



## **TERREBONNE PARISH ROUND 1 MEETING SUMMARY**





## ROUND 1 MEETINGS OVERVIEW

The first round of LA SAFE meetings kicked off the planning process. At these meetings, the project team presented data focused on land loss, flood risk, population movements, and economic change (see appendix). This information provided the groundwork for the community conversations. During these conversations, the participants discussed the goals and values that LA SAFE should pursue going forward.

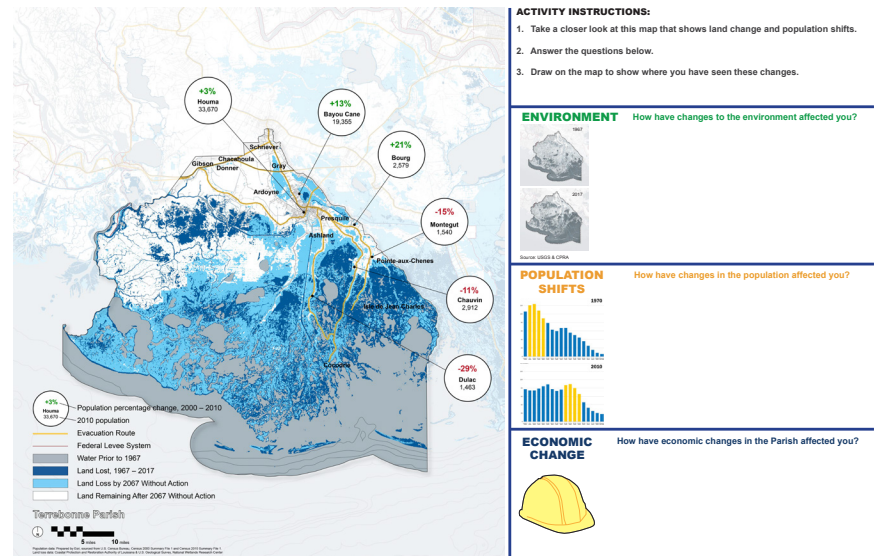
The majority of the meetings centered on two small-group activities, which focused on 3 general aspects of the project: Community & Culture, Environment & Sustainability, and Economy & Jobs. The first activity asked residents to describe the changes and challenges that they have seen over the last 50 years in their communities. This activity included a map that depicted current and future land loss and population shifts between 2000 and 2010.

The second activity asked what aspects of those three categories are important to protect and preserve, and how they can be strengthened, improved, or expanded. The project team organized the feedback from this meeting into 3 categories: Strengths, Opportunities, and Challenges.

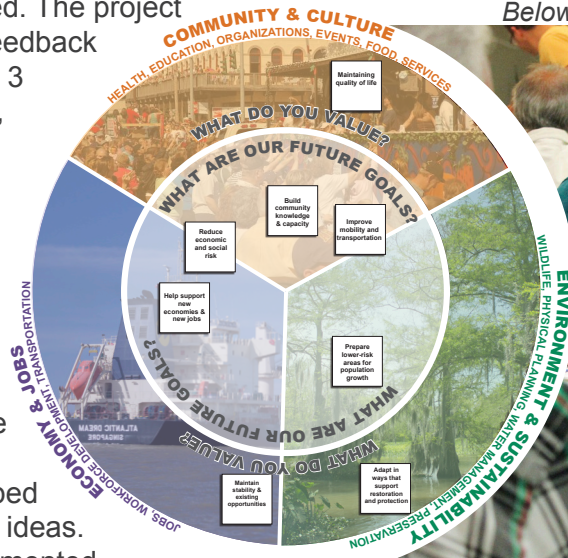
At the meeting, the residents sat at round tables. Each table group had a table host and a table scribe. The table host facilitated the conversation and helped capture the residents' ideas. The table scribe documented the conversation.



## WHAT DOES CHANGE MEAN TO YOU?



Below: Activity 2 table sheet and residents participating.

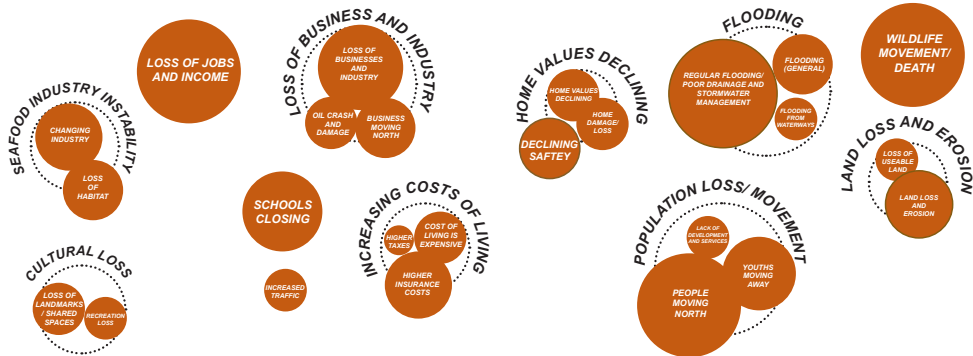


## MEETING RESULTS

The following pages illustrate the full meeting results. The graphic on the right depicts all of the ideas grouped by similarity. The project team designed the groupings using an emergent thematic coding technique. The team grouped similar ideas into sub-groups, and then arranged the sub-groups into major categories.

The size of the circles in the graphic reflects the frequency of comments within that topic. The larger circles show the most commonly discussed topics, while the smaller circles show topics discussed less often.

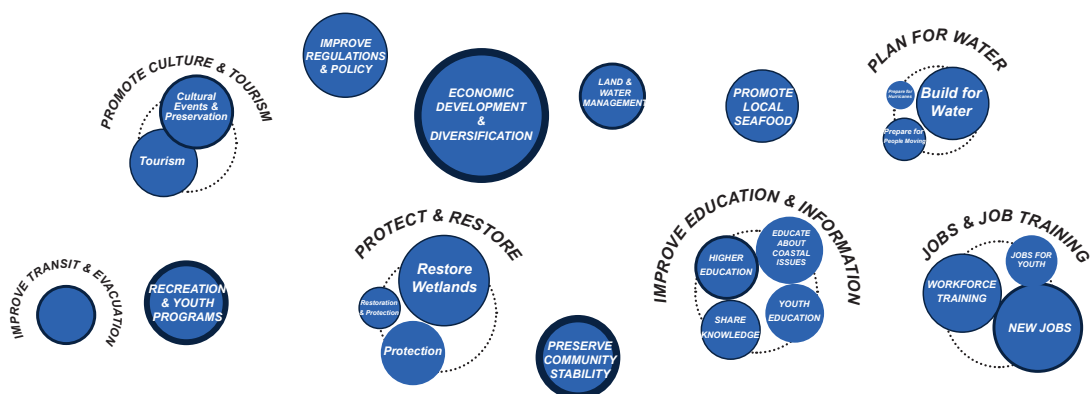
## CHALLENGES



## STRENGTHS

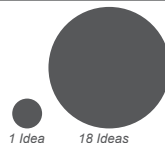


## OPPORTUNITIES



### KEY

These circles represent ideas collected at Community Meeting 1.



The size of the circles indicate how many people said similar things ideas.

We grouped ideas into "Subcategories" and "Major Categories" for groups of ideas are related but not the same.



Participants placed stickers on ideas that they chose to prioritize. The number of those prioritizations are shown here as line width around the circles.



# STRENGTHS

The project team transcribed all of the comments below directly from the table sheet activities at Meeting 1. Bolded comments represent the ideas that community members prioritized using sticker dots during the activity. The sizes of the subcategory circles correspond to the number of ideas within the suggestion. The subcategories are then organized under major categories, separated by dotted lines. See the key on page 20 for more information.

## TRADITIONS & CULTURES .....

### COMMUNITY AND TRADITIONS

- Friendly people who are willing to help.
- Southern hospitality.
- Love/value our people & traditions, agriculture/sugarcane, history/plantations, culture/seafood, bayous/cypress trees, environment is like no other anywhere else!
- **French Cajun culture, Native Americans.**
- Water and culture.
- **Culture, people.**
- **Cajun culture.**
- **Traditions and culture.**
- **Cajun french language.**
- Mardi Gras, comfort, there's less stuff to do here than in Tullch.

### FESTIVALS

- Festivals **& community** - people are helpful, food, music, heritage.
- Festivals.
- Festival.
- Fairs and festivals.

### FOOD

- **Friendly people, good seafood.**
- Food.
- Food, culture, people. Save the east side in order to save the west side.
- Cajun Heritage. Casual way of life. Hospitality. Family. Festivals. Seafood. Recreational Boating.
- Food, shrimping, fishing, crabbing, oystering.
- **Handed down food traditions.**
- Food.
- **Fishing, diversity of culture.**

## SPORTSMAN PARADISE .....

### RECREATIONAL FISHING

- Wealth of seafood.
- Fishing & birding.
- **Fishing.**
- Reed fish and speckled trout.
- Fishing and hunting is plentiful, natural environment.
- Ability to work 9-5 and throw a cast net in the afternoon.
- Fishing, shrimping.
- Recreational fishing.

### SPORTSMAN PARADISE

- Enhance access to sportsman paradise.
- Sportsman paradise.
- **Sportsman paradise.**

### HUNTING

- Hunting.



STRENGTHS

NATURAL BEAUTY.....



- Beauty.
- **Public parks for recreation.**
- Beauty of environment.
- Diversity of horticulture.
- Growing food and fruit.
- Outdoors.
- Wide open spaces.
- **Open green space & agriculture.**
- **Rural feel even in "urban" areas.**
- Diversity- saltwater and freshwater.
- Scenery.
- More green space when homes are demolished.
- **Preserve marsh ecosystem health, enjoying the shrimping and being in nature.**
- Birds and other wildlife.
- **Close to the coast, close to NOLA.**
- Nice weather.
- Location of wildlife preserves and bird sanctuaries.

COMMUNITY CLOSENESS.....



- Know everyone, closeness and safety.
- Houma has small town mentality.
- Area neighbors closer to stores.
- Know the regions/small towns.
- Small community, know your neighbor, go to store, bank, and new job.



- Good people.
- Stay a small community, know neighbors.
- The people in our community.
- **Everyone looks out for one another.**
- Work ethic of the residents.



- Extended families living together.
- **Single parent homes need the community support.**
- Family.



- Spiritual diversity.
- **Diversity.**

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY.....



- Fishing industry.
- Fishing industry.
- Fishing industry.
- Commercial fishing, little economy right now.



- When the oil and gas industry is healthy, life is good.
- **Oil jobs.**
- Oil and gas centered.



- Good medical services and facilities.
- Cardiovascular Institute of the South, Mary Bird Perkins, Regional Health Center.



SHIPBUILDING

- Shipbuilding & repairs.



LOCAL BUSINESSES

- **Locally owned businesses.**

STRENGTHS

QUALITY OF LIFE.....



- Quality of life.
- **Maintaining quality of life**, increase quality of life projects.
- Love the way of life, keeping families together is important, **beautiful way of life.**
- Beautiful quality of life.
- Levees, oil and fish are here to stay, quiet country living, open space.
- Appreciate what we have now.



- Neighborhood Watch.
- Safety.



- Play by the bayou.
- **Available fresh water.**
- Access to waterways.
- Bayou Grace.
- Living on the bayou.
- **Wetlands & marshes.**
- Wetlands, bayous, estuaries.



EDUCATION

- Good public schools.



# OPPORTUNITIES

## JOBS & JOB TRAINING.....

### NEW JOBS

- **Provide more jobs for felons and give them a chance.**
- Most of the time, employment is steady.
- Robust economy.
- Job opportunities. Can make money.
- New jobs.
- **More jobs for uneducated people as long as they are willing to work for it.**
- Hire locals for local expertise/resources, disaster recovery.
- Need jobs for future generations, growth going north, provide shelter in all places (ambition of mitigation).
- Could turn fixing the drains into a job.

### WORKFORCE TRAINING

- Work force, realistic fallback plan for construction.
- Job training to new industry.
- Free job lessons for 15 year olds and older.
- Love job at postal service/office.
- Discourage, hopeless, job training to new industries.
- Tech skilled workers.

### JOBS FOR YOUTH

- Job availability for the youth.
- Pay recent grads enough to keep them here.
- Focus on jobs/industry attractive to young professionals.

## IMPROVE EDUCATION & INFORMATION.....

### EDUCATE ABOUT COASTAL ISSUES

- Education for younger generation on saving our wetlands.
- Better education of coastal issues.
- Need a dialogue without all the trendy words. I want people to understand how serious this is.
- Highlight Lumcon science center.
- Live with water, help the people to adapt and live where they are.

### SHARE KNOWLEDGE

- Programs for parenting.
- Knowledge building is key to any issue. Through community we can share knowledge and share different ideas that will create knowledge.
- **Be able to access information to efficiently move data.**
- Look at what other countries are doing and try to copy.

### HIGHER EDUCATION

- Education higher, community colleges.
- Free college lessons for teenagers.
- **Build community college and capacity.**
- **Education.**

### YOUTH EDUCATION

- More investment in quality of education & in educational infrastructure.
- Get teachers out of retirement.
- Swimming lessons.
- Free tutoring sessions.

# OPPORTUNITIES

## PROTECTION & RESTORATION.....

### RESTORE WETLANDS

- Maintain land.
- Respect our environment.
- Grab land from places in the country that have an abundance- this could generate jobs, especially ones that were lost during the oil spill.
- **92% of Terrebonne is environmentally sensitive land- must be sustained and preserved/restored to save the remaining 8%.**
- If we protect the environment we can keep the jobs.
- Protect levee system with wetlands and natural marsh, increase freshwater into Terrebonne.
- Build land up at expense of one area to help another.
- Oil companies came into communities, made money, cut our marshes and left area without putting back into community to restore the land- before they move in the future, have oil company restore the land to how it was before they came.
- Have water all around us, keep from going under water, see marine life come back.

### PROTECTION

- Must include hurricane protection for the east side.
- Make sure my family is safe from storms, economic growth for all as whole.
- Environment needs to take second fiddle, we taxed ourselves to protect ourselves.
- Coastal engineering increased.
- Pump the drainage system.

### RESTORATION & PROTECTION

- Sugarcane, **Adapt in ways that support restoration and protection.**
- Environment & water life. With adaptation, restoration, and protection we can build a foundation to build upon, protection of the land and nature is #1.

## IMPROVE REGULATIONS & POLICY.....

### IMPROVE REGULATIONS & POLICY

- More freedom to do what you want on your own property.
- Regulations restricted for developers.
- Decrease global warming by cleaning the water and recycling.
- Get Federal Government to relax regulations on environmental empowerment. Resolutions/ incentives that encourage infill development as population moves north and protects rural character & wetlands in northern portions.
- Create a system for conservation easements.
- Have too many regulations and restrictions.
- Take burdens off locals- lower our taxes and insurance costs!
- Get the corps of engineers to expedite permits for food protection projects.
- Not being harassed for using tidal water for Charter Captain.
- **Politics need to clean up.**
- Homeland security.
- Finalization of coastal plan, no more USCE.

## RECREATION & YOUTH PROGRAMS.....

### RECREATION & YOUTH PROGRAMS

- Bike run, get the community to ride their bikes around town.
- More groups for kids like girls scouts but more affordable.
- Free summer camp for all (even grown ups).
- Recreations available for teens. Extracurricular activities for teen kids.
- **More stuff for the kids to do.**
- **Recreation department for the kids.**
- **Improve the parish, the kids don't have anywhere nice to play.**
- **Protect our schools and parks for the children of the community.**



# OPPORTUNITIES

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & DIVERSIFICATION.....



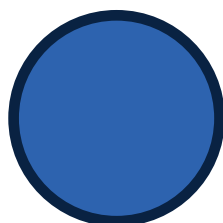
- Need to shift away from oil & diversify- How can we excel in other energy sectors?
- Diversification: disaster recovery, seafood, other industries, tourism.
- **Real diversity in economy, coastal restoration.**
- Diversity.
- **If we keep our economy going we can keep our culture.**
- **Help support new economies and new jobs.**
- More business opportunities around the parish, more business owners to build up the community.
- Add another industry to support the area, attract companies and jobs so people could move and stay.
- Diversification.
- **Help support new economies and jobs, look for new industries to bring in tourism from NOLA, reduce economic and social risk.**
- Employ local work force, coastal restoration jobs.
- Community leaders working together to improve the local economy. Diversification in job sector.
- Diversification of work, support for fisherman.
- **Environment offers employment.**
- Sea planes? Airport. Technologies developed from petroleum & ship building industries. Transportation services. Cardiovascular Institute of the South, Mary Bird Perkins, Regional Health Center.
- Drainage, levee, use restricted wetlands/marsh for agriculture.
- We need to be the hub of new technology, research, and economy for the next generation. Education, college development into good businesses, use this challenge to create new businesses.
- People are innovative to adapting with industry, make it easier to start a business, people are hard workers.
- Improved skilled workforce.
- Potential jobs in water management sector.

## PROMOTE LOCAL SEAFOOD.....



- Do more value added seafood products.
- Add value to seafood caught in our water.
- Promote local seafood, commercial fishing is a dying industry.
- Local farmers market, showcase bayou.
- Protecting and enhancing fishing reputation and commercial.
- Promote local seafood, commercial fishing is a dying industry.

## IMPROVE TRANSIT & EVACUATION.....



IMPROVE TRANSIT & EVACUATION

- **Evacuation route and guidance.**
- Improve mobility and transportation.
- **Improved evacuation routes.**
- Provide greater funding for public transportation- e.g. transit. Terrebonne has a good transit system for a community our size, but not all of our neighbors do, better inter connectivity, improved rail service. Lt. Gov. Ambassadorship Program - grass roots tourism.

# OPPORTUNITIES

## PRESERVE COMMUNITY STABILITY.....



- **Maintain stability and existing opportunities.**
- **Protecting what we have.**
- **Keep local community.**
- Protect culture, the people, and quality of life.
- **Preserve family and friends.**
- **Keep the youth in the area, relocation of seniors back to Houma.**
- Reduce economic and social risk.
- Public health, mental health services, people feel hopeless moving.

## LAND & WATER MANAGEMENT.....



- Community waste water treatment systems- avoids contamination during high H2O events, protect public utility transmission lines.
- Love/hate relationship with the water.
- **Regional storm water management.**
- **Workforce development targeted to "Water Management", need careers in this. Leverage Restore Act funds with foundations.**
- No new developments on the east side.

## PLAN FOR WATER.....



- Build like the grandparents did- Acadian elevated homes.
- **Build homes.**
- Build on the kayak craze, protect water, sewage.
- Raised homes for resilient living.
- Allow for flood for commercial structures.
- Elevated houses.



- **Prepare lower risk areas for population growth.**
- If more people moving there, would it be affordable?



**HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS**

- Hurricane preparation taken seriously.

## PROMOTE CULTURE & TOURISM.....



- New Year Celebration at the park, bunch of fireworks.
- Community involvement for everything, more entertainment. Tourist attractions, eco-tourism, fishing, other tours.
- **Teach the younger generation about the culture.**
- More community, health facility.
- Cultural Preservation and appreciation (might be lost with younger generation). People could understand how serious this is. Build community knowledge and capacity in the homes as well as in the schools.
- **Keep kids safe, festivals to keep community together and share culture.**



- Tourism.
- Tourism funding, need Federal government to step up to save LA with funding!
- Increase tourism.
- Tourism.
- **Eco-tourism.**



CHALLENGES

FLOODING .....



- Better drainage.
- Water not subsiding.
- Water comes up through street drains.
- With every storm more water and higher levels.
- Faster flooding.
- Flooding in subdivision.
- Flooding increased.
- Major flooding with just 30 min. of hard rainfall.
- Rain causes street flooding.
- Water retention.
- Drainage. **More people exposed to it.**
- Current developments are contributing to the flooding.
- More concrete now more flooding.



- Flooding work route.
- Flooding.
- Flooding.
- Too much water and salt.



- Water ways triple in width.
- Water from intracoastal waterway flooding.

WILDLIFE MOVEMENT/DEATH .....



- Less animal hibernation.
- Tree loss.
- Killing of wetlands, plants and their roots.
- Decrease in wildlife.
- Lack of marsh.
- Big trees dying off.
- No amount of wildlife in marsh.
- Some medicinal plants no longer grow b/c of salt water.
- Trees no longer growing in salt water areas.
- Dead trees.
- No bayou in canal.
- Wildlife moved north.

HOME VALUES DECLINING .....



- Houses are getting older.
- Property values dropped.
- Home value decreasing.



- Loss of property.
- Foundation issues.
- Property values going up and down.

# CHALLENGES

## LAND LOSS & EROSION .....

### LAND LOSS AND EROSION

- Loss of land.
- Erosion.
- Eroding lands and habitats disappearing.
- Land loss.
- **Pipelines are getting exposed from land loss.**

### LOSS OF USABLE LAND

- Sugar cane fields changed to subdivisions.
- Less available land use.

## POPULATION LOSS/MOVEMENT.....

### PEOPLE MOVING NORTH

- Loss of down the bayou communities.
- Wealthy people left the bayou.
- More homes for sale.
- No new business and no new population to serve the business.
- People migrate north.
- People moved due to floods, different demographic moved in changing communities.

- Families tired of getting wet.
- Katrina exodus.
- People are moving because of the insurance rates going up.
- Moving of families.
- Families are having to make decisions on where to buy houses.
- Moving north.

### YOUTHS MOVING AWAY

- Young people leave, come back 30+ years later.
- Loss of growing and living generations.
- Youth doesn't want to farm.
- Loss of youth.
- Best and brightest don't stick around.
- Young people moving out.

### LACK OF DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES

- Almost no development on east side of town.
- Less Gov. services support down the bayous, so people move to areas with services.

## DECLINING SAFETY..... INCREASED TRAFFIC .....

### DECLINING SAFETY

- Crime in NOLA impacted Houma in the sense that people come from elsewhere to dine.
- People selling drugs, felonies, no jobs, more selling drugs, breaking in.
- Please get rid of drugs, help law enforcement, keep our parish clean.
- Safety of the community is declining.

### INCREASED TRAFFIC

- Increased traffic in high ground areas.
- More traffic.

## CULTURAL LOSS.....

### LOSS OF LANDMARKS / SHARED SPACES

- Landmarks are disappearing.
- Loss of landmarks.
- It is everyone's job to take care of litter, parks, safety.

### RECREATION LOSS

- Sport fishing is affected by privatization of tidal waves, killing an industry of tourism.
- More sugar cane fields, less hunting and fishing.



CHALLENGES

LOSS OF BUSINESS & INDUSTRY .....

LOSS OF  
BUSINESSES  
AND  
INDUSTRY

- Not much new business.
- Economy dying.
- No longer farming and grazing in certain areas.
- Jobs and economy not coming back from school.
- Cost of sustaining business.
- Industry relocation.
- Loss of general merchants, grocery stores, gas stations, etc
- Loss of Industry.

BUSINESS  
MOVING  
NORTH

- Large business not investing in coastal communities.
- Oil businesses are building infrastructure north not in bayou community.
- Shipyards move north.
- Big companies move to bigger cities.

OIL CRASH  
AND  
DAMAGE

- Oil crashed.
- Oil and gas down community.
- DWH spill killed the economy.

LOSS OF JOBS & INCOME .....

LOSS OF JOBS  
AND INCOME

- Feeling of hopelessness.
- Loss of jobs.
- Income decrease while expenses increase.
- Job transfers b/c of industries.
- Hard work making living on the bayou.
- Loss of jobs.
- No jobs.
- Lowest employment in the U.S.
- Old jobs doesn't exist anymore.
- Loss of jobs.
- Killing of jobs.
- Loss of employment.

SCHOOLS CLOSING .....

SCHOOLS  
CLOSING

- School closing and overpopulated.
- Closing of elementary schools.
- Loss of education.
- Schools are closing down the bayou.
- Most industries do not support college education.
- Loss of schools.
- School Redistricting.

# CHALLENGES

## SEAFOOD INDUSTRY INSTABILITY.....

### CHANGING INDUSTRY

- Oyster fisheries have changed dramatically.
- Shrimping is not like it used to be, low shrimp prices.
- Seafood industry changed drastically, 4-5 plants moved.
- Shrimping industries have changed.
- Kids more likely to work in oil rather than the seafood industry after high school.

### LOSS OF HABITAT

- BP oil spill.
- Loss of fisheries and habitat.
- Impacting qualities of life in water.
- Salt water industries.

## INCREASING COSTS OF LIVING.....

### HIGHER INSURANCE COSTS

- Increase of insurance.
- Can't afford house insurance.
- Flood insurance at all time high-Unaffordable.
- Flood insurance increase.
- Cost of living increase along with flood insurance.

### COST OF LIVING IS EXPENSIVE

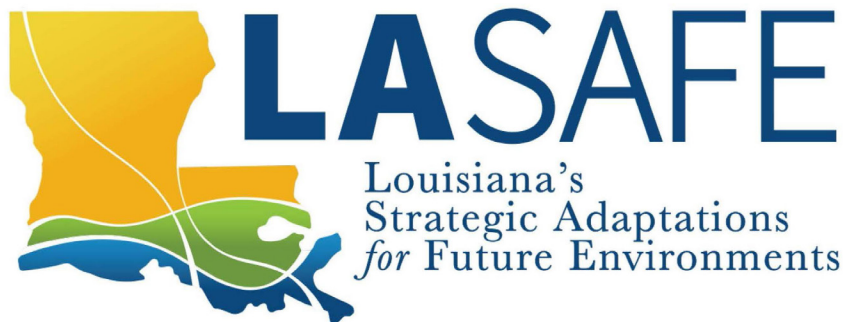
- Land cost and home cost.
- Cost of living is expensive.
- Increase in development cost.

### HIGHER TAXES

- Higher taxes.

## APPENDIX

The appendix follows this page. It includes maps and graphs shown during the first Terrebonne Parish LA SAFE meeting. The appendix illustrates land loss, flood risk, population shifts, and economic activity in the parish. Larger examples of the table sheets used at the meeting follow the maps and graphs.



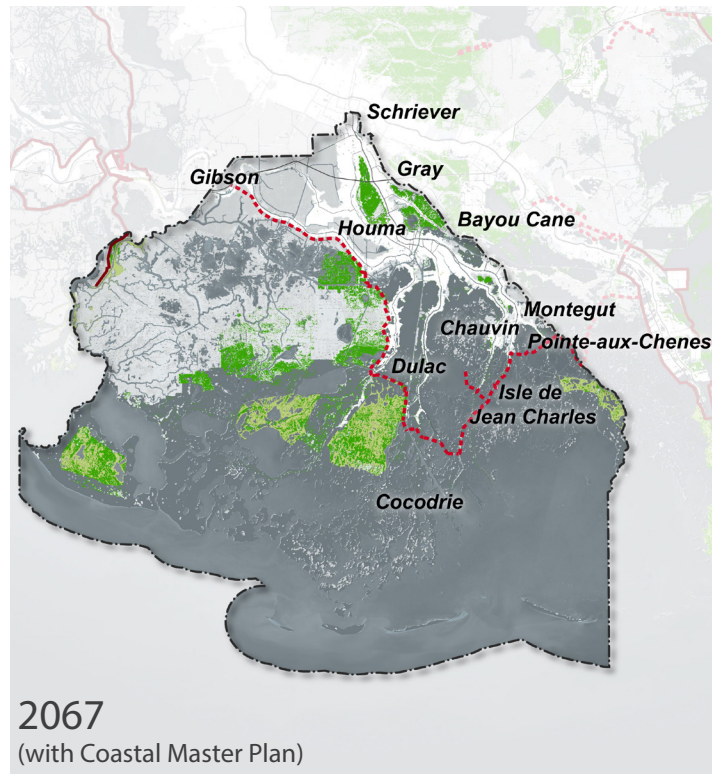
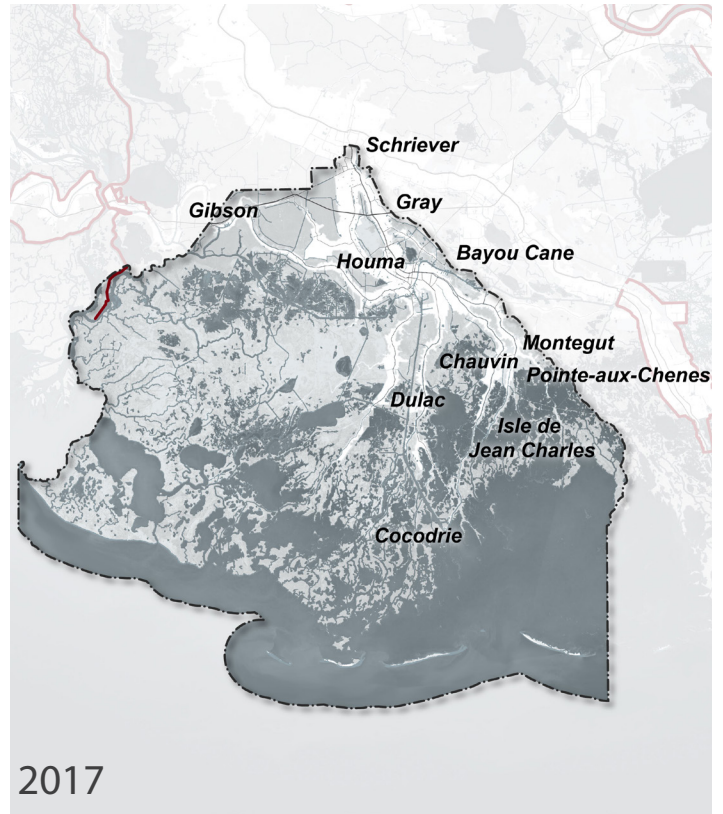
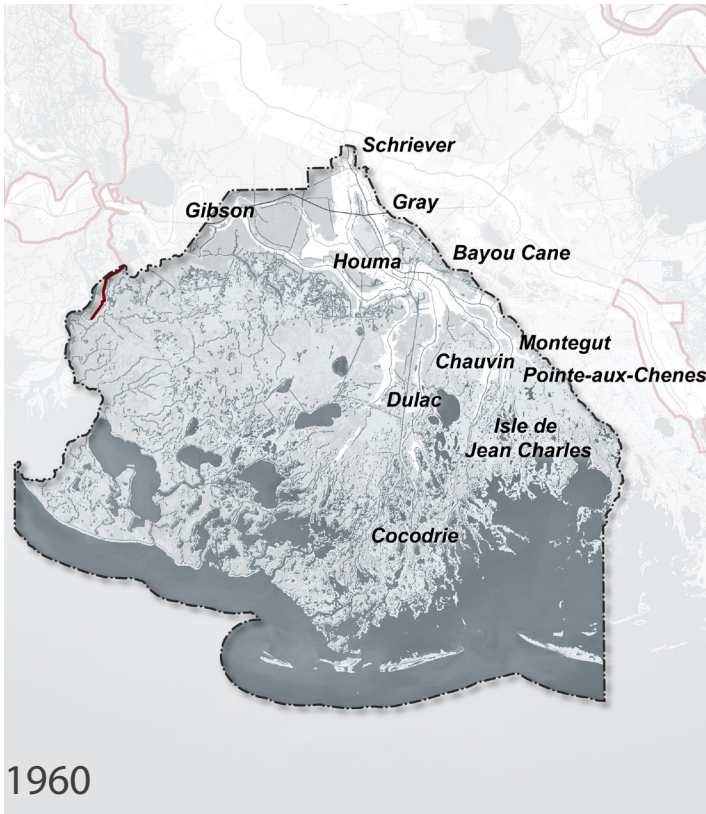
## STAY CONNECTED!

**Website:** [lasafe.la.gov](http://lasafe.la.gov)  
**Facebook:** [facebook.com/livelasafe](https://www.facebook.com/livelasafe)  
**Twitter:** @livelasafe  
**Instagram:** @livelasafe  
**Email:** [info@livelasafe.org](mailto:info@livelasafe.org)

## GET IN TOUCH!

**LA SAFE point of contact:**  
**Terrebonne Parish**  
 Lauren Marschall  
[lmarschall@cpex.org](mailto:lmarschall@cpex.org)  
 225.389.7197

## LAND LOSS OVER TIME

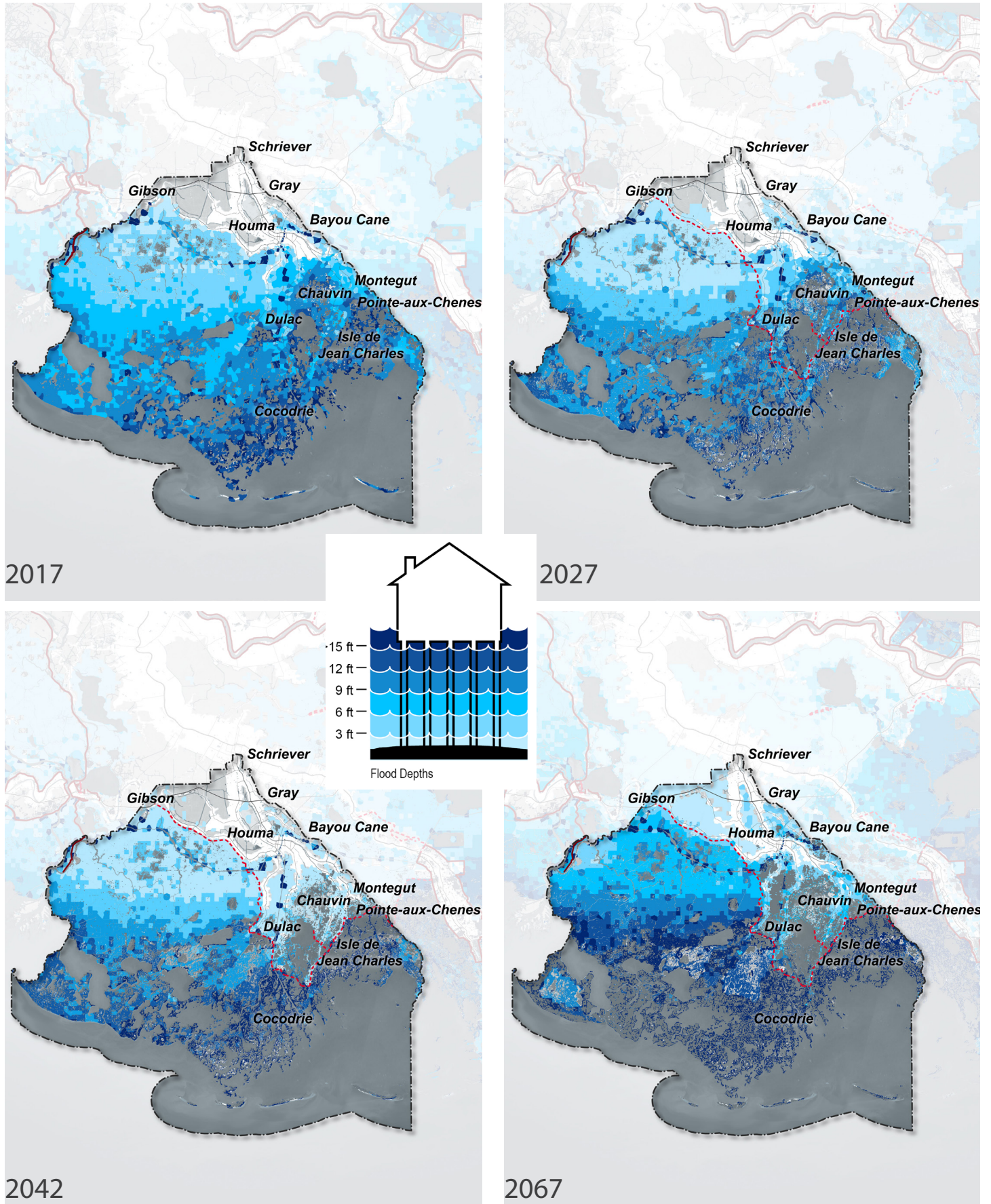


This data was provided by CPRA and were originally produced to inform the development of the 2017 Coastal Master Plan.



# FLOOD RISK

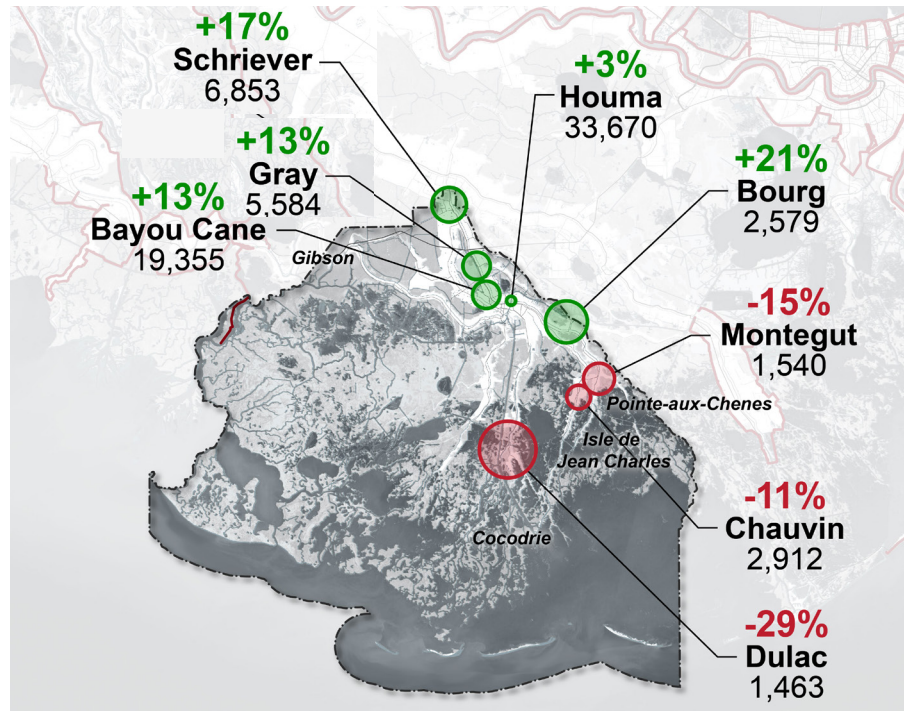
All shown with Coastal Master Plan



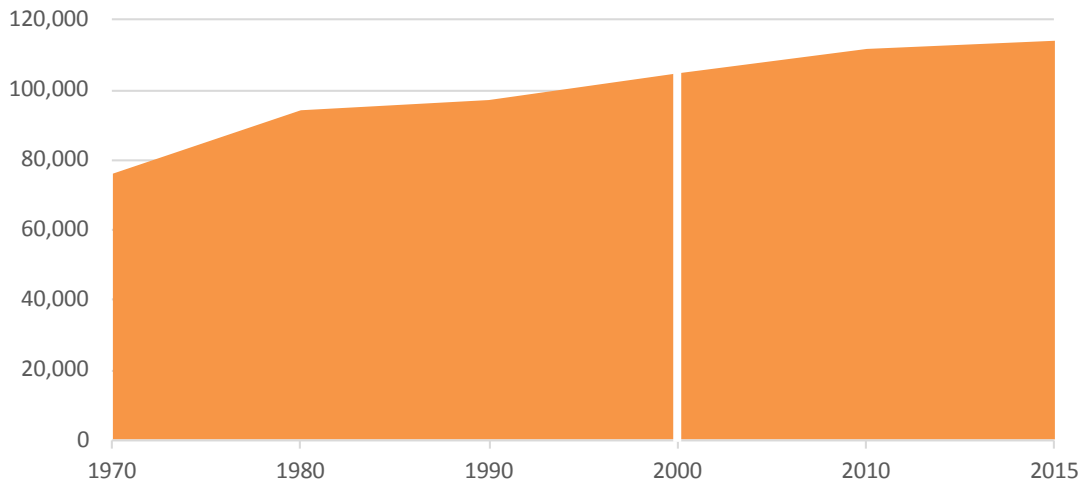
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## POPULATION CHANGES IN TERREBONNE COMMUNITIES 2000-2010

Data prepared by ESRI, sourced  
from U.S. Census Bureau, Census  
2000 Summary File 1 and Census  
2010 Summary File 1.



## POPULATION CHANGE SINCE 1970



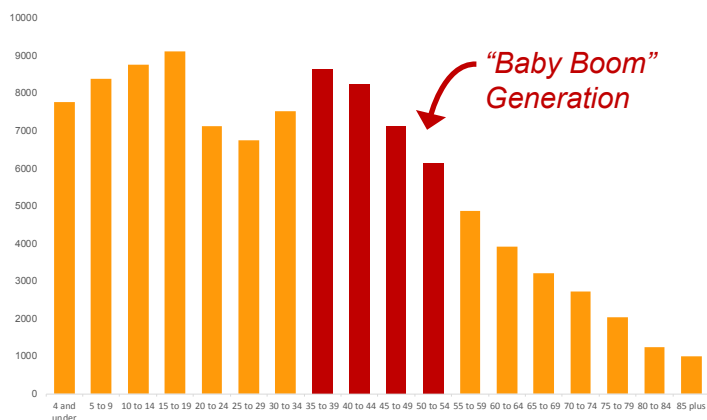
**9%**  
increase since 2000

Source: The Data Center  
analysis of U.S. Census  
Bureau Decennial Census and  
Population Estimates 2015.

## POPULATION BY AGE, 2000 - 2015

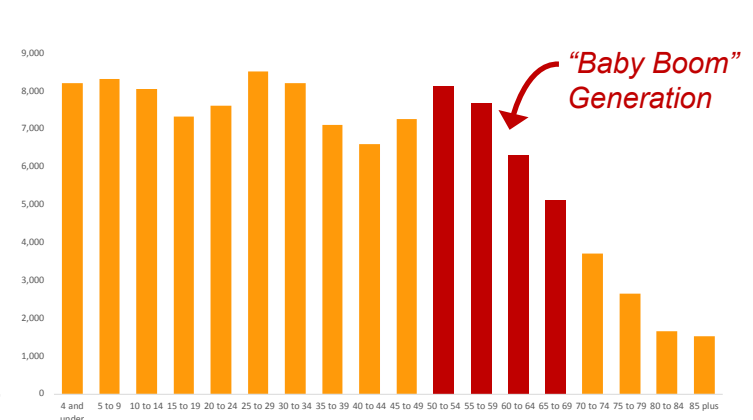
YEAR 2000

POPULATION: 104,504



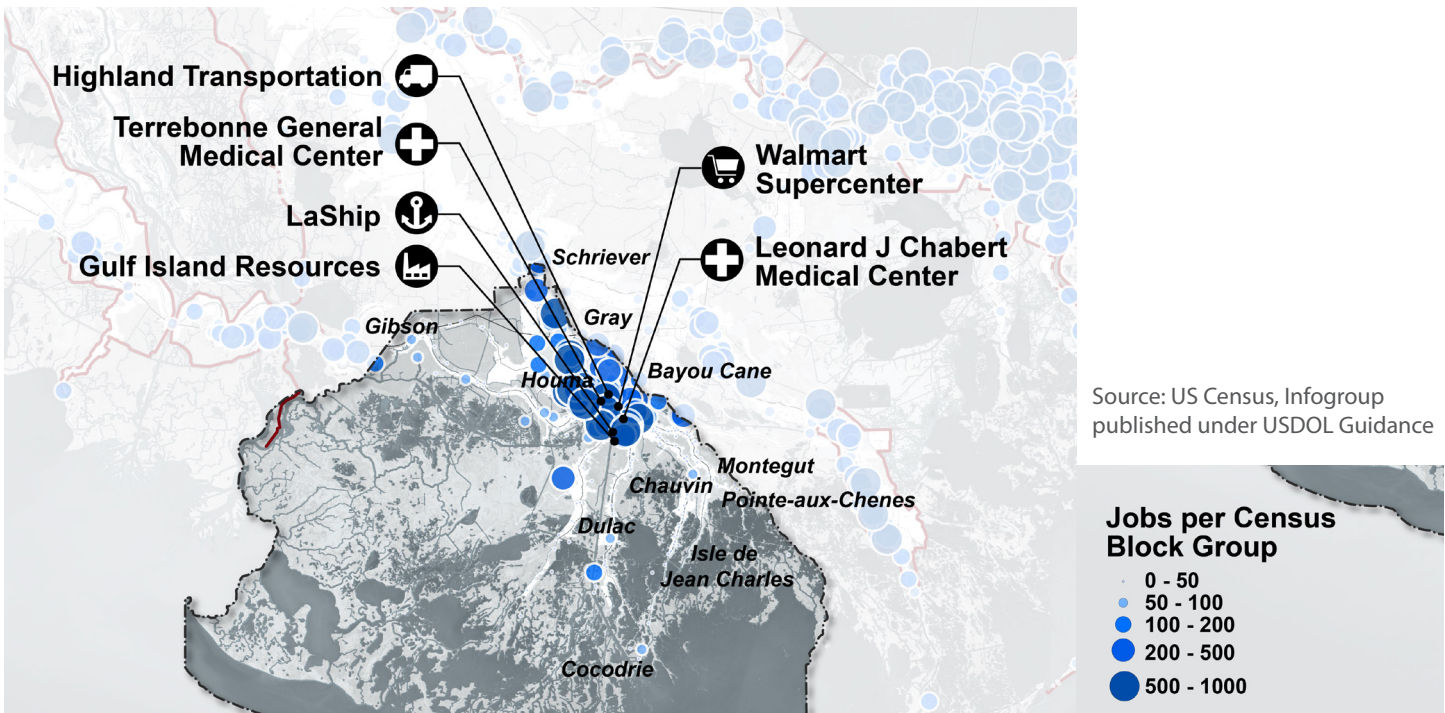
YEAR 2015

POPULATION: 113,972



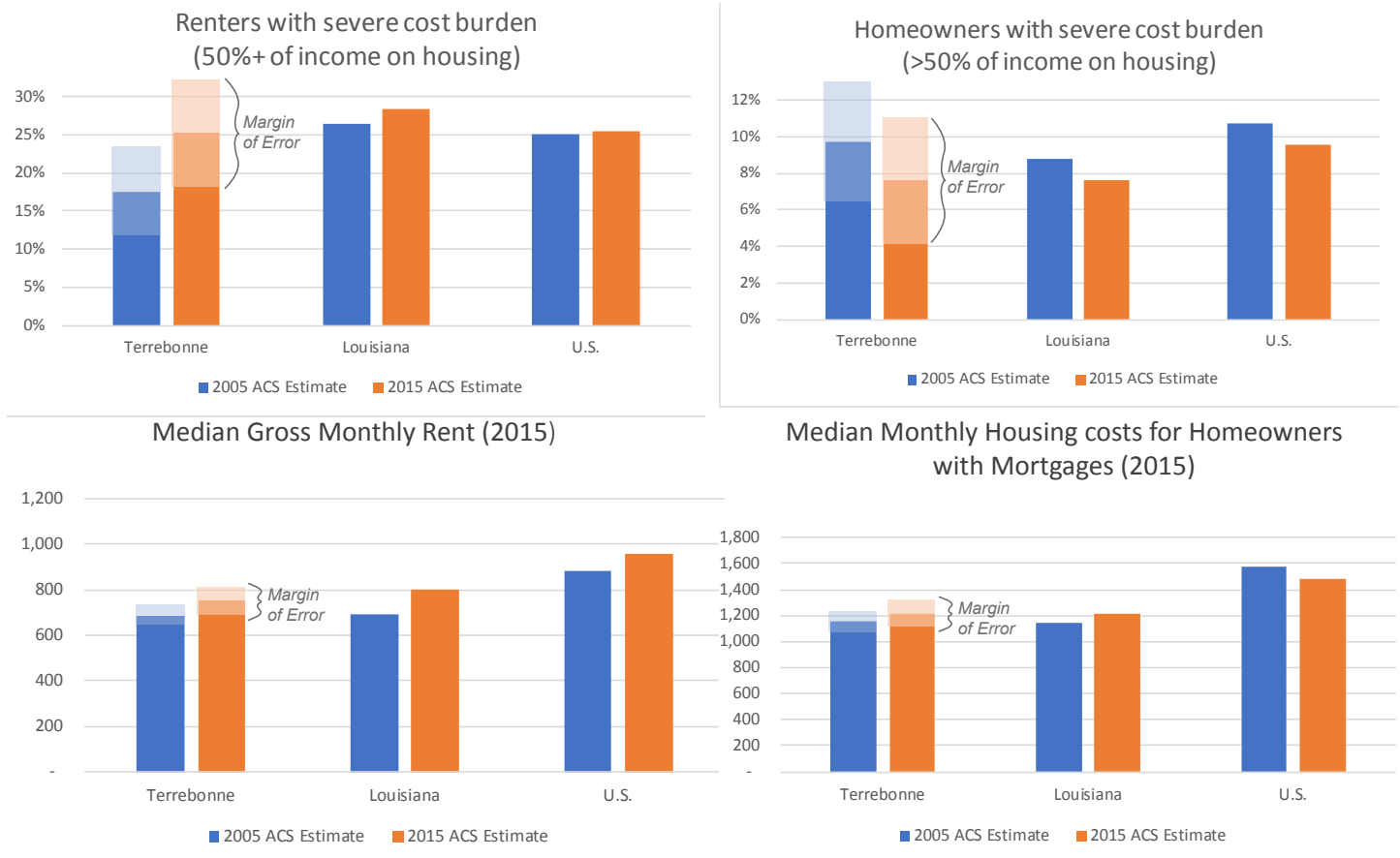


## MAJOR EMPLOYMENT CENTERS



## HOUSING TRENDS IN TERREBONNE PARISH

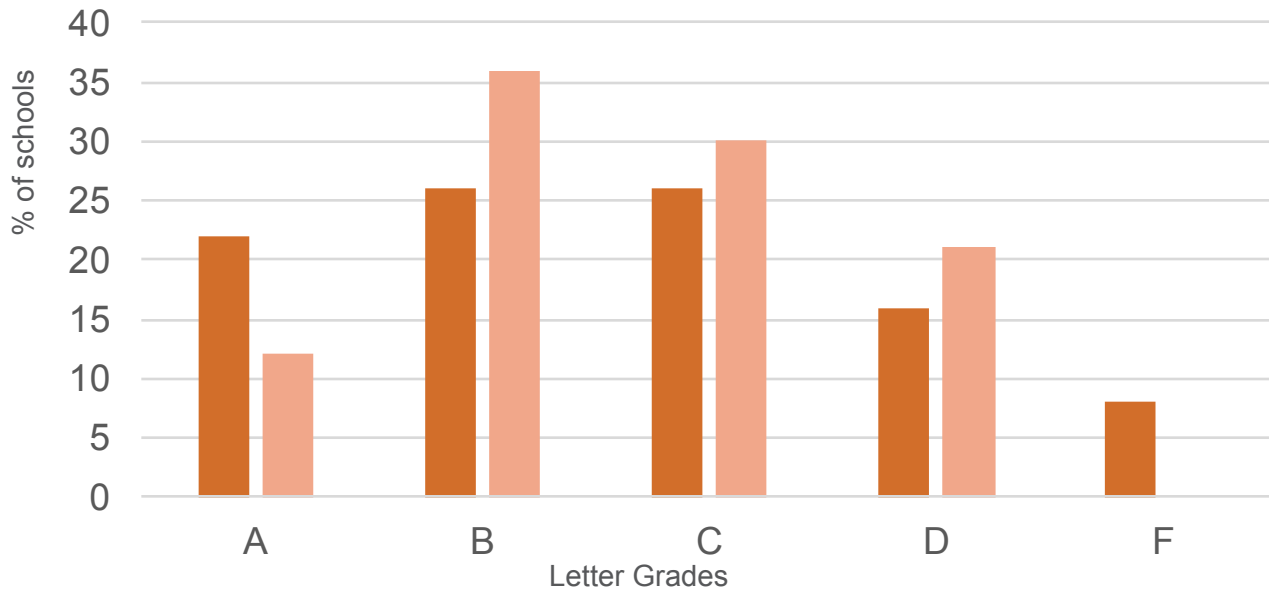
Source: The Data Center Analysis of U.S. Census Data; Notes: Estimates of % Owner Occupied Housing for Plaquemines and St. John the Baptist are from 2015 ACS Supplemental Estimates. Estimates from a range of years (2006-2010 or 2011-2015) represent an average across the listed years.



## PARISH SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

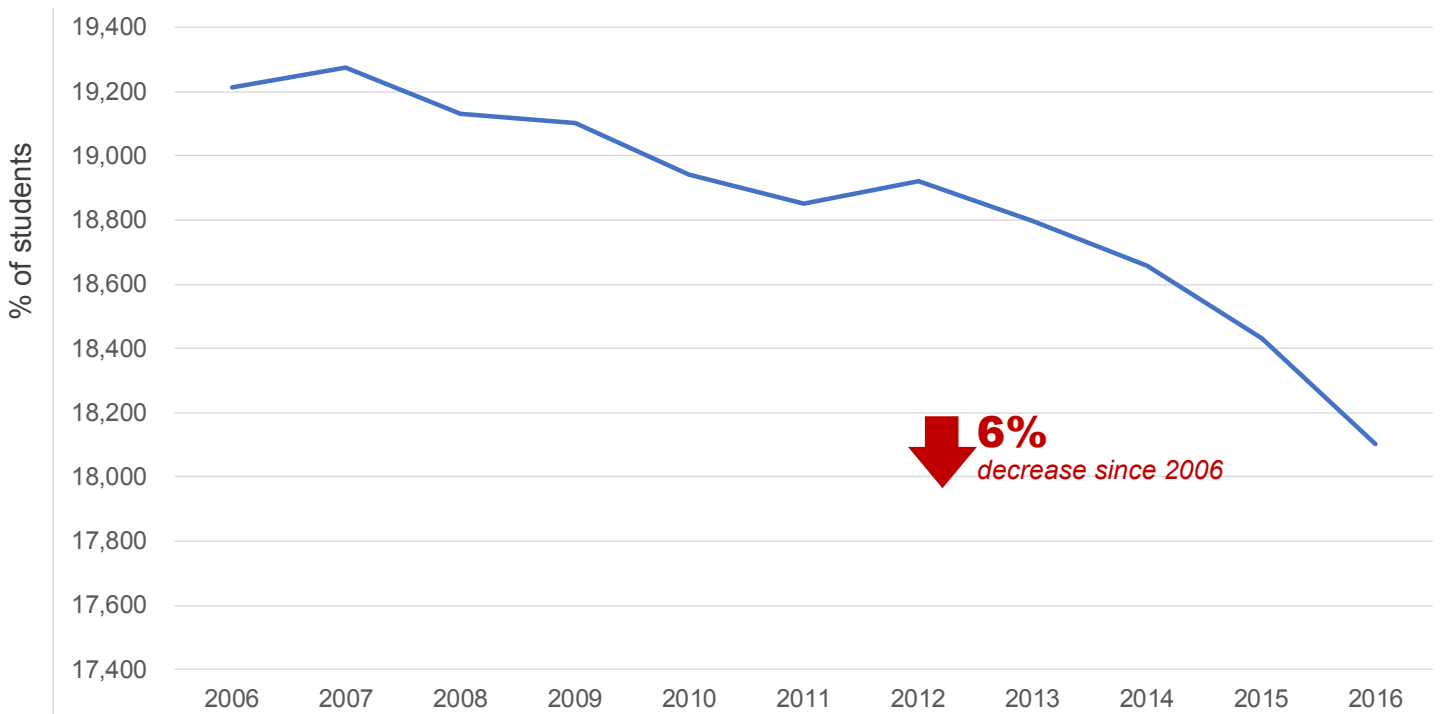
### 2015-2016 District Report Card

Source: Concordia analysis of "2015-2016 School District Report Cards," Accessed April 2017, <http://www.louisianabelieves.com/data/reportcards/2016/>



## PARISH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

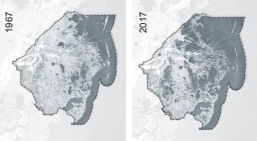
Source: Data Center analysis of "Multiple Statistics By Site For Total Reported Students" Tables from the Louisiana Department of Education, Accessed April 2017, <http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/enrollment-counts>



**ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:**

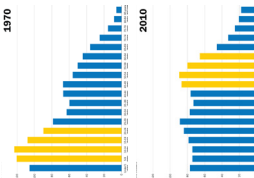
1. Take a closer look at this map that shows land change and population shifts.
2. Answer the questions below.
3. Draw on the map to show where you have seen these changes.

## How have changes to the environment affected you?

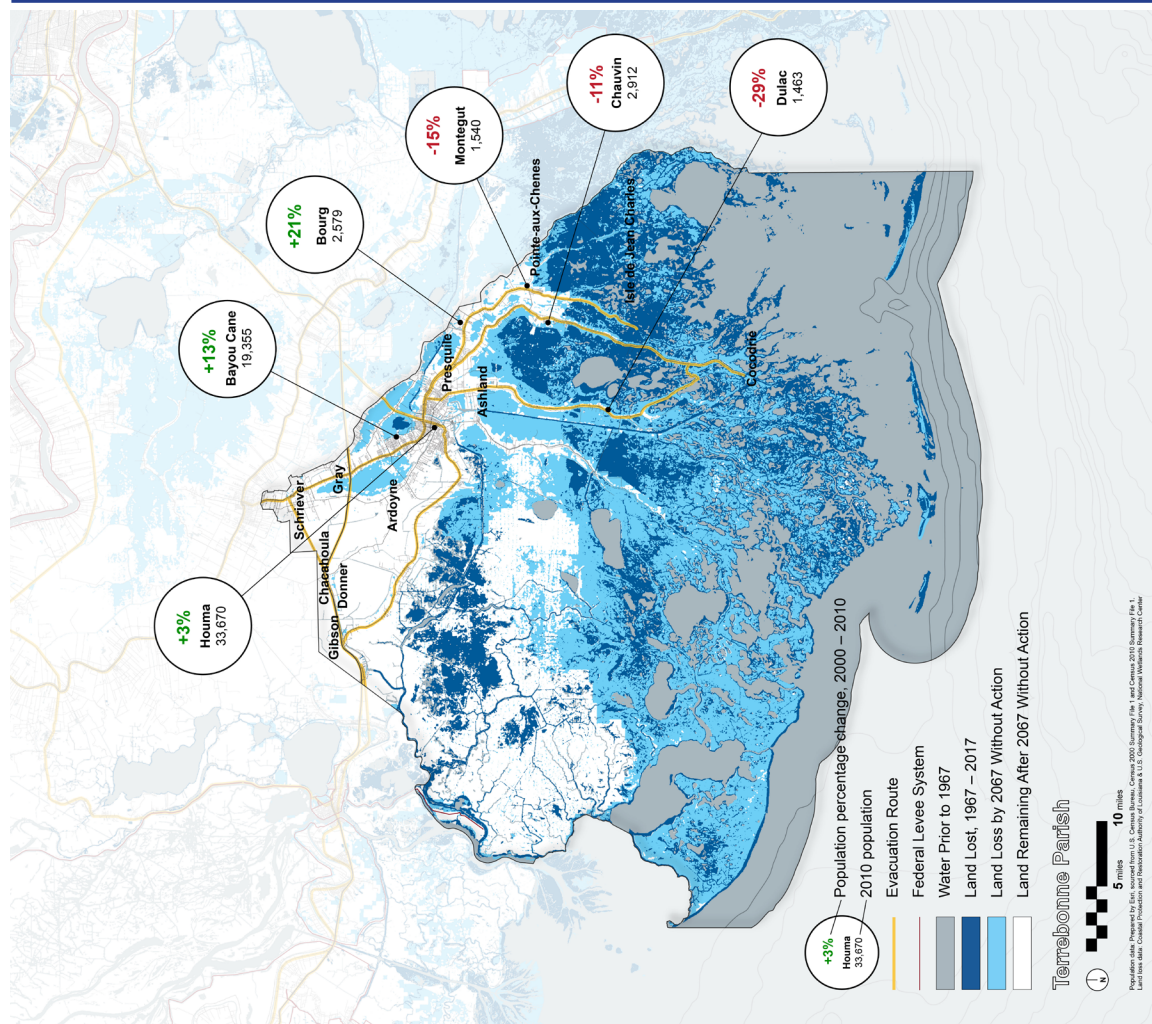


Source: USGS & CPRA

## How have changes in the population affected you?



### How have economic changes in the Parish affected you?





## ACTIVITY 2 TABLE SHEET

(originally 36"x48")

# ADAPTATION GOALS

*Tell us what adaptation goals are most important to you.*

The outer circle is for you to list what you value in the Parish.

The inner circle is for you to list what you think future goals should be.

1. Write your ideas on Post-it notes and place them on the sheet. Include your zip code on your ideas.

2. As a group, choose your top 10 favorite ideas, and place stickers on them.

