

PART 2

COMMUNITY PROFILE



**HAYNESVILLE
STRATEGIC PLAN**
ROOTED IN COMMUNITY,
GROWING TOGETHER.

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INTRODUCTION

This Community Profile was developed as part of the Town of Haynesville’s first strategic planning effort. The Rooted in Haynesville Strategic Plan is a short-term planning document that addresses critical focus areas, including infrastructure, workforce development, business development, and housing.

The information included in this Community Profile closely aligns with the planning elements addressed in the Strategic Plan. The first step in creating a realistic roadmap forward is understanding where the Town is today. The following analysis provides an in-depth overview of the current conditions in Haynesville and assets that can be leveraged to prepare the community for stabilization and future growth.

Unless otherwise noted, all data provided in this section were provided by the U.S. Census American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Social Explorer, ESRI Business Analyst, JobsEQ, one-on-one interviews, industry focus groups, and public input through surveys and public events. Additional information can be found in Part 3: Community Engagement Summary and the Plan Appendices.

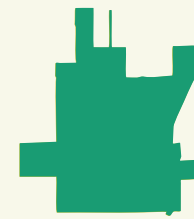
COMMUNITY HISTORY

Founded in the mid-1800s, Haynesville’s history is closely tied to the industries that have shaped the region, including agriculture, forestry, timber, oil, and natural gas production.

Haynesville is perhaps best known as the namesake of the Haynesville Shale, one of the nation’s top natural gas-producing regions. While the gas field was named after the town, much of the region’s most productive drilling activity has occurred elsewhere. As a result, Haynesville has not experienced the same level of economic

growth often associated with major energy-producing communities, despite its connection to one of the country’s most significant natural gas formations.

Haynesville is known as the “Butterfly Capital of Louisiana,” a designation celebrated each year through the annual Butterfly Festival, one of the community’s signature events. Along with its schools, churches, athletic traditions, and family connections, this tradition contributes to the town’s strong sense of identity and community pride.





POPULATION & DEMOGRAPHICS

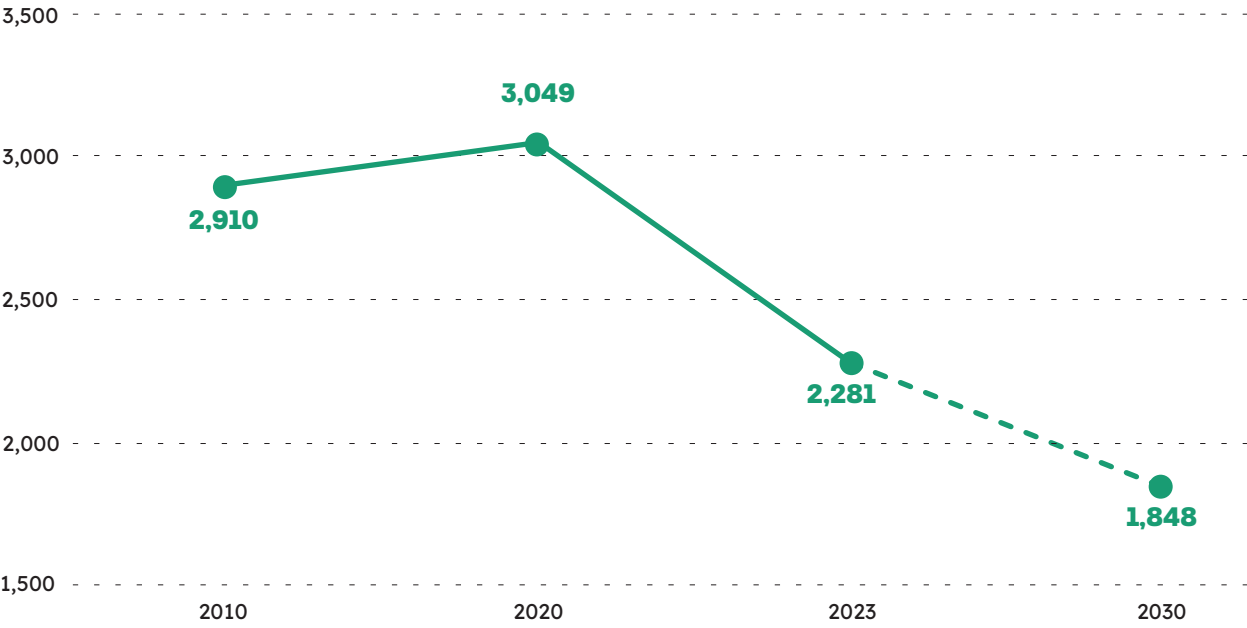
Understanding Haynesville's demographic profile is essential to developing a Strategic Plan that is grounded in the community's lived experience. Population trends, age distribution, income, education, housing, and workforce data collectively reveal where the community is at today, how conditions have shifted over time, and where the greatest needs and opportunities lie for tomorrow.

By examining Haynesville alongside Claiborne Parish, and Louisiana, where appropriate, this section places local trends in a broader context, ensuring the strategies and priorities that follow are both data-driven and responsive to Haynesville's unique circumstances.

POPULATION

The Town of Haynesville’s population has been steadily declining for the last several decades. With the exception of a brief increase in 2020, likely due to common trends of people returning home in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, Haynesville’s population went from 2,901 in 2010 to 2,281 in 2023—a cumulative decline of 21.4%. Claiborne Parish as a whole experienced a similar rate of population decline during this period (18.3%), despite Louisiana’s population increasing by 4.3%.

Using historical trends in population growth, housing, and income, ESRI Business Analyst projects additional population loss, reaching 1,848 people in 2030.

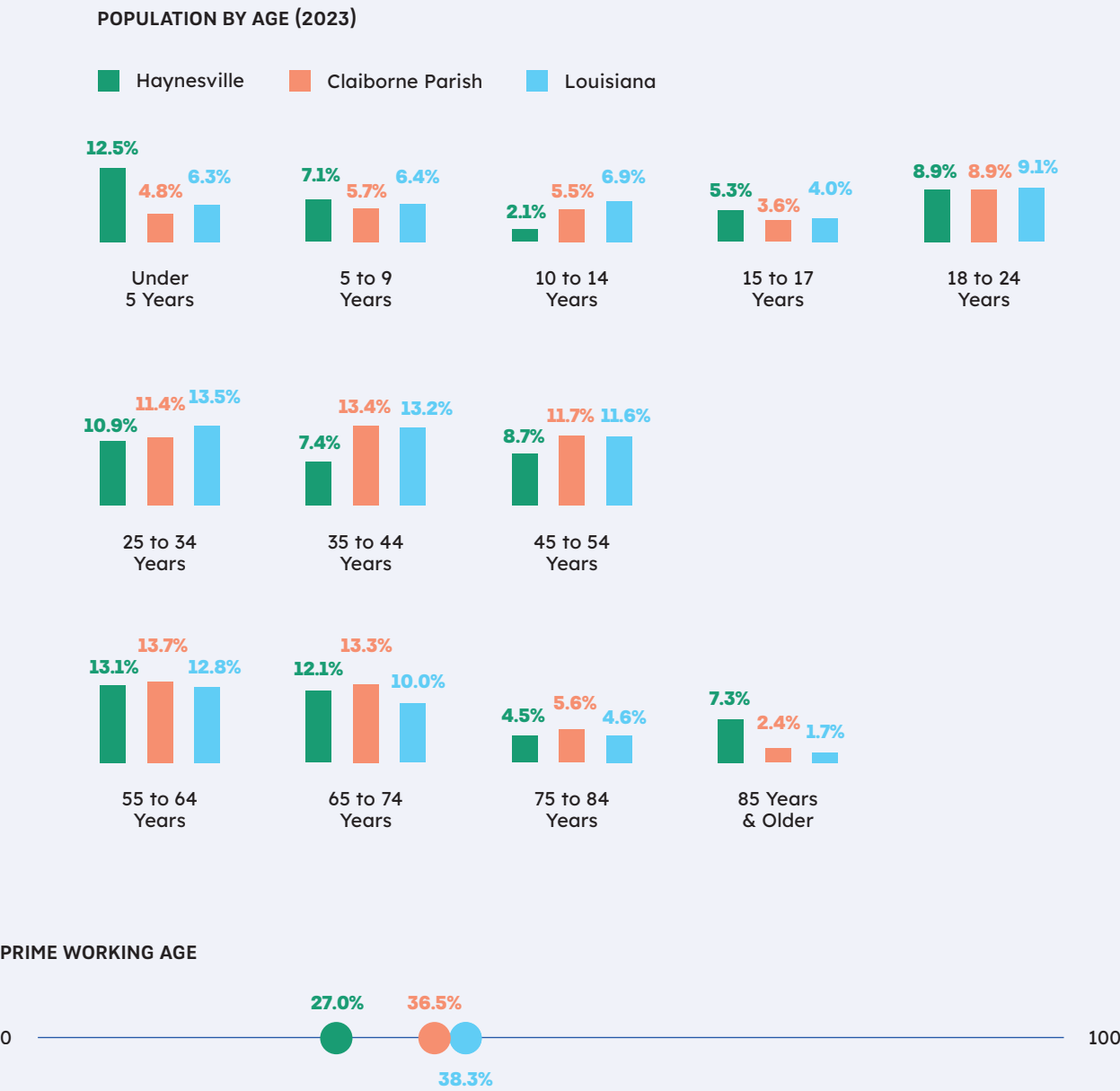


RACE/ETHNICITY

Haynesville is a majority minority community, with 72.2% of the population identifying as Black/African American, and the percentage of individuals who identify as two or more races is increasing over time. **While Black residents make up less than a third of the state’s population, they account for nearly three-quarters of Haynesville’s, making Haynesville significantly more diverse than the state as a whole.**

	2020	2023	% Chg.
White	24.7%	25.1%	▼ -23.8%
Black	73.5%	72.2%	▼ -26.5%
Two or More Races	1.3%	2.6%	▲ 50.0%

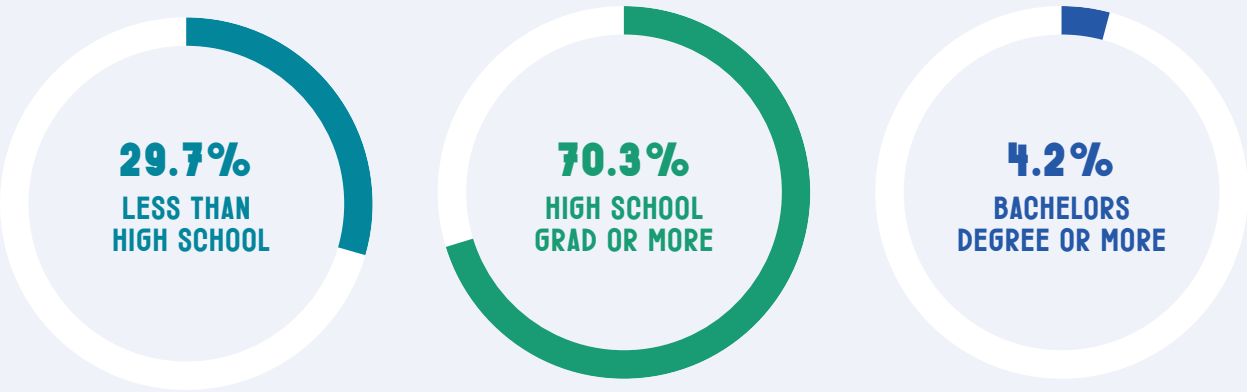
AGE Haynesville's age distribution reflects a community anchored by both ends of the generational spectrum—a significant proportion of its population is very young and very old. Since 2010, the under-5 population has increased by 158%, residents aged 65-74 by 48%, and residents aged 85 and over by 95%. Only 27% of residents fall within the prime working-age range of 25-54, meaning there is a comparatively thin middle generation to support both.



			
	% Chg.	% Chg.	% Chg.
Under 5 Years	▲ 158.2%	▼ -27.7%	▼ -5.2%
5 to 9 Years	▼ -8.5%	▼ -12.7%	▼ -2.1%
10 to 14 Years	▼ -76.7%	▼ -25.7%	▲ 4.6%
15 to 17 Years	▼ -8.3%	▼ -24.0%	▼ -4.2%
18 to 24 Years	▼ -20.0%	▼ -25.7%	▼ -9.9%
25 to 34 Years	▼ -15.7%	▼ -24.5%	▲ 5.1%
35 to 44 Years	▼ -61.2%	▼ -23.1%	▲ 5.0%
45 to 54 Years	▼ -59.6%	▼ -34.7%	▼ -17.3%
55 to 64 Years	▲ 3.8%	▼ -10.3%	▲ 17.8%
65 to 74 Years	▲ 48.1%	▲ 29.2%	▲ 56.4%
75 to 84 Years	▼ -56.2%	▼ -10.5%	▲ 20.2%
85 Years and Over	▲ 95.3%	▼ -16.2%	▲ 22.2%

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Educational attainment in Haynesville lags significantly behind state and national benchmarks. While 70.3% of the population has a high school diploma or more, only 4.2% hold a bachelor's degree, compared to 11% parish-wide. These figures do not reflect a lack of talent or potential, but rather highlight the importance of expanding access to workforce training, industry credentials, dual enrollment opportunities, and post-secondary education pathways.





ECONOMY & WORKFORCE

INCOME & POVERTY

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME & PER CAPITA INCOME

Haynesville’s median household income (MHI) in 2023 was \$21,318—a 27.4% decline since 2010—below Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, and the national MHI.

Per capita income in Haynesville tells a similar story—at \$12,840 in 2023, it reflects a 24.6% decrease since 2010, and falls significantly below Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, and the U.S.

Haynesville

	2010	2023	% Chg.
Median Household Income	\$29,344	\$21,318	▼ 27.4%
Per Capita Income	\$17,029	\$12,840	▼ 24.6%

Claiborne Parish

	2010	2023	% Chg.
Median Household Income	\$32,292	\$31,784	▼ 1.6%
Per Capita Income	\$16,925	\$19,675	▼ 16.3%

Louisiana

	2010	2023	% Chg.
Median Household Income	\$43,445	\$60,023	▲ 38.2%
Per Capita Income	\$23,094	\$34,211	▲ 58.4%

POVERTY RATE (2023)

56.7% of Haynesville’s population falls at or below the poverty level—a higher percentage compared to Claiborne Parish (35%) and Louisiana (18.9%), and child poverty exceeds 80% according to ACS estimates. **These trends indicate that many residents face significant barriers to financial stability, wealth building, and economic mobility.**



56.7%
HAYNESVILLE



35.0%
CLAIBORNE PARISH



18.9%
LOUISIANA

BY 2023, 33.7% OF HAYNESVILLE'S OLDER ADULT POPULATION WAS LIVING IN POVERTY, COMPARED TO 22.8% IN CLAIBORNE PARISH.

	Haynesville	Claiborne Parish	Louisiana
Children Under 18	83.6%	55.6%	25.7%
Population Age 18 to 64	52.2%	31.6%	17.5%
Population 65 & Over	33.7%	22.8%	14.1%

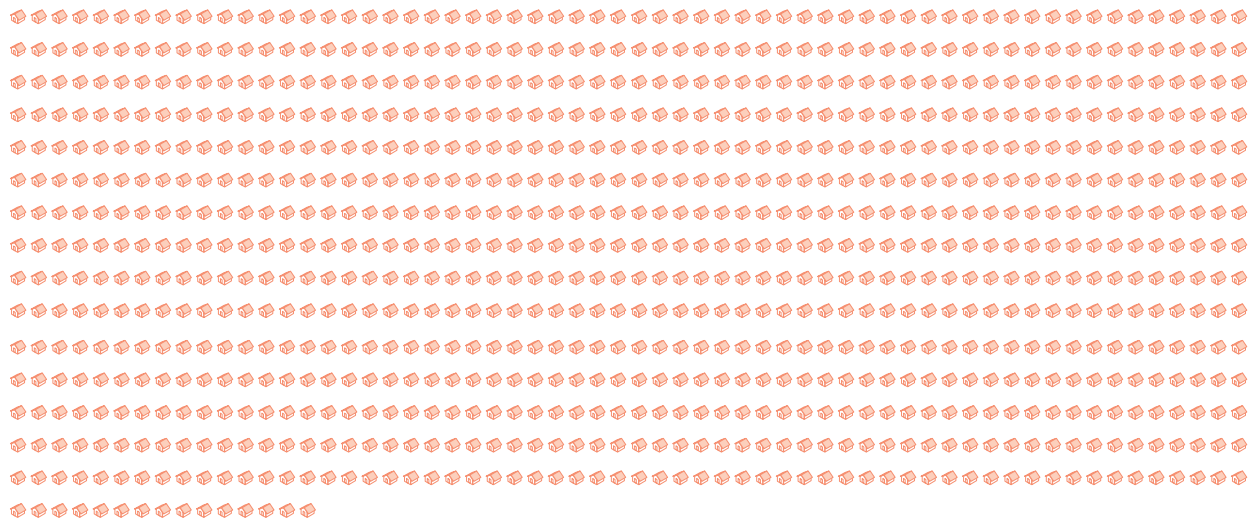


HOUSEHOLDS

Based on household data, Haynesville residents face significant economic and social strain, characterized by low incomes, high reliance on public assistance, and a large share of single-parent families.

This creates a heightened vulnerability across households and threatens Haynesville’s sustainability as a community.

855 TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS

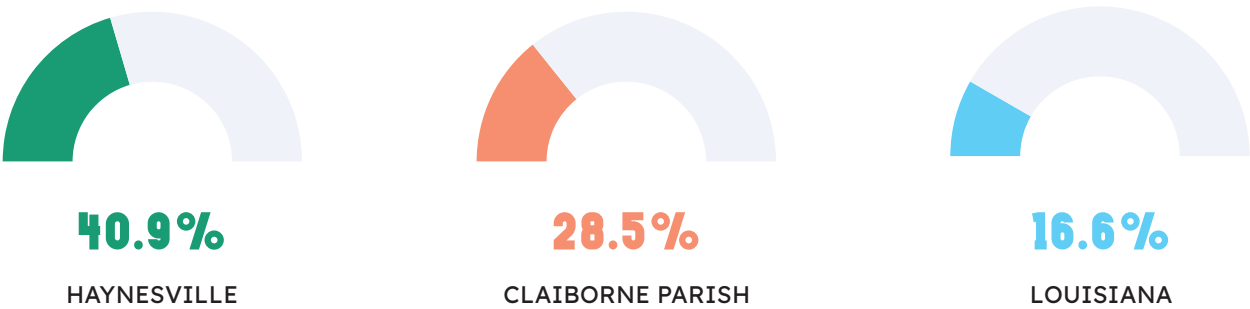


AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE



SNAP BENEFITS

40.9% of these households in Haynesville receive food stamps/SNAP—a higher percentage than Claiborne Parish (28.5%), the state (16.6%), and almost half of Haynesville’s population.

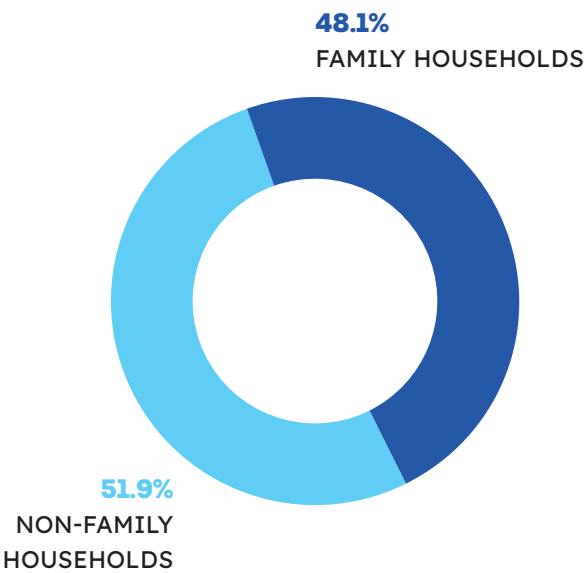


HOUSEHOLD TYPE

48.1% of these households are family households, but only 24.7% of them are married-couple family households.

23.4% FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS ARE SINGLE-PARENT HOUSEHOLDS

22.7% FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF 18.





**NUCLEAR
ENGINEERS &
TRUCK DRIVERS**

26

ACTIVE JOB
LISTINGS

\$20,700

AVG. MEDIAN
WAGE



**CASHIERS
& DELI
ASSOCIATES**

20

ACTIVE JOB
LISTINGS

\$20,700

AVG. MEDIAN
WAGE



**HEALTHCARE
INDUSTRY**

6

ACTIVE JOB
LISTINGS

\$47,600

AVG. MEDIAN
WAGE

WORKFORCE

Haynesville’s workforce data suggests that the challenge isn’t unemployment alone, but creating greater access to opportunities that support long-term economic stability.

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

In 2023, only 29.8% of residents age 16 and older were participating in the labor force, a substantial decline from 2010 and well below the parish and state participation rates. While population loss has contributed to this trend, the labor force has declined much faster than the

population itself, indicating that a growing share of residents are neither working nor actively seeking employment. These individuals may include retirees, caregivers, students, residents facing health challenges, discouraged workers, or others not currently participating in the labor market.

At the same time, Haynesville has an important workforce asset. Among residents ages 25 to 54 (the population most likely to be working), the labor force participation rate is 60.9%, exceeding the parish rate of 51%. This suggests that many working-age residents remain employed and that the community has a workforce capable of supporting future economic growth.

Recent online job postings in and around Haynesville ranged from entry-level retail and food service positions to healthcare, transportation, energy, technical, and skilled trades occupations. While many locally advertised jobs were concentrated in lower-wage service sectors, higher-paying opportunities were also present in fields such as healthcare, commercial driving, manufacturing, energy, and technical services.

Community stakeholders suggested that the challenge may not be a lack of jobs alone, but rather a combination of factors that limit workforce participation. Discussions highlighted concerns about limited awareness of available opportunities, a lack of exposure to career pathways that lead to higher wages, transportation barriers, and difficulty connecting residents to existing training and support services. Employers were described as willing to train workers in some industries, yet stakeholders reported challenges attracting and retaining motivated employees.

LOCATION QUOTIENTS

Data points to several strengths that position Haynesville for targeted business recruitment and workforce development efforts.

The community demonstrates above-average concentrations of workers in agriculture and forestry occupations, as well as construction, transportation, maintenance, and other skilled trades. These concentrations suggest that many residents possess experience and transferable skills relevant to natural resource industries, industrial operations, logistics, infrastructure development, and equipment-intensive work.

The data and community feedback suggest that Haynesville’s workforce foundation is strong, but economic stability will depend of helping more residents connect to available opportunities and workforce training. Establishing stability for residents depends on expanding access to higher-quality jobs, workforce training opportunities, industry-specific credentials, and career pathways that allow residents to earn family-supporting wages and participate more fully in the local economy.



1.00
NATIONAL
BENCHMARK

AN LQ GREATER THAN 1.0
MEANS THE OCCUPATION
IS MORE COMMON LOCALLY
THAN IT IS NATIONALLY.



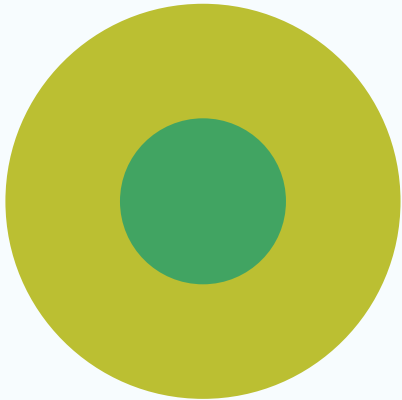
1.09
TRANSPORTATION/
MATERIAL MOVING



1.13
CONSTRUCTION/
EXTRACTION



1.13
MAINTENANCE/
REPAIR



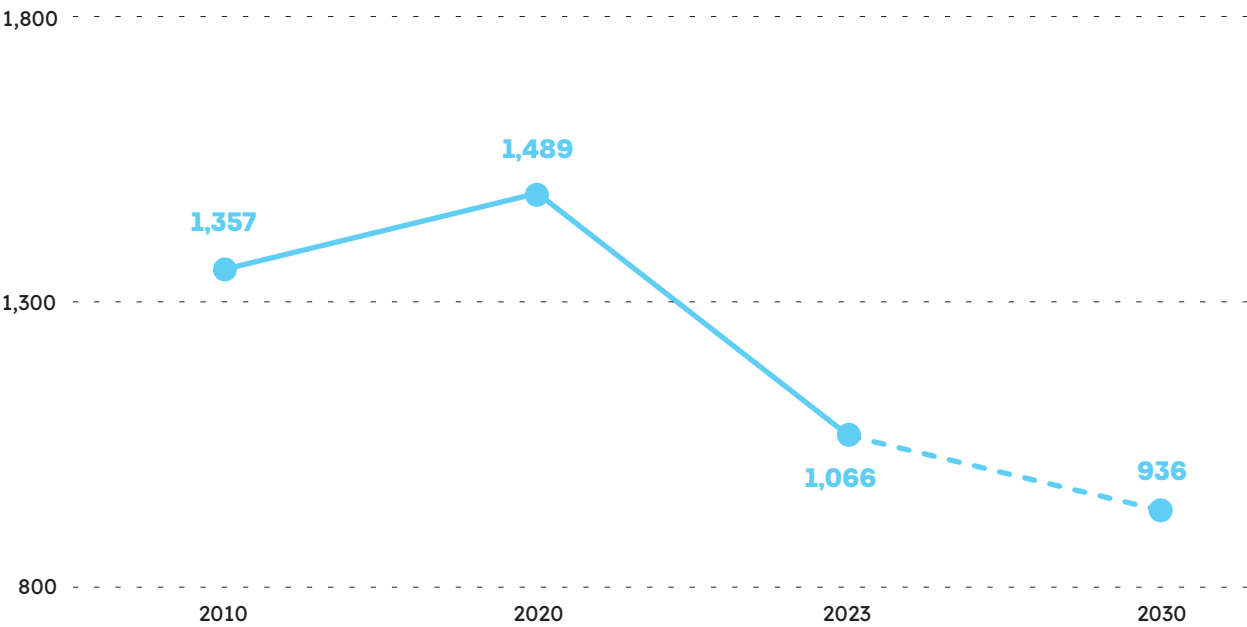
2.38
AGRICULTURE/
FORESTRY



HOUSING

HOUSING STOCK

The total number of housing units in Haynesville declined from 1,357 units in 2010 to 1,066 units in 2023. Forecasts suggest the housing stock will remain relatively unchanged, with an estimated 936 units in 2030. The overall condition of the stock is described as declining, with many homes suffering from deferred maintenance, including roof issues, mold due to high humidity, and energy inefficiency.

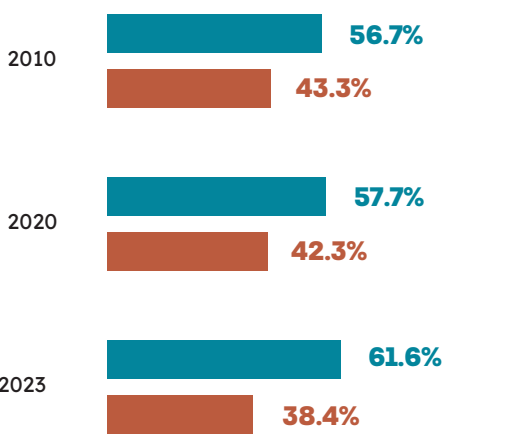


Forecasts and projections are not definitive outcomes! They are based on current and historical trends and don't account for the potential impacts of an implemented strategic plan.

TENURE

Haynesville maintains a higher percentage of owner-occupied units than renter-occupied units. In 2023, 61.6% of occupied units were owner-occupied, while 38.4% were renter-occupied.

- Owner-occupied
- Renter-occupied



AGE OF HOUSING STOCK

Haynesville’s housing stock is characterized by residents as “old homes” and a lack of recent maintenance. There has been very little new construction within the town limits over the last decade, with most new builds occurring just outside of town for business owners.

MEDIAN YEAR OF STRUCTURE BUILT (2023)



	Haynesville	Claiborne Parish
Built 2014 or Later	0.0%	1.1%
Built 2000 to 2013	0.8%	14.3%
Built 1980 to 1999	14.4%	19.8%
Built 1960 to 1979	50.6%	42.1%
Built 1940 to 1959	30.0%	19.8%
Built Before 1940	4.2%	2.9%

HOUSING TYPE

The housing stock primarily consists of traditional single-family homes and multi-family manufactured homes, which accounts for approximately 16.7% of all housing in Claiborne Parish.

This high percentage is a concern given the region’s risk of water inundation and high-wind events. There is noted interest in smaller-footprint homes to accommodate Haynesville’s aging population and to appeal to younger adults and families, though local developers report a preference for building larger units (2,500+ square feet), which don’t align with the average resident’s income.



855
HOUSING UNITS

 71.3% SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES

 4.0% DUPLEXES

 17.1% MULTI-FAMILY

 7.3% MOBILE HOMES

 0.5% BOAT, RV, VAN



1,066
HOUSING UNITS

 72.4% SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES

 3.2% DUPLEXES

 16.7% MULTI-FAMILY

 7.3% MOBILE HOMES

 0.4% BOAT, RV, VAN

HOUSING VALUE & COSTS

MEDIAN HOME VALUE

The Median Home Value (MHV) is a statistical midpoint.

If you lined up every owner-occupied home in Haynesville by price, the median is the middle one.



\$75,000

MEDIAN HOME VALUE

House Value of Owner-Occupied Housing Units

Less than \$20,000	14.8%
\$20,000 to \$99,999	44.0%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	23.9%
\$150,000 or More	17.3%

The Market Value of a home is the price a buyer is willing to pay for it right now. In Haynesville, the market is currently split. In focus groups, **realtors noted that “affordable” homes sell for around \$30,000, but these are often in “bad shape.”** And builders who participated in those focus groups stated that new construction for a modest 1,200-1,500-square-foot home costs roughly \$200,000. Meanwhile, homes priced at \$150-\$175,000 are “sitting” on the market, meaning their perceived market value is lower than their asking price.

Because banks lend based on appraised values, which are driven down by the town’s low MHV, residents cannot secure mortgages to cover the actual cost of building or fully rehabilitating a home.

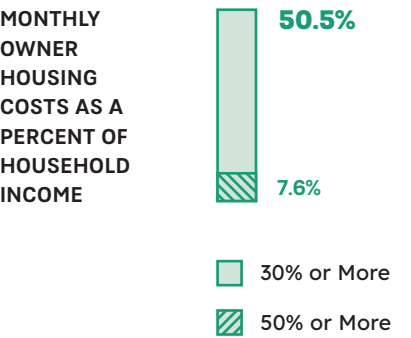
OWNER-OCCUPIED AFFORDABILITY

The 2025 Housing Affordability Index for Haynesville is 112, suggesting that the typical household income of \$25,193 is more than enough to afford a mortgage on a typical home valued at \$75,000. **While the index suggests residents have 112% of the income they need, sources suggest this “affordability” is actually a symptom of housing decline rather than economic prosperity.**

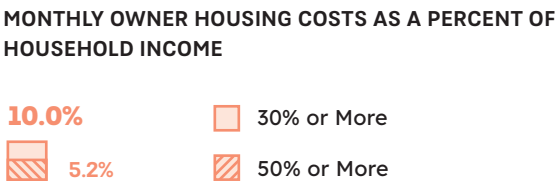
Local housing professionals in focus groups noted that perceived housing affordability is driven by low property values linked to the declining condition of the housing stock. Many available homes at these lower price points are described as unlivable or in need of major repairs, such as new roofs and mold remediation, which can make the actual cost of becoming a homeowner much higher than the index suggests.

For low-income residents, income instability remains a major barrier. Some residents face a “benefits cliff” where earning slightly more in wages could result in a net loss of essential benefits, making the transition to homeownership risky despite what the index suggests.

19.9% HOMEOWNERS WITH A MORTGAGE



80.1% HOMEOWNERS WITHOUT A MORTGAGE



RENTER-OCCUPIED AFFORDABILITY

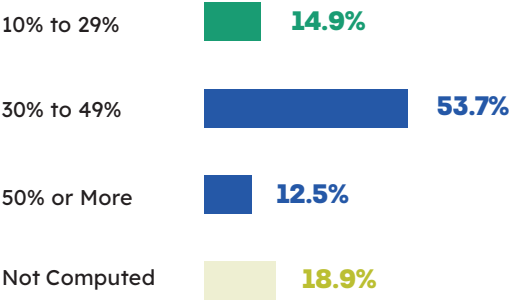
The rental market, which accounts for approximately 39.5% of occupied units, is characterized by severe cost burdens despite seemingly low monthly rents.

According to ACS data, the Median Gross Rent as a percentage of household income is 37.7%. This exceeds the standard 30% affordability threshold, indicating that the typical renter is housing cost-burdened.

\$396
MEDIAN GROSS RENT

Median Gross Rent by Bedrooms	
1 Bedroom	\$373
2 Bedrooms	\$281
3 Bedrooms	\$685

MONTHLY OWNER HOUSING COSTS AS A PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME



The affordability crisis for renters is driven by an exceptionally low Median Household Income (MHI) of only \$11,413 for renter-occupied units, which is less than half of the town’s overall median income. The burden is most severe for Haynesville’s poorest residents. **Among renters earning less than \$20,000 per year, 62.2% spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.**

62.2%
OF RENTERS EARNING LESS THAN \$20K SPEND 30% OR MORE OF THEIR INCOME ON HOUSING

SUBSIDIZED HOUSING

The Haynesville Housing Authority (HHA) primarily serves the town’s most vulnerable populations, focusing on low-income households, the elderly, and individuals with disabilities. They administer 120 Public Housing units, which consistently operate at full capacity, requiring the HHA to maintain a waiting list.

“CONTRACT RENT” IS THE AMOUNT A TENANT PAYS TO A LANDLORD, EXCLUDING UTILITIES LIKE ELECTRICITY, GAS, OR WATER.

 **\$174**

MEDIAN CONTRACT RENT

A median of \$174 is exceptionally low because it reflects the exceptionally low Median Housing Income for renters, which is only \$11,413. 89.3% of these renter households are headed by Black or African American residents.

15.5%
OF RENTER HOUSEHOLDS PAY “NO CASH RENT” AT ALL

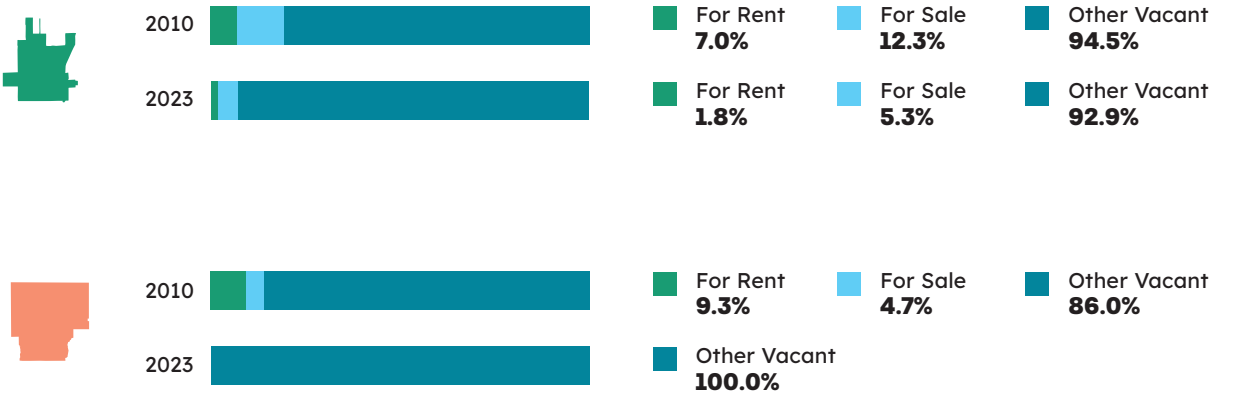
This is a significant indicator of the community’s financial vulnerability.

NO CASH RENT” CONTRACTS ARE CONCENTRATED IN LARGER SQUARE-FOOTAGE UNITS.

Specifically, 27 of these units have three or more bedrooms, and 19 have two bedrooms. This suggests that deep subsidies are critical for larger families who cannot afford market-rate housing.

VACANT HOUSING

Recent data from the American Community Survey reports 211 vacant residential units in Haynesville. Local experts, including realtors and contractors, agree this is an accurate reflection of the town’s housing landscape. The 211 vacant units are labeled “Other Vacant,” a categorization that typically includes homes that are abandoned, in extreme disrepair, or in legal dispute, rather than units available for rent or sale.



HOUSING RESOURCES

Several programs and resources exist or have been proposed to support housing in Haynesville:

 **WEATHERIZATION & REPAIR**
A federal weatherization program, managed regionally through DeSoto Parish, is available to help residents improve energy efficiency and insurability.

 **BLIGHT MEDIATION**
The town has explored a land bank model to bundle adjudicated properties for auction and discussed using vacant homes that are beyond repair for fire department training exercises.

 **ACCESSIBILITY**
Programs exist for installing ramps and handrails for residents with mobility needs.

 **PUBLIC TRANSIT**
A regional public transit system exists and could be better used to connect residents to higher-wage employment, thereby improving their ability to afford housing.



NATURAL RESOURCES

Haynesville is located in a region known for its timber resources, agricultural lands, oil and natural gas production, and emerging energy opportunities. These assets have influenced local employment, industry development, and community identity for generations.

NATURAL GAS

Perhaps the most widely recognized resource associated with the community is the Haynesville Shale, one of the nation’s most productive natural gas formations.

Although the formation bears the town’s name, much of the most intensive drilling activity occurs elsewhere in the region. Nevertheless, oil and gas development remains an important part of the broader regional economy and continues to influence workforce needs, infrastructure planning, and future land-use considerations.

LEGACY INFRASTRUCTURE

As communities with industrial histories evolve, physical assets often remain on the landscape long after their original purpose has changed. These may include active and inactive wells, pipelines, former industrial sites, rail-served properties, utility corridors, and other infrastructure.

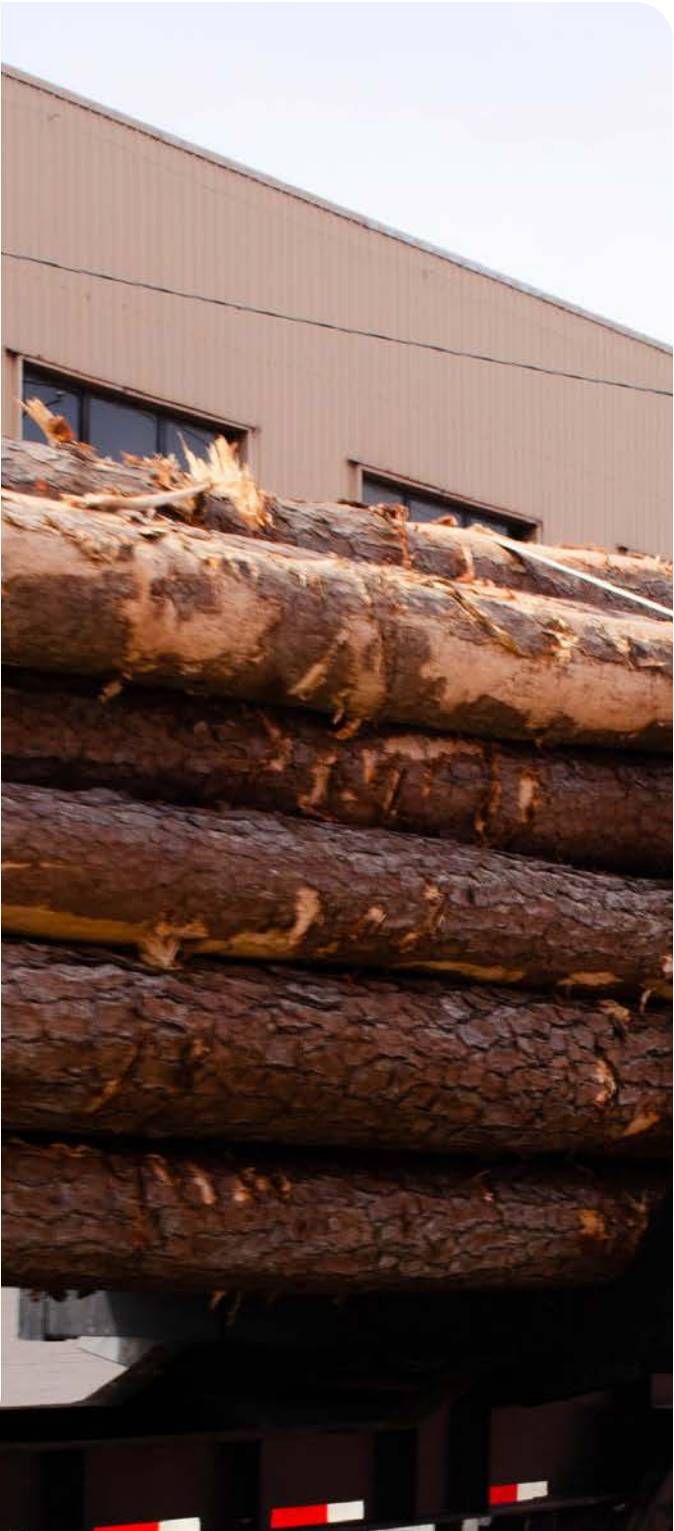
Information about the location, condition, ownership, and current use of these assets is dispersed across multiple agencies, organizations, and property owners. As new opportunities in energy, industrial development, and site redevelopment continue to emerge across the region, a more comprehensive understanding of these assets could inform future planning and decision-making.

TIMBER

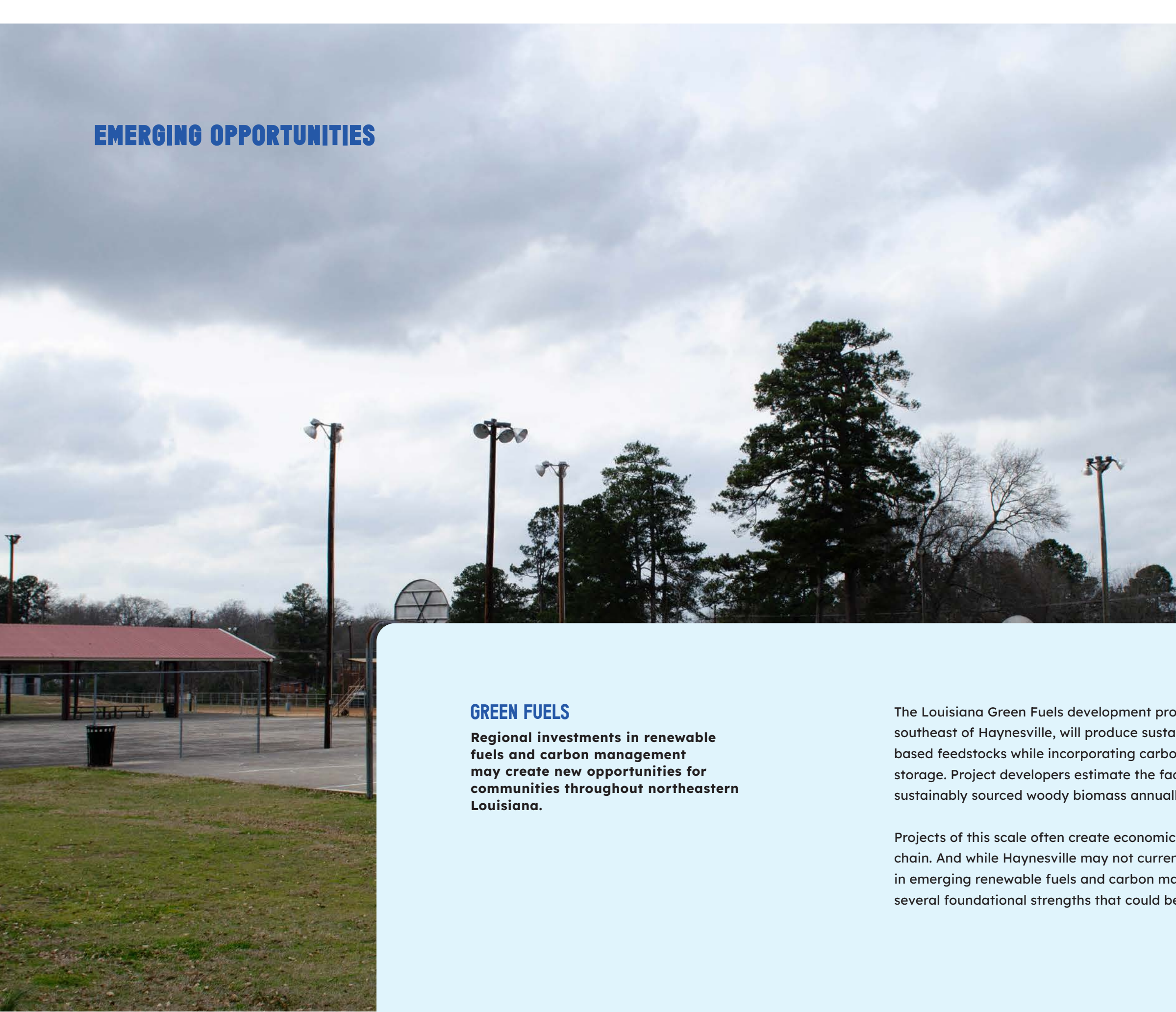
Forestry is another significant regional resource.

Timber production and forest products manufacturing contribute meaningfully to the economy of Claiborne Parish and surrounding areas.

While Louisiana’s top timber-producing parishes are Beauregard, Bienville, and Vernon Parishes, Claiborne Parish is a solid, mid-tier timber producer that yields steady revenue despite operating at a smaller overall scale. Claiborne Parish generates roughly \$27.9 million in total forestry economic output annually, supporting around 117 jobs.



Workforce data indicate that Haynesville residents possess experience in forestry-related occupations, transportation, maintenance, and skilled trades, suggesting a foundation that could support future or expanded opportunities in forestry, biomass utilization, and value-added wood products manufacturing.



EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

LITHIUM

Recent U.S. Geological Survey research estimates that the Smackover Formation in southern Arkansas may contain between 5 and 19 million tons of lithium, representing approximately 35% to 136% of current U.S. lithium resource estimates. Given Haynesville’s location just three miles south of the Arkansas border, the community is well-positioned to monitor industry developments and explore potential opportunities associated with workforce development, supply-chain businesses, infrastructure investment, and future energy-related industries.

GREEN FUELS

Regional investments in renewable fuels and carbon management may create new opportunities for communities throughout northeastern Louisiana.

The Louisiana Green Fuels development proposed for Caldwell Parish, roughly 100 miles southeast of Haynesville, will produce sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) using forestry-based feedstocks while incorporating carbon capture and permanent underground carbon storage. Project developers estimate the facility will require approximately 1.3 million tons of sustainably sourced woody biomass annually.

Projects of this scale often create economic activity throughout a broader regional supply chain. And while Haynesville may not currently possess all of the assets needed to participate in emerging renewable fuels and carbon management supply chains, the community has several foundational strengths that could be leveraged and expanded over time.

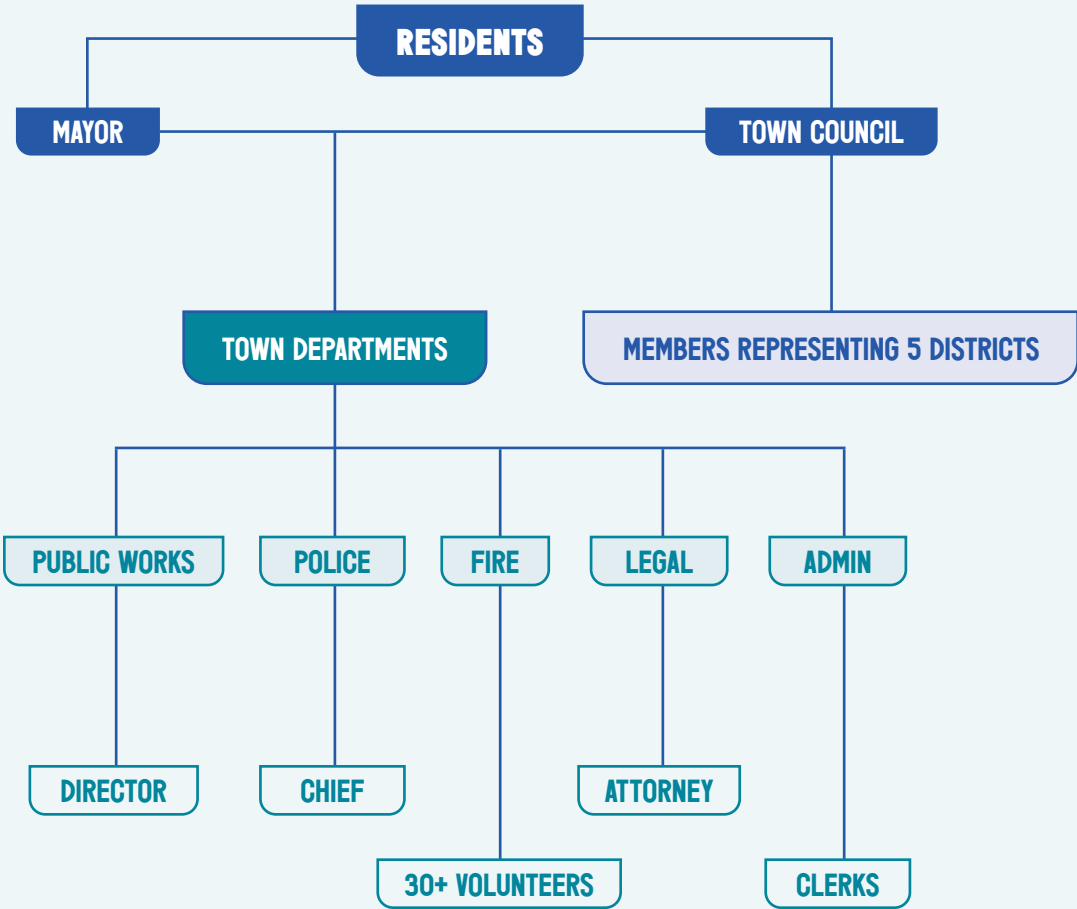


COMMUNITY FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE

CITY GOVERNANCE

The Town of Haynesville operates under a mayor-board of aldermen form of government. Under this structure, the mayor serves as the chief executive officer responsible for the administration and day-to-day operations of the municipality, while the Board of Aldermen serves as the legislative body responsible for adopting ordinances, approving budgets, managing municipal finances, and establishing local policy.

The Town Council is responsible for the care, management, and control of municipal property and finances, including the authority to levy taxes, incur debt, enter into contracts, grant franchises, and adopt ordinances.



CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

Haynesville completes annual financial audits, which provide a useful snapshot of how the Town allocates resources and invests in community assets. During FY 2024-2025, the Town reported capital investments focused on maintaining essential public services, replacing aging equipment, supporting recreation facilities, and improving utility infrastructure.

EXPENDITURES INCLUDED:

-  **POLICE STATION IMPROVEMENTS**
(supported by a \$75,000 State Aid grant)
-  **PURCHASE OF 2024 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTORS**
-  **RECREATION DISTRICT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**
-  **WATER METER UPGRADES**
(through the Community Water Enrichment Fund)
-  **OTHER GOVERNMENTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY EXPENDITURES**
(totaling approximately \$280,000)

EDUCATIONAL
RESOURCES

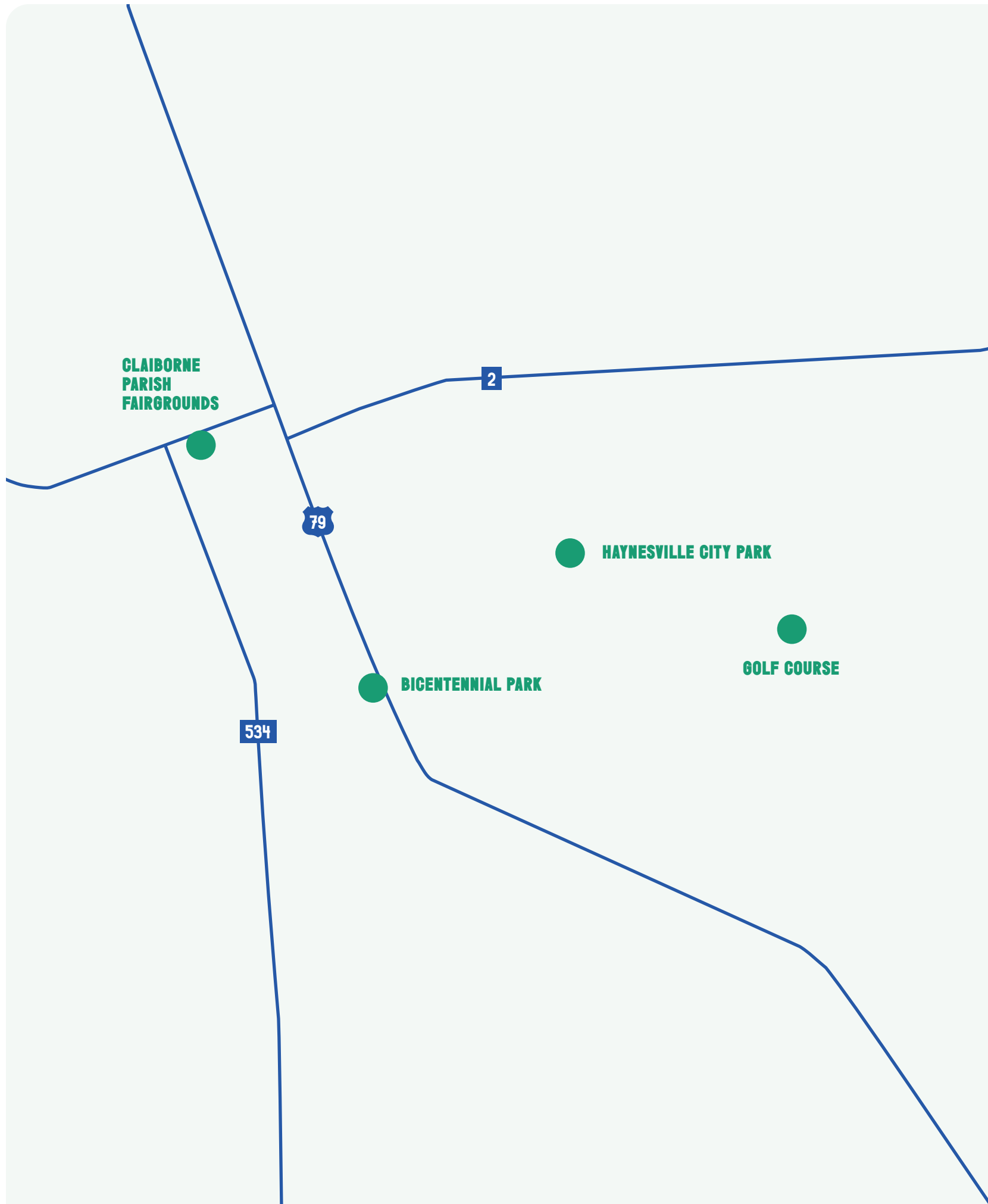
Education is one of Haynesville’s most important community assets.

Community members consistently identified Haynesville schools as a source of local pride, particularly Haynesville Junior/Senior High School and its nationally recognized Golden Tornado football program. School activities, athletic events, and student achievements serve as important gathering points for residents and contribute significantly to the community’s identity.

Beyond traditional academics, Haynesville Junior/Senior High School offers a variety of college and career readiness opportunities, including **dual enrollment through Northwestern State University, Louisiana Tech, and Bossier Parish Community College.**

Students also have access to technical certifications through **partnerships with Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College**, as well as career pathways in agriculture, logistics, manufacturing, allied health, and skilled trades.





PARKS & RECREATION

Haynesville offers an impressive collection of parks, recreational facilities, and community gathering spaces for a town of its size.

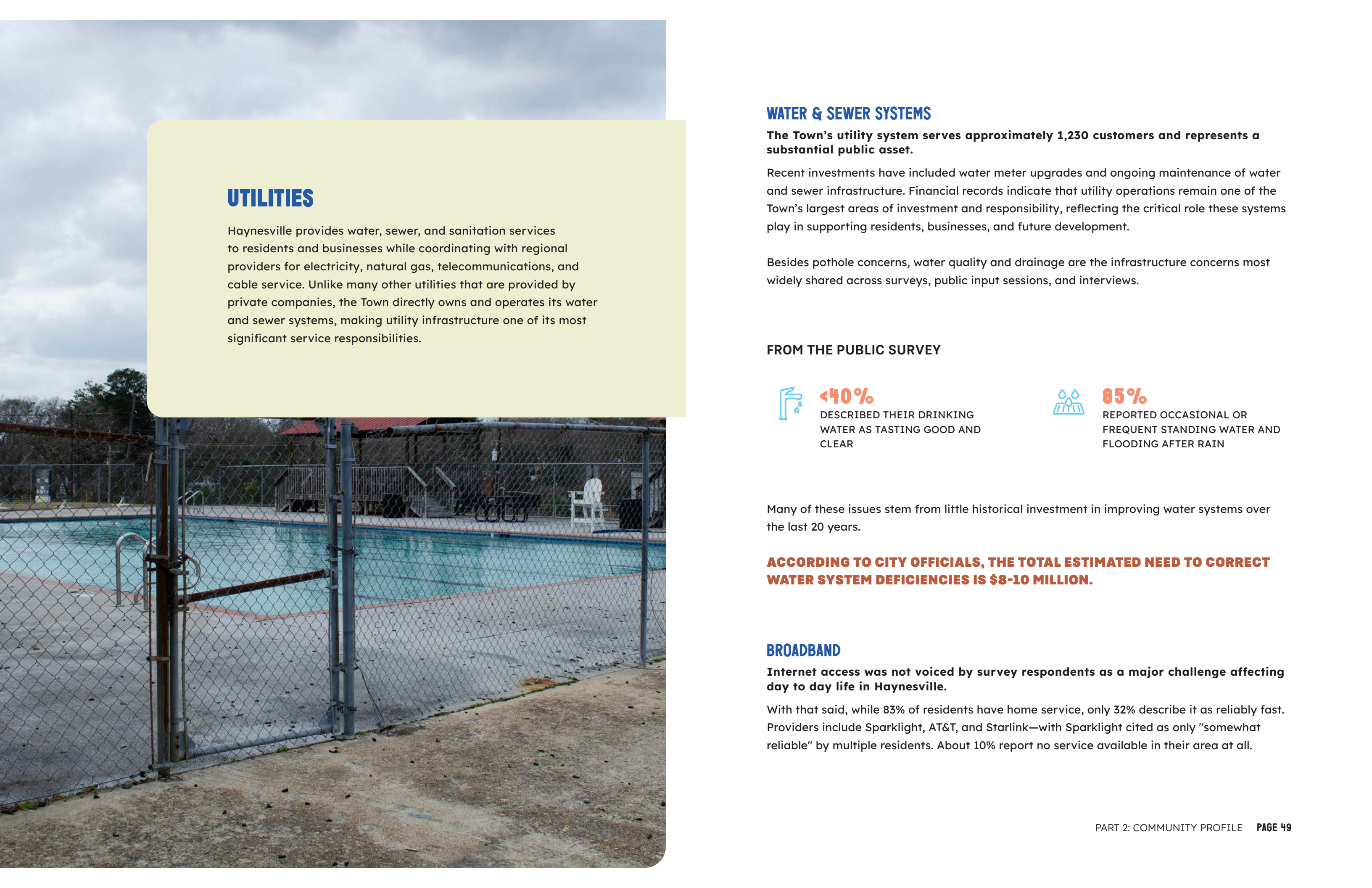
Collectively, these facilities provide swimming pools, baseball and softball fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, a riding arena, a fishing pond, walking and gathering spaces, RV accommodations, and a public golf course.

These facilities are important venues for community events and traditions. The Claiborne Parish Fairgrounds host the annual Claiborne Parish Fair and Butterfly Festival, while athletic facilities throughout the community support youth sports programs and school activities that bring residents together and contribute to community pride.

Throughout the planning process, residents frequently identified recreational opportunities, youth activities, community events, and quality-of-life amenities as important priorities. Youth participants expressed a desire for additional activities, gathering spaces, and recreation options, while many residents emphasized the importance of maintaining and improving existing facilities.

THE COMMUNITY SWIMMING POOL EMERGED AS A PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT ASSET DURING YOUTH ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES.

Students described it as both a recreational gathering place and the home of their swim league, while also expressing concerns about its condition and long-term maintenance. Participants viewed improvements to the facility as a source of pride and investment in the town’s youth and overall quality of life.



UTILITIES

Haynesville provides water, sewer, and sanitation services to residents and businesses while coordinating with regional providers for electricity, natural gas, telecommunications, and cable service. Unlike many other utilities that are provided by private companies, the Town directly owns and operates its water and sewer systems, making utility infrastructure one of its most significant service responsibilities.

WATER & SEWER SYSTEMS

The Town’s utility system serves approximately 1,230 customers and represents a substantial public asset.

Recent investments have included water meter upgrades and ongoing maintenance of water and sewer infrastructure. Financial records indicate that utility operations remain one of the Town’s largest areas of investment and responsibility, reflecting the critical role these systems play in supporting residents, businesses, and future development.

Besides pothole concerns, water quality and drainage are the infrastructure concerns most widely shared across surveys, public input sessions, and interviews.

FROM THE PUBLIC SURVEY



<40%

DESCRIBED THEIR DRINKING WATER AS TASTING GOOD AND CLEAR



85%

REPORTED OCCASIONAL OR FREQUENT STANDING WATER AND FLOODING AFTER RAIN

Many of these issues stem from little historical investment in improving water systems over the last 20 years.

ACCORDING TO CITY OFFICIALS, THE TOTAL ESTIMATED NEED TO CORRECT WATER SYSTEM DEFICIENCIES IS \$8-10 MILLION.

BROADBAND

Internet access was not voiced by survey respondents as a major challenge affecting day to day life in Haynesville.

With that said, while 83% of residents have home service, only 32% describe it as reliably fast. Providers include Sparklight, AT&T, and Starlink—with Sparklight cited as only “somewhat reliable” by multiple residents. About 10% report no service available in their area at all.

Residents at the listening session confirmed that the library serves as a public access point for those without home internet. A broader upgrade is on the horizon—Haynesville recently received a 30-day municipal notice regarding a GUMBO 2.0 / Connect LA broadband project tied to the local AT&T tower, with work expected in early 2027 that should improve or expand service.

Louisiana has received \$1.36 billion in federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment funding through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. The intent of this broadband expansion is to help close the digital divide in Louisiana by 2028—Louisiana received the eighth largest allocation in the country. While Haynesville proper is dedicated as a served area, funded areas include the outskirts of town, both east and west of town and north and south along Highway 79.

ROADS

Several major state-maintained routes pass through Haynesville, including U.S. Highway 79, Louisiana Highway 520, and Louisiana Highway 3062.

These roads are important regional connections and provide access to neighboring communities, employment centers, and commercial destinations. **Although these roadways pass through town, they are maintained by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD).**

- **U.S. Highways:** The main arterial route passing through town is U.S. Highway 79 (US 79), which connects to nearby Homer and the Arkansas state line.
- **Main Street (U.S. 79/LA 520):** The principal north-south thoroughfare that intersects the town’s commercial and residential zones.
- **Louisiana Highway 520 (E. Main St / W. Main St):** Traverses the town in an east-to-west direction, intersecting with local streets.
- **Louisiana Highway 3062:** Another secondary state route that provides access to the surrounding rural regions.

In addition to state highways, Claiborne Parish maintains a network of parish roads that provide access to rural areas and unincorporated portions of the parish. **Within the municipal limits, the Town of Haynesville is responsible for maintaining local streets that serve residential neighborhoods, municipal facilities, and other community destinations.**



EXISTING CONDITIONS

Road conditions represent the most frequently documented infrastructure frustration for the Haynesville community. Because 95% of residents rely on personal vehicles in their daily activity, the physical state of the streets has a direct impact on quality of life.

In recent community surveys, 74 residents provided detailed descriptions of “terrible” road conditions, specifically citing a prevalence of potholes, inadequate drainage, and temporary patches that fail to hold over time. The condition of the roads creates significant safety hazards, particularly for the town’s youth. Local students reported having to constantly swerve to avoid potholes while driving to and from school.

COMMUNITY ASSETS

Haynesville’s greatest strength isn’t a single facility, employer, or program, it’s the people and the social fabric that binds them together.

Across surveys, workshops, and discussions, residents consistently described a community defined by strong relationships, local pride, and a shared desire to see the town succeed.

This sense of togetherness shows up in everyday ways: people gathering for football games, supporting one another through local events, and maintaining a level of trust and familiarity that residents deeply value.



SOCIAL FABRIC

COMMUNITY NETWORKS & HUMAN CAPITAL

Haynesville relies heavily on informal, faith-based, and youth-focused networks to maintain community cohesion and support. They also look to trusted leaders and community members for reliable information, resources, and support.

- Joe Webb Memorial Library
- **Faith-Based Institutions:** Churches serve as gathering spaces and informal support networks, including Westside Baptist Church, First Assembly of God, Haynesville United Methodist, United Pentecostal Church, Hatter Chapel Freewill Church, Dolley’s Chapel Methodist Church, Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, First Presbyterian Church, First Baptist Church, Woodland Church of Christ, Haynesville United Pentecostal Church
- **Civic & Youth Organizations:** 4-H (Haynesville Fair Barn), FFA (Haynesville High School), and the Boys & Girls Club (9842 Hwy 79)
- **Community Champions:** Key local leaders act as human assets, including the Fire Chief, who residents acknowledge for directing numerous charitable events, the Youth Minister at First Baptist, and the town’s dedicated teachers and educators.



BUSINESS SNAPSHOT

Esri Business Analyst reports that, as of 2025, Haynesville supports a total of 80 businesses employing 781 people. Total annual sales from these businesses is estimated at \$117 million.

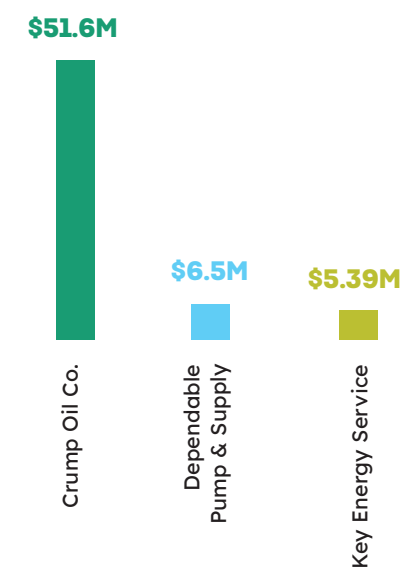


While most of the businesses in Haynesville are categorized as “independent,” the town’s sales volume is primarily driven by a few large-scale companies. For example, Crump Oil Co reported sales volume of \$51.6 million, Dependable Pump and Supply reported \$6.5 million, and Key Energy Service reported \$5.39 million.

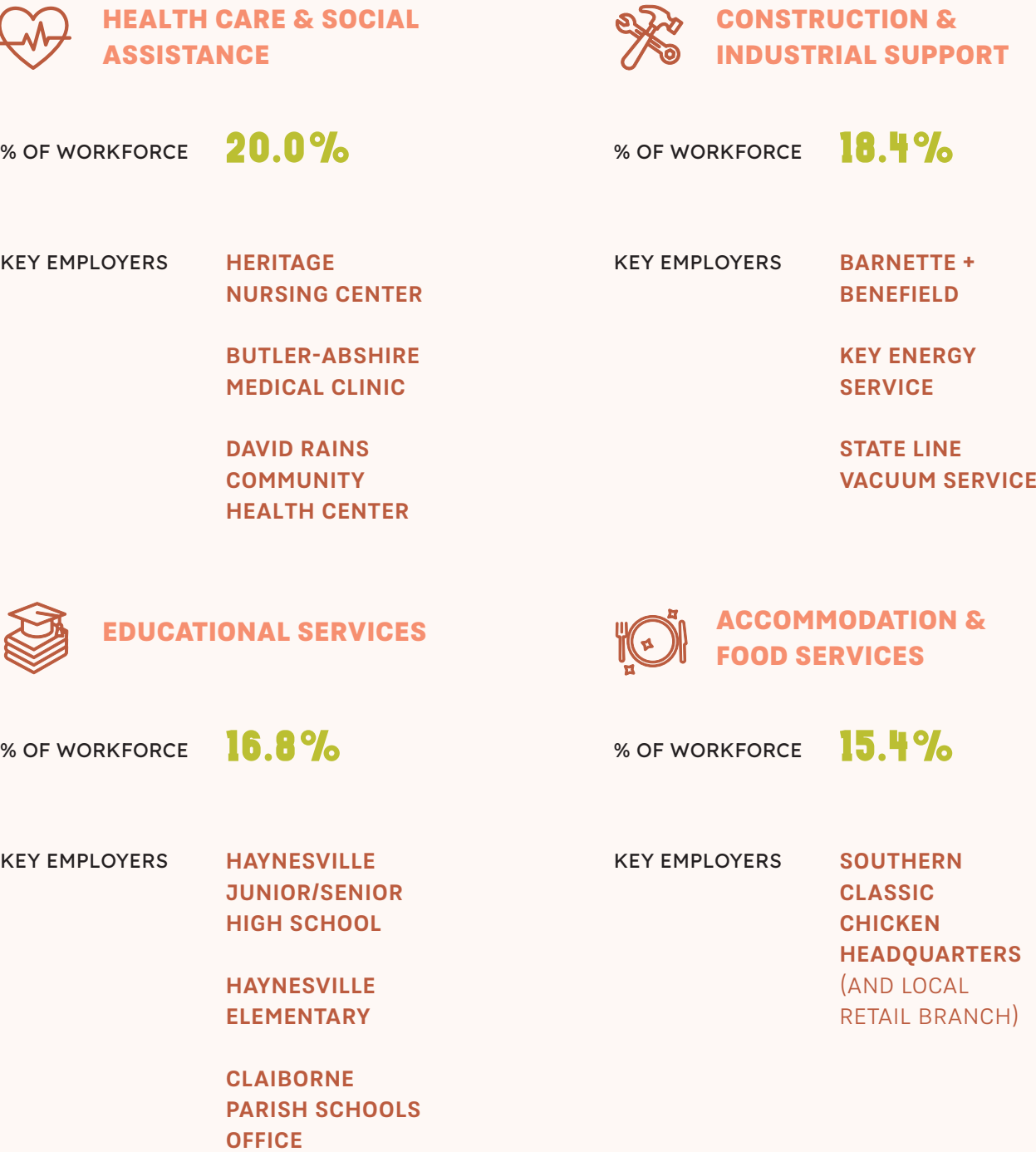
A significant number of businesses in Haynesville (12.5%) are non-commercial, including 10 churches, which are valuable to the town’s social fabric but do not contribute to the tax base in the same way that commercial businesses do.

SALES VOLUME OF LARGE-SCALE COMPANIES

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THE BUSINESS LANDSCAPE IS PRIMARILY REPRESENTED BY ESTABLISHMENTS THAT PROVIDE COMMUNITY STABILITY AND LONG-TERM CARE.



Prepared by Atlas Community Studios
for the Town of Haynesville, Louisiana.

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**HAYNESVILLE
STRATEGIC PLAN**
ROOTED IN COMMUNITY,
GROWING TOGETHER.