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Louisiana: Outside New Orleans, Bush Dominates

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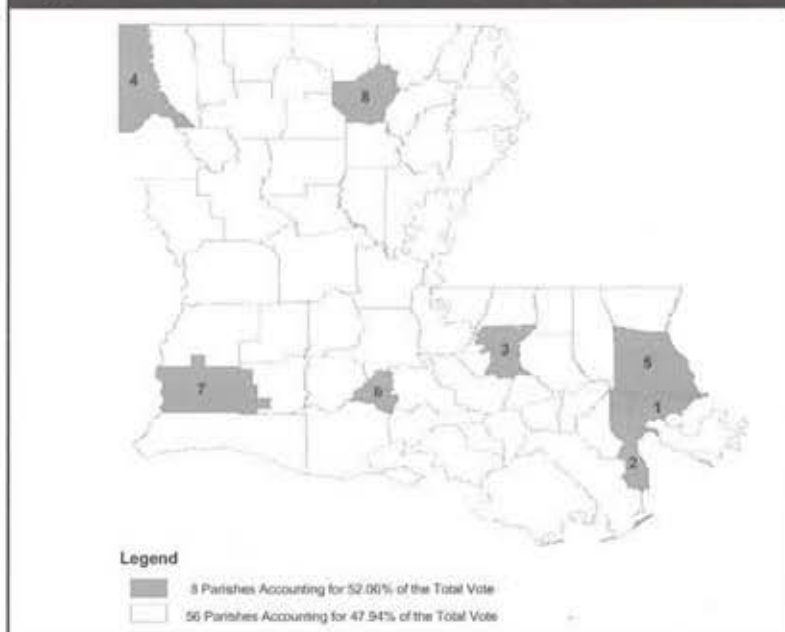
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Louisiana: Outside New Orleans, Bush Dominates

Al Gore's showing in Louisiana rested heavily upon the New Orleans Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), particularly Orleans Parish. Gore received 34.4 percent of his total support from the New Orleans MSA, and 17.8 percent of his total vote came from Orleans Parish, which has borders that coincide with the City of New Orleans.

- ◆ Eight parishes accounted for 52.1 percent of Louisiana's vote. Bush won those by a margin of 23,844 votes. In the remaining 56 parishes, Bush prevailed by 111,926 votes.
- ◆ Gore won three of the eight parishes in the New Orleans MSA and the region by 22,712 votes. Yet, Orleans was the only parish that Gore won by a sizable margin — 98,226 votes. Gore carried St. John the Baptist and St. James parishes each by fewer than 2,700 votes.
- ◆ Gore won 14 parishes, split equally between metros and non-metros. Five of the seven non-metro parishes were along the Mississippi River.
- ◆ Outside of the New Orleans MSA, Bush carried every metro parish in the state except for West Baton Rouge (Baton Rouge MSA), St. Landry (Lafayette MSA) and Caddo (Shreveport MSA), which he lost by 723 votes.
- ◆ Bush received 51.9 percent of the metro vote and 54.6 percent of the non-metro vote.
- ◆ Republican candidates won four of seven congressional seats in 2000 and five in 2002. Louisiana's governor also is a Republican, but the Democratic Party holds both U.S. Senate seats and both chambers of the state legislature. ■

Top 8 Louisiana Parishes, Presidential Election 2000



Parishes Accounting for 52.06% of the 2000 Presidential Vote

# ¹	County	1999 MSA ²	Total Votes ³	% Total Vote ⁴	County Winner	Bush Margin ⁵
1	Orleans	New Orleans	181,137	10.27	Gore	-98,226
2	Jefferson	New Orleans	179,098	10.15	Bush	34,592
3	East Baton Rouge	Baton Rouge	168,907	9.57	Bush	12,612
4	Caddo	Shreveport	95,613	5.42	Gore	-723
5	St. Tammany	New Orleans	83,719	4.75	Bush	36,471
6	Lafayette	Lafayette	78,261	4.44	Bush	21,301
7	Calcasieu	Lake Charles	73,609	4.17	Bush	4,167
8	Ouachita	Monroe	58,170	3.30	Bush	13,650
8 Parish Total			918,514	52.06	Bush=6 Gore=2	23,844
56 Parish Total			845,736	47.94	Bush=44 Gore=12	111,926
State Total			1,764,250	100.00	Bush=50 Gore=14	135,770
(64 Parishes; 9 Electoral Votes)						

NOTES:

¹"#" refers to the numbers on the adjacent map.

²"1999 MSA" refers to the Metropolitan Statistical Areas in effect in 1999. Only the first city is listed for areas with multiple central cities.

³"Total Votes" is the sum of votes cast for all presidential candidates.

⁴"% of Total" measures a county's share of the statewide vote total. Figures are rounded to the nearest hundredth.

⁵"Bush Margin" is the difference between the total votes cast for George W. Bush and Al Gore Jr.

SOURCE: Louisiana Elections Division (<http://www.sec.state.la.us/elections/elections-index.htm>)

Presidential Voting Trends

Year	% Rep. ¹	% Dem. ²	Turnout (% VAP) ³
2000	53	45	54
1996	40	53	57
1992	42	46	60
1988	54	44	51
1984	61	38	55
1980	51	46	53
1976	46	52	49

NOTES: ¹Republican share of the vote. ²Democratic share of the vote. ³Percent of the voting age population that cast ballots. All figures are rounded to whole numbers.

SOURCES: *The Almanac of American Politics*, various years; Committee for the Study of the American Electorate