



Demographics Bulletin

Zachary Community Schools

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July 2009

2009—3

Zachary is a population growth engine in Louisiana and in East Baton Rouge Parish:

- Latest Census population estimate is 14,252
- Up 26% since 2000
- Fastest growing city of 10,000 or more in the state
- EBR Parish, Cities of Baton Rouge and Baker are all losing population

Watch for the next bulletin:

- Update on new residential building permits and real estate sales

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We welcome your input and tips on developments that may impact the school-age population in the Zachary Community Schools.

Census Bureau: 2008 Was Another Year of Strong Growth for City of Zachary



Each July, the U.S. Census Bureau releases population estimates for incorporated places (cities, towns, villages). The estimate is for the population as of the previous July 1. Those closely watched numbers are just out, and Zachary continues to set the pace among larger Louisiana incorporated places. With an estimated population on July 1, 2008, of 14,252, Zachary has gained almost 3,000 persons since the Census of 2000. That is a red-hot growth rate of 26.4 percent. To put the growth here since 2000 in perspective, no other Louisiana city of 10,000 or more persons even comes close. The runners up are Mandeville and Denham

Springs at 18 percent growth. The year-over-year growth in Zachary is also impressive. The Census Bureau estimates annual growth from 2007 to 2008 at 210 more persons--a growth rate of almost 2 percent in just one year.

Zachary's experience also contrasts sharply with the remainder of East Baton Rouge Parish. Separate 2008 estimates were previously published by the Bureau for parishes and counties. Those numbers showed East Baton Rouge Parish growing by 3.8 percent

since 2000, but losing a fraction of its population from 2007 to 2008. The cities of Baker and Baton Rouge also were estimated to have lost population in that same period (down 3.1 and 1.8 percent respectively). Those population declines appear to be accelerating over time. But, the Census Bureau continues to readjust populations across Louisiana to compensate for the impacts of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. So, some declines in population can be attributed to technical adjustments.

Population estimates are important because they represent the best guess at a local population between decennial censuses. The Census Bureau relies heavily on changes in housing unit counts in preparing population estimates. In our next bulletin, we will report a continued slowing of residential building permits in the City of Zachary. While this may attenuate future Census population estimates for Zachary, fundamental community conditions remain quite favorable for continued growth in the longer term.

U.S. Census Bureau Annual Estimates of Population

Geographic Area	Population Estimates			Percent Change 2000-2008
	April 1, 2000	July 1, 2007	July 1, 2008	
Baker city	13,728	13,561	13,360	-3.1
Baton Rouge city	228,699	226,864	223,689	-1.8
Zachary city	11,277	14,042	14,252	26.4
East Baton Rouge Parish	412,852	429,914	428,360	3.8

Source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau. Resident Population for Incorporated Places in Louisiana, Listed Alphabetically: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2008 (SUB-EST2008-04-22) Release Date: July 1, 2009

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