



2016 Year in Review

AEDC lands 5 projects, new capital investment, jobs created

AEDC's business recruitment and expansion efforts paid off in 2016 with a total of 5 projects announced, 4 expansions of existing companies and one relocation from within the region. Four projects are being undertaken by manufacturers including: Occidental Petroleum, Praxair, EME Company; and one service and supply company Jam Pak dba Ascension Paper Products.

Combined, the projects will result in \$253 million in new capital investment in the parish, create 73 new jobs, and add an annual payroll of nearly \$4 million to the economy.

AEDC worth the investment

Since 2005, work by AEDC has generated \$4.50 for every dollar invested. Public funds invested in AEDC have generated over \$7.2 billion in new investment, created 2,598 new jobs, and generated \$19.5 million in new taxes or direct sales. Based on \$4.2 million total investments to date in AEDC, divided into new taxes and sales of \$19.5 million, for every \$1 spent in public funds, \$4.50 have been returned.

Public Funds Invested in AEDC	\$ 4,284,700
Announced Capital Investment by New & Expanding Enterprises:	\$ 7,216,135,000
Capital Investment Per Dollar of Public Funding	\$ 1,684
New taxes and direct sales generated as a result of the investment	\$ 19,500,000
Jobs Created by New & Expanding Enterprises	2,598
Public Investment in AEDC Per Job Created	\$ 1,649
Estimated Annual Wages from Jobs Created **	\$ 136,311,864



10-Year Change in Size of Labor Force

December 2006 to December 2016



The availability of workers in the Parish grew 28.8% over the past ten years, more than the region and the state.

Parish Economic Development Briefs Employment Gains Continue

For the latest reported month (December), total employment in the parish was 58,340; an increase of 495 jobs from the previous December. The December 2016 unemployment rate for the parish was 4.4%, Louisiana's rate was 5.4%, and the nation's rate at 4.5%. Since 2006, parish labor force has increased 29% compared to the region's 16% and the state's 4%. Over the past 3 years, Ascension's employment growth rate was 9.2%, second only to Lake Charles.

AEDC staff is working on a number of **Projects in the Pipeline** which have the potential to create another 1,998 jobs and represent \$17 billion in potential new investment. Over the past year, staff also met with 50 local companies, 12 during the last quarter of 2016.

Top Growth Sectors

2nd Qtr. 2015 - 2nd Qtr. 2016



AEDC Board of Directors

Dwight Poirrier, Chairman
Don Hanna, Vice Chair
Dee LeJeune, Secretary/Treasurer

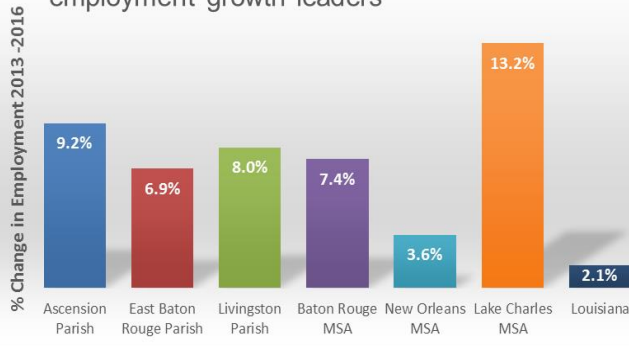
Kirk Boudreaux
Butch Browning
John Cagnolatti
Derrick Coco
Bill Dawson
Douglas Diez

Stevie Graugnard
Roger Keese
Brent Landry
Chuck LeBlanc
Donald Schexnaydre

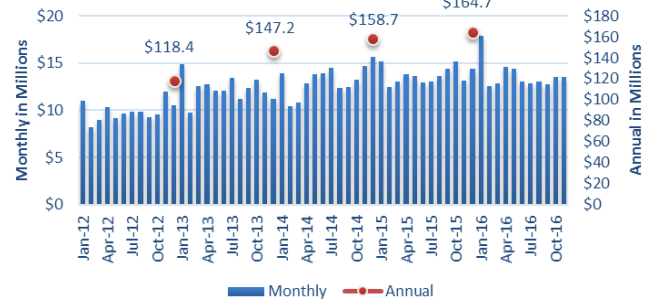
what's new in Ascension is our quarterly newsletter. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please send an email to: mtaillon@ascensionedc.com.

ECONOMIC UPDATE

Parish among South Louisiana's 3 - year employment growth leaders



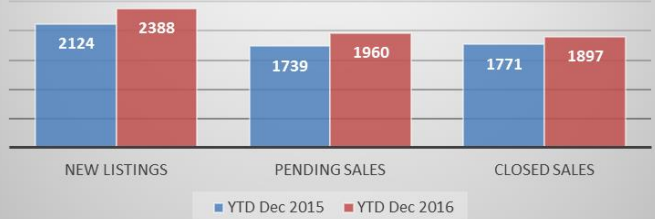
2016 sales tax collections through November



Ascension's employers provide region's 2nd highest average weekly wages paid



2016 residential listings and sales up in Parish, average sale price up 2.9% to \$215,000, 98.5% of asking price received, days on market 50, months supply 2.5



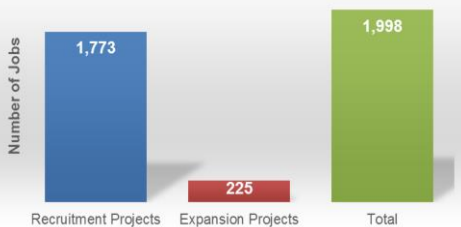
Sources: Louisiana Workforce Commission and Bureau of Labor Statistics for employment and wage data, AEDC for project information, the Greater Baton Rouge Association of Realtors for housing data.

PROJECTS IN THE PIPELINE

Projects in the Pipeline represents potential projects discussed or inquiries made to AEDC that may occur over the next several years.

2016 prospect results set-up growth opportunities for 2017

1,998 Potential New Jobs



\$17 Billion in Potential New Capital Investment



\$105 Million Potential New Annual Payroll



For a list of available buildings and sites within the parish visit our home page at: <http://www.ascensionedc.com>