

# Louisiana Economic Vitals

## Friday, May 30, 2025



# PREFACE

The Louisiana Economic Development Economic Competitiveness team has prepared this weekly economic report. Data comes from federal and state governmental entities and third-party sources. The team has independently analyzed and condensed all data for brevity and utility.

## LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MAY 2025 ANNOUNCEMENTS:

[Green Fuels Operating Announces \\$110 Million Investment to Transform Historic Evangeline Processing Facility](#)- May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

[Louisiana Celebrates Economic Development Week 2025.Highlighting Major Wins and Accelerating Momentum Driven by New Strategic Plan](#) - May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

[Newlab Expands to Louisiana with New Energy-Focused Innovation Hub](#) - May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

[Taking Louisiana to New Heights: Nation's Largest Regional Airline Carrier Establishes Maintenance Base at Shreveport Regional Airport](#) - May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### Direct questions and comments to:

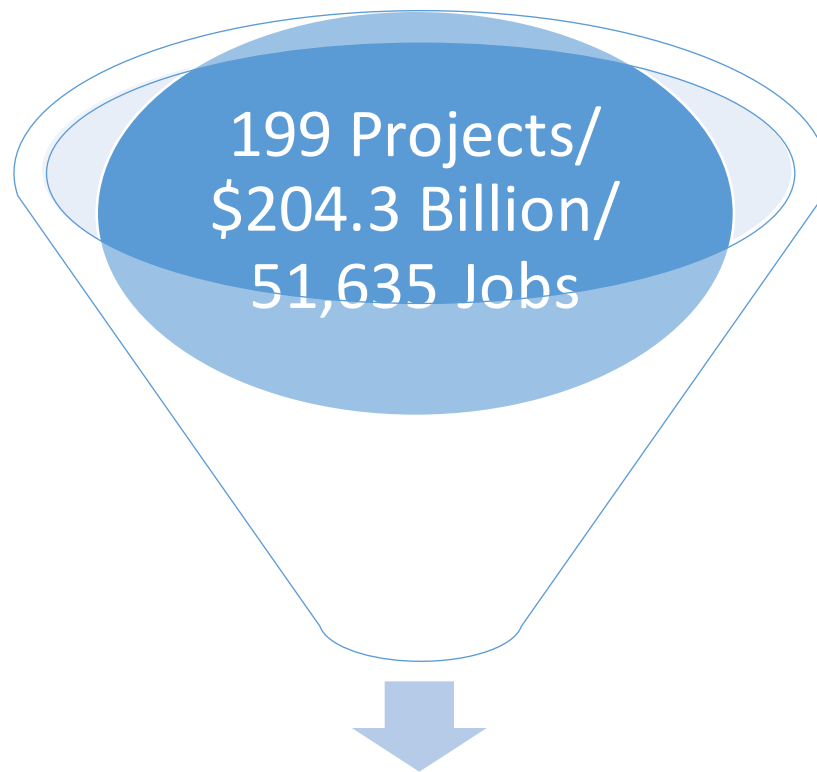
Dr. Christopher Coombs, Economist, Economic Competitiveness

E: [Christopher.Coombs@la.gov](mailto:Christopher.Coombs@la.gov) T: 225.342.5410

# LED PROJECT PIPELINE

As of 05/29/2025, LED is involved with and tracking 199 distinct projects, with a combined value of over \$204.3 billion USD and with the potential to create almost 51,635 direct new jobs.

Since the start of the current administration, LED has announced 44 projects that will account for over \$61.8 billion USD of investment and 5,550 direct new jobs.

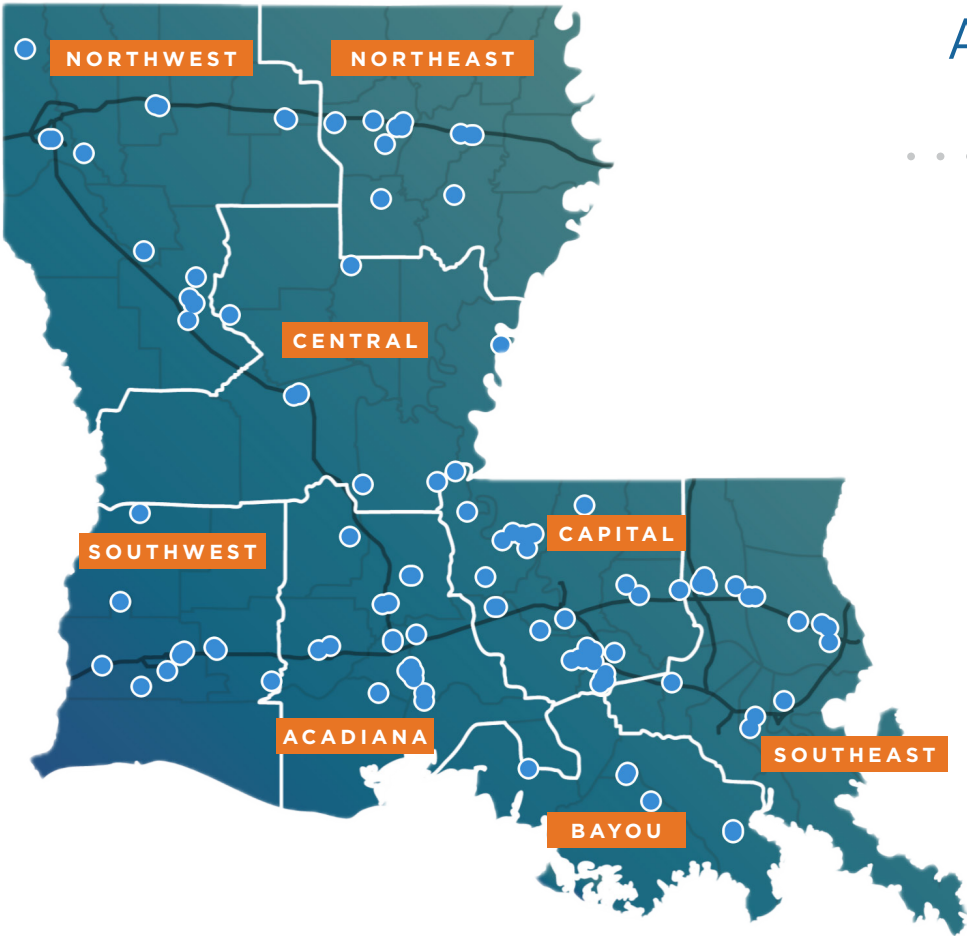


**From January 2024 through May 2025**

**44 Projects announced · \$61.8 Billion in CapEx · 5,550 Direct Jobs**

# CERTIFIED SITE PROGRAM

Since its inception, Louisiana Economic Development has Certified 157 Industrial sites, with portions or all of 31 of them moved into higher commerce. At full build out, that equates to over \$24. Billion in CapEx, more than 6,100 direct new jobs and total annual wages of more than \$383 million.



## Active Certified Sites by Region

Acadiana	23
Bayou	6
Capital	29
Central	8
Northeast	12
Northwest	15
Southeast	18
Southwest	12

TOTAL 123



# 1. LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

The following tables provide data with information on each region's availability, use, and idleness of labor resources for the production of goods and services.

Table 1. Louisiana Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) Labor Force					
MSA	Apr-25	Mar-25	Apr-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	63,573	63,814	64,131	-0.4%	-0.9%
Baton Rouge	427,756	430,243	432,140	-0.6%	-1.0%
Hammond	60,852	61,093	60,747	-0.4%	0.2%
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	87,056	87,153	87,552	-0.1%	-0.6%
Lafayette	198,223	197,880	198,053	0.2%	0.1%
Lake Charles	97,585	98,125	98,604	-0.6%	-1.0%
Monroe	95,395	95,195	95,892	0.2%	-0.5%
New Orleans-Metairie	467,654	466,369	469,182	0.3%	-0.3%
Shreveport-Bossier City	167,213	167,118	167,061	0.1%	0.1%
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	129,501	129,301	128,626	0.2%	0.7%
Note: Data are not seasonally adjusted. April 2024 data were subject to revision on 4/18/2025. April 2025 data are preliminary. Source: <a href="https://www.bls.gov/lau/data.htm">https://www.bls.gov/lau/data.htm</a>					

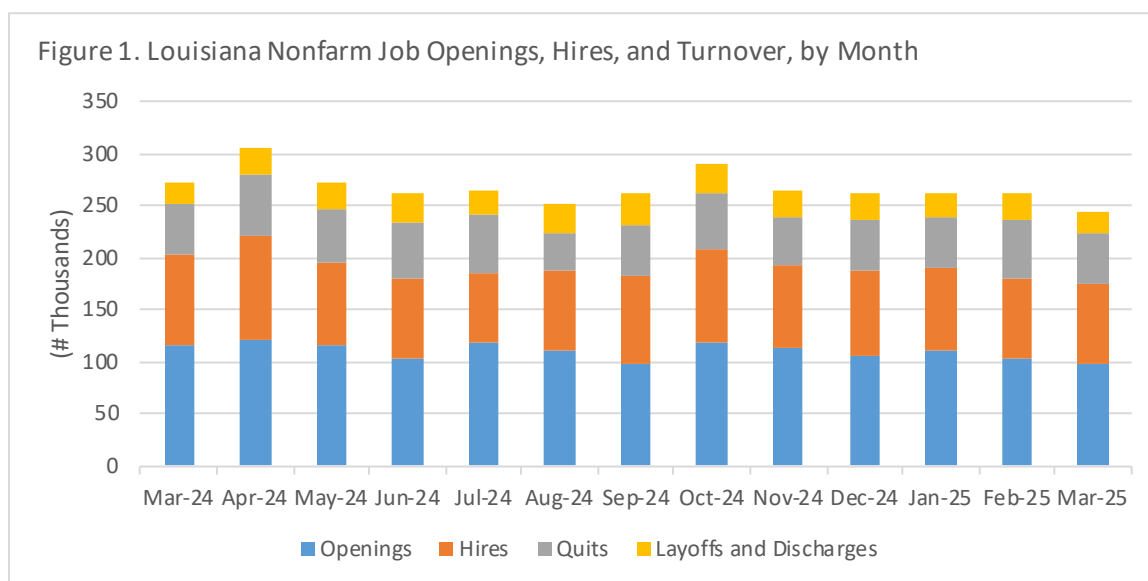
Table 2. Louisiana Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) Employment					
MSA	Apr-25	Mar-25	Apr-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	61,281	61,203	61,961	0.1%	-1.1%
Baton Rouge	411,854	412,810	417,697	-0.2%	-1.4%
Hammond	58,133	58,115	58,303	0.0%	-0.3%
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	83,998	83,670	84,884	0.4%	-1.0%
Lafayette	191,423	190,242	191,774	0.6%	-0.2%
Lake Charles	93,524	93,516	94,984	0.0%	-1.5%
Monroe	91,026	90,444	91,848	0.6%	-0.9%
New Orleans-Metairie	448,953	446,055	451,888	0.6%	-0.6%
Shreveport-Bossier City	160,551	159,773	160,830	0.5%	-0.2%
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	124,908	124,088	124,488	0.7%	0.3%
Note: Data are not seasonally adjusted. April 2024 data were subject to revision on 4/18/2025. April 2025 data are preliminary. Source: <a href="https://www.bls.gov/lau/data.htm">https://www.bls.gov/lau/data.htm</a>					

Table 3. Louisiana Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) Unemployment Rate with State Comparison					
MSA	Apr-25	Mar-25	Apr-24	% Point Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	3.6	4.1	3.4	-0.5	0.2
Baton Rouge	3.7	4.1	3.3	-0.4	0.4
Hammond	4.5	4.9	4.0	-0.4	0.5
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	3.5	4	3.0	-0.5	0.5
Lafayette	3.4	3.9	3.2	-0.5	0.2
Lake Charles	4.2	4.7	3.7	-0.5	0.5
Monroe	4.6	5	4.2	-0.4	0.4
New Orleans-Metairie	4	4.4	3.7	-0.4	0.3
Shreveport-Bossier City	4	4.4	3.7	-0.4	0.3
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	3.5	4	3.2	-0.5	0.3
Louisiana	4	4.4	3.6	-0.4	0.4

Note: Data are not seasonally adjusted. For MSAs and Louisiana, April 2024 data were subject to revision on 4/18/2025 and 3/5/2025, respectively; April 2025 data are preliminary.  
Source: <https://www.bls.gov/lau/data.htm>

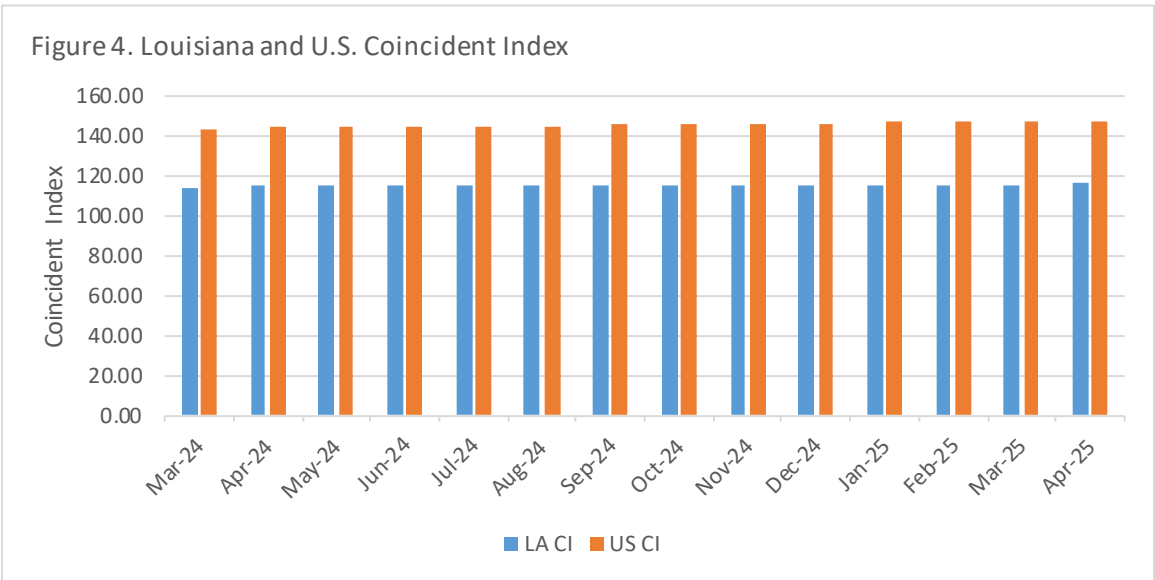
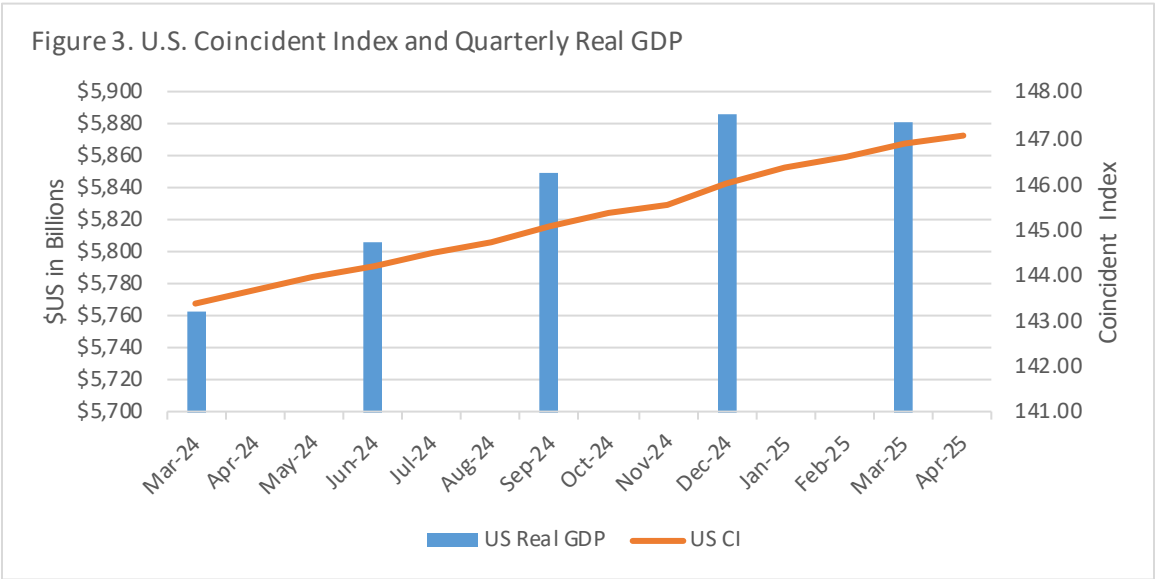
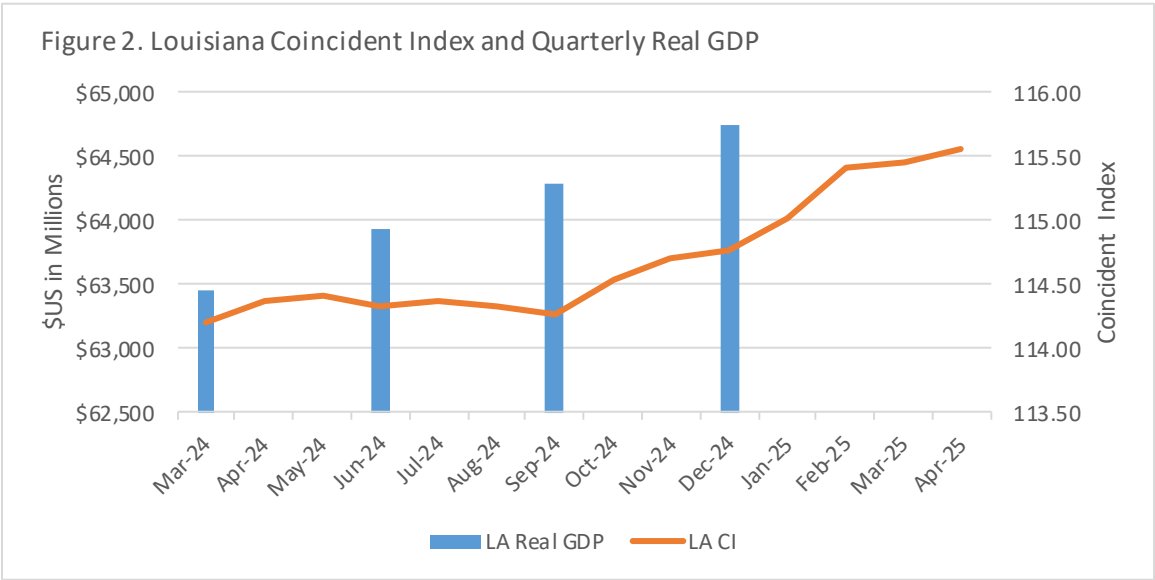
Table 4. Louisiana Job Openings and Labor Turnover, Total Nonfarm (in Thousands)					
Category	3/16/2025 <sup>1</sup>	2/16/2025 <sup>2</sup>	3/16/24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Job Openings	98	102	117	-3.9%	-16.2%
Hires	78	78	85	-	-8.2%
Quits	47	56	50	-16.1%	-6.0%
Layoffs and Discharges	21	26	20	-19.2%	5.0%

Note: <sup>1</sup>Preliminary; <sup>2</sup>Revised;  
Source: <https://www.bls.gov/jlt/>



Source: <https://www.bls.gov/jlt0/>

The State and U.S. Coincident Index combines several key economic indicators into a single composite number to measure current economic activity in each U.S. state. The components typically include: Nonfarm payroll employment, average hours worked in manufacturing, unemployment rate, and wage and salary disbursements (adjusted for inflation). The coincident index tends to follow the same trends as Gross Domestic Product but with low lag times, which makes it a timely, high-frequency proxy for real GDP before GDP is released.



## 2. COMMODITIES

The following tables provide data on the prices of energy and agricultural commodities, which reflect the overall health of the economy.

**Table 5. Energy Commodities, Weekly**

Commodity	5/23/25	5/16/25	5/24/24	% Change	
				(WoW)	(YoY)
Brent Crude Oil	\$65.86	\$65.54	\$80.24	0.5%	-17.9%
WTI Crude Oil	\$63.26	\$63.94	\$79.43	-1.1%	-20.4%
Henry Hub Natural Gas	\$3.05	\$3.20	\$2.48	-4.7%	23.0%
U.S. Regular Conventional Gas	\$3.03	\$3.04	\$3.43	-0.3%	-11.7%

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis;

Source: <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/categories/32217?t=gas&ob=pv&od=desc>

**Table 4. Energy Commodities, Monthly**

Commodity	4/1/25	3/1/25	4/1/24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Diesel	\$3.57	\$3.59	\$4.00	-0.6%	-10.8%
EU Natural Gas	\$11.57	\$13.13	\$9.13	-11.9%	26.7%
Asia Liquefied Natural Gas	\$11.57	\$13.12	\$9.79	-11.8%	18.2%
Global Henry Hub Natural Gas	\$3.42	\$4.14	\$1.60	-17.4%	113.8%
Brent Crude Oil Global	\$68.13	\$71.74	\$89.94	-5.0%	-24.2%
WTI Crude Oil Global	\$63.54	\$68.24	\$85.35	-6.9%	-25.6%

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis;

Source: <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/categories/32217?t=gas&ob=pv&od=desc>

**Table 7. Agricultural Commodities, Daily Period of May 29, 2025**

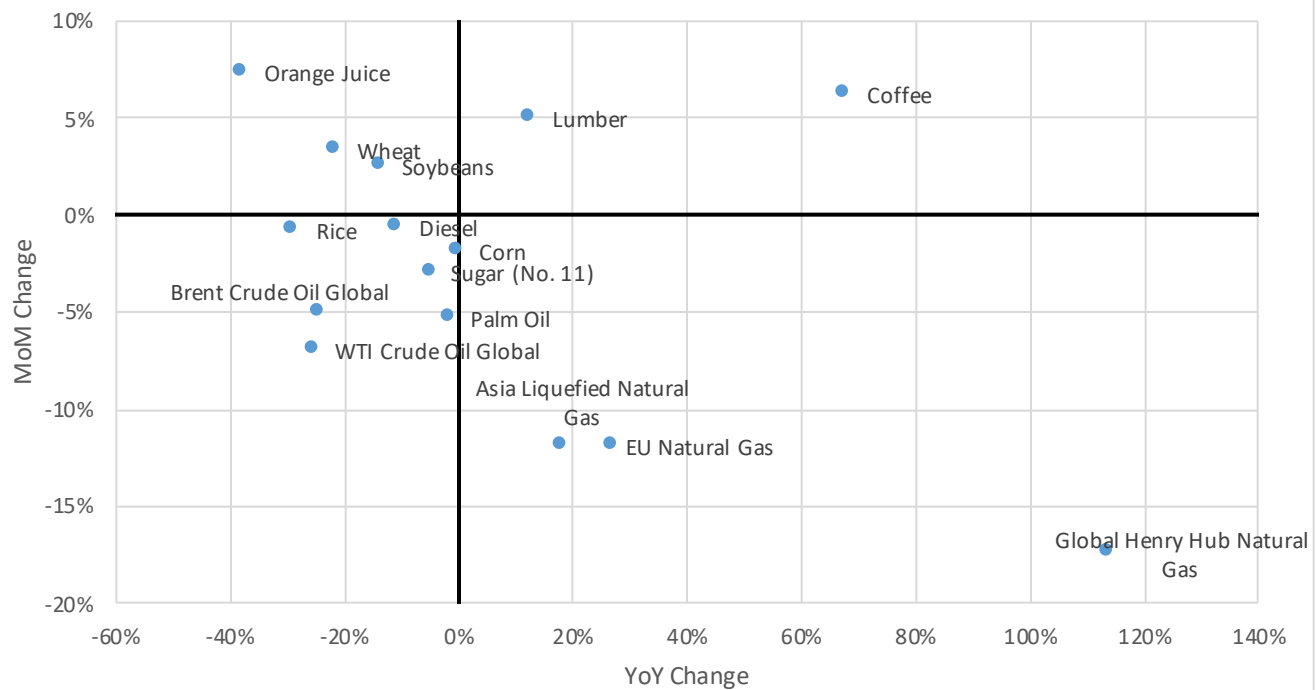
Commodity	Listed Price	Dollar (\$)	Unit of Measurement	% Change			
				Daily	Weekly	Monthly	(YoY)
Soybeans	\$1,048.01	\$10.48	\$/Bu	-0.05%	-1.71%	1.41%	-13.26%
Wheat	\$531.65	\$5.32	\$/Bu	0.35%	-2.36%	3.64%	-21.93%
Lumber	\$585.04	\$5.85	\$/MBF	0.17%	-1.86%	4.93%	12.94%
Palm Oil	\$3,933.00	\$39.33	\$/MT	0.87%	2.93%	0.59%	-1.53%
Sugar (No. 11)	\$17.00	\$0.17	\$/Lb	0.84%	-2.28%	-1.43%	-6.38%
Coffee	\$348.77	\$3.49	\$/Lb	-0.79%	-3.34%	-14.23%	49.33%
Corn	\$445.97	\$4.46	\$/Bu	-1.17%	-3.68%	-4.56%	-0.62%
Rice	\$13.42	\$0.13	\$/CWT	-0.57%	3.85%	3.61%	-24.71%
Orange Juice	\$273.67	\$2.74	\$/Lb	-0.75%	-5.54%	2.25%	-40.25%

Source: [tradingeconomics.com/commodities](https://tradingeconomics.com/commodities)



The scatter chart visualizes the performance of major global commodities by comparing their short-term (MoM) momentum and long-term trend (YoY). Observations in the top right indicate prices are rising in both the short-term and long-term, indicating a sustained upward trend. Observations in the top left quadrant indicate prices are up this month but still lower than a year ago, which could indicate a potential trend reversal or short-term rebound. The bottom left quadrant signals prices are declining both short-term and long-term and could be a sustained trend, and the bottom right quadrant can be interpreted as a possible top forming, or cooling off after a rally. Observations far from the center indicate relatively higher volatility, and if there is a group of commodities (e.g., crude oil in the bottom left and natural gas in the bottom right) in a single quadrant, this could indicate broader sector trends.

Figure 5. Energy and Agricultural Commodities Price Changes (% MoM and YoY)



### 3. RESIDENTIAL

The following table provides the median listing prices of homes for sale in Louisiana for April 2025, by CBSA.

Table 8. Median Listing Prices of Homes in Louisiana for April 2025, by CBSA			
CBSA	Median Listing Price	% Change	
		(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	\$239,350	-0.3%	1.9%
Baton Rouge	\$305,000	1.7%	-2.4%
Bogalusa	\$200,375	1.2%	-16.5%
DeRidder	\$254,750	0.3%	-10.6%
Hammond	\$279,950	3.7%	5.1%
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	\$234,250	2.3%	1.9%
Lafayette	\$272,950	1.1%	1.9%
Lake Charles	\$236,125	0.5%	-2.6%
Minden	\$187,000	1.1%	-7.6%
Monroe	\$248,625	3.6%	-2.8%
Morgan City	\$179,950	0.3%	-3.9%
Natchitoches	\$299,250	0.1%	2.8%
New Iberia	\$159,500	-6.2%	-19.0%
New Orleans-Metairie	\$325,000	0.2%	-1.5%
Opelousas	\$182,750	-1.4%	-3.4%
Ruston	\$272,500	0.9%	5.6%
Shreveport-Bossier City	\$258,925	3.6%	7.9%
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	\$342,500	2.3%	-1.3%
Source: <a href="https://www.realtor.com/research/data/">https://www.realtor.com/research/data/</a>			

The following two tables provide the count of listings which have had their price increased or reduced in April 2025 for regions in Louisiana.

**Table 9. Counts of Price Increases of Homes in Louisiana for April 2025, by CBSA**

MSA	Price Increased Count	% Change	
		(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	4	-	-50.0%
Baton Rouge	54	12.5%	-15.6%
Bogalusa	0	-	-
DeRidder	0	-	-
Hammond	6	50.0%	-
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	6	-	50.0%
Lafayette	14	16.7%	-36.4%
Lake Charles	6	50.0%	-
Minden	0	-	-
Monroe	4	-	-
Morgan City	0	-	-
Natchitoches	0	-	-
New Iberia	0	-	-
New Orleans-Metairie	26	-18.8%	-13.3%
Opelousas	2	-	-
Ruston	0	-	-
Shreveport-Bossier City	12	-25.0%	-50.0%
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	4	-50.0%	-33.3%

Source: <https://www.realtor.com/research/data/>

**Table 10. Counts of Price Reductions of Homes in Louisiana for April 2025, by CBSA**

MSA	Price Reduced Count	% Change	
		(MoM)	(YoY)
Alexandria	84	-12.5%	-2.3%
Baton Rouge	852	9.8%	20.3%
Bogalusa	26	8.3%	44.4%
DeRidder	36	28.6%	-10.0%
Hammond	120	20.0%	5.3%
Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux	214	33.8%	27.4%
Lafayette	480	11.1%	15.9%
Lake Charles	268	-11.8%	-12.4%
Minden	30	25.0%	87.5%
Monroe	158	23.4%	6.8%
Morgan City	22	-31.3%	-8.3%
Natchitoches	14	-12.5%	75.0%
New Iberia	54	22.7%	0.0%
New Orleans-Metairie	1210	19.1%	3.6%
Opelousas	50	-3.9%	-26.5%
Ruston	14	-30.0%	-50.0%
Shreveport-Bossier City	420	12.9%	9.4%
Slidell-Mandeville-Covington	506	12.0%	36.8%

Source: <https://www.realtor.com/research/data/>

The Pending Home Sales Index (PHS), a leading indicator of housing activity, measures housing contract activity, and is based on signed real estate contracts for existing single-family homes, condos, and co-ops. Because a home goes under contract a month or two before it is sold, the Pending Home Sales Index generally leads existing home sales by a month or two.

**Table 11. U.S. Pending Home Sales Index**

Index	4/28/2025 <sup>1</sup>	3/28/2025 <sup>2</sup>	4/29/24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
Pending Home Sales Index	86.7	89.9	89.8	-3.56%	-3.45%

Note: <sup>1</sup>Preliminary; <sup>2</sup>Revised; Data are not seasonally adjusted; January 2001 = 100.

Source: <https://www.nar.realtor/research-and-statistics/housing-statistics/pending-home-sales>

The S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller U.S. National Home Price Index® is a composite of single-family home price indices for the nine U.S. Census divisions and is calculated monthly. The FHFA HPI® is a broad measure of the movement of single-family house prices. The FHFA HPI® is a weighted, repeat-sales index, meaning that it measures average price changes in repeat sales or refinancings on the same properties.

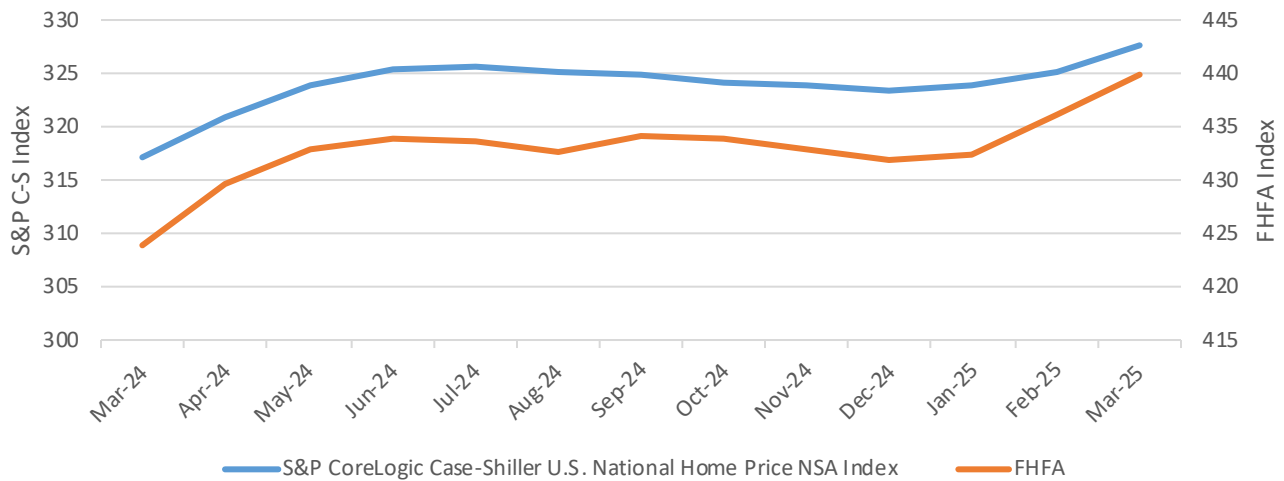
**Table 12. U.S. National Home Price Indexes**

Index	Mar-25	Feb-25	Mar-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
S&P C-S	327.68	325.22	316.99	0.76%	3.37%
FHFA	439.76	436.21	423.77	0.81%	3.77%

Note: For S&P C-S HPI, January 2000 =100; For FHFA HPI, January 1991=100; March 2025 is preliminary; February 2025 is revised; Data are not seasonally adjusted.

Source: <https://www.spglobal.com/>

Figure 6. U.S. National Home Price Indexes, by Month



## 4. INTERNATIONAL TRADE: EXPORTS

Including shipments of goods from other states that move down through the Mississippi River, Louisiana is one of the country's leading exporters, with a total export value of almost \$87 billion in 2024. This represents approximately 5-percent of the nation's total exports, which positions Louisiana's ports as one of the largest exporter. The top 5 exports in terms of total value are illustrated in the following table and figure. All values have been normalized to 2024:Q1 prices using the GDP price index for exports.

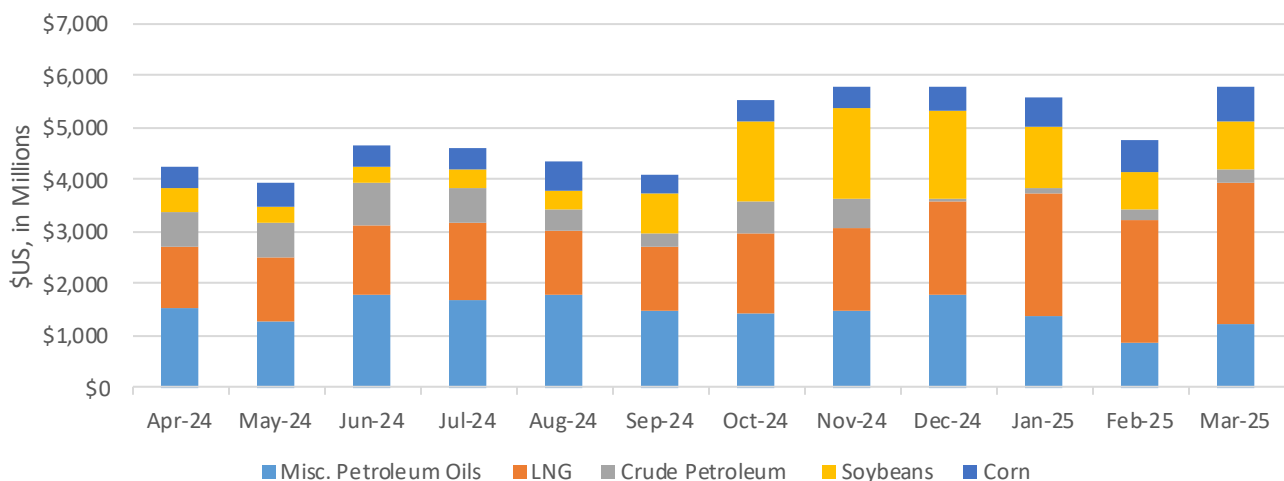
Source: <https://usatrade.census.gov/>

Table 13. Louisiana Top-5 Export Commodities, in \$US Millions

Commodity Export	Mar-25	Feb-25	Mar-24	% Change	
				(MoM)	(YoY)
LNG	\$2,714.0	\$2,336.7	\$1,464.9	16.1%	85.3%
Misc. Petroleum Oils	\$1,251.5	\$890.6	\$1,543.5	40.5%	-18.9%
Crude Petroleum	\$224.2	\$190.8	\$742.0	17.5%	-69.8%
Soybeans	\$913.4	\$730.7	\$885.6	25.0%	3.1%
Corn	\$706.5	\$637.2	\$459.1	10.9%	53.9%

Note: Miscellaneous petroleum oils excluding biodiesel.

Figure 7. Louisiana's Top-5 Exports, by Month





## 5. GDP & PERSONAL INCOME

The following tables present revised estimates for Q1:2025 U.S. gross domestic product and personal income. Real GDP for the U.S. decreased at an annual rate of 0.2 percent in the first quarter of 2025, an upward revision of 0.1 percent from the first estimate released by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.

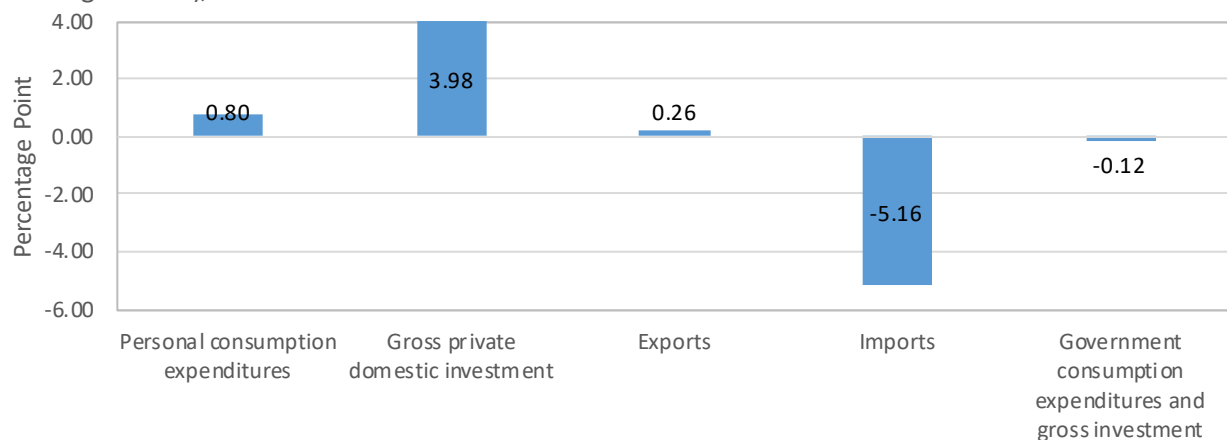
**Table 13. U.S. Real Gross Domestic Product and Major Expenditure Components, by Quarter**

Component	2025:Q1	2024:Q4	2024:Q1	% Change	
				(QoQ)	(YoY)
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	\$5,748.5	\$6,001.7	\$5,638.5	-4.2%	2.0%
Personal Consumption Expenditures	\$3,973.1	\$4,187.5	\$3,871.4	-5.1%	2.6%
Gross Private Domestic Investment	\$1,113.2	\$1,071.6	\$1,047.0	3.9%	6.3%
Net Exports of Goods and Services	(\$318.2)	(\$259.9)	(\$225.9)		
Exports	\$644.0	\$673.1	\$626.7	-4.3%	2.8%
Imports	(\$962.2)	(\$933.0)	(\$852.6)	3.1%	12.9%
Government Consumption Expenditures and Gross Investment	\$972.6	\$1,000.4	\$946.6	-2.8%	2.7%

Note: Data are not seasonally adjusted billions of chained (2017) dollars at quarterly rates; Imports are a subtraction in the calculation of GDP, therefore, an increase results in a negative contribution to GDP and are noted in red.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

**Figure 8. Contribution to Percent Change (-0.2 Percent) in Real Gross Domestic Product (Percentage Points), Annualized Rate**



**Table 14 U.S. Personal Income and Its Disposition, by Quarter**

Component	2025:Q1	2024:Q4	2024:Q1	% Change	
				(WoW)	(MoM)
Personal Income	25,463.7	24,998.4	24,344.2	1.9%	4.6%
Disposable Personal Income	22,276.0	21,893.0	21,378.6	1.7%	4.2%
Personal Saving	952.9	802.8	1,148.1	18.7%	-17.0%
Personal Saving Rate	4.3	3.7	5.4	16.2%	-20.4%

Note: Data are seasonally adjusted billions of dollars at annual rates, excluding personal saving rate.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

## 6. CONSUMER CONFIDENCE

The Consumer Confidence Survey® reflects prevailing business conditions and likely developments for the months ahead. It details consumer attitudes, buying intentions, vacation plans, and consumer expectations for inflation, stock prices, and interest rates. The Present Situation Index is based on consumers' assessment of current business and labor market conditions, and the Expectations Index is based on consumers' short-term outlook for income, business, and labor market conditions.

**Table 15. The Conference Board U.S. Consumer Confidence Index®, Monthly**

Index	May-25	Apr-25	May-24	% Point Change		Trend <sup>1</sup>
				(MoM)	(YoY)	
Consumer Confidence Index	98	86	102	12	-4	1
Present Situation Index	135.9	133.5	143.1	2.4	-7.2	1
Expectations Index	72.8	54.4	74.6	18.4	-1.8	1

Note: <sup>1</sup>Number of months moving in current direction. 1985=100.

Source: <https://www.conference-board.org/topics/consumer-confidence>

# June

2025

## Economic Calendar

The Economic Calendar provides insights into upcoming events and data releases. It includes information on national economic indicators, such as GDP, employment figures, inflation rates, and central bank meetings. Links to source are included.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <a href="#">Construction Spending</a> [Apr] <a href="#">ISM Manufacturing</a> [May]	2 <a href="#">Jolts</a> [Apr] <a href="#">Total Vehicle Sales</a> [Apr]	3 <a href="#">ISM Services</a> [May] <a href="#">S&amp;P Global Composite and Services PMI</a> [May] <a href="#">QCEW</a> [2024: Q4]	4 <a href="#">Trade Balance</a> [Mar] <a href="#">Productivity</a> [Q1 P]	5 <a href="#">Consumer Credit</a> [Mar] <a href="#">Employment</a> [Apr]	6	7
8 <a href="#">Wholesale Trade</a> [Apr]	9 <a href="#">NFIB Small Business</a> [May] <a href="#">State Retail Sales</a> [Feb]	10 <a href="#">CPI</a> [May] <a href="#">Fed Budget</a> [May]	11 <a href="#">PPI</a> [May]	12 <a href="#">U. of Michigan Sentiment</a> [May]	13	14
15	16 <a href="#">Retail Sales</a> [May] <a href="#">Import Price Index</a> [May] <a href="#">Industrial Production</a> [May] <a href="#">Business Inventories</a> [Apr]	<a href="#">NAHB Index</a> [Jun]	17 <a href="#">Housing Starts</a> [May] <a href="#">FOMC Statement</a>	18	19 Juneteenth [U.S. Markets Closed]	20 21
22 <a href="#">Existing Home Sales</a> [May]	23 <a href="#">S&amp;P/C-S Home Prices</a> [Apr] <a href="#">Consumer Confidence</a> [June] <a href="#">State Employment</a> [May]	24 <a href="#">New Home Sales</a> [May]	25 <a href="#">GDP</a> [Q1 3 <sup>rd</sup> ] <a href="#">Durable Goods</a> [May] <a href="#">Pending Home Sales</a> [May]	26 <a href="#">State Personal Income</a> [Apr] <a href="#">GDP by State</a> [Apr]	27	28
29 <a href="#">State Retail Sales</a> [May]	30					