

Chapter 15 | Contemporary Louisiana

Standard 2 – Key Events, Ideas and People: Students analyze how the contributions of key events, ideas, and people influenced the development of modern Louisiana.

GLE 8.2.10 Predict ways in which Louisiana will continue to grow toward economic, cultural, and political diversity in the 21st century.

Use the two sources and your knowledge of social studies to answer the questions.

Source 1: Modern Governors

1972-1980	Edwin Edwards, <i>Democrat - Acadia</i>
1980-1984	David Treen, <i>Republican - Jefferson</i>
1984-1988	Edwin Edwards, <i>Democrat - Acadia</i>
1988-1992	Charles “Buddy” Roemer, <i>Republican - Bossier</i>
1992-1996	Edwin Edwards, <i>Democrat - Acadia</i>
1996-2004	Murphy “Mike” Foster, <i>Republican - St. Mary</i>
2004-2008	Kathleen Blanco, <i>Democrat - Lafayette</i>
2008-Present	Bobby Jindal, <i>Republican - Baton Rouge</i>

Historical Note: Twenty-seven governors elected in general elections between 1877 and 1976 were all Democrats.

In 1975, Louisiana enacted an “open primary” in its state, local, and congressional elections. The open primary system requires all candidates regardless of their party affiliation to run against one another. Other states have closed primaries that require parties to select their candidates, rather than face the other party in an open election. Political analysts state that the open primary was endorsed by the Democratic Party leaders as a strategy to lessen the election gains being experienced by the state’s Republican Party in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Review the chart of contemporary governors and their party affiliations to answer the following questions.

Source 2: Oil Production in Relation to the Louisiana Economy

Year	Price per Barrel*	Supply of Oil	Customer Demand	Severance Tax Revenue
1970	\$2	High	High	Low
1975	\$12	High	High	Low
1981	\$60	Low	Low	High
1990	\$24	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
2000	\$27	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
2005	\$58	Low	Low	High

*World market peaks in oil prices. Source: www.wtrg.com/prices.htm

Item 1: Multiple Choice

Based on Sources 1 and 2, who was the Governor of Louisiana when oil prices were at their highest price?

- A. Kathleen Blanco
- B. Edwin Edwards
- C. Bobby Jindal
- D. David Treen

Item 2: Multiple Select

Based on Source 2, which four statements are supported by the table?

- when oil is cheap, people buy more oil
- when oil is expensive, tax revenues increase
- as oil prices increase, demand for oil goes down
- many people carpooled or stopped driving in the early 1980s
- severance taxes are unaffected by the price of oil
- use of oil has been increasing steadily since 1970

Item 3: Technology Enhanced Item

Based on Source 1 and your knowledge of social studies, fill in the numbers in the table showing the number of governors of Louisiana from each political party. Write the correct answers from the list on the chart titled Elections. Fill every space in the chart. All options will be used from the list.

0
3
4
27

	Elections for 1877-1976		Elections for 1980-2008	
	Democrats	Republicans	Democrats	Republicans
No. of Elected Governors				

Item 4: Constructed Response

Based on Source 1 and your knowledge of social studies, provide two possible explanations for the changes in party representation in the governor's office since 1975. Is the open primary a benefit to the democratic system?
