

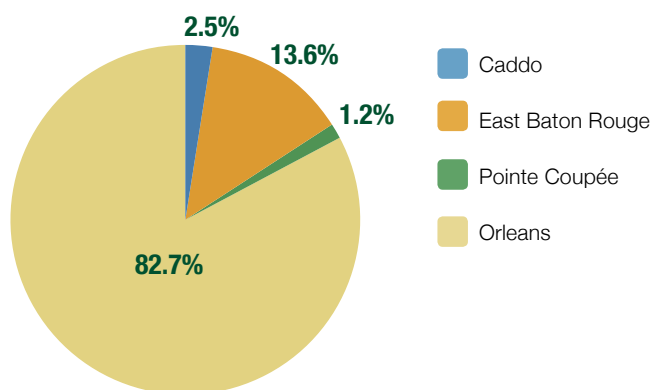
# Recovery School District of Louisiana

## What is the RSD?

- During the 2003 Regular Legislative Session, the Louisiana Legislature passed Act 9 to create the Recovery School District (RSD). Following Hurricane Katrina, the Louisiana Legislature passed Act 35 to allow the RSD to more easily takeover schools in failing districts.
- The RSD is a school district administered by the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) and is designed to take over academically failing schools and turn them into successful schools.
- An academically failing school is determined by Louisiana's statewide program of school accountability adopted by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE). School accountability in Louisiana is based on the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP).
- Schools that do not meet the minimum academic standards for at least four consecutive years are eligible for state takeover. A school must have a School Performance Score (SPS) below 65 for the 2010-2011 school year and below a 75 for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Schools that are placed under the RSD must remain there for a minimum of five years. This length of time is meant to allow the schools to fully establish the instructional practices and expectations necessary for success prior to returning to the control of the local school board. All schools in the New Orleans RSD will be reaching their 5 year mark this year.
- Since the creation of the RSD, over 120 schools have been taken over statewide. Currently, there are 70 schools open under the RSD. The remaining schools have not been re-opened due to the decreased population in Orleans Parish.

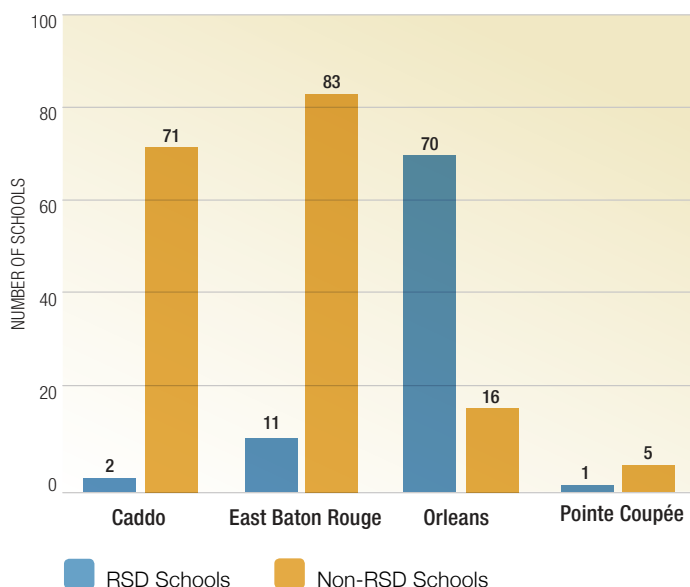
## School Districts Represented in the RSD

The RSD is comprised of schools from Caddo, East Baton Rouge, Orleans, and Pointe Coupée Parishes.

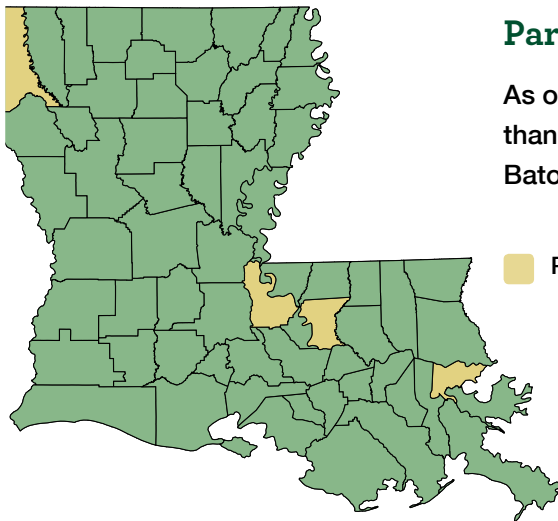


## RSD and Local District Schools by Parish

The graph represents the number of schools under the RSD and under the control of the local school board within each parish.



# The Recovery School District Timeline



## Parishes with Schools in the RSD

As of December 2008 the RSD has taken over more than 120 schools in four parishes – Caddo, East Baton Rouge, Orleans, and Point Coupée.

Parish with schools in RSD

## Timeline Highlights

### 2004

The RSD takes over its first school (Orleans Parish).

### 2005

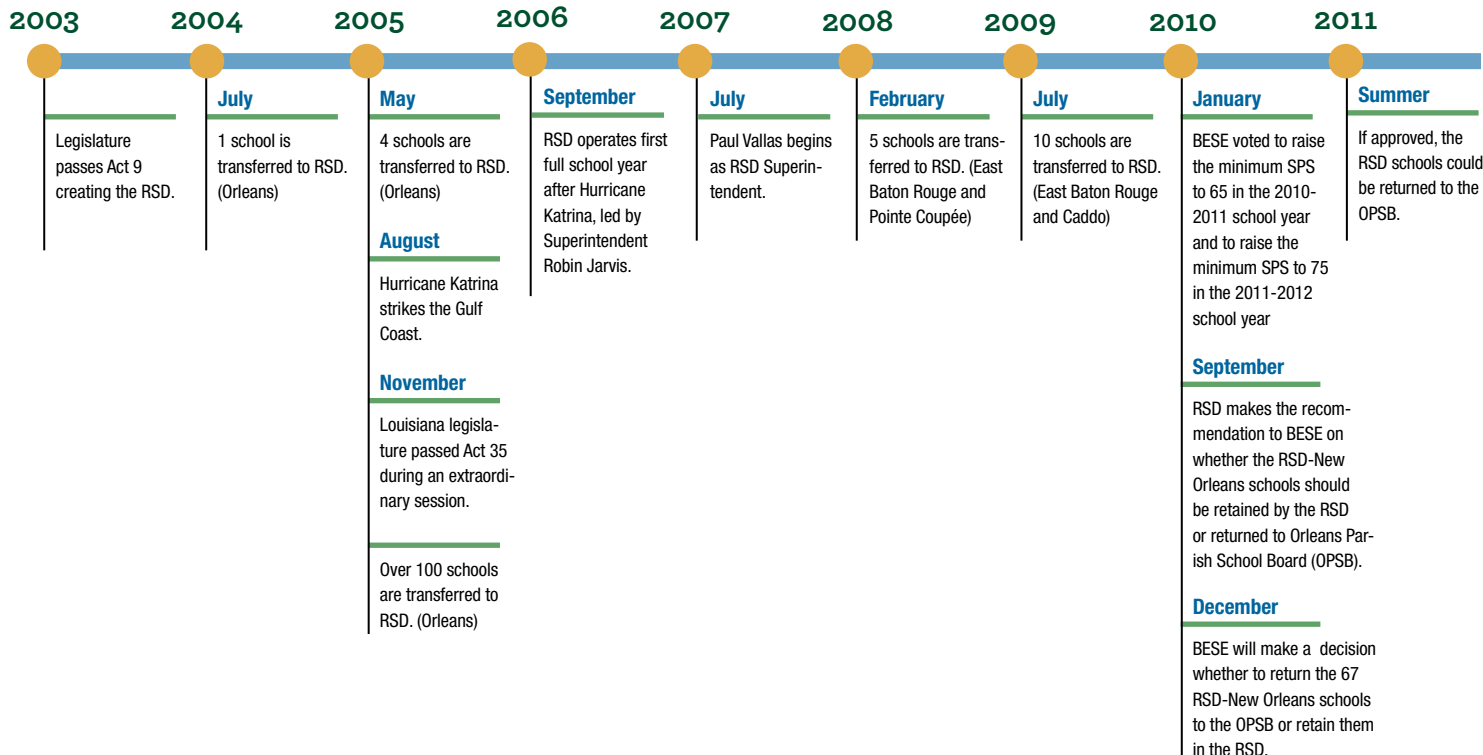
Act 35 raised the minimum SPS necessary for the RSD to take over failing schools. Subsequently, over 100 schools in Orleans Parish were taken over in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

### 2005 through 2009

The RSD reopened a portion of these schools, some as charters and some as district-run schools. The RSD continued to take over failing schools around the state.

### 2010

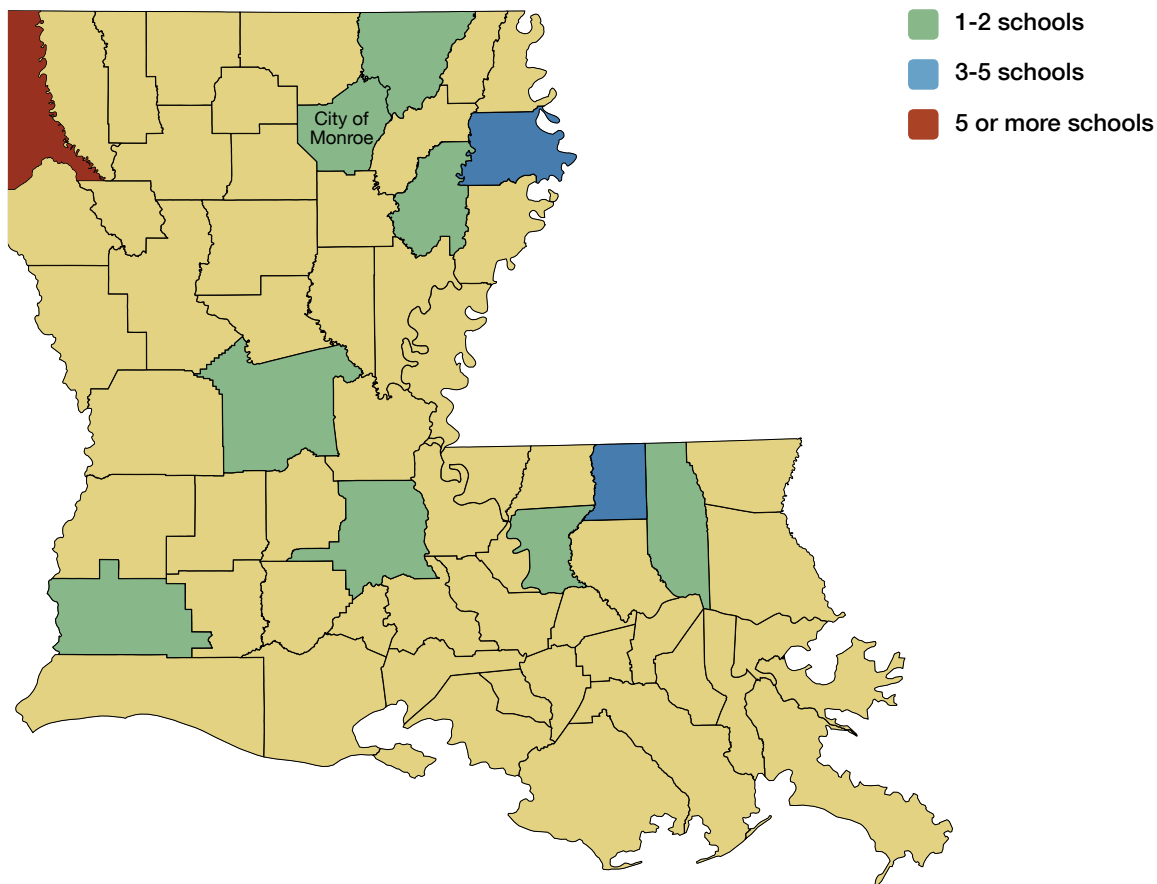
The RSD will not take over any schools in the 2010-2011 year and will not place any under MOUs because no schools were eligible this year.



# RSD Memorandum of Understanding

Academically unacceptable schools are taken over and run by the RSD or placed under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). An MOU is a binding agreement between a local school district and the Louisiana Department of Education that outlines necessary actions that must be implemented at a failing school in order for it to avoid placement in the RSD. The district must comply with the recovery plan set forth in the MOU within the first year or the Department may exercise the option of placing the school in the RSD. Twenty-five schools are under MOUs.

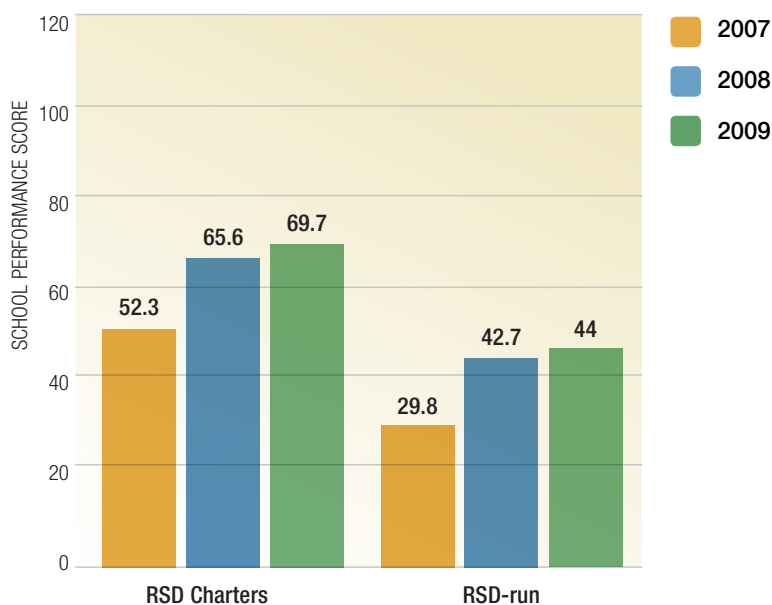
## Parishes with schools placed under an MOU for 2010



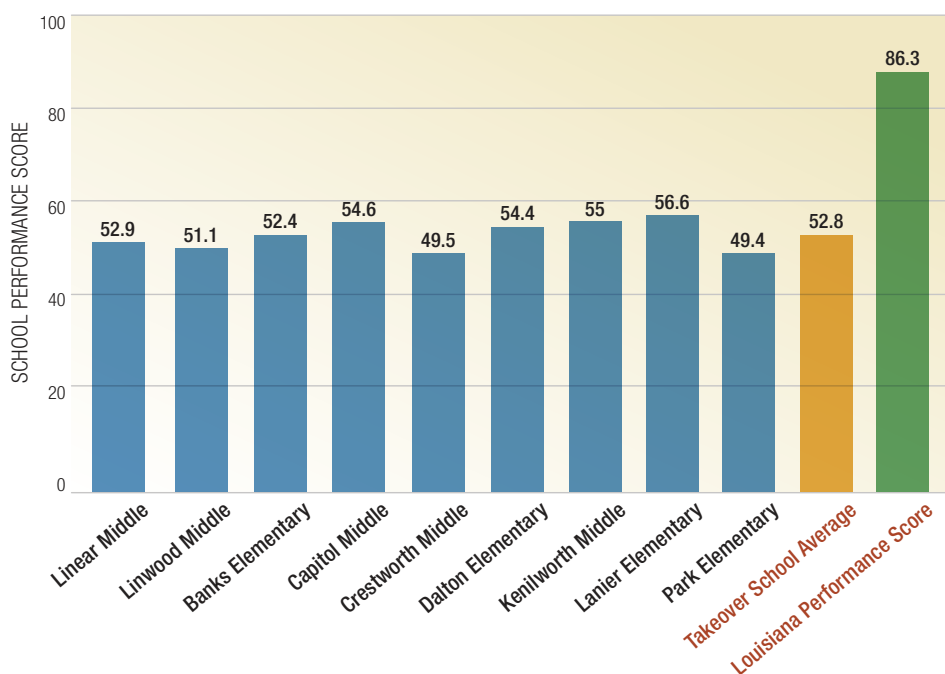
# School Performance Scores\* of Schools under RSD Intervention

## RSD Performance in New Orleans

- Between 2007 and 2008, RSD-run schools and RSD charter schools in New Orleans experienced significant school performance growth, though this growth slowed between 2008 and 2009.
- Under Act 35, the RSD was allowed to take over schools that fell below the state average (86.2) and not just below 60. Thus, some RSD schools had a pre-takeover SPS above 60.
- The values represented in the graph are average scores for the RSD Charters and RSD-run schools.



## SPS for Schools Taken Over by the RSD in 2009



- The RSD took control of 10 schools for the 2009-2010 school year, 2 in Caddo Parish and 8 in East Baton Rouge Parish.
- Average SPS of schools taken over by the RSD in 2009-2010: 52.8\*
- Average SPS of Caddo schools: 52.0
- Average SPS of East Baton Rouge Parish schools: 53.13\*

\*These averages do not include Capitol Elementary School in East Baton Rouge, whose SPS was unavailable for 2008.

\*School Performance Scores are based predominantly on a school's test scores on the LEAP, iLEAP, and GEE as well as dropout rates and attendance. Potential scores range from 0.0 to either 236.4 or 266.7 depending on a school's grade configuration.