

# Jackson Parish Profile

Report to Stakeholders December 2019



## About the LSU AgCenter

The LSU AgCenter is dedicated to providing innovative research, information and education to improve people's lives. Working in a statewide network of parish extension offices, research stations and academic departments, the LSU AgCenter helps Louisiana citizens make the best use of natural resources, protect the environment, enhance agricultural enterprises, and develop human and community resources.

## Program Highlights

### Family and Consumer Sciences

Approximately 1 in 3 Louisiana children is overweight or obese. Jonesboro State Bank, Pledge 10 awarded a grant to Jonesboro Hodge Elementary school to build 6 gardens. Students plant, harvest, learn nutritional value, how to store, and how to prepare vegetables from the garden. The garden project has increased vegetable consumption and encourages students to try new vegetables. Nearly one out of four adults in Louisiana is considered obese. "Let's Eat for the Health of It", taught in the parish has taught adults and youth how to make healthy food choices and get exercise in their daily activities.

### 4-H Youth Development

4-H offers education programs and life skills to five schools and homeschool students in Jackson Parish. Two parish wide clubs allow members to participate in Junior Leadership and Outdoor Shooting Sports. Additional activities such as camping, canoeing, fishing and kayaking have been added to increase outdoor project areas. The Jackson Parish Advisory Council identified educational topics for 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> members to focus on safety. For the 2019-2020 school year, educational lessons will be Internet Safety, Vehicle Safety, Bicycle Safety, Water Safety, Home Safety. Third grade students are being included in 4-H with a introductory program called Cloverbuds. Jackson Parish youth participate in community service projects for St. Jude's, Buddy Ball, Chatham Food Bank and DART.

### Agriculture and Natural Resources

Jackson Parish agricultural producers rely on research-based management techniques to maintain profitability and sustainability. Parish cattlemen attend monthly educational sessions that focus on forage crop and beef production best management practices. The poultry industry in Jackson Parish is responsible for over \$59 million in gross farm income. Demonstrations conducted at the Hill Farm Research Station broiler demonstration houses are observed and useful techniques that can be implemented on broiler farms in the parish. Agents provide assistance to cattlemen on the collection soil and hay samples and assist with interpretation of the results.

## Jackson Parish Extension Office

182 Industrial Drive  
Jonesboro, LA 7151  
Phone: 318-259-5690  
Fax: 318-259-5664

### Website:

[www.LSUAgCenter.com/Jackson](http://www.LSUAgCenter.com/Jackson)  
Office hours:  
8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### Kayla McGuire

#### Parish Chair

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Administrative Coordinator  
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## Programs

### 4-H and Youth Development

#### Kayla McGuire

- Citizenship/Leadership
- Science Engineering and Technology
- Healthy Living

### Agriculture & Natural Resources (ANR)

- Animal Production (Beef and Poultry)
- Forestry
- Horticulture

### Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS)

#### Cathy Judd

[cjudd@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:cjudd@agcenter.lsu.edu)

- Community Nutrition
- FNP-Family Nutrition Program
- Nutrition and Health
- Smart Portions

### Whom we reach:

500 youth enrolled in 16 clubs in 5 schools  
70 4-H youth and adult volunteers  
8 Certified Shooting Sports Instructors  
64 Cattlemen  
18 Poultry Growers  
1 Master Gardner

### How we reach them:

4-H Clubs, school enrichment, field days, publications, newsletters, class series, website and workshops, publications, social media, Ag Magic, 4-H Camp, 4-H University,

### Expanding our efforts:

150 volunteers from 4-H, Family and Consumer Sciences

### Parish Facts:

LSU AgCenter county agents provide research-based information on plant, aquaculture, wildlife and animal enterprises to Jackson Parish residents. The total dollar amount from these commodities were:

- Animal enterprises: \$70,796.935
- Plant enterprises: 39,030,863

Land area — 569.75 square miles; Population — 16,216 Population under 18 years old — 23.5%; Population 65 years old and over — 15.4%; Median household income — \$46,710 Persons below poverty — 18.6%

### Local issues and plans for this year

#### ***Increase productivity and profitability of Louisiana agriculture.***

- On-farm variety verification trials, field days.

#### ***Promote the wide use of natural resources and protection of the environment.***

- Pesticide rectification program
- Collection of soil samples and interpretation of results.
- Educate public and farmers about “Best Management Practices”
- Build leaders and good citizens through 4-H Youth Development.
- Develop and implement service-learning projects throughout the parish.
- Provide school enrichment opportunities for Forestry Awareness and Financial Literacy.

#### ***Strengthen families and communities***

- To conduct family nutrition nigh program in parish
- To strive to gain additional community partners



### How we are funded

You are the local supporters and beneficiaries in the LSU AgCenter extension programs. Just 20% support keeps these programs in your community.

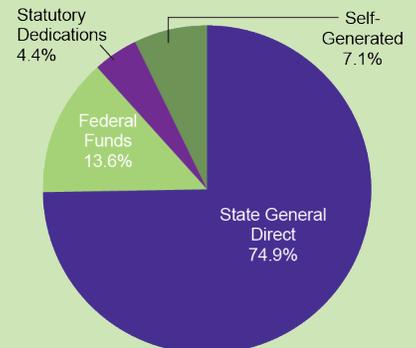
Your parish extension office offers programs in:

**Sustaining Louisiana agriculture, forestry and fisheries.**

**Building leaders and good citizens through 4-H Youth Development.**

**Family, nutrition and health to enhance the quality of life for Louisiana’s citizens.**

### LSU AgCenter State Appropriated Funds FY 2019-2020



For the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our website:

[LSUAgCenter.com](http://LSUAgCenter.com)