

LOUISIANA ROOTS KIT

Free Sample



Is Your Name *on It?*

100 Cajun, Creole, Isleño and German Coast family names from The Louisiana Surname Index

ANCESTRA · LOUISIANA ROOTS KIT

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*100 Cajun, Creole, Isleño and German Coast family names
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ANCESTRA

Find your people.

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PART 1

Is Your Name *on It*?

Is your family name in the old registers of Louisiana? For most Cajun, Creole and Isleño families, the answer is yes, often under three or four spellings. This free sample gives you one hundred of the most common names, straight from *The Louisiana Surname Index*.

Each row tells you how the name is also written in the records, where the family came from before Louisiana, the earliest record we could verify, and where the records place the family early on. The small letters under each name are its sources: every row of the index rests on a named, published record or study.

KEY · PLACES	
Teche–Prairies	Bayou Teche and the prairies of the old Attakapas and Opelousas districts: today St. Martin, Lafayette, Iberia, St. Mary, Vermilion, St. Landry, Acadia, Evangeline.
River Coast	The Acadian Coast of the Mississippi above New Orleans: today St. James, Ascension, Iberville.
Lafourche	Bayou Lafourche and Terrebonne: today Assumption, Lafourche, Terrebonne.
Upriver · Downriver	For Isleño names: named in the Galveztown–Valenzuela records (upriver) or the St. Bernard–New Orleans records (downriver).
“1765; 1785”	For Acadian families: the first came in 1765, and more on the 1785 ships from France.

The sources behind the letters: A = Steven A. Cormier, *Acadians in Gray* (Acadian arrivals 1764–1788); D = J. Hanno Deiler, *The Settlement of the German Coast* (1909); N = Paul Newfield III, Canary Islands locales in the Louisiana church records; T = *Records of Attakapas District* (militia lists 1779–1792, 1810 census); O =

Marriage Contracts of the Opelousas Post, 1766–1803; J = E. D. Johnson, “Family Names in French Louisiana” (1955). The full list, with the rest, is in the Index.

THE HEART OF IT

A different spelling is **not a different family**. Breaux is also Breau, Brau and Brot; Thibodeaux is also Thibodeau and Thibodaux. Search every spelling.

Is Your Name on It? Free sample of The Louisiana Surname Index, Louisiana Roots Kit. First edition, 2026. © 2026 Ancestra. You are welcome to share this sample PDF unchanged.

PART 2

100 Louisiana *Family Names*

One hundred of the most common family names of French, Spanish and German Louisiana, taken straight from the full index. The full *Louisiana Surname Index* has 309 names, a spelling finder, families by region, and the story of how the names changed.

SURNAME · SRC	ALSO WRITTEN	ORIGIN	FIRST RECORD	WHERE THE RECORDS PLACE THEM
Achee A	<i>Aché, Haché, Achet, Hachez</i>	Acadian	1785	Lafourche · River Coast · Teche–Prairies
Alfonso N	—	Isleño (Canary Is.)	1778–83	Downriver: St. Bernard, New Orleans
Arceneaux A J	<i>Arseneau, Arsenaud, Arseneault, Arcenaux</i>	Acadian	1765	River Coast · Teche–Prairies · Lafourche
Ardoin O E	—	French colonial	1766–1803 contracts	Opelousas (St. Landry, Evangeline)
Aucoin A J	<i>Au Coin, Ocoin, Oquin; O'Quin (anglicized)</i>	Acadian	1785	Lafourche · Teche–Prairies · River Coast
Babin A	<i>Babain, Baven, Boben</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	River Coast · Lafourche · Teche–Prairies
Babineaux A T	<i>Babineau, Babinot, Bobino</i>	Acadian	1765	Teche–Prairies
Benoit A J	<i>Benoist, Benoïs, Bennoit</i>	Acadian	1768; 1785	Teche–Prairies · River Coast · Lafourche
Bergeron A	<i>Bargeron, Berjeron</i>	Acadian	1765	River Coast · Lafourche · Teche–Prairies
Blanchard A	<i>Blanchart, Blancher</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	River Coast · Lafourche · Teche–Prairies
Bordelon V E	—	French colonial	—	Avoyelles; Evangeline
Boudreaux A	<i>Boudrot, Boudreau, Bodreau, Boudro, Budro</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Lafourche · Teche–Prairies · River Coast
Bourg A J	<i>Bourque, Bourc, Bourke, Burke</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Lafourche · Teche–Prairies · River Coast
Bourgeois A	<i>Bourgois, Bourjois</i>	Acadian	1765	Lafourche · River Coast · Teche–Prairies

SURNAME · SRC	ALSO WRITTEN	ORIGIN	FIRST RECORD	WHERE THE RECORDS PLACE THEM
Brasseaux A	<i>Brasseau, Brasset, Braseux</i>	Acadian	1767; 1785	Teche–Prairies · River Coast · Lafourche
Breaux A J	<i>Breau, Brau, Braud, Brot, Bro, Braux</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	River Coast · Teche–Prairies · Lafourche
Brignac O E	—	French colonial	1780s	Opelousas (St. Landry, Evangeline)
Broussard A T	<i>Brossard, Brousard, Brusard</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Teche–Prairies · River Coast · Lafourche
Castille O T	—	French colonial	1792 militia	Opelousas (St. Landry, Evangeline); Teche
Champagne T	—	French colonial	1792 militia	Attakapas (St. Martin, Lafayette, Iberia)
Chiasson A	<i>Chaisson, Chiason, Giasson</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	River Coast · Lafourche · Teche–Prairies
Comeaux A J	<i>Comeau, Comau, Commeaux, Como (anglicized)</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	River Coast · Teche–Prairies · Lafourche
Cormier A W	<i>Cormié, Cornier</i>	Acadian	1764	Teche–Prairies
Daigle A	<i>Daigre, D’Aigle, Degle</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	River Coast · Lafourche · Teche–Prairies
Dartez T	<i>Dartes</i>	Colonial (origin unconfirmed)	1792 militia	Attakapas (St. Martin, Lafayette, Iberia)
Decuir T W V	<i>DeCuir, Decuire</i>	French colonial	1792 militia	Attakapas; Opelousas; Avoyelles
Deshotels O J	<i>Des Hotels; Disotel (anglicized)</i>	French colonial	1766–1803 contracts	Opelousas (St. Landry, Evangeline)
Donato W	<i>Donatto</i>	Creole of color	by 1830	Opelousas (St. Landry)
Doucet A J T	<i>Dousset, Doucette</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Teche–Prairies · Lafourche · River Coast
Dufour V	<i>DuFour</i>	French colonial	18th c.	Pointe Coupée; Avoyelles
Dugas A J T	<i>Dugast, Dugat, Duga</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Lafourche · Teche–Prairies · River Coast
Duhon A T	<i>D’Huon, Dion, Duon</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Teche–Prairies · River Coast · Lafourche
Dupuis A	<i>Dupuy, Depuis</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	River Coast · Teche–Prairies · Lafourche
Folse D	<i>Foltz, Folsb, Fols, Faulse</i>	German Coast	1724 census	German Coast (St. Charles, St. John)
Fontenot F O E	<i>Fonteneau, Fontenau</i>	French colonial	1770s	Opelousas (St. Landry, Evangeline)
Fuselier O T J W	<i>Fusilier, Fusilier de la Claire</i>	French colonial	by 1772	Opelousas (St. Landry, Evangeline); Attakapas

SURNAME · SRC	ALSO WRITTEN	ORIGIN	FIRST RECORD	WHERE THE RECORDS PLACE THEM
Gaudet A	<i>Gaudé, Godet, Gaudy</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	River Coast · Lafourche
Gautreaux A J	<i>Gautrot, Gautreau, Gotro, Gauthbreaux</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Lafourche · Teche–Prairies · River Coast
Giroir A	<i>Girouard, Giroire, Girouar</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Lafourche · Teche–Prairies
Gonzales N G	<i>González</i>	Isleño (Canary Is.)	1778–83	Upriver and downriver settlements
Granger A	<i>Grangé, Grangier</i>	Acadian	1766; 1785	Teche–Prairies · Lafourche · River Coast
Guidry A T	<i>Guédry, Guidri, Gedry, Gaidry</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Lafourche · River Coast · Teche–Prairies
Guilbeau A J T	<i>Guilbaud, Guilbeaux, Gilbeau</i>	Acadian	1765	Teche–Prairies
Guillory F O E W	<i>Guilory, Guilliory</i>	French colonial	by 1782	Opelousas (St. Landry, Evangeline)
Haydel D	<i>Heidel, Aydel, Hedelle, Haidel</i>	German Coast	1721	German Coast (St. Charles, St. John)
Hebert A J T	<i>Hébert, Heber, Hiver; Abare (anglicized)</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	River Coast · Lafourche · Teche–Prairies
Henry A	<i>Henri, Hanry</i>	Acadian	1785	River Coast · Lafourche · Teche–Prairies
Hernandez N G	<i>Hernández, Hernandes</i>	Isleño (Canary Is.)	1778–83	Upriver and downriver settlements
Hymel D	<i>Himmel, Immel, Ymelle, Quimel</i>	German Coast	—	German Coast (St. Charles, St. John)
Labauve A	<i>LaBove, Labove, Laboff</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Teche–Prairies · River Coast · Lafourche
LaBranche D J	<i>Zweig, La Branche</i>	German Coast	1721	German Coast (St. Charles, St. John)
LaFleur E	<i>Lafleur, La Fleur</i>	French colonial	—	Opelousas (St. Landry, Evangeline)
Landry A W	<i>Landri, Lendry</i>	Acadian	1764; 1785	River Coast · Lafourche · Teche–Prairies
Latiolais O R J	<i>Latiolay</i>	French colonial	1778	Opelousas (St. Landry, Evangeline); Attakapas
LeBlanc A J T	<i>Leblanc, Le Blanc, Leblan; White (translated)</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	River Coast · Lafourche · Teche–Prairies
Leger A	<i>Léger, Legere</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Teche–Prairies
LeJeune A	<i>Lejeune, Lejune</i>	Acadian	1769; 1785	Teche–Prairies · River Coast · Lafourche
Lemoine V J	<i>LeMoine; Lemmon (anglicized)</i>	French colonial	early settler	Avoyelles

SURNAME · SRC	ALSO WRITTEN	ORIGIN	FIRST RECORD	WHERE THE RECORDS PLACE THEM
Manuel O E	—	French colonial	1766–1803 contracts	Opelousas (St. Landry, Evangeline)
Martin A	<i>Martin dit Barnabé</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	River Coast · Teche–Prairies · Lafourche
Matherne D X	<i>Matern, Mattern</i>	German Coast	1724 census	German Coast (St. Charles, St. John)
Mayeux V O	—	French colonial	early settler	Avoyelles
Melancon A J	<i>Melançon, Melanson, Mellancon</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Lafourche · River Coast · Teche–Prairies
Metoyer W	<i>Métoyer, Metoier</i>	Creole of color	1760s	Cane River (Natchitoches)
Mire A T	<i>Mbire, Lemire, Myre</i>	Acadian	1765	River Coast · Teche–Prairies · Lafourche
Molero N S	<i>Moler</i>	Isleño (Canary Is.)	1778–83	Downriver: St. Bernard, New Orleans
Mouton A R T	—	Acadian	1765	Teche–Prairies · River Coast
Naquin A	<i>Naquine, Nakin</i>	Acadian	1785	Lafourche
Nunez S	<i>Núñez</i>	Isleño (Canary Is.)	colonial era	St. Bernard
Oubre D J	<i>Huber, Houbre, Ouvre, Hoover</i>	German Coast	1724 census	German Coast (St. Charles, St. John)
Perez N	<i>Pérez, Peres</i>	Isleño (Canary Is.)	1778–83	Upriver and downriver settlements
Pitre A O	<i>Pittre, Pierre</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Lafourche · Teche–Prairies · River Coast
Plessy W	—	Saint-Domingue	1790s	New Orleans
Poirier A W	<i>Poirrier, Poirie</i>	Acadian	1764	River Coast · Lafourche · Teche–Prairies
Prejean A T	<i>Préjean, Pregeant, Pregent</i>	Acadian	1765	Teche–Prairies · River Coast · Lafourche
Primeaux T J	<i>Primo</i>	French colonial	1792 militia	Attakapas (St. Martin, Lafayette, Iberia)
Rabalais V	—	French colonial	early settler	Avoyelles
Richard A T W	<i>Richar, Richart</i>	Acadian	1764; 1785	Teche–Prairies · Lafourche · River Coast
Robichaux A	<i>Robichaud, Robicheaux, Robichau</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Teche–Prairies · River Coast · Lafourche
Rodriguez N	<i>Rodríguez, Rodrigues</i>	Isleño (Canary Is.)	1778–83	Upriver and downriver settlements

SURNAME · SRC	ALSO WRITTEN	ORIGIN	FIRST RECORD	WHERE THE RECORDS PLACE THEM
Romero M T J	—	Malagueño (Spain)	1779	New Iberia
Roy W O T V J	<i>Le Roy, Leroy, Roi; King (translated)</i>	French colonial	colonial era	Opelousas (St. Landry, Evangeline); Avoyelles
Savoy A J T	<i>Savoie, Savoye, Savoie</i>	Acadian	1765	Teche–Prairies · River Coast · Lafourche
Schexnayder D J	<i>Scheckschneider, Chesnaydre, Sexnaidre, Schexnaildre, Shexnayder</i>	German Coast	1721	German Coast (St. Charles, St. John)
Segura M T	—	Malagueño (Spain)	1779	New Iberia
Serpas N S	<i>Cerpas, Gonzales Cerpas</i>	Isleño (Canary Is.)	1778–83	St. Bernard
Simon T J	<i>Simmons (anglicized)</i>	French colonial	1779–85 militia	Attakapas (St. Martin, Lafayette, Iberia)
Soileau O E V J	<i>Soilleau; Swallow (anglicized)</i>	French colonial	1766–1803 contracts	Opelousas (St. Landry, Evangeline); Avoyelles
Sonnier A J	<i>Saulnier, Sognier, Sonier; Swinney (anglicized, reported)</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Teche–Prairies · River Coast · Lafourche
Theriot A J	<i>Thériot, Terriot, Theriau, Theriaut</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Teche–Prairies · Lafourche · River Coast
Thibodeaux A J T	<i>Thibodeau, Thibodaux, Thibaudeau, Tibodo</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Lafourche · Teche–Prairies · River Coast
Toups D	<i>Dubs, Toupse, Tups</i>	German Coast	1724 census	German Coast (St. Charles, St. John)
Trahan A T	<i>Trabant, Traband</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Teche–Prairies · River Coast · Lafourche
Tregre D	<i>Traeger, Tregle, Treigle, Trede</i>	German Coast	1721	German Coast (St. Charles, St. John)
Trosclair D	<i>Troxler, Troxclair, Troxlaire</i>	German Coast	1724 census	German Coast (St. Charles, St. John)
Viator M T	<i>Villatoro</i>	Malagueño (Spain)	1779	New Iberia
Vidrine E	—	French colonial	—	Opelousas (St. Landry, Evangeline)
Vincent A J	<i>Vicente; Vinson (anglicized)</i>	Acadian	1765; 1785	Teche–Prairies · River Coast
Waguespack D	<i>Wagensbach, Wagenspack, Vagensbach</i>	German Coast	1724 census	German Coast (St. Charles, St. John)
Zeringue D	<i>Zebringer, Seringue, Ceringue</i>	German Coast	1720	German Coast (St. Charles, St. John)

PART 3

A Family *Up Close*



Figure 1 The deportation from Grand-Pré, 1755, as a Victorian painter imagined it. The Breaux, like many Louisiana families, had relatives in the Minas Basin settlements.

George Craig, 1893. Public domain. Wikimedia Commons.

SURNAME SPOTLIGHT · ACADIAN

Breaux

also Breau, Brau, Braud, Brot, Bro, Braux, Breault

In Acadia. Vincent Breau, called Vincelotte, perhaps from La Chaussée near Blois, came to Acadia about 1652 as a plowman and married Marie Bourg at Port-Royal about 1661. They had a dozen children.

In Louisiana. A few Breaux came in February 1765 with the Broussard party from Halifax; an elderly couple among them, Sylvain Breau and Isabelle Darois, died on the same day in the Têche epidemic that October. The big wave came in February 1768, when 51 members of the family arrived with the Breaux party from Port Tobacco, Maryland, and settled on the river. Twenty-one more came from France in 1785. Firmin Breaux, who moved to the Têche, built a small bridge over the bayou about 1799; his daughter-in-law Scholastique Picou founded the town of Breaux Bridge at that crossing in the 1830s.

Spellings. The records write the name Breau, Brau, Braud, Braut, Bro, Brot and more; the Louisiana families settled on Breaux. If a record says “Brot,” read it aloud.

Sources: Cormier, *Acadians in Gray*, Breaux family page and arrivals table; E. D. Johnson (1955).

PART 4

The Louisiana *Roots Kit*

This sample is one small part of the *Louisiana Roots Kit* by Ancestra: five books that take you from a family name to the records that prove where your people came from.

I The Guide: Louisiana Roots

The history of Louisiana's Creole, Cajun and Isleño families in ten chapters, from the French colony and the Acadian exile to the Canary Islanders, the German Coast, the free people of color and the Saint-Domingue refugees, told through real people and real documents.

2 The Louisiana Surname Index

The full index of 309 family names, with every spelling found in the records, a Spelling Finder of 412 variants, families by region, how German, French and Spanish names changed, and seven family spotlights. Every row names its sources.

3 The Records Roadmap

Every kind of Louisiana record, where it is free online, how to read it, and worked examples: church registers, censuses, marriage contracts, successions, land claims.

4 The DNA Decoder, Louisiana edition

What your ethnicity estimate and your matches can and cannot tell you, endogamy in Cajun and Creole families, and what DNA cannot prove.

5 The Family Record Kit

Printable, fillable pedigree charts, family group sheets, an interview guide for your elders and a research log, to keep what you find.

Find your people.

Get the full kit: [\[link\]](#)