47.6%	53.2%
2012	17,992	45.5%	48.4%	54.2%
2013	18,994	44.3%	48.6%	54.9%
2014	19,445	45.6%	48.8%	55.4%
2015	19,610	46.6%	49.5%	55.9%
2016	19,180	46.4%	49.2%	56.2%
2017	17,483	43.5%	49.4%	56.2%
2018	17,794	45.8%	49.3%	56.1%
2019	17,234	45.6%	49.4%	56.0%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 18 to 24 Some College or Above by Gender, 2010 to 2019

| | SBCM Area | | State | | U.S. | |
Year	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
2010	48.2%	35.8%	51.7%	40.4%	57.1%	46.6%
2011	48.5%	36.4%	52.8%	42.4%	58.5%	47.9%
2012	52.7%	37.9%	53.8%	42.9%	59.7%	49.1%
2013	51.1%	37.6%	53.8%	43.5%	60.4%	49.8%
2014	51.4%	39.8%	54.3%	43.3%	60.8%	50.3%
2015	51.9%	41.3%	55.1%	44.1%	61.3%	50.9%
2016	54.0%	39.1%	55.5%	43.2%	61.5%	51.2%
2017	49.7%	37.6%	55.4%	43.6%	61.4%	51.2%
2018	52.3%	39.7%	55.6%	43.1%	61.2%	51.2%
2019	52.3%	39.4%	55.9%	43.1%	61.1%	51.1%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 20 to 29 Associate's Degree or Above by Race and Gender, 2010 to 2019

Year	All Age 20 to 29	Nonwhite	White	Female	Male
2010	21.6%	15.1%	27.6%	24.4%	18.8%
2011	23.0%	14.6%	30.8%	25.1%	20.7%
2012	23.9%	15.1%	32.3%	26.0%	21.7%
2013	23.9%	14.4%	33.3%	25.8%	22.0%
2014	24.0%	13.6%	34.2%	26.6%	21.3%
2015	23.3%	13.1%	33.5%	26.1%	20.4%
2016	22.8%	13.6%	32.0%	26.8%	18.6%
2017	21.7%	13.8%	29.9%	26.1%	17.3%
2018	23.4%	15.9%	31.5%	27.7%	18.9%
2019	23.0%	16.7%	30.0%	25.8%	20.2%

Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

Age 20 to 24 Labor Force Participation Rate, 2010 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Count	SBCM Area Percent	State Percent	U.S. Percent
2010	21,423	76.4%	72.2%	74.9%
2011	21,588	77.1%	72.3%	74.4%
2012	21,897	77.5%	71.8%	74.1%
2013	23,360	75.3%	71.4%	73.7%
2014	22,817	73.8%	71.2%	73.6%
2015	22,666	72.7%	71.2%	73.7%
2016	22,171	72.8%	70.8%	74.0%
2017	21,489	72.4%	70.7%	74.4%
2018	21,012	72.9%	70.8%	74.6%
2019	20,090	72.0%	70.8%	75.0%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 20 to 29 Labor Force Participation Rate by Race and Gender, 2010 to 2019

Year	All Age 20 to 29	Nonwhite	White	Female	Male
2010	79.1%	77.0%	81.1%	76.5%	81.8%
2011	78.0%	75.8%	80.1%	75.8%	80.3%
2012	78.8%	78.3%	79.3%	76.9%	80.8%
2013	77.8%	76.2%	79.4%	76.2%	79.4%
2014	76.9%	73.6%	80.1%	75.0%	78.8%
2015	76.2%	72.0%	80.5%	74.0%	78.5%
2016	76.4%	72.8%	80.0%	73.9%	78.9%
2017	76.3%	71.9%	80.9%	73.0%	79.7%
2018	76.5%	73.2%	80.1%	71.9%	81.1%
2019	76.3%	73.3%	79.6%	72.6%	80.0%

Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

Age 20 to 24 Employment to Population Ratio, 2010 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Count	SBCM Area Percent	State Percent	U.S. Percent
2010	16,761	62.6%	61.2%	63.5%
2011	16,646	62.4%	60.8%	62.3%
2012	16,954	63.0%	60.0%	61.4%
2013	17,996	61.0%	58.7%	60.7%
2014	17,460	59.5%	58.9%	61.1%
2015	17,222	58.4%	59.5%	62.1%
2016	16,806	58.5%	59.7%	63.3%
2017	15,755	57.1%	59.8%	64.5%
2018	15,565	57.8%	60.7%	65.5%
2019	14,654	56.9%	61.1%	66.4%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 20 to 29 Employment to Population Ratio by Race and Gender, 2010 to 2019

Year	All Age 20 to 29	Nonwhite	White	Female	Male
2010	66.5%	62.9%	69.9%	66.7%	66.4%
2011	65.4%	61.8%	68.7%	66.3%	64.4%
2012	66.1%	64.3%	67.8%	67.6%	64.5%
2013	65.1%	62.9%	67.2%	67.2%	62.9%
2014	64.0%	60.7%	67.3%	64.9%	63.2%
2015	63.7%	60.8%	66.5%	64.5%	62.8%
2016	63.8%	61.2%	66.4%	64.5%	63.1%
2017	63.1%	59.1%	67.1%	63.1%	63.0%
2018	63.6%	60.6%	66.9%	62.7%	64.6%
2019	64.1%	61.6%	66.9%	64.5%	63.7%

Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

Age 20 to 24 Unemployment Rate, 2010 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Count	SBCM Area Percent	State Percent	U.S. Percent
2010	3,481	13.0%	13.4%	13.2%
2011	3,655	13.7%	14.1%	14.4%
2012	3,606	13.4%	14.9%	15.3%
2013	3,924	13.3%	16.2%	16.0%
2014	3,932	13.4%	15.9%	15.3%
2015	3,893	13.2%	15.1%	14.2%
2016	3,735	13.0%	14.1%	12.9%
2017	3,504	12.7%	13.7%	11.6%
2018	3,447	12.8%	12.6%	10.5%
2019	2,962	11.5%	11.7%	9.6%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 20 to 29 Unemployment Rate by Race and Gender, 2010 to 2019

Year	All Age 20 to 29	Nonwhite	White	Female	Male
2010	8.5%	11.2%	6.0%	7.5%	9.5%
2011	8.4%	11.6%	5.3%	7.6%	9.2%
2012	8.4%	11.8%	5.1%	7.4%	9.4%
2013	8.2%	10.7%	5.7%	7.0%	9.4%
2014	8.2%	10.5%	6.0%	8.5%	8.0%
2015	7.9%	9.4%	6.3%	8.2%	7.5%
2016	8.0%	9.1%	6.8%	8.3%	7.6%
2017	8.2%	9.5%	6.9%	8.4%	8.1%
2018	7.7%	9.2%	6.1%	7.8%	7.6%
2019	6.4%	8.3%	4.3%	6.1%	6.7%

Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

Age 20 to 29 Median Annual Wage and Salary Income by Race and Gender in Constant Dollars, 2010 to 2019

Year	All Age 20 to 29	Nonwhite	White	Female	Male
2010	$19,246	$15,646	$23,095	$16,500	$22,168
2011	$20,122	$16,007	$25,368	$17,021	$24,467
2012	$20,790	$16,632	$25,678	$17,440	$25,255
2013	$20,841	$16,322	$25,729	$17,871	$25,189
2014	$21,437	$16,639	$26,041	$18,222	$26,041
2015	$21,462	$17,429	$25,637	$18,454	$25,032
2016	$20,152	$16,818	$25,345	$17,129	$22,492
2017	$19,556	$16,096	$24,702	$16,576	$21,239
2018	$20,033	$16,980	$25,304	$16,448	$21,545
2019	$19,448	$16,102	$23,723	$17,535	$21,092

Data: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html

Estimates of Age 20 to 24 Labor Force Status Groups, 2010 to 2019

Year	Total Age 20 to 24 Count	Armed Forces Population Count	Civilian Population — Civilian Population Count	Civilian Population — Not in the Labor Force Count	Civilian Population — Not in the Labor Force LFPR	Civilian Population — Civilian Employed Count	Civilian Population — Civilian Employed Rate	Civilian Population — Civilian Unemployed Count	Civilian Population — Civilian Unemployed Rate
2010	28,040	1,266	26,774	6,533	76.4%	16,761	62.6%	3,481	13.0%
2011	28,000	1,324	26,676	6,376	77.1%	16,646	62.4%	3,655	13.7%
2012	28,254	1,343	26,911	6,351	77.5%	16,954	63.0%	3,606	13.4%
2013	31,022	1,520	29,502	7,582	75.3%	17,996	61.0%	3,924	13.3%
2014	30,918	1,573	29,345	7,952	73.8%	17,460	59.5%	3,932	13.4%
2015	31,178	1,688	29,490	8,375	72.7%	17,222	58.4%	3,893	13.2%
2016	30,455	1,726	28,729	8,188	72.8%	16,806	58.5%	3,735	13.0%
2017	29,681	2,089	27,592	8,333	72.4%	15,755	57.1%	3,504	12.7%
2018	28,823	1,894	26,929	7,917	72.9%	15,565	57.8%	3,447	12.8%
2019	27,903	2,149	25,754	8,138	72.0%	14,654	56.9%	2,962	11.5%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

BUILDING RESILIENCE: MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

Age 5 and under Below Poverty Level, 2010 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Count	SBCM Area Percent	State Percent	U.S. Percent
2010	10,344	32.2%	30.2%	22.0%
2011	10,588	32.4%	30.3%	22.9%
2012	10,147	30.5%	30.2%	23.8%
2013	11,041	29.8%	30.4%	24.5%
2014	11,547	31.1%	31.0%	24.7%
2015	12,143	32.5%	30.8%	24.3%
2016	12,680	34.1%	30.3%	23.5%
2017	13,198	36.3%	30.4%	22.4%
2018	12,858	36.2%	30.3%	21.4%
2019	12,296	35.7%	29.7%	20.2%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Age 5 and under Below Poverty Level by Race, 2010 to 2019

Year	Black or African American Count	Black or African American Percent	Hispanic or Latino Count	Hispanic or Latino Percent	White, not Hispanic Count	White, not Hispanic Percent
2010	7,595	52.4%	546	34.6%	1,616	11.2%
2011	7,963	54.5%	533	28.6%	1,447	9.9%
2012	7,603	51.2%	603	29.4%	1,433	9.7%
2013	8,221	51.3%	608	26.2%	1,673	10.0%
2014	8,232	52.1%	581	24.1%	2,157	12.8%
2015	8,805	55.1%	690	28.1%	2,239	13.2%
2016	8,910	55.1%	894	37.7%	2,601	15.5%
2017	9,329	57.7%	806	35.3%	2,807	17.4%
2018	8,846	57.0%	818	36.2%	2,885	18.2%
2019	8,496	56.1%	999	44.0%	2,488	16.3%

Data: ACS 5-Year, http://data.census.gov/

Child Protection Investigations by Finding, 2011 to 2019

Year	Valid	Invalid	Other	Total investigations	Percent Valid
2011	854	1,346	145	2,345	36.4%
2012	804	1,248	93	2,145	37.5%
2013	859	1,567	102	2,528	34.0%
2014	908	1,512	125	2,545	35.7%
2015	984	1,691	163	2,838	34.7%
2016	944	1,482	141	2,567	36.8%
2017	876	1,300	155	2,331	37.6%
2018	747	1,331	139	2,217	33.7%
2019	562	1,427	128	2,117	26.5%

Note: Also includes Bienville, Claiborne, Jackson, and Sabine Parishes

Data: https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#LA/2/0/char/0

Children in Foster Care, Shreveport-Bossier City-Minden Area, 2011 to 2019

Year	Count	Rate per 1,000 under age 18
2011	811	7.4
2012	715	6.5
2013	782	7.1
2014	953	8.8
2015	1,008	9.3
2016	1,116	10.4
2017	980	9.2
2018	937	9.0
2019	775	7.5

Data: https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#LA/2/0/char/0

Age 17 and under Shreveport Police Department Arrests and Summons, 2010 to 2019

Year	Part 1 Crimes	Part 2 Crimes	Total Crimes	Rate per 1,000
		Shreveport		
2010	488	1,705	2,193	44.3
2011	514	1,949	2,463	49.6
2012	637	2,327	2,964	59.8
2013	604	1,921	2,525	51.6
2014	574	1,689	2,263	46.9
2015	550	1,268	1,818	38.1
2016	438	1,266	1,704	36.3
2017	512	1,064	1,576	34.2
2018	504	1,036	1,540	34.3
2019	268	788	1,056	24.1

Data: https://www.shreveportla.gov/1107/Annual-Crime-Reports

Shreveport Police Department Calls for Service: Juvenile Complaint, 2010 to 2019

Year	Juvenile Complaint	Total Calls	Percent of Total
		Shreveport	
2010	5,234	278,078	1.9%
2011	5,146	278,618	1.8%
2012	5,486	289,542	1.9%
2013	5,017	281,735	1.8%
2014	4,755	278,369	1.7%
2015	4,167	246,765	1.7%
2016	4,048	221,485	1.8%
2017	4,002	215,065	1.9%
2018	3,571	208,914	1.7%
2019	3,244	204,638	1.6%

Data: https://www.shreveportla.gov/2540/Interactive-Annual-Report

Youth under the Supervision of the Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice and the Caddo Parish Juvenile Detention Center, 2011 to 2019

Year	LOJJ	CPJDC	Total	Rate per 1,000
2011	939	470	1,409	21.5
2012	865	490	1,355	20.8
2013	861	515	1,376	21.6
2014	853	539	1,392	22.1
2015	774	491	1,265	20.3
2016	725	431	1,156	18.6
2017	677	410	1,087	17.6
2018	602	337	939	15.3
2019	608	326	934	15.4

Note: Author's estimate of CPJDC 2019 intake

Data: https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#LA/2/0/char/0;

http://www.caddo.org/162/Juvenile-Services

Deaths Due to Violence (Homicide and Suicide) Rate per 100,000 Age 10 to 24, 2010 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Deaths	Rate	State Rate	U.S. Rate
2010	19	21.0	25.3	15.0
2011	12	13.2	26.3	15.2
2012	12	13.2	24.8	15.4
2013	20	22.3	26.8	15.0
2014	14	15.9	25.9	15.2
2015	17	19.7	26.2	16.7
2016	22	25.8	30.9	17.8
2017	30	35.7	32.8	18.4
2018	26	31.4	30.0	18.1
2019	25	30.5	30.8	18.0

Data: https://wonder.cdc.gov/Deaths-by-Underlying-Cause.html

Deaths Due to Assault Rate per 100,000 Age 10 to 24, 2010 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Deaths	Rate	State Rate	U.S. Rate
2010	13.3	14.7	17.7	7.5
2011	10.3	11.4	18.0	7.3
2012	8.3	9.2	17.7	7.4
2013	7.0	7.7	18.2	6.9
2014	9.0	10.0	16.3	6.7
2015	9.0	10.2	16.0	7.5
2016	11.7	13.5	20.1	8.2
2017	15.7	18.4	22.3	7.9
2018	18.3	21.8	18.7	7.4
2019	17.0	20.5	19.1	7.8

Note: SBCM rolling 3-year annual averages 2008-10 to 2017-19

Data: https://wonder.cdc.gov/Deaths-by-Underlying-Cause.html

Deaths due to Intentional Self-Harm Rate per 100,000 Age 10 to 24, 2010 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Deaths	Rate	State Rate	U.S. Rate
2010	6.3	7.0	7.6	7.6
2011	7.7	8.5	8.3	7.9
2012	6.0	6.6	7.1	8.0
2013	7.7	8.5	8.6	8.1
2014	6.3	7.1	9.6	8.5
2015	8.0	9.1	10.1	9.1
2016	6.0	6.9	10.8	9.6
2017	7.3	8.6	10.6	10.6
2018	7.7	9.1	11.3	10.7
2019	10.0	12.1	11.6	10.2

Note: SBCM rolling 3-year annual averages 2008-10 to 2017-19

Data: https://wonder.cdc.gov/Deaths-by-Underlying-Cause.html

Deaths due to Firearms Rate per 100,000 Age 10 to 24, 2010 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Deaths	SBCM	State Rate	U.S. Rate
2010	18	19.9	21.4	9.8
2011	9	9.9	23.5	9.8
2012	11	12.1	21.3	10.1
2013	19	21.2	24.5	9.7
2014	11	12.5	20.7	9.8
2015	13	15.1	21.0	10.9
2016	20	23.4	24.1	11.9
2017	26	31.0	27.8	12.2
2018	22	26.6	24.8	11.9
2019	20	24.4	25.6	12.0

Note: Includes assault, intentional self-harm, and accident

Data: https://wonder.cdc.gov/Deaths-by-Underlying-Cause.html

Births to Females Age 15 to 19 and Rate per 1,000, 2010 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Count	Rate	State Rate	U.S. Rate
2010	851	57.4	48	34
2011	756	52.9	45.2	31
2012	735	53.1	42.8	29
2013	661	48.7	38.9	26
2014	521	38.9	35.5	24
2015	536	39.8	33.8	22
2016	430	31.8	30.4	20
2017	451	33.6	28.8	19
2018	406	30.8	27.2	17
2019	424	32.5	27.5	17

Data: https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#LA/2/0/char/0

Preterm Births, All Ages, 2010 to 2019

Year	SBCM Area Count	SBCM Area Percent	State Percent	U.S. Percent
2010	1,092	17.1%	12.3%	12%
2011	1,135	17.5%	12.4%	12%
2012	1,192	18.0%	12.5%	12%
2013	1,097	17.2%	12.5%	11%
2014	1,108	17.6%	12.3%	11%
2015	1,043	16.5%	12.3%	11%
2016	964	16.2%	12.6%	11%
2017	953	16.8%	12.7%	12%
2018	878	15.9%	13.0%	12%
2019	926	16.5%	13.1%	12%

Data: https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#LA/2/0/char/0

Grade 9 to 12 Dropout, 2009-10 to 2018-19

Year	SBCM Area Count	SBCM Area Percent	State Percent
2009-10	1,202	5.6%	4.6%
2010-11	1,132	5.2%	4.1%
2011-12	1,179	5.5%	4.7%
2012-13	969	4.5%	4.7%
2013-14	997	4.7%	4.5%
2014-15	993	4.5%	4.3%
2015-16	912	4.1%	4.2%
2016-17	725	3.2%	3.9%
2017-18	670	3.0%	3.7%
2018-19	554	2.5%	3.1%

Data: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/data-center