

COVID-19 Indicator Dashboard

March 11, 2021

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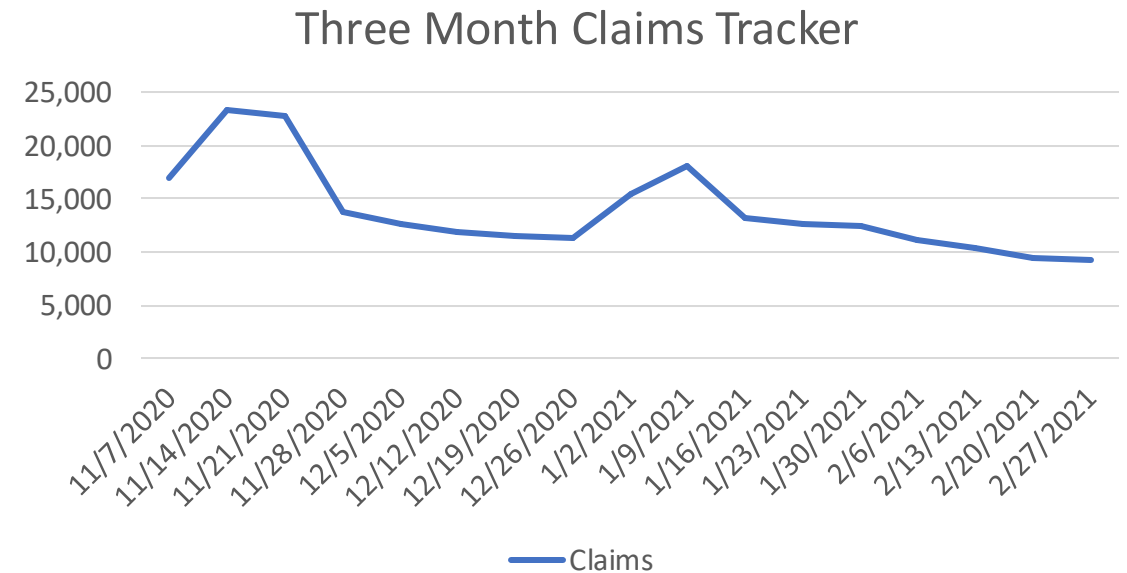
Baton Rouge Area Chamber®

Capital Region COVID-19 Indicator Dashboard

Unemployment claims have continued to fall over-the-week for the last three weeks for the MSA.

Parish	2-13-2021	2-20-2021	2-27-2021
Ascension	1,445	1,289	1,253
East Baton Rouge	6,102	5,599	5,549
East Feliciana	183	179	164
Iberville	512	476	454
Livingston	1,283	1,172	1,107
Point Coupee	277	259	258
St. Helena	133	120	122
West Baton Rouge	381	349	352
West Feliciana	103	85	96
BR MSA total	10,419	9,528	9,355

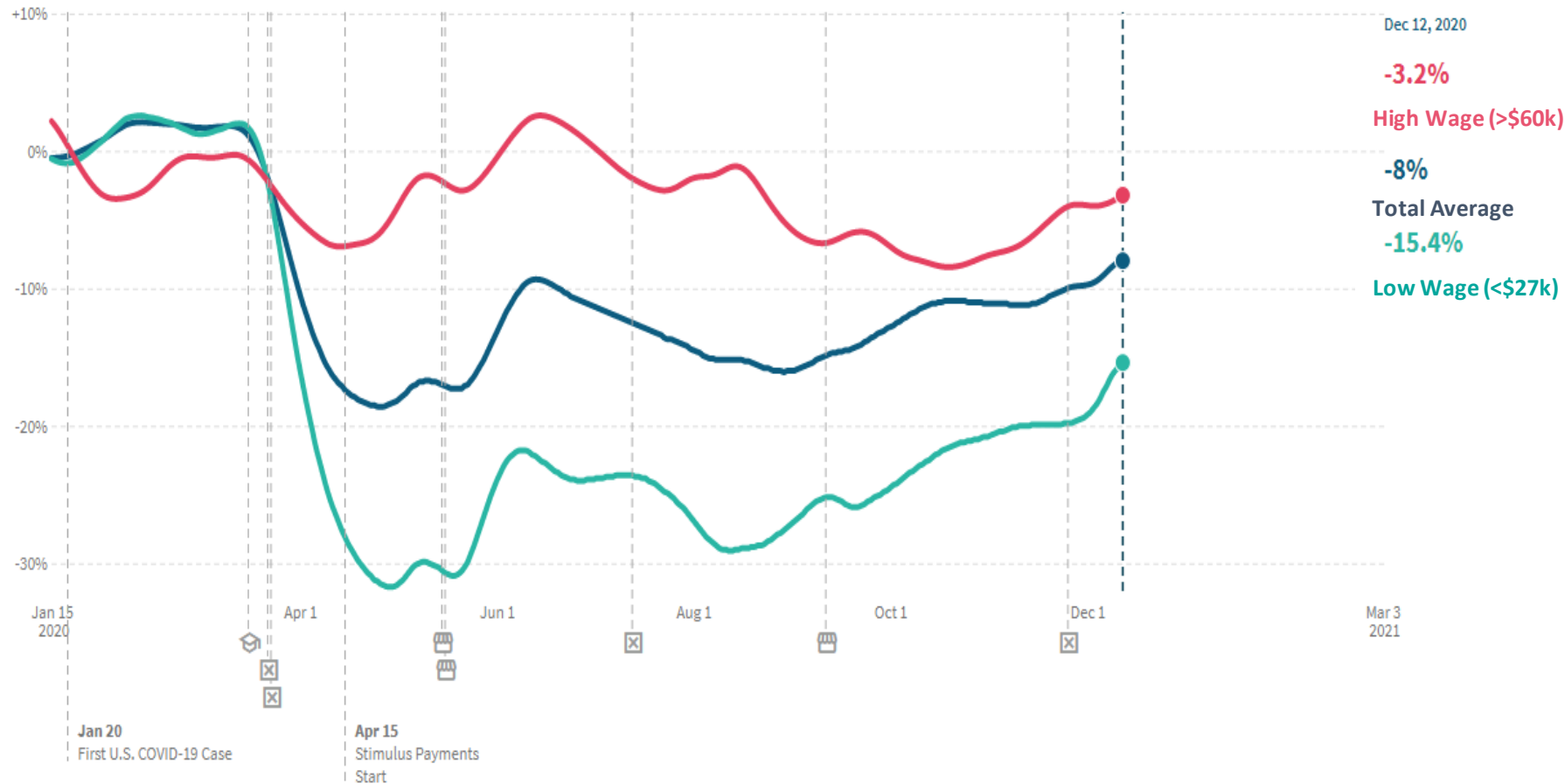
- Weekly unemployment claims fell under 10,000 for the first time since the start of the pandemic, March 2020, toward the end of February 2021.



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

Capital Region COVID-19 Indicator Dashboard

Has the pandemic affected jobs differently based on salary in East Baton Rouge?

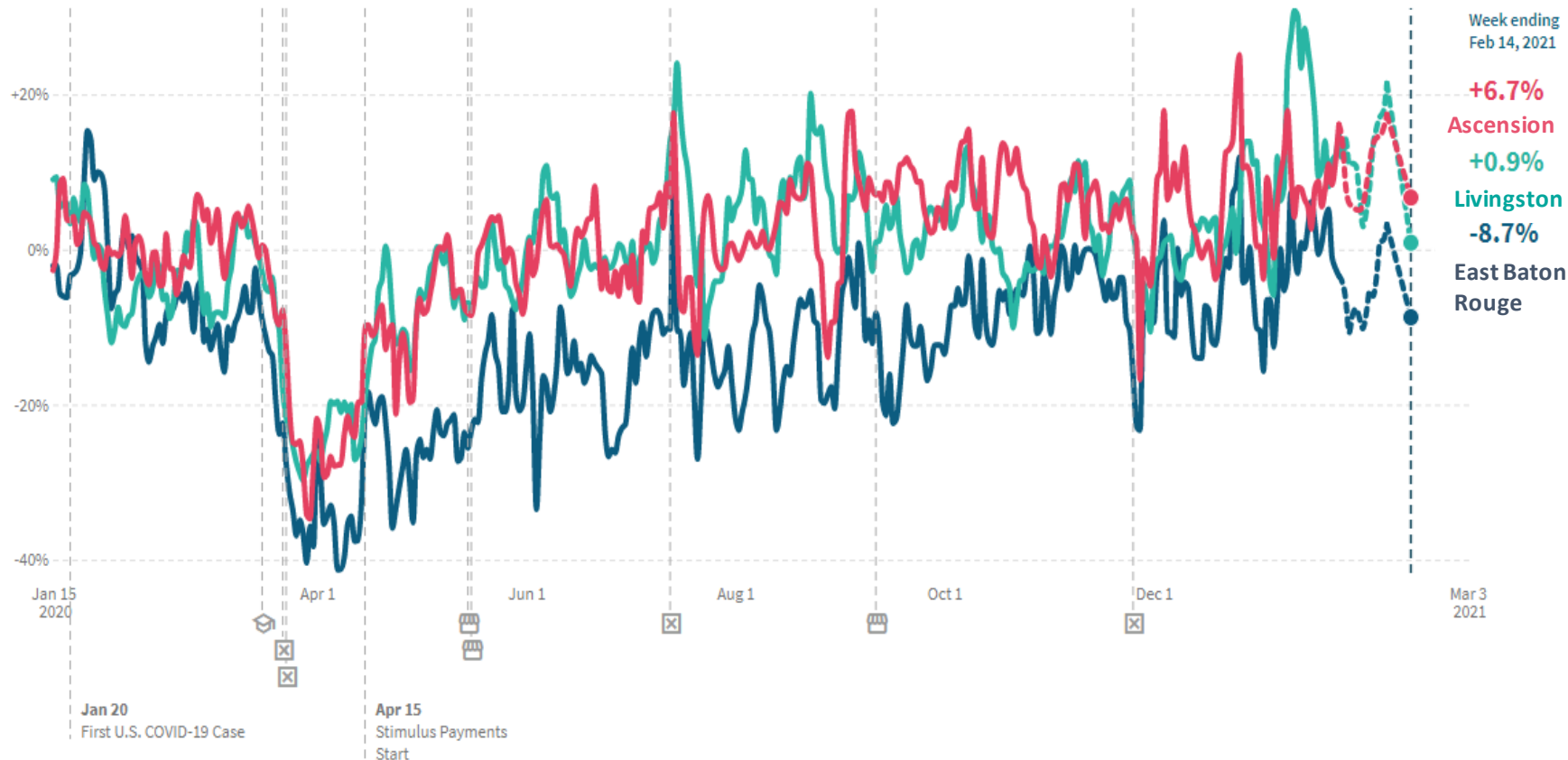


- In late 2020, high wage jobs were much more resilient through the pandemic than low-wage jobs.
- This likely reflects a split between the service economy and knowledge economy; jobs that can only be done in person have not rebounded as quickly as those that can be done remotely.

Source: Opportunity Insights, compared to January 2020 baseline. EBR is the only parish in the region for which data is available for this statistic.

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How has consumer spending been impacted by the pandemic?

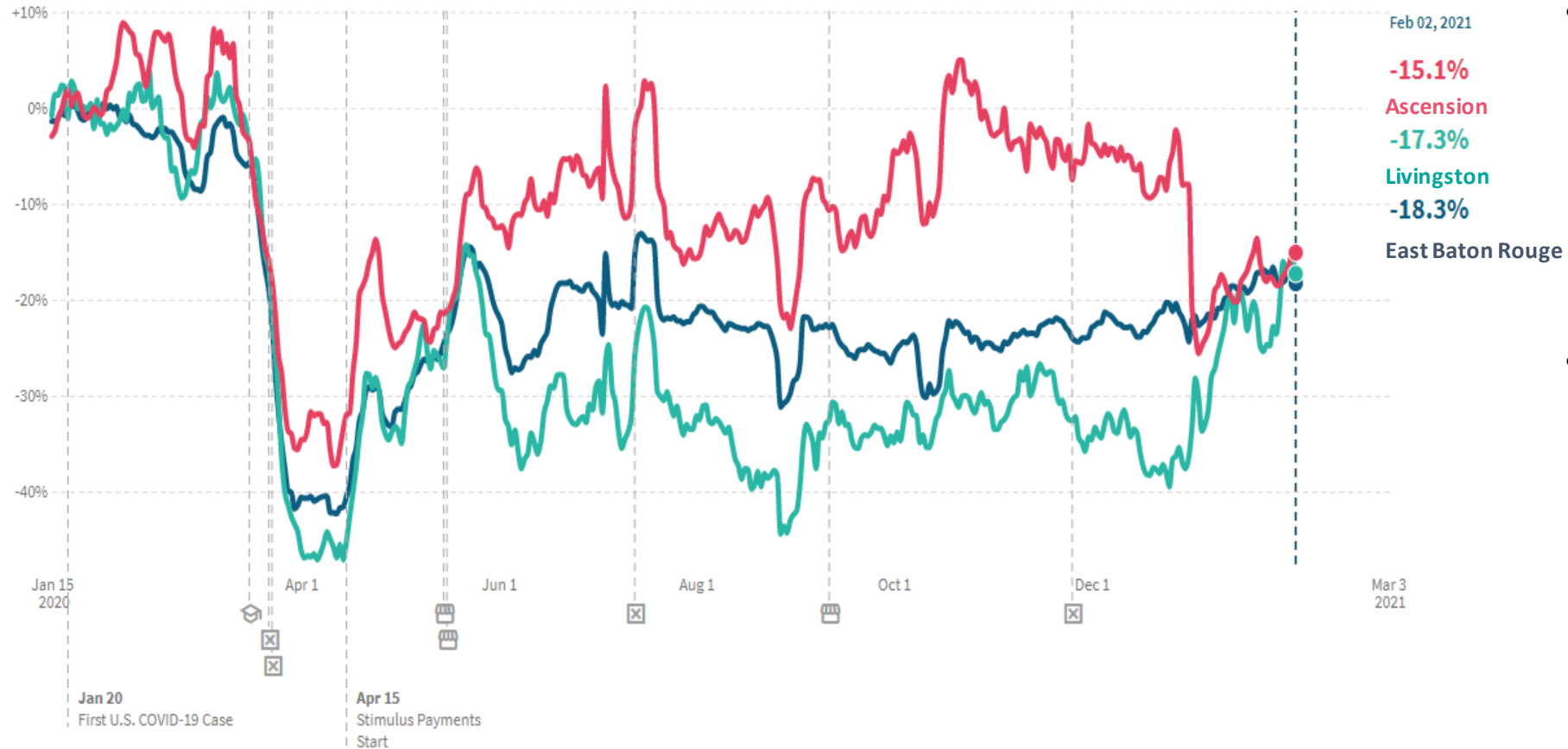


- Consumer spending was above pre-pandemic levels in the region's three largest parishes to start 2021 but has dipped slightly below in EBR.
- More than 70% of Baton Rouge metro households are eligible for the full amount of stimulus checks passed this week, which may lead to a spending bump like the region saw in April 2020.

Source: Opportunity Insights, measures how many employees are currently employed at small businesses compared to January 2020.

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How has the pandemic affected small businesses in the Capital Region's largest parishes?

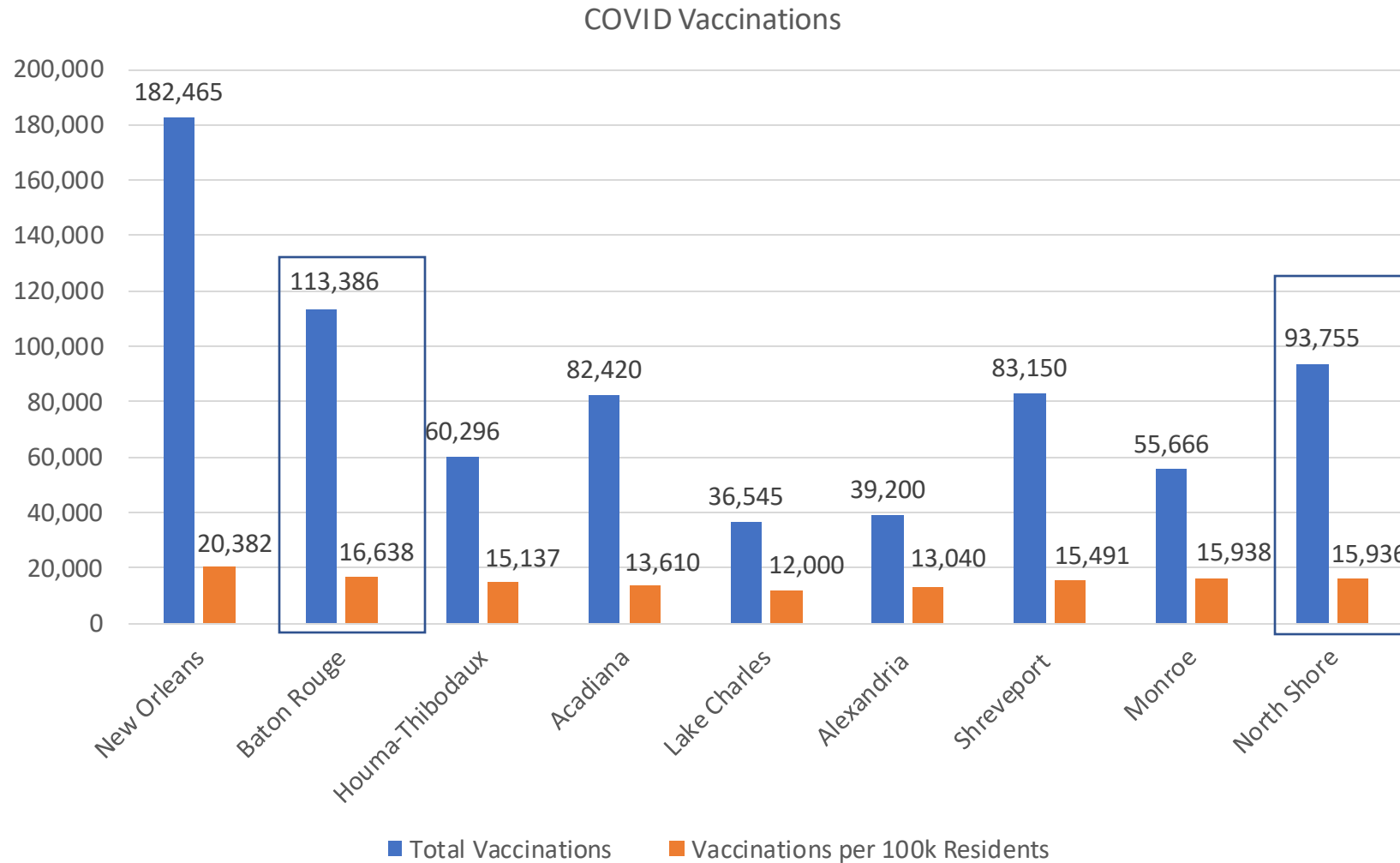


- There are 15-18% fewer small businesses open now than pre-pandemic in each of the three largest parishes in the region.
- While this represents improvement for EBR and Livingston, it's a notable downtick for Ascension parish.

Source: Opportunity Insights, measures how many employees are currently employed at small businesses compared to January 2020.

Capital Region COVID-19 Indicator Dashboard

The Capital Region has the second highest regional vaccination rate in the state.



- The Capital Region had an initial vaccination rate of 16.6% as of March 8th, up from 8.2% around the same time last month.
- New Orleans (20.4%) has the highest regional initial vaccination rate in the state, with the Capital Region being the next highest.
- Louisiana Department of Health classifies two Capital Region parishes as part of North Shore, so to assess vaccination's within BRAC's entire footprint, both regions must be tracked.

Source: Louisiana Department of Health, through 3/8/21

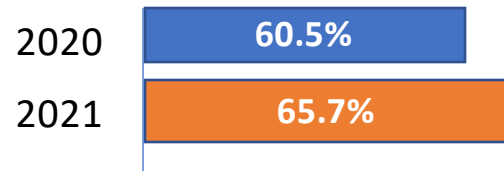
Baton Rouge Region: **Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge, West Feliciana**. North Shore Region: **Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Washington**

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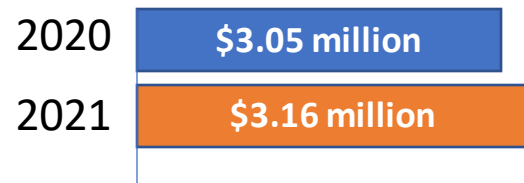
How has travel been impacted during the pandemic?

Hotel Occupancy

February 21 – February 27



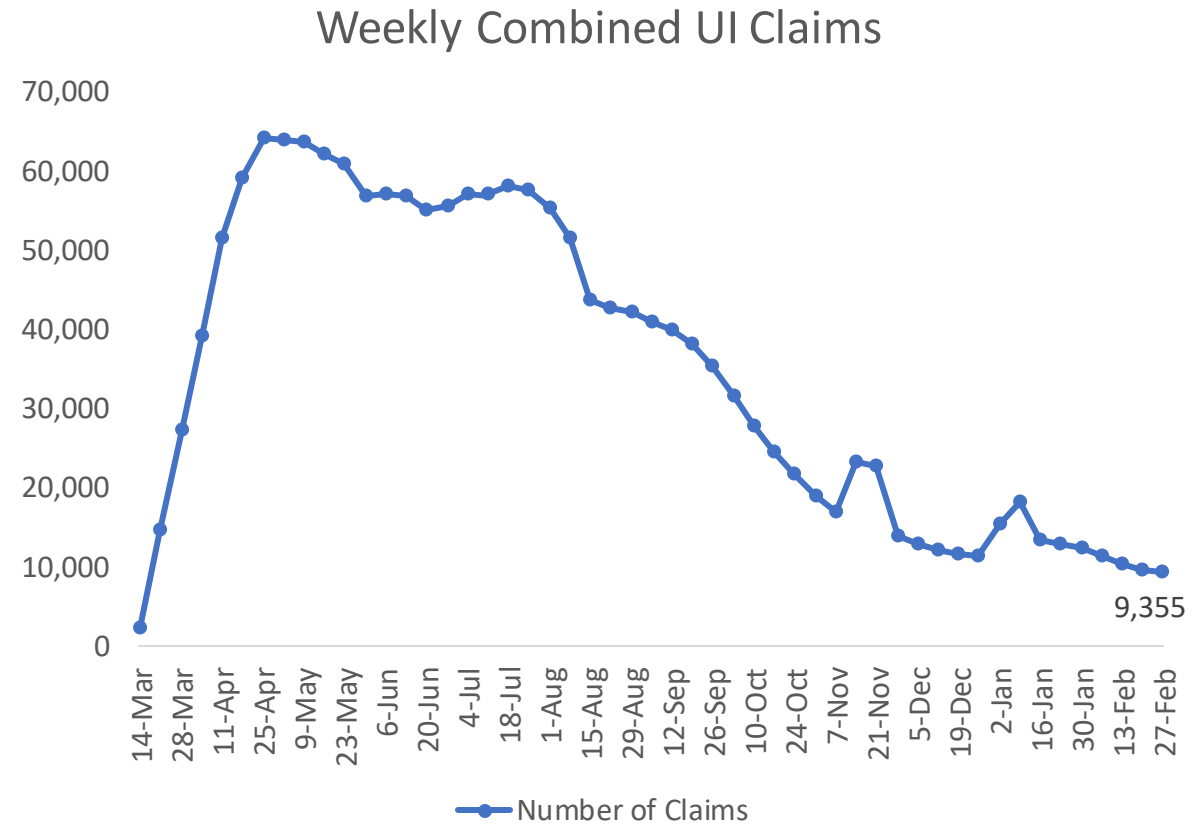
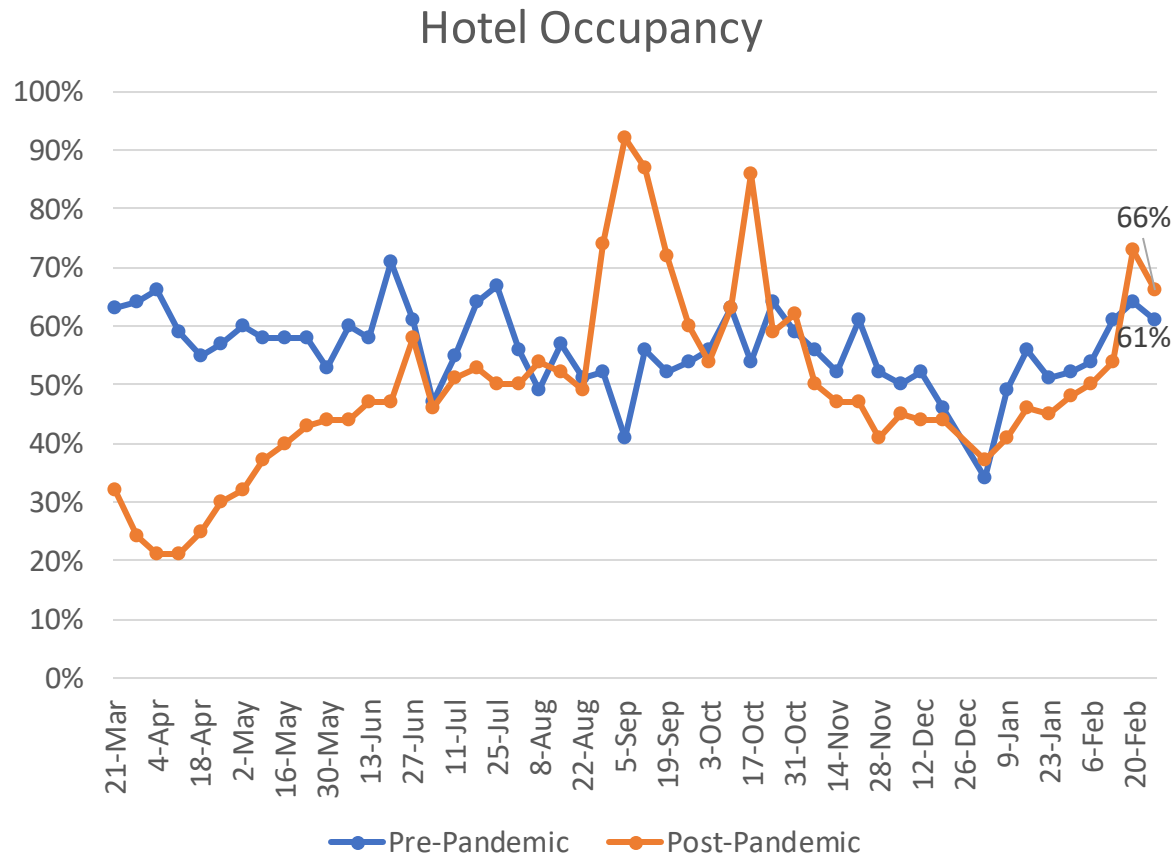
Revenue February 21 – February 27



- The 2021 hotel occupancy rates were up from those in 2020; revenues were up over-the-week as well.
- The spike in occupancy in recent weeks is likely due to the freezing conditions throughout the Southeast, which knocked out power and water to a high number of households in the Capital Region
- As Louisiana joins several other states in the region in relaxing COVID safety protocol due to low positivity rates and increased vaccination rollout, hotels may see an increase in occupancy due to increased travel.

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Hotel occupancy increased, while unemployment claims have started seeing a continual decrease across the Capital Region.



Capital Region COVID-19 Indicator Dashboard

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%
June 20th	46,730	23,944	-48.8%
August 15th	50,714	25,192	-50.3%
October 17th	47,187	26,998	-42.8%
December 19th	45,969	21,841	-52.5%
January 30th	50,140	26,134	-47.9%
February 6th	50,691	23,041	-54.5%
February 20th	54,677	9,329	-82.9%
February 27th	44,433	24,641	-44.5%

- CATS ridership was at one of the lowest points the week of February 20th due to the freeze throughout the Southeast.

Residential Travel

Parish	Retail & Recreation	Grocery & Pharmacy	Parks	Transit Stations	Workplace	Residential
Ascension	-7%	-3%	-	-	-8%	+4%
East Baton Rouge	-20%	-10%	-10%	-18%	-15%	+4%
East Feliciana	-	-	-	-	-11%	-
Iberville	-57%	-16%	-	-7%	-26%	+7%
Livingston	-6%	+2%	-13%	-1%	-7%	+3%
Point Coupee	-	-	-	-	-6%	-
St. Helena	-	-	-	-	-20%	-
West Baton Rouge	-15%	-6%	-	+3%	-22%	+7%
West Feliciana	-	-	-	-	-23%	-

- Travel to work is the closest it has been to pre-pandemic numbers for the Capital Region.

Source: Google Mobility Change Report, February 28, 2021;
Capital Area Transit System.