

Orleans Parish, Louisiana Census Statistics — 1920

14th Census · Enumeration Date: January 1, 1920

PART I — TOTAL POPULATION

Metric	Value
Census Year	1920
Census Number	14th Census
Enumeration Date	January 1, 1920
Total Population	387,219
Decadal Change	+48,144
Decadal % Change	+14.2%
U.S. City Rank	15th

Note: World War I economic boost; Great Migration of African Americans from rural Louisiana accelerated.

PART II — RACIAL & STATUS COMPOSITION

Category	Count	% of Total
White	277,839	71.7%
Negro	100,930	26.1%
Other / Unclassified	8,450	—

Note: Per 14th Census. 'Negro' category used in original. Mexican, Chinese, and other small groups in residual (8,450). Great Migration brought rural Black Louisianans to the city.

PART III — FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION

Metric	Value
Total Foreign-Born	~17,000 (est.)
% of Total Population	~4.4%
Largest Foreign-Born Groups	Italy, Germany

Note: Immigration restriction era beginning; foreign-born proportion declining. National Origins Act (1924) would curtail future immigration sharply.

Sources: Forstall, R.L. (ed.), Population of the States and Counties of the United States: 1790–1990 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996); U.S. Decennial Census Compendiums, 5th–16th (1830–1940), available at census.gov; Walker, F.A., Compendium of the Ninth Census (1872), Table VIII [1870 racial breakdown confirmed]; IPUMS NHGIS, University of Minnesota.

Compiled for archival use — The Buhler Family Archives · buhler-family.net · June 2026