

COVID-19 Indicator Dashboard

September 29,
2020

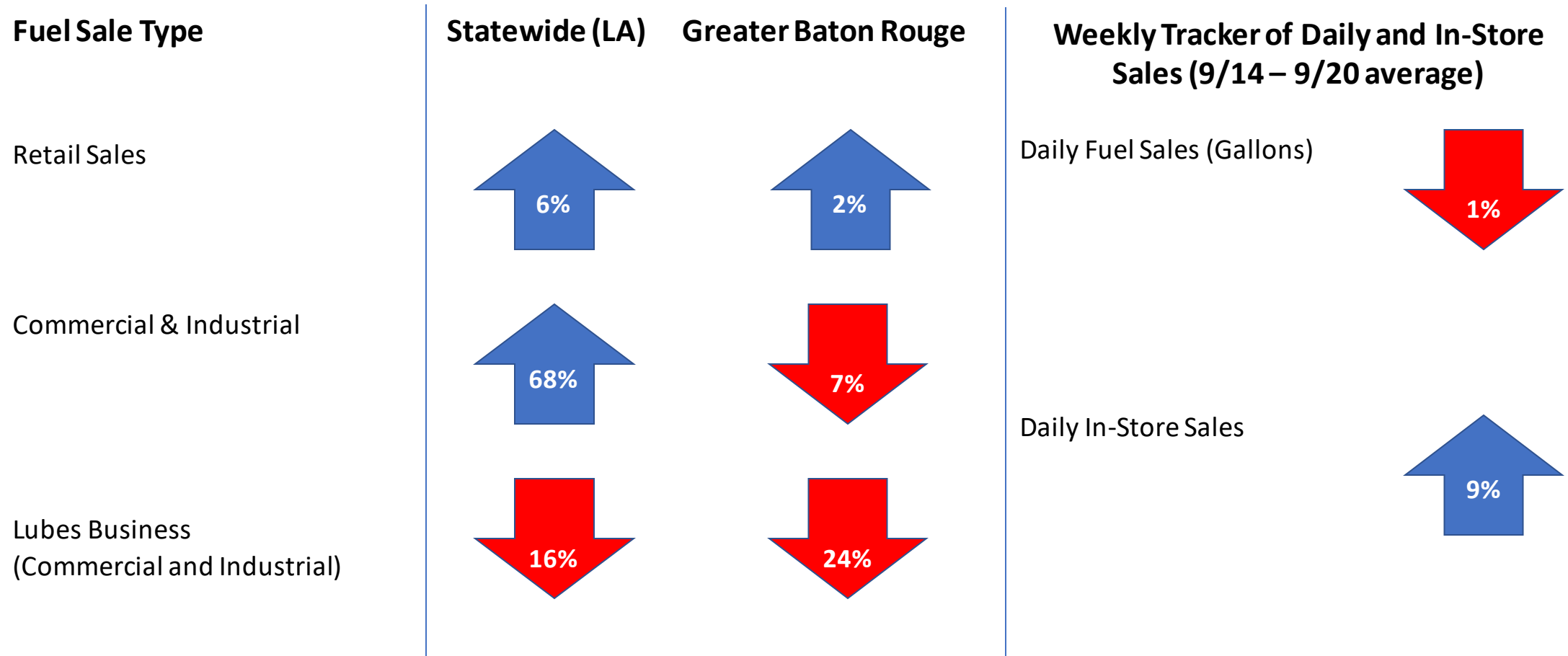
Lead Researcher:
Andrew Fitzgerald



Baton Rouge Area Chamber®

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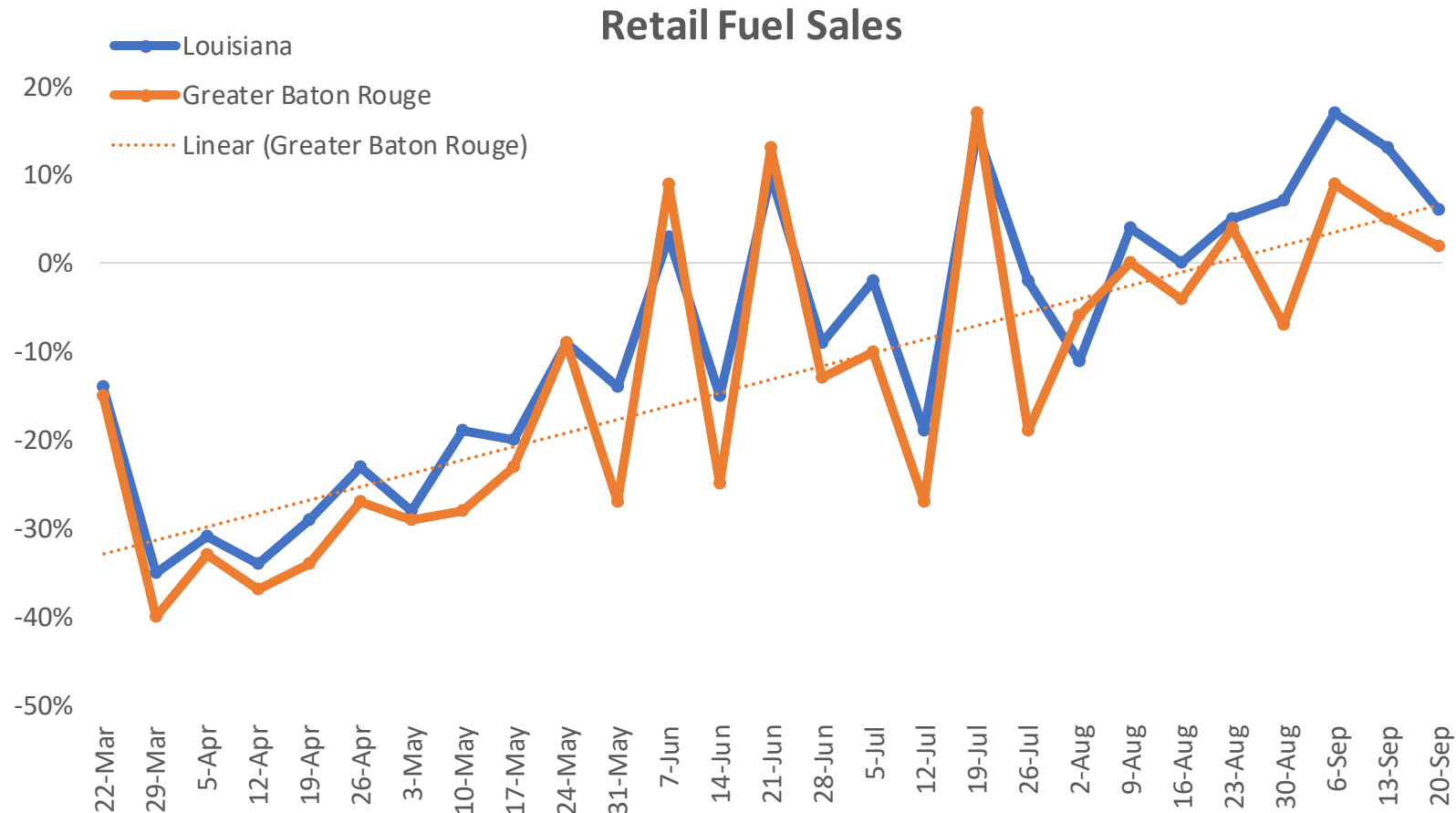
How have fuel sales (gas stations) been impacted during the pandemic?



Fuel sales reflect change in Lard Oil sales year-over-year from September 14 to September 20, 2020 compared to similar week in 2019.

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Retail fuel sales progression in Louisiana and Greater Baton Rouge during the pandemic.



- Storms have created a great deal of inconsistency on all types of fuel sales; there have been significant week-to-week inconsistencies.
- Retail fuel sales have been higher than 2019 numbers four out of the last five weeks, and they continue to trend upward.

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How has unemployment been impacted during the pandemic?

Parish	09-05-2020	09-12-2020	09-19-2020
Ascension	5,365	5,161	4,912
East Baton Rouge	25,226	24,380	23,151
East Feliciana	696	672	624
Iberville	1,949	1,875	1,848
Livingston	5,144	4,855	4,624
Point Coupee	982	945	872
St. Helena	482	464	441
West Baton Rouge	1,324	1,299	1,240
West Feliciana	315	291	292
BR MSA total	41,483	39,942	38,004

- Combined weekly claims have dropped for the ninth consecutive week and are down 32% in that timeframe.
- While initial claims were very slightly up, continued claims fell by over 1,900. Between this data and the strong uptick in jobs in August, employment is trending in the right direction.

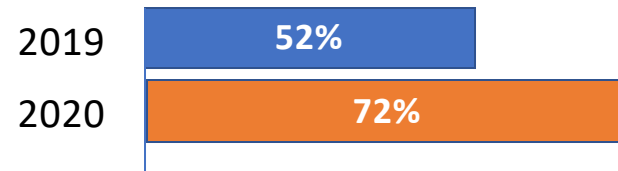
Sources: Louisiana Workforce Commission, BRAC Analysis.
Dates signify initial plus continued claims for week ending on that day.

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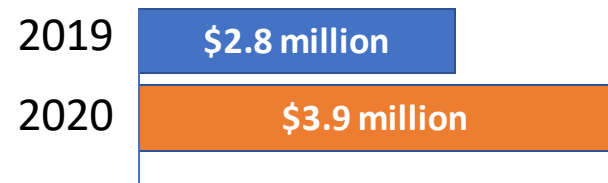
How has travel been impacted during the pandemic?

Hotel Occupancy

September 6 – September 12



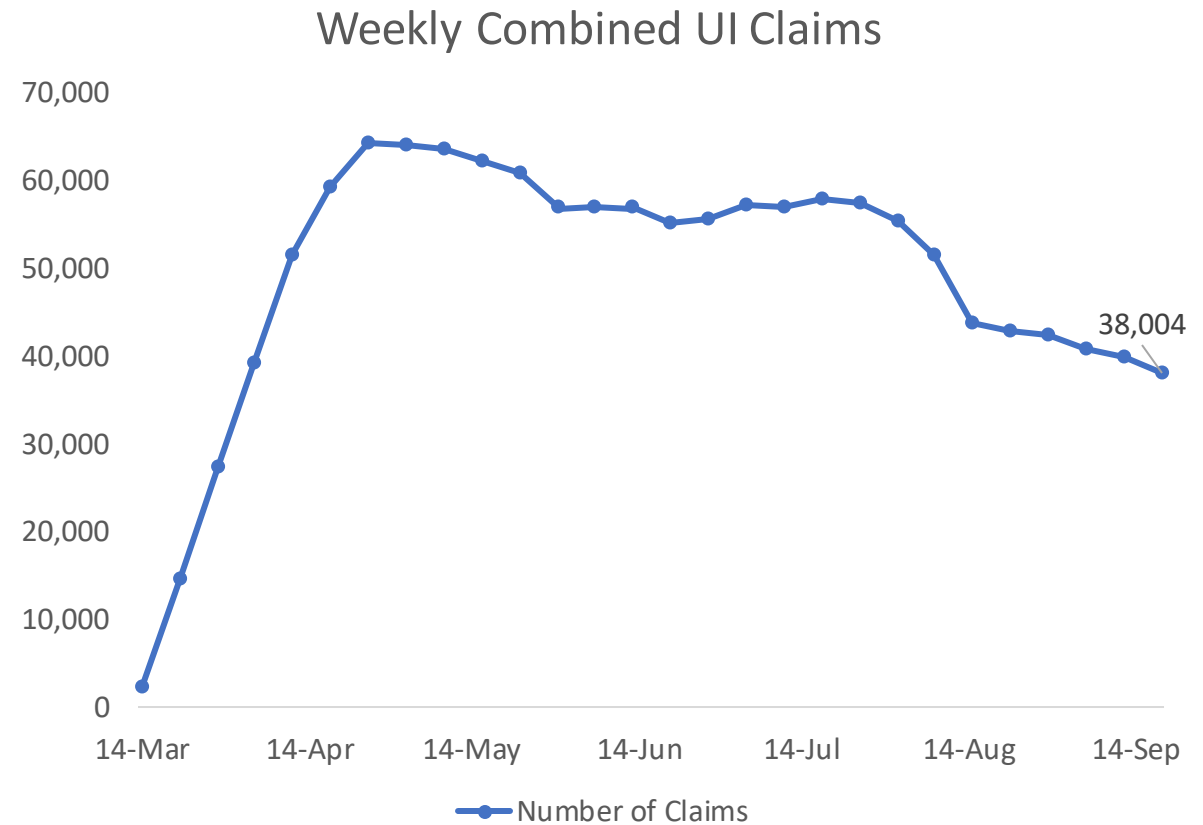
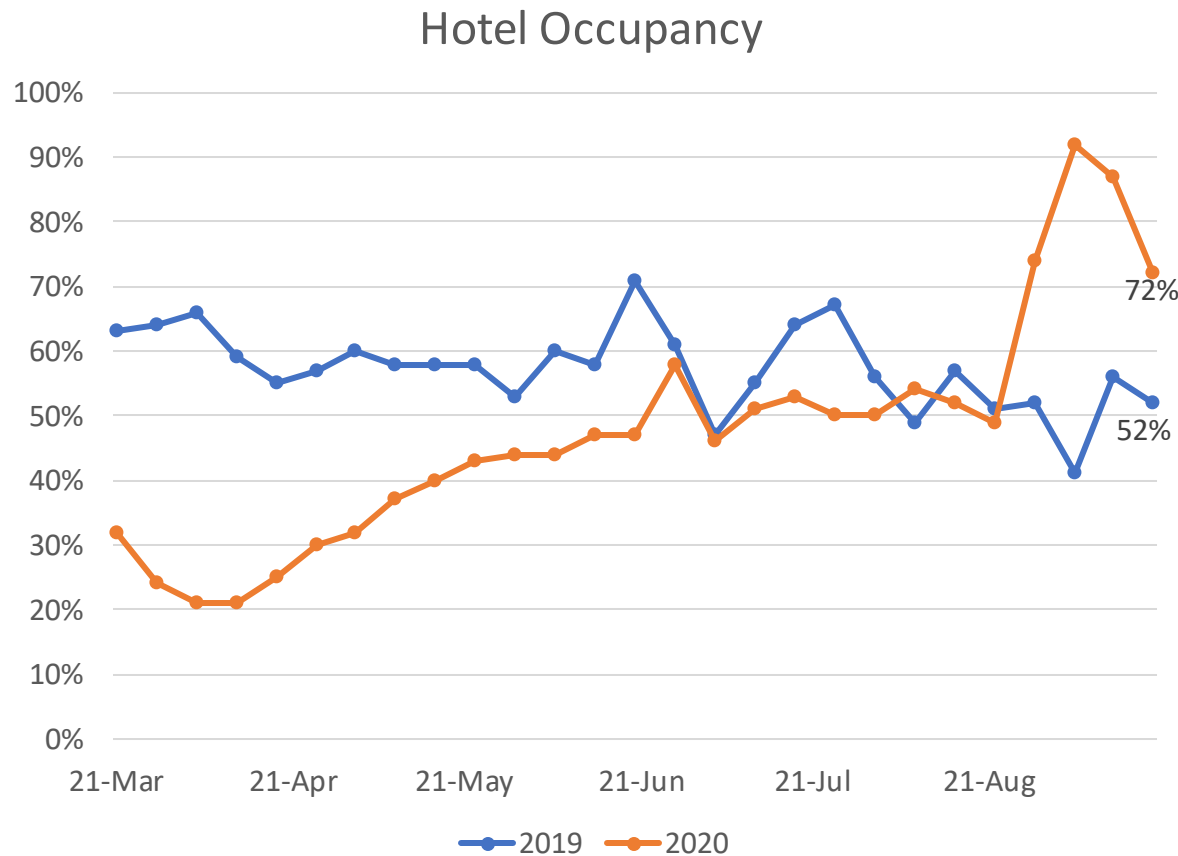
Revenue September 6 – September 12



- 2020 occupancy rates sustained a fourth week of a spike due to evacuees and were over 38% higher than the same week last year.
- Revenues were up 39% over 2019 for the week, which aids organizations that rely on hotel occupancy taxes and will face funding concerns in 2021.
- A recent national survey of hotel owners found that 67% say they could not survive another six months at current occupancy levels, implying that the uptick over the last month may have been crucial for local hotels.

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While hotel occupancy remained high due to evacuees, unemployment claims are still about 14 times higher than a normal week.



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How has travel been impacted during the pandemic?

CATS Transportation Ridership

Week Ending	2019 Ridership	2020 Ridership	%age Change
April 25th	46,838	15,846	-66.2%
May 30th	47,289	21,115	-55.3%
June 20th	46,730	23,944	-48.8%
July 4th	46,773	22,558	-51.8%
August 15th	50,714	25,192	-50.3%
September 12th	53,930	23,503	-56.4%
September 19th	51,268	25,319	-50.6%
September 26th	52,590	24,134	-54.2%

- CATS ridership continues to be well below 2019 numbers and has been static for well over a month.

Residential Travel

Parish	Retail & Recreation	Grocery and Pharmacy	Parks	Transit Stations	Workplace	Residential
Ascension	+2%	+3%	-	-	-27%	+9%
East Baton Rouge	-16%	-3%	-9%	-25%	-26%	+9%
East Feliciana	-	-	-	-	-18%	-
Iberville	-	-8%	-	-6%	-24%	-
Livingston	-10%	+4%	+1%	+15%	-20%	+5%
Point Coupee	-	-	-	-	-17%	-
St. Helena	-	-	-	-	-13%	-
West Baton Rouge	-8%	-6%	-	-16%	-25%	-
West Feliciana	-	-	-	-	-26%	-

- While other travel was mixed, each parish saw an improvement in workplace mobility.

Source: Google Mobility Change Report, September 21th, 2020; Capital Area Transit System.